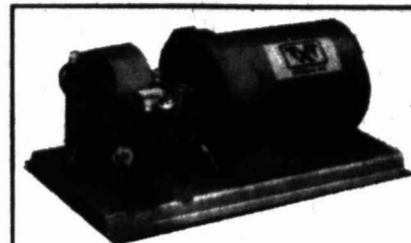


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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2003

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WEATHER WEATHER

HIGH **LOW**
55 **24**

LOCAL

Cuyler and Kingsmill signals under repair

Traffic signals at the intersection of Cuyler and Kingsmill streets will be inoperative for about a month due to repairs, announced. City Public Service Superintendent Kimberly Lincycomb. A four-way stop will be implemented while the repairs of the signals are being completed, she said.

DEATHS

Florence Weckesser Dodson, 98, retired teacher.
Georgia Francis Harrison, 89, homemaker.
Arthur 'Art' Rohde, 89, retired postal worker.

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Beautiful Paving Stones...
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Disciplinary action taken on 2 doctors

By MARILYN POWERS
STAFF WRITER

Dan Clayton Powell, M.D., of Pampa and Earl Robert Chase, D.O., of Perryton are among 61 doctors disciplined by the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners, according to a Dec. 17 press release by the board.

The board met Dec. 11-12 and took disciplinary action against Powell for allegations of substandard care delivered to two infants. As a result of the allegations, the board and Powell entered into an agreed order issuing a public reprimand and requiring Powell to fulfill requirements of a monitoring contract between Powell and Pampa Regional Medical Center.

Disciplinary action against Chase was based on unprofessional or dishonorable conduct and violation of a board rule. The board and Chase entered into an agreed order assessing an administrative penalty in the amount of \$10,000.

The agreed order between Powell and the board stated that in January 2001, Powell was asked to address Pampa Regional Medical Center's concerns regarding his management of newborns.

"There was a concern that he failed to recognize respiratory distress in two infants in a timely manner and that he did not intervene in a timely manner. The hospital also had a concern regarding Respondent's skills related to circumcisions," the agreed order stated.

The hospital presented six cases to an independent consultant for review, and the reviewer said Powell did not meet the standards of care in two of the cases involving infants having respiratory dis-

tress, according to the agreed order. In the case of the circumcisions, the reviewer said "the complications... using the Mogen clamp was not standard of care," the agreed order stated.

In February 2001, Powell voluntarily surrendered his newborn privileges at PRMC. In June 2001, the hospital's medical executive committee completed its review of Powell's newborn privileges and voted to terminate those privileges, according to the agreed order.

On Dec. 14, 2001, Powell's newborn privileges at PRMC were reinstated with the stipulations that he complete additional training and that his newborn care would be monitored for 24 months. Powell completed additional training in February 2002.

The terms of the monitoring contract between Powell and PRMC include maintaining NALS certification; Gomco technique only for circumcisions; self imposed practice of mandatory neonatal consultation within three hours for all infants requiring FIO2 of 40 percent or more; personally respond to all pages in a timely fashion or arrange for alternate physician coverage; monitoring of 20 respiratory distress cases (newborn) and 20 circumcision cases, or 24 months of peer review, whichever is longer; and suspension of all admitting privileges in the case of adverse outcomes which raise questions about Powell's judgment.

Powell is ordered to provide documentation within 30 days of the agreed order, showing that he has completed all requirements of PRMC's monitoring contract.

(See DOCTORS, Page 5)



(Pampa News photo by Marilyn Powers)

Yellow tape surrounds the charred walls of a residence at 1433 Williston destroyed in a fire late Sunday. Fire officials continue to investigate what caused the blaze.

Fire Marshal: Vent pipe cause of Tuesday blaze

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
EDITOR

Pampa Fire Department officials today say they've completed their investigation of one residential fire, but continue to probe the cause of the Sunday night blaze that destroyed another home here.

A heating unit vent pipe located next to a wooden joist apparently caused the fire at 1600 Dogwood on Tuesday, Pampa Fire Marshal Gary Stevens said this morning.

Stevens said he completed the investigation at 4 p.m. Wednesday. He explained that vent pipes, according to the building code are supposed to be double-walled. However, elbows are generally single-walled. An elbow in the vent pipe, located next to the wooden joist apparently dried the joist to the point that it grew hot enough to cause the fire in the attic.

Neighbors reported smoke at the residence, home of Marty and Melissa Scott, shortly after noon Tuesday.

By the time firefighters arrived, Stevens said, fire was coming from the roof.

High winds made battling the fire more difficult and it took firefighters two hours to control the blaze.

All of the fire damage was in the attic.

"There wasn't a bit of fire in the house itself. It was all in the attic," the fire marshal said.

Water from fighting the fire and the ceiling

falling into the residence caused major damage to the house, he explained.

Stevens said that it may take 25 to 35 years for wood to dry to the point of causing a fire such as the one on Dogwood.

"It shouldn't happen, but it does," he said. Fire officials are continuing to investigate a fire that gutted a house at 1433 Williston about 9:30 p.m. on Sunday, Pampa Fire Chief Kim Powell said today.

"It is still being investigated," she said. "We have some ideas (about the cause), but we're still not ready to say for sure yet."

December has been a difficult month for Pampa firefighters, with one fire fatality and numerous structure fires, including five in the past 10 days.

William R. Provence, 61, died on Dec. 5 when fire broke out in his apartment at 521 Montague. Fire officials ruled that fire was accidentally caused by a cigarette smoldering in a love seat in the apartment. Several persons living in the row of the apartments were left without a place to live after the fire.

Heat tape is believed to have caused a fire that destroyed a double-wide mobile home south of Pampa located at County Roads K and 8 on Friday afternoon, Dec. 12. Donations to help the owners of the home, Roy and Carol Hermanski, may be sent to the American Red Cross here in their name, said Heidi Phelps, local Red Cross disaster coordinator.

Church offers gift of Christmas dinner

Good food and fellowship are being offered to members of the community by the Mary Ellen & Harvester Church of Christ.

Any Pampa area resident who doesn't want to spend Christmas Day alone is welcome to join church members for a traditional Christmas dinner. For the past 18 years, this congregation has fed local residents on Christmas Day.

"Even though this event only happens once a year, we hope that it is representative of our desire to be there year-round for those who are in need in our community," said Rodney Tedford, minister. "With our regular

food and clothing distributions, we are trying to reflect the Lord's concern for physical needs in close partnership with His primary work of spiritual redemption.

"We are happy that we have this wonderful opportunity to share the Lord's bountiful blessings with others during the holiday season. We hope to have a house full," he said.

Many of the church families who help with the dinner have established this as a Christmas tradition with their children who assist with the day's activities. Entire families help by assisting with the cooking, serving, decorating and greeting of

guests. Many of the families arrive early Christmas morning at the Fellowship Hall to begin the preparations.

The church-wide outreach project is a service which provides for the entire community. It is not limited to members of the local church.

The meal will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will consist of turkey, dressing, ham, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, corn, cranberry sauce, dinner rolls and homemade desserts.

Most of the congregation is involved in some way. Some cook. Others work getting the building

ready. Several work Christmas Day serving and cleaning up after the dinner.

All emergency personnel, police, sheriff's department, fire department and ambulance workers are welcome to join the group for the Christmas Day meal.

The church is also delivering Christmas dinner for Meals on Wheels. Take-out meals and deliveries will be available during serving time. To reserve a meal, call the church office by Dec. 23.

For additional information, please contact the church office at 665-0031.

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ON RECORD

POLICE

Pampa Police Department today reported the following incidents and arrests.

Wednesday, Dec. 17

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1000 block of Charles. A vehicle was keyed and eggs were thrown at it. Estimated damage was \$500.

Disorderly conduct/fighting was reported at Pampa High School, 111 E. Harvester. No injuries were reported.

Rosalio Oviedo Bedoya, 42, 415 N. Starkweather, was arrested for violating a protective order and a *capias pro fine* for speeding.

Thomas Townsend, 48, 605 N. Christy, was arrested for no valid driver's license, failure to appear, expired registration, and *capias pro fines* for theft of gas, expired motor vehicle inspection, no valid driver's license and possession of drug paraphernalia.

AMBULANCE

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

Thursday, Dec. 18

7:04 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1900 block of Hilton Road and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

9:52 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 500 block of Doucette and transported a patient PRMC.

1:05 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded approximately 20 miles north on Highway 70 and transported a patient to PRMC.

4:16 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1000 block of Varmon Drive. No transport.

5:10 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred a patient to Baptist-St. Anthony's West, Amarillo.

5:35 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing facility and transported a patient to PRMC.

SHERIFF

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

Wednesday, Dec. 17

Edmon Gregory Harden, 35, 1700 Duncan, was arrested for Pampa Police Department

for violating a protective order.

Pardip Singh Bains, 37, Bakersfield, Calif., was arrested by the Department of Public Safety for theft over \$20,000 and under \$100,000.

OBITUARIES

SERVICES TOMORROW

HARRISON, Georgia Francis — 10:30 a.m., Cheyenne First United Methodist Church, Cheyenne, Okla.

ARTHUR 'ART' ROHDE
 1914-2003

Arthur "Art" Rohde, 89, of Pampa, Texas, died Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2003, at Pampa. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors.

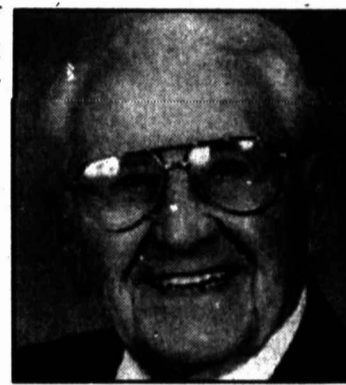
Mr. Rohde was born January 20, 1914, in Yutan, Neb. He had been a resident of Pampa since 1932. He married Johnnie Lee Richey on June 15, 1938, in Pampa. He worked for the U.S. Postal Service for 33 years, retiring in 1969. He served two terms as City Commissioner.

He was a member of the First Assembly of God for 70 years, serving as deacon, church secretary and song leader for 35 years.

Survivors include his wife, Johnnie Lee Rohde, of the home; a daughter, Patricia Farmer of Pampa; a son, Arthur J. Rohde, Jr., and wife Gayle of McLean; a granddaughter, Robin McCracken and husband Ethan of Amarillo; two grandsons, Jason Farmer and

wife Dane of McLean and Jeremy Farmer and wife Sara of Dallas; a great-grandson, Elle McCracken; and two great-granddaughters, Kourtney Farmer and Mia McCracken. He was preceded in death by a sister, Emmaline Oxley.

The family requests memorials be to First Assembly of God Church at Cuyler and Highway 60, Pampa, TX 79065; or Trinity Fellowship Harvest House, 736 S. Cuyler, Pampa, TX 79065. —Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whately.com.



FLORENCE WECKESSER DODSON
 1905-2003

Florence Weckesser Dodson, 98, of Miami, Texas, died Thursday, Dec. 18, 2003, at McLean, Texas. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Dodson was born Sept. 13, 1905, in Miami. She was a 1924 graduate of Miami High School and attended Sul Ross State Teachers College in Alpine, and Northwest State Teachers College in Alva, Okla., receiving a B.A. degree in 1929. She taught school in Hardner, Kan., Rankin, Texas, and Shamrock, Texas.

She married Glynn Ray Dodson on March 5, 1938. He preceded her in death on July 4, 1984. She was a member and deaconess emerita of the First Christian Church where she taught classes for more than 50 years.

She was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, the North Plains Club, and the Meet Your Neighbors Club.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Glynda Martin in 2001, and by eight brothers and sisters.

Survivors include a daughter Connie Holland and husband Joe of Pampa; a son, Dr. Jerry Dodson of San Angelo; a sister, Sybil Perry of Hamlin; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to First Christian Church, 201 Tascosa, Miami, TX 79059; or BSA Hospice, 800 N. Sumner, Pampa, TX 79065.

—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whately.com.

GEORGIA FRANCIS HARRISON
 1914-2003

CHEYENNE, Okla. — Georgia Francis Harrison, 89, died Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2003, at Cheyenne Care Center. Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday at Cheyenne First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Alberta Helton officiating. Burial will be in Cheyenne Cemetery under the direction of Rose Chapel Funeral Service of Cheyenne.

