

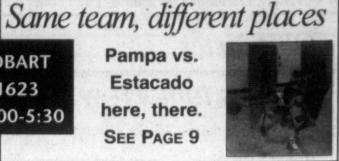
Today's Weather

HIGH 43 LOW 26



**1415 N. HOBART** 806-665-1623 MON-SAT 9:00-5:30

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# THE PAMPA

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**December 16, 2005** 

Volume 101 · No. 1443

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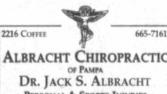
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District clerk. clerk's office in 1993, and was first elected district clerk in 1998. of Gray County another four years,"

"The district clerk provides support

between the first and second floors.

By MARILYN POWERS

Staff Writer

12 years' experience in the district

clerk's office, has filed for re-election

on the Republican ticket as 31st

She began working in the district

"I look forward to serving the people

Gaye Honderich, who has more than

for the 223rd and 31st District courts, processes jury panels, and serves as registrar, recorder and custodian of court records filed in civil, family and criminal district court," Honderich

District clerk Honderich seeks re-election

She is state certified and has completed required hours of continuing education. She is a member of the County and District Clerks' Association of Texas and is an educational panelist at area and state confer-

ences and seminars. Honderich, who has served on the Clerks' Association legislative committee, said her top priority is to keep up with changes in legislation and court rules to make sure the office is in compliance.

A new space-saving filing system implemented by Honderich has freed up needed storage area in the court-

"We are imaging all current records as well as scanning old records onto compact discs," she said. "I will be

See HONDERICH, Page 3



Honderich

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Nikki Shelton • Stephanie Rojas

# 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

#### County to buy two vehicles, tables software proposal without having to duplicate each other's By MARILYN POWERS Staff Writer

Gray County commissioners accepted a bid for two vehicles for the sheriff's office at their Thursday meeting in the courthouse, but took no action on a proposal by District Attorney Lynn Switzer to expand a computer software program to additional county

Sheriff Don Copeland said Fenton Motors of Pampa was the only bidder for the two full-size vehicles. Commissioners followed Copeland's recommendation to accept Fenton's bid of \$43,969.50, with no trade-in allowance. The vehicles which will be replaced by the two new vehicles will be sold, Copeland said.

Action was tabled on a proposal by Switzer to expand a GSA software program currently used by some county offices. The purpose of the expansion would be to allow more offices to share information on cases

That's entertainment

work by re-entering the data into their own "This is cutting-edge software," Switzer

said. "It will save so much time and energy." "The sheriff, district attorney and county attorney are the only ones who don't already have it," said County Judge Richard Peet.

Switzer said she had already added the program to her office computers, and will pay for it out of her forfeiture funds. She asked commissioners to consider the expansion of the program to additional county offices and to consider reimbursing her office for the program cost if the expansion was approved.

"For two additional offices, we're looking at an additional \$80,000 a year," Peet said. Switzer said the new program is currently costing her office \$1,483 per month, but that

See COUNTY, Page 3

### Cornelison apologizes to woman for remarks

By MARILYN POWERS Staff Writer

Gray County Treasurer Lee Cornelison apologized to Assistant County Auditor Carla Carter during Thursday's county commissioners' meeting for remarks she reportedly heard him say concerning her.

The public apology came after a 40-minute executive session which was purportedly for the purpose of discussing "complaints regarding acoustics in the court-

house," according to the agenda.

Commissioners moved to the acoustics issue about 30 minutes into the meeting. County Judge Richard Peet said he understood the issue involved the treasurer's and auditor's offices, which share a wall.

Carter asked that the matter be discussed in executive session, and audience mem-

See APOLOGY, Page 3

### Clay Rice steps down at chamber

By MARILYN POWERS Staff Writer

Clay Rice, executive director of the Greater Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce, announced his resignation at a 9 a.m. press conference today in the Chamber offices at the Community Building, 200 N. Ballard.

"I submitted my letter of resignation to the executive board on Tuesday, and yesterday to the full board of directors," Rice said. "My final day is Friday, Jan. 13."

Rice said he planned to stay in Pampa and has accepted another position, but declined to give any further information on his new employment.

'It was a very tough decision to leave here," he said. "I really love my job, and I can honestly say that I've been treated like a million bucks. It's been one of the most wonderful experiences of my life.'

Rice has been executive director of the Chamber since March 1999. One of the accomplishments he is most proud of during his directorship is the creation

See RICE, Page 3

Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS Austin Elementary School's third-grade students brought Christmas cheer Thursday morning to Gray County Courthouse employees and visitors by singing a selection of holiday songs on the staircase

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### Services tomorrow

ALLSTON, Ruth B. — 10 a.m., Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel.

HENSLEY, LaNella — 2 p.m., Durham Community Building, Durham, Okla.

#### Ruth B. Allston, 94

Ruth B. Allston, 94, of Pampa, Texas, died Dec. 14, 2005, at Terrell, Texas. Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, 2005, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Roy King, retired Christian Church minister, officiating.

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

Mrs. Allston was born April 13, 1911, in Fort Smith, Ark. She married Oliver W. "Ollie" Allston on June 29, 1929, in Amarillo, and he preceded her in death.

She was an active member of the First Christian Church for over 50 years. She was a secretary and bookkeeper for Martin-Turner Insurance Agency, retiring after 20

years of service.

Survivors include one son, Tom Allston of Amarillo; one daughter, Charlotte Owens and husband Angus of Forney; two grandsons, Stacy Allston of Austin and Aaron Allston of Round Rock; one granddaughter, Shannon Warner of Colorado; one brother, Howell Bailey of Pryor, Okla.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family requests memorials be to First Christian Church, 1633 N. Nelson, Pampa,

The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 6-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16,

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

#### David C. Gurley, 46

ENNIS - David C. Gurley, 46, died Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2005, at Navarro Regional Hospital in Corsicana. Services were scheduled for 1 p.m. today in Keever Chapel with the Rev. Fred Caldwell officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of J.E. Keever Mortuary of Ennis.

Mr. Gurley was born Oct. 29, 1959, at Pampa, to Charles and Marcie Kirby Gurley. He grew up in Mabank, where he attended school. On Feb. 14, 1992, he married Melissa Vrana. After the marriage, the couple moved to Bardwell.

He worked as an assembler for Tyler Refrigeration for 20 years. He enjoyed motorcycling and music.

Mr. Gurley was preceded in death by his mother, Marcie.

Survivors include his wife, Melissa of Ennis; a daughter, Rachel Strange of Mabank; a stepson, C.J. Cruz of Ennis; his father, Charles Gurley of Pampa; two brothers, Michael Gurley of Houston and Greg Lobban of Mabank; two sisters, Kelly Collins of Mabank and Shannon Waitman of Amarillo; and a grandchild.

### AAA: Gas prices rise for second week

HOUSTON (AP) Gasoline prices at retail pumps across Texas continue to climb for a second straight week, according to the weekly AAA Texas gasoline price survey released

According to a AAA more than last week

CITY BRIEFS

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

Texas statement, average gas prices have risen nearly 10 cents per gallon in the past two weeks in Texas. The statewide average retail price of regular, self-serve unleaded gas was about \$2.14 per gallon, or 7 cents

Dallas, where regular averaged \$2.17 per gallon, 8 cents more than last week. The cheapest gas was found in Corpus Christi, where regular averaged \$2.07 a gallon, up a dime from last week.

The national average was \$2.19, or four cents more than last week.

The costliest gas was in

"Despite an 82-cent decrease since Labor Day, the current \$2.14 average is the highest-ever, non-inflation-adjusted price heading

#### OPEN HOUSE at West MASSAGE THERAPY into the Christmas holiday, Texas Landscape, Dec. 17th Special-Christmas Gift Certif- said AAA Texas spokes-

All Day! Come See our Great icates! Cathy Potter or Holly woman Rose Rougeau. Selection of Fresh Cut Trees, Couts 669-0013, 1224 N. Ho-Poinsettias, Ornaments and bart Ste. 9, NBC Plaza II Gourmet Foods. Plus, check out the great savings!

Light Service, Sun. Dec. 18th, Lefors Civic Center Today & 6 pm. Pentecostal Holiness Tomorrow 9am-7pm Church, 1700 Alcock.

taken with Santa at West your gifts, packing & ship-Texas Landscape, Noon-2:00 ping needs. 1320 N. Banks. during the Christmas Open House. Free ornament for every \$20

Turkey Sale. Fried or ister for a free pair of Dia-Smoked. To order, call 665- mond Earrings 6pm-8pm 7161, 665-3786 or 669-0604.

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### Stocks

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Cabot Oil Gas		
Coca Cola		+0.25
LO		-0.76
IAL	.65.28	-0.62
RI	.40.52	-0.13
MI		+0.37
CEL	.18.87	+0.01
Kerr McGee KOM	92.65	-1.76
OM	.59.01	-0.48
at'l Oilwell .	. NA	NA
imited		+0.02
Villiams		-0.22
ACD		-0.10
tmos	.26.48	-0.12
ioneer Nat		-0.71
CP		+0.26
OP 90°		-0.44
LB		-0.81
enneco		+0.17
VX		-0.48
Wal-Mart		+0.07
)KE		
S Grp	.41.35	-0.45

West Texas Crude.

### **Emergency Services**

#### Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Fifteen traffic stops were made. One traffic stop in the 1900 block of Alcock resulted in an arrest for driving while intoxicated.

Traffic complaints were received from the 1000 block of South Dwight and an unspecified location.

Vehicle accidents were reported in the 1900 block of Coffee and at an unspecified location.

One business and one residential alarm were reported. One open door was checked.

Welfare checks were made in the 1800 block of North Dwight, the 2700 block of North Hobart, the 1200 block of North Hobart, and the 2800 block of Charles.

property was Found reported in the 2200 block of Williston. A bank card was found in the 1500 block of North Russell.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 700 block of North Somerville, the intersection of Kentucky and Christine streets, the intersection of Foster and Hobart streets, and twice from the 900 block of Sierra.

A suspicious vehicle call was received from the 300 block of Miami.

A prowler was reported in the 300 block of North Frost. Disorderly conduct was reported at Pampa Junior High School, 2401 Charles, and at the intersection of Georgia and Mary Ellen streets.

Harassment was reported in the 800 block of North

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1300 block of Garland. Narcotics violations were

reported in the 1100 block of Seneca and the 1100 block of Sierra. Possession of under two

ounces of marijuana in a drug-free zone was reported in the 800 block of Duncan. The incident led to an arrest.

