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SEE PAGE 9



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Wednesday, December 14, 2005

Volume 101 • No. 1441

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Commission names seven to new board for EDC

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

Pampa City Attorney Don Lane sent the city's new economic development corporation's articles of incorporation to the Texas Secretary of State today after the city commission named the seven-member board and approved the articles at their Tuesday evening meeting.

Gary Sutherland, Shawn Clifton, Bill Berry, Kathy Cota, Kenneth May, Dwight Fiveash and James Bradley were appointed to the economic

development corporation's board Tuesday night from a pool of 21 applicants.

If the Secretary of State accepts the articles of incorporation, the seven-member board will be called together in an organizational meeting to draw up their bylaws.

Pampa City Manager John Horst said he hopes the economic development corporation will be in operation by the end of the year.

In other business, the commission heard from R.J. Collins, an Austin

developer, who wants to build low-income housing in Pampa. Using tax credits to help finance the 76-unit project, Collins is asking the city for about \$73,000 in help. That amount, he said, could be in cash, property, utilities or other in kind contributions. The commission has until February to consider the matter.

Collins told the commission he has looked at two locations near Wal-Mart.

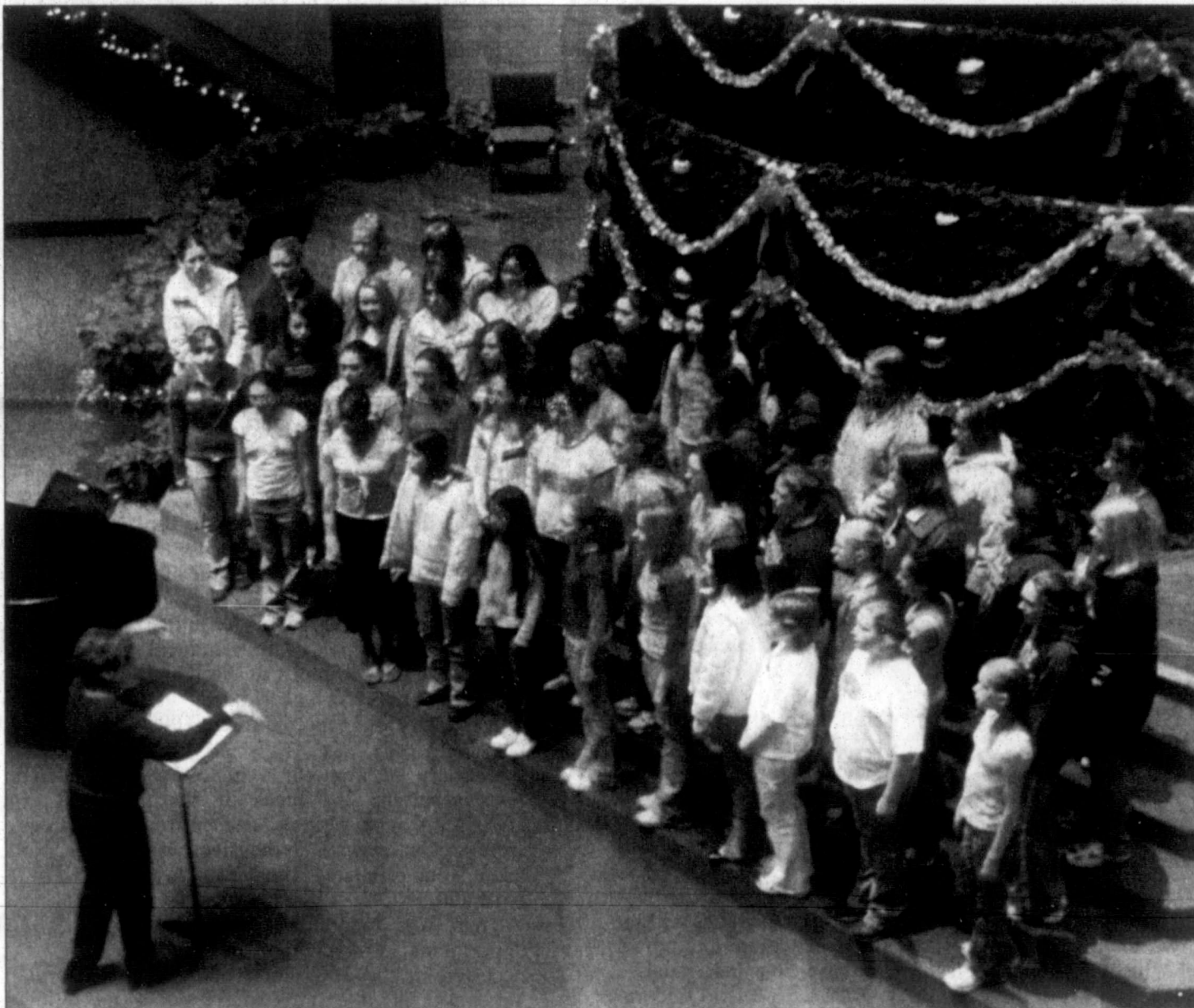
Horst briefed the commission on plans by the Canadian River

Municipal Water Authority to buy more ground water rights. Horst, Pampa Public Works Director Richard Morris, and Benny Kirksey and Jerry Carlson, Pampa's two representatives to CRMWA, met with Kent Satterwhite, executive director of the authority, on Monday.

The indebtedness of an additional bond issue by CRMWA could raise water rates as much as two dollars a month, Horst said, but not to partici-

See CITY, Page 3

Singing praises



Pampa News Photo by DAVID BOWSER

Choir Director Suzanne Wood directs the Pampa Junior High School Choir during a rehearsal Tuesday for Tuesday night's concert in the sanctuary of the First Baptist Church.

County has 17-item list to go over

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

A short streak of relatively brief county commission meetings may be broken Thursday when Gray County Commissioners meet at 9 a.m. on the second floor of the county courthouse to work their way through a 17-item agenda.

Court-related items to be presented for commissioners' votes include jury reimbursement for 2006; the possibility of using a computer program to interconnect the district attorney's office, sheriff's office and district clerk's office in order to share case information; autopsy cost and location; and complaints regarding acoustics in the courthouse.

Bids for two full-size sheriff's office vehicles will be opened at 10 a.m. Signatures for the sheriff's office's forfeiture and abandoned vehicle account may be authorized.

Commissioners will consider the county tax assessor-collector's request to replace an employee, and a contract between Texas Department of Criminal Justice's Jordan

See COUNTY, Page 3

Sexual assault response team closer for Pampa, area

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Sexual assault victims may soon be able to receive medical attention in Pampa instead of having to go to Amarillo for exams and follow-up appointments.

About 40 representatives of law enforcement and medical care in several Panhandle counties met Monday at Lovett Memorial Library to begin the process of creating a sexual assault response team for Pampa and nearby communities.

Tralee Crisis Center, in cooperation with the 31st District Attorney's office and Pampa Regional Medical Center, is spearheading the effort to create

a local network of services for victims of sexual assault.

"The main reason we are doing this is so that victims can get better sexual assault services and not have to drive to Amarillo to get those services," said Ann Hamilton, outreach coordinator and legal advocate at Tralee.

"We also want to develop services that are more victim-friendly. It can take seven to eight hours, including travel time, to do all the work including a victim exam," she said. Local organizers hope to cut that amount of time by eliminating the need for travel and creating a quick response time by law enforcement and medical team members.

"I think in order to be able to take care of the victims in these cases, we have to have the personnel and facilities available in our home town," said Lynn Switzer, 31st District Attorney.

Lisa Zapata-Maling, a community development specialist with the sexual assault prevention and crisis services department of the state attorney general's office, presented Monday's four-hour program, which outlined the steps needed to be taken in order to create a sexual assault response team, or SART.

"To think you don't have that many sexual assaults out there ... I know you've got them out here,

See SART, Page 3



Lisa Zapata-Maling

White Deer Land Museum New Year's Eve Party

Saturday, December 31, 2005 • MK Brown Heritage Room • 8:00 pm to Midnight

Silent Auction and Dance • Tickets \$35.00 per person

for more information call 669-8041 or 662-2727

Obituaries

Services tomorrow

GLOVER, Donna Jean Thornburg — 10 a.m., Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.
HOLT, Norma-Sue — 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

Gray County Weather

Today: Mostly sunny, with a high near 44. Wind chill values between 16 and 26. North-northwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.
 Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 23. Wind chill values between 16 and 21. North-northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph.
 Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 43. Wind chill values between 13 and 23. Northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.
 Thursday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low near 25. Wind chill values between 14 and 19. West-northwest wind 5 to 15 mph becoming south.
 Friday: Cloudy, with a high around 39. North-northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.
 Friday Night: A 20 percent chance of snow after midnight. Cloudy, with a low around 20. North-northeast wind around 10 mph.
 Saturday: A 20 percent chance of snow. Cloudy, with a high around 35. North-northeast wind around 10 mph becoming east-southeast.
 Saturday Night: A 20 percent chance of snow. Cloudy, with a low around 24. North-northwest wind

between 10 and 15 mph.
 Sunday: A 30 percent chance of snow, mainly after noon. Cloudy, with a high near 34. North-northwest wind between 10 and 20 mph.
 Sunday Night: A 30 percent chance of snow. Cloudy, with a low near 17.
 Monday: A 30 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a high around 30.
 Monday Night: A 20 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 14.
 Tuesday: Partly cloudy, with a high around 38.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Aletary Grain of White Deer		Celanese.....18.80 +0.01	Atmos.....26.60 +0.19
Wheat.....3.18	Milo.....2.83	Cabot Oil Gas...46.93 NC	Pioneer Nat...53.27 -0.53
Corn.....3.82	Soybeans.....4.85	Coca Cola.....41.16 +0.20	JCP.....54.72 +0.21
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa		VLO.....108.92 -	COP.....57.75 -0.45
OXY.....84.33 +0.77	BP PLC ADR...67.00 +0.12	0.08.....65.77 -0.17	SLB.....100.65 +0.55
Cabot Corp.....35.90 +0.27		HAL.....42.21 -0.89	Tenneco.....17.31 +0.07
		KMI.....93.51 -0.37	CVX.....59.22 +0.36
		XCEL.....18.86 +0.16	Wal-Mart.....49.55 +0.23
		Kerr McGee...94.74 +0.14	ORX.....28.09 +0.32
		XOM.....59.43 +0.37	NS Grp.....43.07 +0.36
		Nat'l Oilwell...NA NA	New York Gold.....519.25
		Limited.....23.07 +0.25	Silver.....8.54
		Williams.....24.00 +0.22	West Texas Crude.....61.09
		MCD.....35.42 +0.15	