Mrs. Harrison was born July 20, 1914, at New Boston, Texas, to Mary and Mose Bradley. She was raised by her aunts and uncles, Bill and Ollie Bradley and Alfred and Ida Bradley. She married Everett Harrison on May 1, 1933, at

Roger Mills County, Okla. The couple made their home east of Reydon, Okla.

Mrs. Harrison worked for Dr. Buster and Cheyenne Hospital for 25 years. She enjoyed working with animals on the farm following retirement.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; a brother; two daughters, Nadine Parr and Judy Winburn; and a son, Troy Harrison.

Survivors include a daughter, Joan Sutterfield of Pampa; nine grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and special cousins, Lila, Alice, Loretta and Gene.

STOCKS

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

Wheat	3.53	KMI	56.23	+0.19
Milo	4.17	XCEL	16.95	-0.02
Corn	4.72	Kerr McGee	45.14	+0.91
Soybeans	6.93	Limited	17.71	-0.03
		Williams	9.86	-0.05
		MCD	24.61	+0.11
		XOM	39.28	+0.40
		Atmos	24.45	NC
		Pioneer Nat	32.17	+0.99
		JCP	24.31	+0.12
		COP	63.02	+1.19
		SLB	51.63	+1.23
		Tenneco	6.98	+0.20
		CVX	83.50	+1.76
		Wal-Mart	52.98	+1.08
		OKE	20.77	-0.13
		NS Grp	8.55	+0.08
		New York Gold	412.45	
		Silver	5.69	
		West Texas Crude	33.35	

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

XYX	41.01	+0.22
BP	48.14	+1.06
Celanese	40.21	+0.08
Cabot Corp	31.80	+0.03
Cabot Oil Gas	29.76	+0.13
Coca Cola	49.88	-0.29
VLO	45.50	+0.50
HAL	26.22	+0.62
Trud	32.99	+0.47
NOI	21.39	+0.27

WEATHER FOCUS

PAMPA

Today's forecast is calling for mostly sunny skies, highs in the mid 50s and northwest winds 15 to 20 mph. Tonight should fall on mostly clear skies with lows in the mid 20s and northwest winds 5 to 15 mph. Friday should see mostly sunny skies. Highs in the lower 60s. South winds 5 to 15 mph. Friday night, mostly clear. Lows around 30. South winds 10 to 15 mph. Saturday, mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 60s. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph. Saturday night, partly

cloudy. Lows in the mid 30s. Sunday, mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 60s. Sunday night, mostly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of rain after midnight. Breezy. Lows in the mid 30s. Monday, mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain. Breezy. Highs in the upper 40s. Monday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s. Tuesday, partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 40s. Tuesday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 20s. Wednesday, partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 50s.

Bush faces tough Congressional battle over Central American free trade deal

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER
 AP ECONOMICS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration is hailing its new free trade agreement with Central America as an important milestone toward the even bigger prize of achieving a hemisphere-wide free trade area.

But labor unions are vowing an all-out effort to defeat the measure in Congress.

Judging from the initial reaction from unions and such politically sensitive sectors of the economy as textile makers and sugar growers, President Bush could be facing a major trade battle on Capitol Hill in the midst of next year's presidential campaign.

The Central American Free Trade Agreement would be the United States' sixth free trade agreement, all modeled along the lines of the 10-year-old North American Free Trade Agreement, which links the United States, Mexico and Canada.

The CAFTA pact announced Wednesday would cover Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua. A fifth nation, Costa Rica, abruptly dropped out of the talks on Tuesday. However, administration officials said they hoped further negotiations in coming weeks would persuade Costa Rica to join the agreement before it is sent to Congress.

U.S. Trade Representative Robert Zoellick called CAFTA "an important milestone" along the way to the administration's big prize of a 34-nation Free Trade Agreement of the Americas, covering all countries in the Western Hemisphere except Cuba.

While the administration won easy approval earlier this year of two other free trade deals with Singapore and Chile, CAFTA is shaping up as a much bigger battle.

American unions, and their Democratic allies in Congress, were upset that the agreement does not include stronger labor protections.

AFL-CIO President John Sweeney said lax enforcement of weak laws on the books of the Central American countries meant young women were forced to work long hours in unsafe conditions for poverty wages and workers trying to form unions faced threats and intimidation.

"We will do everything in our power to defeat this deeply flawed agreement," Sweeney said in a statement.

Rep. Dick Gephardt, who is campaigning for the Democratic presidential nomination, called CAFTA "yet another example of the Bush administration selling out American workers with a bad trade deal."

Several other Democrats questioned whether the administration really had a finished deal, noting that certain provisions on service sectors were yet to be completed, and the negotiations with Costa Rica were still ongoing.

In addition, the administration has said it hoped to add a sixth Latin American country, the island nation of the Dominican Republic, in talks early next year in hopes of picking up votes among lawmakers whose districts include large numbers of Dominican immigrants.

Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., called the administration's announcement "premature. Too many important issues remain open to declare these negotiations successfully concluded."

Key Republicans in Congress and U.S. business groups generally expressed support for the deal. Senate Finance Committee Chairman Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, said he believed the deal would boost exports of Iowa farm products.

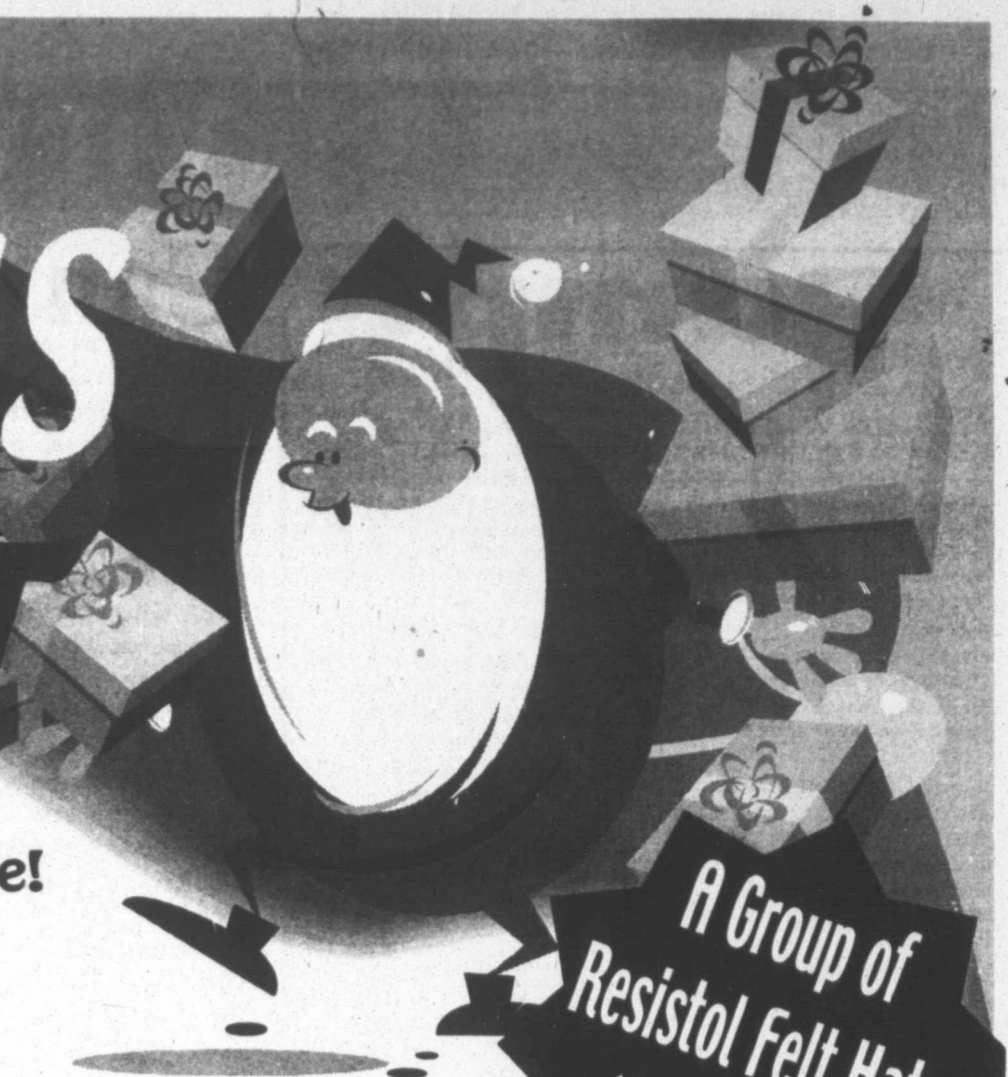
City Briefs

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THE Pampa NEWS

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Can we get our liberties back?

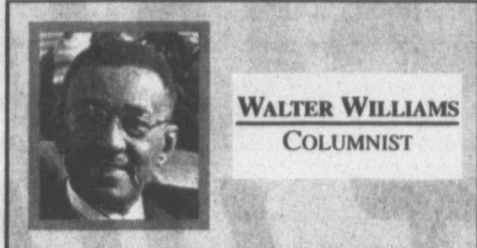
Last week's column, "Let's Do Some Detective Work," provided unassailable evidence that the protections of liberty envisioned by the Constitution's Framers mean little today. I was pleasantly surprised by the responses from fellow Americans expressing disgust and fear over what our nation is becoming. Several asked how we can regain our liberties. My short answer is: I'm not sure they can ever be recovered. Let's look at it.

We all have a moral obligation to pay our share for constitutionally mandated functions of the federal government, but we have no such obligation to have Congress take the earnings of one American and give them to another American. Forcing one American to serve the purposes of another is one way slavery can be defined.

I'm an emancipated adult fully capable of taking care of my own retirement. Why should I or anyone else be forced to pay into the government's Social Security? Do you see any signs on the horizon that such practices are coming to an end? The list of encroachments on personal liberty like these is virtually endless.

Self-determination is a human right we all should respect. If some people want socialism, that's their right — but it is not their right to use brute government power to force others, who want liberty, to be a part of it.

Liberty-minded Americans might organize to acquire government power to



WALTER WILLIAMS
COLUMNIST

impose their will on socialist-minded Americans, but that's not right either. A far more peaceful method is simply to part company.

That's an idea already being explored by Free State Project. Their plan, as stated on their website (freestateproject.org) is: "20,000 or more liberty-oriented people will move to New Hampshire, where they may work within the political system to reduce the size and scope of government. The success of the Free State Project would likely entail reductions in burdensome taxation and regulation, reforms in state and local law, an end to federal mandates and a restoration of constitutional federalism."

In 1788, during New Hampshire's ratification convention, a concerned people said "amendments AND alterations in the said Constitution would remove the fears and quiet the apprehensions of many of the good People of this State and more Effectually guard against an undue Administration of the Federal Government. The Convention do therefore recommend that the following alterations and provisions be introduced into the said Constitution: (among them) First That it be Explicitly declared that

all Powers not expressly and particularly Delegated by the aforesaid Constitution are reserved to the several States to be, by them Exercised." The Ninth and Tenth Amendments, which mean virtually nothing now, were added to our Constitution in response to these fears.

While members of Free State Project have not proposed it, I would imagine that if New Hampshire's elected representatives couldn't successfully negotiate with the U.S. Congress to obey the Constitution, the only other alternative would be that of making a unilateral declaration of independence and go our own way just as our Founders did in 1776.

Many people might argue that it's the U.S. Supreme Court that decides what is constitutional or not. Here's what Thomas Jefferson said about allowing the Court to hold a monopoly on the interpretation of the Constitution: "... the opinion which gives to the judges the right to decide what laws are constitutional and what are not, not only for themselves in their own sphere of action but for the Legislature and Executive also in their spheres, would make the Judiciary a despotic branch."

The history of the Court, not to mention last week's decision on the constitutionality of the McCain-Feingold campaign finance reform that attacks free speech, is proof that Jefferson was right and Alexander Hamilton wrong in his Federalist Paper No. 78 prediction that the judiciary would be the "least dangerous" branch of government.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Batteries not needed

To the editor:
 Last week I was in (a local discount store). I was greeted by an off-key, singing, dancing Santa. He made me smile. I was also greeted by the friendly face of the door greeter. He also made me smile.