Theft was reported in the 2600 block of North Hobart. A back door was damaged, and a Nintendo game cube and games were taken. Estimated total value of damage and loss is \$200.

Theft was reported in the 1000 block of Prairie Drive. Water and a lock were taken; total estimated loss is less than \$50.

Theft was reported in the 1600 block of North Hobart.

#### Accidents

Pampa Police Department reported the following accident today.

Thursday, Dec. 15 10:53 a.m. - A 1990 Pontiac Grand Prix, driven by Joe Lee Holly, 49, 501 1/2 N. Ward, and a 2003 Lincoln Continental Town Car, driven by Donna Brunnier Burger, 73, 12060 N. Peach Road, collided in the 600 block of North Hobart. No injuries were reported. Holly was cited for failure to control speed and no valid driver's license.

#### Sheriff

Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests today

Thursday, Dec. 15 David Lee Meyer, 17, 430 Carr, was arrested in Central Park by Pampa Police Department for possession of less than two ounces of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Ramon Campos Garcia, 38, 712 S. Finley, was arrested by GCSO on Gray County sentences in 223rd District Court for two counts of driving while intoxicated, third or more offense.

Raymond Lee Wright, 55, of Amarillo was arrested by GCSO on a Gray County sentence for possession of a controlled substance and on a bond forfeiture for theft.

Jason Kelly Mulanax, 27, 1121 Seneca, was arrested in the 1100 block of Seneca by PPD for possession of less than two ounces of marijuana in a drug-free zone, possession of a dangerous drug, and theft over \$500 and under \$1,500.

Ignacio Vargas, 32, 936 Faulkner, was arrested by PPD for assault causing bodily injury, open container and failure to appear.

Brooke Michelle Pyle, 23, 640 Roberta, was arrested in the 1100 block of Seneca by PPD for possession of a controlled substance in a drugfree zone.

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#### Fire

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

Thursday, Dec. 15 10:36 a.m. - One unit and four personnel responded to the 600 block of North Hobart on a vehicle accident.

11:31 a.m. - One unit and two personnel responded to Somerville and Hobart on a

2 p.m. - One unit and three personnel responded to the 200 block of West Foster on an odor investigation.

2:36 p.m. - One unit and three personnel responded to the 400 block of Short on a carbon monoxide investiga-

3:09 p.m. – One unit and three personnel responded to the 400 block of Short on a service call to install a smoke detector.

6:30 p.m. - One unit and two personnel responded to West Kentucky near the water treatment plant on a grass fire.

#### **Ambulance**

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Thursday, Dec. 15 11:04 a.m. - A mobile

ICU unit responded to the 1400 block of Dogwood and transported a patient(s) to Pampa Regional Medical Center. 12:38 p.m. - A mobile

ICU unit responded to the 700 block of Somerville and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

2:06 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 2300 block of Aspen and transported a patient(s) to a hos-

Friday, Dec. 16

12:53 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1500 block of West Kentucky and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

### Gray County Weather.

Today: A 20 percent with a high around 35. Wind chance of showers after 3 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 43. Wind chill values between 14 and 24. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Tonight: A slight chance of rain before 8 p.m., then a slight chance of snow. Cloudy, with a low around 26. Wind chill values between 16 and 21. South wind around 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20

Saturday: A 20 percent chance of snow. Cloudy,

chill values between 16 and 26. South-southeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north.

Saturday Night: A 20 percent chance of snow. Cloudy, with a low near 18. Wind chill values between 8 and 13. North-northeast wind around 10 mph.

Sunday: A 30 percent chance of snow, mainly after noon. Cloudy, with a high around 29. Northeast wind around 10 mph. Sunday Night: A 20 per-

cent chance of snow. Cloudy, with a low around 16. East-southeast wind

between 5 and 10 mph. Monday: A 20 percent

chance of snow. Cloudy, with a high around 29. South wind around 10 mph. Monday Night: A 20 per-

cent chance of snow. Cloudy, with a low around 16. South wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Tuesday: Partly cloudy, with a high around 35. South wind between 5 and 10 mph. Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low near 23.

Wednesday: Partly cloudy, with a high around

this Christmas season

and through the coming year. Texas Plains Women's Center



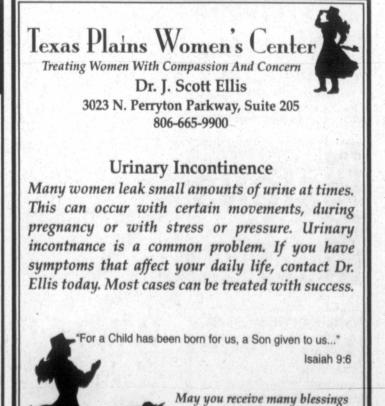
**1 PT PINTO BEANS** 

**FAMILY FRENCH FRIES** 

Feeds Family Of 4 Offer Expires Soon

**GARLIC CHEESE BISQUITS** 





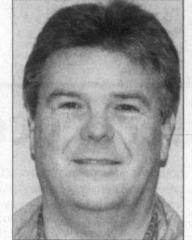
### Rice

Continued from Page 1

of the business expo. "All our activities have grown," he said. "But one thing I'm most proud of is the business expo.

"Back in 2000, at a breakfast, Blake Howard mentioned that we should start a business expo. We took it from there, and it's grown every year. It gives local businesses and organizations a chance to shine." He then touched on

Pampa's future. "Pampa has a bright future.," he said. "People have discovered what a great value we have here. I see great things ahead for our future with the great group of leaders that we have and the willingness of the community to grow and prosper."



Clay Rice

Others expressed regret at Rice's resignation from the Chamber.

"As his employee, I'm sad to see him go," said Vonda Higgins, a Chamber employee." Clay's been wonderful as a boss and wonderful for Chamber."

"It's going to be hard to fill his shoes," said Kathy

Cota, a Chamber board member. "He's been a very, very good director. We're going to miss him a lot."

A search committee was named at Thursday's Chamber board meeting to begin the process of finding a replacement for Rice, Cota said. No interim director has been named.

Rice was born and reared in Pampa. He is a 1977 graduate of Pampa High School, and returned to Pampa in 1992 after several years away. He and his wife Beth have two children and two grandchildren.

"I want to express how appreciative I am of the 100 percent support of the board, members and community as a whole, and between the staff and all the members. The teamwork is what's created the successes we've had," Rice said this morning.

## County

Continued from Page 1

amount could go down if Gray County paid her costs and she reimbursed the county out of the forfeiture funds, since the software company offered discounts with larger orders and some other county offices already had the software.

Precinct 2 Commissioner Gary Willoughby asked if the increased efficiency would translate into fewer employees.

"I don't know that there'll be an employee reduction," Switzer said 'The increase in all our caseloads is phenomenal. This will increase efficiency and help avert needing more employees."

Commissioners asked for information on current programs which could be replaced by the new one and for a representative of the software company to address commissioners before making a decision on whether to expand the program to additional county

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offices. Willoughby received commissioners' approval to contract with Texas Department of Criminal Justice's Jordan Unit for a team of inmates to help with work in Precinct 2.

Willoughby had contacted the Jordan Unit to inquire about the availability of inmates to help with county

work. He was told he would have to sign a contract with the prison in order to get a work crew.

"The Jordan Unit projects that I'll have a team of eight to 10 inmates," Willoughby said. "The county won't have to pay anything or provide anything. The city will provide vehicles for transportation." The city's offer of transportation is due to the large amount of Pampa being in Precinct 2.

Willoughby said he could use the inmate help since his precinct had decreased from eight workers to six since he took office.

The contract with the prison is for 90 days and is renewable.

Justices of the Peace Joe Martinez of Precinct 1 and Kurt Curfman of Precinct 2, along with Switzer, received commissioners' approval to send bodies to be autopsied to Tarrant County at times when Texas Tech in Lubbock is unable to perform an autopsy within several days of a request.

doctors," Curfman said. "Because of that, they can't keep up with all the autopsies. They said they can do ours if we'd wait two to three days.

"If we can't go to Lubbock, we've pretty well agreed we want to go to Tarrant County," he said.

The cost of autopsies done in Tarrant County are within \$50 of those done in Lubbock, Curfman said.

The only difference in cost would be the extra mileage to Fort Worth. No contract with Tarrant County would be required in order to have occasional autopsies done there, he said.

"We want commissioners to back us and pay for the extra mileage if we have to go to Tarrant County," Curfman said.

Action on jury reimbursement for 2006 was deferred until information could be gathered on the rates paid by neighboring counties.

Commissioners declared Optiscan machine, which has been replaced by electronic equipment, as surplus property to be sold.

Membership in the Texas Building and Procurement Commission was renewed at a cost of \$100 a year.

No action was taken to replace an employee of the assessor-collector because the employee who had been planning to leave has decided not to resign.

Other business included "Texas Tech has lost two approval of signatures for the sheriff's forfeiture and abandoned vehicle account, health insurance plan cobra rates for 2006, changes to the county annuity plan, continuation of Duncan Fraser and Bridges as the county's insurer, the county treasurer's report, budget amendments, and payment of bills and salaries.

# Apology

Continued from Page 1

bers were asked to leave. Cornelison said later that he was preparing to leave the meeting also, because he had no advance knowledge about the subject of the agenda item. He was asked to stay and attend the executive session, at which time, he said, he learned of Carter's complaint against

"I apologize to Carla

Carter and her husband from the deepest part of my heart. I'm so sorry. I'm so embarrassed that I was in a position of anger and referred to Carla and her chest size. I was in my office and she was in hers, but she heard it," Cornelison said during the meeting after the executive session had ended.

"What I said was in anger with myself, within the relationship professionally. She heard me referring to her large chest three times. Apparently I did that. There

is no excuse for that. I'm deeply ashamed and I'm deeply sorry and I will never speak that way of you or any other woman.

"Please accept my apology. Please."

When asked when the incident occurred. Cornelison did not give a date for the remarks.

Carter had not responded to a telephone message as of press time today. She left courthouse the Thursday's meeting.

## **Honderich**

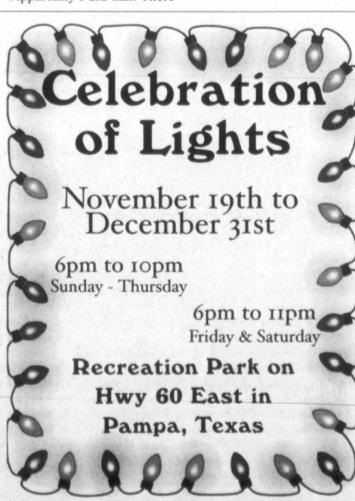
Continued from Page 1

providing a public view station for easier access to court records."

