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THE PAMPA NEWS

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Monday, November 27, 2006

Volume 102 • No. 189

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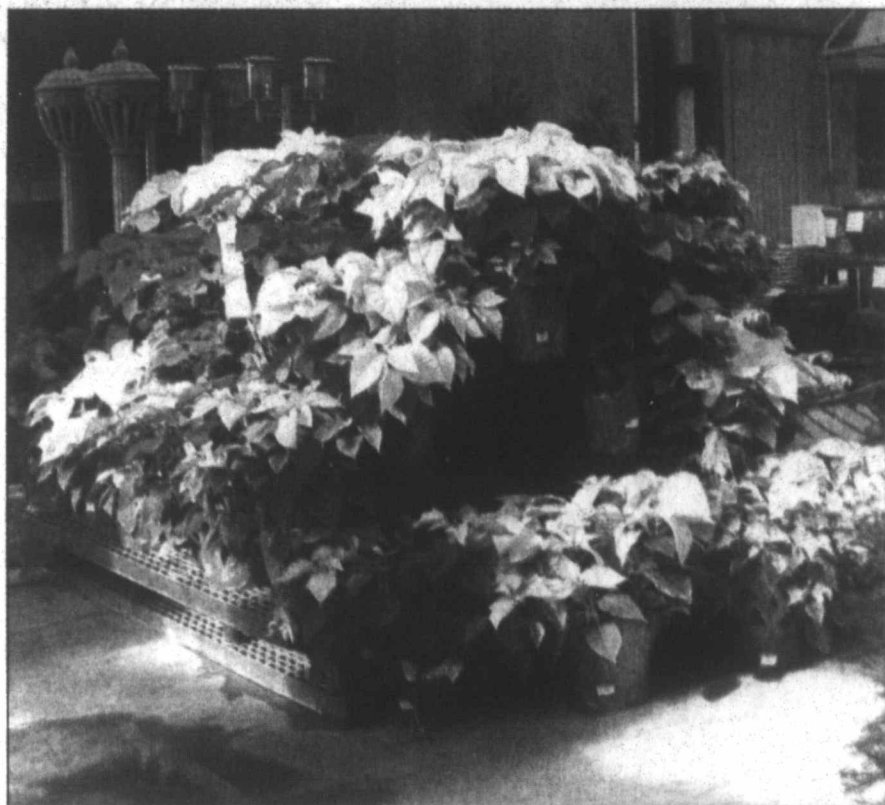


Pampa News photos by DAVID BOWSER
It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas as city employees Ruth Williams, left, and Hunter Lewis, top, string lights around the gazebo at McCarley Park on the corner of Russell and Atchison this morning.

Warm weather this weekend helped Pampa retailers

By KERRI SMITH
Staff Writer
Retail stores in Pampa were happy with the holiday shopping that was done this past weekend. All stores that were interviewed said that spending this year exceeded last year.
Bill Hite, pharmacist at Heard-Jones Health Mart, said, "I think the increase in the number of shoppers was due to the nice weather." It was unseasonably warm this past weekend and that made shopping a little easier.
Friday was the best sales day of the weekend for Carousel Expressions said owner Carol Martin. They saw twice as many shoppers on Friday than Saturday. Martin said they usually have their best business 10-14 days before Christmas though.
"People come in to buy a gift for someone they did not plan on buying for," she said. When unexpected company comes to visit, people have to run out and buy a gift for those visitors. Also on the later shopping schedule are the men who wait until the last minute.
Hasting's Manager Angie Ferguson

said, "We met and beat the goals we had set for this weekend. We definitely beat last year's sales with the majority of purchases being electronics." The sales of music, movies and books were about equal.
Dunlap's in Coronado Center saw more shoppers on Saturday, said Brenda Humphrey, manager. The main things being purchased were Christmas items, children's clothing and home decor.
Fresh cut Christmas trees, poinsettias, other plants and items from the gift shop were what sales clerks from West Texas Landscaping were ringing up. Amy Germany, gift shop manager, said that fresh cut trees are on sale starting at \$40.
Bloomberg reported that U.S. consumers shopping this past weekend spent 19 percent more than last year. An average of \$360 per person was spent, which is up from \$302 from last year. The National Retail Federation said that fewer people shopped, 140 million down from 145 million, but they spent more money.



Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH
Christmastime is fast approaching with red, white and pink poinsettias on sale at West Texas Landscaping.

Alert drill planned this week

Gray County Law Enforcement entities will test their ability to respond to Pampa High School when notified of an armed intruder on campus this week.
According to a press release from Lt. Fred Courtney of Pampa Police Department, Texas Department of Public Safety, the Gray County Sheriff's Department, PPD and the Gray County Constables will take part in the alert during school hours sometime between today and

Friday.
"The actual day and time is not being released to provide an element of the unknown to the responding officers," Courtney said.
The drill has the approval of the agency heads as well as Pampa High School Principal Danny Seaborn.
"The actual drill should only last about

See DRILL, Page 3

Commission to discuss Hospitality Partners pact

The Pampa City Commission will consider an agreement with Top of Texas Hospitality Partners, Ltd., at the commission's regularly scheduled meeting Tuesday.
The agreement with Top of Texas Hospitality Partners, who have the

AmericInn, concerns a parking area at M.K. Brown Civic Auditorium.
The commission is also expected to go into executive session to discuss a financial incentive proposed by the Pampa Economic Development Corporation for a business prospect.

Obituaries

Mauro Rodriguez Lopez, 19

Mauro Rodriguez Lopez, Jr., 19, of Pampa, died Saturday, Nov. 25, 2006, in Roberts County.

A vigil will be held at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2006, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel. A Mass will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2006, at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, with Rev. Francisco Perez, pastor, officiating. Burial will be at Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.



Lopez

Mr. Lopez was born Sept. 21, 1987, in

Tula, Tamaulipas, Mexico. He came to Pampa in November of 1998 from Michigan. He attended Pampa schools and was employed by Fluid Compressor. He enjoyed spending time with his family, especially his younger brothers and two nieces, and he loved to draw.

Survivors include his parents, Mauro and Irene Lopez of Pampa; four brothers, Cesar Lopez, Jose Lopez, Marco Antonio Lopez, and Kevin Lopez, all of Pampa; one sister, Edelmira Tarango and her husband Carmelo of Perryton; and two nieces, Katie Hope Tarango and Katelyn Consuelo Tarango, both of Perryton.

Memorials may be to St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, 810 W. 23rd St., Pampa, TX, 79065.

Sign the online register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com

Trinidee Dawn Underwood, 29

RIVERTON, Wyo. — Trinidee Dawn Underwood, 29, died Saturday, Nov. 25, 2006, in Amarillo, Texas.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Underwood was born Sept. 4, 1977, in Pampa and had lived in Riverton, Wyoming for the past two years. She was a 1996 graduate of Pampa High School. She married Robert Andrew Underwood on June 14, 1996. She was a member of Cornerstone Baptist Church in Pampa.

Survivors include her husband, Robert Andrew Underwood of the home; a son, Donald Lewis Underwood of the home; a daughter, Rebekah Ann Underwood of the

home; her parents, Don and Gayla Summers of Pampa; a sister, Tausha Robinson and husband Torrey of Amarillo; her grandparents, T.E. and Darlene Drinnon and Imogene Adams, all of Pampa; her father-in-law, Bob Underwood and wife Roseann of Bixby, Okla.; her mother-in-law, Laura Underwood of Little Rock, Arkansas; a sister-in-law, Ann Fritz and husband David of Houston, Texas; and by her husband's grandparents, Jack and Wanda Mitchell of Pampa.

Memorials may be to Life Gift, 1200 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo, TX 79106.

Sign the online register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com

Manuela Rodriguez, 55

Manuela Rodriguez, 55, died Thursday, Nov. 23, 2006, in Pampa.

Funeral Mass will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2006, at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church with the Rev. Francisco Perez, pastor, officiating.

Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Rodriguez was born January 2, 1951, in Vivorias, Durango, Mexico. She married Jose Rodriguez Silva on February 12, 1965, in Durango, Durango, Mexico.

She was employed by the Pampa Nursing Center as a certified nurse's aide for the past four years. She was a member of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church. She loved spending time with, and cooking for, her family, especially her grandchildren.

Survivors include her husband, Jose Rodriguez Silva of Mexico; six sons, Jose Rodriguez, Ramon Rodriguez, Abel Rodriguez, Salvador Rodriguez and Jesus Rodriguez, all of Pampa, and Raul Rodriguez of Illinois; five daughters, Maria Sanchez, Bertha Cordova, Lorena Rodriguez, Gisela Portillo, and Lourdes Perez, all of Pampa; 43 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be to St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, 810 W. 23rd, Pampa, Texas 79065.

Special notice: Mrs. Rodriguez's body will be available for viewing at 417 N. Faulkner.

Sign the online register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com

Katie Chloe McMullen, 88

McLEAN — Katie Chloe McMullen, 88, died Saturday, Nov. 25, 2006, in McLean.

Memorial services for Chloe and her husband, Roy, will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2006, at the United Methodist Church in McLean with Rev. Thacker Haynes officiating and Brother Joe Jernigan and Brother Larry Perkins assisting. Arrangements are under the direction of Bailey-Ware Funeral Home in McLean.

Katie Chloe Hanes was born Aug. 13, 1918, in Emerson, Texas, to G.W. and Emily Hanes. She married Roy Abner McMullen on June 23, 1942. They were married for 64 years.

Mrs. McMullen was a homemaker and she

taught school for two years at the Pakan School. She loved to be at home where she enjoyed quilting and gardening, but most of all she loved her family.

Survivors include a daughter, Emma Jean McDonald and husband Jim of McLean; a son, Roy Lynn McMullen and wife Teresa of Tulsa, OK; five grandchildren, Mark Tate, Lee Ann Feensra, Kara Fox, Steven McMullen and Katie McMullen; and 10 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by husband Roy Abner McMullen on Nov. 14, 2006.

Memorials may be to McLean Fire Department, McLean, TX, 79057.

Berkleigh Addison Bruce

CONROE — Berkleigh Addison Bruce, infant, died November 24, 2006, in Pampa.

Graveside services were held at 10 a.m. Monday, November 27, 2006, at Fairview Cemetery in Pampa with the Rev. Lynn Hancock, pastor of the Briarwood Full Gospel Church, officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Survivors include her parents, Wade and Season Bruce of Conroe; a brother, Westin

Bruce of Conroe; her maternal grandmother, Karen Putman of Pampa; her maternal grandfather, Bobby Putman and wife Janice of Lubbock; her maternal great-grandfather, Joe Putman of Lubbock; her paternal grandparents, Wayne and Teresa Bruce of Pampa; and her paternal great-grandparents, Dale and Elnora Haynes and Wallace and Doreen Bruce, all of Pampa.

Sign the online register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com

Irene Holman, 84

BORGER — Irene Holman, 84, of Amarillo died Saturday, Nov. 25, 2006 in Amarillo.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday, November 29, 2006, at Trinity Church of the Nazarene in Borger with the Rev. Dale Peirce officiating.

A private family burial will take place. Arrangements are by Brown Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Holman was born Dec. 16, 1921 in Henrietta, Texas. She was a homemaker and a member of the Nazarene Church.

She married her husband Chester on Feb.

10, 1939 in Jacksboro, Texas. She was very active through the years in the Nazarene Church.

Survivors include a daughter, Jean and husband Ronald Gray of Amarillo; and two grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Chester Holman in 1995.

Memorials may be to Trinity Church of the Nazarene Children's Ministries, 1106 Cleveland, Borger, TX 79007.

The family will receive visitors from 7 to 8 p.m. Monday, November 27, 2006, at the funeral home.

Emergency Services

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the period from 7 a.m. Nov. 22 through 7 a.m. today.

Twenty-five traffic stops were made, resulting in at least two arrests, including a stop in the 1000 block of East Kingsmill which resulted in charges of driving under the influence -- minor and minor in possession of alcohol.

Traffic complaints were received from the 1300 block of North Hobart, the 300 block of North Davis, the 1100 block of Sierra, and the 1100 block of Juniper.

Vehicle accidents were reported in the 700 block of North Christy and the 300 block of North Dwight, where metal fence valued at \$1,000 was damaged and at least one arrest was made in connection with the accident.

