

Tomorrow's Weather

HIGH  
53  
LOW  
28

See expanded weather on Page 2

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Thursday, January 23, 2008

Volume 103 • No. 261

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## PGWCD considers changing election dates

By DAVID BOWSER  
Staff Writer

**WHITE DEER** -- What once seemed like a bright idea dimmed after some research.

Faced with rising election costs, John R. Spearman, Jr, president of the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District and Gray County farmer and rancher, asked the district staff to look at changing the board members' boundaries so elections could be coupled with county elections. Such a move would cut election costs, particularly the cost of voting machines, by sharing those costs with the counties in the water district.

As the district has grown, precincts were added to represent

equal numbers of residents in the district, but the population boundaries have not always followed political boundaries of the counties in the district. Several members, including Spearman, represent parts of more than one county. Spearman represents the southwest corner of Roberts County and about the northern third of Gray County.

Reporting back, C.E. Williams, general manager of the district, said the board could change the boundaries to match county lines, but that would probably shrink the board from nine members to seven members. He said that if there were contested races, such a move could save about 20 to 25 percent of the costs of the election, but for the past several

years, there have been no contested races and no election had to be held, so there were no costs.

Williams said an alternative might be to change the date of the election from May to the general election in November, but he pointed out that would take a change in the law. The state legislature would have to change the language of the district's enabling act, which presently specifies a May election.

With little or no cost savings, Spearman said he thought it probably wasn't worth pursuing.

The board agreed with him and voted not to take any action at the moment, but asked Williams to explore the possibilities of changing the election from May to November.

Following the meeting, a representative of Boone Pickens, Roberts County rancher and Dallas businessman, said that Pickens was seriously considering running for the Roberts County seat on the water conservation district board being vacated by Kim Flowers, who is moving to Amarillo. Filing for the position opens Feb. 17 and closes March 10 for the May 10 election. If no one else files for the position, the board can declare an individual who filed the winner of the election.

In other business, Williams announced that the Texas Board of Licensing will hold a public meeting at 6 p.m., Feb. 13, at the Texas

See PGWCD, Page 7

## Bishop visits from Siberia

By MARILYN POWERS  
Staff Writer

Christianity is making a comeback in Russia after decades of Communist oppression, according to The Rev. Vsevolod Lytkin, a Lutheran bishop from Siberia.

Lytkin preached at Vespers services Monday evening at Zion Lutheran Church, 1200 Duncan, as part of his tour of the United States. After the services, he spoke on past and present conditions in Siberia.

St. Andrew the Apostle was the first Christian to visit Russia, Lytkin said. St. Andrew arrived during the first century A.D. in the area of the Ukraine where the city of Kiev is now located.

The first baptism in Russia occurred in 988, Lytkin said. The first Lutheran church in Moscow was dedicated in 1576.

During the Communist regime, an estimated 360,000 nuns and clergy were killed in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Lytkin said. "Communism cannot coexist with Christianity," he said.

Lutheran pastors were killed or sent to concentration camps until the 1930s. The

last one to be killed died in 1941, Lytkin said.

"All church buildings were destroyed in Siberia," he said. Monuments to political leaders were erected in place of some of the churches, and others were replaced by such things as playgrounds with Ferris wheels, called, ironically, devil's wheels in Russia.

The last Lutheran church to be built before recent times was erected in 1885 and torn down in 1936, along with several other Lutheran churches.

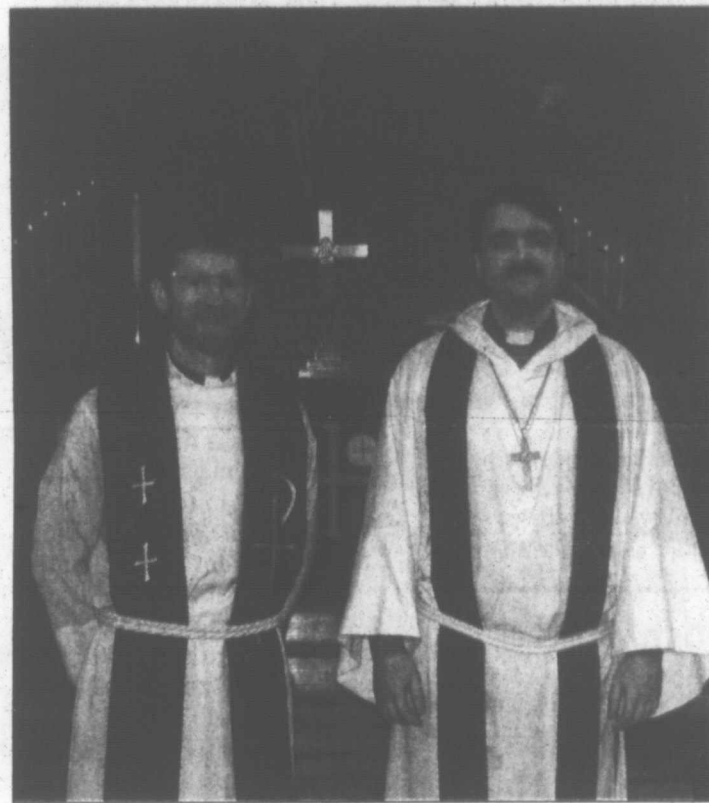
"Bricks from it were used to build a monument to Lenin, which is now in that space," Lytkin said.