Her future plans for the district clerk's office include installing a new computer software system that will network her office with the district judge's office.

Honderich is a member of Top O' Republican Women, the Texas District Court Pampa Alliance, the Chamber of Commerce and the St. Matthews Episcopal Day School

board. She and her husband, Jim, have lived in Pampa for 16 years. They have one daughter, Jennifer, who lives in Amarillo with her husband Troy and their three daughters.



# The Pampa News — Friday, December 16, 2005 — 3 Holiday Savings SALE GOOD DECEMBER 16 - DECEMBER 19 **COOK'S HAM** SHANK PORTION 59° LB BUTT PORTION 89° LB **5 LB FARMLAND WHOLE BONELESS HAMS 10 LB. BAG PREVIOUSLY FROZEN LEG QUARTERS 2 LB ROLL SHURFINE BREAKFAST SAUSAGE 12 OZ PCK CORN KING BACON 1 LB PCK ECKRICH**



12 OZ PCK FRESH **DOLE CRANBERRIES** 

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# Viewpoints

# Be diligent when dealing with Internet content

Communication become worldwide and happens at a pace faster than anything we have seen in this world before. While this technology has a lot of benefits, it also has many pitfalls. Readers of the World Wide Web must be very careful when choosing what content to read and more importantly what content to believe. Unfortunately, in many cases the content found on the Internet is completely inac-

There are certain Web sites that allow users to post any information they want Internet research

on the Internet. Some of these Web sites do not check references or the validity of the content that is being posted. Several weeks ago, John Seigenthaler wrote about his story in the USA

Mr. Seigenthaler was the first editorial director of USA Today and founder of the Freedom Forum First Amendment Center at University. Vanderbilt Several months ago, Mr. Seigenthaler discovered the following biography of himself on Wikipedia, an tool. Wikipedia's front page Nothing was ever proven. various avenues of commudescribes itself as "the free encyclopedia that anyone can edit.'

Sean

Smith

Publisher

YES, THE BOYS SAW THAT "BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN"

MOVIE AND THEY'RE PLAYING

"COWBOYS"

The biography stat-ed, "John Seigenthaler Sr. was the assistant to Attorney General

Robert Kennedy in the early 1960s For a brief time, he was thought to have been directly involved in the Kennedy assassinations of both John, and his brother, Bobby. John Seigenthaler moved to the Soviet Union in 1971, and returned to the United

States in 1984. He started one of the country's largest public relations firms shortly thereafter."

The first sentence of this biography is correct and everything else is a complete lie. It was written and posted by someone unknown and Mr. Seigenthaler has tried nication to determine the author, but has been unsuccessful. To make matters worse, there were several other Web sites that picked up this posting and published it on their own sites. Unfortunately, United States law protects the rights of companies to publish these lies with no fear of prosecution for libel.

As more and more people get their information from the Internet, readers should be very careful about which content to believe and check references to determine which content is false and misleading. More importantly, be diligent in your efforts to protect your children from the dangers of the Internet, whether it be chatrooms or basic research that may be incorrect.

The Internet can be a wonderful tool and useful in business, home and school research. However, to benefit from these uses we must first find the truth. Be diligent in your research and dependable accountable Web sites to use when you work on the

## Today in History

**By The Associated Press** 

Today is Friday, Dec. 16, the 350th day of 2005. There are 15 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History:

'Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.'

— Arthur C. Clarke

On Dec. 16, 1773, the Boston Tea Party took place as American colonists boarded a British ship and dumped more than 300 chests of tea overboard to protest tea taxes.

On this date: In 1653, Oliver Cromwell became lord protector of England,

Scotland and Ireland. In 1770, composer

Ludwig van Beethoven was born in Bonn, Germany. In 1809, Napoleon Bonaparte was divorced from the Empress Josephine by an act of the French Senate.

In 1905, the entertainment trade publication Variety came out with its first weekly issue.

In 1916, Gregory Rasputin, the monk who wielded powerful influence over the Russian court, was killed by a group

In 1944, the World War II Battle of the Bulge began as German forces launched a surprise counterattack against Allied forces in Belgium.

In 1950, President Truman proclaimed a national state of emergency to fight "Communist imperialism."

In 1960, 134 people were killed when a United Air Lines DC-8 and a TWA Super Constellation collided over New York City.

In 1980, Harland Sanders, founder of the Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant chain, died in Shelbyville, Ky., at age 90. In 1985, reputed organized-crime chief Paul Castellano

was shot to death outside a New York City restaurant. Ten years ago: President Clinton and congressional Republicans traded accusations as their budget impasse led to a second shutdown of the federal government.

One year ago: Bobby Jo Stinnett, 23, of Skidmore, Mo., was found dying in her home, her unborn baby cut from her womb (Lisa Montgomery of Melvern, Kansas, is to face trial for allegedly strangling Stinnett, performing a crude Caesarean section on her and parading the infant around as

# Congress meddling where it shouldn't

I noticed that Congress, which is forever concerning itself with what shouldn't concern it while neglecting its genuine duties, has been huffing and puffing recently about spam and spyware which in this case is not the meat product but the electronic equivalent of junk mail, and not an FBI-planted bug but a bit of software planted by marketing peo-

This is not an issue of croaked. national importance, and That Congress should turn its attention to getting us out of an unwinnable war and controlling the runaway deficit.

Electronic junk mail can be handled the same way the print variety is handled: Toss it in the electronic trash can. That's why every e-mail software program has a "delete" icon. Even a techno-illiterate like me knows how to click the delete but-

Actually, some of the spam I get is amusing. There are the usual con jobs originating in Nigeria, which for

some strange reason is the African equivalent of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., as a nest for con artists. More recently I've received letters from people purporting to be lawyers in London who have either.

discovered that I'm the last remain-Charley ing relative Reese of a rich Reese who Columnist h a s

especially amusing to me, as in my branch of the family, I became the rich relative the first time I got paid \$100 a week. Furthermore, there are at least 6,000 Reeses in the Cardiff, Wales, phone book

alone. Then there is an Egyptian intellectual who copies me on his numerous and lengthy letters to the editors of The Washington Post and The New York Times. There are the usual letters purporting to be from banks interested in clearing up problems with my account, offers of noprescription Viagra and the ever-present porn peddlers. You would think that if the one were any good, you wouldn't need the other. In my case, I have no use for

All of

this

amounts to

nothing

more than

mild annoy-

ance, and

can easily

be handled without the assistance of the

federal government. Spyware are little programs that imbed themselves on your hard drive. You usually get them when you visit a site on the Internet. Some of them will track all the other sites you visit on the World Wide Web and feed this information to some marketing outfit so it can get a better idea of how to sell you stuff. I'm sure, too, that the government has its own spyware. It can, under the Patriot Act, order your Internet service provider to

give it all the information it gathers about you, including your name and address. In fact, the FBI can break into your home and plant cameras and listening devices.

Privacy is largely dead these days, and I surely hope there is no one left in the United States who is so illinformed as to think the Internet offers privacy and anonymity. Every time you use the Internet, you leave electronic tracks as clear as a rabbitpaw prints in a light snowfall. Deleting stuff doesn't really delete the information; it just takes off the tag the computer uses to call it up. Deleted information remains on your hard drive until it is written over, and even then it can be recovered - as many collectors of child porn have dis-

covered the hard way. Here again, except for the Patriot Act, spyware is not a national problem. There are many commercial software programs, and even some

See REESE, Page 5

### Our readers write

#### Water bill takes enormous fee hike ...

might go up, but I didn't dream mine would almost double - from \$37.90 to \$63.94. They say I have no leak!

I wish someone would tell me – as I live alone and am

I heard the water bill sick (my nurse only comes twice a week to bathe me) how it could jump that much?

> Nora Gabriel Pampa See **LETTERS**, Page 5

THE PAMPA NEWS

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### Texas Thoughts.

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around

Texas: Dec. 5

Austin American-Statesman on the state of the Texas Lottery:

The Texas Lottery, this state's legalized gambling operation, seems to reel from one fiasco to the next with hardly a pause. After last summer's scandal over the lottery advertising false jackpots, sensible folks might think the lottery would be fastidious about playing fair and abiding by the rules.

Lottery administrators might even go out of their way to rebuild trust in the

Then again, maybe they figure that lottery players are suckers anyway and one more trick wouldn't be any big deal. They might be right, but that

doesn't excuse the way the Texas Lottery Commission runs its popular scratch-off games. Scratch-off tickets are still being sold after the top prizes have already been claimed, which amounts to a sucker bet for those buying tickets for one of the many games. It would be a simple matter for the commission to insist that potential scratch-off ticket buyers be aware that there is no jackpot, only smaller prizes.

Lottery Commission spokesman Bob Heath defends the practice, saying the facts can be found in the small print on the back of the tickets and on the commission's Web site. That's a legal explanation but an ethical dodge. Scratch-off players don't take time to read the ticket because they're busy finding out if they won. And you can bet that darn few check the commission's Web site on a regular basis to

find out if the big prizes are still available. Lottery officials know that, too, which makes their position even less defensible.

If they posted the truth in stores that the big prizes have been claimed, they'd sell fewer tickets. Scratch-off games are the biggest part of the state's gambling operation, providing \$2.7 billion in sales a year. That's three-quarters of the lottery's total sales. The commission has about 80 different scratch-off games to sell.

Five players sued the companies that run the lottery and manufacture the scratch-off tickets, but the suit was settled before a trial was convened. The defendants won't say what was agreed to in the settlement, but the deceptive practice continues. Some states operate

See LOTTERY, Page 5



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## Russian nuke plant accident kills one

By IRINA TITOVA Associated Press Writer

PETERSBURG. Russia (AP) - Hundreds of pounds of molten metal splashed from a smelter at a Russian nuclear power plant, killing one worker and severely injuring two others, a scientist and the federal nuclear agency said today. The accident did not affect reactors, the agency said.

Rosenergoatom agency said radiation levels remained normal as the reactor inside the Leningrad nuclear plant was being repaired. Rosenergoatom initially called Thursday's incident an explosion in a press statement, then hours later changed course and called it a "splash."

A plant spokesman said the accident was caused by violations of technical and production rules.