Undercover air marshals to expand duties to other modes of transport

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal air marshals are expanding their work beyond airplanes, launching counterterrorism surveillance at train stations and other mass transit facilities in a three-day test program.
 As of Wednesday, the Transportation Security Administration said, teams of undercover air marshals and uniformed law enforcement officers were descending on bus stations, ferries and transit systems across the country to protect them from potential terrorists.
 "We just want to develop the capability to enhance security outside of aviation," said air marshal spokesman David Adams.
 Air marshals stepped outside of their usual role of flying undercover on airliners after Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans. They were sent to keep order at Louis Armstrong International Airport, where thousands of evacuees converged after the levees were breached.
 The so-called "Visible

Intermodal Protection and Response" teams — or VIPER teams — will patrol Amtrak's Northeast Corridor and Los Angeles rail lines; ferries in Washington state; bus stations in Houston; and mass transit systems in Atlanta, Philadelphia, Washington and Baltimore.

'We just want to develop the capability to enhance security outside of aviation.'

— David Adams
 Official spokesman

The teams will consist of two air marshals, one TSA bomb-sniffing-canine team, one or two transportation security inspectors and a local law enforcement officer.
 American Airlines pilot Denis Breslin, spokesman

for the airline's pilots' union, said air marshals ought to stick to airplanes.
 "I don't think there's enough air marshals to cover commercial aviation as it is," Breslin said. "That's what transit police are for."
 Adams said there is no new intelligence indicating that terrorists are interested in targeting transportation modes.
 Rather, the TSA is trying to expand the role of air marshals, who have been eager to conduct surveillance activities beyond the aircraft, and tighten security at public transit stations over the holiday.
 Some members of the team will be obvious to the traveling public and wear jackets bearing the TSA name on the back. Others will be plainclothes air marshals scanning the crowds for suspicious individuals.
 "TSA expects to find new ways to quickly deploy resources, in the event of an actual threat, that adds complexity to security measures outside of the aviation domain," the agency said in a statement.
 Thousands of air marshals were rushed into service after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.
 Twenty-seven traffic stops were made. Motorist assistance was rendered at an unreported location.
 Vehicle accidents were reported in the police department lobby and the 1300 block of North Hobart.
 Law enforcement assistance was rendered in the 12000 block of East Frederic.
 An animal complaint was received from the 700 block of Sloan.
 Warrant service was attempted at two locations.
 Welfare checks were made in the 800 block of Campbell, the 800 block of Malone, the intersection of Hobart and Foster streets, and the 1700 block of Coffee.
 One business alarm was reported.
 One open door was checked.
 Found property was reported in the 2200 block of Evergreen.
 A civil matter was reported in the 900 block of South Wells.
 A prowler was reported in the 500 block of Lowry and in the 700 block of North Banks.
 Suspicious person calls were received from the 100 block of South Starkweather, the 1500 block of North Hobart, the 300 block of North Hobart, the 1000 block of East Kingsmill, the 1800 block of Lynn, the intersection of Kentucky and Garland streets, the 1100 block of Darby, the 300 block of North Starkweather, and the police department lobby.
 Suspicious vehicle calls were received from the 900 block of North Frost, the 300 block of East Tukey, and the 1100 block of Sandlewood.
 Silent/abusive 911 calls were received from the 600 block of North Ward, the 400 block of North Wells, and the 500 block of Lowry.
 Disorderly conduct was reported in the 500 block of Lowry, twice in the 600 block of North Wells, and twice at Pampa Junior High School, 2401 Charles, where a citation was issued in each instance.
 Criminal mischief was reported in the police department lobby and the 900 block of Terry Road.
 Criminal trespass was reported in the 600 block of North Wells.
 Harassment was reported in the police department lobby.
 Identity theft was reported in the 400 block of North Cuyler.
 Forgery was reported in the police department lobby. The incident occurred in the 800 block of West, and involved checks and a checkbook.
 A burglary was reported in the 1000 block of Alcock.
 Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 300 block of North Dwight. A rear window and mirror were broken, and a stereo system was taken. Total estimated damage and loss is \$2,800.
 Theft was reported in the police department lobby. The incident occurred in the 800 block of West. Taken was \$85 in cash.
 Theft was reported in the 1300 block of North Russell.
 A narcotics violation was reported in the 500 block of Lowry.
 A disturbance was reported in the 2800 block of 28th Avenue.
 A domestic disturbance was reported in the 500 block of Montagu.
 A domestic disturbance was reported in the 700 block of North Russell. Minor injuries were reported.
 An assault was reported at Pampa Regional Medical Center.
 Two incidents of assault were report-

ed at PJHS. One incident involved unknown injuries, and the other, an assault causing bodily injury, involved minor injuries.

Accidents

Pampa Police Department reported the following accident today.
Tuesday, Dec. 13
 12:25 p.m. — An unknown vehicle with unknown driver collided with a legally parked 2003 Chevrolet Tahoe, owned by Brenda Parrish Morrison, 824 N. Christy, in the 900 block of West Harvester. The unknown vehicle and driver then left the scene. No injuries were reported, and no citations were issued.

Sheriff

Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests today.
Tuesday, Dec. 13
 Jacob Roland Garcia, 18, 114 E. Craven, was arrested by Pampa Police Department in the 100 block of East Craven on *capias pro* fines for no driver's license and failure to maintain financial responsibility.
 Johny Paul Cearley, 33, homeless, was arrested by GCSO and transported from a prison on a bond forfeiture for a grand jury indictment of possession of a controlled substance, enhanced.
 James Ivan McKinney, 40, 2112 N. Christy, was arrested by GCSO for theft over \$50 and under \$500.
 Robin Lynn Cook, 38, of Amarillo was arrested in the GCSO lobby by GCSO for disorderly conduct/language.

Wednesday, Dec. 14

Edward Reece Pattison, 20, of Perryton was arrested by PPD for public intoxication and minor in possession.

Fire

Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.
Tuesday, Dec. 13
 2:08 p.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to the 600 block of Red Deer on a service call to install a smoke detector.
 4:05 p.m. — Four units and 10 personnel responded to the 1500 block of West Kentucky where smoke was reported at a nursing home. A wire short caused wire to melt, causing the smoke.
 2:27 a.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 2500 block of Evergreen on a carbon monoxide check. Nothing was found.

Ambulance

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.
Tuesday, Dec. 13
 12:11 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo and transferred a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.
 1:08 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1000 block of East Francis and transported a patient to PRMC.
 6:23 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1100 block of South Varnon and transported a patient to PRMC.

CITY BRIEFS

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

1/2 PRICE Sale thru Christmas at North Fork Antiques. Bauer, McCoy, Frankoma pottery, Cherokee Rose crystal, hand-painted china, vintage Christmas decor, hundreds of items. 210 N. Main.

OPEN HOUSE Dec. 15, 6:30 pm at 108 N. Russell for the American Red Cross Eastern Tx. Panhandle Chapter.

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Toys for Tots



Pampa News Photo by REDONN WOODS

The Toys for Tots campaign is in full swing at Culberson-Stowers. Posing with some of the gifts are, standing from left, Karen Barton, holding Aaron Barton, Shelby Carpenter, Richard Stowers, Jacob Barton, Jazmyn Hair and Cameron Hair. Kneeling is Amanda Hoke. The deadline for bringing in an unwrapped gift is Dec. 22. The Salvation Army distributes the gifts locally. "We appreciate that Pampa has given so generously and that the toys are all distributed locally," said Victoria Parsons.

Reservoir breach causes havoc

LESTERVILLE, Mo. (AP) — Water poured through a breach at a hydroelectric plant's rural reservoir in southeast Missouri on this morning, washing away an unknown number of homes and vehicles, authorities said.

A family of five was rescued after the breach about 5:30 a.m. at AmerenUE's Taum Sauk Lake Hydroelectric Plant, the Reynolds County Sheriff's Department said.

One person had been

feared missing, but was later accounted for, Reynolds County emergency management director Terry Sanders said.

Conditions along the Black River, where the plant is situated, were considered dangerous, the National Weather Service said.

The plant is in the Ozarks, about 120 miles southwest of St. Louis.

"The Lesterville area and areas south along the Black River are in extreme peril," said Missouri State Highway Patrol Sgt. Marty Elmore. "We need to make every effort to have folks get to

higher ground."

National Weather Service meteorologist Joe Pedigo said rescue teams were searching for people believed to be trapped in cars, especially along Highway N near the reservoir. Pedigo said a house, a mobile home, several cars and a tractor-trailer were reported washed away.

