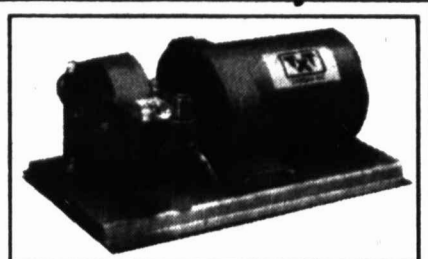


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# THE Pampa

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2003

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## STATE

### Durst's bond set at \$2 billion for fleeing

**GALVESTON (AP)** — The lead defense attorney for New York millionaire Robert Durst — acquitted last month of murdering his elderly neighbor — believed it reasonable when he thought he heard a judge set bond for his client on bond-jumping charges at \$2 million.

"I was a little shocked when she came back and said (two) billion," defense attorney Dick DeGuerin said.

## DEATHS

**James Lynn Colville**, 82, construction executive.  
**Herman Earl "H.E." Crocker, Jr.**, 80, pilot.  
**Annie Gallaspy**, 78, homemaker.

## INSIDE...

- Classified** .....9
- Comics** .....6
- Editorial** .....4
- Sports** .....7

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# Tempers flare on education issues



(Pampa News photo by Marilyn Powers)

From left, State Rep. Scott Hochberg of Houston, Scott McCown of the Center for Public Policy Priorities, and State Rep. Warren Chisum of Pampa address a crowd of approximately 125 educators, school board members, media and citizens from throughout the Panhandle interested in Texas public school funding.

This is the first of a two-part series on an area school finance meeting held Wednesday night in Pampa. The second story in the series will present the speakers' suggestions for solving the problem of public education budget shortfalls in Texas.

By **MARILYN POWERS**  
STATE WRITER

Tempers flared as area educators, school board members and others interested in the future of Texas public schools aired their concerns and complaints at an area school finance meeting Wednesday night in the Pampa Community Building, 200 N. Ballard.

Scott McCown, a former state district judge and executive director for the Center for Public Policy Priorities, and State Representative Warren Chisum and Scott Hochberg were in Pampa to discuss current issues, legislative and court actions,

and possible solutions concerning public school finance.

Chisum spoke first, explaining the current financial situation in Texas as it affects public schools. He said that the State of Texas was \$10 billion short in revenue this past year, and that the only increase in the budget went to education, with cuts in all other areas.

"The legislature looked at doing away with the Robin Hood funding system. They did not have anything in place to take its place. Texas needs \$27 billion for maintaining the current level of education. You can't raise that much without changing the tax system," Chisum said.

Chisum then introduced Hochberg, a member of the state legislature's public education committee and a recognized school finance expert from Houston.

"I have the distinct feeling there's some sleight of hand going on in

(See SCHOOLS, Page 3)

## Candidate filing for '04 elections begins

**AUSTIN (AP)** — Candidates for president, Congress, the Texas Legislature and other offices began filing papers for the 2004 primary election Wednesday, even as a dispute simmered over which congressional districts will be used.

Democratic U.S. Rep. Martin Frost of Arlington filed to run in the district he has represented for 25 years. Frost said he was confident a federal court will uphold existing congressional boundaries and toss out a GOP redistricting plan approved this fall.

The Republican map, which Democrats claim violates minority voting rights, decimated Frost's heavily minority district.

"I will run for re-election even if the proposed plan is upheld and would make a decision at that time as to where I would be a candidate," Frost said.

A federal trial begins next week over a Democratic challenge to the Republican redistricting plan. Texas

Republicans, seeking to overcome the Democrats' 17-15 advantage in the state's congressional delegation, pushed for new districts that could give the GOP as many as seven additional seats.

Democratic state lawmakers tried to thwart the GOP plan and staged two out-of-state boycotts to block it, but Republicans dominate the Legislature and ultimately prevailed.

All candidates running in the March 9 primary have until Jan. 2 to file their election paperwork with their respective parties. Those running for Congress will have an additional period, from Jan. 11-16, to file under the new congressional map if it gets federal court approval and is used for the election.

Wednesday's start of the filing period brought campaign announcements from members of both major political parties. In addition to Frost, U.S. Rep. Chet Edwards, D-Waco, filed for re-election. (See ELECTION, Page 3)

## DPS troopers haul in marijuana, suspects

Texas Department of Public Safety troopers hauled in 175 pounds of marijuana and three suspects as a result of two traffic stops along Interstate 40 Wednesday, DPS officials announced today.

The first occurred at 9:30 a.m., 14 miles east of Groom, when a trooper stopped a 1999 Ford traveling east on I-40 for a traffic violation. After receiving a consent to search the vehicle, 25 pounds of marijuana worth an estimated \$14,725 was found in a bag in the trunk.

Baltazar Martinez Jass, 33, of Mesa Ariz., and Andrew Jonathan Ortiz, 28, of Chandler, Ariz., were taken into custody and charged with possession of a controlled substance. They were booked into Carson County Jail in Panhandle, according to DPS reports.

Investigators say they believe

the drugs originated in Chandler, Ariz., and were headed for Rockford, Ill.

That afternoon just before 5 p.m., troopers stopped a 2003 Dodge Caravan for a traffic violation. At the time of the stop, the vehicle was traveling east on I-40, 10 miles east of McLean.

DPS officers discovered 150 pounds of marijuana in five bundles, hidden inside two duffel bags. The marijuana has an estimated value of \$87,900. The load was believed to have originated in Phoenix, Ariz., and was headed for Detroit, Mich., officials said.

Donald Anthony Gusse of Pontiac, Mich., was arrested and taken to Gray County Jail in Pampa. He was charged with possession of marijuana. Justice of the Peace Kurt Curfman set bond for Gusse at \$250,000.

# President to lift foreign steel tariffs

Administration plans other measures to help U.S. steelmakers

By **MARTIN CRUTSINGER**  
AP ECONOMIC WRITER

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Facing the threat of a trade war, President Bush has decided to lift steep tariffs he imposed on foreign steel 20 months ago, Republican and industry officials said Thursday.

But he will soften the blow on the domestic steel industry by announcing new measures designed to protect against unfair foreign competition, the officials said Thursday.

An administration official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Bush had made a decision and it would be announced later in the day.

While this official refused to disclose details, steel industry officials,

also speaking on condition of anonymity, said the administration would announce that Bush was lifting the tariffs on foreign steel imposed in March 2002 and originally scheduled to be in effect for three years.

Bush's decision was also confirmed by Republican officials.

The administration was acting to avert a threatened trade war with Europe and other big trading partners. Those nations had vowed to retaliate with punitive tariffs on American products unless the steel tariffs were removed.

The White House asked key lawmakers on the steel issue to return to Washington for a steel briefing Thursday morning so they could be informed before the White House

made Bush's decision public.

The 15-nation European Union has vowed to retaliate against \$2.2 billion of American products by mid-December unless the United States removes the steel tariffs, which were ruled illegal by the World Trade Organization. Japan and South Korea have also said they were considering retaliation.

The EU carefully chose its target list to cover a range of products from oranges to pajamas that would inflict maximum political pain in key swing states that Bush is hoping to win in next year's presidential race.

Bush was put in the difficult position of being forced to choose between angering businesses in those states or steelmakers in West Virginia,

Pennsylvania and Ohio, also considered crucial to Bush's re-election chances.

Bush's original tariff decision in March 2002 had unleashed a barrage of criticism from steel-consuming industries that claimed the higher prices they were forced to pay cost more jobs than were saved at U.S. steel plants.

Steel industry officials said the administration was reviewing a number of proposals to soften the blow of lifting the tariffs, which Bush had imposed at a time when the domestic industry was staggering from a string of bankruptcies and thousands of lost jobs that the industry blamed on a surge of foreign imports.

Among the proposals being considered (See STEEL, Page 3)

**You're Invited To: The Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade**  
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## OBITUARIES

### HERMAN EARL 'H.E.' CROCKER, JR. 1923-2003

Herman Earl "H.E." Crocker, Jr., 80, of Pampa, died Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2003, at Amarillo. Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday in Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. James Conner, retired Baptist minister of Shamrock, officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Crocker was born May 31, 1923, at Burkburnett. He moved to Borger in 1925 and to Pampa in 1929. He attended schools in Pampa and Skellytown prior to graduating from White Deer High School in White Deer in 1941.

He married Nancy Jones in 1973 at Clarinda, Iowa.

A state trooper for Department of Public Safety for four years, he later worked in the oil-field, operating an oilfield service company, was employed in the construction business, and was a corporate pilot and a certified flight instructor as well.

### JAMES LYNN COLVILLE 1921-2003

BRADY — James Lynn Colville, 82, died Sunday, Nov. 30, 2003, at Brownwood. Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday in Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel in Pampa with the Rev. Sheldon Johnson, pastor of First United Methodist Church of Brady, officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery in Pampa under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Colville was born May 23, 1921, at Floydada, to James and Mary Beady Colville. He married Esther Finkner on Feb. 7, 1942, at San Antonio; she died Aug. 23, 1997. He married Delma Jones on Jan. 9, 1999, in Pampa.

He worked for WesTex Construction in Borger for over 20 years, retiring as president, and for Austin Engineering in Austin from 1983 until retiring in 1989. He was a part-time construction inspector for City of Pampa from

1989-1998, moving to Brady in March 1999. Mr. Colville was a member of Brady First United Methodist Church, First United Methodist Church Men's Breakfast Group, Masonic Lodge and T. Wood Domino Club.

He was preceded in death by his father, Herman, Earl Crocker, in November 1969.

Survivors include his wife, Nancy, of the home; two daughters, Kathy Brown of Odessa and Kim Jackson of Denton; a son, Kent Jones of Artesia, N.M.; his mother, Ruby Crocker of Pampa; a sister, Frankie Hamilton of Dallas; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

—Sign the on-line register book at [www.carmichael-whitley.com](http://www.carmichael-whitley.com).

Mr. Colville was a member of Brady First United Methodist Church, First United Methodist Church Men's Breakfast Group, Masonic Lodge and T. Wood Domino Club.

Survivors include his wife, Delma, of the home; a son, James Michael Colville of Dallas; three daughters, Juanita McBee of Ennis, Lynda McCoy of Phoenix, Texas, and Martha Colville of Mountain View, Mo.; two brothers, Bob Colville of Rochelle, Ill., and John Colville of Amarillo; five grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

The family will receive visitors from 8:30-10:30 a.m. Friday at the funeral home in Pampa and requests memorials be to First United Methodist Church Men's Shuttle in Brady.

—Sign the on-line register book at [www.carmichael-whitley.com](http://www.carmichael-whitley.com).

### ANNIE GALLASPY 1925-2003

BORGER — Annie Gallaspay, 78, died Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2003, at Pampa Regional Medical Center in Pampa. Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday in Westlawn Cemetery with the Rev. Leonard Forsythe, pastor of Bible Baptist Church, officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of Brown Funeral Directors of Borger.