The mishap occurred at the plant in the closed nuclear town of Sosnovy Bor, 50 miles west of the northern city of St. Petersburg. The smelter is operated by Ekomet-S, a company reprocessing scrap

The nuclear plant has four units, or reactors, in all. Rosenergoatom said the smelter was on the grounds of the plant's second unit, and plant spokesman Sergei Averyanov said it was about a half-mile from the reactor.

metal.

Thursday's accident shone a spotlight on what environmentalists called uncontrolled operations at Russian nuclear sites.

"The enterprise ... functions illegally because there was no mandatory (state) environmental impact assessment on its construction," Dmitry Artamonov, head of the St. Petersburg branch of Greenpeace, told The Associated Press.

He said Greenpeace had complained against Ekomet-S to the Sosnovy Bor prosecutors' office, but the office took no action.

The nuclear plant has four units, or reactors, in all. Rosenergoatom said the smelter was on the grounds of the plant's second unit, and plant spokesman Sergei

Averyanov said it was about a half-mile from the reactor.

Oleg Bodrov, a physicist who heads the Green World ecological group in Sosnovy Bor, said the reactor was only 700 yards from the smelter, which is about 50 yards from a covered liquid radioactive waste pond.

A 33-year-old worker died of his injuries Friday morning, and two others were injured, Yuri Lameko, chief doctor of the Sosnovy Bor hospital, told the AP.

"There were no violations of safety levels and operating conditions of the energy units of the Leningrad plant," Rosenergoatom said in a statement.

The second unit had been shut down for planned major repairs in July, it said.

Averyanov said molten metal spurt out of the smelter. Besides scrap metal from the plant, Ekomet-S reprocesses metal from Russian nuclear submarines and disassembled oil and gas pipelines from the Russian Far North, Bodrov said.

Averyanov said the metal reprocessed Thursday was clear of radiation, and he blamed the accident on violations of technical and production rules.

Bodrov said Ekomet-S workers told him more than 2 tons of molten metal were in the smelter at the time of the accident, and several hundred pounds splashed out for unknown reasons.

He said Ekomet-S began operating two years ago and was in violation of the law because it had not undergone a state environmental impact assessment. When the firm was founded, the only environmental monitoring laboratory in the town of 65,000 was shut down for lack of funding, he said.

"There is no independent environmental monitoring in the nuclear city of Sosnovy Bor," Bodrov said.

### Letters

Continued from Page 4

#### Jesus is the reason for the season

each day how so many people want to take Christ out of Christmas. I especially fail to see how stores selling things for Christmas gifts, making money "hand-over-fist," cannot allow Christmas

It saddens me to realize carols to be played or to wish someone a "Merry Christmas."

I plan to do the balance of my shopping at places that acknowledge that Jesus is the reason for the season.

Stacey Stubbs

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### Reese

Continued from Page 4

you can download for free, that will ferret out these little buggers and eliminate them. The main problem with them is that if you allow them to accumulate, they will slow down the operation of your computer.

Congress has more important things to do than protect us from sneaky marketing people who want to know if we should receive the LLBean catalog or the less-expensive Lands' End. As for anything else, stay away from child-porn sites, and as far as I know, other than those

there are no "illegal" sites on the World Wide Web.

I don't worry about invasion of privacy because I don't say or write anything in private that I wouldn't say in public. I don't do anything illegal either, though of course some things we all do are, for decorum's sake, better done without an audience.

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## Lottery

Continued from Page 4

like Texas, but according to an article in the American-Statesman last week, 16 states pull scratch-off tickets after the jackpots have been claimed. That's the ethical position to take.

All the Lottery Commission has to do is insist that its ticket vendors post a sign in a prominent place noting that the big jackpots have been claimed. If individuals still want to play those particular games, they know the score. As it is, thousands of

people are buying scratch-off tickets without knowing they can't win the big prizes. That's just not fair to the people of Texas.

Lottery officials ought to change that policy as soon as possible. Buying a lottery ticket is always a long shot, but it shouldn't be a complete fraud.

### Events calendar

 The Amarillo SPCA will be having photos with Santa for your pet(s) at PetSmart in Amarillo between 11 a.m. and 4 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.

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 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. 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 Quality Environmental Program. Incentives 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. To obtain an EQIP application or for more information, call (806) 665-1751, ext. 3.

 Pampa High School will host "Financial Aid Night" at 7 p.m. Jan. 5 in the school library. Counselors at PHS will discuss and explain scholarships, grants. work-study and loans to interested parents of upperclassmen.

 Angels Have Wheels program helps eligible seniors or disabled individuals receive electric wheelchairs through Medicare. For more information, call 1-800-810-

Just Between Friends in Amarillo will be supporting the Eveline Rivers Christmas Project by collecting donations of gently used winter coasts or stuffed animals. For

more information or to make a donation, call (806) 355-4256.

· Gray County Soil & Water Conservation District is accepting orders for windbreak and wildlife tree seedlings and shrubs through March 10, 2006. The program is designed to offer tree seedlings and wildlife packets at a nominal cost to provide windbreaks for cropland, feedlots and buildings, to control erosion and to enhance wildlife. For more information, call 665-1751, ext. 102

 Manhattanville My Soldier is seeking volunteers to "adopt" a deployed United States Serviceperson. To find out more, visit www.mysoldier.com on-line.

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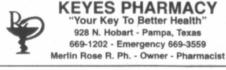




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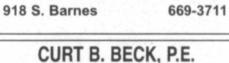
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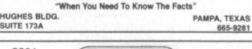
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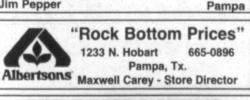
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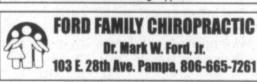
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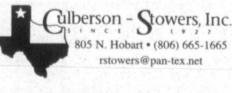
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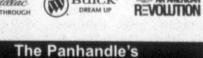












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JESUS CHRIST, THE SAME YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND FOREVER HEBREWS 13:8

# Religion

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# Holy Ghost is both a blessing and a gift to and from God

about the great promises in the Bible, the more precious those promises become to me, and the more life they contain.

Saint Paul said, "But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him." (1 Corinthians 2:7-9

KJV) Paul then tells us that the spirit of God (the third person in the God head) hath revealed those deep hidden things of God to those who love him.

With all fairness in truth, I can add that to those who love Him with all their heart, soul, mind and strength - to them He reveals the deep hidden secrets of God.

a new plan of redemption sleep. It was the most pow-

It seems the more I read by the sacrifice of His son erful for my subject. was a part of the hidden

things of God. God's prophets had spoken of it here a little and there a little, and it was difficult to put all the pieces of the puzzle together correct-

God had a three-fold plan of

redemp-Archie tion that Cooper He would implement Pentecostal for the Holiness compleof

tion man's deliverance from the alive and crying then bondage of sin.

In John 14:26, Jesus said, "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

Oh, what a teacher He is. He and Jesus never work separately. Once in a revival, I announced my subject for the following night. Though I had some scripture in mind, the Holy Spirit spoke book, chapter How God would bring in and verse to me in my

John the Baptist spoke of the ultimate of that threefold plan of redemption when he foretold the coming of Christ, that Jesus would baptize with both the Holy Ghost and with fire. (Luke 3:16) Keep in mind that the Holy Ghost is

> the third person in the Holy Trinity. In the natural birth, the

baby comes the cleansing, cold cream or water.

Then, in the spiritual realm, the infilling is necessary. The Apostles had never been filled with the Holy Ghost until the day of Pentecost was fully come. (Acts 2:1-4)

The Holy Ghost baptism is promised to believers as written in John 14:15-18.

Those who are careless about keeping God's commandments need not expect the Holy Ghost to abide in them.

the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth

in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy, for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." (1 Cor. 3:16-17)

Jesus commanded his disciples, "(B)ut wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me: For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost, not many days hence." (Acts 1:4-5)

Though Jesus could not tell them when the kingdom would be given back to the Jews, He told them, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me, both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

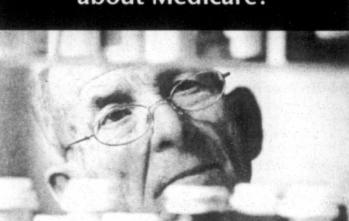
Saint Paul asked a group of disciples if they'd received the Holy Ghost, and, when they answered that they hadn't, he laid hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. The Holy Ghost is a gift "Know ye not that ye are and a blessing to and from



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## Megachurches to close on holiday

By RACHEL ZOLL AP Religion Writer

This Christmas, no prayers will be said in several megachurches around the country.

Even though the holiday falls this year on a Sunday, when churches normally host thousands for worship, pastors are canceling services, anticipating low attendance on what they call a family day.

Critics within the evangelical community, more accustomed to doing battle with department stores and public schools over keeping religion in Christmas, are stunned by the shutdown.

It is almost unheard of for a Christian church to cancel services on a Sunday, and opponents of the closures are accusing these congregations of bowing to secular culture.

"This is a consumer mentality at work: 'Let's not impose the church on people. Let's not make church in

any way inconvenient," said up to the holiday, including Theological Seminary, leading evangelical school in Hamilton, Mass. "I think what this does is feed into the individualism that is found throughout American culture, where everyone does their own thing.'

'I think what this does is feed into the individualism that is found throughout American culture, where everyone does their own thing.

> — David Wells Theology professor

The churches closing on Christmas plan multiple services in the days leading

David Wells, professor of on Christmas Eve. Most norhistory and systematic theol- mally do not hold Christmas ogy at Gordon-Conwell Day services, preferring instead to mark the holiday in the days and night before. However, Sunday worship has been a Christian practice since ancient times.

Cally Parkinson, a spokeswoman for Willow Creek Community Church in South Barrington, Ill., said church leaders decided that organizing services on a Christmas Sunday would not be the most effective use of staff and volunteer resources. The last time Christmas fell on a Sunday was 1994, and only a small number of people showed up to pray, she said.

"If our target and our mission is to reach the unchurched, basically the people who don't go to church, how likely is it that they'll be going to church on Christmas morning?" she

> Among the other

See CLOSED, Page 12

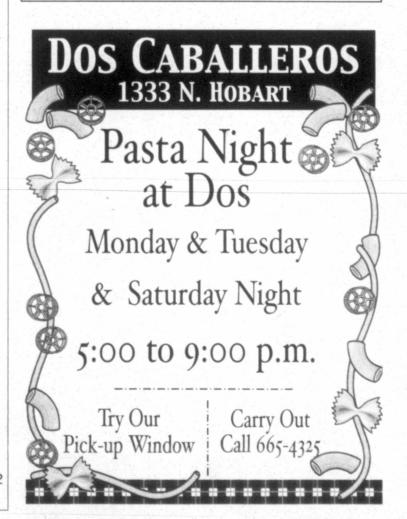
### **Assembly** planning Christmas Day service

Christmas arrives on Sunday only once every seven years. Why not celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ Dec. 25 at Pampa's First Assembly of God, 500 S. Cuyler?