One greeting was real, one was battery-operated. I thought, "That's kind of what Christmas has become - a choice between the real reason for the season or the battery-operated one."

I know from experience that batteries run down. Sometimes, they're not even included. The thing they operated wears out in a few months and is relegated to the closet to gather dust or ends up in the dumpster.

I also know from experience that the real reason for the season - that perfect gift from God, His own Son, come to Earth to save us from a world gone mad - is real every day to me. I've never gotten tired of His company and His batteries have never run out. He's there every day to make me smile. He's always able to do what ever I ask of Him. I don't have to find Him because He's always here right close at home, just a prayer away. I can just call Him and He'll be there, lifting me up, letting me know I'm loved. I'm not alone. That when the ones I love leave this Earth or just walk away, He will stay. He will be my mother, my father, my sister, my best friend. He will be the husband or the wife you might have lost. The Bible says He will stick closer than a friend. He will never leave you or forsake you and His batteries will never run out.

He is the real reason to celebrate Christmas.
 Melissa Parker
 Pampa

TODAY IN HISTORY

By The Associated Press
 Today is Thursday, Dec. 18, the 352nd day of 2003. There are 13 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
 On Dec. 18, 1865, the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, abolishing slavery, was declared in effect.

On this date:
 In 1787, New Jersey became the third state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1892, Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker Suite" publicly premiered in St. Petersburg, Russia.

In 1915, President Wilson, widowed the year before, married Edith Bolling Galt at her Washington home.

In 1940, Adolf Hitler signed a secret directive ordering preparations for a Nazi invasion of the Soviet Union. (Operation Barbarossa was launched in June 1941.)

In 1944, in a pair of rulings, the Supreme Court upheld the wartime relocation of Japanese-Americans, but also said undeniably loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry could not be detained.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Pampa News welcomes and encourages readers to express their opinions on issues of public interest and concern. However, we also reserve the right to accept or reject any letter for publication.

Letters must be 300 words or less. Letters submitted for publication must be neat and legible, typed if possible, or at least handwritten in a clear manner. All letters will be edited for length, clarity, spelling, grammar, and taste. We will not publish anonymous letters, letters that are potentially libelous, or personal attacks. Submission of a letter does not guarantee its publication nor can we guarantee a date of publication.

Letters submitted must include name, address, phone number and signature for verification. Addresses and telephone numbers will not be printed, unless requested for a specific reason.

Due to volume and repetition, we will limit submissions from the same person to two letters per month.

Poetry, candidate or political endorsements, letters to third parties and "thank you" letters will not be published except at the discretion of the editor, depending on general interest.

Letters may be dropped off at the office, 403 W. Atchison, or mailed to The Pampa News, Letters to the Editor, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, TX 79066.

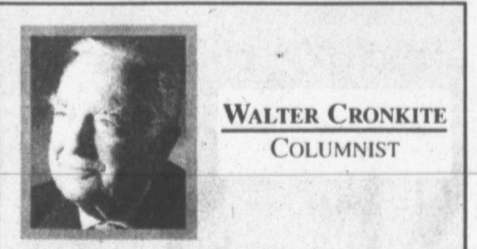


WHAT SADDAM WAS PROBABLY DOING JUST BEFORE SURRENDERING TO U.S. TROOPS

What to do with Saddam Hussein

Sunday morning the nation awoke to the good news that U.S. forces had, at long last, captured Saddam Hussein. The subject dominated all network television programming — including, of course, the Sunday talk shows. Among the questions everybody seemed to ask were: Now that we've got him, what do we do with him? How is justice to be administered here? The Iraqis, understandably, think they should try him, though they do not have a constitution yet, nor a national legal system. Others — Iran and Kuwait, for instance — have their own scores to settle. And many believe that Saddam should be charged with war crimes before an international court.

That idea has precedent going back to the Nuremberg War Crimes Tribunal of 1945, which decided what to do with members of the Nazi hierarchy captured by the victorious Allies. This was a legal system made out of whole cloth, as it were. It invented new charges and applied them ex post facto — after the fact — to deal with those who brought World War II upon us and who created the Jewish Holocaust in the Nazi death camps. Defendants were accused of conspiracy to commit aggressive war and with crimes against humanity. Most of us who covered that yearlong trial thought then that the solution was brilliant enough to endure. The rationale for these new charges was not only the unprecedented scope and horrors of that war, but the knowledge that, with the new development of nuclear weapons, another war could well mean humanity's end. It was a chance to establish the legal precedents



WALTER CRONKITE
COLUMNIST

under which future dictators with a taste for mass destruction could be intercepted and legally punished.

The effectiveness of the legal precedents would depend on a world legislative body powerful enough to bring and enforce charges against such newly defined criminals. Thus was born the United Nations. This year, the United Nations established the International Criminal Court at The Hague — a permanent Nuremberg Tribunal. This country, however, withheld its endorsement of the court unless Americans serving as peacekeepers are immune from the law and the court's jurisdiction.

There is an argument to be made for that position — given the fact that American troops bear the brunt of peacekeeping and peacekeeping assignments around the world. But the Bush administration's insulting arrogance toward the United Nations in general, and individual members in particular, has so far made an acceptable compromise impossible.

As pundits rushed to the television cameras Sunday (and since), there was the frequent suggestion that the capture of Saddam was a turning point, offering a grand opportunity for President Bush to abandon his dismissive unilateralism and invite our former allies to share in the

victory. We might even swallow our haughtiness and offer to turn Saddam over to the International Criminal Court.

But the president's announcement that Saddam would be tried in Iraq seemed to dismiss the idea of taking this case to that court — rejecting as well any thought of exploiting the trial of Saddam as a move toward reconciliation.

Of course, the International Criminal Court has no death penalty, and it's my guess that Iraqis not only will demand that, but believe it their right to exact it. That does not mean, however, that a compromise could not be found — say, trying Saddam in The Hague for international crimes but letting the Iraqis have him last.

Most experts agree that we are not going to be able to bring our occupation of Iraq to an early and satisfactory conclusion until we internationalize the custodianship of the country.

Taking Saddam to the International Criminal Court not only would signal a change in the tone of American foreign policy, it might begin to heal the wounds in our relationship with the U.N. Security Council and with its members. It might even persuade such powers as France and Germany to join in the effort to reconstruct Iraq, to help it become a free, independent and democratic nation. It might also begin to restore our badly damaged reputation within the community of nations.

(Write to Walter Cronkite c/o, King Features Syndicate, 888 Seventh Ave., New York, NY 10019, or e-mail him at mail@cronkitecolumn.com.)

Tehr

VIENNA, Iran signed Thursday to facilities for unannounced inspections, a to help over Tehran has coic weapons pr

The signi months of European nati push for Iran with U.N. sa been promis to sign the acc to follow th criticism that it Kenneth E envoy to the Thursday's sig step in the righ said only ag tions would er by Iran's "neat of deception."

In Washing cial said the B tion will ke whether Iran does about its and whether its mitments unde authorities beli seeking new w official, who s tion of anonym Iranian rep

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Georgia taken fr

SANTA FE, A painting O'Keeffe is n state-owned authorities ha reward for his n

The pair "Special 21 Canyon," wi missing Tuesda guard at the M Arts, officials s

Investigator "substantial would not amount. They cuss a possit value of the pa

Santa Fe ar Peters, who h sold more than works, said t worth more t But he added t is "not market so well docum of a crazy theft

Stuart Ashn cultural affa declined to dis um's security s all protocols lowed.

The oil pai about 13 inche It was painted

Tehran signs agreement opening nuclear facilities to inspections

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — Iran signed a key accord Thursday to open its nuclear facilities for unfettered and unannounced international inspections, a Western demand to help overcome suspicion Tehran has concealed an atomic weapons program.

The signing came after months of pressure from European nations and a U.S. push for Iran to be threatened with U.N. sanctions. Iran had been promising since October to sign the accord, but its failure to follow through had raised criticism that it was stalling.

Kenneth Brill, the U.S. envoy to the IAEA, called Thursday's signing "a useful step in the right direction," but said only aggressive inspections would erase doubts sown by Iran's "nearly two decades of deception."

In Washington, a senior official said the Bush administration will keep an eye on whether Iran what it actually does about its nuclear program and whether it keeps its commitments under the deal. U.S. authorities believe Iran is still seeking new weapons, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Iranian representative Ali

Akbar Salehi and Mohamed ElBaradei, head of the International Atomic Energy Agency, signed the agreement at the IAEA's headquarters in Vienna.

The agreement, tacked on to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, requires Iran to submit to intrusive and surprise U.N. inspections of its nuclear complexes and research facilities.

Iran insists its nuclear program is peaceful and geared only toward producing electricity. The United States has accused Tehran of secretly trying to develop nuclear weapons.

"My country has taken a great and important step towards revealing its attitude of transparency and its full commitment to international confidence-building," Salehi said.

"I ardently hope that the new stage is set and that my country shall no more be subject to unfair and politically motivated accusations and allegations," he said.

ElBaradei labeled the signing "an important building block toward establishing confidence that Iran's program is exclusively for peaceful purposes." He called on the Iranian government to ratify the agree-

ment quickly.

"I was assured that Iran, until the protocol is ratified, will act as though the protocol is in force, which is positive," he said.

After the Sept. 11 attacks, President Bush labeled Iran part of an "axis of evil" along with Saddam Hussein's Iraq and North Korea, which Washington also suspects of developing weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear warheads.

Iran's leadership insist the inspections will clear it of suspicion.

"We have agreed to sign ... to give a strong response to accusations against us and demonstrate that our nuclear activities are peaceful," Vice President Gholamreza Aghazadeh told reporters in Tehran.

The IAEA's 35-nation board of governors censured Iran in November for 18 years of secrecy in a resolution that warned Tehran to stay in line with international efforts to make sure the country has no nuclear weapons ambitions.

Although the resolution did not confront Iran with a direct threat of U.N. sanctions it warned Tehran that the IAEA

would consider further action if "further serious Iranian failures" arise.

The wording implicitly warned Iran that the agency could report it to the Security Council, which has the power to impose economic or diplomatic sanctions.

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said Wednesday that Washington welcomed Iran's signing of the pact, but cautioned it was "only one step toward resolving the remaining open questions about Iran's nuclear program."

Under international pressure, Iran also has agreed to suspend its enrichment of uranium, which it says had been confined to non-weapons levels anyway.

The IAEA has been working to determine the source of traces of highly enriched, weapons-grade uranium on centrifuges and other equipment purchased abroad by Iran. The Iranian government contends the equipment was contaminated before delivery.

Sadeq Zibakalam, a political analyst and professor at Tehran University, called Thursday's signing "a strong sign of Iran's transparency." But Zibakalam

warned that the country might stop cooperating if Europe ignores Iran's requests for help in obtaining advanced nuclear technology.

Iran has made significant progress in building a 40-megawatt nuclear reactor in the

central city of Arak, but it will take four to five years before the country will be able to produce and store the heavy water required to operate the reactor, Iranian Vice President Gholamreza Aghazadeh said Wednesday.

Moose donation



(Courtesy photo)

John Wagner, right, representing Pampa Youth Optimist Club accepts a donation for the Children Shopping Tour from Governor Frank Yearwood, left, and Administrator Jim Jean, center, of the Pampa Moose Lodge 1385.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

DOCTORS

Powell, 38, has been licensed to practice medicine in Texas since 1993. He has not previously been the subject of disciplinary action by the TSBME.

"This represents closure for an issue that was dealt with at the hospital two years ago. It has no impact on my practice whatsoever," Dr. Powell said today.

Norman Stephens, PRMC administrator, was in a meeting and was also unavailable for comment as of press time today.

Chase, 41, has been licensed to practice medicine in Texas since 2000. He has not previously been the subject of disciplinary action by the TSBME.