Mrs. Gallaspay was born May 7, 1925, at Gordon, Ga. A homemaker and a caregiver, she made Borger home for over 50 years and was a member of Bible Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Buford Gallaspay in 1995; a brother, John

McWilliams in 1999; and a sister, Edna McWilliams.

Survivors include a son, Dale Gallaspay of Borger; two daughters, Leonora Ann Morrow of El Paso and Connie Wildcat of Pampa; seven grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

The family will be at 1200 University Place in Borger and requests memorials be to Bible Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1380, Borger, TX 79008.

## SERVICES TOMORROW

**BOOTH**, Ione Bruce — Graveside services, 2 p.m., Lipscomb Cemetery, Lipscomb.

**COLVILLE**, James Lynn — 11 a.m., Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

**CROCKER**, Herman Earl "H.E." Jr. — 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

## Boy to avoid assault charge with apology

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — A 13-year-old boy accused of giving a female classmate an unwanted hickey is one public apology away from getting his assault case dismissed.

The boy's mother called the girl's father last weekend to see whether the two families could settle the matter. A citation for assault by contact carries a fine of almost \$300 if the Richland Hills boy is convicted in municipal court.

Both families agreed the punishment was too harsh, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported in Thursday editions. The girl's father, Steven Marcuse, said he would drop the charge if the boy wrote an apology and said he was sorry in front of the class.

"Children need to be taught," he said. "They don't need to be issued a citation and made a criminal and dragged through court."

## ON RECORD

### SHERIFF

Gray County Sheriff's Department today reported the following arrests.

#### Wednesday, Dec. 3

Paula S. Cardosi, 36, Austin, arrested by Carson County law enforcement, was housed in Gray County jail for Carson County.

Donald Anthony Gusse, 22, Pontiac, Mich., was arrested by Texas Department of Public Safety for possession of marijuana.

Heather Heiskell, 22, 602 N. West, was arrested for possession of a controlled substance under one gram.

#### Thursday, Dec. 4

Gary Hunter Hayes, 45, Lefors, was arrested for possession of marijuana under 2 ounces.

Ray Madrid Soto, 39, 318 Hazel, was arrested for possession of marijuana under 2 ounces and driving while intoxicated.

### POLICE

Pampa Police Department today reported the following incidents and arrests.

#### Sunday, Nov. 23

Criminal mischief was reported in the 800 block of North Somerville. A window was broken on a vehicle. Estimated damage was \$600.

#### Wednesday, Nov. 26

A gas drive-off was reported by Allsup's, 140 S. Starkweather. Value of gas stolen was \$10.

#### Monday, Dec. 1

A gas drive-off was reported by Allsup's, 1025 W. Wilks. Value of gas stolen was \$16.44.

#### Wednesday, Dec. 3

Disorderly conduct/fighting was reported at Pampa Middle School, 2401 N. Charles.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1300 block of West Kentucky. The vehicle was unlocked. Taken was \$265 from a wallet.

Burglary of a building was reported in the 800 block of Scott. Method of entry was unknown. Taken were a weed eater, gas can and set of jumper cables. Estimated loss was \$180.

Attempted burglary was reported in the 1300 block of Christine. Pry marks were found on a door.

#### Thursday, Dec. 4

Found property was reported in the 600 block of North Dwight. A bicycle was found.

Shon Loyd Kysar, 34, 1140 Terrace, was arrested for violating a driver's license restriction and no insurance.

### ACCIDENTS

Pampa Police Department today reported the following motor vehicle accidents.

#### Wednesday, Dec. 3

3 p.m. — An unknown vehicle collided with a legally parked 1995 Ford Taurus owned by Elizabeth Felter Rainey, 49, 1517 Dogwood, Apartment #5, in the 1500 block of Dogwood.

5:24 p.m. — A 1995 Oldsmobile Eighty-Eight, driven by Brian Aaron Thomas, 29, 1161 Prairie, collided with a legally parked 1978 Buick Lesabre, owned by Louise Baker, 1612 N. Sumner, in the 1600 block of North Sumner. Thomas was cited for failure to maintain a single lane.

### AMBULANCE

Rural/Metro Ambulance reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

#### Wednesday, Dec. 3

11:07 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Pampa Regional Medical Center and transferred a patient to Northwest Texas Hospital, Amarillo.

1:39 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to N.W.T.H. and transferred a patient to PRMC.

4:26 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of Barnes and transported a patient to PRMC.

5:33 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1600 block of North Sumner. No transport.

### FIRE

Pampa Fire Department responded to the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

#### Wednesday, Dec. 3

11:29 a.m. — Three units and seven firefighters responded to a structure fire at WW Fiberglass, 207 W. Price Rd. Employees had the fire under control when firefighters arrived. The fire began when sparks from a grinder ignited fiberglass filings, according to reports.

5:27 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a small antifreeze spill at the scene of a motor vehicle collision in the 1600 block of North Sumner.

### STOCKS

The following grain quotations are provided by Antebury Grain of Pampa.		NOI			
Pampa		KMI	19.55	+0.09	
		XCEL	55.45	-0.12	
			16.84	-0.17	
Wheat	3.73	Kerr McGee	42.43	+0.08	
Milo	4.25	Limited	17.64	-0.54	
Corn	4.65	Williams	9.72	-0.01	
Soybeans	7.02	MTD	26.80	+0.34	
		NOM	36.59	+0.05	
		Atmos	24.49	+0.04	
		Pioneer Nat.	28.63	-0.12	
		JCP	24.94	-0.42	
		COP	58.55	+0.15	
		SLB	47.53	+0.29	
ONY	37.91	Tenneco	5.68	-0.02	
BP	43.18	CVX	76.48	+0.38	
Celanese	35.52	Wal-Mart	52.71	+0.02	
Cabot Corp	30.01	OKE	19.95	+0.08	
Cabot Oil Gsk	27.67	NS Grp	7.95	-0.13	
Coca Cola	47.20				
VIOL	43.72	New York Gold	404.65		
HAL	23.26	Silver	5.46		
Trad	32.26	West Texas Crude	31.10		

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**HOLIDAY CRAFTS:** Christmas yard decorations (lighted & unlighted), assortment of craft gift ideas. See at 1212 S. Osborne. Ernie

**HOLIDAY CREATIONS** "Open House" Steve & Martha Porter's, 2300 Christine, Pampa Tx., Fri. Dec. 5th, 3-8 pm., Sat Dec. 6th, 9-5 pm.

**MESSAGE THERAPY** Special, Christmas gift certificates & essential oils. Call Cathy Potter, 669-0013.

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**OREGON CHRISTMAS** Trees, 717 N. Hobart. \$25-\$45

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## WEATHER FOCUS

### PAMPA

The forecast today is calling for mostly sunny skies, highs in the lower 60s and southwest winds around 5 mph, shifting to the northwest 5 to 15 mph in the afternoon. Night should fall on partly cloudy skies with lows in the mid 20s and north winds 10 to 15 mph. Friday should see mostly sunny skies.

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## SCHO

Austin. Pec wake up on wonder how Hochberg said ture's current decisions' cor funding.

"In my vie with what's go is that you or answer if you question. You solution if yo problem. I be just fix one pie we don't fix th worst thing we only part of Hochberg said

When Ho comments fro and addresser them, they re with anger, ind ment and pleac The main "Robin Hood"

## STEEL

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The admin was expected aggressive u antidumping la tariffs on speci icts should i once the tariffs

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## ELECT

election.

In the Leg Dan Branch, F Richard Raymo Sen. Tommy W Woodlands; Ser R-Wichita Fal Judith Zaffirin were among th

for re-election.

State Rep. 5 D-Dallas, annou seek re-election rent 12th term have spanned 2 Sen. Teel Bivin; nominated by P to be ambassad submitted his res to Gov. Riel Wednesday. Biv in the Senate sin stepping down 12.

Officials of parties said they encing the steady ings they expe day.

"No surpris we've got a few go," said spokesman for t Party of Texas. ed about givin opportunity to s best candidates i to represent t

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

**SCHOOLS**

Austin. People are going to wake up one morning and wonder how it happened," Hochberg said of the legislature's current discussions and decisions concerning school funding.

"In my view, the problem with what's going on in Austin is that you only get the right answer if you ask the right question. You can get the right solution if you fix the right problem. I believe that if we just fix one piece of the puzzle, we don't fix the problem. The worst thing we can do is to fix only part of the problem," Hochberg said.

When Hochberg invited comments from the audience and addressed questions to them, they responded, some with anger, indignation, resentment and pleading.

The main issue was the "Robin Hood" funding system

currently being used to fund public schools in Texas. Under this system, property-rich school districts are required to forfeit funds to the state to be distributed to property-poor districts.

Hochberg asked if there were any suggestions for improving the funding system. "You did it. You fix it," one audience member said.

"You're taking money from our districts and not returning it to us but giving it to some other district," ran comments from Roberts County attendees. "Why is our money going to Houston or somewhere?" "In Roberts County and in Gray County, we have oil and gas, but in Houston you have lawyers and accountants." "We don't even have a high school band in Roberts County."

"The money doesn't follow the kids because we build a tax system that doesn't require it.

The state is under no obligation to return property tax to the districts in any way. Returning taxes to their original counties is a valid question, but not the only issue," Hochberg said.

In discussions with each speaker during a break, a man from Lipscomb County explained to Hochberg that his school covered kindergarten through sixth grade, with less than 80 enrolled. He was concerned that under the current funding, his school would have to close, and the town would suffer as a result.

McCown spoke of the possible benefits of instituting a state income tax to help solve the school funding problem, and then invited reactions and questions from the audience.

"Fifteen years ago, you said if we put in a lottery system, all our problems would be solved. Now you're telling us if we put in state income tax, all our

problems will be solved," one man told McCown.

"One hundred percent of lottery dollars go to public education. The lottery pays for five days of public education in Texas," McCown responded.

Lee Porter, Pampa Independent School District board member, asked about reinstating and financing high school vocational education.

He pointed out that a number of high school students would not be going to college, were not suited for college, and needed training to help them get the best jobs possible upon graduating from high school.

"I don't understand how Texas can spend a whole lot

more on prisoners and illegal aliens than on my kids in school," another man said.

Hochberg responded that \$28 million is spent on Texas schools, and education still represents more than half the state's total annual budget. McCown said that out of the entire state budget, public safety and prisons receive 12 cents of every dollar, while higher education gets 12 cents of each dollar and public education receives 42 cents per dollar.

"All of the illegal children together doesn't solve these problems," McCown said. "One point four million of all Texas kids are Anglos."

During a break, each speaker was asked about reducing spending rather than collecting more money to balance the education budget.

McCown and Chisum did not have a ready response. Hochberg said, "It's up to the local school districts to spend less."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

**STEEL**

ered by the administration was making permanent early reporting requirements to detect any big influx of steel into the United States.

The reporting program requires steel importers to apply for import licenses, giving the government a quicker way to detect possible import surges than waiting for Customs Service data when the steel arrives at U.S. ports.

The administration also was expected to pledge an aggressive use of U.S. antidumping laws to impose tariffs on specific steel products should imports surge once the tariffs are lifted.