Susie Stonner, a Missouri State Emergency Management Agency spokeswoman, said those rescued included several residents in the superintendent's house at the Johnson Shut-Ins State Park.

County

Continued from Page 1

Unit and Precinct 2.

Agenda items concerning county employees include changes to the AIG Valic annuity plan and health insurance plan Cobra rates for 2006.

Membership renewal in the Texas Building and Procurement Commission will be up for approval.

Commissioners will vote on whether to declare the court's Optiscan voting machine as surplus property. The machine has been replaced.

Other agenda items include the county treasurer's report, budget amendments, line item transfers and payment of bills and salaries.

SART

Continued from Page 1

they're just not being reported," she said.

SARTs respond to the medical, emotional and forensic needs associated with a sexual assault, Zapata-Maling said. Medical needs include examination and treatment of injuries, plus addressing

the possibility of sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy.

Emotional needs involve acute crisis intervention at the time of the assault, and advocacy for the victim during the exam and referral for follow-up care.

Forensic needs are the thorough documentation of pertinent historical and physical findings associated with the assault, proper collection and handling of evidence, and presentation of

findings and conclusions in court.

Monday's audience included hospital personnel from Wheeler, Dumas, Pampa and Perryton; law enforcement and judges from Lipscomb County; the Roberts County attorney; law enforcement from Shamrock, Gray County and the City of Pampa; and a representative of The Bridge, the child advocacy center in Amarillo.

The group will now study

state and national protocols for SARTs and meet again at 10 a.m. Jan. 18 at Pampa Regional Medical Center.

"We encourage anyone who's interested in volunteering to attend the next meeting," Switzer said.

Volunteers may help with transportation, clerical, and communication work associated with sexual assault, and may also work as a volunteer for Tralee or for the 31st District Attorney's victims' assistance coordinator.

City

Continued from Page 1

pate could endanger Pampa's future.

Horst said Amarillo, Lubbock and Plainview are pushing for more water.

Morris said Pampa uses from 60 to 80 percent of its water allocation from CRMWA now. The city has been selling its extra water to Lubbock. The Hub City is taking 400 million gallons this month, and Horst said that he was to talk to Lubbock officials today to see if they wanted an addi-

tional 100 gallons.

Under CRMWA's present proposal, cities not wanting to participate fully in the purchase of more groundwater could pay less but their allocation would be less.

At some point, Horst warned, there isn't going to be any more water rights available for sale. If they city did not fully participate, it could hurt the city in the future.

At Tuesday's meeting, the city commission amended the city's code of ordinances to add a Working for Progress Advisory Board. The board will study programs to

enhance the city's environment and research grant opportunities.

The commission also authorized the execution of a deed without warranty to Rusty Stevens who bought three lots on the city on Hobart next to the railway bridge.

They also accepted a bid of \$100 from Hollie Carter on a tax delinquent lot at 744 E. Scott.

The commission canceled their Dec. 27 meeting because of the holidays. Their next regularly scheduled meeting will be at 4 p.m. Jan. 10 in the city commission chambers in Pampa City Hall.

Pet of the Week

Honey...

This female Heeler cross is only a puppy. Honey is as sweet nature as her name implies ... call or visit the shelter today!



If You Would Like To Help The Animals, Donations Can Be Sent To...
City Of Pampa Fund 12 • PO Box 2499 • Pampa, Texas 79066

For information about these pets or any other contact the Animal Shelter at 669-5775 or come by their location at Hobart Street Park.

HOURS: Monday - Sunday 9 am - 5 pm • Closed All Major Holidays
Office Open To The Public Monday - Sunday 5 pm - 6pm

FOUND A PET? Let us know ... we might be able to help them find their home.

LOST YOUR PET? Come by the shelter every 2-3 days to check for your animal. We hold stray animals for 72 hours only. So PLEASE call us as soon as your pet is missing!
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Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church Christmas Eve Services

5:30 pm

Family Service • Holy Eucharist
with Children's Sermon

11:00 pm

Festive Eucharist

8:00 am & 10:00 am

Christmas Day Holy Eucharist

Join Us For This 58th Yearly Tradition

A Family Observance of Christmas

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
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Everyone is Welcome
All Family Members
and Friends Invited

Viewpoints

The nation's disabled veterans face a new war

I was in Washington recently and while there I visited Walter Reed Army Medical Center and spoke with a number of amputees disabled while defending us in Iraq.

I was fascinated by the attitude of these brave men and women who have sacrificed so much in our behalf. Their outlook on life is uplifting. You see nobody with tears in their eyes. Every single one of them has a positive attitude that is absolutely inspiring. One young man to whom I spoke had just been accepted for admission to a university in Washington, D.C., where he plans to study international business. The fact that he lost an arm in Iraq has not deterred him one little bit. He has his eyes on the future.

I saw so many men and

women missing arms and legs, and every one of them had positive outlooks, largely thanks to the way they are being cared for and nurtured at Walter Reed. I was also deeply impressed by how the Department of Veterans Affairs is working with them and contributing to the positive attitude the vets display.

I was deeply impressed by those who despite their disability expressed a desire to go back and serve with their comrades still fighting in Iraq. And I spoke to one young man who is struggling to get well enough so he'll be able to be there to greet his unit when it comes home from Iraq. These are men and women who make you proud to be part of a nation that produces such magnificent people. I couldn't help thinking

about all the things being done at Walter Reed for these heroes who deserve all that a grateful nation can do for them — things that are just phenomenal and have never before been done for disabled veterans of past wars.

Thanks to incredible advances in technology, many seriously disabled veterans are being brought back into the mainstream of life where they can do just about everything they could do before losing limbs. Many are overcoming disabilities that would depress most of us were we to suffer from, yet they refuse to give up the struggle to live as near-normal lives as possible.

A couple of weeks ago my wife Colleen ran in the New York Marathon.

Participating in that marathon in wheelchair events where a lot of amputees. I watched all of them cross the finish line

while I waited for Colleen to finish, and I met two of those I had seen in the marathon during my visit to Walter Reed.

I can't help recalling the post-World War II movie "The Best Years of Our Lives," where the question was posed as to how those disabled on the battlefield would be treated on their return to civilian life and how they would cope with their disabilities. In those

days, prosthesis — the creation of artificial arms and legs — was only in its infancy and although the artificial limbs were useful, they left a lot to be desired when it came to performing the most rudimentary tasks.

As a result, in those days, the transition to civilian life for the disabled was difficult and I hope and pray that this won't be the case with Iraq war veterans.

I hope that we in normal society will be able to be as positive in our outlook concerning them as they are about themselves. After all, with the marvels of technology, most of these heroic men and women will be able to do just about everything the non-disabled can do.

It is incumbent upon every one of us to look upon these veterans with the respect they have earned by

their service to the nation and the losses they suffered to safeguard our freedoms.

We must treat them as fellow human beings who made great sacrifices for us — and not simply as amputees, not as people with a disability — and consider what they can contribute to society whether it be in the workplace, or in homes as husbands or wives, or wherever it might be.

They need and want our respect, not our pity. Winning that respect might be the biggest war they face, and it is up to us to see they win it.

—Mike Reagan, the eldest son of the late President Ronald Reagan, is heard on more than 200 talk radio stations nationally as part of the Radio America Network.



Michael Reagan
Columnist

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Dec. 14, the 348th day of 2005. There are 17 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 14, 1799, the first president of the United States, George Washington, died at his Mount Vernon home at age 67.

On this date:

In 1819, Alabama joined the Union as the 22nd state.
In 1861, Prince Albert, husband of Queen Victoria, died in London.

In 1911, Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen became the first man to reach the South Pole, beating out an expedition led by Robert F. Scott.

'True education makes for inequality; the inequality of individuality, the inequality of success; the glorious inequality of talent, of genius; for inequality, not mediocrity, individual superiority, not standardization, is the measure of the progress of the world.'

— Felix Emmanuel Schelling
American educator and scholar (1858-1945)

In 1939, the Soviet Union was dropped from the League of Nations.

In 1945, Josef Kramer, known as "the beast of Belsen," and 10 others were hanged in Hameln for crimes committed at the Belsen and Auschwitz Nazi concentration camps.

In 1962, the U.S. space probe Mariner 2 approached Venus, transmitting information about the planet.