Calls concerning animals were received from the 300 block of Miami, twice from the 900 block of Twiford, the 1000 block of West McCullough, the 1800 block of Dogwood, the 1000 block of Twiford, the 400 block of Jupiter, the 2200 block of North Nelson, the 2700 block of Aspen, the 600 block of North Zimmers, the 500 block of Linda Drive, 17 times from an unreported location, the 900 block of South Faulkner, the 1000 block of Fisher, three times from the 700 block of Doucette, the 500 block of South Cuyler, the 1200 block of Wilcox, the 1000 block of Clark, the 600 block of Lefors, the 2300 block of Rosewood, the intersection

of Rham and Hobart streets, the intersection of Francis and Houston streets, the 600 block of North Christy, the 500 block of North Cuyler, the 300 block of Doyle, twice from the 1000 block of Duncan, the 1100 block of Sandeewood, and the 500 block of 18th.

Runaways were reported in the 500 block of Carr and the 200 block of North Faulkner.

A missing person was reported in the police department lobby.

One suicide threat was reported.

Unattended deaths were reported in the 400 block of North Faulkner and the 2400 block of Cherokee.

Welfare checks were made in the 200 block of Miami, the 1700 block of Charles, and the 1300 block of North Starkweather.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 1200 block of Wilcox, the intersection of Francis and Ballard streets, the 2300 block of Alcock, the intersection of Kentucky and Hobart streets, Hemphill County Sheriff's Office, the intersection of Neel Road and Prairie Drive, the 1200 block of North Wells, and the 400 block of Baer.

Warrant service was attempted on one occasion.

Found property was reported in the police department lobby. A bicycle was found in the 1400 block of Evergreen.

Found property/recovery of stolen property was reported in the 500 block of North Frost. A guitar, satellite radio receiver, and

remote control were found. Estimated value of the property is \$975.

Found property was reported in the 400 block of North Russell and the 100 block of South Starkweather, where a wallet was found.

Civil matters were reported in the 2400 block of Charles, the 1100 block of Huff Road, the police department lobby, the 800 block of Lefors, and the 1000 block of Huff Road.

Silent/abusive 911 calls were received from the 500 block of Red Deer and the 900 block of South Reid.

Suspicious person calls were received from the intersection of Sunset and Duncan streets, the 300 block of East Francis, the 300 block of North Hobart, the intersection of 21st and Banks streets, and the intersection of Campbell and Reid streets.

A suspicious person and criminal mischief were reported at Bible Church of Pampa, 300 W. Browning. A window valued at \$250 was broken.

Suspicious vehicle calls were received from the 100 block of North Russell, twice on Highway 60 East, the 1600 block of Boyd, the 1400 block of North Hobart, and the 1300 block of East Frederic.

Prowlers were reported in the 500 block of Lowry and the 700 block of North Frost.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1500 block of North Faulkner, twice in the 1100 block of East

See RECORD, Page 3

Services tomorrow

RODRIGUEZ, Manuela — Funeral Mass 2 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church.
LOPEZ, Mauro Rodriguez Jr. — Vigil 6 p.m. Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel.

CITY BRIEFS

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

\$200 REWARD for lost female Scottish Terrier, 2 y.o., wearing red collar. Call 669-3314 or 664-7688 or 440-6458

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GREAT CHRISTMAS gifts! Methodist Women's Cookbook, Delbert Trew books, MK Brown book, Gray Co. Video. White Deer Land Museum, 112 S. Cuyler.

DON'T MISS Meals on Wheels, 302 E. Foster, last music and a meal 11-28, 11:30-1, sloppy joes and pumpkin bars, \$5, Music by 8th grade girls choral group.

LOST BLACK & White female Australian Shepherd (marked like Border Collie w/ bobbed tail), has collar & tags. S. Cuyler & Bowers City Area. 835-2965. \$\$\$\$Reward\$\$\$

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WILD FIRE books are still available with a portion of the proceeds going to the Volunteer Depts. Pick up your copy today from the Pampa News or Dunlaps at the Coronado Center

Gray County Weather

Today: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Areas of fog before noon. Otherwise, partly cloudy, with a high near 68. South southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Tonight: A 20 percent chance of showers and thun-

derstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 48. South southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 67. Windy, with a southwest wind 15 to 20 mph increasing to between 25 and 30 mph. Winds could gust as high as

40 mph.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 37. Wind chill values between 30 and 35. North northwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Wednesday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 38. Windy, with a north northeast wind between 20 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Wednesday Night: A 30 percent chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 14. Wind

chill values between -3 and 7. Windy, with a northeast wind between 20 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Thursday: A 20 percent chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 26. Windy, with a north northwest wind 20 to 25 mph decreasing to between 10 and 15 mph. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 16. Wind chill values between 6 and 11.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Atebury Grain of White Deer.

Wheat 4.73
Milo 6.00
Corn 6.95
Soybeans 5.65

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

OXY 48.12 +0.18
BP PLC ADR 66.46 -0.04
Cabot Corp 42.49 -0.65
Celanese 21.85 +0.32
Cabot Oil Gas 60.26 +0.38
Coca Cola 46.81 -0.11
VLO 52.30 -0.01
HAL 32.19 -0.10
TRI 39.98 -0.24
KMI 105.07 +0.25

XCEL 22.55 -0.14
Anadarko 47.44 +0.03
XOM 72.66 +0.28
Nat'l Oilwell 62.80 +0.81
Limited 31.64 +0.26
Williams 27.02 +0.41
MCD 41.73 -0.15
Atmos 32.36 -0.24
Pioneer Nat 41.59 +0.04
JCP 81.00 +0.19
COP 64.60 +0.31
SLB 65.45 +0.09
Teneco 22.73 -0.15
CVX 69.17 +0.33
Wal-Mart 47.04 -0.86
OKE 41.88 -0.10
NS Grp 65.80 +0.02
New York Gold 635.40
Silver 13.23
West Texas Crude 59.71

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Shop at any of these participating businesses
between November 7th and December 1st
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Texas Furniture, Frank's True Value, United Supermarket's, Prestige Auto Center, Heard-Jones Healthmart, Tarpley Music, Peggy's Place, West Texas Landscape, Sands Fabrics, Diamonds & Doorknobs, Sears, One Stop Flooring, The Coffee Shop, Aaron's Sales & Lease

Visit each participating business for details on how to receive your drawing tickets. Then, bring your tickets to the drawings for a chance to win. The first drawing will be at approximately 3:45 pm in front of Tarpley Music. The second drawing will be at approximately 5:30 pm in front of Dunlap's. Two lucky people will win \$600 worth of Pampa Bucks.

YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN!
DRAWING TO BE HELD DECEMBER 2ND

Record

Continued from Page 2

Kingsmill, the 300 block of North Hobart, the 1800 block of Williston, the 2800 block of Charles, the police department lobby, the 600 block of Sloan, the 1100 block of East Francis, the 2200 block of North Nelson, the 1400 block of North Russell, the 700 block of East Murphy, the 900 block of Scott, twice in the 800 block of East Murphy, the 900 block of South Faulkner, and the 700 block of Malone.

Disorderly conduct and furnishing alcohol to a minor were reported in the 500 block of North Frost.

Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 900 block of South Finley, the 2800 block of Rosewood, and the 1800 block of North Christy.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1300 block of North Banks. The back of a building was spray painted, resulting in an estimated \$100 damage.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 400 block of West Browning. A brick was thrown through a vehicle's windshield, resulting in damage estimated at \$250.

Criminal mischief was reported at Mufflers Unlimited Conoco, 300 N. Hobart. Five windows were broken out of the building, for damage estimated at \$550.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 200 block of North Hobart. Two windows and glass out of two doors was broken, resulting in damage estimated at \$1,200.

Criminal mischief was reported in the police department lobby and the 2400 block of Dogwood.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 600 block of West Francis and the 1000 block of North Sumner.

Public intoxication was reported in the 300 block of South Cuyler.

Driving while intoxicated was reported in the 900 block of Duncan.

Narcotics violations were reported in the 1000 block of Crane Road and the 100 block of South Starkweather.

Violation of Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission laws was reported in the 100 block of East Craven.

Harassment was reported in the police department lobby.

Stalking was reported in the 1200 block of North Hobart.

A threat was reported in the 1000 block of Duncan.

Domestic disturbances were reported in the 800 block of North Nelson; the 600 block of North Sumner; the police department lobby; the 600 block of North Somerville, where the incident was verbal only; and the 500 block of North Starkweather, where no injuries were reported.

Assault was reported in the 100 block of West 30th and the 1000 block of Huff Road, where no injuries were reported.

Sexual assault was reported in the 300 block of North Warren.

Three burglar alarms were reported.

Attempted theft was reported in the 1700 block of Beech.

Theft was reported in the police department lobby. A 21-speed bicycle valued at \$120 was taken from an unreported location.

Theft was reported at United Supermarket, 1420 N. Hobart. Steaks valued at \$65 were taken.

Theft was reported in the 800 block of Locust.

Attempted burglary of a building was reported at N&T Specialty Welding, 1333 N. Price Road. Damage estimated at \$248 was done to a glass door.

Burglary was reported at Caprock Engineers, Inc., 801 N. Sumner. A window screen valued at \$50 was damaged.

Burglary of a building was reported at Bible Church of Pampa, 300 W. Browning. Taken were a guitar and XM satellite receiver, for loss estimated at \$600.

Burglary of a habitation was reported in the 400 block of North Russell. A window was broken and a television, DVD player, microwave, and air conditioning/heating combination unit were taken. Estimated value of loss is \$970.

Burglary was reported in the 1000 block of South Christy and the 200 block of North Nelson.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 400 block of North Roberta, where an AM/FM/CD player, wallet, cash, Wal Mart card, Texas identification card, and Social Security card were taken. Estimated value of loss is \$265.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1400 block of North Russell. A tool box and various hand tools were taken, for an estimated loss of \$150.

Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1300 block of Duncan. Taken was a 1989 Chevy S-10 pickup.

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

Saturday, Nov. 25
Sean Andrew Bauer, 19, of McLean was arrested by GCSO for evading arrest.

Sunday, Nov. 26
Jason Paul Phelps, 30, of Pampa was arrested in the 1100 block of Christine by Pampa Police Department for driving while intoxicated.

Jovany Valdez Cabrales, 17, of Pampa was arrested in the 1000 block of East Kingsmill by PPD for driving while intoxicated -- minor.

Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls for the weekend period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Saturday, Nov. 25
7:18 a.m. — Two units and six personnel responded to the 1500 block of West Kentucky on an alarm malfunction.

2:33 p.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to the 2500 block of Perryton Parkway on a gas leak.

Monday, Nov. 27
6:45 a.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 400 block of Jupiter on a lift assist.

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls.

Wednesday, Nov. 22
2:01 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1300 block of West Kentucky and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical

Center.
3:50 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2700 block of North Hobart and transported a patient to PRMC.

3:56 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1500 block of West Kentucky. No transport.

4:57 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 200 block of South Cuyler. No transport.

7:39 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1000 block of North Dwight and transported a patient to PRMC.

Thursday, Nov. 23
12:11 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the corner of Davis and Buckler and transported two patients to PRMC.

1:15 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 200 block of West Kingsmill. No transport.

2:43 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2400 block of Cherokee. No transport.

8:11 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to Northwest Texas Hospital.

8:58 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 400 block of Faulkner and transported a patient to PRMC.

Friday, Nov. 24
9 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the corner of Gray County Road E and County Road 16 and transported a patient to PRMC.

2:41 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1400 block of Somerville and transported a patient to PRMC.

5:47 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of Wells and transported a patient to PRMC.

6:45 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a nursing facility and transported a patient to PRMC.

9:52 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 300 block of Anne and transported a patient to PRMC.

Saturday, Nov. 25
12:24 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to NWTH.

2:38 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of Beryl and transported a patient to PRMC.

This guy is easy to find

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — James Bergsten has an easy way to direct people to his house: Just type in Lincoln, NE, and search in Google maps.

The arrow that appears just happens to show the rest of the way.

"I tell it to people all the time," he said.

The arrow is in the same spot if you did the search on MapQuest or Yahoo! Maps.

"It is the city centroid," said MapQuest representative Dori Salcido. He said it "represents the geometric center of the polygon encompassing the city."

Technically, five other houses on Bergsten's block can also brag about being the center of Lincoln's Web universe.

Sales

Continued from Page 1

According to the Chicago-based research firm ShopperTrak RCT Corporation, sales for Black Friday along were \$8.96 billion, which rose six percent from last year.