The administration package also was expected to include pledges to continue pursuing global negotiations aimed at getting other countries to limit government sub-

sidies for their domestic steel producers and to curb overcapacity in the steel industry.

Those talks, under way since 2002, so far have yielded little, and many trade experts don't hold out much hope that other countries will agree to U.S. demands in this area, given the political power their own steel industries wield.

A key discussion on the steel issue occurred Tuesday night when Bush met in the Oval Office with Vice President Dick Cheney, Commerce Secretary Don Evans and U.S. Trade Representative Robert Zoellick after returning from a fund-raising trip to Pittsburgh where he encountered last-minute lobbying from the steel industry urging him not to lift the tariffs.

Bush raised \$850,000 for his re-election campaign at

the Pittsburgh fund-raiser where one of his hosts was Thomas J. Usher, chief executive of U.S. Steel Corp., the nation's largest steel producer. Usher met with Bush to urge him to retain the tariffs.



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CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

**ELECTION**

election. In the Legislature, Rep. Dan Branch, R-Dallas; Rep. Richard Raymond, D-Laredo; Sen. Tommy Williams, R-The Woodlands; Sen. Craig Estes, R-Wichita Falls; and Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, were among those who filed for re-election.

State Rep. Steve Wolens, D-Dallas, announced he won't seek re-election after his current 12th term, which will have spanned 23 years. State Sen. Teel Bivins, R-Amarillo, nominated by President Bush to be ambassador to Sweden, submitted his resignation letter to Gov. Rick Perry on Wednesday. Bivins has served in the Senate since 1989 and is stepping down effective Jan. 12.

Officials of both political parties said they were experiencing the steady stream of filings they expected the first day.

"No surprises, but I guess we've got a few more weeks to go," said Ted Royer, spokesman for the Republican Party of Texas. "We are excited about giving Texans the opportunity to select the very best candidates in our primary to represent them in the

November elections."

Sean Byrne, spokesman for the Texas Democratic Party, said candidate filings were keeping the usual pace for a presidential election cycle, when Texas does not have a full slate of statewide candidates on the ballot.

"Democrats around the state are excited about taking on the Republicans this year and refocusing our state on the real priorities, like education and health care, and not on partisan power grabs," he said.

The Democrats claim U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Sugar Land, has led a Republican "power grab" by pressing for new congressional districts in Texas.

DeLay and other Republicans have said they want fair districts that represent the state's conservative voting trends.

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# VIEWPOINTS

**THE Pampa NEWS**

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## Senator Hillary's badwill tour

Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton has just returned from a badwill tour of Iraq, seeking to use the façade of saluting the troops and sharing their Thanksgiving to undermine the political support for their mission.

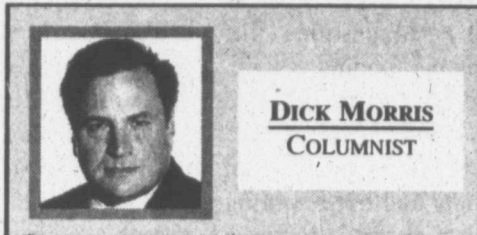
Using Iraq as a pulpit, she attacked Bush for having been "obsessed with Saddam Hussein for more than a decade." If only her husband had shared that obsession, Saddam would not have been permitted to rearm with oil revenues that President Clinton let him have and freed from inspectors that the Clinton administration let him kick out.

It is fine for a U.S. senator to go to Iraq to see for herself what the conditions are over there. It is even OK to get the taxpayers to foot the bill for the trip on military aircraft. She is, after all, a member of the Armed Services Committee in the Senate.

What is not OK is to attack the president while you are there or to use your visit as a platform to criticize the war effort and the Pentagon. There is plenty of opportunity for that after one is home, out of earshot of the troops who must fight this war.

The classy thing for Hillary to have done would have been to go to Iraq, say nothing but supportive things to the troops, make a point of avoiding criticism of Bush - and then unloose a salvo on arriving home.

Hillary doubtless went to Iraq because she figured Bush would be at



DICK MORRIS  
COLUMNIST

home eating turkey and she enjoyed the idea of the contrast. But when the president upstaged her, she shouldn't have ventured out and used the visit to attack the war effort as she was visiting it.

The senator told the troops that while "Americans are proud" of them, "many question the administration's policies." Being told that you might die in a war that is under attack by people back home must be a great stimulant to combat morale. How sensitive of her to have shared that particular message with men and women who must face death to execute these policies.

She also made sure to plant doubts among the troops about the ability of their commanders, saying that "the obstacles and problems are much greater than the administration usually admits to."

With Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton for a friend, American soldiers don't need any more enemies.

The core of Sen. Clinton's argument, echoed by her pet poodle, Sen. Jack Reed (D-R.I.), is a call for more troops for Iraq. "The Pentagon tried to make do with as few troops as possible," Clinton said, "as light a footprint as they could get away with. Now we're

playing Catch-up." Sen. Reed, who voted against the war resolution, now wants to send even more troops as well.

Democrats are determined to make the political cost of this war more onerous and burdensome on the Republican president. By harping on the need for more manpower, they build the pressure with each combat death. If the Democrats can sell the proposition that more troops are needed, they can force Bush to move toward conscription to fill the ranks.

Fortunately, Hillary's visit was drowned out by Bush's voyage to Baghdad. The liberal media tried to couple the two visits. The New York Times' headline was "Hail to the Chief; Hail to the Senator." But the visits are hardly comparable. Bush's was designed to raise morale, Hillary's to raise objections.

Bush sought to assure the troops of the united support of the people. Hillary wanted them to know that many people objected to what they are trying to do.

Bush's message was that we will persevere in the face of terrorism. Hillary's was that this war was due to one man's "obsession."

Sen. Clinton will do anything she can to attract attention and, where possible, divert it from the Democrats who are really running for president. But this trip, at this time, in this manner, in that place was wrong politically and morally.

Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Pampa News*.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### What a tangled web ...

To the editor:  
 There is some additional information in your news story this paper on Nov. 24. The tangled web however still exists as special prosecutor relates. We are told that money was missing from the county attorney's office. There is no information of how much county money was, or is, missing. The falsification of financial records is an offense in some districts. Was the \$2,000 payment to the fired employee paid to circumvent a lawsuit? There was some indication the "settlement" was entered into to hasten the county attorney's removal from office. Had haste been a factor it would have occurred in mid-summer. Additionally, the county attorney is still on the job.

The "special prosecutor" was in fact acting as sheriff, judge and jury. This was to save the taxpayers of Gray County the cost of prosecution. In the special prosecutor's published explanation, he mentions expense four times. Either a criminal offense occurred or it didn't. If it didn't, why harp on the possible expense of prosecution? We read recently that capital murder charges would not be filed against two individuals by the district attorney's office because of lack of funds. Can we not afford prosecution of crimes we enforce or enforce prosecutions of crimes occurring? When events such as the subject occur, the less said is better. The more said, the more tangled and contrived it becomes.

Bill Reeves  
McLean

### TODAY IN HISTORY

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Thursday, Dec. 4, the 338th day of 2003. There are 27 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 4, 1783, Gen. George Washington bade farewell to his officers at Fraunces Tavern in New York.

On this date:

In 1816, James Monroe of Virginia was elected the fifth president of the United States.

In 1875, William Marcy Tweed, the "Boss" of New York City's Tammany Hall political organization, escaped from jail and fled the country.

In 1918, President Wilson set sail for France to attend the Versailles Peace Conference.

In 1942, President Franklin Roosevelt ordered the dismantling of the Works Progress Administration, which had been created to provide jobs during the Depression.

In 1942, U.S. bombers struck the Italian mainland for the first time in World War II.

In 1945, the Senate approved U.S. participation in the United Nations.

In 1965, the United States launched Gemini VII with Air Force Lt. Col. Frank Borman and Navy Cmdr. James A. Lovell aboard.

In 1977, Jean-Bedel Bokassa, ruler of the Central African Empire, crowned himself emperor in a ceremony believed to have cost more than \$100 million. (Bokassa was deposed in 1979; he died in November 1996 at age 75.)

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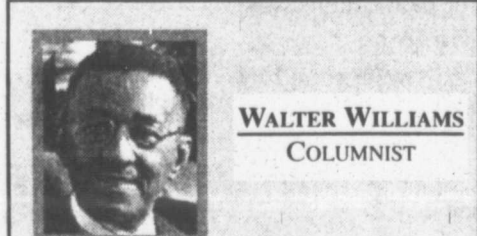


## An opinion is not a sign of proof

A fortnight ago, I wrote "Harm's a Two-Way Street," a column that generated considerable reader response, some of it angry and nasty. The gist of the column was that the liberty-oriented solution to the smoking controversy was through the institution of private property, where the owner of a workplace, restaurant or bar decides whether there would be smoking or not. The totalitarian solution was to use the brute force of government.

I argued that harm is a two-way street. Tobacco fumes might harm someone who is allergic or just finds the odor offensive. The person who smokes and is not permitted to do so is also harmed by being denied a pleasurable experience. Quite a few letters asserted, "Williams, you can't compare the health harm to a nonsmoker to the inconvenience harm that a smoker suffers just because he's not allowed to smoke." No, I can't and wouldn't even try. Why?

Using economic jargon, it is impossible to make interpersonal utility comparisons. Let's try a few. A dollar will bring me more happiness than it will bring you. It's better to like opera music than hip-hop music. Human life is more important than money. There's no objective way to prove any of these statements simply because there is no objective standard for comparison.



WALTER WILLIAMS  
COLUMNIST

You might have an opinion, but an opinion is not proof. The same reasoning applies if you said, "The harm I suffer from your smoking is greater than the harm you suffer from not being permitted to smoke." Contrast these statements to: "You are taller than I." For such a statement there are indeed objective standards for falsifying or verifying it -- just get out the measuring instruments.

Another part of the column suggested that an owner of a restaurant, workplace or bar might post a sign indicating whether he permitted smoking or not. After all, private property rights have to do with rights held by an owner to keep, acquire and use property in ways he pleases so long as he doesn't interfere with similar rights held by another. Private property rights also include the right to exclude others from use of property.

Quite a few readers asked, "What if the owner wished to exclude blacks or some other race?" I value freedom of association. An important part of the

right of association is the right not to associate for a good reason, bad reason or no reason at all. That's not to say that I don't find some forms of association offensive. But the true test of one's commitment to freedom of association doesn't come when he allows others to associate in ways he deems desirable. The true test of his commitment comes when he is willing to allow others to associate in ways he deems offensive.

One might be tempted to think that if owners were free to reject customers by race, segregation would be widespread. But that's nonsense because there's a difference between what people can do and what they'll find in their interests to do.

Think about it. During the United States' Jim Crow era and South Africa's apartheid era, there was an elaborate legal structure mandating and enforcing racial segregation. Whenever you see a law on the books, your best guess is that the law is on the books because not everyone left to their own devices would behave according to the specifications of the law. After all, why would there be a need for a law saying bars and theaters cannot admit blacks if no white bar or theater owner would admit blacks in the first place?