In 1975, six South Moluccan extremists surrendered after

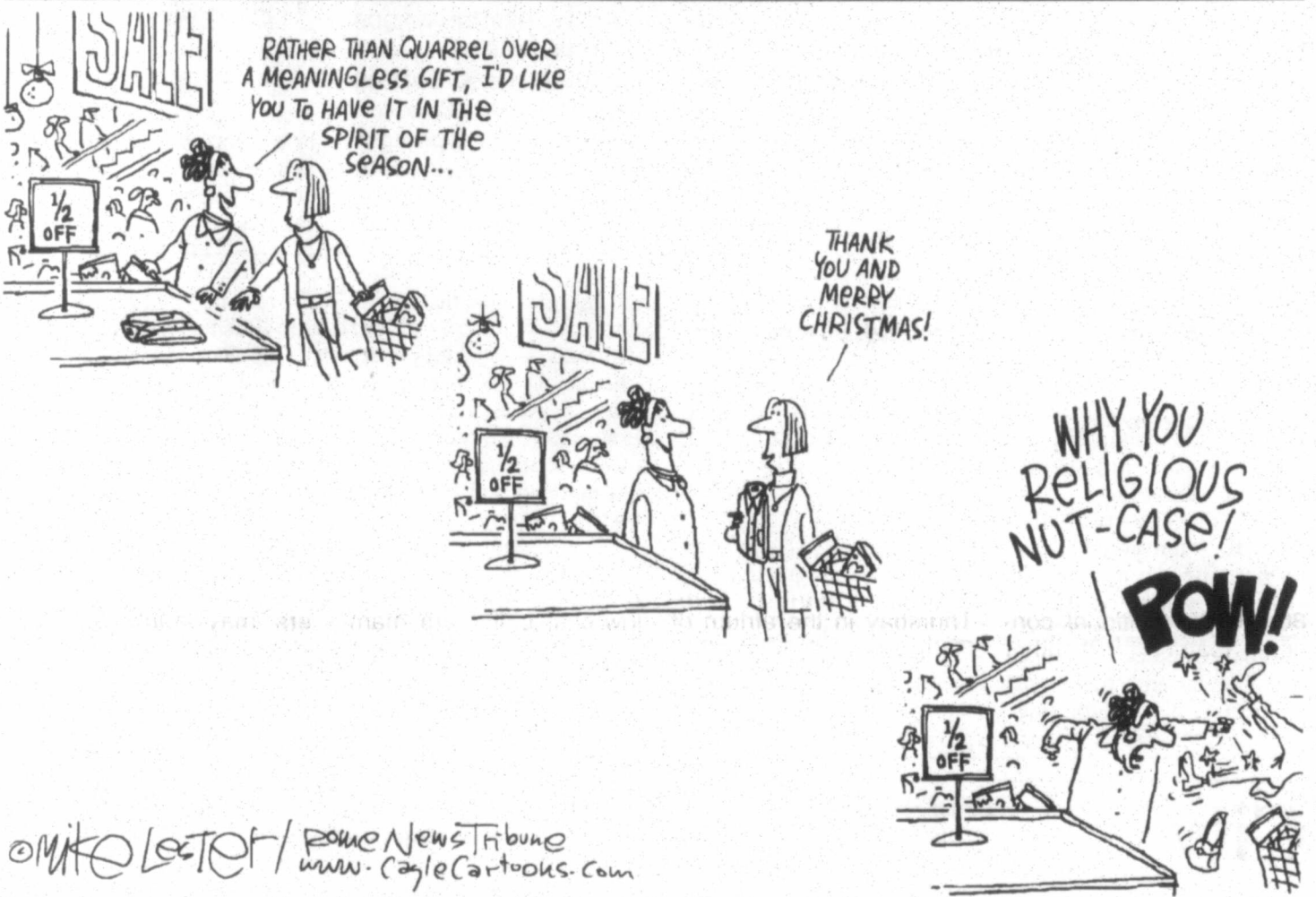
holding 23 hostages for 12 days on a train near the Dutch town of Beilen.

In 1980, fans around the world paid tribute to John Lennon, six days after he was shot to death in New York City.

In 1985, Wilma Mankiller became the first woman to lead a major American Indian tribe as she took office as principal chief of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma.

In 1985, former New York Yankees outfielder Roger Maris, who hit 61 home runs during the 1961 season, died in Houston at age 51.

Ten years ago: Presidents Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia, Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia and Franjo Tudjman of Croatia signed the Bosnian peace treaty in Paris.



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Christmas is a Christian holiday

Christmas is a Christian holiday. Passover is a Jewish holiday. Ramadan is a Muslim holiday. Buddha's Birthday is a Buddhist holiday. However, one can enjoy all of these holidays without being a Christian, a Jew, a Muslim or a Buddhist.

But let us call them what they are, for the sake of national sanity, lest some politically correct fool decides to rename the Fourth of July the "Mid-Summer" holiday to avoid offending those who don't like America.

I don't believe there is a war against Christmas, but there are secular cranks and crackpots who hate it, and there are timid merchants, politicians and bureaucrats who seem to think it is better to offend the majority than the cranks and crackpots.

The United States of America's population is overwhelmingly Christian, at least nominally. If you don't like Christians, then you should emigrate to

China, Israel or Saudi Arabia, where they are definitely a minority. Then you won't have to be bothered by the rest of us celebrating Christmas or Easter, though why it should bother anyone is a mystery.

I've shared Passover Seders with Jewish friends, the end of Ramadan feasts with Muslim friends, the Chinese New Year with Chinese friends, and if I'm ever invited to a Buddha's Birthday party or some

Hindu holiday, I would certainly be glad to attend. One of the pleasures of friendship is to share the good times of our friends.

Christmas, though it should always be called Christmas, is not a religious holiday for all Christians. I grew up in a literalist Protestant church. Since Baldwin pianos and Hammond organs were not mentioned in the King James Version of the New Testament, we sang a cappella. Since there was no mention of Dec. 25 as the birthday of Jesus, we didn't observe it as a religious event. Of course, we all had Christmas trees, exchanged

gifts and enjoyed Christmas carols. The Christmas tree and the exchange of gifts are, after all, add-ons. As for the carols, they are among the most beautiful songs ever written. Much of the art, music and architecture in Western civilization grew directly out of Christianity. Since when does one have to believe literally in the lyrics of a song in order to enjoy it? And what mind-mangled fool believes that hearing a song is a forcible effort to convert them? And what kind of wretched person does the beauty of someone else's religion offend?

There was a time when cranks and crackpots were ignored and left alone on the margins of society, as they

enough to ensure poor people the justice other Texans take for granted. When poor people do get access to the civil courthouse, the results can affect generations. About half of Texas legal aid cases address family violence. With this legal help, abused spouses can get protective orders, child support, divorces and child custody the essentials to start healthy lives. According to one national study, legal aid is a major factor in successfully snapping the family violence cycle. And no wonder. Because abusive spouses typically control family purse strings and public interactions, many women need legal backing to get out of a destructive relationship safely. When

See REESE, Page 5



Charley Reese
Columnist

Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ Dec. 4
Houston Chronicle on Texas' poor and civil legal aid:

Texans are used to big miscarriages of justice: a capital defendant whose lawyer snores through trial, a crime lab where evidence is lost or just made up. Yet it may be that more misery flows from the sheer volume of less showy failures. In Texas, only 50 percent of citizens who need and qualify for civil legal help receive it.

These Texans include wives trying to survive the highly risky maneuver of leaving a violent husband. They're tenants cheated by landlords and construc-

tion workers robbed of payment by their bosses. According to the Texas Equal Access to Justice Foundation, for every person helped by their affiliates, another must contend with their bitter circumstances without any legal recourse.

The Texas Supreme Court created Equal Access to Justice in 1984 on the premise that poor people deserve the same legal rights within the civil justice system as others. The foundation musters state funds, cash and labor from Texas lawyers to support pro bono legal groups across Texas.

Only citizens who earn less than \$11,963 annually are eligible for help. Even so, because about 3.7 million Texans live below the poverty level, the foundation's grants are not nearly

enough to ensure poor people the justice other Texans take for granted.

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See AID, Page 5

THE PAMPA NEWS

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806-669-2525 • 800-687-3348

Fax: 806-669-2520

email: editor@thepampanews.com

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Editor: Dennis Spies

Advertising Director: ReDonn Woods

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ANTI-SEMITISM

Iranian president calls Holocaust myth

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said Wednesday the Holocaust is a "myth" that Europeans have used to create a Jewish state in the heart of the Islamic world.

"Today, they have created a myth in the name of Holocaust and consider it to be above God, religion and the prophets," Ahmadinejad told thousands of people in the southeastern city of Zahedan.

The Iranian president previously expressed doubt that the Nazi destruction of six million European Jews during World War II had occurred. But Wednesday was the first time he publicly denied the Holocaust.

Ahmadinejad provoked an international outcry in October when he called for Israel to be "wiped off the map."

Touring southeast Iran, Ahmadinejad said that if Europeans insist the Holocaust did happen, then they are responsible and should pay the price.

"If you committed this big crime, then why should the oppressed Palestinian nation pay the price?"

'This is our proposal: if you committed the crime, then give a part of your own land in Europe, the United States, Canada or Alaska to them so that the Jews can establish their country.'

— Mahmoud Ahmadinejad
Iranian president

Ahmadinejad asked rhetorically.

"This is our proposal: if you committed the crime, then give a part of your own land in Europe, the United States, Canada or Alaska to them so that the Jews can establish their country," he said, developing a theme he raised in Saudi Arabia last week.

Germany and Israel condemned the remark, with German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier calling it "shocking and unacceptable."

Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman Mark Regev said: "The repeated outrageous remarks of the Iranian president show clearly the mind-set of the ruling clique in Tehran and indicate clearly the extremist policy goals of the regime."

"The combination of fanatical ideology, a warped sense of reality and nuclear weapons is a combination that no one in the international community can accept," Regev added, referring to allegations that Iran is developing nuclear bombs.

In Berlin, Foreign Minister Steinmeier said his government had summoned the Iranian charge d'affaires to make "unmistakably clear" its displeasure.

"I cannot hide the fact that this weighs on bilateral relations and on the chances for the negotiation process, the so-called nuclear dossier," Steinmeier said, referring to European talks with Iran on its nuclear program.

Ahmadinejad said the

West had harmed Muslims, invaded their countries and plundered their wealth.

"If your civilization consists of aggression, making oppressed people homeless, suffocating the voices of justice and bringing poverty to a majority of the world's people, we say loudly that we hate your hollow civilization," he said.

The president's views sharply conflict with those of his predecessor Mohammad Khatami, a moderate who used to call for dialogue among civilizations and promoted a low-key understanding with the United States that stopped short of diplomatic relations.

Inside Iran, Ahmadinejad's remarks have been criticized by some of his conservative allies who fear he is hurting the country's image. Moderate Iranians have called on the ruling Islamic establishment to rein in the president.

But Supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who has the ultimate say, has backed Ahmadinejad's calls for Israel's elimination.

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Events calendar

- **Pampa Community Concert Association** Presents "Live on Stage" 2005-06 concert series includes the following programs: Susan Egan, Broadway vocalist, Feb. 18, 2006; St. Petersburg Classic Ballet, March 4, 2006; and The Coats, vocal harmonic band, April 30, 2006. Additional concerts, featuring with other performers, have been scheduled in area towns. For more information on any of these events or a complete area concert schedule, contact Ronnie Holmes, PCCA president, at 665-2631. PCCA memberships are available.
- **The Amarillo SPCA** will be having photos with Santa for your pet(s) at PetSmart in Amarillo

between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Cost is \$9.95 or \$8.95 with a PetSmart Pet Perks Card. For more information, contact the SPCA at (806) 374-0704.

• **Coffee Memorial Blood Center of Amarillo** will conduct a blood drive from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursday in the atrium of Celanese administration building. A Christmas ornament will be given to every donor.

• **The next Pampa Christians Dance** will be from 8-11 p.m. Saturday with Earl Witt at the Sportsman's Club on South Barnes. Admission is \$6 per person. No smoking or alcohol allowed. For more information, call 665-7059.

• **The Women's Center of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center** has announced the following upcoming breast cancer screening clinic: Dec. 27, Shephard's Crook Nursing Agency, 916 N. Crest, both in Pampa. Participants will receive a low-cost self-exam mammogram and a breast health appraisal along with individual instruction by a registered nurse in breast self-examination. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are by appointment only. For more information, call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673.

• **USDA** cost-share funds have been released for the 2006 Environmental Quality Incentives Program. Farmers and ranchers can apply for Farm Bill conservation programs through the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Eligible producers may apply for cost share assistance on conservation practices that will address the identified resource concern recognized by the Local Work Group. Practices are implemented through EQIP. The NRCS determines eligibility. The Gray County USDA Service Center will be accepting EQIP applications through Feb. 17.

Reese

Continued from Page 4

should be. In recent times, however, they have gained power in direct proportion to the loss of civic courage on the part of politicians, bureaucrats and merchants. Their rise in influence is aided and abetted by disgraceful lawsuits and cowardly judges who misinterpret the separation of church and state as imposing secularism on all aspects of public life.

It means no such thing. It simply means, as anyone who will look at the context of history will see, that the United States government is forbidden to have an official church. At the time our country was formed, most of the countries of Europe had official churches, usually the Roman Catholic Church or, in the case of England, the Anglican Church. Virginia, where the separation movement began, had the Anglican Church, and it taxed Virginians to subsidize it.

That was the core argument of men like Thomas Jefferson — to wit, that religion should be a matter of individ-

ual conscience and that it was wrong to tax people to subsidize something that they did not believe in. The intent of the separation clause was to encourage the flourishing of religion, not to hound it out of public view.

We should be tolerant of other people's faiths, but we should boldly defend our own, as well as our traditions, against the secular crackpots and cranks who would usher us into an Orwellian world where the only God is the government. To the cranks and crackpots, go to blazes; to the rest of you, a very merry Christmas.

Aid

Continued from Page 4

they do, children learn better, escape distorted models of behavior and stand an improved chance of becoming law-abiding, hard-working adults.

Because of its short funding, Equal Access prioritizes cases such as abuse or loss of a home. The group also stretches its dollars ingeniously. It leans heavily on the Houston legal community to match Dallas' Lend-A-Lawyer program, in which law firms donate pro-bono lawyers for six months or a year. Equal Access also stresses self-help: Its Web site, TexasLawHelp.org, offers information, and resources include do-it-yourself restraining order applications that judges are required to consider.

The unfair truth is, justice costs. But family violence, homelessness and subcultures where law is not respected exact great societal costs. It's in the interests of all Texans for state and local donors to find ways to ensure civil legal aid for everyone.

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Suit filed against polygamist leader *Keynote speaker*

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A woman on Tuesday sued a fundamentalist Mormon church and its fugitive polygamist leader, claiming he forced her as a young teenager to marry a much older man.

The civil lawsuit names church leader Warren Jeffs and the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, a sect that broke away from the Mormon church and still practices polygamy.

The woman, who in court papers is identified only as "M.J.," asks for a jury trial and unspecified monetary damages.

The lawsuit contends that Jeffs performed the marriage ceremony without her consent and then commanded her and her new husband to "multiply and replenish the Earth."

"The nonconsensual spiritual marriage, the required sexual relations and M.J.'s resulting pregnancies have been physically and emotionally devastating to M.J.," court documents state.

Jeffs, 49, has been a fugitive since June when he was indicted in Arizona on charges of sexual assault and conspiracy to commit sexual conduct on a minor.



Denise Davies, chief nursing officer at Pampa Regional Medical Center, discusses the hospital's activities and improvements in 2005 at a recent Pampa Rotary Club meeting. PRMC will be changing ownership in 2006. It will be owned by Signature Hospital, LLC.

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Transplant ops giving disfigured some hope

CHICAGO (AP) — When doctors decide to perform the world's second face transplant, burn victims just might be among the first to volunteer.

Burn survivors "love the idea," said Bernhard Heitz, who suffered extensive disfiguring burns to his face and body in a 1997 plane crash and is now president of the World Burn Foundation, a support group.

During the Nov. 27 operation, a 38-year-old Frenchwoman mauled by her dog received a new nose, lips and chin from a brain-dead donor.

He said the partial face transplant performed in France last month has given fresh hope to burn survivors who now must endure repeated surgeries using their own body skin to fashion some semblance of a new face.

During the Nov. 27 operation, a 38-year-old Frenchwoman mauled by her dog received a new nose, lips and chin from a brain-dead donor. It was the world's first face transplant and an operation many medical experts consider experimental, but Heitz said many burn victims are undaunted. Face transplants are not available in the United States, although two medical centers, the Cleveland Clinic and University of Louisville, hope to offer them eventually.

Exactly how many burn survivors might be eligible for such surgery is difficult to say.

ENTERTAINMENT

People in the news

NEW YORK (AP) — Bob Dylan will host a weekly music show on XM Satellite Radio, the first time the rock star has had his own radio show.

Dylan will select music for the hour-long show, which will debut in March on XM's deep album rock channel, the station announced Tuesday.

He'll also offer comments on music and other subjects, interview guests and answer e-mail from XM subscribers.

"Songs and music have always inspired me," the 64-year-old Dylan said in a statement. "A lot of my own songs have been played on the radio, but this is the first time I've ever been on the other side of the mic."

NEW YORK (AP) — Mariah Carey will perform live from Times Square on ABC's "Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve."

It will mark the first time in the 34-year history of the year-end special that a singer has performed from Times Square, the network said.

Carey will join co-hosts Dick Clark and Ryan Seacrest as the final minutes of 2005 are counted down and the famed ball drop begins.

The 76-year-old Clark, long a New Year's Eve tradition, will be making his first television appearance since suffering a stroke last December.

Hilary Duff will host the West Coast portions of the show, introducing artists including The Bangles, Chris Brown, Sean Paul, The Pussycat Dolls, Sugarland, 3 Doors Down and 311. Duff will also perform.

'Sydney Pollack is a complete filmmaker who has directed and produced some of the most memorable films of our times.'

— Russ Alsobrook
Awards Committee chair

NEW YORK (AP) — Oscar winner Sydney Pollack will receive the 2006 American Society of Cinematographers' Board of Governors Award, presented annually to an individual who has advanced the art of filmmaking.

Pollack, 71, will be honored during the 20th annual ASC Outstanding Achievement Awards ceremony in Los Angeles on Feb. 26.

"Sydney Pollack is a complete filmmaker who has directed and pro-

duced some of the most memorable films of our times," said Russ Alsobrook, chairman of the organization's Awards Committee, in a statement Monday.

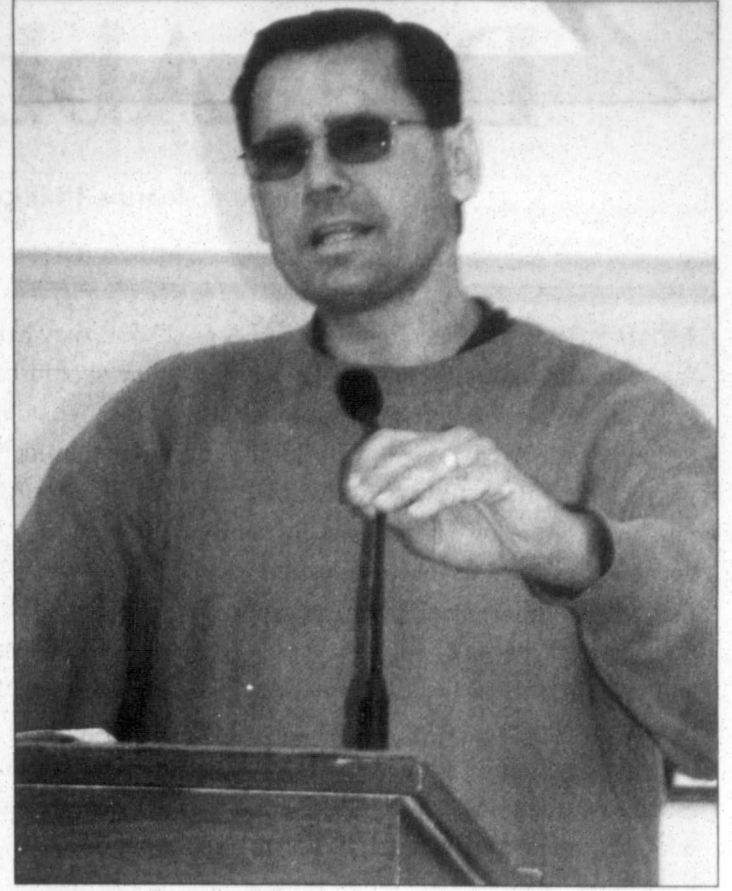
Pollack won Oscars for directing and producing 1985's "Out of Africa." He received Oscar nominations for directing and producing 1982's "Tootsie" and for directing 1969's "They Shoot Horses, Don't They?"