Members of the clergy were not the only ones to die in Russian concentration camps.

"No one knows how many died, but the estimate is 30 million in concentration camps during Josef Stalin's time," Lytkin said.

Russia is still struggling to recover from the effects of Communism and its collapse. Many Siberians still use horses as their means of travel, because they cannot

See SIBERIA, Page 7



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS  
The Rev. Michael Erickson and Bishop Vsevolod Lytkin officiated at Vespers services Monday evening at Zion Lutheran Church. Lytkin is a Lutheran bishop in Siberia and is currently touring the United States.

## Pampa settles rate issues with ATMOS Energy

By DAVID BOWSER  
Staff Writer

After an extended legal battle, the City of Pampa and other cities served by ATMOS Energy Corporation have settled their issues over the interim rate adjustments. It will cost Pampa residents about a half dollar a month.

"Every year, ATMOS comes forward with an increase," said Pampa City Manager John Horst.

The increase is to assure the replacement of their infrastructure, Horst said, under legislation, the Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program or GRIP, passed in 2003.

Of the three years that they have filed GRIP, he said, the increase for residential service was \$1.09 in 2004, there was no increase in 2005 and in 2006 they are settling for 49 cents.

In July, 2007, ATMOS proposed a GRIP increase for 2006, but Pampa and 51 other cities served by ATMOS banded together

to fight it. Now, after some \$80,000 in legal fees, Horst said the cities have decided to settle.

While the cities, including Pampa, didn't get everything they wanted, they did get a better deal than ATMOS first offered, he said.

"Is it \$80,000 better?" Horst said. "I don't know."

Horst said he was never really in favor of spending those types of funds to fight the legal battle.

"The legislature lays out what they can increase the GRIP every year," Horst said.

The city manager said he thinks it can be done a lot less expensively.

"I think we could have hired Brown Graham and Company to run some numbers for a lot less than that," Horst said, "and say, okay, you guys are a little high."

Horst said it won't be the cities

See ATMOS, Page 10

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**NEXT DAY FORECAST**

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
Cloudy	Mostly sunny	Partly sunny

**Friday:** A slight chance of rain or freezing rain before noon. Cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly sunny, with a high near 53. Wind chill values between 12 and 22 early. West-southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

**Friday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 28. Wind chill values between 19 and 24. West-southwest wind between 5 and 15 mph.

**Saturday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 56. West-northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Saturday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 31. Calm wind becoming south between 5 and 10 mph.

**Sunday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 64. South-southwest wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

**Sunday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 37. Windy, with a south-southwest wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

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# Obituaries

## Services tomorrow

**CHRISTIAN, Betty** — 7 p.m., Rosary at Brown's Memorial Chapel, Stinnett.  
**COCHRAN, Opal** — 1 p.m., Cornerstone Baptist Church, Pampa.

### Opal Cochran, 91

Opal Cochran, 91, of Pampa died Jan. 22, 2008, in Pampa, Texas. Services are scheduled for 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 23, 2008, at Cornerstone Baptist Church, with Chaplain Jim Fox of Vista Care Hospice of Amarillo, Rev. Rick Timmons of Central Baptist Church of Canadian, and Rev. Doug Hixson, pastor of Cornerstone Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will follow in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Cochran was born Dec. 7, 1917, in Glenmora, La. She married Lester Cochran on Nov. 13, 1938, in Memphis, Texas. Opal had been a resident of Pampa since 1959. She was a homemaker and a member of Hobart Baptist Church. She was a loving mother. The family would like to express a special thanks to Bob Lindsey with Odyssey Hospice for his care and concern. She was preceded in death by three great-grandchildren, Justin Graves, Tyler