Tonya Witt, guest soloist of Plano, will sing. Intermingled with her ministry will be the telling of the Christmas story and a special candlelight communion.

Pastors Leland and Darlene Lewis and the congregation of First Assembly invite one and all to celebrate Christmas between 10:30 and 11:30

See ASSEMBLY, Page 12



### **Church briefs**

Zion Lutheran Church, 1200 Duncan, would like to invite everyone to an Advent/Christmas Cantata set to begin at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday.

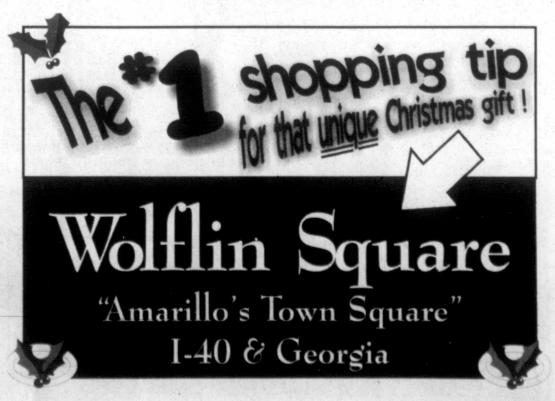
The church choir has prepared hymns and anthems to help the Christian prepare for and ponder the coming of Christ. Some of the upcoming musical selections will include "Prepare the Way," "Watchmen, Tell Us of the Night," "Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light," "Now Sing, We Now Rejoice" and "On Christmas Night All Christians Sing."

The second annual "Celebration of Lights Service" will beging at 7 p.m. and last until 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Rodeo Pavilion at Recreation Park.

The joint service is being organized by Kiwanis of Pampa in conjunction with local pastors and their churches.

The service will include Christmas carols, scripture reading, and prayer and worship. Dress warm. Refreshments will be served courtesy of Bob Clements Inc.





# Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY**: My family and I have lived in this subdivision for 10 years. We are friendly with our neighbors. All of the children here play wonderfully together and are of various ages. One of my neighbors, "Rachel," and I were very close at one time, but we are recovering from a fallout involving her eldest daughter. We are trying to repair the friendship, but it has reached the point that I hate living here. Rachel is jealous of anyone I spend time with if it's not her. She is constantly out in her yard, and I feel like she watches everything I do and who comes and goes. When I spend time with other neighbors, she retaliates with rudeness and with negative, insulting comments and behavior. How can I get across to her that although we may have been close friends at one time, we're now only friendly neighbors? -- WANTS TO MOVE IN OHIO

DEAR WANTS TO MOVE: It appears Rachel has emotionally regressed to the grammar school level, where children assume that if they are friends they "own" each other. I see no reason to issue any proclamations. Get your message across by continuing to have an active social life with neighbors you enjoy and ignoring her sulkiness. If she makes a nasty comment, tell her: "You know, sniping is a very unattractive trait. It makes me want to see less of you rather than more."

**DEAR ABBY:** My elderly mother lives in a small efficiency apartment. Last year, my out-of-town siblings -- all of whom live within 50 miles -- visited her on Christmas Day with gifts she could not possibly use. One sister brought a set of heavy crystal glasses. (Mother's hands shake, and she uses a plastic drinking cup with a handle.) Another sister brought a silver tea service (which I had to pack in a closet for her).

My brother brought her two pieces of heavy luggage (which took up all the room in a closet). Mama no longer is up to entertaining, and all those expensive gifts were useless to her. She has tried "hinting" that she doesn't need things like that, but they refuse to listen. It would be so much more helpful if they would instead cook a meal for Mama, or stop by a restaurant and bring her a meal when they visit. She isn't up to cooking, and a gift like that would not wind up packed away for the next generation. When they visit, they usually stop by a restaurant and eat, but they never stop to consider that Mama would love a meal, too. I try to cook for her as often as I can, but I have a disabled child at home who is in and out of the hospital. When I do cook, package meals for her that she can microwave and enjoy. What a help it would be if my siblings would do this. Why don't people stop and take into consideration how a person lives and what his or her needs are before buying a gift? Thanks for letting me vent. -- CHRISTINE IN SOUTH CAROLINA

**DEAR CHRISTINE:** It may be that doing what you suggest takes too much time and energy. Or, in the case of your siblings, the motivation for the expensive gifts may be guilt. You can't change them, but I do recommend you remind them frequently how much your mother would appreciate it if they would bring her a nice meal when they visit. You'll be doing them -- and her -

#### For Better Or Worse



Zits



#### Garfield



#### **Beetle Bailey**





#### Marvin



### Crossword Puzzle

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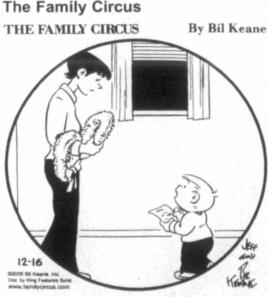
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#### Marmaduke



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"Is Santa's 'no more than 5 things' set in stone, or would 10 things be okay?"

### B.C.



#### **Haggar The Horrible**





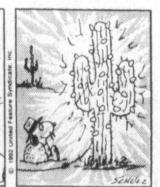
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# Sports Day

# Here and there: Pampa vs. Estacado

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS Sports Editor

The Pampa High School varsity and junior varsity basketball teams will face their Lubbock Estacado counterparts tonight, though not at the same venue. Asked about the odd split, varsity head coach Dustin Miller said, "Wish I had a dollar for each time that question was asked."

Miller clarified the confusion some by explaining, "This is a game that was scheduled with Coach Reed last year. Estacado needed a home game and he said he would go there." Miller added that despite his efforts to do so, he was not able to change the game earlier this year.

So while the boys will make the trip down I-27, the Lady Harvesters will stay home.

Harvesters

"They will be tough," said Miller when asked what he expected from the Matadors tonight. "They are ranked No. 25 in the state in one poll," he

While Pampa enters the contest with an overall mark of 10-2, Estaçãdo is 7-5. But Miller is quick to note, "They've lost to some very good teams. I don't think they have lost a game by more than four points."

In the Matadors, Miller says his boys will face one of the better defenses they will see all year. Pampa faced a

good one Tuesday night in Borger. The Bulldogs made the Harvesters earn the win. And road wins aren't easy. Tonight will be no exception.

One of the most interesting additions for Pampa this season is that of freshman Matt Smith. Making the jump from 8th grade basketball to varsity starter can't be easy, no matter how good you are. But Smith seems to be settling into his role, looking more and more comfortable on the court. Miller says one of the reasons for Smith's game maturity is he (Smith) is starting to understand this level of competition. "I think he is figuring out that the intensity level cannot ever drop off," said Miller. He added, "One thing that goes unnoticed sometimes about Matt is his effort getting up and down the floor. He runs the floor extremely well for a kid his size. Matt is a force on the boards and that is some good news for years to come."

The varsity game will begin at 7:30

**Lady Harvesters** 

Following a dominating performance in Borger Tuesday night, the Lady Harvesters will be home for the first time in quite some time to host Lubbock Estacado.

The Lady Harvesters rolled to an easy 64-39 win over the Lady Bulldogs Tuesday and hope to harness some of that energy and even their record at 8-8 in The Pit tonight.

Game time is set for 7:30 p.m. **Junior Varsity Boys** 

Coach Jason Farmer says his guys are playing solid ball, but are still honing skills in some areas. "These guys are going hard and have a burning desire to win so it should take care of itself," said Farmer.

Coach Farmer says his team (6-6) is working to improve scoring, noting, "We are getting great looks, just not finishing.

Tonight, Farmer says he expects a great battle. "Estacado is always a very tough and solid opponent. But when speed and talent are matched, it comes down to who has the least amount of mistakes."

Farmer added his team needs to limit the mistakes, take advantage or Matador turnovers and finish plays. "If we do that we should be successful."

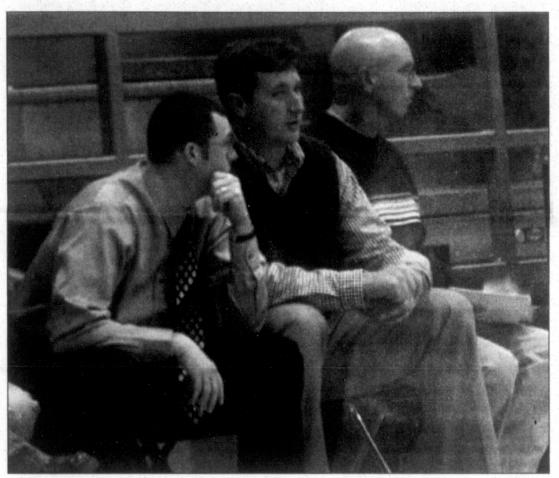
The junior varsity game will begin at 6 p.m.

**Junior Varsity Girls** 

The Lady Harvesters are hungry for a win and look to get it tonight at home against the Lady Matadors of Lubbock Estacado. Said Pampa head coach Janyth Bowers, "We cannot turn the ball over, we have got to make free throws and make our shots."

Coach Bowers notes her squad will be short handed tonight as both Amber Brown and Krishna Henderson are out with injuries.

Tonight's game will begin at 6 p.m.



Coaches Jason Farmer (left), and Dustin Miller share thoughts during a recent Harvesters game. Also pictured is coach John East.

#### **TUCUMCARI TOURNAMENT**

### Burns takes 1st place; others nab top spots

**Tucumcari Tournament** Dec. 10

Teams

Tucumcari, West Las Vegas, Roswell, West Roswell, Hobbs, Dumas, Randall, River Road, Pampa.

#### **Pampa Results**

103 - Richard Leal (2-1), 3rd place.

130 - Jeremy Maxwell (3-1), 2nd place.

152 - Jimmy Logan (1-2). 171 - John Burns (3-0), 1st place.

189 - Danny Coronado (1-2).

189 - Nick Dudley (2-2), 4th place.

275 - Bart Bullard (0-2).

Coach's Comments: "I was very pleased in the way the guys went out and wrestled. They brought a little attitude to the mat and it showed in the championship matches."