When Chase submitted his annual renewal statement for his license on Nov. 20, 2000, he claimed he had not been arrested, fined over \$100, charged with or convicted of a crime, indicted, imprisoned, placed on probation, or received a deferred adjudication since his last registration. On June 19 of that year, Chase received nonjudicial punishment for signing a false offi-

cial record while on active duty with the U.S. Air Force. He was reprimanded and fined \$1,682 for knowingly signing a false Department of Defense Application for Specialized Graduate Military Education, according to the TSBME.

A message to return a telephone call that was left on Chase's telephone answering machine had not been returned as of press time today.

The board sets rules, issues licenses and initiates investigations concerning physicians, physician assistants and acupuncturists. Investigations are complaint-driven, and complaints may be received from patients, patients' families, other physicians, nurses and other health care workers, law enforcement, the media, and others, said Jill Wiggins, public information officer for the TSBME.

The TSBME may be contacted by calling (800) 248-4062 or (512) 305-7030, or writing to Texas State Board of Medical Examiners, MC 251, P.O. Box 2018, Austin, TX 78768-2018.

Georgia O'Keeffe painting taken from Santa Fe museum

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP) — A painting by Georgia O'Keeffe is missing from a state-owned museum and authorities have posted a reward for its return.

The painting, titled "Special 21 (Palo Duro Canyon)," was discovered missing Tuesday by a security guard at the Museum of Fine Arts, officials said Wednesday.

Investigators offered a "substantial reward" but would not disclose the amount. They would not discuss a possible motive or value of the painting.

Santa Fe art dealer Gerald Peters, who has bought and sold more than 200 O'Keeffe works, said the painting is worth more than \$500,000. But he added that the painting is "not marketable because it's so well documented. It's kind of a crazy theft."

Stuart Ashman, the state's cultural affairs secretary, declined to discuss the museum's security system but said all protocols had been followed.

The oil painting measures about 13 inches by 16 inches. It was painted by O'Keeffe in

1916 and given to the museum by the artist's estate in 1993, the museum said.

Ashman said the painting, depicting an area near Canyon, Texas, is particularly significant because it's an early example of her abstract work.

O'Keeffe, an icon of early American modernism, is known for works featuring huge flowers, bleached bones and landscapes of the country around her northern New Mexico home in Abiquiu.

The museum is in downtown Santa Fe, just a few blocks from the privately owned Georgia O'Keeffe museum.



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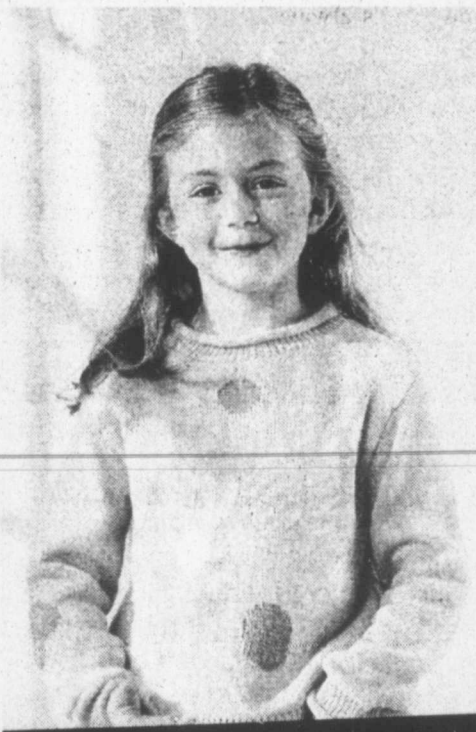
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Shareholders overwhelmingly approve Freedom deal

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Family shareholders of Freedom Communications Inc. Wednesday overwhelmingly approved a partnership with two investment firms without giving up control of one of the last family-owned media companies.

The deal, which must still gain regulatory approval, allows some family members to cash out their shares. That prospect caused

other family members to fear they would lose editorial and voting control of a company that operates The Orange County Register, 27 other daily newspapers, 37 weeklies and eight television stations.

The company's board voted in October to enter a partnership with Blackstone Communications and Providence Equity Partners, two New

York-based investment firms, after conducting a long bidding process that included offers from media rivals Gannett Co. Inc., publisher of USA Today, and Denver-based Media News Group Inc.

Although investment firms are likely to want to turn over their shares at a profit at some point, the deal preserves for now the family's ability to maintain the libertarian edi-

torial philosophy of founder R.C. Hoiles.

"The ultimate boss, the owners of the company, have spoken," Freedom president and chief executive Alan Bell wrote to Freedom's employees after the vote. "The way is clear. Welcome to the future."

The company did not disclose the vote count, which consisted mainly of mailed-in proxies and several in-person votes cast at a

special shareholders meeting at a hotel in Newport Beach.

Under terms of the deal, shareholders will receive \$220 per share, although that will be reduced to \$212.71 after the company spends \$58.9 million to buy out several of its minority newspaper partners, according to sources familiar with the matter.

More than half of all shares owned by Hoiles' descendants

will likely be sold to Blackstone and Providence, the sources said Wednesday.

Shareholders have until 10 days before the deal closes to decide how many shares to tender. The deal will likely close sometime in March or April. The deal needs the approval of the Federal Communications Commission because Freedom owns television stations.

Once the deal closes, the company's formal name will be Freedom Holdings, although it will continue to be operated as Freedom Communications. The new board of directors will include four family members, four members named by the investors, Bell, and four independent members.

If more than half the shares are sold, Blackstone and Providence have agreed to accept enough non-voting stock to keep the company under family control, according to people familiar with the terms of the agreement.

Family members do have the option to sell more of their shares to the two investment firms in later years. If the percentage of shares owned by Blackstone and Providence climbs too high, the firms could eventually gain voting control of the company under the deal, sources familiar with the terms said.

DRILLING INTENTIONS

Intentions to Drill

HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Peak Operating of Texas, L.L.C., #2052 John C. Vise, 660' from North & West line, Sec. 52, M-1, H&GN, PD 12900'.

HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & HEMPHILL Granite Wash) Samson Lone Star Ltd. Partnership, #4 Hobart Ranch '20', 660' from North & 2170' from West line, Sec. 20, A-1, H&GN, PD 12500'.

HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & MIAMI) Bravo Natural Resources, Inc., #1015 Abraham, 467' from North & East line, Sec. 15, I, I&GN, PD 12000'.

ROBERTS (WILDCAT & COURSON RANCH Upper Morrow) Range Production Co., #2 O.T. Brown, 3608' from North & 3059' from West line, O.T. Brown Survey, PD 1000'. Rule 37

WHEELER (WILDCAT & STILES RANCH Granite Wash) Bravo Natural Resources, PD 14000' for the following wells: #5069 Atherton, 730' from North & 1667' from West line, Sec. 69, A-7, H&GN.

#602 Miller, 467' from North & 2173' from West line, Sec. 2, A-3, H&GN.

Application to Plug-Back
GRAY (N.E. HOOVER

Chase) Newfield Exploration Mid-Con., Inc., #702 Ruth, 169' from South & 212' from West line, Sec. 2, 3, I&GN, PD 9252'.

Corrected

Intention to Drill
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & N.W. MENDOTA, S.W. Granite Wash) Pablo Energy, Inc., #2-36 Campbell Ranch, 467' from South & 660' from East line, Sec. 36, I, I&GN, PD 11500'.

Corrected Lease Name (shown on December 4th. Report)

Gas Well Completions
HEMPHILL (ALPAR Tonkawa) BP America Production Co., #3112 Forgey, Sec. 112, 41, H&TC, spud 5-14-03, drlg. compl 5-28-03, tested 6-26-03, TD 8353', PBTD 8252' — Recompletion SWR #10 to commingle was approved

HEMPHILL (S.E. CANADIAN Douglas) Unit Petroleum

Co., #1 Cleveland, Sec. 3065' (oil) — Form 1 in Cities Service Oil

GRAY (PANHANDLE) Exxel Production Co., #3 Combs Worley 'A', 660' from South & 330' from West Lease line, Sec. 39, 3, I&GN, spud 12-27-37, plugged 10-14-03, TD 2926' (oil) — Form 1 in Gibson Oil Corp.

GRAY (PANHANDLE) Production Consultants, Inc., #1317W JDF Unit, 2570' from South & 80' from East Lease line, Sec. 128, 3, I&GN, spud 11-27-67, plugged 10-14-03, TD 3328' (inj) Form 1 in Cities Service Oil

HEMPHILL (WILDCAT Sparks Tonkawa) EOG Resources, #3 Humphreys '59', 2413' from North & 660' from West Lease line, Sec. 59, 42, H&TC, spud 7-24-00, plugged 5-22-03, TD 7760' (oil)

HEMPHILL (GLAZIER Upper Morrow) Coop Energy, Inc., #6401 Pie In The Sky, Sec. 64, 1, G&M, spud unknown, plugged 9-11-01, TD 11450' (gas)

HUTCHINSON (WILDCAT) Burnett Oil Co., Inc., #1 Coble '496', 2350' from South & 2640' from West Lease line, Sec. 9, M-22, TCRR, spud 4-18-03, plugged 5-5-03, TD 4560' (dry)

HUTCHINSON (PANHAN-

DLE) J.B. Herrmann, #3

Middleton, 816' from North & 330' from West Lease line, Sec. 7, 4, M&C, spud unknown, plugged 8-18-03, TD 3100' (disposal)

HUTCHINSON (NORTH JOHN CREEK Upper Morrow) PLO, Inc., #2 Patterson, 3672' from South & 931' from West Lease line, Sec. 15, M-22, TCRR, spud 5-4-03, plugged 5-17-03, TD 7300' (dry)

ROBERTS (WILDCAT) Range Production Co., Courson Ranch (dry) — for the following wells:

#1-141, 949' from North & 782' from East Lease line, Sec. 141, C, G&M, spud 11-11-02, plugged 12-16-02, TD 9250' — #1-142, 737' from North & 484' from East Lease line, Sec. 142, C, G&M, spud 10-20-02, plugged 11-8-02, TD 9650' —

WHEELER (ALLISON PARKS Douglas) Devon Energy Production Co., #4 Lee Unit, 1000' from North & 667' from East Lease line, Sec. 24, R, R&E, spud 12-8-90, plugged 7-18-03, TD 9000' (oil) — Form 1 in Kerr-McGee

WHEELER (GAGEBY CREEK) Cambridge Production, Inc., #108 Treadwell, Sec. 8, —, W.H. Simpson, spud unknown, plugged 11-4-03, TD 18004' (gas)

DLE) J.B. Herrmann, #3

Middleton, 816' from North & 330' from West Lease line, Sec. 7, 4, M&C, spud unknown, plugged 8-18-03, TD 3100' (disposal)

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WHEELER (GAGEBY CREEK) Cambridge Production, Inc., #108 Treadwell, Sec. 8, —, W.H. Simpson, spud unknown, plugged 11-4-03, TD 18004' (gas)

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Lawyer

115 W. Foster
"Across From The Concy"
806-665-2555

Not Certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization

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Taiwan's new SARS case raises questions about lab procedures

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — Taiwan's first SARS case in five months raised serious questions Wednesday about how carefully laboratories are handling the virus. The infected scientist ignored safety guidelines and waited six days before going to a hospital — even though he had a fever.

Fears about the virus increased Thursday as Taiwanese health authorities revealed that two colleagues who had had close contact with the scientist are now in the United States. Singapore and Taiwan ordered 95 people into quarantine, including 19 people who had been on an airline flight with the man.

Separately in China, authorities have ordered all researchers to hand in SARS samples as a precaution.

China's Health Ministry told laboratories to send samples to "designated places for storage" and "demanded that all regions strengthen management of the SARS virus," the official Xinhua News Agency said. It didn't say what laboratories would be affected or how many.

China suffered 349 deaths on its mainland from the SARS outbreak, which is believed to have started in the

Holiday border travel may be getting easier

NUEVO LAREDO, Mexico (AP) — The holiday trip home for many Mexican migrants has become easier as President Vicente Fox has moved to protect families on the annual trek that used to be plagued by police demanding bribes and confiscating gifts.

Fox has made changing government officials' attitudes toward migrants one of his top priorities since taking office in 2000.

He has focused on the annual trip home before Christmas, when most migrant families return to Mexico, clogging highways with pick-up trucks and sedans overflowing with bicycles, television sets and computers.