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Drill

Continued from Page 1

five minutes," Courtney said. "Patrol cars will be responding 'code three.' Radio traffic will contain the words 'This is a drill or

this is an exercise.'

"We do not want to unnecessarily alarm the community or cause any response of parents and/or sightseers to the high school. Gray County Law Enforcement would like to thank all citizens in advance for their cooperation."

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Mutant hair might be record

JACKSON, Wis. (AP) — Jon Sanford takes good care of his hair, washing it regularly and conditioning it occasionally. Now he might break a record for that hair — on his arms.

One particularly long strand measured 4.1 inches. If the measurement is ruled official by Guinness World Records, Sanford will have topped the previous record of 3.96 inches.

"It's my mutant hair," said Sanford, 37.

Sanford is from Jackson, a town about 30 miles north-

west of Milwaukee. He downloaded the necessary forms from Guinness, faxed them back and received further directions.

"I need two witnesses whom I do not know and they have to be respected in the community," he said of the instructions.

So he turned to Jackson patrol officer Shane Wrucke and fire chief John Skodinski.

"We're not always saving lives and protecting property. We also do other things," Skodinski said.

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Viewpoints

Lord's Acre got its start from charitable action of one man

Folks called it the Lord's Acre. In addition to whatever they might put in the collection plate each week, many farmers used to give the proceeds from one acre of their crop land to their church each year. Though not as common as it used to be, the tradition has endured in some corners of Texas, particularly Taylor County.

But like most customs, it has evolved over the years. Farmers no longer earmark the bounty of an acre of their land to give away, but once a year the farmers, ranchers and local merchants in the southern part of Taylor County donate food, crafts and other items to be sold at auction to benefit their church and its benevolent fund.

In 11-mile wide, 17-mile deep Mulberry Canyon, about 20 miles west of Abilene, the Lord's Acre concept can be traced to a charitable act on the part of one man in the late 19th century.

Sam Butman, whose sprawling ranch covered much of the canyon, in 1894 donated some of his land for a school. That marked the beginning of Taylor County's School District No. 28, better known as the Butman School. Butman and other ranchers and farmers in the area ponied up enough money to build a one-room, 20 by 30 foot school house on the land the rancher had conveyed for public use. Then they hired a teacher from Kansas for \$65 a month.

By 1918, the school had enough students to justify a larger building, which the trustees paid for with the issuance of \$1,250 in bonds. A year later, the school qualified for state support for the first time.

In 1928, the community built a wooden, open-air tabernacle on the property. It became a gathering place for social events, political stump speeches and musical

and dramatic performances. The Butnam family also threw a rodeo and picnic at the tabernacle each year until World War II.

Mike Cox

Texas Tales



Eventually, the Butman School and 15 other small districts in Taylor County got folded into the Merkel Independent School District. Butman bought the land back from the Merkel ISD, but the family later deeded it to the Pioneer Memorial United Methodist Church, which opened in early 1951.

Two years later, pastor E.H. Phillips and one of his congre-

gants, Tom Russom, heard about a church that had a yearly Lord's Acre sale. They investigated the fund-raiser and returned full of enthusiasm.

"They came back and got it all started," recalls 82-year-old Nell Butman Brnovak, granddaughter of the man who gave the land for public use. "Used to be they auctioned hay, corn or pigs, but now it's mostly homemade food and crafts."

The sale takes place each year in the old tabernacle, which has since been walled in for greater creature comfort. As many as 150 people turn out for the pot luck dinner and the auction that follows it, hands down the biggest social event of the year in Mulberry Canyon.

"Aunt" Nell and her husband, Frank, have not missed a Lord's Acre sale since the event started in 1953. "And there's not much of anybody here to contest it," she

says. "We're the only old-timers left."

Always held the Saturday night before Thanksgiving, the event makes for a double November holiday for folks who live in and around Mulberry Canyon and its nearest town, Merkel.

"I used to start baking every Thursday," Nell continues. "I usually bring an Italian cream cake and a Bohemian coffee cake, but this year my back's been bothering me so I just did the coffee cake. It's an old recipe from my husband's family."

The church's most recent sale raised \$9,154 — a record. The biggest part of that was \$1,300 for a quilt made by some of the women in the congregation, but Judy Wilson's German chocolate cake fetched \$180, and 10 limited edition Bona Fide Original Real Texas

See ACRE, Page 5

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Nov. 27, the 331st day of 2006. There are 34 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 27, 1978, San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and City Supervisor Harvey Milk, a gay-rights activist, were shot to death inside City Hall by former supervisor Dan White.

On this date:

In 1701, astronomer Anders Celsius, inventor of the Celsius temperature scale, was born in Uppsala, Sweden.

In 1901, the U.S. Army War College was established in Washington.

In 1910, the Pennsylvania Railroad began service at New York's Pennsylvania Station.

In 1942, during World War II, the French navy at Toulon scuttled its ships and submarines to keep them out of the hands of the Nazis.

In 1945, Gen. George C. Marshall was named special U.S. envoy to China to try to end hostilities between the Nationalists and the Communists.

In 1953, playwright Eugene O'Neill died in Boston at age 65.

In 1970, Pope Paul VI, visiting the Philippines, was slightly wounded at the Manila airport by a dagger-wielding Bolivian painter disguised as a priest.

In 1973, the Senate voted 92-3 to confirm Gerald R. Ford as vice president, succeeding Spiro T. Agnew, who'd resigned.

In 1983, 183 people were killed when a Colombian Avianca Airlines Boeing 747 crashed near Madrid's Barajas airport.

In 1989, 107 people were killed when a bomb blamed by police on drug traffickers destroyed a Colombian jetliner.

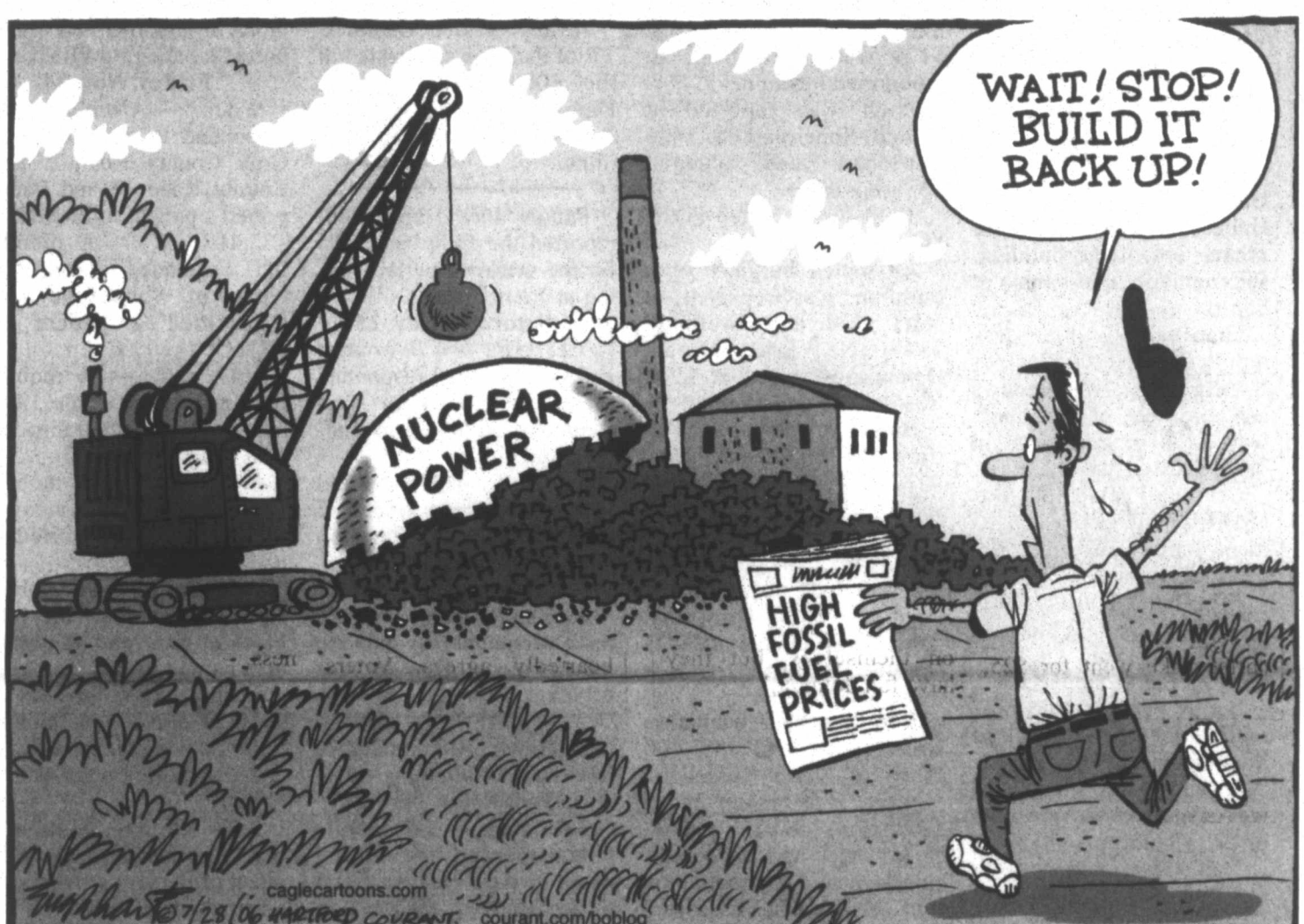
Ten years ago: A federal judge blocked enforcement of a California initiative to dismantle affirmative action, saying civil rights groups had a "strong probability" of proving it unconstitutional. Evan C. Hunziker, an American jailed by North Korea on spy charges, was set free, ending a three-month ordeal.

Five years ago: Afghan factions opened power-sharing talks outside Bonn, Germany.

One year ago: Doctors in France performed the world's first partial face transplant on a woman disfigured by a dog bite; Isabelle Dinoire received the lips, nose and chin of a brain-dead woman in a 15-hour operation.

'Nothing is more despicable than a professional talker who uses his words as a quack uses his remedies.'

— Francois Fenelon
French theologian
(1651-1715)



U.S. needs to leave Latin America alone

The latest polls show Hugo Chavez with better than a 20-point lead in the Venezuela presidential election, which will take place Dec. 3. The Bush administration has an ongoing slander campaign against him and is no doubt pouring money into the opposition coffers, as it has in the past.

The real question is what the U.S. will do after Chavez wins. One scheme being talked about is to foment a secessionist movement in the Zulia state. This happens to be where most of Venezuela's oil supplies are, and it is also the home state of Chavez's principal opponent, Manuel Rosales.

It is past time for the U.S. government to stop interfering in the internal affairs of other governments. Nothing Chavez has done or says he wants to do is harmful to the United States. The man has

won several elections. When he was overthrown by a coup most believe was sponsored by the U.S. (we immediately praised it), Chavez was restored within two days by an uprising of the people.

He easily won a recall election, and he overcame a lockout in the oil industry by the oligarchs who have previously run Venezuela to suit themselves.

Furthermore, he has made real progress in his struggle to eliminate poverty, opening free schools and universities, and providing health care and subsidized food stores. Venezuela still has problems, but with its economy growing at better than 10 percent, Chavez seems to

be on the right track.

The point for us to remember is that it is Venezuela's track and Venezuela's choice. The history of the United States and Latin America has been a history of subversion and outright military interventions, all designed to make sure the oligarchs remained in power. I think Latin Americans have had enough of American intervention in their internal affairs.

All of Chavez's foreign-policy initiatives have been to help people, not to bomb them or overthrow their governments. He's even provided cheap heating oil to some poor Americans. This year, he is expected to make 25

million gallons available at a 40 percent discount to people in New York City. He offered to help New Orleans after Katrina, but the Bush administration spurned his offer, of course.

There is also an element of racism in the opposition to Chavez. Historically, Latin America has been run by white oligarchs, descendants of the Spanish and Portuguese conquerors. Chavez is a mix of Indian, European and African. That doesn't sit well with many of the oligarchs. It says a lot when you realize that the election of Evo Morales in Bolivia is the first time in 500 years that a native Indian has been elected to the presidency of any Latin American country.