There're a lot of things we can disagree about, but let's have straight thinking as a part of the process.

In HEM WALL Domin E&P, Ir 660' fr Sec. ( 12175'. HEM & HE Devon Co., #1 North 4,1,I&C HEM & HE Upland Begert, 500' fro I,H&G1 HUT CAT) B Coble ' & 738' I,G,H& ROB LIPS M Product Brown, 1371' f Brown ( WHE WALLC Newfiel Con, In 467' fr from W I,H&G1 Appli ROB HODGI Questa Hodges, West lir PD 1081 Gas HEM WALLC Patina #1201P 12.4,AE drlg. co 27-03, 11602' - HEM Ch not Tai BEIJ would n threat of or conc internati decided Chinese ments f Wen Jia Washing The c itary's v aggressi over wh push by Chen Sh mal ind that th ment sa' Chen ing Sen N.M., or no plans vote. Beijii deterred Chinese damage general in the Weekly. lished by News Aq "We these co unity an wrote Guangqi Military People's The ci reported newspap sign that of officia not pers Taiwa been sep Beijing ( island as threatene declares i Chines who visi next w

**DRILLING INTENTIONS**

**Intentions to Drill**  
**HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash)** Dominion Oklahoma Texas E&P, Inc., #17 Zybach '66', 660' from South & East line, Sec. 66, M-1, H&GN, PD 12175'.  
**HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & HEMPHILL Douglas)** Devon Energy Production Co., #11 Norris, 467' from North & West line, Sec. 4, I, H&GN, PD 11800'.  
**HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & HEMPHILL Douglas)** Upland Resources, Inc., #1 Begert, 660' from North & 500' from West line, Sec. 3, A-1, H&GN, PD 8400'.  
**HUTCHINSON (WILDCAT)** Burnett Oil Co., Inc., #1 Coble '64', 739' from North & 738' from West line, Sec. 1, G, H&GN, PD 10000'.  
**ROBERTS (WILDCAT & LIPS Mississippian)** Range Production Co., #1 O.T. Brown, 2342' from North & 1371' from West line, O.T. Brown Survey, PD 10000'.  
**WHEELER (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash)** Newfield Exploration Mid-Con, Inc., #1 Karen Meek, 467' from North & 1400' from West line, Sec. 71, M-1, H&GN, PD 11940'.  
**Applications to Re-Enter**  
**ROBERTS (WILDCAT & HODGES Middle Morrow)** Questa Energy Corp., #1-39 Hodges, 467' from South & West line, Sec. 39, 43, H&TC, PD 10880'.  
**Gas Well Completions**  
**HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash)** Patina Oil & Gas Corp., #1201P Carr '12', Sec. 12, 4, AB&M, spud 7-17-03, drlg. compl 8-1-03, tested 10-27-03, TD 11690', PBTD 11602' —  
**HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash)** Patina Oil & Gas Corp., #5505P Carr '55', Sec. 55, M-1, H&GN, spud 7-6-03, drlg. compl 7-21-03, tested 10-27-03, TD 11860', PBTD 11760'.  
**HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash)** Patina Oil & Gas Corp., #4111P Hefley, Sec. 41, M-1, H&GN, spud 8-5-03, drlg. compl 8-24-03, tested 10-27-03, TD 11885', PBTD 11800'.  
**HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash)** Patina Oil & Gas Corp., #5507P Pearson, Sec. 55, M-1, H&GN, spud 7-26-03, drlg. compl 8-10-03, tested 10-27-03, TD 11890', PBTD 11810'.  
**HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash)** Patina Oil & Gas Corp., #4315P Texas, Sec. 43, M-1, H&GN, spud 7-28-03, drlg. compl 8-14-03, tested 10-27-03, TD 11890', PBTD 11793'.  
**HEMPHILL (S.E. CANADIAN Douglas)** Mewbourne Oil Co., #1 Isaacs '126', Sec. 126, 41, H&TC, spud 9-5-03, drlg. compl 9-19-03, tested 10-9-03, TD 8247', PBTD 8175' —  
**HEMPHILL (GILL RANCH Brown Dolomite)** Devon Louisiana Corp., #222 Gill, Sec. 22, A-2, H&GN, spud 6-3-03, drlg. compl 6-20-03, tested 9-9-03, potential 367 MCF, TD 4800', PBTD 4750' — Form 1 filed in Ocean Energy  
**WHEELER (STILES RANCH Granite Wash)** Bravo Natural Resources, Inc., #302 Miller, Sec. 2, A-3, H&GN, spud 8-9-03, drlg. compl 9-2-03, tested 9-22-03, potential 1613 MCF, TD 13600', PBTD 13450' —

**Mussolini's granddaughter defends heritage**

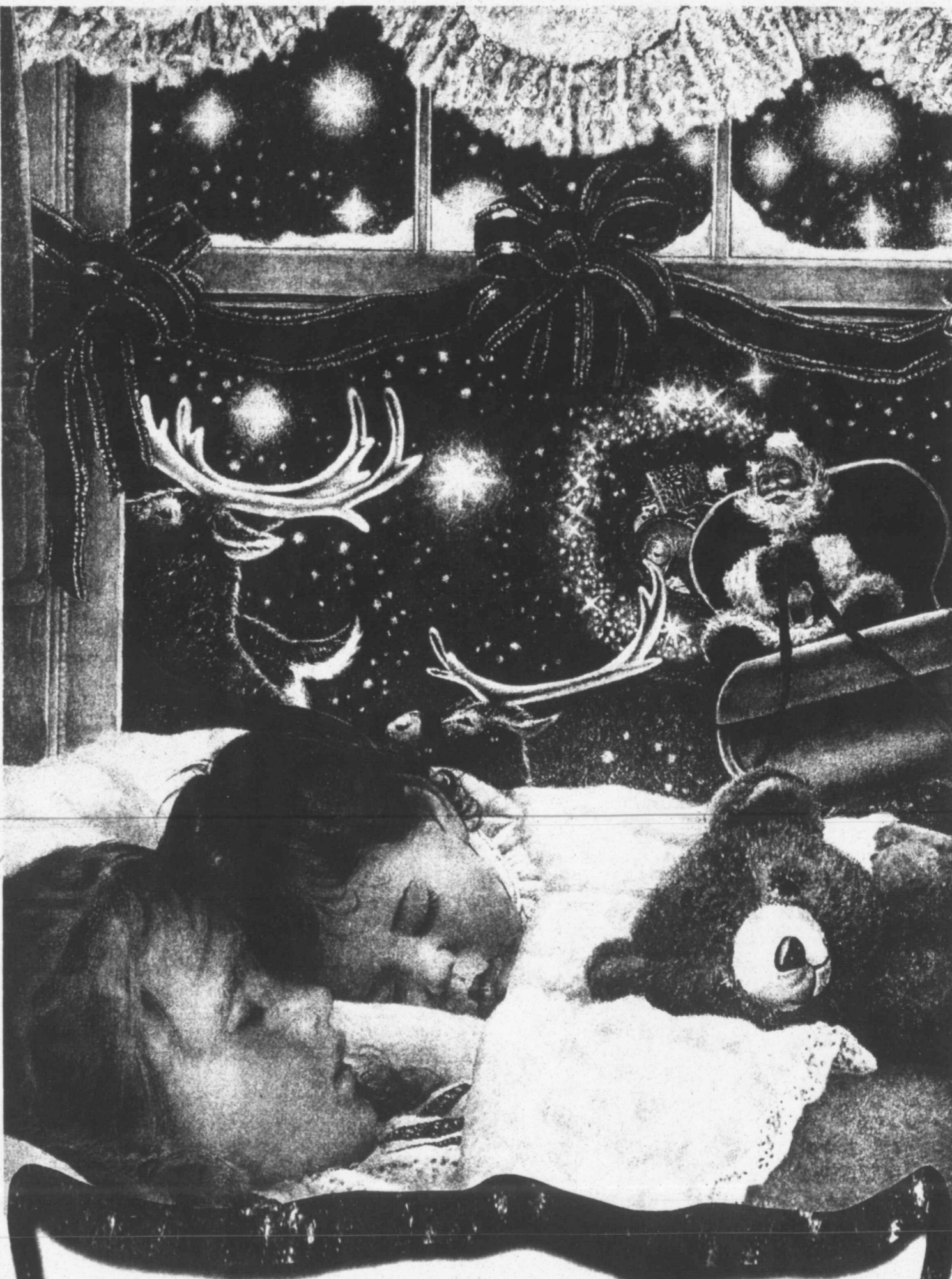
ROME (AP) — First she left her right-wing party, furious about its leader's denunciation of Italy's fascist past. Then Alessandra Mussolini, proud granddaughter of the late Italian dictator Benito Mussolini, decided she'd defend her heritage by starting a political movement of her own.  
 Mussolini's announcement last week severed her ties with the National Alliance party, and especially its leader, Gianfranco Fini. It also showed how some party officials and the rank-and-file still have a deep nostalgia for the fascist government, though it may not be politically correct.  
 Known in the media simply as "The Granddaughter," Mussolini, 40, is a burst of contradictions known for her blend of blunt talk and theatrical gestures. She has condemned some of her grandfather's anti-Semitic practices, but has always fought to defend his name.  
 During a high-profile visit to Israel last month, Fini condemned "the shameful chapters in the history of our people" and denounced as "disgraceful" the anti-Jewish laws promulgated in 1938 under fascist rule.  
 It was too much for Mussolini, who said last week the remarks were "incompatible" with her name and walked out of the party.  
 The association she founded this week is named Freedom for Action. She said it's intended to give right-wing supporters a "new point of reference" for a "common battle."  
 The daughter of the dictator's son Romano, a jazz musician, and Maria Scicolone, actress Sophia Loren's sister, Mussolini worked as an actress before turning to politics about a decade ago. In one 1985 movie called "The Assisi Underground," she played a wartime nun

trying to rescue Italian Jews from the Nazis.  
 Recently, she teamed up with a leftist lawmaker to promote the rights of unmarried couples, part of her efforts to promote women's rights.  
 When Italy's highest court set off a storm with a 1999 ruling that it was impossible to rape a woman wearing tight jeans, Mussolini joined other female lawmakers and showed up with jeans in parliament. She held a banner reading: "Jeans, an alibi for rape."  
 Over the years, Mussolini has often been at odds with Fini over his efforts to distance National Alliance from its fascist legacy and move it into the mainstream conservative fold.  
 The National Alliance's predecessor, the Italian Social Movement, was founded on the ashes of Mussolini's Fascist party. Today, National Alliance is the second-largest party in Premier Silvio Berlusconi's ruling coalition.  
 In 1996, Mussolini announced she was breaking with the party over differences with Fini, but returned to it three weeks later. Last year, she accused Fini of cynicism and opportunism after he retracted his 1994 statement calling Mussolini the 20th century's greatest statesman.  
 Mussolini has said that her grandfather erred in instituting anti-Semitic laws, but she also maintains that he restored Italy's pride. Analysts say she is the symbol of those in the party who have expressed skepticism — when not flat out opposition — at Fini's moves.  
 "It's like we went to St. Peter's and the pope came at the window and said, 'God doesn't exist. We are atheist,'" longtime party member Francesco Storace said of Fini's remarks in Israel.