Fox, who started his six-year term on Dec. 1, 2000, has tried to make sure the holiday trip home safer by strengthening the Paisano program, a 14-year-old federal plan to safeguard the migrants' return.

But while many migrants said the changes have made the trip home better, others found plenty of reason to stay north of the border.

Undocumented workers, for example, are staying in the United States because illegal crossings have become harder and more dangerous under increased security measures.

Paisano program director Florencia Martinez said 1 million migrants made the trek home last year during the holidays. Numbers for this year won't be available until late January, but Mexican customs officials say there has been less traffic compared to previous years.

Most of the migrants crossing earlier this week were legal U.S. residents.

They included the Reyes family, traveling in a three-car caravan laden with gifts. Donato Reyes, one of 11 family members on the trip, says Fox's improvements have made a difference in his family's annual trek from West Virginia to the central state of Guanajuato.

"In the last three years, the changes have been visible," said Reyes; a construction worker driving a truck crammed with plastic bags stuffed with clothes. "Now, the services are much faster, and your complaints are tended to. You even have police officers asking to accompany you."

southern Guangdong province. More than 5,000 people were sickened.

The infected man, a 44-year-old Taiwanese researcher, had been studying SARS in the island's only "P4 laboratory" — a facility designed for the world's deadliest viruses.

Even though SARS is high-

ly contagious, the scientist didn't wear a gown and protective gloves — basic safety gear required by World Health Organization guidelines, said Dr. Shigeru Omi, the WHO's Western Pacific regional director.

"It's a very high-standard laboratory which requires a very strict procedure, but

nonetheless he did not wear the gowns and the gloves," Omi told reporters in Manila, Philippines.

Officials suspect the scientist was exposed to the virus Dec. 5 when cleaning up contaminated liquid in his lab at the state-funded Institute of Preventive Medicine in Taipei, said Su Ih-jen, chief of

Taiwan's Center for Disease Control.

"He was in a hurry to get ready for a conference in Singapore, so he was rushing to finish his disinfection work and was careless," Su said.

The scientist had no SARS symptoms when he left for Singapore on Dec. 7, officials said. But hours after his return to Taiwan on Dec. 10, he developed a fever — a key SARS symptom.

Su said he doubted the researcher infected anyone in Singapore or on the China Airlines flight home because he was asymptomatic at that point and not contagious. SARS patients usually start infecting others when they develop a fever, he said.

But Shih Wen-yi, a spokesman for the disease control center, said officials were having difficulty contacting three Americans, a

Japanese and a Singaporean who had been on the flight.

Top health officials sought to ease fears that the highly contagious virus would spread. "It looks very much like an isolated event," WHO spokeswoman Maria Cheng said.

Still, Singapore quarantined 70 people who had been in close contact with the scientist. Another 22 were put into isolation in Taiwan.

Two colleagues went to Singapore with the researcher on Dec. 7 and later traveled to the United States, Shih said earlier.

Shih did not say where the colleagues were staying in the United States, but said they planned to return to Taiwan on Friday.

Two other colleagues who traveled with the SARS patient have been quarantined, Shih said.

Coroner plans inquest in death of Princess Diana for January

LONDON (AP) — Inquests into the deaths of Princess Diana and Dodi Fayed are to be held on Jan. 6, the royal family's coroner announced Thursday.

The inquiries will be the first official public hearing on British soil into the deaths of Diana and Fayed, who were killed in a car crash in Paris on Aug. 31, 1997.

The inquests will be held separately and no witnesses are to be called to give evidence in person, said Michael Burgess, Coroner Of The Queen's Household.

The coroner gave few other details but said he would make a statement about the nature and scope of evidence he expected to receive.

A spokesman for Prince Charles' office at Clarence House said the inquests were "entirely a matter for the coroner."

"We always understood the law required an inquest

at some point," the spokesman said on customary condition of anonymity, declining to comment further.

The Home Office said such an inquest is required when "an unnatural or violent death occurs abroad," and the body is brought into England or Wales.

British officials had said a British inquest would be held once legal processes in France were completed.

That happened on Nov. 28, when three photographers who took pictures of the couple at the scene of their deadly crash were acquitted of invading the couple's privacy.

A five-year French investigation previously had concluded that the driver, Henri Paul, who was also killed, had been drinking and was speeding.

Dodi Fayed's father, Egyptian-born billionaire Mohammed Al Fayed has

long contended the crash was part of a murder plot and urged a public inquiry into the crash. That was rejected by the British government.

This week, he began appealing a previous decision by Scotland's Lord Advocate, Lord Drummond-Young, who refused his application for an inquiry in Scotland on grounds the crash happened outside Scottish jurisdiction.

Burgess is the coroner for Surrey county south of London and responsible for inquests into royal deaths.

"The opening of these inquests has been the subject of discussion and correspondence with the families for some time but because of the complexity of the situation, the final arrangements have taken rather longer to complete than I would have wished," Burgess said.

"These arrangements have been advised to both families," he said.

Report: NYSE expected to name next chief executive

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York Stock Exchange is poised to name John Thain, president of Goldman Sachs, as its new chief executive, a newspaper reported early Thursday.

The exchange could make the announcement as soon as Thursday, The New York Times reported on its Web site, citing a person who has been briefed on the situation.

Neither Goldman Sachs nor exchange officials would comment on the decision, the Times said. Thain would succeed interim chairman and chief executive John Reed, who has held the position since the ouster of Dick

Grasso in September.

Since Grasso resigned amid a scandal over his lavish pay, the exchange has faced heavy criticism.

On Wednesday, SEC commissioners voted to approve an overhaul plan for the exchange after NYSE separately agreed to split its top executive position in two to avoid the concentration of power.

"In this way, the NYSE should be in a better position to protect against the concentration of too much executive authority in one individual," SEC Chairman William Donaldson said Wednesday.

The Times said Reed has

indicated that he may remain chairman, at least for a while. Reed declined comment to the Times but had scheduled a news conference for Thursday.

Christmas Tree Project 2003 of Tralee Crisis Center

We are once again in the process of having our annual Christmas Tree Project in order to give victims of domestic violence and sexual assault a joyful Christmas at a time normally filled with sadness.

Tralee is allowing the public to take cards off the tree until the 19th of this month, so that we can get these gifts to our clients in time for Christmas. If you would like to help a client after the deadline we will gladly take a cash donation for further help for our clients.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

Thanks for making this Christmas special for someone in need!

Tralee Crisis Center
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669-1131

Cash donations are welcomed and appreciated



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In Honor and Memory Of Our Loved Ones

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THURSDAY • December 18, 2003

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Girl Must Stop Hiding Identity of Baby's Father

DEAR ABBY: I am 14 and pregnant. My baby's father is a 35-year-old teacher at my school. He doesn't know I'm pregnant, and I'm afraid if I tell him, he'll be mad.

My parents know I'm pregnant, and they are devastated. But they do not know who the father is.

I am having trouble sleeping, and I'm sick most mornings. What should I do? Please help.

PREGNANT IN MILWAUKEE

DEAR PREGNANT: You must tell your parents who the father is. You need their emotional support, and I'm sure you'll receive it once they understand what has happened. You should not have to tell this teacher about your pregnancy alone. Your parents, the principal and the local police should do it with you. If he does get mad, it should be at himself for betraying his trusted role as an educator and committing statutory rape. Please do not be afraid to speak up, and don't blame yourself. What your teacher did is criminal.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter, "Jessica," is a terrific teenager. She works hard in school and has a nice group of friends. She and her friends have never been involved with alcohol or drugs, largely because they have stayed away from the crowd that uses them.

Next year, Jessica is going off to college where beer and pot will be everywhere. I am concerned because, unbeknownst to Jessica, there is alcoholism in our family. My father started drinking heavily after we kids were grown and gone. He was never abusive or falling-down drunk, but he was alcohol-dependent. He'd fall asleep in his chair by 7 every night.

Mother finally confronted him, and although he never sought professional help, he managed to get his problem under control.

I'm not proud of our family's more up-front about Dad's drinking. Mom and Dad both wanted to cope with it privately, and although Mom confided in my brothers and

me, it has remained a family secret.

I know alcoholism may be genetic, and I am torn about disclosing my father's history to Jessica. I want her to know she may have reason to be particularly careful about drinking, but I don't want to spoil her relationship with, or her respect for, her grandfather. What should I do?

WORRIED MOM, OAKLAND, CALIF.

DEAR WORRIED MOM: For the valid reason you have stated, you must discuss the potential problem with your daughter. Since her grandfather faced his drinking problem and dealt with it, I see no reason why it would cause her to lose respect for him.

Another important reason you should bring up this subject is the reality of binge drinking on many college campuses. Some young people who are away from home for the first time go hog-wild and do foolish things — like competing to see who can consume the most alcohol in the shortest period of time. The results can be fatal. Also, people stoned on alcohol (or any mind-altering substance) may make other unwise choices, such as having unprotected sex.

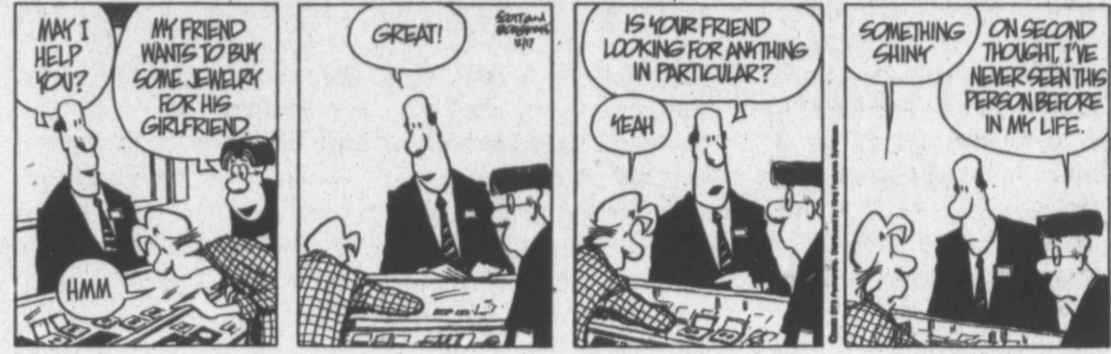
You are a caring parent, and you have a year to discuss these subjects with your daughter. Start now, and next fall you'll send her off knowing you have prepared her to the best of your ability.

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 or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)



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By THOMAS JOSEPH

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5 Two-dot character

10 Doctrine

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13 Nixon's veep

14 Talks excitedly

15 Suit

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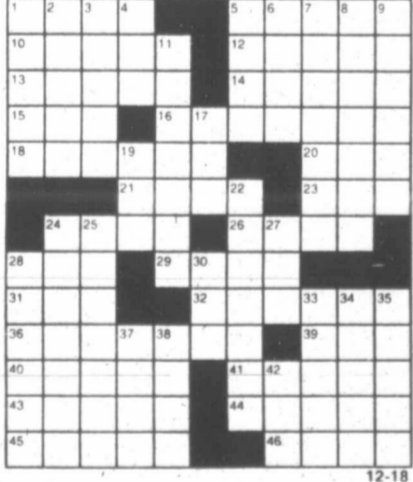
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NOV

BASEBALL

NEW YORK Alex Rodriguez go to the Boston restructure in a m approval fr association.

Boston Wednesday all the play the trade. A and A-Ro restructure record \$25 tract, Range Hicks said.

The union rejected the a ing critics teams.

Commission set a 5 p.m. line for the t pleted. He against th approve the likely forcin arbitration.

FOOTBALL

GREEN (AP) — Bre will return to Packers next off any tho ment.

ASHBURN Washington receiver La said he has p entire season fracture in hi

The inju bothered September, painful to i leads the 1 with 69 cat yards.

BASKETBALL

BOSTON Antoine Wa that's over.

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SPORTS

Cowboys can still clinch wild-card spot

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Bill Parcells doesn't feel like he has to send out a loud message to the Dallas Cowboys about the importance of the next game.

Any player that hasn't figured it out by now has already failed, and probably shouldn't plan on playing for the Cowboys much longer.

"I don't care who the players are, if they don't show up for this game, I'd have a hard time ever trusting them again, young, old or in between," Parcells said Wednesday. "If a guy went out there and I didn't get his best effort this week, then I'd have to question when I was ever going to get it."