Johnson and Bailey Brame. Survivors include her husband of 69 years, Lester Cochran of the home; six sons, Dexter Cochran and wife Betty of White Deer, Mar Cochran and wife Betty, Ted Cochran and wife Lea Ann, Ed Cochran and wife Patty and Kirby Cochran and wife Rita, all of Pampa, and Danny Cochran of the home; three daughters, Carolyn Nelson and husband Van of Nacogdoches, LaGwenda Walker and husband Gary and Lesa Greer and husband Jene, all of Pampa; one

brother, Gene Winegeart and wife Ann of Pampa; one sister, Evelyn Parker of Dalhart; 24 grandchildren, 41 great-grandchildren, seven great-great-grandchildren. Memorials can be sent to Pampa Meals on Wheels, P.O. Box 939, Pampa, Texas 79066-0939, or the Bailey Brame Scholarship Fund, c/o Bruce and Debbie Brame, P.O. Box 263, Skellytown, Texas 79080. —Sign the on-line register at [www.carmichael-whately.com](http://www.carmichael-whately.com).

### Maggie Earlene Vines, 78

McLEAN, Texas — Maggie Earlene Vines, 78, of McLean, died Jan. 22, 2008, at Amarillo, Texas. Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26, 2008, at Bailey-Ware Funeral Home Chapel in McLean with Shane Coleman, Minister, Church of Christ, Justin, Texas, officiating. He will be assisted by the Rev. Archie Cooper of McLean, Texas. Burial will be in Citizens Cemetery in Clarendon, Texas. Maggie Earlene Vines was

born to Roy H. Todd and Annie L. Ratten (Todd) in Jerico, Texas, on Oct. 23, 1929. Maggie Earlene Todd married Elmer L. Vines in March of 1947. From this union was born two children, Herbert E. Vines and Carolyn L. (Vines) Coleman. She was preceded in death by her parents; her beloved husband; her

brother, Melvin Baker; and a sister, Lois Bentley. Survivors include one son, Herbert Vines (Carol) of Dalhart, Texas; one daughter, Carolyn Coleman (Max) of Whitewater, Kan.; three sisters, Dorothy Isaacs of Anadarko, Okla., Ida Mae Moore of Dimmit, Texas, and Shirley Bentley

of McLean, Texas; two brothers, Leroy Todd (Elsie) of Hattisburg, Miss., and Thomas Todd (Georgia) of Clifton, Colo.; her "Guardian Angel" and best friend, Boots Stone, and her church family at the First Assembly of God in McLean; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. MEMORIALS: Olivia's Angels, First Assembly of God Church, McLean, Texas, or Route 66 Church of Christ, McLean, Texas.

## Emergency Services

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### Ambulance

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

**Wednesday, Jan. 23**  
 7:49 a.m. — A MICU responded to the 2800 block of Charles and transported one patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

3:14 p.m. — A MICU responded to the 1100 block of Sirroco and transported one patient to PRMC.

5:22 p.m. — A MICU responded to the 300 block of Sunset and transported one patient to PRMC.

5:41 p.m. — A MICU responded to the 700 block of Mora and transported one patient to PRMC.

10:52 p.m. — A MICU

responded to the 1200 block of Faulkner and transported one patient to PRMC.

**Thursday, Jan. 24**  
 12:26 a.m. — A MICU responded to PRMC and transported one patient to BSA in Amarillo.

### Fire

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

**Wednesday, Jan. 23**  
 5:44 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 700 block of Mora on a medical stand-by.

**Thursday, Jan. 24**  
 6:08 a.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to the intersection of Alcock and Price Road on hazardous material clean-up, but none was found.

7:00 a.m. — Two units and six personnel responded to the 800 block of West Kingsmill on a smoke scare.

### Sheriff

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

**Wednesday, Jan. 23**  
 Isreal Olivas, 19, of

Pampa was arrested by GCSO for theft of a firearm.

Erik Escontrias, 24, of Borger was arrested by GCSO for theft of a firearm.

Zachary Lee Mears, 27, of Pampa was arrested in the 600 block of East Frederic by Pampa Police Department for failure to identify as a fugitive, possession of drug paraphernalia, no seat belt/passenger and failure to appear.

James McKinney, 43, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO on a blue warrant for a parole violation.

Matthew Blake Shull, 20, of Pampa was arrested in the 300 block of North Somerville by PPD for hindering apprehension.