**China: World censure not enough to protect Taiwan against attack**

BEIJING (AP) — China would not be swayed by the threat of an Olympic boycott or condemnation from the international community if it decided to attack Taiwan, a Chinese general said in comments published as Premier Wen Jiabao prepares to visit Washington.  
 The comments add the military's voice to increasingly aggressive Chinese warnings over what Beijing says is a push by Taiwanese President Chen Shui-bian to declare formal independence — a step that the communist government says would lead to war.  
 Chen, however, told visiting Sen. Jeff Bingaman, D-N.M., on Thursday that he had no plans for an independence vote.  
 Beijing also won't be deterred by the possibility of Chinese deaths in battle or damage to its economy, the general said in a commentary in the magazine Outlook Weekly. The magazine is published by the official Xinhua News Agency.  
 "We are prepared to pay these costs to uphold national unity and territorial integrity," wrote Brig. Gen. Peng Guangqian of the Academy of Military Science of the People's Liberation Army.  
 The comments were widely reported by Chinese state newspapers and Xinhua, a sign that they were a reflection of official military policy and not personal opinion.  
 Taiwan and China have been separated since 1949, but Beijing claims the self-ruled island as its territory and has threatened to attack if it declares formal independence.  
 Chinese officials say Wen, who visits the United States next week, will press

President Bush to end weapons sales to Taiwan and do more to discourage the island from pursuing formal independence.  
 The United States has no official relations with Taiwan's popularly elected government, but is the island's most important ally and main arms supplier.  
 Taiwan's parliament passed a law last Thursday allowing Chen to call an independence referendum when threatened by an imminent attack from China. Peng's comments are the most severe by Beijing since the decision was made.  
 Chen said last weekend that he would call a referendum on March 20, though he hasn't said what the issue will be. March 20 is also the day when Chen will seek re-election to another four-year term.  
 However, Chen promised that as long as China doesn't use force to change the status quo, he would not declare independence, change the island's name or push for an independence vote.  
 Chen also promised he won't disband the government's National Unification Council, which recommends unification policies to the president, or discard guidelines already approved by the group.  
 The U.S. State Department had urged Taiwan this week not to use the vote to change the status quo in the Taiwan Strait. Washington is worried such a move would provoke a Chinese attack.  
 Peng's warning appeared to be a response to suggestions that China might be dissuaded from military action by the potential for damage to its increasingly important ties to the world economy.



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THURSDAY • December 4, 2003

## DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

### Physical Exam Is Sore Point Between Daughter and Mom

**DEAR ABBY:** I am a 14-year-old girl in my first year of high school. Two years ago, this 18-year-old guy, "John," touched me on a private area of my body. I told my mom. She didn't believe me, so she asked John if it was true. He denied it, and she accused me of being a liar.

My problem is, I am supposed to have a physical examination in a few weeks. My mom says the doctor will examine me in the place that John touched me. Even though my doctor is a woman, I don't want to go through with that part of the physical. My mom doesn't understand. Abby, please help me. How can I get out of it?

SCARED IN NEW MEXICO

**DEAR SCARED:** A pelvic examination is not part of a routine physical. But since you have concerns about this, discuss them with the doctor when you see her.

That your mother refused to believe you when you reported to her that you had been taken advantage of by John is appalling; that she'd take his word above yours is worse. I hope when you talk to the doctor you'll share with her what happened to you and get the support you deserve. John should be reported. Since he has gotten away with it with you, he could easily assault another child.

**DEAR ABBY:** Would it be rude for my husband and me to contact our relatives before the Christmas holidays begin and politely ask them not to buy anything for us? We have relatives, with whom we are not close, who always give us gifts when we see them at Christmas. Our finances are limited, but we feel obligated to reciprocate. How should we handle this?

NO THANKS IN WEST VIRGINIA

**DEAR NO THANKS:** Yours is a question I am asked repeatedly at holiday time. Write a brief letter to your relatives explaining the circumstances. Tell them your affection for them has not waned but that your finances

have; therefore you would feel more comfortable not exchanging gifts this year.

Keep in mind that the most important "gift" is the fact that you are all healthy and able to celebrate the holiday together. Not all families are so fortunate.

**DEAR ABBY:** Thank you for your response to "Afraid in the Broken Heartland." Your warning signs of an abuser caught my eye. I recognized my husband in 11 out of the 15 you listed. I had put off leaving my husband in 11 out of the 15 you listed. I had put off leaving my husband in 11 out of the 15 you listed. I had put off leaving my husband in 11 out of the 15 you listed.

I moved out and I have seen a lawyer. We will soon be free from my abusive husband and will no longer live in fear.

Thank you, Abby. Please continue to put the warning signs in your column. I pray they will help others to face the truth as they helped me.

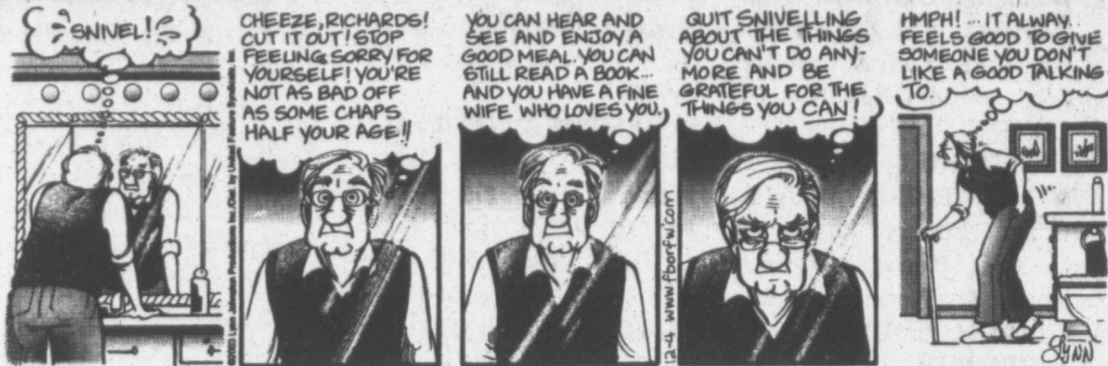
NO LONGER A VICTIM

**DEAR NO LONGER A VICTIM:** So do I, because some of the saddest letters I have received have come from grieving family members who wrote: "I only wish my daughter (or sister) had seen those warning signs before her husband killed her." I am not implying that women cannot also be abusers, because some women are. And abuse also happens between same-sex couples, I'm sad to say.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 6846, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$10 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

### For Better or For Worse



### Zits



### Garfield



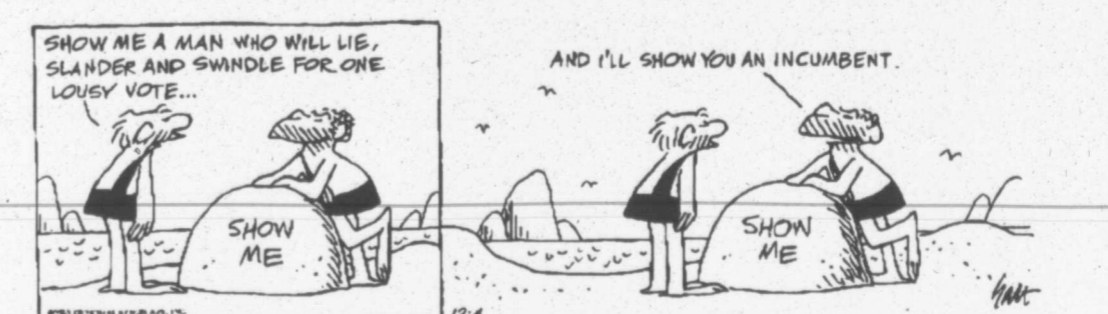
### Beetle Bailey



### Marvin



### B.C.



### Hagar The Horrible



### Peanuts



### Blondie



### Crossword Puzzle

#### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 45 Kin of PDQ

1 Music genre

5 Roger and Demi

11 Orchestra member

12 Unacquainted

13 Silent performer

14 Anne Rice protagonist

15 Energized

17 Guitars

18 Pie nut

22 Copiers

24 Get a goal

25 Humor

26 Kitten cry

27 Poseidon's realm

30 Irene of Zorba the Greek

32 Rodeo rope

33 Wing

34 Chinese food

38 Dr. Seuss character

41 Car part

42 Mystery

43 Give over

44 Penitent one



**DOWN**

1 Easy win

2 Theater award

3 Finishes e.g.

4 Big fish

5 Salsa choice

6 Outdoes

7 Without contract

8 Scoundrel

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10 Match part

11 Superhero symbol

12 Kitten cry

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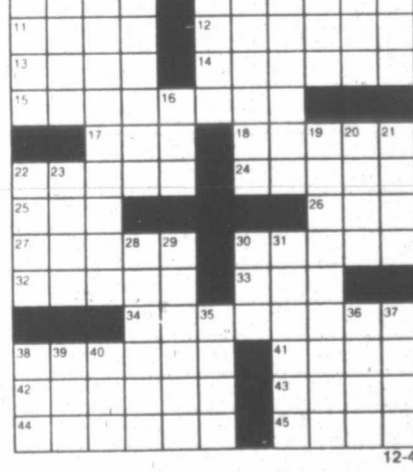
19 Car part

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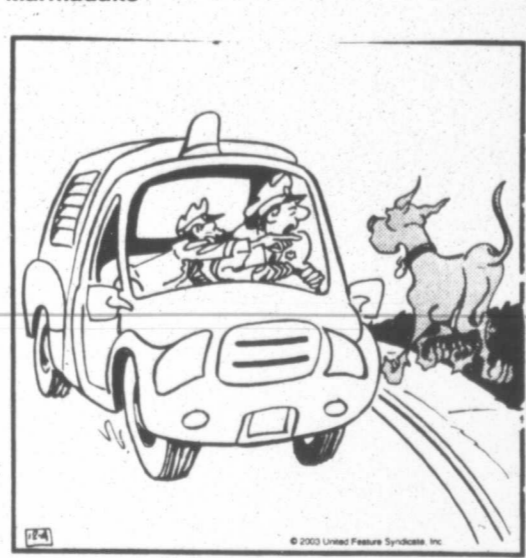
22 Penitent one

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.50 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



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### Marmaduke



### The Family Circus



### Flo & Friends



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# Heard-Jones

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## SPORTS

### Big 12 names White, Strait as top players

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — It's harder to find anyone that's better in the big games than Oklahoma cornerback Derrick Strait.

Texas' Roy Williams and Oklahoma State's Rashaun Woods would probably agree.

In matchups against two of the Big 12's most-heralded receivers, Strait held them to 11 catches for 114 yards and, most importantly, no touchdowns.

"He's had to play against their best receivers," Oklahoma co-defensive coordinator Mike Stoops said. "He's been consistently great."