"You've got a chance to do something and you don't do your best? I'd have a problem with that guy," he said.

With a winning record already ensured, the Cowboys (9-5) can clinch their first playoff spot in four years by winning their home finale Sunday against the struggling New York Giants, who confirmed Wednesday that coach Jim Fassel won't return after coaching the last two games.

"He's trying to reiterate the importance of the game and make sure everybody

understands that," said full-back Richie Anderson, who also played for Parcells with the New York Jets.

After losing their first game for Parcells, the Cowboys started a five-game winning streak with a tough 35-32 overtime win at New York.

While they followed their unexpected 6-1 start by losing four of seven games, including two shutout losses and consecutive losses by a combined 45 points, the Cowboys won 27-0 at Washington last week. That moved them within a win over the playoffs after three straight 5-11 seasons before Parcells.

"Guys have to be ready to play," Anderson said. "This is the type of game you have to want to be in. You have to bring everything you've got and you've got to love this opportunity you have, and should expect to perform well in this type of situation."

Quarterback Quincy Carter said Parcells' approach hasn't changed all season.

There's just more on the line this week.

Parcells admitted Wednesday that his anxiety level is higher than it's been

all season, including going into the season opener not knowing what to expect of his new team and then losing.

"My anxiety is at its all-time right now," Parcells said.

Even though the Cowboys have already beaten the Giants once this year, and New York (4-10) has lost six straight games and now has a lame duck coach.

"It's a different deal now. There's a lot on the line," Parcells said. "I've got a young team. I don't know

how they're going to respond. We made some progress with some young guys last week. I'm hoping we can do that again and guys realize what's going on here."

Parcells won't be convinced that the Cowboys are going to be in the playoffs until they actually have clinched one of the NFC's two wild-card spots. And he hasn't thought about how he would celebrate such an accomplishment.

"What am I going to do? Well, first of all I don't know that I'm going to do that, so

whatever I do would be spontaneous. It wouldn't be contrived," he said. "But I'm not certain that is going to happen."

Extra points: DT Leonardo Carson was put on injured reserve Wednesday, a day after surgery to repair his torn triceps. Carson, who signed with the Cowboys in October after he was released by San Diego, was injured in Sunday's win at Washington. ... OL Andre Gurode had the flu and didn't practice Wednesday. ...

TCU Alum faces big decision

FORT WORTH — Bob Barr is thrilled that his two favorite teams are in a bowl game this year.

Unfortunately, they are in the same game — the inaugural PlainsCapital Fort Worth Bowl.

Barr, a 64-year-old Fort Worth native, lives and breathes Horned Frog football. He still wears his senior ring from the Class of '61.

But as a longtime professor at Boise State University, he never misses a game at Bronco Stadium, an arena distinguished by blue artificial turf.

"Man, do we have a football team!" said Barr, speaking of

the Broncos, quickly adding that the Frogs are a "very strong" team as well.

In his heart, however, Barr said he is still a Texan and a Horned Frog.

"Being a Texan is like being part of a big club," he said, "and this year it has been thrilling to follow TCU's season."

But with his Broncos facing his Frogs, Barr is in a quandary.

The two teams meet Dec. 23 in the PlainsCapital Fort Worth Bowl at TCU's Amon G. Carter Stadium. The 12-1 Broncos are ranked 18th in The Associated Press poll, the

11-1 Frogs 19th. Boise State is favored by 10 1/2 points.

The Broncos' only loss was a 26-24 heartbreaker to Oregon State. TCU's only loss was to Southern Mississippi, 40-28.

Barr said he and his wife, Beryl, to whom he has been married 47 years, wouldn't miss this game for anything.

He said they come home often to visit family and friends and to eat barbecue. He's partial to the barbecue at Angelo's. They also often check in with some of Barr's former students from Paschal High School, where he taught history from 1961 to 1967.

NOTEBOOK

BASEBALL

NEW YORK (AP) — Alex Rodriguez is willing to go to the Red Sox only if Boston restructures his contract in a manner that gains approval from the players' association.

Boston and Texas said Wednesday they settled on all the players involved in the trade. And the Red Sox and A-Rod agreed to restructure the shortstop's record \$252 million contract, Rangers owner Tom Hicks said.

The union intervened and rejected the agreement, drawing criticism from both teams.

Commissioner Bud Selig set a 5 p.m. Thursday deadline for the trade to be completed. He might also go against the union and approve the restructuring, likely forcing the matter to arbitration.

FOOTBALL

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) — Brett Favre said he will return to the Green Bay Packers next season, putting off any thoughts of retirement.

ASHBURN, Va. (AP) — Washington Redskins receiver Laveranues Coles said he has played nearly the entire season with a stress fracture in his foot.

The injury, which has bothered Coles since September, has made it painful to run routes. He leads the Redskins (5-9) with 69 catches for 1,023 yards.

BASKETBALL

BOSTON (AP) — Antoine Walker sure is glad that's over.

Between the sounds of a standing ovation when he was introduced to the clang of his 3-point shot that bounced off the rim at the buzzer, the former Celtics' captain struggled in his return to Boston.

He even allowed Paul Pierce, his co-star with the Celtics, to hit the winning shot over him with 20 seconds left in Boston's 105-103 victory over the Dallas Mavericks on Wednesday night.

"It needed to be over because a lot of people were making way too much of it," Walker said. "It kind of puts a closing for me in Boston and I can move on with my career."

He averaged 20.8 points in his seven seasons with Boston. But the Celtics' new head of basketball operations, Danny Ainge, thought he held the ball too much and took too many 3-pointers and shipped him to Dallas on Oct. 20.

Walker came in averaging 18.2 points but missed all six of his 3-point shots and finished with seven points, seven rebounds and eight assists in 36 minutes.

"I thought Walker was tight and wasn't himself the whole game," Dallas coach Don Nelson said. "He was just having that kind of a nightmarish game."

Harvesters getting ready for new soccer season

PAMPA — Three weeks into pre-season practice, Pampa boys' head soccer coach Byron May is noticing some good things from his players.

"We're looking good and working hard. We've been putting some pieces together and seeing where some of our

younger guys fit in," coach May said. "We're trying to fill holes left by graduated players."

The Harvester have a strong group of seniors, led by Sammy Silva, Jason Brown, Eddie Palma and goal keeper Carlos Medina.

"If we can keep these guys healthy, we should do okay," May added.

One of those graduated players is Chance Crain, who set a school record with 23 goals last season. Pampa is entered in the Wichita Falls Tournament next month to open the season.

The Harvester advanced to the playoffs a year ago after clinching the third-place seed out of District 3-4A behind Randall and Burger. They fell to Gainesville in bi-district.

This is May's first year to coach the team. He replaces John True.



Surrounded by Youth Survival Club members, new club president Willie Nickelberry, congratulates outgoing president Chris Perez (far right) for a job well done.

Youth Survival boxers will compete in Golden Gloves Championship

PAMPA — The Youth Survival Club of Pampa boxing team will be competing in the Lubbock Regional Golden Gloves Championship Feb. 18-21 at Lubbock's Municipal Coliseum.

Pampa's Nikki Medley will be going for her third consecutive Golden Gloves title. Sisters Cecilia and Crystal Garcia are also strong contenders for a crown. The winners advance to the Texas State Championships in Fort Worth on March 3-6.

J.R. Moreno, founder of the Youth Survival Club, said the Texas Golden Gloves Association has implemented some new rules.

"Starting in March, each judge will have a clicker which will be used to record each punch a boxer throws," Moreno said. "Also, if a boxer loses his mouthpiece twice in any round he will be disqualified."

Any boxer who has a criminal record or is accused

of a felony can't register to fight until an investigation is completed by the Association, Moreno added.

Each club is required to put up \$200 to hold a sanctioned tournament, Moreno said.

"It makes it hard because we don't make a lot on car washes and things like that," Moreno noted. "It's against our club rules for kids to go out and solicit funds."

Moreno said club members are required to show proper identification or club cards when soliciting for donations.

"The people of Pampa won't have to worry about where their money is going, he said. "Every dime of it goes to help our kids out."

The Youth Survival Club also has a new president. Former law enforcement officer Willie Nickelberry is replacing Chris Perez, who has resigned as president, but will continue to work with the club.

CLASSIFIED LINE ADS AND CITY BRIEFS

Insertion Date	Deadline
Wed., Dec. 24th.....	Tues., Dec. 23, 10:00am
Fri., Dec. 26th.....	Wed., Dec. 24th, Noon

ROP DISPLAY AND CLASSIFIED DISPLAY (Boxed Ads)

Mon., Dec. 22nd.....	Fri., Dec. 19th, 10:00am
Tues., Dec. 23rd.....	Fri., Dec. 19th, 10:00am
Wed., Dec. 24th.....	Fri., Dec. 19th, noon

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Fri., Dec. 26th.....	Mon., Dec. 22nd, 10:00am
Sun., Dec. 28th.....	Tues., Dec. 23rd, noon

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Bench players help lead Texas Tech by Sam Houston State

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — Bob Knight remembers when he came off the bench at Ohio State and contributed to his team's effort. He saw that from several players off his Texas Tech bench in the team's 97-63 win over Sam Houston State on Wednesday night and liked it. Josh Washington scored 12 points. Joseph Works added 11 and Curtis Marshall contributed nine off the bench.

"I really have a strong

feeling for guys who can do that. Maybe because I did that," Knight said. "The best teams I've had, the guys I had, every game they came in and played well."

Starter Ronald Ross scored a career-high 24 points, including 21 in the first 11 minutes of the game. "It was quick," said teammate Andre Emmett, who finished with 13 points. "I knew he was up there, but I didn't realize he had that many. I looked up, and I was

like 'Whoa.'" That sentiment was echoed by Bearkat coach Bob Marlin. "He's quick, very explosive," he said. "A very smart player. He's not a 3-pointer shooter, although he was 3-of-3 tonight."

The Red Raiders' (9-2) never trailed and used a 20-5 run to go up 69-33 early in the second half. They built their largest lead of 39 points twice, the last time with 2:27 remaining on a 12-footer by

Joseph Works to put Tech up 92-53. Sam Houston State (3-4) was plagued by poor shooting throughout the game, hitting only 20-of-59 from the field. The Bearkats also turned the ball over 24 times, leading to 31 of Tech's points. "I was disappointed in our play obviously, mostly with the turnovers," Marlin said. "We didn't do a good job taking care of the basketball. But give Texas Tech a lot of

the credit. Coach had his guys ready to play. They came out and stuck it to us. Ross' previous career high came Saturday when he scored 16 points in Tech's 78-68 win over San Diego State. Against the Bearkats, Ross hit all three of his 3-pointers. Knight was guarded in his comment about Ross' consistency. "Yeah, in the last two games," Knight said. "That was pretty good play, but

there are 30 games on the schedule." Ryan Griffin scored 18 points and Joe Thompson added 10 for the Bearkats. Two years ago, Sam Houston State handed Knight his first loss at Texas Tech. The Bearkats erased a 16-point halftime deficit then with a tough second-half comeback to beat the Red Raiders 69-65. On Wednesday, Tech started fast and led 49-28 at halftime.



Kayla Andis of Lefors and Sharri Britten (12) of Groom play tug of war with the basketball.

Groom, Lefors split non-district contests

GROOM — Cody Schaffer tossed in 20 points to lead Groom past Lefors 46-41 in basketball action earlier this week. Kelby Noack followed with 13 points for the Tigers. Rickey Vaughn had 16 points and Andis 10 for Lefors. Lefors, led by Katie Barnes' 24 points, won the girls' game 58-32. Kayla Andis added 11 points for the Lady Pirates. Jennifer Jenkins had 11 points and Britteny Martin 8 to lead the Tigerettes. Lefors had built a 49-18

halftime bulge. Others who scored for the Lady Pirates were Rachael Stubbs (10), Alisha Whitehead (4), Savannah Smith (2) and Amanda Hicks (2). Andis and Whitehead each hit a 3-point goal. CANADIAN — Canadian lost to Borger in a boys' basketball game, 45-36. Tyler Fernandez was Borger's leading scorer with 8 points. Bryan Bartlett had 13 points for the Wildcats. He was followed by Tony Livingston (8).