It's time for the American people to recognize the ugly

See REESE, Page 5

Charley Reese

Columnist



Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ Nov. 19
Houston Chronicle on paying for those with past ties with Jack Abramoff:

For the past year Texas Gov. Rick Perry has tried to defend the indefensible: spending more than \$1 million in public funds to hire private firms to lobby Congress on the state's behalf. Now that both houses are under the control of Democrats, Perry has lost his last flimsy justification for keeping the Federalist Group and Cassidy & Associates feeding at the public trough. The Federalist Group's lead Texas lobbyist, Drew Maloney, was a top aide

to then-House Majority Leader Tom DeLay. In that job Maloney raised money for the successful GOP effort to win control of the Texas House. Cassidy & Associates' lead lobbyist for the state is Todd Boulanger, a former partner of convicted and imprisoned felon Jack Abramoff.

The 12 Democratic members of the Texas delegation to the next Congress have written a letter to Perry rightly calling for an end to the outside lobbyists' contracts. They claim the Constitution assigns that function to the representatives elected by the people, and the lobbyists in question never made any contacts with Democratic lawmakers concerning state priorities. "Texas House Democrats do not need or want any assistance from pri-

vate lobbyists to represent the state of Texas," the letter states. "Taxpayers already pay Texas' elected officials to represent them, and the state of Texas has too many pressing needs such as education, health care and public safety to give any more taxpayer money away to Washington lobbyists."

Democrats are not the only critics of the lobbyist contracts. Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn temporarily froze payments to one of the lobbying groups last summer, citing shoddy documentation for services rendered. In her opinion, Texas law prohibits the use of tax dollars to lobby elected officials, influence elections or support candidates at the state or feder-

See PAYING, Page 5

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Retailers have good start, but will it last?

NEW YORK (AP) — After what appeared to be a strong start to the 2006 holiday shopping season, the question is whether shoppers will have the same zeal for shopping between now and the end of the season when the discounts may not be as steep.

Stores and malls that opened as early as midnight on Thursday drew bigger-than-expected crowds for discounts on such items as flat-screen TVs and toys, and robust sales for the first day of the season offset slower business as the weekend wore on, according to early reports.

The biggest winners appeared to be electronics chains such as Best Buy Co. Inc. and popular-priced

department stores including J.C. Penney Co., which pulled in shoppers with good deals. Yet Wal-Mart Stores Inc., which promised the most aggressive discounting ever, was an exception, announcing Saturday that same-store sales for the month would be weaker than expected. Wal-Mart has struggled for months to appeal to both higher-income shoppers and low-price fans.

"The hysteria has come down a bit, but it was a great start," said Bill Martin, co-founder of ShopperTrak RCT Corp., which tracks total sales at more than 45,000 mall-based retail outlets. But he said the true measure of the season is whether "retailers can sus-

tain the loyalty and excitement" until the end.

Shoppers were clearly looking for as big a discount as possible.

"I started Friday morning at 5 a.m.," said Kim Neuharth, shopping at the Jordan Creek Town Center in West Des Moines, Iowa. "At Kohl's and Target, we got good deals. I bought my stepdaughter a dress for the prom for like 50 bucks. It was originally something like \$100 at Younkers. It was on sale and I had a coupon for 20 percent off."


Martin expects that total retail sales for the first weekend of the season will be higher than last year, boosted by Friday's better-than-expected business. Total sales rose 6 percent to \$8.96 billion that day, compared to a year earlier, according to ShopperTrak. The company planned to report Saturday's results on Monday.

Retailers' strong performance was a direct result of their aggressive discounting and promotions, designed to get consumers to start shopping early. More stores and malls opened at midnight Friday, and Toys "R" Us Inc. and Sears Holdings Corp.'s Sears stores opened at 5 a.m., an hour earlier than in the past.

Jerry Storch, CEO and chairman of Toys "R" Us, said he was pleased with weekend results, noting that sales were strong across the board. In addition to Mattel Inc.'s Fisher-Price's T.M.X. Elmo, hot toys include Fisher-Price's Kids Tough Digital Camera, and some of the toy retailer's exclusives like VTech Holdings Ltd.'s pink Nitro Notebook, a laptop computer.

Gail Lavielle, spokeswoman at Sears Holdings, which also owns Kmart

See SALES, Page 6



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Reese

Continued from Page 4

aspects of U.S. foreign policy and demand that they be halted. You'll notice that while we are supposed to be a democratic society, foreign-policy issues are virtually never debated. People, like dumb peasants, are expected to accept what the administration tells them.

Let's compare Bush and Chavez. So far as I know, Chavez is not responsible for the death of a single human being. In Bush's

case, he's responsible for around 200,000 deaths, assuming you accept the low figure of casualties in Iraq due to the war. Chavez cut a deal with Cuba to provide free health care to the poor; Bush backed legislation that forbids the U.S. from bargaining with drug companies for lower prescription-drug prices. Bush has said he doesn't read newspapers. Chavez reads books.

Personally, I'd swap Bush for Chavez in a New York minute.

—Write to Charley Reese at P.O. Box 2446, Orlando, FL 32802.

Paying

Continued from Page 4

al level. Perry's spokeswoman, Kathy Walt, said her boss would request that officials in the Texas Office of State-Federal Relations review the contracts. That is the same agency that rubber stamped the deals at the governor's urging.

Texas House Democratic leader Jim Dunning of Waco contends that no further review of the matter is necessary. "With over a million tax dollars being wasted, the time for 'evaluations' and 'reviews' is over," he wrote Perry. "It is time to take these lobbyists off the state payroll."

The Chronicle wholeheartedly agrees. Voters

elect U.S. senators and representatives to represent Texas interests in Washington. Those officials have ample budgets to hire qualified staff to carry out that function. The governor's precedent-setting decision to hire politically tainted lobbyists paid with taxpayer dollars was wrong when he made it in 2003. The lobbyists' contributions to Republican officials only make the deal more suspicious.

If the Texas Office of State-Federal Relations won't cancel the contracts, the Legislature should clearly prohibit state agencies from hiring private lobbyists. That way, no Lone Star politician will be able to line cronies' pockets under the rubric that they are doing the people's business.

Acre

Continued from Page 4

calendars by Beaumont-born, but Merkel-raised cartoonist Roger T. Moore brought \$100 each. Nell's coffee cake went for \$25,

the lowest price anyone recalls it ever selling for.

"This Lord's Acre deal is a part of Texas most people don't know about," Moore says. "It's the real Texas, but now you have to hunt for things like this. West Texas people like to depend on themselves, but they have fun doing it."

Events calendar

• **Pampa Meals on Wheels** will host "Music and a Meal" from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. every Tuesday during the month of November. Various groups will be featured at 12 p.m. The Eighth Grade Girls Chorale Group, will perform Tuesday. To find out more, contact Meals on Wheels at 669-1007. Cost of the meal will be \$5.

• **Altrusa** will host "Soup With Mrs. Claus" from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday in the Old Pampa Hardware Building, 120 N. Cuyler. The meal will be \$5 per person. Carry-out will be available. Pictures with Mrs. Claus will be \$2.

• **The Texas Department of State Health Services** will be offering immunization clinics for vaccines that give protection against several childhood diseases including polio, diphtheria, lock jaw (tetanus), whooping cough (pertussis), measles, rubella, mumps, HIB (haemophilus influenzae Type B) and chickenpox (varicella). Flu vaccines may also be offered at designated clinics. The TDH will charge money to help with the cost of keeping the clinic open. The amount charged will be based on family

income and size, and the ability to pay. The following clinics will be offered: 9:30-11:45 a.m. and 1-3:30 p.m., Dec. 6 and 20, TDH, 736 S. Cuyler, Pampa.

• **Amarillo Museum of Art** will have its annual "Children's Christmas Workshop" from 10-11:30 a.m. Dec. 9. The event is open to children between the ages of 4 and 10. Participants will make Christmas ornaments and cards. Music will be heard and refreshments served. Cost of the workshop is \$15. Pre-registration is required as attendance is limited. For more information, call (806) 371-5050.

• **Pampa Community Concert Association** Presents "Live On Stage" has released its current concert schedule. The schedule is as follows: "Puttin' on the Hitz, A Salute to Irving Berlin," 7:30 p.m., Feb. 15, Borger High School Auditorium; Bronn and Katherine Journey, harpist and vocalist, 7:30 p.m., March 19, M.K. Brown Auditorium. Membership fees are \$30 for adults, \$70 for families; and \$15 for students. For more information, call 665-0343 or 665-2631.



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Dems promise oversight probes

WASHINGTON (AP) — The incoming chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee is promising an array of oversight investigations that could provoke sharp disagreement with Republicans and the White House.

Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich., pledged that Democrats, swept to power in the Nov. 7 elections, would govern "in the middle" next year. But the veteran lawmaker has a reputation as one who has never avoided a fight and he did not back away from that reputation on Sunday.

Among the investigations he said he wants the committee to undertake: —The new Medicare drug benefit. "There are lots and lots and lots of scandals," he said, without citing specifics.

—Spending on government contractors in Iraq, including Halliburton Co., the Texas-based oil services conglomerate once led by Vice President Dick Cheney.

—An energy task force overseen by Cheney. It "was carefully cooked to provide only participation by oil companies and energy companies," Dingell said.

—A review of food and drug safety, particularly in the area of nutritional supplements.

Meanwhile, the incoming chairman of the tax-writing House Ways and Means Committee said his committee would not take on contentious issues, such as extending expiring tax cuts or overhauling Social Security, at the beginning of the year. Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y., said Democrats do not want a fight with President Bush and want to prove they can govern.

"The first thing we're going to do is try to work together on things we know we can accomplish," Rangel said. "Rather than have the committee against the president, it's not going to happen," Rangel said.

Rep. Barney Frank, set to lead the House Financial Services Committee, said issues such as raising the minimum wage will be popular, even though the idea has been identified with liberals.

"In my own committee, the biggest difference you're going to see is we're going to return to try to help deal with the housing crisis that blights so many parts of our country socially and economically," said Frank, D-Mass.

Pig smooch



Students with perfect attendance for the second six weeks grading period at Pampa High School were treated to a "Parking Lot Picnic and Pig Kissing Party" recently. Assistant Principal Bill Jenkins cooked hamburgers for the perfect attendance honorees while Assistant Principal Patti Macumber made sure Ag teacher Randy Dunn's pig had plenty of lipstick. Principal Danny Seabourn was elected to do the honors, crowning the little porker as an honorary Harvester. The juniors had top attendance percentages for the term with 96.2 percent which earned them an early release on Monday.

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Sales

Continued from Page 5

stores, said Sunday the stores were busy through Friday and Saturday. At Sears, flat-screen TVs, digital cameras and Craftsman tools were the hot items. At Kmart, holiday decor including Christmas trees, jewelry and toys were the most popular.

Meanwhile, online shopping was also strong on Friday. ComScore Networks, which tracks Internet spending, reported Sunday that online sales, excluding travel, auctions and corporate purchases, rose 42 percent to \$434 million on the day after Thanksgiving, compared to the same day a year ago.

ComScore expects online sales of almost \$600 million on Monday, known as "Cyber Monday," the kickoff to the shopping season for e-tailers. That would be a 24 percent increase from the \$484 million in sales raked in on Cyber Monday last year.

Retailers were optimistic but also a little uneasy going into the season, concerned that economic factors like the slowing housing market might make shoppers more conservative. And many shoppers interviewed during the weekend said they were trying to be budget-conscious.

Heather Ackors, 24, who was shopping on Friday at Wal-Mart in the Kansas City area suburb of Roeland Park, Kan., said she planned to spend less this year.

"Less, less is more," Ackors said. "You've got to budget when you have a little kid. You've got to be careful. You can't be spending up all the food budget on toys."

Still, the discounts accomplished what they were supposed to do for many retailers — get consumers spending early. Penney said in a statement Saturday that the holiday shopping season was "off to a good start."

Karen MacDonald, spokeswoman at Taubman Centers Inc., which operates or owns 23 malls in 11 states, on Sunday reported "two solid days of post-Thanksgiving business." According to a sampling of half of Taubman's malls, business was up in the low to mid-single digits so far this weekend, she said. The most popular items were consumer electronics, cosmetics and toys; the weakest category

was home furnishings.

Billie Scott, spokeswoman at Simon Property Group, which owns or operates 175 malls in 38 states, said that business was at least as good as a year ago.

But Wal-Mart had a slow start despite attracting crowds for special offers on flat-screen TVs and other items. The discounter said it expects to report a same-store sales decline of 0.1 percent in November, slightly below its projections for flat sales for the month. The results puzzled analysts as Wal-Mart has stepped up its discounting throughout the month, including offering certain generic drugs for as low as \$4 per prescription.