Past recipients of the award include Irwin Winkler, Steven Spielberg, Martin Scorsese, Warren Beatty, Robert Altman and Francis Ford Coppola.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Alanis Morissette says her first reaction when the calls began pouring into her home was "something must be wrong, somebody must be hurt."

It turned out things couldn't be more right: People were calling Tuesday morning to congratulate her on her first Golden Globe nomination for best original motion picture song.

"I didn't even find out until about 45 minutes ago," a giddy Morissette told The Associated Press shortly after the awards were announced. "I'm really excited. This song really touches me deeply, and so I'm excited that some light is being shown on it."



Gary Willoughby, Gray County commissioner, recently addressed a meeting of the Pampa Lions Club.

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Task force hears from Victoria area residents

VICTORIA, Texas (AP) — Adopting a state sales tax and adding taxes to cigarettes, gambling and gasoline were among the suggestions aired Tuesday during a three-hour hearing in Victoria conducted by a task force that will make reform recommendations to the Legislature.

"Our charge is pretty simple," said task force chairman John Sharp, former state comptroller. "We need to figure out a way to lower property taxes by a significant amount."

The Texas Supreme Court has declared the property tax system that supports schools unconstitutional, and it gave the Legislature until June 1 to come up with a new way to pay for education.

Under the current system, nicknamed Robin Hood, more than \$1 billion in property tax revenues collected from property-rich districts are redistributed to property-poor districts.

The share-the-wealth aspect of the system was not challenged in the lawsuit but could be diminished some-

what if lawmakers reduce the state's dependence on property taxes.

The task force, which was appointed by Gov. Rick Perry, is examining alternate levies that could replace school property taxes.

Perry said he'd prefer to have those recommendations in hand before he calls lawmakers back into session.

Retired schoolteacher Katherine Gleason, pleading with the commission to come up with a solution, suggested a state income tax, the Victoria Advocate

reported in its Wednesday editions.

Calhoun County school district Superintendent Larry Nichols said Robin Hood is not fair.

The district is property wealthy and required to give half its funding to poorer districts.

"We're sending out \$26 million," he said.

Jack Wu, vice president of business development at Formosa Plastics Point Comfort, agreed with the Robin Hood criticism.

New York City hopes academy will graduate rodent control 'warriors'

NEW YORK (AP) — By second period, the teacher is already maniacally waving his arms in the air.

But Bobby Corrigan isn't trying to get anyone's attention — his students are already captivated by the creepy curriculum. He is demonstrating how rats have whisker-like hairs all over their bodies that enable them to sense and avoid some traps.

This is class at the New York City Rodent Control Academy.

The city created the school as part of its war on rats, enlisting Corrigan to teach city workers how to properly bait, trap and poison the rodents in ways that don't just drive an infestation down the block.

The critters scamper through subway tunnels, root through trash, dash across parks and burrow into the walls of apartment buildings. They can transmit disease, start fires by gnawing on electrical cords and sometimes bite.

"There's no question that we have a rat problem ... the city has put out traps and poison at record rates," Mayor Michael Bloomberg said in September while outlining the city's yearly report card, which showed a dramatic increase in rat complaints.

To lead the academy, the city tapped Corrigan, a Brooklyn native who once spent months living in a rat-infested barn to better study the rodents' behavior. He occasionally yelps in excitement, especially while debunking rat myths.

For starters: the city's rodents are not "as big as cats."

The biggest rat weighs about a pound and three ounces, he says. Other widely believed, but false, rat trivia include: They don't uri-

nate uncontrollably, they're not blind and there aren't legions of them below the city. Most are at ground level or living in walls and ceilings. In extreme cases, rats have been found nesting in beds, chairs and couches.

Rats are not made up of a soft skeleton that lets them squeeze through small holes. They only need a half-inch opening, but that's because they're flexible.

As for those who are terrified of a rat running up a pant leg, that's not exactly

unfounded. A rat confronted by a human will look for somewhere to hide, and a shadow cast by a cuff looks mighty safe.

"They'll head for the shadow thinking it's a hole, and up the leg they'll go," Corrigan said.

And the saying that there's a rat for every one of New York's eight million residents? Not true. Corrigan says there's no way to know how many rats live in the city, only that there's "no shortage of them."

'There's no question that we have a rat problem ... the city has put out traps and poison at record rates.'

— Michael Bloomberg
NYC mayor

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I've been dating a wonderful man for several months. We have a great relationship, and I know I'm fortunate to have him. His family is very kind and warm. They have always welcomed me into their home by inviting me to family events, holidays, etc. The challenge is, his family is from Eastern Europe. He came to the United States at a relatively young age, and his English is perfect. However, his parents and grandparents do not speak or understand English very well. I want so much to sit down and have a conversation with his mom, but I can't. I'm trying to learn their language, but their alphabet is different from ours. Also, I am dyslexic. While I will not give up on learning their language, it will certainly not happen overnight. I can't afford classes to get professional help in learning the language, and my boyfriend can't always be right by my side to translate. I'm dying to be able to tell his mother that the dinner was good, or her blouse is pretty. Can you help me? This will probably be my family one day. -- **LINGUISTICALLY LIMITED IN PITTSBURGH**

DEAR LIMITED: You don't necessarily have to learn to read a language to speak it. You can learn it phonetically, by memorizing words and phrases on tape. Ask your boyfriend to record some of the things you would like to say to his family, and then you can "surprise" them the next time you have dinner there.

DEAR ABBY: My fiance and I are having a debate about our wedding. He would like one of his best friends, "Bill," who is my ex-boyfriend, to be one of his groomsmen. I don't feel comfortable with Bill and his girlfriend being at our wedding because they have tried to break up my fiance and me before.

Abby, they hate me -- and my fiance thinks they should be there to celebrate our marriage. What do you think about this? Their invitation depends on your response. -- **UPSET IN MONTANA**

DEAR UPSET: I disagree with your boyfriend. The only guests at your wedding should be those who wish you well. It would be extremely inappropriate to have them there. If you and your fiance have not had premarital counseling, I hope you will seriously consider it -- just to be certain you are on the same page regarding other issues that are sure to come up once you are married. It could save you both a lot of frustration and heartache. Trust me.

DEAR ABBY: About a month ago, you printed a letter in your column about organ donations from the father of a little boy who had been shot to death while the family vacationed in Europe. He had donated his son's organs in the country where the tragedy occurred. It brought to mind a question I have had for years about organ donation. Is it true that if you are an organ donor, your family has to pay to have it done? -- **LONNIE IN GREENFIELD, MO.**

DEAR LONNIE: The answer to your question is NO. The donor family does not have to pay anything. This question has appeared in my column in years past. According to the Living Bank in Houston, the person who receives the organ is responsible for the expenses. The costs are usually covered by health insurance, including Medicare and Medicaid. The amount of insurance coverage depends on the organ involved, and the kind of insurance policy the recipient has.

For Better Or Worse



Zits



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Beetle Bailey



Marvin



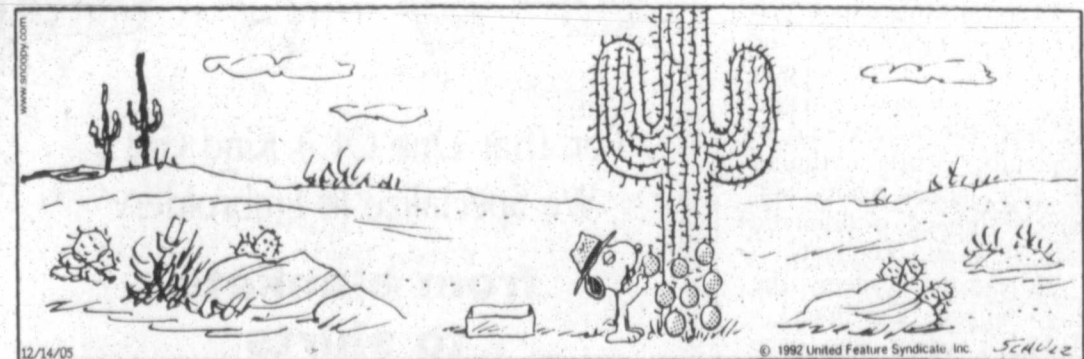
B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 45 Pod

1 Disagree contents

7 Wilma's hubby

11 Songbird

12 Mystique

13 Asian's place

14 Water's aid

15 Oracle setting

17 Charly affair

20 Yoga position

23 End of a college e-mail address

24 Man or monkey

26 Urgent call

27 CSA leader

28 Convent occupant

29 Camera supports

31 Auditor's org.

32 Burglar's crime

33 Mustang feature

34 Down Under denizen

37 Minnow's milieu

39 Never-theless

43 Ontario's neighbor

44 Pleistocene period

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ORATE	NOISE
NAVAL	BATTLE
SLY	TOM
YEP	
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PEARS	LETIN
EMMA	NUDE
RUIING	BIGOT
CAROM	
AHA	LOG
SAP	
LEGAL	BATTLE
TRENE	ROUTE
TEDDY	TENOR