He never stopped being a coach

BROWNWOOD (AP) — Gordon Wood walked off the football field as the nation's winningest high school football coach in 1985, but he never stopped being a coach. The man who influenced legions of coaches from high school to the professional ranks and was drawing plays as late as last week died Wednesday. He was 89. "Football was always on his mind," said Eddie Joseph, executive director of the Texas High School Coaches Association and Wood's friend of 47 years. "It was his life." Wood developed a bronchial infection that developed into pneumonia last week, then suffered a heart attack on Saturday night, said longtime assistant coach

Kenneth West. He was transported from Brownwood to a hospital in Abilene on Monday. Wood, who won nine state championships back when there were fewer classes and only one title per class, coached at eight schools and compiled a 396-91-15 record from 1940-85. He's mostly identified with Brownwood, where he won seven titles in 26 years. Throughout retirement, Wood often could be found traveling the state to watch games. He also maintained a small, cluttered office in downtown Brownwood. A nameplate on the outside of Wood's office building, where he never paid rent, simply reads "Coach Wood."

Pro football Hall of Fame quarterback Otto Graham dies at 82

CLEVELAND (AP) — Otto Graham, the Hall of Fame quarterback who led the Cleveland Browns to a championship game in every season he played, died Wednesday. He was 82. Graham died in Sarasota, Fla., spokesman Todd Stewart said. He was taken to Sarasota Memorial Hospital earlier in the day with the same heart condition that killed actor John Ritter, said his son, Duey Graham. Graham was diagnosed with the early stages of Alzheimer's disease in 2001. Nicknamed "Automatic Otto," Graham never missed a game as a pro while passing for 23,584 yards and 174 touchdowns. He finished his career with an astounding 105-17-4 regular-season record. He took coach Paul Brown's teams to the title game in each season from 1946-55. With Graham as their quarterback, the Browns won four championships in the old All-America Football Conference

and three NFL titles. He was MVP of the AAFC three times. Graham was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1965, and the Browns retired his uniform No. 14, which he wore from 1952-55. Graham wore No. 60 during the first part of his career, from 1946-51. "The test of a quarterback is where his team finishes," Brown once said. "By that standard, Otto Graham was the best of all time." In 1994, Graham was picked for the NFL's 75th anniversary team, joining quarterbacks Sammy Baugh, Johnny Unitas and Joe Montana on the list of all-time greats. Graham and the Browns moved into the more-established NFL in 1950. They debuted in Philadelphia against the defending champion Eagles, and Graham's first pass in the NFL went for a touchdown. The Browns stunned the sports world with a 30-20 win. Cleveland went 12-2 during

the regular season and then defeated the Los Angeles Rams, who had defected from Cleveland after winning the 1945 title. The Browns lost in the NFL title game the next three years, before winning the 1954 championship behind Graham, who ran for three TDs and threw three more in Cleveland's 56-10 rout following the game, Graham announced he was retiring. But he was talked into making a comeback on the eve of the 1955 season opener and led the Browns to yet another title. In his final game, the 33-year-old Graham threw two TD passes and ran for two more as the Browns beat the Rams 38-14.

Graham later coached the Washington Redskins from 1966-68. Graham made history as the first player to wear a face mask after being viciously elbowed in the face on a late hit by San Francisco linebacker Art Michalik on Nov. 15, 1953, at old Cleveland Stadium. Graham returned with plastic wrapped around his helmet to protect his mouth. "That was my real claim to fame right there," Graham said. "I had this big gash on my mouth and they gave me 15 stitches, but I wanted to play." After returning, Graham completed 9 of 10 passes in the second half to lead Cleveland to a 23-20 comeback victory.

Graham took great pride in his many career records and that they all came with the same team — his beloved Browns. "How many players stay with the same team for 10 years these days? It's a different time, a different game," he said on a visit to Browns Stadium in 2002. Otto Everett Graham Jr. began setting records on the first day of his life in Waukegan, Ill. He weighed 14 pounds, 12 ounces at birth — the state record for largest male. The son of parents who were both music teachers, Graham learned the piano, violin, cornet and became Illinois state champion in the French horn at age 16 — when he also led his basketball conference in scoring. As a senior, he was chosen all-state in basketball and football and scored 20 points in a stunning upset of Dundee, ending that school's three-year, 44-game basketball winning streak. Graham went to Northwestern on a basketball scholarship and played intramu-

ral football, leading his team to a fraternity championship. Wildcats football coach Lynn "Pappy" Waldorf noticed the freshman and invited him to a spring tryout. Despite missing one season with knee surgery, Graham led Northwestern to two upset wins over powerful Ohio State, then coached by Paul Brown. He was an All-America selection in both basketball and football in 1943 when he finished third in the Heisman Trophy voting won by Notre Dame's Angelo Bertelli. After his discharge from the Navy, Graham signed with Cleveland's new team formed by his old adversary, Brown. "I guess I had impressed him," Graham recalled nearly 60 years later. "He gave me the highest contract on the team in 1946, a whopping \$7,500. Going to Cleveland to work with Paul was the best move of my life. I didn't always love him, but he ran the show and taught us the basics of everything."

"The test of a quarterback is where his team finishes. By that standard, Otto Graham was the best of all time."

— Paul Brown, former NFL coach

NFL STANDINGS

National Football League						
At A Glance						
By The Associated Press						
All Times EST						
AMERICAN CONFERENCE						
East						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-New England	12	2	0	.857	296	222
Miami	8	6	0	.571	268	237
Buffalo	6	8	0	.429	240	228
N.Y. Jets	6	8	0	.429	246	255
South						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Indianapolis	11	3	0	.786	410	288
Tennessee	10	4	0	.714	375	287
Houston	5	9	0	.357	214	333
Jacksonville	4	10	0	.286	242	291
North						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Cincinnati	8	6	0	.571	322	335
Baltimore	8	6	0	.571	343	271
Pittsburgh	5	9	0	.357	250	290
Cleveland	4	10	0	.286	232	273
West						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Kansas City	12	2	0	.857	433	284
Denver	9	5	0	.643	343	253
Oakland	4	10	0	.286	249	317
San Diego	3	11	0	.214	248	387
NATIONAL CONFERENCE						
East						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Philadelphia	11	3	0	.786	315	249
Dallas	9	5	0	.643	263	244
Washington	5	9	0	.357	256	314
N.Y. Giants	4	10	0	.286	216	331
South						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Carolina	9	5	0	.643	286	266
New Orleans	7	7	0	.500	308	299
Tampa Bay	7	7	0	.500	260	201
Atlanta	3	11	0	.214	248	380
North						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Green Bay	8	6	0	.571	370	297
Minnesota	8	6	0	.571	354	315
Chicago	6	8	0	.429	253	291
Detroit	4	10	0	.286	226	339

Parker preserves Spurs' win streak

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — San Antonio's smallest player made sure the Spurs kept winning. Tony Parker, the Spurs' 6-foot-2 point guard, sank a foul shot with 7.9 seconds left to preserve San Antonio's eighth straight win, 73-70 over the Toronto Raptors on Wednesday night. "It was kind of any ugly win, but we'll take it," Parker said, referring to the Spurs' struggles at the free throw line. They shot 15-of-27 (56 percent). Tim Duncan was 6-for-14. "We're going to shoot better from the free throw line than we have been," added Parker, who was 5-for-6 from the line. Parker had 13 points but was overshadowed by Duncan, who had 30 points — 20 in the first half — and 13 rebounds as the Spurs improved to 10-1 against Eastern Conference teams. "Toronto's weakness was inside, so we tried to get the ball to Tim," Parker said. Rasha Nesterovic also grabbed 10 rebounds for San Antonio. Toronto's Donyell Marshall

took a 3-pointer with a second left, but the ball rolled off the rim. "When it left my hands, it felt good," he said. "I thought it was good. I thought it was in. It just hit back of the iron." The Raptors, who lost their fourth straight, were led by Marshall's 19 points and 14 rebounds. He was 3-for-6 from behind the 3-point arc. Jalen Rose had 14 points, Alvin Williams had 10, and Vince Carter, bothered by a sore Achilles' tendon, had 16. Chris Bosh added 12 rebounds. Toronto, last in the NBA by scoring only 85.1 points per game, could only muster 10 points in the fourth. They had averaged 99.3 points in their last eight games, but made only 28 field goals in 70 attempts. "It was a good win against a very talented and aggressive club," Spurs' coach Gregg Popovich said. "They're playing good basketball. Our defense got us through." Neither team could find the basket in the fourth quarter as San Antonio scored only 12 points on 3-of-18 shooting. "If anybody was going to

beat us, we were going to be sure it was the rest of the team and not Tim," Carter said. "I thought we did a good job of that." Down by 15 in the third quarter, the Raptors made a comeback and took a 60-57 lead on a three-point play by Lonny Baxter. It was the last time the Raptors were ahead. "I thought we competed very well in the second half; not so much in the first," Raptors coach Kevin O'Neill said. "We made some mistakes down the stretch and when you're playing the NBA world champions, you have to be letter perfect." Duncan's layup put the Spurs up for good, 61-60 at the end of the third. Malik Rose, who had been out with a strained tendon in his right ankle during much of the Spurs' winning streak, entered the game midway through the third quarter and gave the Spurs a spark getting two points and two rebounds in 10 minutes. The Raptors also struggled in the second quarter, scoring nine points on 4-of-16 shooting.

1 Public Notic
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1 Public Notice

docket of said court, styled IN RE ESTATE OF HAROLD CORMIER, DECEASED, the file number of which application and the docket number of which proceedings is 9044, the nature of such application being for APPLICATION FOR PROBATE OF NUNCUPATIVE WILL AND FOR ISSUANCE OF LETTERS TESTAMENTARY.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

Witness, SUSAN WINBORNE, clerk of the county court of Gray County, Texas, such appearance to be on Monday, the 2nd day of February, 2004, by appearing at the hearing set on this day for the application hereinafter mentioned, contesting same, should they or any of them desire to do so, which application will, at such 3:00 hour and such place be acted on, said application having been filed by Mahesh Mike Patel in said court on the 11th day of December, 2003, and now pending there, in a proceeding on the probate

1 Public Notice

THE STATE OF TEXAS

To: The Heirs of Harold Cormier

You and each of you are hereby cited, required and commanded to appear before the County Court of Gray County, Texas, to be held in the county courtroom in the courthouse of said county in the city of Pampa, Gray County, Texas, such appearance to be on Monday, the 2nd day of February, 2004, by appearing at the hearing set on this day for the application hereinafter mentioned, contesting same, should they or any of them desire to do so, which application will, at such 3:00 hour and such place be acted on, said application having been filed by Mahesh Mike Patel in said court on the 11th day of December, 2003, and now pending there, in a proceeding on the probate

Susan Winborne
Clerk of County
County of Gray County,
Texas

By Jeanne Horton,
Deputy
Dec. 18, 26, 2003
Jan. 1, 8, 2004

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85 GMC SW PU & 82 Mercedes 300D 4 dr Diesel, garage sale Fri. 8-5 Sat. 8-3, 2109 N. Wells.

Horoscope BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, Dec. 19, 2003:
Listen to your sixth sense, and you'll bloom. Often you might want to spend time alone to discover what you want, or just to recycle. Relax and take your time making decisions. You could find that others give mixed messages. Financial matters bloom because you think before you rush in. Those you deal with financially could be demanding and disagreeable. Understand their insecurities. Others find you unpredictable but delightful. If you are single, you will meet someone late 2004, perhaps even 2005. Be careful of your choices in between, as you could get involved with someone who is emotionally unavailable. If you are attached, your relationship will grow, especially if you both go on retreats together. Act like new lovers. SCORPIO reads you cold.