As for Black Friday, C. Britt Beemer, chairman of America's Research Group, speculated that Wal-Mart customers might have looked only for special offers and so didn't shop the entire store.

A clearer picture of how retailers' sales fared over the Thanksgiving weekend will emerge Thursday, when merchants report monthly sales results for November.

"Consumers wanted bargains, and more bargains," said Beemer. "You have to give the customer what they want at the price they want to pay or else you will lose them."

Nicole Machica, who was at the Del Amo Fashion Center in Torrance, Calif., had already spent a third of her projected \$200 gift budget by Saturday afternoon, business was up in the low to mid-single digits so far this weekend, she said. The most popular items were consumer electronics, cosmetics and toys; the weakest category

Missouri fire claims 10 in group home

ANDERSON, Mo. (AP) — A fire gutted a group home for the mentally ill in southwest Missouri early today, killing 10 people and injuring 25, authorities said.

Firefighters brought the blaze at the Anderson Guest House under control just before daylight, but blackened cinderblock walls were all that remained standing.

The home had 33 residents and two employees inside when the fire was reported around 1 a.m., Highway Patrol spokesman Kent Casey said.

The dead ranged in age from early 20s to the elderly, he said. Nineteen people were taken to area hospitals and six were treated at the scene, Casey said.

Authorities were trying to determine if the fatal blaze

was linked to a smaller fire at the facility Saturday morning, Assistant Fire Marshal Greg Carrell said.

He did not believe anyone was injured in the first fire, which was still under investigation when the second blaze began.

Seven people in Monday's fire were treated at Freeman Neosho Hospital for smoke inhalation and released, hospital spokeswoman Emily Stanley said. Conditions of the other injured were not known.

Those treated at the scene were at another facility operated by the home's owner, Joplin River of Life Ministries Inc., Casey said.

The cause was under investigation, and names of the victims had not been released.

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Police shooting in New York City draws outrage, protests

NEW YORK (AP) — On the day his honeymoon was to have started, Sean Bell's memory and the manner of his death — shot, unarmed, by police — dominated the latest outcry against city officers' use of deadly force.

Several hundred people held a vigil for Bell on Sunday, some shouting "No justice, no peace!" and demanding the ouster of Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly. Many counted off to 50, the number of rounds estimated to have been fired by police at Bell, 23, and two other unarmed men in a car early

Saturday, hours before he was to have married the mother of his two children.

The five officers were placed on paid administrative leave and stripped of their guns, said Paul Browne, chief spokesman for the NYPD. Police and prosecutors promised a full investigation, and Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Kelly planned to meet with community leaders at City Hall today.

None of that stemmed the fury of a community outraged by the shootings.

"We cannot allow this to continue to happen," the Rev. Al Sharpton said at the gathering

outside Mary Immaculate Hospital, where one of the two wounded men was in critical condition. "We've got to understand that all of us were in that car."

Relatives of the men attended the vigil and rally but none spoke publicly.

Kelly has said police shot at the car after it drove forward and struck an undercover officer and an unmarked police minivan. The information was based on interviews with witnesses and two officers who did not fire their weapons, he said.

However, Trini Wright, a dancer at the

strip club where Bell's bachelor party was held, told the Daily News she was going to a diner with the men and was putting her makeup bag in the trunk of their car when the police minivan appeared.

"The minivan came around the corner and smashed into their car. And they (the police) jumped out shooting," Wright, 28, told the newspaper for today's editions. "No 'stop.' No 'freeze.' No nothing."

Kelly had said Saturday it was too early to say whether the shooting was justified.

Prius engineer dies #3 NASCAR in airplane crash

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A Toyota Motor Corp. executive engineer described as the "American father of the Prius" and who was among the country's top experts on gas-electric hybrid vehicles died in a plane crash, officials said Sunday.

David Hermance, 59, was piloting an experimental plane when it went down Saturday afternoon about 50 yards off Los Angeles' San Pedro area.

A search team found the wreckage of the two-passenger Interavia E-3 aircraft submerged in 60 feet of water Sunday morning, county Fire Capt. Mark Savage said.

"The plane was coming straight down, like it couldn't pull out of a steep dive, and it just hit the water," a witness, Rick Wadlow of Palos Verdes, told KABC-TV.

Hermance was executive engineer for Advanced Technology Vehicles at Toyota's technical center in the Los Angeles area, company spokesman Mike Michels said. There, he was key in developing the gas-

electric Prius and bringing it to the American market, where it gained popularity for its fuel efficiency.

While much of the car's technology was developed in Japan, Hermance was perhaps the "American father of the Prius" for his tireless work evaluating and promoting it in the U.S., longtime colleague Bill Reinert said.

"When that car came out, no one knew what it was," said Reinert, a Toyota national manager. "Dave dedicated his life to championing this technology."

Hermance joined Toyota in 1991 as a senior manager, the became a general manager in the company's powertrain department. Before that, he worked for General Motors.

"He was widely recognized as the most authoritative individual on hybrid power vehicles in the U.S.," Michels said.

Hermance, who was married with two grown children, was believed to be the only person aboard the plane.



Howard and Mattie Adamson peer inside the #3 NASCAR car driven by Dale Earnhart Sr. on the lot of Culberson Stowers Inc. of Pampa recently.

As we count our blessings this holiday season, we realize that your friendship is at the top of the list, and for this we are truly thankful.

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to a wonderful man for two years. We both have daughters the same age, born the same year. They will be 17 next March. My husband works all day and I stay-home and take care of the kids. (I also have two other girls, both under 10.) My problem is the 16-year-olds sneak around and do things behind my back when they are told they cannot do them. One big issue is that although my ex has custody of my daughter, she stays with me because she cannot be trusted alone at his house. My husband and I bought the older girls cell phones to keep tabs on them when they are not at home. But the cell phones have caused so much arguing in the house that it's unreal. Both girls have been told they cannot talk after midnight, but every time I get the bill, there are calls after midnight. I'm talking about 1 a.m., 2 a.m. -- even 4 a.m. They say I am wrong not to let them talk after 12 because they are adults, I am a mean mother, and I just want to prevent them from having a life. Now my daughter is saying that as soon as she's 17, she is moving out because she cannot stand it here. What should I do? -- **STRESSED MOTHER IN MICHIGAN**

DEAR STRESSED MOTHER: Confiscate the cell phones at bedtime. Your daughter may be 16, but she's acting like a 10-year-old. The person who pays for the cell phone makes the rules. It's up to you to enforce them.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 13-year-old girl in the eighth grade. I get treated like a slut every day. Boys keep coming up to me asking me to have sex with them and be their little slave girl. I say no, but they won't stop! About five months ago I almost committed suicide. I try to ignore them, really I do. Abby, could you please help me? Please! -- **NOT A SLUT IN S. CAROLINA**

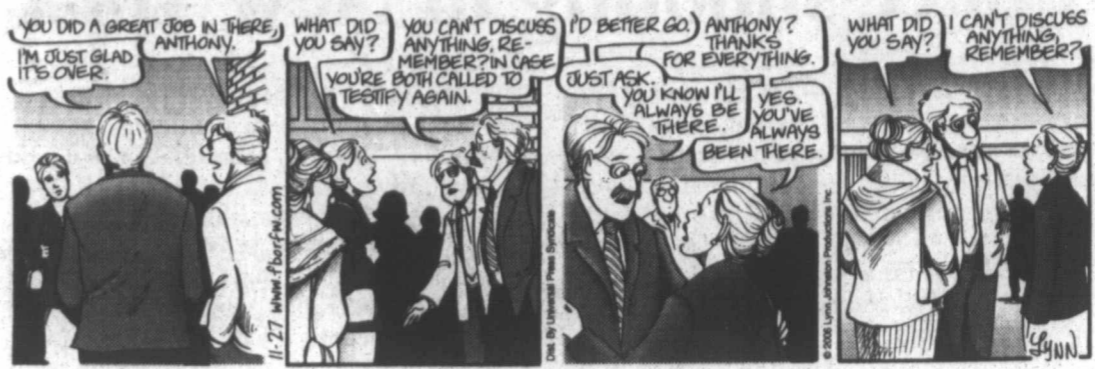
DEAR NOT: There's a name what these boys are doing -- it's called sexual harassment. It is very important that you tell a

teacher what has been going on, because by law, the school administration can -- and must -- put a stop to it. These boys think they are being sophisticated, clever and funny when in reality they are none of the above. They need to be punished. And you, my dear, may need professional counseling to get over the trauma and depression their foolishness has caused. Please clip this and show it to your parents and the teacher you confide in. Your problem is serious and needs to be dealt with immediately.

DEAR ABBY: I have lost three friends, and I'm hoping you can tell me where I went wrong. If this had happened just once, I would suspect that I was overly sensitive. But three times? These three friends are now widows. When they lost their husbands, my husband and I sent condolences, attended the funerals and attempted to be supportive. Since losing their husbands, Friend No. 1 has been exceptionally cool, Friend No. 2 left me abruptly in the middle of a sentence, and Friend No. 3 snipes at me at what seems every opportunity. What is wrong? -- **PUZZLED IN WISCONSIN**

DEAR PUZZLED: Your friends may simply be grieving, or they may be envious that you still have your husband. Or each could have a different reason. I don't know these women. Frankly, your letter is unusual, given the fact that more often I hear from widows who tell me they are sad because the couples with whom they used to socialize have now "dropped" THEM. Make another attempt to include these friends in a social outing or invite each over for a home-cooked meal. If they refuse -- or accept, yet still seem cool or unfriendly -- then leave them alone, and rest assured that you made the effort to reach out to them.

For Better Or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS	38 Madrid men	39 Neighborhood	40 Church parts	41 Informer, slangily (Var.)	42 Saturday's answer
1 Thick cut	2 Traditions	3 Gather together	4 "Night Moves" singer	5 Torch holder	6 Half of Congress
5 See-through	7 Erode	8 Track bets	9 Neighbor-hoods	10 Crooner	11 Mapping
10 Crooner	12 Ocean	13 Angry group	14 "Night Moves" singer	15 Tutor's units	16 Addition column
11 Sweet-talks	17 Snoop group: Abbr.	18 Gist	19 Road rescue	20 "Aw, shucks!"	21 Eric of "Munch"
12 Mecca native	21 "Blowin' in the Wind" singer	22 Church tenets	23 Company	24 Butte setting	25 Period of growth
13 Power problem	24 Butte setting	25 Period of growth	26 Swamp	27 San Diego player	28 Rob's TV wife
14 Tutor's units	27 Swamp	28 Rob's TV wife	29 San Diego player	30 Go in	31 T-bone, e.g.
15 Snoop group: Abbr.	29 San Diego player	30 Go in	31 T-bone, e.g.	32 Fall mo.	
16 "Aw, shucks!"	30 Rob's TV wife	31 T-bone, e.g.	32 Fall mo.		
17 Eric of "Munch"	31 T-bone, e.g.	32 Fall mo.			
18 Some change	32 Fall mo.				
19 Over-bearing					
20 Skunk output					
21 Angry group					
22 Col.'s boss					
23 Curly-haired pets					
24 Welcome sight?					
25 Marching insect					
26 Plummer of "Pulp Fiction"					
27 Mandolin's kin					

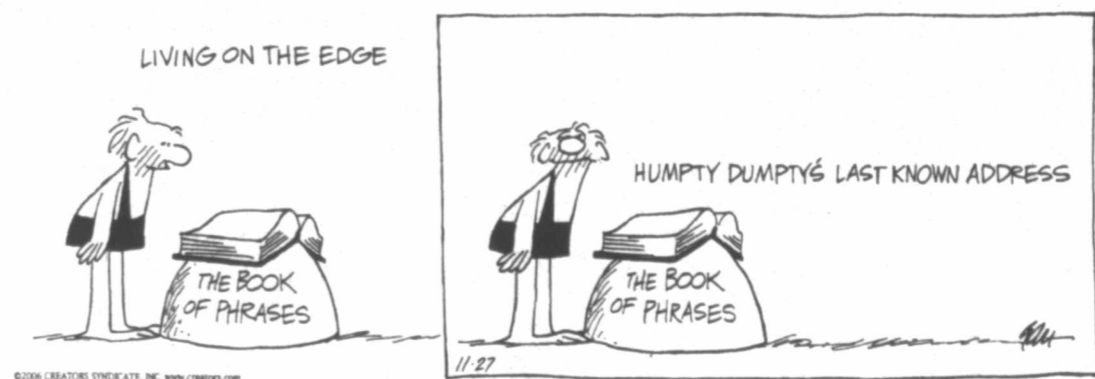
Marmaduke



The Family Circus



B.C.