# Two Tech receivers suspended from Cotton Bowl

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — Texas Tech receivers L.A. Reed and Marquis Johnson have been suspended from the squad for unspecified reasons and won't play in the Cotton Bowl, coach Mike Leach said.

Leach said Wednesday that the two won't participate in practices or the Jan. 2 game against Alabama (9-2). He said he would revisit their future with the Red Raiders (9-2) during January.

He declined to provide any further information on the suspensions.

Reed, a redshirt freshman, caught 11 passes for 136 yards this season. Johnson, a junior, had 13 catches for 74 yards and a touchdown.

Information from: Lubbock Avalanche-Journal, http://www.lubbockonline.com



### Redskins' Moss expects more attention this time around

ASHBURN, Va. (AP) — in the hearts of Redskins On a snowy December day, Santana Moss' two stunning touchdown catches against Dallas in Week 2 feel like a distant memory.

The impact of those two teams prepare for Sunday's rematch.

The Washington Redskins through their first 116 minutes of the season when Moss caught a 39-yard pass on fourth down and followed with a 70-yard reception in a 14-13 Monday night victory over the Cowboys.

were serious questions whether Hall of Fame coach Joe Gibbs had any business returning to the NFL, as well as reasonable doubts whether the team made a smart move when it traded Laveranues Coles to the years with the Jets. New York Jets to acquire Moss.

"We had struggled last year," said Gibbs, who was 6-10 in his comeback season in 2004. "We couldn't buy a deep play, a deep ball. And I think what those two plays did for us was give us a big win in a crucial game, and the Redskins. Because Moss since then we've been much is the team's only deep more productive. It was two threat - free agent signee huge plays at the right David Patten was a disaptime."

earned him a place forever

fans, one of whom sent him a big bouquet of flowers the following day.

"That game really gave that sense up here to say, 'This is what he could do,' catches, however, remains Moss said. "When I was in as strong as ever as the New York, they showed it, then we didn't show it, so people had a little funny 'if' in their head. It really helped were without a touchdown me to go out there and show them, 'Hey, I can do this.' And then everything else was up to me to continue it."

The catches were a springboard that put Moss on a torrid streak.

He was on a record-setting pace with 631 yards Up to that point, there after five games following a 173-yard day Kansas City.

He is now second in the league with a career-high 1,167 yards on 73 catches, easily exceeding his production during any of his four

"Maybe it gave us some confidence for the following weeks," said quarterback Mark Brunell. "We continued to hit some big plays. It was kind of a coming out party for Santana."

Moss' fast start changed the way other teams played pointment even before his As for Moss, the plays season-ending knee injury - defenses soon realized they could contain Washington's attack by keeping a safety deep on Moss' side of the field.

The New York Giants provided the blueprint in a 36-0 victory in October. Brunell had nine passes of 30-plus yards to Moss before that game; he has only two since.

After a 5-3 start, the Redskins are 7-6 and are trying to remain in the playoff chase.

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Considering the events at Stadium Texas September, Moss fully expects to get double-team attention from the Cowboys on Sunday.

"That's what other teams have been doing the last few weeks, so they might as well join the bunch," Moss said. 'It comes into play when you do what you did early in the season, and you get that attention."



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### **Central Hockey League standings**

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	Northeast Division						
		W	L	OTL	Pts	GF	GA
	Youngstown	10	12	1	21	74	83
	Bossier-Shreveport	9	9	2	20	64	60
	Fort Worth	8	12	2	18	58	78
	Memphis	7	11	1	15	56	72
	Northwest Division						
10.00	ar many	W	L	OTL	Pts	GF	GA
	Colorado	17	5	1	35	86	72
	Wichita	14	4	3	31	88	68
	Oklahoma City	12	10	0	24	79	70
	Tulsa	9	9	2	20	59	65
	SOUTHERN CON	FEREN	CE				
	Southeast Division						
		W	L	OTL	Pts	GF	GA
	Laredo	14	7	2	30	85	65
	Rio Grande Valley	10	10	1	21	74	73
	Corpus Christi	10	10	1	21	66	64
	Austin	9	11	1	19	58	77
	Southwest Division						
		W	L	OTL	Pts	GF	GA
	Odessa	12	7	3	27	67	62
	Lubbock	12	10	1	25	65	63
	Amarillo	7	10	2	16	62	69

NOTE: Two points are awarded for a win, one point for loss in overtime or shootout. Overtime or shootout losses are only denoted in the OTL column, not the loss column.

Thursday's Game Corpus Christi 4, Austin 3, SO Friday's Games Odessa at Amarillo Fort Worth at Bossier-Shreveport Youngstown at Colorado Austin at Laredo Wichita at Oklahoma City Corpus Christi at Rio Grande Valley

Memphis at Tulsa

# Spurs 90, Timberwolves 88

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) Michael Finley nearly signed with Minnesota this summer, ultimately choosing to leave Dallas for defending champion San Antonio.

On Thursday night, Finley left the Timberwolves frowning again. The veteran swingman scored 21 points, including the last six for

hold off Minnesota 90-88. "Finley is definitely stepping up and playing great basketball," teammate Tony Parker said. "He's just feeling more comfortable with

the Spurs, to help San Antonio

the team. Kevin Garnett got the best of Tim Duncan with 24 points and a season-high 21 rebounds, but the Timberwolves dropped their third straight game when Troy Hudson's off-balance, running 15foot jumper in traffic at the buzzer fell short.

Garnett, who was wide open at the top of the key, had a glum look on his face when Finley approached him and put his arms on his shoulders in consolation. As fans filed out and players walked to the locker room, Finley told Garnett how much he wanted to play with him.

"Unlike some of the other people in the league I told over the phone, I wanted to tell Kevin face to face," said Finley, who had 21

points in his last game, too, filling in for the injured Manu Ginobili. "It was a tough decision, because I've always been a Kevin Garnett fan. In my opinion, he's one of the best players to ever play the game.'

Duncan had 13 points and nine rebounds, missing four of his seven free-throw attempts. He was 5-for-20 from the foul line in his previous two games.

Garnett made a pair of free throws to bring the Wolves to 80-76 with 4:44 remaining, the closest they got since the second quarter. Hudson did the same to make it 84-80, but Brent Barry found Finley open on a baseline cut and the 11-year veteran swished a jumper to put San Antonio back up by six.

After Marko Jaric's layup, Finley sank a 3-pointer to increase the lead to seven.

"Finley has hit some big shots throughout his career," Garnett said, "and that is a classic example of the weapons they have.'

Garnett appreciated Finley's gesture after the game.

"I have a lot of respect for the man," he said.

Minnesota didn't quit, cutting the lead to 89-87 on a layup by Wally Szczerbiak — who had 23 points — with 1:09 to play. Parker was called for a charging foul against Hudson, giving the Wolves a chance to tie

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Jaric missed a layup, Anthony Carter missed a long jumper and Garnett missed a turnaround. Jaric grabbed his rebound on that possession and was fouled with 5.8 seconds remaining, but he made only one of two foul shots.

Finley then went 1-for-2 at the line on the other end after drawing a foul, setting up the final possession. The Spurs, who improved to 18-4, are 16-0 when they shoot 45 percent or better from the field.

That's because they're so sound with their backs to the basket.

Minnesota coach Dwane Casey, whose team fell to 3-7 in games decided by five points or less, considers San Antonio his defensive measuring stick. But the Wolves might have given the Spurs too much respect in a woeful second quarter in which they settled for too many jump shots — a customary problem for them.

"It takes us getting our butts kicked to turn it on," Szczerbiak

A 21-14 lead melted into a 10point halftime deficit, after the Spurs outscored the Timberwolves 25-8 in the period. It was the lowest second-quarter total in Minnesota's 17 seasons.

# NFL standings

#### THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

All Times EST  AMERICAN CONFERENCE  East								
New England Miami Buffalo N.Y. Jets3 South	W 8 6 4 10	5 7 9 0	T 0 0 0 .231	Pct .615 .462 .308 169	PF 294 242 191 274	PA 289 261 282		
x-Indianapolis Jacksonville Tennessee Houston 1 North	W 13 9 4 12	L 0 4 9	T 0 0 0 .077	Pct 1.000 .692 .308 193	PF 392 273 252 354	PA 180 227 329		
Cincinnati Pittsburgh Baltimore Cleveland <b>West</b>	W 10 8 4 4	L 3 5 9	T 0 0 0	Pct .769 .615 .308	PF 350 295 171 203	PA 259 234 253 237		
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Tampa Bay Carolina Atlanta New Orleans <b>North</b>	9 9 8 3	4 4 5 10	T 0 0 0	Pct .692 .692 .615 .231	PF 246 300 313 200	PA 209 214 254 331		
Chicago Minnesota Detroit Green Bay West	W 9 8 4 3	L 4 5 9 10	T 0 0 0	Pct .692 .615 .308 .231	PF 210 246 203 255	PA 148 286 257 255		
x-Seattle St. Louis Arizona	W 11 5 4	L 2 8 9	T 0 0	Pct .846 .385 .308	PF 379 307 252	PA 211 378 319		

x-clinched division

San Francisco

Saturday's Games Tampa Bay at New England, 1:30 p.m. Kansas City at N.Y. Giants, 5 p.m. Denver at Buffalo, 8:30 p.m. Sunday's Games N.Y. Jets at Miami, 1 p.m. Arizona at Houston, 1 p.m. Seattle at Tennessee, 1 p.m. San Diego at Indianapolis, 1 p.m. Philadelphia at St. Louis, 1 p.m. Carolina vs. New Orleans at Baton Rouge, La., 1 p.m. San Francisco at Jacksonville, 1 p.m. Pittsburgh at Minnesota, 1 p.m. Cincinnati at Detroit, 4:05 p.m. Cleveland at Oakland, 4:05 p.m. Dallas at Washington, 4:15 p.m. Atlanta at Chicago, 8:30 p.m. Monday's Game Green Bay at Baltimore, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 24 Tennessee at Miami, 1 p.m. Detroit vs. New Orleans at San Antonio, 1 p.m.

Dallas at Carolina, 1 p.m. Jacksonville at Houston, 1 p.m. San Francisco at St. Louis, 1 p.m. San Diego at Kansas City, 1 p.m. Atlanta at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m. Pittsburgh at Cleveland, 1 p.m. Philadelphia at Arizona, 4:05 p.m. Indianapolis at Seattle, 4:15 p.m. Oakland at Denver, 4:15 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 25 Chicago at Green Bay, 5 p.m. Minnesota at Baltimore, 8:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 26

New England at N.Y. Jets, 9 p.m.