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)
*** To be as effective as you might like, you will find that working individually with others proves most successful. A friend demonstrates his or her creativity in a way that counts, but it could be most distracting. Express your strong caring so that others will respond in a surprisingly positive manner. Tonight: Be a duo.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
***** Others come to you wanting your feedback. Be subtle right now if you really want to keep the peace. A boss or superior might have a great idea, but making it a reality could be quite a job. Think before taking this one on. You might be sorry later. Tonight: Go along with another's plans.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
*** Pace yourself, making it possible to get your work done. Close off your wandering mind, if possible. You want to leave on Friday with a clear desk, don't you? Your creativity emerges in a romantic situation. Let your libido run the show. Tonight: Pace yourself.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
***** A partner might push funds beyond what you can take. He or she means well, but just the same, you might have to say "no." Your ability to find creative gifts makes a big difference in your budget. Tonight: Play away.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
*** Stay anchored when dealing with a child or loved one. Family becomes unusually demanding. You might be feeling like someone close to you is pushing your buttons. Be realistic about what this person can and cannot do. Tonight: At home.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
***** Reach out for someone who might be quite needy but has a difficult time saying so. Your way of stating issues might not be as clear as possible right now. Be ready to repeat yourself several times. A friend might have a difficult time "getting" it. Tonight: Celebrate the fact that it's Friday.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
***** Expenses go way overboard. Stay in control of work, even if you feel burdened. You will feel better once you clear your desk. You cannot read a loved one's reaction, as you put him or her on a pedestal. Tonight: Do some shopping.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
***** The Moon in your sign highlights you. You might be able to get to the bottom of a situation faster than many. A discussion illuminates a situation. You might not see a family member or domestic issue clearly. Tonight:

Whatever makes you happy.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
** Sit back and take your time. You might not take in the whole picture, as your perspective could be distorted. Consider last-minute gifts that don't murder your budget. You make strong decisions, for you. Tonight: Get some extra sleep.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
***** Follow-through counts, especially with a friendship or a goal. You might overspend, not realizing what you are doing. Be very careful handling money. A pickpocket could be a lot closer than you think. Tonight: Celebrate the weekend.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
*** You might have a difficult time making your point clear. You have unusual ideas that sometimes might be difficult to put into words. Handle work efficiently, as you want to clear out for a fun weekend. Tonight: Leader of the gang.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
***** Take an overview. Others just might not understand what you think and feel. You have an unusual imagination that takes you down a strange path at times. A meeting proves instrumental. Consider a seminar or a trip in the near future. Tonight: Do something totally different.
BORN TODAY
Actress Alyssa Milano (1972), anthropologist Richard Leakey 1944, actress Cicely Tyson (1933) ***
Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.
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A X Y D L B A A X R
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three E'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.

12-18 CRYPTOQUOTE

U F B B Q H F E Z U F M X A P
E Q Q Y P N U G A P U F Y U

S Q Q J U S S N A X A N T U F

R U I N H S Z Q F N B

— D L U X G N B

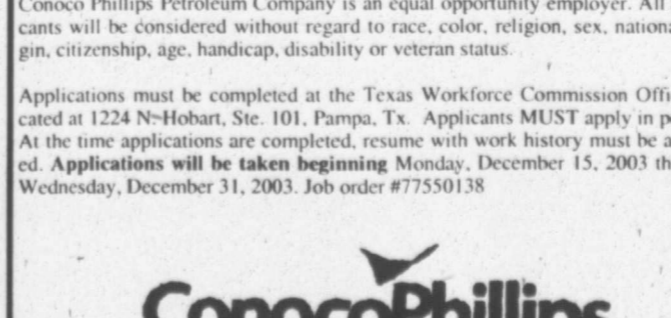
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: LONG-RANGE GOALS KEEP YOU FROM BEING FRUSTRATED BY SHORT-TERM FAILURES. — UNKNOWN

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Applications must be completed at the Texas Workforce Commission Office located at 1224 N-Hobart, Ste. 101, Pampa, Tx. Applicants MUST apply in person. At the time applications are completed, resume with work history must be attached. Applications will be taken beginning Monday, December 15, 2003 through Wednesday, December 31, 2003. Job order #77550138



Deadline approaching to apply for scholarships to CCPC

In the first such election to take place at Clarendon College-Pampa Center, Amanda Howell is currently campaigning for president of the CCPC campus student body.

Howell, a sophomore associate arts major and a junior college honorary, plans to marry next fall and to pursue a

Families get time to vent at sentencing

SEATTLE (AP) — To the families who lost loved ones at the hands of Green River serial killer Gary Ridgway, his sentencing is no mere formality. It's their only chance to speak to him directly, be it to curse him or forgive him — or to hear him say he's sorry, however hollow that may ring.

A King County Superior Court judge was scheduled to sentence Ridgway to life in prison without parole Thursday, as prosecutors and defense attorneys have already agreed.

"After tomorrow, I'm through with him," Kathy Mills, whose 16-year-old daughter, Opal, was killed in 1982, said Wednesday. "I won't think of him anymore. He'll have no hold over me."

Ridgway pleaded guilty last month to 48 murders, more than any other convicted serial killer in U.S. history.

"It's going to be a long, dismal day," predicted Tony Savage, one of Ridgway's lawyers.

The court has set aside two days for Ridgway's sentencing, which 26 victims' families plan to attend, with 21 of them expected to address the court.

The focus on victims will contrast with Ridgway's Nov. 5 plea hearing, dominated by his chilling, emotionless confession. The statement explained how he killed because he hated prostitutes and didn't want to pay them for sex, and that he killed so many women he had a hard time keeping them straight.

Mills, who works at New Directions Ministries in the Seattle suburb of Kent, said she hoped to address the court and Ridgway directly. Asked whether she would forgive her daughter's killer, she said: "If it's at all possible at that time, I will."

She has already sent the court a letter about her daughter, saying that Opal liked to draw clothes and talked about becoming a designer.

Ridgway was arrested Nov. 30, 2001, after detectives linked his DNA to sperm found in three of the earliest victims. By spring 2002, prosecutors had charged him with seven murders, but they had all but given up hope of linking him to the dozens of other women, most of whom disappeared during a terrifying stretch from 1982-84.

Last spring, defense attorneys offered King County Prosecutor Norm Maleng a deal: If Maleng would not seek the death penalty, Ridgway would help solve those other cases. Though Maleng had previously said he would not bargain away the death penalty, he changed his mind, saying that a fundamental principle of justice is to know the truth.

Ridgway eventually confessed to 48 murders — the most recent in 1998 — and led investigators to four previously undiscovered sets of remains.

Savage said he expects his client to apologize.

"I'm expecting he will give a statement," Savage said. "I assume it will be one of remorse and regret that will fall on deaf ears, but he will say it."

degree in mass communications from the University Texas at Tyler.

Howell, along with fellow CCPC students Julian George

and Emily Johnson, all received scholarships for the fall semester at CCPC through Pampa Center Foundation.

Howell said she likes

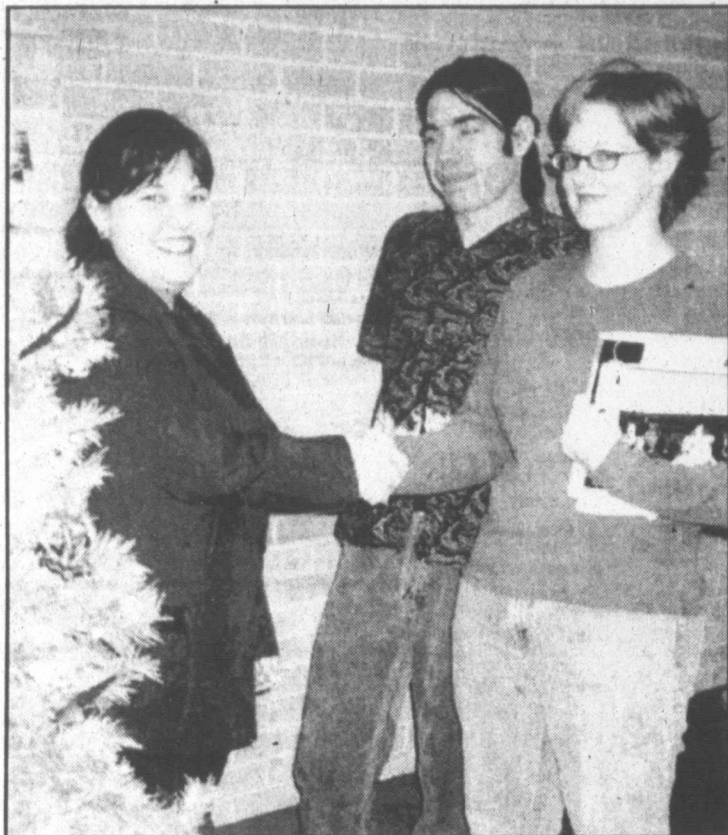
attending Pampa Center as it is convenient, and the classes are small enough that a student can receive one-on-one assistance from each instructor. George, a freshman science major at CCPC, observed, "This is one of the most inexpensive educational programs,

and it is very good."

Johnson, also a freshman, is working towards a physical therapy degree and a prosthetic license.

Scholarship applications for the 2003 spring semester at CCPC are available at the college. To be eligible, a student

must have maintained a 2.5 or better grade point average for the previous academic semester of school and must take a minimum of 12 credit hours at CCPC. Applications are due Jan. 9 at CCPC. For more information, contact the college at 665-8801.



(Courtesy photo)

(Left-right) Amanda Howell visits with Julian George and Emily Johnson at Clarendon College-Pampa Center. All earned scholarships from Pampa Center Foundation for the fall semester at CCPC. Howell is currently running for CCPC student body president.

IRS tightening controls over tax ID numbers

WASHINGTON (AP) — After raising concerns about potential security risks, the Internal Revenue Service on Wednesday tightened restrictions on identification numbers issued to taxpayers who are ineligible for Social Security numbers.

The agency, which warned states this summer not to trust the identification numbers as someone's form of personal identification, said the restrictions are intended to make sure the numbers are only used for tax administration.

People without Social Security numbers get Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers, or ITINs, so the IRS can keep track of tax returns. Since 1996, 7 million of these nine-digit numbers, which begin with a nine, have been issued.

"About one-quarter of the ITINs issued for tax return purposes never actually find their way onto a tax return," said IRS Commissioner Mark Everson.

Seven states allow individuals to use an ITIN in place of a Social Security number when applying for

a driver's license, according to a survey this fall by the National Conference of State Legislatures. California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger this month repealed one such a law, which would have allowed an estimated 2 million undocumented immigrant drivers to apply for licenses.

The IRS this summer sent letters to all 50 states reminding them that ITINs are intended for tax administration purposes and warning of potential security risks in accepting the numbers as a form of personal identification.

"We do not subject ITIN applicants to the same rigorous document verification standards as Social Security number of visa/passport applicants," the letter said.

"If your state is considering legislation to accept ITINs as proof of identity for driver's licenses, please alert your legislators to potential security risks. State-issued photo identification provides unrestricted access to most U.S. air and ground transportation systems and entry to public buildings," according to the letter.

Prosecutor's actions may add to drama

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Hollywood and Michael Jackson's Neverland are about 100 miles apart, but the psychological distance between the two fantasylands is shrinking daily as movie-style drama engulfs the pop star's child molestation case.

Prosecutors said they would file charges against Jackson on Thursday. Sources familiar with the case also said District Attorney Tom Sneddon has agreed to delay the arraignment a week to Jan. 16 and return Jackson's passport to allow him to travel overseas.

Jackson, who has proclaimed his innocence, is free on \$3 million bail.

As the case has unfolded, Sneddon, who once inspired a vindictive song by Jackson, has been sharing center stage with Jackson.

Sneddon has been a magnet for criticism since he announced the warrant for Jackson's arrest

last month. And as the case develops, publicity about the prosecutor has at times pre-empted reporting on the allegations against Jackson.

"Everyone thought the oddest person in this case would be Michael Jackson. But the DA is rivaling him with his own antics," said Loyola University Law Professor Laurie Levenson.

The pending charges against Jackson are expected to detail for the first time allegations involving a cancer-stricken boy, now 14, who slept over at Neverland several times. The boy appeared with Jackson in a British documentary that aired on ABC in February.

At a news conference last month, Sneddon appeared jovial, made wisecracks and appeared to revel in the attention surrounding the case. He also misstated a key point of law. After that, Sneddon went on "Larry King Live" to apologize for his behavior and retract his remarks on the law.

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