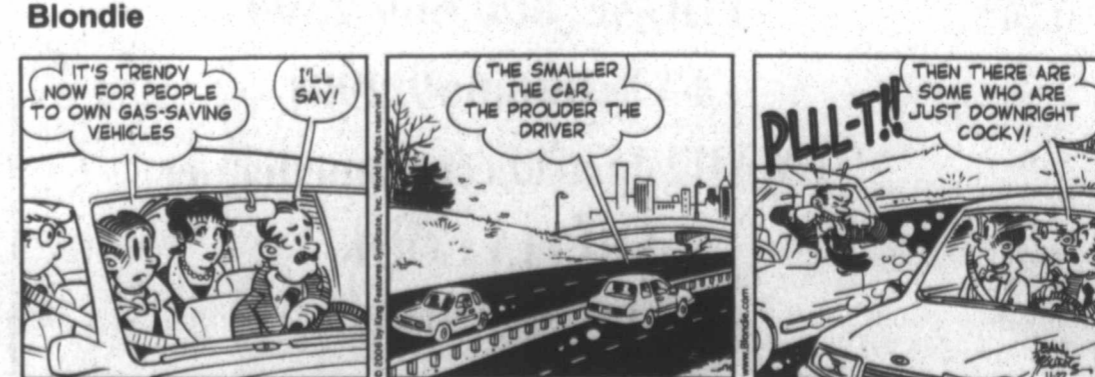
Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



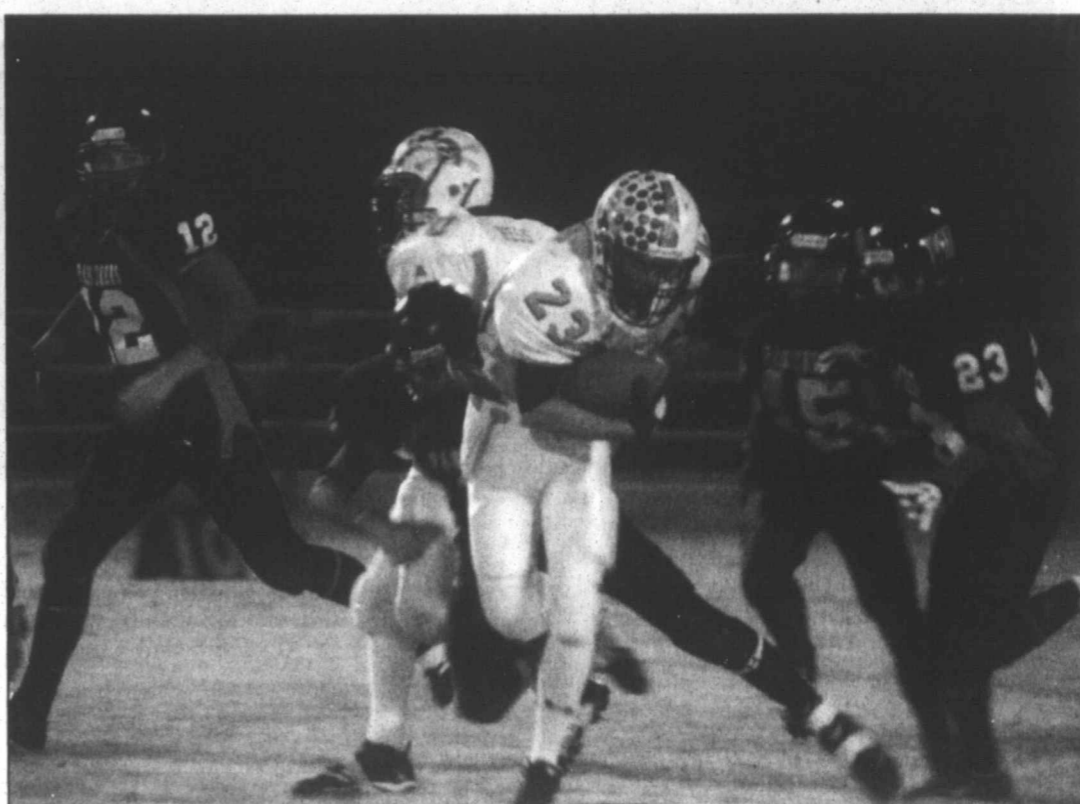
Blondie



Flo & Friends



Sports Day



Pampa News photos by DAVID BOWSER
Lefors Pirate Tory Coombes, left, avoids two Whitharral Panthers during Saturday night's Six Man football showdown at Silverton for the area championship. At right, Lefors Pirate Cameron Kline tries to outdistabce his pursuers.

Pirates put up effort, but fall to Whitharral Panthers

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

SILVERTON -- The Pirates went farther than any other Six Man football squad in Lefors ever has, but that ended Saturday night when the Whitharral Panthers sank the Pirate ship 14-59 here in the quarterfinals.

The Pirates, said Coach Joey Czubinski, are still the district champions.

"Nobody can take that away from them," Czubinski said.

The Pirates had difficulty Saturday night containing Jake Baker, a 190-pound back, who threw, ran and kicked for a majority of the Panther's points at Payne Field in Silverton.

Equally frustrating to the Pirate defense was Jacob Flores, a 140-

pound senior, who scored three of the Panthers' touchdowns.

Whitharral capitalized on an interception early in the first quarter with a touchdown by Flores, but Baker missed the kick.

Cameron Klein, Lefors junior, answered with a six-point touchdown and followed it with a kick between the goal posts for two more points, but Whitharral came back with another touchdown by Baker, who made his second kick work, ending the first quarter with the Panthers leading 14 to 8.

Baker ran in another touchdown as the second quarter started and again kicked the goal to take the lead 22-8.

Whitharral's Tell Rutledge, a 160-pound sophomore, scored another touchdown with a little

over five minutes left in the first half, and Baker again split the uprights.

The Panthers were again able to capitalize on an interception and Baker scored another touchdown and kicked the extra points, closing the first half with a Whitharral lead of 38-8.

As the second half opened, Flores caught a pass in the end zone and Baker passed for the extra point, bringing the score to 45-8.

Flores made another touchdown a few minutes later, but Baker's kick was blocked.

With less than three minutes left in the third quarter, Klein again took the ball in for a touchdown, but he couldn't make the kick.

The Panthers ended the game with a touchdown by Anthony

Quilantan, a 165-pound senior. Baker kicked the goal to make the final score 59-14, ending the contest in the third quarter under the 45-point mercy rule.

Czubinski praised his players and assistant coaches as well as the fans and community.

"We achieved school history this year, and although we would liked to have gone further, this year was a success," Czubinski said. "We lost to a good team."

Czubinski said he couldn't be prouder to be the Pirate coach.

Despite the score, the game statistics were relatively close.

"We were only outgained 255 to 202 in total yards," Czubinski said, "but we had four turnovers, two interceptions and two fumbles, that were critical."

Whitharral, he said, played solidly with no mistakes.

"We needed to play better to win," Czubinski said, "and we didn't get it done."

Still, he said he respects the effort of the Pirate players.

"They never stopped playing hard, and they have my respect always."

Klein had 12 carries for 89 yards, including a 39-yard touchdown run.

Brent Roberson had 15 carries for 45 yards, including a nine-yard touchdown run. He completed six of nine passes for 49 yards.

Tory Coombes had three receptions for 32 yards and two carries for nine yards.

Young, Leinart making the most of their chances in NFL

By The Associated Press

Vince Young and Matt Leinart showcased the skills that made them first-round draft picks after super college careers. Young even got a win — in record-setting fashion.

The third overall pick in this year's draft, Young rallied Tennessee (4-7) from a 21-point deficit in the final quarter Sunday for a 24-21 win over the New York Giants. It was the biggest fourth-quarter comeback by a rookie quarterback, topping John Elway's 19-point rally with Denver on Dec. 11, 1983, against Indianapolis.

"The legend of Vince Young began a long time ago," said Titans receiver Brandon Jones, who caught the TD pass that tied the game.

Young agreed. "It's a sneak peek of what's to happen not just for me, but this team in general," Young said of a club that has won four of its last six in matching last year's victory total

with five games left.

Leinart wasn't so successful for Arizona. He completed 31 of 52 passes for a career-high 405 yards, but had two interceptions and only one TD — a 9-yard pass to Anquan Boldin with 39 seconds to play — in a 31-26 loss at Minnesota.

Larry Fitzgerald Jr., had 11 catches for 172 yards. Boldin made nine receptions for 136 yards for the Cardinals (2-9).

"This is the first time we've played pretty well on the road and had a chance to win at the end," Leinart said. "I thought we showed a lot of fight. ... All around I thought it was a great effort, we just ran out of time."

Elsewhere Sunday, it was New England 17, Chicago 13; Indianapolis 45, Philadelphia 21; Baltimore 27, Pittsburgh 0; Cincinnati 30, Cleveland 0; San Diego 21, Oakland 14; New Orleans 31, Atlanta 13; Washington 17, Carolina 13; Buffalo 27, Jacksonville 24; the

New York Jets 26, Houston 11; and St. Louis 21, San Francisco 17.

Tonight, Green Bay is at Seattle. The weekend opened on Thanksgiving Day, when Miami beat Detroit 27-10, Dallas took Tampa Bay 38-10, and Kansas City defeated Denver 19-10.

Titans 24, Giants 21

At Nashville, Young ran for a touchdown and threw for two more in the final 9:35, finishing with a career-high 249 yards passing. Rob Bironas kicked a 49-yard field goal with 6 seconds left to win it.

Adam "Pacman" Jones intercepted two passes and had a 23-yard punt return that revived his teammates in the fourth quarter.

The comeback topped the Titans' previous best fourth-quarter rally from 15 points on Nov. 1, 1987, against Cincinnati. It was the biggest in the NFL since Indianapolis came back from 21 down in the fourth period at Tampa Bay on Oct. 6, 2003, and won 38-25.

"Wow!" Titans coach Jeff Fisher said.

The Giants (6-5) lost their third straight and fell a game behind the Dallas Cowboys (7-4) in the NFC East going into next week's game in the Meadowlands. They were victimized by a penalty and a missed sack on fourth-down plays that could have ended Tennessee's chances.

"I don't have the words to talk about it right now, and I probably won't when I see it. We're going to be sick about this one forever," Giants coach Tom Coughlin said.

Vikings 31, Cardinals 26

At Minneapolis, Leinart wasn't the only effective QB. Brad Johnson threw for 271 yards and three touchdowns, while Chester Taylor added 136 yards rushing and a touchdown for the Vikings (5-6). Minnesota's defense forced five turnovers and allowed just 17 yards rushing to snap a four-game losing streak.

The Cardinals (2-9) got a 99-

yard kickoff return for a touchdown by J.J. Arrington on the opening play of the game and a 99-yard fumble return for a score by Adrian Wilson in the fourth, but couldn't overcome turnovers, penalties and a suddenly productive Vikings offense. The two 99-yard returns were the first pair of such length since Dallas had a 101- and 100-yarder in 1962.

Dennis Green lost in his return to the Metrodome, where he coached the Vikings for 10 seasons.

Patriots 17, Bears 13

Benjamin Watson hung onto Tom Brady's 2-yard pass in the end zone to win a sloppy game. Patriots cornerback Asante Samuel had three interceptions.

Playing on their new artificial turf, the Patriots (8-3) persevered against the Bears (9-2), who had allowed the fewest points in the league, 120. But New England was the second stingiest at 131.

See NFL, Page 10

Sports briefs

Girls soccer begins practice

Pampa's girls soccer team will hold the first practice of the season at 4 p.m. today on the practice fields by the baseball and softball fields, according to Trent Davis, girls assistant soccer coach.

Davis also announced that there will be two alumni soccer games on Jan. 6, at noon and 2:30 p.m.

The alumni games are still in the planning stages, but coaches wanted to get the word out as soon as possible. More information will be forthcoming.

Leal takes 2nd in Amarillo tourney

Richard Leal, a Pampa High School senior, took second place in the 119-pound boys division at the Panhandle Nationals Wrestling Tournament in Amarillo over the weekend.