Because of a career full of performances such as those, Strait was overwhelmingly

selected as the conference's defensive player of the year, an honor he received Wednesday in a vote of reporters who regularly cover the league for newspapers from the league's seven states.

"It's a big deal to me," Strait said. "We've got a lot of great defensive players. It means a lot that people feel that way about what I can do."

Oklahoma swept the Big 12's major individual honors as quarterback Jason White was named the league's top offensive player. OU's Bob Stoops was named coach of the year on Tuesday.

The all-conference team will be released Thursday.

For the defensive honor, Strait received 14 of the 19 votes. Teammate Tommie Harris had three and linebackers Demorrio Williams of Nebraska and Derrick Johnson of Texas each got one.

White received 17 votes. The only others to get a vote were White's top target, receiver Mark Clayton, and Kansas State running back Darren Sproles.

The league's newcomers of the year were both freshmen from Houston: Texas quarterback Vincent Young and Iowa State defensive end Jason Bertyman.

Strait was a freshman starter at OU in 2000 and was a key

figure in the Sooners' unexpected run to the national title that year.

Since then, Strait has started a school-record 50 games and he's now recognized as a standout on the nation's top-ranked defense.

In 11 games this season, he has 61 tackles, three interceptions, 11 pass breakups and four fumble recoveries.

But it's his knack for big plays in big games that Strait may be remembered for best.

One example was the Austin, Texas, native's 30-yard interception return that set up an OU touchdown on the opening series of the Texas game. That timely pick set the tone in

the Sooners' 65-13 romp over the Longhorns.

Strait also had a game-high 11 tackles and recovered two fumbles in that game.

"He's been our backbone for four straight years," Mike Stoops said. "He's a great player every time he steps on the field. The thing you love about him is that you know he's going to be there in the big games."

White has bounced back in a big way from two knee injuries the past two seasons.

He's shined from the start, completing 65 percent of his passes for 3,466 yards and a school-record 40 touchdowns against only six interceptions.

NOTEBOOK

### SWIMMING

**PAMPA** - Deadline for joining the Pampa Aquatic Club is Dec. 15, and interested youngsters may contact Anna Saiz at 669-1740 or Tammy Henthorn for more information or to sign up.

The club is for youngsters in age groups 6; 7-8; 9-10; 11-12; 13-14 and 15-18.

Youngsters who wish to join must be able to swim. PAC (Pampa Aquatic Club) is not a swimming program.

Club activities begin in January.

### BASKETBALL

**PAMPA** — Pampa lost to Amarillo High 57-27 in freshmen basketball action.

J. Lummus had 16 points and B. Southworth 10 to lead Amarillo High.

Scoring for Pampa were Stephanie McVay with 6 points, Shandale Young 4, Kali Jemenez 4, Candice Dildy 4, Tamara Trevathan 3, Kelsie Wyatt 2, and Michelle Adams 2.

Playing good defense were Mechelay, Dildy and Jemenez.

### Flashback

**1975:** Pampa defeated Hereford 20-7 to open the football season.

Harvester quarterback Garland McPherson completed 4 of 9 passes for 104 yards and scored on a 10-yard run.

Running back Ricky Moore was the game's leading rusher with 112 yards on 21 carries, including a 6-yard TD run.

### Palo Duro slips by Pampa in mat dual

**PAMPA** — Palo Duro won the last five matches to slip by Pampa 48-45 in a high school wrestling dual Tuesday night in McNeely Fieldhouse.

"I thought we wrestled very well. We had to bump a couple of guys up a weight class, but they did a good job," said Pampa coach Josh Cadenhead.

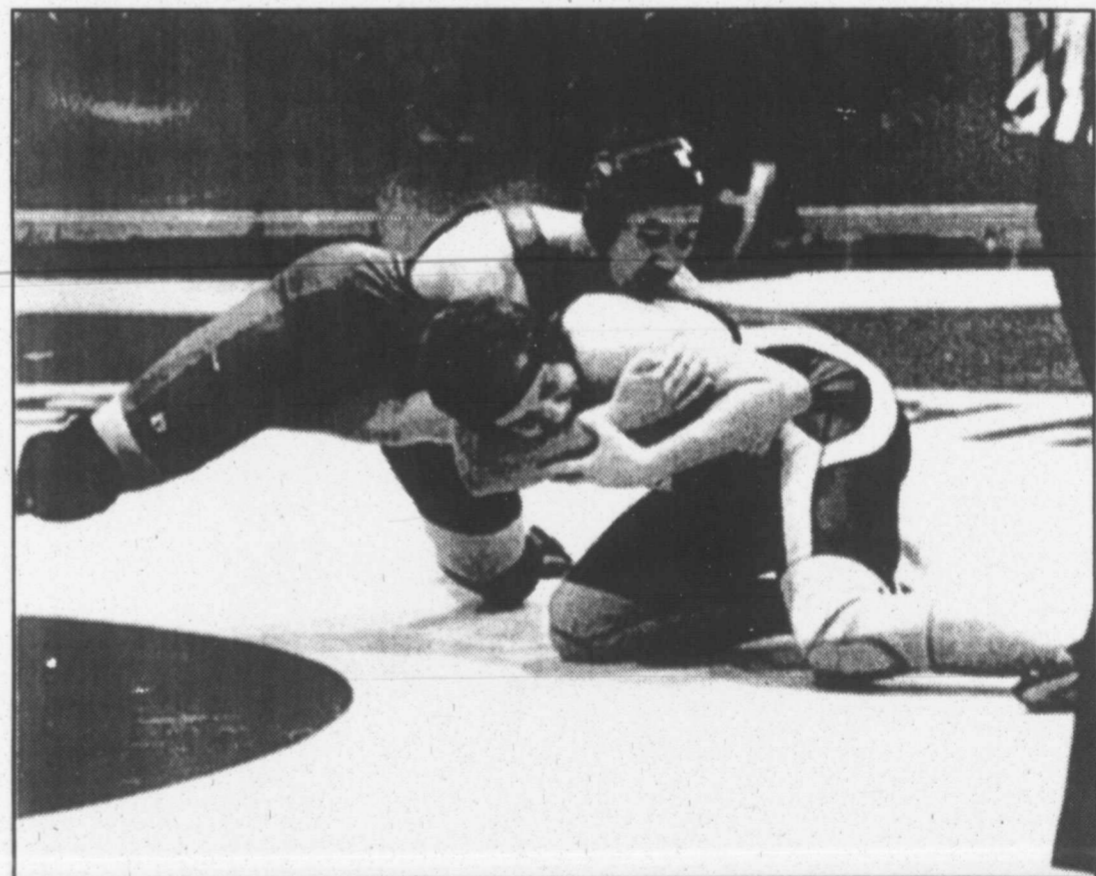
Posting wins for Pampa were Kasey Urquhart, John Burns, Chance Henley. Urquhart won his match with a pin while Burns and Henley scored decisions.

"There's always room for improvement, but these guys came out ready to wrestle. "I was proud of them," added coach

Cadenhead. The Harvesters are entered in the Greater Gold Invitational this weekend in Amarillo.

**Palo Duro 48, Pampa 45**  
103 - Kasey Urquhart (P) def. Thomas Springs, pin, 1:17 first period.  
112 - Paz Acosta (PD) def. Shawn Goodin, pin, second period.  
119 - Dusty Joiner (P), won by forfeit.  
125 - Dustin Kuhn (P), won by forfeit.  
130 - Shawn Brown (P), won by forfeit.

140 - John Burns (P) def. Mack Graves, 17-5.  
152 - Chance Henley (P) def. Coy Grant, 18-15.  
160 - Clay Wagner (PD) def. Abe Avila, pin, third period.  
171 - Adam Saazedra (PD) def. Dusty Langley, 17-3.  
180 - Curtis Houston (PD) def. Joel Palmateer, pin, first period.  
215 - Htoo Aung (PD) def. Michael Lopez, pin, second period.  
Hwy. - T.J. Nickelberry (PD) def. Jesse Marcum, pin, first period.



(Pampa News Photo by Ben Briscoe)

**Pampa's Dusty Langley goes against Palo Duro's Adam Saazedra in the 171-pound class.**

### Emmett's 27-point outing lead Texas Tech to victory

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — After seeing Andre Emmett score 27 points and commit no turnovers in Texas Tech's 70-57 win over Texas-El Paso, coach Bob Knight believes he's becoming a good basketball player.

"I think he has really made an effort to be the best all-around player that he can be," Knight said.

Wednesday night's win was Emmett's fifth straight game with at least 23 points.

"It's a matter of focus and concentration," Emmett said. "I look it like if I play good defense, it's going to turn into offense. That's the whole key

for me."

Tech (5-2) trailed only briefly near the end of the first half and steadily pulled ahead in the second. The Red Raiders' largest lead was 17 at 70-53 with a minute remaining in the game.

UTEP (3-1) gave Tech fits with its zone defense, something that caused the Red Raiders' difficulties in their 62-59 loss to SMU on Monday night.

Tech's defense left an impression with Miner coach Billy Gillispie.

"We were never able to reverse the ball and attack the basket like we want to," he

said. "Give them credit. They played hard. They blocked nine shots. Their defense will give them a chance to win every game."

Ronald Ross scored nine points and Jarius Jackson and Darryl Dora added eight apiece.

Omar Thomas scored 15 for the Miners and John Tofi and Filiberto Rivera added 11 each.

Tech led 25-21 at halftime but had opportunities to build a larger margin. The Red Raiders held the Miners scoreless for more than six minutes while scoring eight points of their own.

UTEP got back in it using a 10-2 run to take a 19-18 lead on a layup by Filiberto Rivera with 4:44 remaining in the first half. The Miners then failed to score again until the :05 mark when Omar Thomas

**Groom boys defeat Happy**  
GROOM — Groom posted its first basketball win of the season, defeating Happy 49-33 Tuesday night.

Thane Barkley had 19 points to lead the Tigers in scoring. Chance Barkley and Cody Schaffer followed with 10 each.

Alan Irlbeck had 9 points to

drove and dropped in a layup.

The loss extended the Miners' road losing streak to 28.

Both teams had 16 turnovers.

lead Happy.

Groom is now 1-4 for the season.

In girls' action, Groom lost to Ascension Academy 42-33.

Bridgette Moore was the Academy's high scorer with 10 points.

Brittney Martin led Groom with 24 points.

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## Pampa gymnast wins Level 5 District honors

PAMPA — Gymnastics of Pampa competition team member MaKayla Hampton recently completed a successful Level 5 season at the North State Semi-Finals in Eules.

MaKayla was attending the Level 5 Semi-Finals for the second time and was competing in the 9-year-old division. She had a beautiful beam routine for a score of 9.2 to place 18th and was 29th in the All-Around with a 34.05.

MaKayla qualified for North State at the District 1 Championships, where she dominated the competition in Level 5. Not only did she win

all four events and the All-Around in her age group, but she also had the highest score of any Level 5 gymnast entered in the meet.