N.Y. Giants at Washington, 1 p.m.

Buffalo at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.

#### **TAKING HIS TIME**

### Clemens in no hurry to decide about future

By STEPHEN HAWKINS **Associated Press** 

FORT WORTH, Texas - Roger Clemens is glad he didn't have to decide about his major league future when he had two small tears in his back and both hamstrings were sore.

"They would have gotten the wrong answer, which I was fully ready to give them," Clemens said Thursday night. "That I'd had

But those were his thoughts nearly two months ago after pitching hurt for his hometown Houston Astros in their first World Series. His rested body is feeling better, and Clemens is now pondering whether to pitch again — or retire again.

The 43-year-old free agent just isn't in a hurry to make that decision. Speaking publicly for the first time since the Astros declined to offer him salary arbitration last week, the seven-time Cy Young Award winner reiterated that he won't make a call until at least late January or early February, just as his agents have been saying.

The Astros' decision not to offer

arbitration means Clemens cannot resign with the National League champions until May 1. The New York Yankees, Boston Red Sox and Texas Rangers have contacted his representatives about the possibility of Clemens pitching for them next sea-

While telling the crowd at the Texas Collegiate League dinner that he loves all those places, Clemens quickly added that he isn't even discussing those possibilities right now with his agents.

"They're doing their thing ... just leaving all the options for me, so I can take my time and decide if I want to do this," Clemens said.

The Rocket retired after pitching in the 2003 World Series for the Yankees, then changed his mind and joined buddy Andy Pettitte in Houston. Clemens is 31-12 with a 2.43 ERA in 65 starts the past two seasons.

'They're doing their thing ... just leaving all the options for me, so I can take my time and decide if I want to do this.'

> Roger Clemens Pitcher, Houston Astros

He won another Cy Young Award in 2004, when the Astros won a playoff series for the first time. He was third in the NL voting this year behind 20-game winners Chris Carpenter and Dontrelle Willis after going 13-8 with a career-best 1.87

Not wanting to wait for Clemens to make his decision, the Astros decided Dec. 7 not to offer him arbitration.

"I was fine with it," Clemens said. "Talking with family, they wanted me to wait for any decision. So once l saw that this was the way to go, I would stick to it somewhat. The old 99.9 percent (in 2003) didn't really

Clemens, whose 341 wins in 22 seasons ties him for eighth on the career victory list, wants to be involved with the United States team during the inaugural World Baseball Classic next March. But he hasn't yet

committed to pitch.
"I have told them that I will play if I feel well enough to play," Clemens said. "That doesn't mean that I would play during the season.'

Člemens was forced out of Game 1 of the World Series against the White Sox after only two innings when he aggravated his hamstring. Chicago went on to a four-game sweep.

If Clemens comes back. Yankees and Red Sox are two of his former teams. Or he could follow the same finishing path as Nolan Ryan, the Hall of Famer and only pitcher who has more than Clemens' 4,502 career strikeouts.

Ryan pitched in Houston, then got the last of his 5,714 strikeouts with the Rangers.

Danny Darwin, once Clemens' Red Sox teammate and a former Texas pitcher, jokingly introduced the Rocket to the crowd Thursday

night as the "newest Texas Ranger." Before Clemens left the podium, he was given a gift from the master of ceremonies: a Texas Rangers hat. When Clemens was trying to decide two years ago if he would come out of retirement to pitch in Houston, his sons gave him an Astros cap for Christmas.

Clemens received the Texas Legends Award, presented to a Texan who has excelled in baseball. Ryan was the previous recipient of the award from the TCL, a wooden-bat summer league for college players.

# McGrady, Rockets silent Sonics, 104-98

SEATTLE (AP) — Playing for the second consecutive of 15 free throws. He hit his first four shots and was 7night in the middle of a six-game road trip, Tracy McGrady made it a point to get his teammates involved early.

He took over late.

381

McGrady scored 14 of his 34 points in the fourth quarter, 11 in the final 7 minutes, and the Houston Rockets won their fifth straight game, 104-98 over the Seattle SuperSonics on Thursday.

McGrady made six 3-pointers, handed out eight assists and pulled down six rebounds for the Rockets. Oh, and he played all but 18 seconds, after playing nearly 46 minutes in Wednesday's overtime win at

Golden State. 'As a leader of the team, you have to set the tone right away," McGrady said. "When I see it's close and it's winnable for us, that's when my eyes light up. It's time to make plays and knock down shots. I live for these

games. The Rockets are rolling since the return of McGrady, who missed eight losses because of back spasms. Houston has lost just once since his return and improved

to 4-0 on its road trip. It was also Houston's first win after going 0-4 in the second of back-to-back games. Coach Jeff Van Gundy had a large graphic in the Rockets' locker room highlighting their shortcomings in back-to-back situations. Before Thursday, the Rockets were averaging only 82 points and shooting 38 percent in those games.

Houston shot 52 percent and had 82 points with 8 min-

utes left.

'We feel great," Van Gundy said. "The mental thing always put in their minds is that back-to-back is hard. It's not hard. They felt great. It's great to play." Yao Ming added 26 points and 10 rebounds, making 12 for-10 from the field. Ray Allen scored 30 points but couldn't match

McGrady in the closing moments as Seattle lost its fourth straight at home. It's the Sonics' longest home losing streak since the 2003-04 season.

"It seems like we're just one or two plays away from breaking through," Allen said. "It's a great challenge trying to figure it out."

Seattle held an 88-84 lead with less than 6 minutes left. Yao was called for an offensive foul on Danny Fortson and was given a technical for slamming the ball. Allen's free throw put Seattle up by four.

McGrady then took over as Houston scored nine of the next 11 points. He made two 3-pointers, a free throw and assisted on Yao's layup that put Houston ahead 93-90.

Fortson, Yao and Allen all made free throws, leaving the Rockets up 95-94 with 1:47 left. McGrady then drilled a 3-pointer over Vladimir Radmanovic with 1 second on the shot clock and 1:13 left.

Allen scored and Yao made two free throws with 34.7 seconds to go, putting Houston up 100-96. Allen missed a driving layup against Yao, who got the rebound and was fouled. He made the shots, putting the capper on the vic-

"We're playing better because McGrady and Yao, and our team defense, and timely contributions by everybody," Van Gundy said. "We're a better team now than we were three weeks ago."

Juwan Howard had 16 points and Stromile Swift added 12, 10 in the first half, for the Rockets, who won despite being outrebounded 43-32 and giving up 22 secondchance points. A night earlier, Houston outrebounded Golden State 61-32.

**DECISION FOR** APPLICATION PERMIT RENEWAL OF INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER PERMIT NO. WO0004226000

APPLICATION PRELIMINARY DECI-SION. Cabot Corporation, P.O. Box 5001, 5001, which operates the Pampa Development and Manufacturing Center, a carbon black manufacturing facility, has applied to the Texas Commission on environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a renewal of

WO0004226000. not authorize a discharge 1 Public Notice

the State. This application was submitted to the TCEQ on March 21,

The facility and disposal area are located on the north side of the Panhandle Santa Fe Railroad and United States Highway 60, approximately five miles west of the City of Pampa, Gray County, Texas. The facility and disposal site are located in the drainage area of the Canadian River Below Lake Meredith, in Segment No. 0101 of the Canadian River Basin. The TCEQ executive director has completed the

technical review of the

application and prepared

a draft permit. The draft if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate. The executive director has made a preliminary decision that this permit, if is sued, meets all statutory and regulatory require ments. The permit application, executive director's preliminary decision (as contained in the technical summary and/or fact

AXYDLBAAXR

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

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PBBZV GCCDK Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THE MAN WHO WANTS A HAPPY MARRIAGE SHOULD LEARN TO KEEP HIS MOUTH SHUT AND HIS



Triston Riley Brooks

Born... September 6, 2005



BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, Dec.

You have many unusual opportunities

this year. You must be clear, farsighted

and not delay your responses, or else

what you want could blow up in your

face. In fact, at times you discover your

efforts will evaporate out of the blue.

Your instincts could be in conflict with

the facts. You will need to juggle both

sides of an equation. If you are single,

don't plan to make a commitment this

year. Consider the fact that you are shop-

ping the market, so to speak. Enjoy the

dating game. If you are attached, you

might often disagree about spending.

Respect each other's opinions and agree

to disagree. CANCER likes to be close to

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll

\*\*\* You could find a situation hot, if

nothing else. Your instincts tell you to

head for the hills. Rather, deal with a key

friend or loved one in an independent

conversation. Keep plans low-key and

focused on what is important. Tonight:

\*\*\* Others might be more conflicted

than you realize. Do question what might

be going on with those who seem full of

smiles but testy in their own way.

Though you might automatically say no,

it might not be best. Tonight: Chat up a

4-Positive;

\*\* You might want to go shopping alternatives. Tonight: Put on your danc-

5-Dynamic;

3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

Invite others over.

Parents... Riley & Molly Brooks Brother & Sister...

Chance & Bailey Grandparents. Sam & Twila Brooks Paul & Martha Simpson

1 Public Notice

sheet), and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at the Lovett Memorial Library, 111 North Houston Street, Pampa, Texas

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about his application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit written or oral comment or to ask questions about the applica-Generally, the TCEQ will hold a public meeting if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is

Written public comments and requests for a public meeting should be submitted to the office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 within 30 days of the date of newspaper publication of the

EBL

not a contested case hear-

requested to be on a mailing list for this application. The mailing will also provide instructions for requesting

1 Public Notice

OPPORTUNITY FOR

A CONTESTED CASE

HEARING. After the

deadline for public com-

ments, the executive di-

rector will consider the

comments and prepare a

response to all relevant

and material, or signifi-

cant public comments.

The response to com-

ments, along with the

executive director's de-

cision on the applica-

everyone who submitted

reconsideration of the

executive director's decision and for requesting a contested case hearing. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in a state district court. A contested case hearing will only be granted based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant

and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on issues that were raised during the public comment period and not withdrawn. Issues that are not raised in public comments may not be considered during a hearing, the TCEQ may act on this application to renew a per mit without providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain

criteria are met. EXECUTIVE DIREC-TOR ACTION. The executive director may issue final approval of the application unless a timely contested case hearing or a timely request for reconsideration is filed. If a timely hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed, the executive director will not issue final approval of the permit and will forward the application and requests to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting

MAILING LISTS. In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list to obtain additional information regarding this application. You may request to be added to: (1) the mailing list for this specific application; (2) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (3) the permanent mailing list Clearly specify which mailing list(s) to which you wish to be added and send your request to the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address above. Unless you otherwise specify, you will be included only on the mailing list for this specific application.