The tournament, which featured more than 800 wrestlers from Texas, Colorado, New Mexico and beyond, was held at the Amarillo Civic Center Coliseum.

Leal was a UIL Texas State qualifier last season for the Harvesters.

Parker heats up late for Spurs win

By The Associated Press

With the Spurs' lead quickly disappearing in the fourth quarter, San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich knew exactly what to say, and to whom.

"He told me to be more aggressive," Tony Parker said. "Basically I was doing nothing for three quarters, so he wanted me to shoot more."

Parker scored 12 of his 20 points in the fourth quarter, and the Spurs beat the Seattle SuperSonics 98-78 Sunday night.

After sitting for nearly 7 minutes, Parker re-entered with 9:14 left and the Spurs' lead down to 74-71. Determined to be more aggressive, Parker scored 10 points in a 13-2 run that turned the close game into a rout.

In other NBA games, it was: Toronto 92, Indiana 83; Phoenix 119, Portland 101; Denver 103, Los Angeles Clippers 88; and the Los Angeles Lakers 99, New Jersey Nets 93.

The Spurs are the only unbeaten road team left in the NBA, and the fourth

team in the last 10 years to start 7-0 or better on the road. They will be tested twice more on their current three-game trip — Monday night at Golden State and Wednesday in Utah.

Parker made six of seven shots in the fourth, scoring three times driving in the lane and three times on jumpers. The Spurs outscored Seattle 27-15 and improved upon the best road start in franchise history. San Antonio has won 12 straight regular-season road games dating to last season.

Tim Duncan scored 18 points and grabbed 16 rebounds, and made team history, despite the efforts of Seattle's defense. The eight-time All-Star became the third Spurs' player to eclipse 15,000 points in his career, joining David Robinson and George Gervin. Duncan needed 10 points, and reached the milestone number when reserve Nick Collison was called for goaltending on Duncan's short jumper with 2:05 left in the first half.

Ray Allen led Seattle with 21 points

and Collison added 15, but the Sonics were held to a season-low 78 points and Rashard Lewis was held to season-low eight points, 15 below his average.

Afterward, Seattle coach Bob Hill was extremely frustrated with the play of his bench.

"There is no help for the first group," Hill said. "Our first group missed a lot of shots around the basket because of their length, which has been a problem for us. And as soon as we go to the bench, it's just a struggle to score points."

Aside from Collison, Seattle got 10 points from its reserves. Earl Watson made just one of eight shots.

The Spurs were without Manu Ginobili, bothered by a lower back contusion suffered in the third quarter of Friday's loss against Dallas. Brent Barry picked up some of the scoring slack with all 12 of his points in the first half.

See NBA, Page 10

Rebs beat Pampa to take Lions Club tournament

By **DONNY HOOPER**
Special to The News

The Tascosa Rebels defeated the Pampa Harvesters in the Championship game of the Lions Club - VFW Invitational Tournament Saturday night to claim the top spot in the second annual event. Tascosa won the game 76 to 64.

For the Rebels (4-2) it was one of the most complete games they have played all season and for Pampa (2-4) it was one of those games where they made several runs but just couldn't get within striking distance in the fourth quarter to regain the lead.

The Rebels would take the lead at the end of the first quarter 14 to 13 and would gain even more momentum in the second by outscoring Pampa 17 to 8, making the lead at halftime 33 to 21. The Harvesters scored 16 points in the third quarter following a 10-point effort from Freshman Alex Clendening. In the fourth, Pampa would

have its biggest point production with 28 and would pull to within 9 points midway through the stanza. Tascosa scored 26 in that quarter to seal the victory.

Clendening would lead the Harvesters in scoring with 15 and would be named to the all tournament team. Tyler Hall chipped in 14 points and was also selected to the all tournament team. Alex Torres was in double figures with 12 points, Trent Harris finished with 10, Blake Sieck dropped in 7 and Mark Stone had 6 points.

The leading scorer of the game was Tascosa's Drew Taylor who finished with 25. He was also named to the All Tournament Team along with Jon Davis.

Pampa advanced to the championship game with wins over Cornerstone Christian Academy and the Tascosa JV. Tascosa advanced to the championship with wins over Texas Can Academy and Cornerstone Christian

Impressive record



Courtesy photo

The O.C.B. men's softball team made a clean sweep of the 2006 softball season winning the spring, summer and fall leagues with a 46-1 record. The team won 65 games in a row before being upset in the last regular game of the year. **First row, left to right, J.R. Miller, Dwight Nickelberry. Second row, Chad Clarity, Matt Archibald, Jeff Cloud. Third row, David Jenkins, Clint Miller, Jeff Warren, Allen Jenkins, Chris Archibald, Jason Warren, Kyle Daniels. Not pictured are George Hernandez, Kyle McCullough, Terry Stroud. Weldon Black sponsors the team.**

McGwire joins Gwynn, Ripken on baseball Hall of Fame ballot

NEW YORK (AP) — Mark McGwire, Tony Gwynn and Cal Ripken Jr. headline the first-time candidates on the 2007 baseball writers' Hall of Fame ballot released Monday, sure to spark debate on Big Mac's place in history as the steroid era comes under renewed scrutiny.

Jose Canseco, whose book last year led to a congressional hearing on steroid use in baseball, also is on the ballot for the first time. Canseco said he used steroids along with McGwire when they were teammates.

McGwire denied using illegal performance-enhancing substances, but when he appeared before a congressional committee, he evaded questions. "I'm not here to talk about the past," was his repeated response.

McGwire finished his career with 583 home runs, seventh in baseball history while Canseco, a former MVP, is 30th at 462. Dave Kingman, 34th with 442, has the most home runs for a player who has been on the Hall of Fame ballot and was not elected.

Gwynn, an eight-time batting champion with San Diego, and Ripken, a two-time MVP with Baltimore, are considered likely to gain election on the first ballot. Ripken played in 2,632 consecutive games, breaking

Lou Gehrig's record.

Bret Saberhagen, a two-time Cy Young Award winner, and former MVP Ken Caminiti also are among 17 players on the ballot for the first time along with Harold Baines, Dante Bichette, Bobby Bonilla, Scott Brosius, Jay Buhner, Eric Davis, Tony Fernandez, Wally Joyner, Paul O'Neill, Devon White and Bobby Witt.

Jim Rice, who was 53 votes short of election last year, heads the 15 holdovers. Rich Gossage finished one vote behind Rice.

Reporters who have been in the BBWAA for 10 or more consecutive years are eligible to vote. Totals will be announced Jan. 9.

The complete ballot:

Harold Baines, Albert Belle, Dante Bichette, Bert Blyleven, Bobby Bonilla, Scott Brosius, Jay Buhner, Ken Caminiti, Jose Canseco, Dave Concepcion, Eric Davis, Andre Dawson, Tony Fernandez, Steve Garvey, Rich "Goose" Gossage, Tony Gwynn, Orel Hershiser, Tommy John, Wally Joyner, Don Mattingly, Mark McGwire, Jack Morris, Dale Murphy, Paul O'Neill, Dave Parker, Jim Rice, Cal Ripken Jr., Bret Saberhagen, Lee Smith, Alan Trammell, Devon White, Bobby Witt.

USC moves to No. 2

By The Associated Press

Southern California is the new No. 2.

The Trojans advanced one spot to overtake Michigan in The Associated Press Top 25 on Sunday, a day after their 44-24 victory over Notre Dame. USC, the sixth team to be ranked No. 2 this season behind No. 1 Ohio State, leads the Wolverines by 36 points in the poll.

Michigan, which completed its season with a 42-39 loss to Ohio State on Nov. 18, fell to No. 3. The Wolverines (11-1) are 63 points ahead of No. 4 Florida, which beat Florida State 21-14 to improve to 11-1.

Ohio State (12-0) was a unanimous No. 1 for the second consecutive week and third time this year. The Buckeyes received 65 first-place votes from the media panel.

LSU moved up four spots to No. 5, a season-high for the Tigers, after a 31-26 victory over Arkansas on Friday.

USC plays crosstown-rival UCLA on Saturday and a victory would likely lock up the Trojans' third consecutive appearance in the BCS title game. The Trojans have already locked up the Pac-10's automatic BCS bid.

First-place Ohio State has already sealed up its trip to Glendale, Ariz., for the Jan. 8 championship game.

Report: Shula out at 'Bama

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. (AP) — Alabama fired coach Mike Shula less than a year after the Crimson Tide finished a 10-2 season, according to a newspaper report.

Shula told his assistant coaches late Sunday night that Alabama athletic director Mal Moore had dismissed him, The Tuscaloosa News reported on its Web site.

The Crimson Tide went 6-6 this season, finishing the season with three straight losses.

Shula, a former Alabama quarterback, was winless in four tries against Auburn, his team's biggest rival. The Tigers beat the Crimson Tide 22-15 on Nov. 18, leaving Shula to answer questions about his job security.

"I haven't even thought about all that stuff," Shula said after the game. He had received a vote of Moore several weeks

ago.

Shula took over the proud but troubled program less than four months before the 2003 season after Mike Price was fired following spring practice for his off-the-field behavior on a night of drinking at a Pensacola, Fla., strip club. Price got the job only after Dennis Franchione bolted for Texas A&M.

Shula, son of Pro Football Hall of Fame coach Don Shula, spent 15 years as an NFL assistant before he took the Alabama job but he had no experience as a head coach or on a college staff.

He received a new six-year contract in May worth \$1.55 million per year. The deal extended his contract two years through early 2012, with a raise of \$650,000 plus a \$200,000 signing bonus.

NFL

Continued from Page 9

The Bears had five take-aways, including Charles Tillman's second interception.

Colts 45, Eagles 21

At Indianapolis, Joseph Addai tied a franchise record with four touchdowns.

Addai opened the game by sandwiching a 10-yard score around two 15-yard runs to give Indy a 21-0 lead. He added a late 4-yard run. The rookie running back finished with 171 yards.

Lenny Moore, Lydell Mitchell and Eric Dickerson are the only other Colts players with four TDs in one game.

The Colts (10-1) can clinch their fourth straight AFC South title with a win at Tennessee next week.

Philadelphia (5-6) played its first game without Donovan McNabb, who will miss the rest of the season with a torn knee ligament. Brian Westbrook ran 20 times for 124 yards and one touchdown, becoming the first Eagles player since Wilbert Montgomery in 1981 to produce three straight 100-yard games.

Ravens 27, Steelers 0

Any chance the Steelers had of returning to the Super Bowl might have been laid to rest by the Ravens.

The host Ravens sacked Ben Roethlisberger nine times and coasted to their fifth straight victory, dropping Pittsburgh to 4-7. Baltimore (9-2) limited the defending NFL champions to 36 yards in the decisive first half. The nine sacks totaled 73 yards and matched a Ravens franchise record.

It was the second time this year that the Steelers were shut out; the last time Pittsburgh was blanked at least twice in a season was in 1989.

Bengals 30, Browns 0

At Cleveland, Cincinnati picked off Charlie Frye four times and Carson Palmer threw three touchdown passes. The shutout was the Bengals' first since Dec. 3, 1989, a span of 269 games.

Palmer finished 25-of-32 for 275 yards and connected with Chris Henry for two TD passes as the Bengals (6-5) stayed in the AFC playoff race by beating Cleveland for the fifth straight time.

Before piling up yardage during extended garbage

time in the fourth quarter, the Browns (3-8) had only 167 yards — 21 rushing — after three quarters. By then, they were down 30-0 and on their way to dropping to 1-5 at home.

Following an interception, Browns receiver Braylon Edwards and Frye angrily exchanged words and had to be separated.

Chargers 21, Raiders 14

At San Diego, LaDainian Tomlinson keyed yet another second-half rally to give the AFC West-leading Chargers (9-2) their fifth straight win.

Tomlinson, in the midst of an MVP-type season, rushed for two touchdowns and threw for another. He has 24 touchdowns this season, needing five in the last five games to break the NFL record of 28 set by Shaun Alexander during his MVP season of 2005.

Tomlinson threw a 19-yard touchdown pass to tight end Antonio Gates to tie the game at 14. Tomlinson threw his second TD pass of the season and the sixth of his career.

After the Raiders (2-9) punted, Tomlinson broke a 44-yard run on first down, then capped the drive with a 10-yard scoring run. It was his 21st touchdown in seven games.