MaKayla's winning performances came on floor exercise (9.25), balance beam (9.25), uneven bars (9.15), and vault (8.65).

For the All-Around gold medal, she scored a 36.3, a personal best. Her vault and bar scores were also personal bests.

The District Championship titles meant an undefeated season for the third-grader. MaKayla will now be moving up to the Level 6.



MaKayla Hampton is the Level 5 9-year-old District All-Around Champion.

## 7th grade boys versus Canyon

PAMPA — Pampa Plainview. Pampa downed Canyon 43-17 in a 7th grade boys' basketball game earlier this week.

Matt Smith was the leading scorer with 18 points, followed by Bryon Smith 5.

Pampa A boosted its record to 2-1.

The Pampa 7th graders are entered in the Plainview Tournament, which starts today. At the same time, the 8th graders will be playing in the Canyon Tournament.

The next home games will be Monday against

**7th Grade**  
**Pampa B 38, Canyon B 20**  
 P - Heath Skinner 23, Jeremy Busse 6.  
 Pampa record, 2-1.  
**8th Grade**  
**Canyon A 42, Pampa A 37**  
 P - Adam Estrada 19, Shavious Kelley 12.  
**Canyon B 36, Pampa B 21**  
 P - Garrett Eggleston 10, Colden Fortenberry 6.

## Pampa Bowling Roundup

HARVESTER LANES Harvester Combo (Week 9)			cap series: Rick Dunn 729; High handicap game: Pete Long 275.			handicap game: Terry South 249; High handicap series: Terry South 656.		
Team	Won	Lost	Women			National Oilwell League		
B & C Twice	27	9	High scratch game: Ashleigh Burns 226;			Team	Won	Lost
AT&T Yard Service	21	15	High scratch series: Ashleigh Burns 611;			Dave's Raiders	12	8
Team One	21	15	High handicap game: Belinda Nolte 239;			Sliders	11	9
J&R	20	16	High handicap series: Belinda Nolte 650.			Misfits	11	9
Onie's Regulars	19 1/2	16 1/2	Lone Star League (Week 10)			Team One	11	9
Reed's Welding	19	17	Team	Won	Lost	Team Two	6	14
Team Seven	18	18	Harvester Cafe	25	15	<b>Week's Top Scores</b>		
Team Eleven	16 1/2	19 1/2	G.B.'s Contractors	25	15	<b>Men</b>		
A-1 Concrete	16	20	Pampa Transmission	22	18	High scratch series: Ricky Addington 620; High scratch game: Gary Skinner 207;		
Team Ten	15	21	UMC	21	19	High handicap series: Monty Nelson 661;		
Black Gold	9	27	Now & Then	20	20	High handicap game: Jay Furnish 237.		
Coney Island	7	29	B & K Carpentry	17	23	<b>Women</b>		
<b>Week's Top Scores</b>			Whitehead Cattle	16	24	High scratch series: Carol Yearwood 455;		
<b>Men</b>			<b>Week's Top Scores</b>			High scratch game: Loretta Thomas 177; High		
High scratch game: Pete Long 256; High			High scratch game: Jan Woods 188; High			handicap series: Becky Downey 636; High		
scratch series: Rick Dunn 645; High handi-			scratch series: Sandra Farrington 510; High			handicap game: Karen Furnish 225.		

## Former Tyler resident swaps indoor office for outdoor job

### Kevin Townsend goes from oilman to outdoor guide

By STEVE KNIGHT  
 Tyler Morning-Telegraph

TYLER, Texas — Having grown up hunting and fishing in East Texas, it was hard for former Tyler resident Kevin Townsend to decide which direction to go when looking for a second career.

After spending 13 years in Colorado in the oil business, in which part of his job description was entertaining clients by taking them hunting and fishing, Townsend took advantage of one of the industry's semi-regular downturns to move from the office to the field.

His first foray on his own about 15 years ago was as a fishing guide on the Green River in Utah. About five years ago he added the title of upland bird outfitter in Nebraska.

"I had to figure out something to do in the off season," said Townsend, from his winter base in

McCook, Neb. "I had enough fishing clients who wanted to go pheasant hunting, I decided to try it."

In doing so, Townsend forevermore changed the face of hunting in Nebraska where he became one of the first outfitters to lease land in an effort to ensure his clients the best possible trip for pheasant, quail and occasional prairie chicken. Today, he leases between 50,000 and 60,000 acres scattered across three counties in the southwest portion of the state.

Introduced to hunting by his grandfather, the late Herschel Jennings, and his father, Royce, Townsend grew up fishing the lakes of East Texas and hunting quail farms around Tyler in an earlier era when there were still quail to be found. His transition into a bird guide coincided with the maturing of a black Lab named Batman, a dog that ultimately gained a certain

amount of fame in national television appearances.

"I just got addicted to walking the fields with the dog. Now we have about 11 dogs in the kennel," Townsend said.

Working out of a remodeled farmhouse, Townsend carries groups of up to eight hunters to the hunt. They hunt a favorite of habitat ranging from cornfields to layout land enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program.

"The first two weeks we were hunting standing rows of corner that the farmer left up. We got a 100-bird-plus jump hunt one trip. The population is better than it has been in 10 years," Townsend said.

Fortunately for the outfitter that hunt was captured on film for an Outdoor Life Network program that is expected to appear in January.

Starting to rebound from an extended drought, Nebraska game officials project a 68 percent increase in the number of pheasants this season com-

pared to a year ago. Townsend said the comeback is noticeable.

"This year it is going to take awhile (to put pressure on a field). We have a good hen/rooster population. You don't need a lot of roosters to breed the hens," the outfitter said.

Still, fearing that pressure will cause the birds to be excessively wild, and to keep landowners happy so he can lease from them again next year, Townsend will limit hunting in any one field.

During the drought Townsend attempted to lease as many fields as possible adjacent to an irrigated cornfield.

This setup provided the birds with both food and water and limited the population dip seen in other areas.

With a season that runs from November through January, Townsend's hunters can face the full gamut of weather.

"You can run into super cold as early as Nov. 1 or

## Miami cagers win a pair against McLean

MIAMI — Jeffrey Browning tossed in 21 points to lead Miami by McLean 46-38 in area basketball action Tuesday night.

Kyler Roach added 12 points and Chris Brewer 11 for the Warriors.

Miami starting pulling away after leading by three (22-19) at the half.

James Alexander had 12 points and Jay Willis 10 for McLean.

Miami won the girls' game by the score of 80-41.

Kaylie James had 19 points, while Mariam Hannon and Tatum Butler had 15 each to lead Miami scorers.

Halftime score was 43-25, Miami's favor.

Keisha Menefield and Danielle Dampier had 11 each for McLean.

The Warriorettes have a perfect 6-0 record.

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**Sources: Red Sox to hire Terry Francona as manager**

BOSTON (AP) — Four of the first dozen men to manage the Boston Red Sox led the team to a World Series title. In more than eight decades since, twice as many and then some have tried and failed.

Now Terry Francona will give it a shot.

Francona will be hired as the next Boston Red Sox manager, according to two baseball sources speaking on the condition of anonymity. The team has scheduled a news conference Thursday afternoon to make the announcement, the sources said.

The ex-Philadelphia Phillies manager will join his former ace, Curt Schilling, as they try to bring the Red Sox their first championship since 1918.

The Red Sox also interviewed Los Angeles third-

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**NEED Cash?** I buy seller-financed notes. Convert the mo. payments you receive to lump sum cash. Free evaluation. Free call 1-866-295-3714.

**14b Appli. Repair**

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CUSTOM homes, additions, remodeling, residential / comm. Deaver Construction, 665-0477.

ADDITIONS, remodeling, roofing, cabinets, painting, all types repairs. Mike Albus, 665-4774.

**14d Carpentry**

**OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR** Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

**14e Carpet Serv.**

NU-WAY Cleaning service, carpets, upholstery, walls, ceilings. Quality doesn't cost...! Pays! No steam used. Bob Marx owner-operator. 665-3541, or from out of town: 800-536-5341.

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**14h Gen. Serv.**

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INT./EXT. painting, mud tape. 35 yr. exp. References. Call Gene Calder 665-4840.

50 yr. exp. We paint, dry-wal, texture, comm./residential. Free Estimates. Happy Painters 665-3214

**14s Plumbing/Heat**

JACK'S Plumbing & Faucet Shop, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115- faucets, plumbing supplies, new constr., repair, remodeling, sewer / drain cleaning, septic systems installed. Visa/MC

Larry Baker Plumbing Heating/ Air Conditioning Berger Hwy. 665-4392

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MCLEAN Care Center has the following immediate openings: L.V.N., Charge Nurse Position, 2-10, full time & weekend R.N.'s. Benefits include paid vacation, 401K & health insurance available. Contact Billy Ray Johnston or Kim Ray @ 806-779-2469 or come by 605 W. 7th St. for more information.

**21 Help Wanted**



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POSITIONS AVAILABLE IN PAMPA:

**Experience Compressor Mechanic**

\*Or other mechanical experience. \*Need immediately.

**INNOVATIVE STAFFING SOLUTIONS, LLC**  
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886-665-2991

\*Drug Screens Required \*Never A Fee To Applicant

NEED Cashier / Deli Worker. Apply in person, 1020 E. Frederic.

SANTA Clause is needed for Downtown area. Hours vary Call 665-2831 ask for Ken.

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COME work with the 1st team. Wanted welders, laborers, concrete men, grain millwright, steel bldg erectors & carpenters. 2 years work in Iowa, Maine & Puerto Rico. Mogensen Steel Erectors 740-360-1907.

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**69a Garage Sales**  
GIFTS, Deco; Unique One of a Kind Nursing Hm Family, Boss or Best Friend. 300 W. Foster #11, 1431 N. Hobart #37.

**DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES** — Here's how to work it: AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

12-4 CRYPTOQUOTE  
Y ABBQ RG ZRQL Y HRSSBS.