Yesterday's answer

16 Tissue layers	33 Tycoon
4 "12 Angry Men" star	Guggenheim
5 Writer	17 "Beau" Heim
18 Bedecked	35 Spoken
19 Torpedoed	36 Machu Picchu
6 Genuine	37 High native
7 Depth unit	38 Raw rock
8 "The Prisoner of Zenda"	40 Kids' card game
9 Important setting	41 Hitherto
21 Road reversal	42 Evergreen shrub
22 Intuit	
24 Ruses	
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30 Prissy ones	

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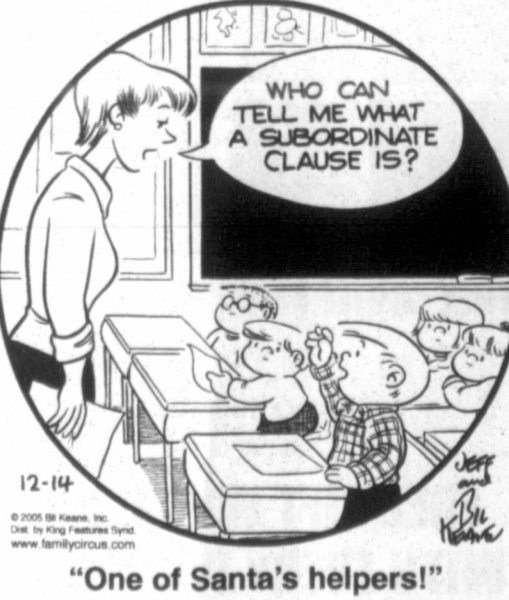
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Marmaduke



The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



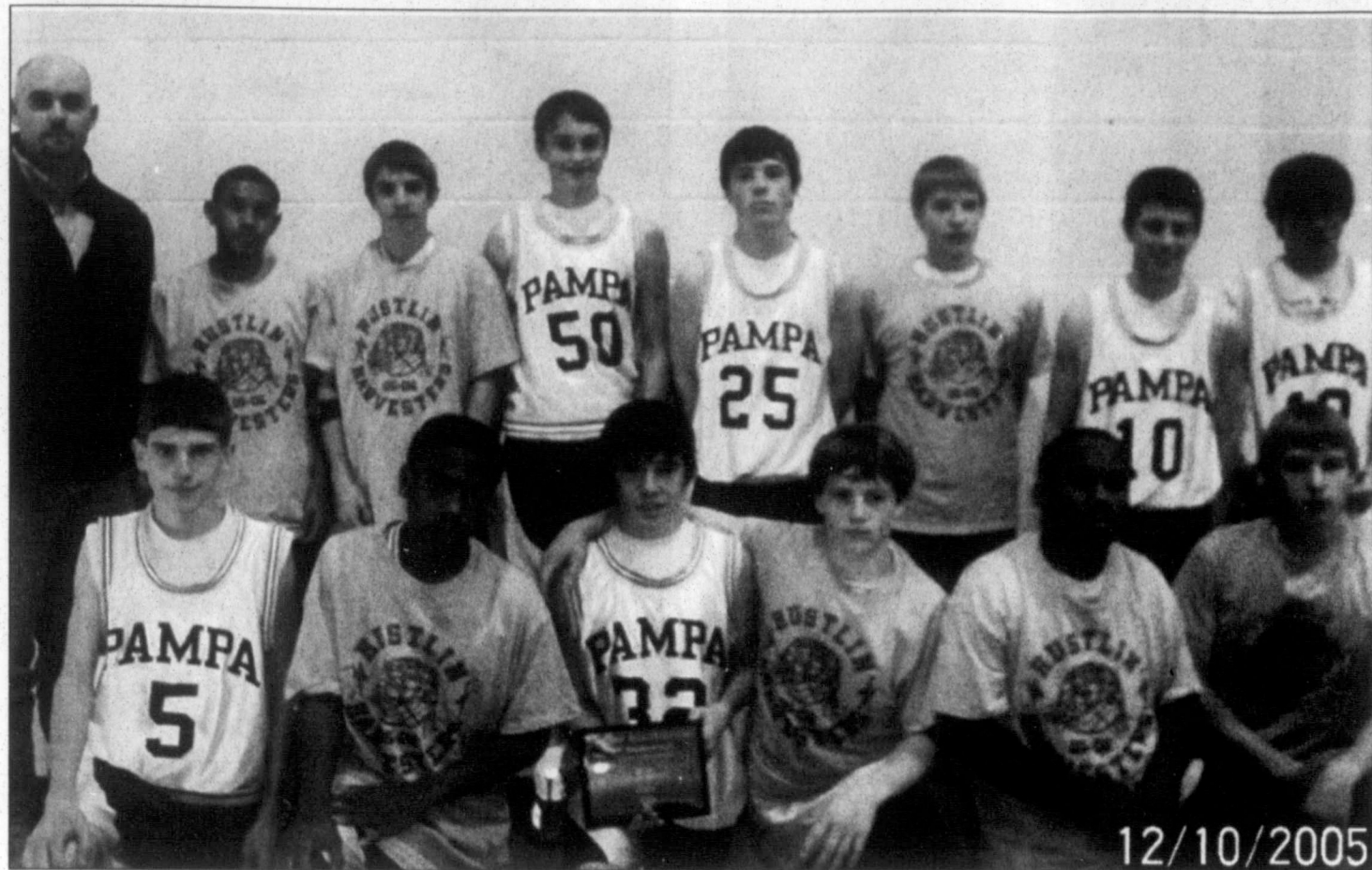
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Sports Day

Fantastic freshmen



Courtesy photo

The Pampa High School freshmen basketball team defeated West Texas High in the consolation bracket of the Borger Tournament over the weekend. Pampa defeated the host Bulldogs, but fell to Dalhart to set up the meeting with West Texas. The Harvesters' season record is 3-3. Pictured are (left to right), back row- Coach Kurt Haberthur, Chris Jackson, Jack Ware, Zack Winborne, Casey Trimble, Heath Skinner, John Luke Covalt and Ryan Funderburg. Bottom row- Ryan Baggerman, Josiah Weeks, Tyler Jones, Chris Benge, Cobran Harris and Hayden Skinner.

Lady Harvesters dominate; boys 10-2 after tough fight

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

It was a great night of basketball for the Pampa High School varsity teams in Borger Tuesday. The Harvesters took to the road for a meeting with the Bulldogs and Lady Bulldogs, coming away with wins in both games.

Boys

Pampa 54, Borger 45

Things got off to a slow, almost tentative start on the Bulldogs' home court. Neither team could find the bucket until Borger scored more than two minutes into the contest. Pampa's Braydon Barker gave his team the lead on the following possession with a bucket from the 3-point arch.

Where Pampa had all but dictated the game to Borger in two previous meetings this season, the Bulldogs put a defense on the floor that kept the Harvesters from running and scoring. Borger stuck to Pampa like glue and kept the outcome of the game in doubt until late in the fourth quarter.

The game was tied at 25 at the half, with Pampa held to just eight points in the second period while Borger netted 12.

The Harvesters used the third quarter to build a little breathing room, outscoring the Bulldogs 16-8. But Borger would not go away, fighting back in the final period, only to see Pampa pull away in the end.

The game was the first for Pampa following a week off. The win improved the Harvesters' overall record to 10-2, while Borger fell to 7-6. The win was the third straight over the Bulldogs for Pampa this season, a feat not easily accom-

plished by any team, no matter the records.

Junior varsity

Pampa fell to Borger in a tough one, 51-46.

Girls

Pampa 64, Borger 39

A dominating second quarter performance catapulted Pampa to an easy win over the Lady Bulldogs in Borger Tuesday night and moved the Lady Harvesters to within a game of .500 (7-8) for the season.

The game had the look of a close battle in the opening period with Pampa scoring 15 to Borger's 12. The ensuing quarter was a much different story.

The Lady Harvesters outgunned Borger 22-8 in the second and left for the locker room with a 37-20 advantage at the half.

Both teams hit double digits in the third, Pampa 15, Borger 13, and entered the final period with the Lady Harvesters ahead, 52-33.

Pampa doubled-up Borger in the fourth, 12-6.

Brittini Rice led all scorers with 26 points for the night. Kelsie Wyatt had a solid game off the bench. She was strong at both ends of the court and finished with 11 points for Pampa.

Junior varsity

The Lady Harvesters JV team lost to Borger 42-36. Coach Janyth Bowers said the game came down to the wire, but turnovers hindered her team's efforts. Sara Foster had eight points for Pampa. Jasmine Moore also had eight. Stephanie Polasek added seven.

Young, Bush and Hawk head AP All-American team roster

(AP) - Vince Young can claim at least one victory over Southern California this season.

The Texas quarterback was selected to The Associated Press All-America team released Tuesday, relegating USC's Matt Leinart to second-team.

Young was runner-up in the Heisman Trophy voting to Trojans tailback Reggie Bush and was one of four Longhorns on the first team. Bush was one of three All-Americans from top-ranked USC and a unanimous first-team selection.

The real test for No. 2 Texas comes Jan. 4 in the Rose Bowl, when the Longhorns and Trojans play for the national title.

Young didn't hide his disappointment when Bush won the Heisman in a landslide on Saturday night.

"This should give me a little bit more edge to show the world what a good team the University of Texas is," he said.

Always dynamic on the move, Young proved he could be a topflight passer this season. He leads the

nation in efficiency rating (168.8) with 2,769 yards and 26 touchdown passes. He also leads the team with 850 yards rushing.