INFORMATION. If you need more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEO Office of Public Assistance, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040. General information about the TCEQ can be found at our web site at

www.tceq.state.tx.us. Further information may also be obtained from Cabot Corporation at the address stated above or by calling Mr. Douglas B Williams at (806)661-3130.

Issued: Dec. 06, 2005 Dec. 16, 2005 5 Special Notices

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10 Lost/Found

FOUND Blue Healer.

21 Help Wanted

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West Texas A&M Uni

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Division Head 806-651

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REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347

14e Carpet Serv.

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IS your House or Foundation Settling? Cracks in bricks or walls? Door won't close? Call Childers Brothers, Inc. Stabilizing & Foundation Level-1-800-299-9563 or 806-352-9563 Amarillo. HANDYMAN: Painting, carpentry, fencing, weld ing, hauling, cleanup. No

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**Apply in Person** The Pampa News 403 W. Atchison Pampa No phone calls please

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21 Help Wanted

LVN needed for 3-11, Full-time w/benefits differential. St. Ann's Nursing Home, Panhandle, (806)537-3194.

PHYSICIAN Assistant wanted for busy orthopedic practice. Salary competitive and insurance will be provided. Please send resume to Box 06 c/o Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, Tx. 79066-2198.

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408 S. Price Rd, Pampa. Loan Representative For financing program in hospital setting. Professional, organized individual with phone, computer & data entry skills required. Must have transportation, valid license / ins. Bilingual (Spanish) is

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The Pampa News — Friday, December 16, 2005 — 11

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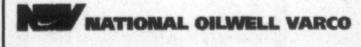
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which authorizes the disposal of non-contact cooling water, wash water, boiler blowdown, and storm water on an intermittent and flow variable via evaporation. This permit will

is LONGFELLOW

hints. Each day the code letters are different.

EHKGKRHGC LDGMBKM

Example

for certain gifts. Watch a tendency to buy

one for them and one for you. You easily,

want to remember everyone. Tonight: Curb the spendthrift in you CANCER (June 21-July 22) \*\*\*\* Your personality flourishes. Think in terms of freeing yourself of some self-imposed restriction. It's great to be free and easy sometimes. Why not now? Buy or do something special for

yourself. Tonight: Happy as can be

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) \*\* You could be a bit off, and others will let you know it. Several options appear. Which one you take varies according to your personality. You always have free choice. Today is a perfect example. Tonight: Early to bed. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

\*\*\* Aim for more of what you want.

Listen to everyone carefully. Friends mix well with goals. If you have a problem, it will be one of too many choices and not enough time. Be willing to take a nap. Tonight: Where the party is. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★ Listen well to a boss, parent or someone in charge. You will like what is coming down the path. Take care with

spending, especially spending to please

someone you care about. Be willing to

say no to someone you care about. Tonight: In the limelight. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) \*\*\* You will go overboard because of your imagination. You also might get a lot of flak from someone in charge. Think twice before you take a major

action. Recognize that you have many

ing shoes and follow the music.

Tonight: Dinner for two. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

you want to stay in control. Tonight: Enjoy yourself. \*\*\* Knowing when you cannot push anymore might be key. You will want to take your time and get some extra rest. A must appearance could take more energy

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★ You are on an unusually creative bent right now. Use your ability to make a difference. Your talent for inventive, fun happenings could come into play. Others let you take the lead. Sneak in a

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) \*\*\*\* A money offer could come in

one whose opinion you trust. With this person, you'll make the right decision. \*\*\*\* Others clearly want your attention. Don't allow anyone to cramp your style. You might feel that a partner

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) than you thought. Flow with the moment.

nap. Tonight: Paint the town red. **BORN TODAY** Musician Paul Butterfield (1942), actor Barry Livingston (1953), actor Bill Pullman (1953)

http://www.jacquelinebigar.com. © 2005 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

and we do mean easily, could do serious damage to your budget. Use care if you from left field. Your sixth sense could make you wary or touchy. You might feel as if you need to touch base with some-

> s being judgmental. Let your reactions mellow out before having a discussion, if

Tonight: Early to bed.

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at

### **Closed**

Cont. from Page 7

megachurches closing on Christmas Day are Christian Southland Church in Nicholasville, Ky., near Lexington, and Fellowship Church in Grapevine, Texas, outside of Dallas. North Point Community Church in Alpharetta, Ga., outside of Atlanta, said on its Web site that no services will be held on Christmas Day or New Year's Day, which also falls on a Sunday. A spokesman for North Point did not respond to requests for comment.

The closures stand in stark contrast to Roman Catholic parishes, which will see some of their largest crowds of the year on Christmas, and mainline Protestant congregations such as the Episcopal, Methodist and churches, Lutheran where Sunday services are rarely if ever canceled.

Cindy Willison, a spokeswoman for the evangelical Southland Christian Church, said at least 500 volunteers are needed, along with staff, to run Sunday services for the estimated 8,000 people who usually attend. She said many of the volunteers appreciate the chance to spend Christmas with their families instead of working, although she said a few church members complained.

"If we weren't having services at all, I would probably tend to feel that we were too accommodating to the secular viewpoint, but we're having multiple services on Saturday and an additional service Friday night," Willison said. believe that you worship every day of the week, not just on a weekend, and you don't have to be in a church building to worship.'

Troy Page, spokesman for Fellowship Church, said the congregation was hardly shirking its reliobligations. gious Fellowship will hold 21 services in four locations in the days leading up to the holiday. Last year, more than 30,000 worshippers participated. "Doing them early allows you to reach people who may be leaving town Friday," Page said.

These megachurches are not alone in adjusting Sunday worship to accommodate families on Christmas. But most other congregations are scaling back services instead of closing their

First Baptist Church in Daytona Beach, Fla., led by the Rev. Bobby Welch, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, will hold one service instead of the usual two. New Life Church in Colorado Springs, Colo., led by the Rev. Ted Haggard, president of the National Association Evangelicals, will hold one Sunday service instead of the typical three.

### **Assembly**

Cont. from Page 7

a.m. Christmas Day at the church.

lonya Witt, guest soloist of Plano, will sing. Intermingled with her ministry will be the telling of the Christmas story and a special candlelight communion.

# Deficit narrows slightly in third quarter

WASHINGTON America's deficit in the broadest measure of international trade showed a slight improvement in the July-September quarter although it was still at the third highest level in history.

The Commerce Department reported that the deficit in the U.S. current account totaled \$195.8 billion in the third quarter.

That was down 1 percent from the deficit in the April-June quarter of \$197.8 billion, which had been a 0.4 percent improvement from the record deficit of \$198.7 billion set in the first three months of the year.

Analysts are forecasting that current account deficit for all of 2005 will set a new high, topping \$700 That would be well above last

year's \$668.1 billion, as the coun-

try's trade performance continues to

deteriorate. The slight improvement in the current account deficit for the third quarter came despite the fact that the imbalance in goods rose by \$10.9

The slight improvement in the current account deficit for the third quarter came despite the fact that the imbalance in goods rose by \$10.9 billion to \$197.9 billion. The government said 80 percent of that deterioration reflected higher oil prices with larger imports of cars and auto parts accounting for much of the rest.

rioration reflected higher oil prices with larger imports of cars and auto parts accounting for much of the

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita helped lower the deficit as well by increasing payments from foreign insurance companies to settle damage claims along the Gulf Coast.

The current account is the broadest measure of foreign trade because it includes not only sales of merchandise and services but also investment flows and foreign aid.

The current account deficit must billion to \$197.9 billion. The gov- be financed by convincing foreignernment said 80 percent of that dete- ers to hold more dollars, which they

invest in U.S. stocks, bonds and Treasury securities.

So far, the country has not had trouble attracting those investments but the worry is that at some point foreigners will slow their purchases of dollar-denominated investments.

Such a change could send the dollar plunging in value against other currencies. It could also send U.S. stock prices down sharply and cause interest rates to rise, which if severe enough could send the economy into

None of these dire outcomes has occurred.

And Federal Reserve Chairman

Alan Greenspan, while calling the surge in the current account unsustainable, has forecast that market forces will correct the imbalance without disrupting the U.S. econo-

Another positive factor in the narrowing of the deficit was a return of the investment category to a surplus for the United States of \$512 million after investments had been a negative of \$1.5 billion in the second

Analysts said the trend will put this category back in negative territory given that the United States is now the world's largest debtor country, meaning that foreigners own more in U.S. assets than U.S. citizens own in foreign assets.

In addition to trade in goods and investment flows, the balance on services improved by \$1.8 billion to \$15.1 billion in the third quarter, while unilateral transfers, the category that includes foreign aid and the insurance payments for hurricane damage, narrowed to a deficit of \$13.5 billion, down from a deficit of \$22.6 billion in the second quarter.

## NYC transit union calls selective strike, talks continue

NEW YORK (AP) — New York City's transit union called a selective strike against two private bus lines today, after a night of bargaining failed to produce a deal involving 33,000 subway and bus workers.

The union said the strike could eventually extend to the city's entire public transit system, which carries nearly 7 million people daily on subways and buses.

"We tried to bargain with the MTA," said Roger

Toussaint, president of strike Transport Workers Union Local 100. "We negotiated well past our contract deadline because we wanted to get a deal done and we still

It was not immediately clear when a bus strike was to begin; the lines continued to run during the Friday morning rush-hour.

"Unless everybody goes on strike, together with the blue buses, the subways, the private lines are not going on

Jamaica Bus Lines supervisor William Barrios, who said his local union representative told bus employees to keep working, at least for now. "I'm scared about my job. I've been here 27 years."

About 50,000 riders are served by the lines, which have about 750 workers.

The union says the private bus lines are not under the jurisdiction of the state law that prohibits a walkout.

asserted Public bus and subway workers could lose two days' pay for every day of a strike. The city is asking for additional damages against individual workers: \$25,000 for the first day of the walkout, doubling each day there-

The union had threatened a full strike at 12:01 a.m., when the contract expired. A strike would paralyze the nation's largest transit system at the height of the holiday season.

Toussaint said he was especially infuriated by the actions of MTA chairman Peter Kalikow during the final hours before the contract deadline, including his remarks that an arbitrator get involved in the dispute.

"That is an insult to transit workers and an insult to every person in this city who depends on our bus and subway system," Toussaint said.

Commuters were relieved to find the subways still running.

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