PNLC Y HBCQLV ZBBQ RC.  
CB YOBGEZL TYC ZBBQ

BIE — YIENBS ICQCBCP  
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: IT IS NO PUS SAYING, "WE ARE DOING OUR BEST." YOU HAVE GOT TO SUCCEED IN DOING WHAT IS NECESSARY. — WINSTON CHURCHILL

**The Pampa News**  
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**Horoscope** BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, Dec. 5, 2003:

You have the wherewithal to accomplish a lot this year, especially professionally. Pay raises and promotions become strong possibilities. Know what you want, and you are likely to make it so, especially professionally. Your horizons grow and expand after September 2004. If you are single, an opportunity comes your way that might encourage you to change that status. Look to fall 2004 for this person. If you are attached, your relationship will bloom with nurturing and your sixth sense helping you to zero in on what your sweetie wants. TAURUS works well with you.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)

\*\*\* Use gentleness, even in the midst of confusion. Others appreciate being given the benefit of the doubt right now. You might even think a friend is a bit loco, but spend some time talking to him or her before concluding that you're right. You might change your mind. Tonight: Treat another to Friday-night festivities.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)

\*\*\* You might be king or queen for a day, but the boss doesn't know it. You might have a difficult time letting him or her know, but by your easy, charming manner, you put everything back in balance. During a discussion you might need to assume a solemn tone. Tonight: As you like it.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)

\*\*\* Knowing when to lie back and say little separates you from the losers. You might be jolted by news that heads your way, but a casual conversation with

a loved one or friend later helps you understand what you're hearing. No grand announcements today. Tonight: Zoom on home.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)

\*\*\* Aim for what you want, though an associate might undermine you unintentionally. Keep an easy tone in a discussion in the late afternoon, explaining to this person just what happened and how you feel about it. Talking about it could prevent this problem from happening again. Tonight: Start the weekend in style.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)

\*\*\* You star, whether you want to or not. Others look to you for leadership and direction. You might be inclined to be fairly easygoing, embodying a laissez-faire attitude. Others might want more structure. Thank goodness the weekend is coming. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

\*\*\* Read between the lines with someone who might be a bit upset or airy-fairy about an idea. Work as a team to add more structure here, and you both will be happier. Others need to understand where you're coming from. Tonight: Explore a new spot.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

\*\*\* Work with one person at a time, and you'll get excellent results. You might be surprised by another's idea, though you might not be able to funnel it into a practical use. Talk and brainstorm, and you'll find a solution. Tonight: Togetherness works.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

\*\*\* Others knock on your door and express what they want. You might find a close friend or associate a bit vague. Could it be that you don't want to hear what he or she is saying? Think in terms of where the other is coming from.

Tonight: Out there.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

\*\*\* You might be overwhelmed by what gets dropped in your lap. Evaluate possibilities more carefully. Just because you think a random idea is impossible doesn't mean that it is. A discussion with an associate helps you see the other side. Tonight: Do something ultimately relaxing.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

\*\*\* Others seek you out. Spark up conversations with your opinions and humor. You might not be as focused as you need to be about a money matter. A partner has some stern opinions. Listen to another point of view. Tonight: Spice up an old relationship by re-creating your first date.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

\*\*\* Home becomes your focal point — where you want to be. You might take the day off at the last minute. You need some "dream" time to recharge your creativity and energy. If at work, you might be overwhelmed by what is on your plate. Tonight: Stay close to home.

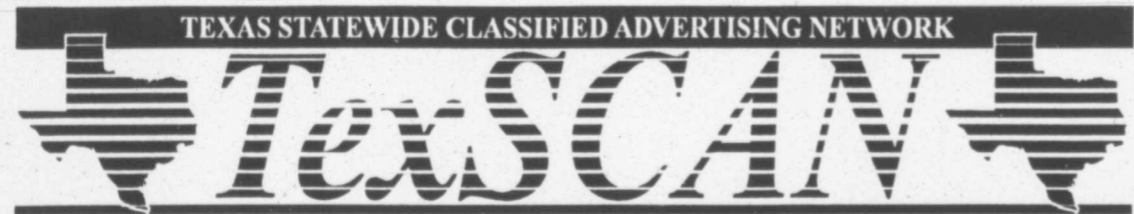
**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)

\*\*\* How you say what you think could make all the difference in how others receive your thoughts, ideas and wishes. A child or loved one could be overly serious. You might not be able to "tease" this person out of his or her mood. Tonight: Celebrate Friday at your hang out.

**BORN TODAY**

Cartoonist Walt Disney (1901), singer Little Richard (1932), Gen. George Armstrong Custer (1839)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>. © 2003 by King Features Syndicate Inc.



**TEXSCAN Week of November 30, 2003**

**ADOPTION**  
Note: It is illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical and legal expenses in Texas adoption.  
ADOPTION: CHILDLESS COUPLE wishes to provide a newborn baby with a lifetime of love and security. You'll be treated with care and respect. Confidential. Legally authorized expenses paid. Please call Angela and Chris. 1-866-214-6091, PINE 1579.

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**AUCTION**  
ABSOLUTE AUCTION, DURANGO, CO, Dec. 11th. Two mountain view homes each on 40+ acres. 1-800-554-5464. Jerry Craig King. J.P. King Auction Co., Inc. Broker #ER40019339.

**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY**  
1-800-VENDING, 90 MACHINES—\$8,670. The best locations. 1-800-836-3464, 24 hours.

**GUARANTEED INCOME! UP TO \$2747.36** daily starting tomorrow with "Cash Flow Secrets"! No selling. Free information. 1-888-342-6873, 24 hours. [www.moneygrows123.com](http://www.moneygrows123.com)

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\$5 EXPERIENCE PAYS \$5. Less than 3 years experience = .36 cpm, 3 years experience = .37 cpm, 5 years experience = .38 cpm. OTO's up to 90 cpm/50 lease. Melton Truck Lines. 1-800-635-8669 (6 months OTR). [www.swiftrans.com](http://www.swiftrans.com)

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**FINANCIAL SERVICES**  
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**55CASH55** - Cash now for structured settlements, annuities and insurance payouts. 1-800-794-7310. J.G. Wentworth...J.G. Wentworth means cash now for structured settlements.

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CHRISTMAS SPECIAL FREE DVD player while supplies last with purchase of Wolff Tanning Bed. Payments from \$25/month. FREE color catalog. 1-888-839-5160.

**FREE 3-ROOM DIRECTV** System including installation! FREE 3-months HBO (7 movie channels) with subscription. Access 225+ TV channels. Digital quality picture, sound. Limited offer 1-800-264-3458.

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DIABETIC ON MEDICARE? Make finger sticking a thing of the past — almost painless testing. Call Star Medical RX, 1-800-441-9689 today for home delivery!

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• Payment in advance

**\$25.00**

...EXAMPLE

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September 6, 2003  
Parents... Keith & ReDonn Woods  
Grandparents... Dwayne & Cindy Hall,  
Monty Elkins, Regina Woods, Mike Woods

**96 Unfurn. Apts.**

**CAPROCK Apartments**  
Has incredible specials on all floor plans. Starting at only \$290. 3-12 mo. lease available.  
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NEW Mgmt. N&L Investments. 1, 2 & 3 brm. apts., duplexes, homes & commer. prop. 665-4274.

1153 Terrace 3 Bedroom 440-1610

3 bdr. 1113 Huff, c h/a: 313 N. Faulkner, 1141 Juniper, 637 N. Dwight 2 bdr. HUD avail. 669-2080

LARGE home for rent. 2 bdr, den or 3rd bdr. 1 bath, dining area, new carpet throughout. Attached garage w/ huge dbl. garage & storage in back. All inside redone. Outside just painted. Ready for tenant. References require. 1-806-352-5972.

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**99 Stor. Bldgs.**  
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2 bdr., \$1000 down, the more you pay down, the cheaper the house. 917 Barnard. 665-6604.

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# Cincinnati PD awaits in-depth autopsy

By TERRY KINNEY  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

CINCINNATI (AP) — Bessie Jones broke down in tears as she talked about her 350-pound grandson who died after a struggle with police, describing him as a happy-go-lucky man his family nicknamed Skip.

"They talk about Skip like he was an animal," she said. "He wasn't. Skipper was just a good old, fat jolly fella. He wasn't violent."

Nathaniel Jones, 41, died early Sunday shortly after six police officers wrestled him to the ground and handcuffed him. A video camera in a police cruiser showed that Jones swung at an officer, and that officers hit him repeatedly with nightsticks.

The coroner said Wednesday that Jones' death was a direct result of the struggle, partly attributable to his weight, heart disease and drug use.

"He was a big guy," said his aunt, Diane Payton. "And I'm going to dearly, dearly miss those juicy hugs and his fat, pudgy face. He was the sweetest man you've ever seen."

Eight family members — aunts, uncles, cousins and his grandmother — met with reporters Wednesday in the office of their attorney, Ken Lawson. They sought the forum because they were saddened that Jones had been "demonized" and held up to public ridicule, mostly because of his weight, Lawson said.

"You guys are so wrong in the way you've come at this before you knew anything about him," Payton said. "The truth will come out."

Lawson said Jones' body was being taken to Indianapolis for an independent autopsy. He said the family has not decided if it will file a wrongful death lawsuit against the city, but felt that an independent investigation is needed.

Hamilton County Coroner Carl Parrott said his autopsy showed that Jones suffered from an enlarged heart, obesity and had intoxicating levels of cocaine, PCP and methanol in his blood.

Parrott said the death will be ruled a homicide, but that such a ruling "should not be interpreted as implying inappropriate behavior or the use of excessive force by police."

Jones' body had bruising on the lower half, but did not show signs of blows to the head or organ damage, Parrott said.

The coroner said he had to rule the death a homicide because it didn't fall under other categories of a death in Ohio: accident, suicide or natural.

Jones' death certificate will list a cause of death as an irregular heart beat because of a stress reaction from the violent struggle, Parrott said.

Police Chief Thomas Streicher Jr. has said the videotape showed that police officers observed department guidelines. Activists say Jones' death was another example of brutality by Cincinnati police against blacks in a city that was rocked by race riots two years ago. Jones was black, as were some of the officers involved.

"I think it's odd that we can all look at the same thing and come to different conclusions," Lawson said.

MONDAY-SATURDAY 9:00 TO 5:30  
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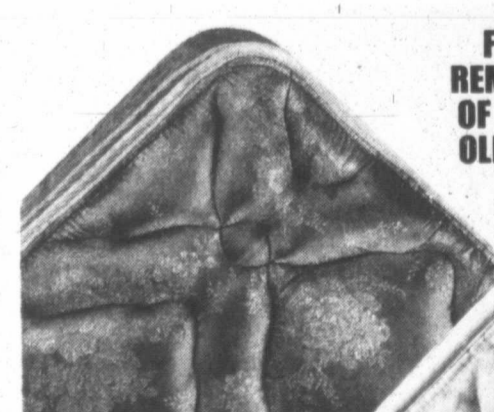
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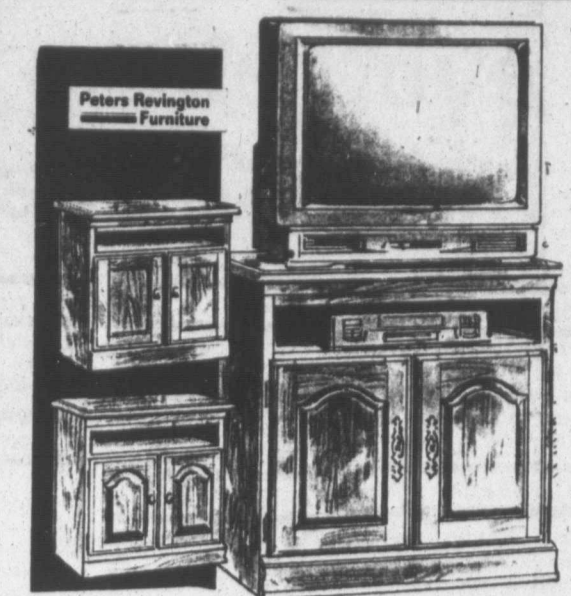
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