Texas offensive tackle Jonathan Scott also made the first team, along with teammates Michael Huff, who won the Thorpe Award as the nation's best defensive back, and defensive tackle Rodrigue Wright.

Wide receiver Dwayne Jarrett and safety Darnell Bing were the other USC All-Americans.

Leinart was the All-America quarterback last season when he won the Heisman Trophy.

This year he was third in the Heisman voting and lost out to Young for the top spot on the All-America team.

Notre Dame's Brady Quinn was the third-team quarterback.

USC and Texas led the way with seven players each receiving AP All-America mention.

Leinart was joined on the second team by guard Taitusi Latui.

See ROSTER, Page 10

PHS basketball booster club to host meeting tomorrow

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

The Pampa High School Basketball Booster Club will host a brief meeting Thursday night at 7 in the PHS library. Among the topics and tasks will be the approval of some spending items.

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POYC BASEBALL

Registrations continue

Registration continues today and Thursday for Optimist Boys' Basketball for boys in the third, fourth, fifth and sixth grades, according to Huey Green, Commissioner. Registration will be from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Optimist Building.

"We plan to limit each team to nine players so that we can provide the players with more playing time," said Ronnie N. Haynes, Optimist President. "We are expecting another good turnout this year," Haynes said. "Last year we had 109 players divided into six teams in the third and fourth grade division and six teams in the fifth and sixth grade division."

Practice and games will begin next month. A playing fee of \$35 for each player will be requested.

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1 Public Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **VELMA I. WRIGHT**, Deceased, were issued on December 12, 2005, in Docket No. 9246, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas, to: **WINDELL R. WRIGHT**. The residence of the Independent Executor is in Grayson County, Texas. The post office address is: P.O. Box 1773, Van Alstyne, Texas 75495. All persons having claims against this Estate which are currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 12th day of December, 2005.

By: Harold L. Comer
State Bar Card
046410000
P.O. Box 1058
Pampa, TX 79066-1058
(806)665-8495
FAX (806)669-0553
Attorney for Independent Executor
Dec. 14, 2005

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **BILLIE OSBORNE DIXON**, Deceased, were issued on December 12, 2005, in Docket No. 9245, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas, to: **DAVID W. DIXON** and **ROBERT M. LONG**.

David W. Dixon is a resident of Gray County, Texas. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate, addressed as follows:

1 Public Notice

David W. Dixon and Robert M. Long, Independent Executors Estate of Billie Osborne Dixon, Deceased c/o Don R. Lane Attorney at Law P.O. Box 1781 Pampa, TX 79066-1781

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated the 12th day of December, 2005

David W. Dixon
Robert M. Long
Dec. 14, 2005

5 Special Notices

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21 Help Wanted

NOTICE
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UPS has immediate openings for Seasonal Driver Helpers. Details and applications at upsjobs.com

Part-Time Clinical Nursing Faculty: The Division of Nursing at West Texas A&M University seeks part-time clinical instructors in Maternal Child and Medical Surgical nursing for the Spring 2006 semester. BSN required; MSN preferred. Call Heidi Taylor, Division Head, 806-651-2630, for information. Texas law requires that males, age 18 through 25, be registered w/ Selective Service System. AAEOE.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Dec. 15, 2005:

"Interesting" describes your next year. Think in terms of basics and what is fundamentally important. You could swing from one point of view to another with ease. Sometimes you might feel as if you give too much and at other times not enough. You will learn to establish boundaries that are important for your well-being. You are in a period of change. If a man, you could question your identity. A woman easily could be evaluating her work and/or her male relationships. To be sure, you will be much different because of this year. If you are single, relating might have its share of ups and downs. Remember, a bond must go through the four seasons to really become a relationship. If you are attached, you might be readjusting to the changing "yous." Get to know your mate as he or she is today. **CANCER** reads you cold. He or she can also help you make money.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★★ Though you could easily get aggravated, at the same time, you might find that what happens ultimately is for your benefit. Think positively about what you want. Take a hard look at your views. Tonight: Pressure builds.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ Financial matters could go haywire in a way you might hardly be able to believe. Hold on to your hat, if you can. Hold on to your funds, too. Someone has great ideas, but he or she could hurt you financially right now. Tonight: No risk-

ing.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ You might want to toss your hands in the air on this Full Moon. Others are touchy, willful and controlling. Though you could feel great, you might want to avoid certain people who seem to be determined to give you a hard time. Tonight: The only answer is yes.
CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★★ Really consider saying no to someone. Consider not going in to work. Others could be difficult. If you are not feeling 100 percent, take a personal day. You will be happiest by yourself or away from the maddening crowds. Tonight: Vanish.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★★ You know what you want but might need to do quite a dance to get there. Reveal more of what you have in mind. A child or loved one could be extremely willful. A situation becomes intense. Let your creativity flourish. Tonight: Keep your goals in mind.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ You feel pushed and pulled in two different directions. Knowing what you want could make quite a difference. Still, you might want to evolve past immediate events. You can, you know. Tonight: Don't be reactive.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Sometimes you cannot win for losing. Your best bet is to not get involved, no matter how strongly you feel. Detach and understand others' points of view. Ultimately, everything will work out perfectly. Tonight: Escape into music or a movie.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ You might want to rethink a situation more carefully, especially if it impacts your finances. No matter how

good a risk might seem, you could find that it spells trouble. Say no. Tonight: Be the real you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ You might be the cause of a problem that you want to accept. Others could finally throw in the towel and say "enough," and they do mean just that. Listen well to another person you care about. Tonight: Be friendly.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★★ You could be jinxing yourself by overthinking. What an ouch! Understand that our thoughts create our reality. If you think negatively, then negative things will happen. If you think positively, good events will surround you. Tonight: Nap and then decide.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ Your ability to think through a decision and see all the different sides could and might very well make all the difference. Your thinking and relationships constantly evolve, allowing new choices. Flex with others. Tonight: Start the weekend early.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ You might feel that you keep bumping into problems. You are. Your best bet is to pull out and let others have their way. The end results will let you know if you are right or wrong. Tonight: Do only what you must.

BORN TODAY
Actor Don Johnson (1949), oil magnate J. Paul Getty (1892), emperor of Rome Nero (37)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.
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21 Help Wanted

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69 Misc.

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One word carries big difference in fed rate announcement

WASHINGTON (AP) — There was just one missing word in the Federal Reserve's public announcement of its 13th rate increase, but it made a big difference.

In raising the federal funds rate to 4.25 percent on Tuesday, Chairman Alan Greenspan and his colleagues stopped using the word "accommodation," which in Fed-speak means that interest rates are kept low enough to boost economic growth.

Dropping "accommodation" from its policy statement suggests the Fed thinks it has raised rates so high that they are no longer stimulating economic activity.

'The committee judges that some further measured policy firming is likely to be needed.'

— Federal panel

The Fed did keep another key code word — "measured" — which it also has used in all of its 12 previous rate increases, a word that has come to mean that future rate bumps will be small quarter-point moves.

"The committee judges that some further measured policy firming is likely to be needed," the Fed

panel that sets interest rates said in its Tuesday statement.

But many private economists believe there won't be more than two more quarter-point moves, which would leave the funds rate at 4.75 percent.

"We are finally seeing the light at the end of the tunnel," said David Jones, chief economist at

DMJ Advisors, a Colorado-based forecasting firm.

After the Fed announcement, banks said they were pushing the prime rate, the benchmark for millions of business and consumer loans, including home equity lines of credit, up to a 4 1/2-year high of 7.25 percent.

Many analysts expect the

Federal Reserve will boost rates again on Jan. 31, which will be Greenspan's last meeting, and possibly on March 28, which will be the first time that Ben Bernanke will chair the Fed panel that sets interest rates.

But after that the central bank is expected to be on hold, perhaps for the rest of 2006, which would be good news for borrowers worried that interest rates could be headed significantly higher.

The Fed started its credit tightening campaign in June 2004 when its target for the funds rate, the interest that banks charge each other, stood at a 46-year low of 1 percent.

Intrusive act wends quickly through Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — The GOP-controlled House plans to quickly renew portions of the USA Patriot Act before they expire at the end of the year. Some Republicans say the nation's safety could be endangered if the Senate doesn't follow suit.

The House on Wednesday was expected to pass a White House-backed bill that would renew more than a dozen provisions of the Act — the government's premier anti-terrorism law — which are due to expire Dec. 31.



Rotary Club

Jacque Burklow welcomed Jason Pooley as a new member at a recent Rotary Club meeting. Pooley is operations manager for Smithfield Genetics Texas Division.

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'The consequence of the Patriot Act expiring on December 31st is going to be putting the American people at greater risk.'

— James Sensenbrenner
R-Wis.

But saving those provisions will be more difficult in the Republican-controlled Senate, where some GOP and Democratic senators are unsatisfied with the compromise bill, which was worked out last week between key Republicans in the House and Senate.

At least one senator, Democrat Russ Feingold of Wisconsin, is threatening a filibuster.

House leaders and Attorney General Alberto Gonzales on Tuesday warned the bill's opponents that they could be putting the country in danger by holding up the Act's reauthorization.

"The consequence of the Patriot Act expiring on December 31st is going to be putting the American people at greater risk," House Judiciary Committee Chairman James Sensenbrenner, R-Wis., said. Added Gonzales: "The tools in the reauthorization of the Patriot Act are very important to the success of the Department of Justice in protecting this country."

For the White House and congressional Republicans, renewing the centerpiece of President Bush's war on terror is a top priority with the midterm elections coming up next year.

Bush devoted his Saturday radio address to the subject and Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., added his voice Sunday.

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