Saints 31, Falcons 13

At Atlanta, Drew Brees threw a 76-yard touchdown to Devery Henderson on the third play of the game, then lofted a 48-yarder to Terrance Copper on the final play of the first half. Brees completed 21-of-30 for 349 yards, his fifth straight 300-yard game.

New Orleans bounced back from losing three of four, boosted its playoff hopes and delivered a crushing blow to its NFC South rival. The Saints (7-4) won without rookie star Marques Colston, who didn't play because of a sprained ankle.

The Falcons (5-6) lost their fourth straight. Even though quarterback Michael Vick ran for 166 yards, Atlanta couldn't overcome five dropped passes and a shocking defensive breakdown just before halftime.

Vick challenged his NFL record for yards rushing by a quarterback, coming up 7 short of his 173-yard performance in an overtime victory at Minnesota in 2002.

Redskins 17, Panthers 13

Chris Cooley's 66-yard touchdown reception won it. Cooley broke several tackles with 4:26 to play to break a two-game losing streak for

the Redskins (4-7) and give quarterback Jason Campbell his first win in his second NFL start.

Ladell Betts, the Redskins' featured running back now that Clinton Portis is out for the year, ran for 104 yards on 24 carries.

The Redskins defense held the Panthers (6-5) to 264 total yards. Steve Smith gave the Panthers a 13-10 lead with 7:55 to play with a spectacular 8-yard catch in the back of the end zone.

Bills 27, Jaguars 24

J.P. Losman hit Roscoe Parrish for a 30-yard completion to set up Rian Lindell's 42-yard field goal as time ran out. The Bills (5-6) scored 28 seconds after the Jaguars tied it when David Garrard hit Matt Jones for a 3-yard touchdown.

Bills running back Willis McGahee had 63 yards rushing and two touchdowns in his first game after missing the past two with broken ribs. Parrish also scored on an 82-yard punt return.

The visiting Jaguars (6-5) dropped to 1-4 on the road.

Jets 26, Texans 11

Chad Pennington had his finest passing day in weeks, throwing for 286 yards and a touchdown. Pennington, who left briefly in the third quarter after an injury scare, finished 24-of-31. He connected with Laveranues Coles nine times for 111 yards, including a 12-yard touchdown in the third quarter. Jericho Cotchery had seven catches for 110 yards.

Mike Nugent tied a career high with four field goals, including a career-long 54-yarder for the host Jets (6-5).

David Carr was 39-of-54 for 321 yards, while Andre Johnson and Eric Moulds each had 10 catches for Houston (3-8).

Rams 20, 49ers 17

At St. Louis, Marc Bulger threw a 5-yard touchdown pass to Kevin Curtis with 27 seconds to go and the Rams (5-6) snapped a five-game skid. Stymied much of the game, Bulger was 9-for-9 for 66 yards during a 12-play, 80-yard drive for the winning score. He finished 23-for-34 for 201 yards with one touchdown and one interception.

After being limited to 27 yards last week, Steven Jackson had 121 yards on 23 carries, with a 36-yard scoring run in the first half. He also made nine receptions for 71 yards.

Frank Gore had 134 yards on 21 carries for the 49ers (5-6).

Stoudemire, coming back from surgery on his left knee that forced him to miss all but three games last season, had 20 points and 11 rebounds.

Lakers 99, Nets 93

At Los Angeles, Lamar Odom scored 21 points, and Kobe Bryant added 19 points and a season-high 10 assists as Los Angeles won for the fifth time in its last six games.

Kwame Brown had 13 points and nine rebounds and Smush Parker also scored 13 for the Lakers, who won despite Bryant's 8-of-24 shooting night.

NBA

Continued from Page 9

Nuggets 103, Clippers 88

Carmelo Anthony had 33 points, J.R. Smith added 23 and Denver won its fifth straight game.

Corey Maggette had 22 points to lead Los Angeles, which shot 36 percent to lose its fourth straight. The Clippers dropped to 0-5 on the road.

Raptors 92, Pacers 83

At Toronto, Chris Bosh had 17 points and 11 rebounds and four other

Raptors reached double figures in scoring.

Stephen Jackson and Danny Granger each scored 18 points for the Pacers, who have been behind after the first quarter in 11 of 14 games this season.

Suns 119, Trail Blazers 101

At Portland, Raja Bell had a season-high 30 points, including seven 3-pointers, to pace Phoenix.

The Suns led by as many as 25 points, and all of their starters scored in double figures in the team's fourth straight win after a slow start to the season. Amare

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1 Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE The City of McLean is taking Depository Bids for a two year period. Bids will be opened at the regular City Council meeting Monday, December 11th, 2006 at 6:00 pm. Bids will be accepted until 5:00 pm, Friday, December 8th, 2006. City of McLean P.O. Box 9 McLean, Tx. 79057 806-779-2481 F-64 Nov. 27, 2006

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CARPENTRY, Roofing, Re-placement windows, steel siding & trim Jerry Nichols 669-9991, 662-8169

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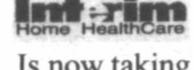
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PART-TIME RN is needed on weekends. St. Ann's Nursing Home in Panhandle. 537-3194.

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NEED a Driver w/ Class A CDL license, Hazmat endorsement & good driving record. No exp. nec., will train. Uniforms, health ins., paid vacations after 1yr. DOT drug testing and physical req. We pay top wages! Apply in Person Triangle Well Service 129 S. Price Rd., Pampa. No phone calls please!

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HELP wanted at Pak-A-Burger. Pick up applications at Brandon's Flowers, 1600 N. Hobart.

OUTREACH Health Services is hiring providers in Pampa. Please call Mary or Dee, 800-800-0697 or 806-373-0986.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2006. You will be more concerned with your domestic life than in the past. Allow greater flourish and high energy, and willingly say goodbye to the tried-and-true. Investments that impact your security and well-being need to be scrutinized. You will be able to express yourself with greater creativity if you flow. If you are single, opportunities will knock on your door. Be open to possibilities. If you are attached, your relationship needs to become an even higher priority. Re-create the former specialness of this bond. You have what it takes to rekindle the spark. PISCES can hold you back, if you allow him or her to. The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

and head in a new direction. Your fiery side comes through in a dynamic manner. Tonight: Easy does it. CANCER (June 21-July 22) You might want to think in terms of growth and new beginnings. Your ability to read between the lines needs to emerge. For some, you might need to go in a new direction. New perspectives open doors and allow new beginnings. Tonight: Take in a movie. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) A partner will take you in a new direction if you are willing to revise your thinking and attitude. What do you really have to lose? Consider options that surround a particular event. Let your imagination flow, but tame ideas with worthwhile feedback. Tonight: Say yes. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Pressure could build. You might be tired and withdrawn from recent personal events. You might have revised your perspective or actually made a physical change on the home front. Understand what is happening. Tonight: Say yes. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Get plenty of R and R. Your imagination takes you where you might be too tired to go. Do accomplish what you must, but don't take on anything else. You could be tired and drawn, especially when dealing with someone close. Tonight: Easy does it. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Let your imagination come forth. You might find that you have an unusual reservoir of creativity and thought. Understand what needs to happen within your immediate circle. Add new direction and focus to an adventure. Tonight: Don't restrain your mind — but perhaps your actions. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You might want to anchor in and find answers. Understand that it is OK to be tired. You need to head in a new direction. Listen to others and find out what might be motivating them. Tonight: Revise certain perspectives. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Speak your mind and get to the bottom of a problem. Your inner dialogue could change considerably. Work with a partner directly, even if you find that this person is negative. Allow more feedback in a meeting. Tonight: Hang out. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Expenses could set you back on your haunches, which actually might be the best place to be right now. Someone might be more difficult than necessary. New beginnings come through honest reflection and re-evaluation. Tonight: Take a hard look at your spending. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) The Moon in your sign empowers you. Consider your options, because you might be upset by someone else's demands. Know when to say "enough." Others bend to your requests more easily right now. Timing, my Fish, use timing. Tonight: What would make you happy? BORN TODAY Actor Judd Nelson (1959), politician Gary Hart (1936), model Anna Nicole Smith (1967) Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com. © 2006 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

WANTED SPORTS EDITOR FOR THE PAMPA NEWS

Must be familiar with all sports. Must be available to cover games on nights and weekends. Generally a 40 hour work week. Working knowledge of Mac OS and some experience in journalism a plus. Must have a basic knowledge of grammar and spelling.

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different. 11-27 CRYPTOQUOTE K HMT SQGGD FTMMOF LYMKH SRU UVM GYC SQRV IHGTF KYY UVM LGQHMQF — PQPFV KCKWM Saturday's Cryptoquote: PROGRESS IS A NICE WORD. BUT CHANGE IS ITS MOTIVATOR AND CHANGE HAS ITS ENEMIES. — ROBERT KENNEDY

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Iraq study group meets; Congress showing increased impatience

By **BEN FELLER**
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration is stepping up diplomatic efforts to stabilize Iraq, even as key congressional figures say their confidence in Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's government is waning.

As members of the Iraq Study Group prepared to sit down today to talk over their soon-to-be-released recommendations for changes in U.S. war strategy, President Bush left for a NATO summit in Europe and a meeting afterward with al-Maliki in Amman, Jordan.

Secular violence in Iraq is at its worst level in the roughly 3 1/2 years since a U.S.-led coalition invaded the country and toppled Saddam Hussein. Bush's summit this week comes in the wake of talks that Vice President Dick Cheney held over the weekend in the region and as members of the special study commission mull recommendations.

The New York Times reported in Monday's editions that a draft report by the study panel led by

former Secretary of State James A. Baker III recommends aggressive regional diplomacy, including talks with Iran and Syria.

Anonymous officials who had seen the draft report told the Times it does not specify any timetables for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq, although the commissioners are expected to debate the feasibility of such timetables.

Appearing today on ABC's "Good Morning America," former President Jimmy Carter said that "at this point everybody is waiting" for the report. "My guess is that President Bush will take their advice as much as he possibly can," he added.

Carter said he would agree with any call for direct U.S. talks with Iran and Syria over Iraq, adding: "This is one of the most counter-productive policies that I've ever known, ... not to talk to the people who disagree with you unless they agree in advance to everything you demand."

Republican Sen. Chuck Hagel of Nebraska, a potential presidential contender in 2008, said "it's not too late for the United States to

extricate itself honorably from an impending disaster in Iraq."

"If the president fails to build a bipartisan foundation for an exit strategy, America will pay a high price for this blunder — one that we will have difficulty recovering from in the years ahead," Hagel wrote in Sunday's Washington Post.

'If the president fails to build a bipartisan foundation for an exit strategy, America will pay a high price for this blunder.'

— Chuck Hagel
Republican Senator

As the U.S. involvement in Iraq surpassed the length of America's participation in World War II, law-

makers have dwindling confidence in the U.S.-supported Iraqi government.

The Bush-Maliki summit on Wednesday and Thursday, coupled with Cheney's trip to Saudi Arabia on Saturday, is evidence of the administration's stepped-up effort to bring stability to the region.

The host of the meeting, Jordan's King Abdullah, said Sunday the problems in the Middle East go beyond the war in Iraq. He said much of the region soon could become engulfed in violence unless the central issues are addressed quickly.

The king said he was hopeful the leaders will find a way to reduce the level of violence. "We hope there will be something dramatic. The challenges, obviously, in front of both of them are immense," he said.

Iraq's leaders promised Sunday to track down those responsible for the recent attacks, and al-Maliki urged his national unity government of Sunnis, Shiites and Kurds to curb the violence by stopping their public disputes.

The Iraqi prime minister is under

pressure from Shiite politicians loyal to the radical anti-American Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr who have threatened to boycott parliament and the Cabinet if al-Maliki meets with Bush.

"This is all political posturing. It's all red herring. It's an anti-threat. This is a very stable government," responded Iraq's national security adviser, Mouwafak al-Rubaie. He said he had no doubt the prime minister would meet with Bush in Jordan.

As for Bush, some of the toughest criticism is coming from within his own party.

"We have misunderstood, misread, misplanned and mismanaged our honorable intentions in Iraq with an arrogant self-delusion reminiscent of Vietnam," said Hagel, a combat veteran of that war. "Honorable intentions are not policies and plans."

Sen. Richard Durbin of Illinois, the No. 2 Senate Democrat, called Iraq the worst U.S. foreign policy decision since Vietnam. He said Democrats do not have a quick answer and any solution must be bipartisan.



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