Zachary Malone, 20, of Pampa was arrested in the 300 block of North Gray by PPD for assaulting a public servant, resisting arrest, evading arrest and a Logan County, Ill. warrant for fugitive from justice.

### Pampa PD

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

Thirteen traffic stops were made. Stops in the

2100 block of Duncan and the 600 block of East Frederic resulted in arrests.

Traffic complaints were received from the 100 block of East Foster and the 1300 block of Coffee.

Motorist assistance was rendered in the 800 block of South Hobart.

Vehicle accidents were reported in the 1200 block of North Hobart and on two occasions in the police department lobby.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 1100 block of Harlem, the 400 block of Lowry, the 1300 block of Garland, the 800 block of Locust, the 1200 block of Garland, the 1100 block of Seneca, the 100 block of West 30th, the 500 block of Tignor, the 200 block of North Wells and the 1600 block of West Somerville.

Civil matters were reported at an unreported location and on two occasions in the police department lobby.

A welfare check was made in the 2300 block of Alcock.

Warrant service was attempted on two occasions and resulted in at least one arrest.

Suspicious person calls

were received from the 2100 block of North Wells, the 700 block of East Frederic and the intersection of Somerville and Kingsmill streets.

Suspicious vehicle calls were received from the 800 block of North Nelson and the 1100 block of Huff Road.

A prowler was reported in the 600 block of Wynne.

A silent/abusive 911 call was received from the 1700 block of Grape.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1100 block of South Faulkner. The driver's side window of a vehicle was broken out with a piece of concrete. Estimated cost of damage is unknown.

Telephone harassment was reported in the 2200 block of North Wells.

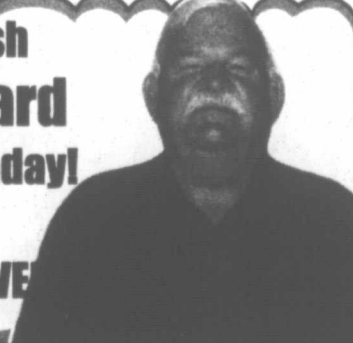
Assault was reported at Pampa High School, 111 E. Harvester.

One alarm was reported. One open door was checked.

Theft was reported in the 2400 block of Evergreen. A bicycle valued at \$100 was taken.

Theft was reported in the police department lobby.

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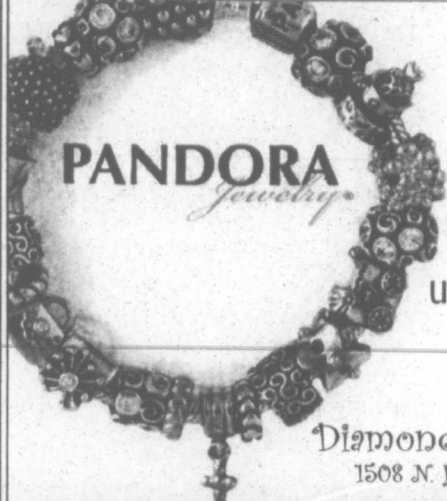
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# Viewpoints

## Clintons' smear tactics not working with Obama

Too bad young Barack Obama wasn't as deeply into the drug trade as the Clintons' smear artists would like America's Democrat voters to believe.

Too bad he hadn't been a serious teenage drug dealer on the mean middle-class streets of Honolulu, where he was raised by his grandparents and attended an elite high school.

Better yet, too bad Obama hadn't been arrested for selling pot or possessing cocaine as a teenager but had still grown up to be what he is today — a political rock star.

If Obama had suffered serious legal pain for his youthful dalliance in illegal drugs — as hundreds of thou-

sands of Americans do every year — he might not be the hardened drug warrior he is today.

Obama has gotten props for being the first electable presidential candidate to fess up to his youthful interest in illegal drugs without pretending he didn't enjoy the experience.

"When I was a kid, I inhaled frequently — that was the point," Obama can be seen admitting on YouTube. More famously, in his 1995 bestseller "Dreams from My Father," he said he used marijuana and cocaine as a teen but never heroin.

Obama's candor is refreshing in the morally challenged land of big-time politics, where invertebrates,

hypocrites and liars rule. But when it comes to the mindless prosecution of the war on (some) drugs, he's as spineless as the next politician.

Though he's way too smart, sophisticated and street-wise to be unaware of the arguments against drug prohibition, he's made nary a public peep about what the drug war has done to our liberties and wallets.

Nor has he railed about the decades of socioeconomic damage it's done to black communities. Nor about the

young black males who've died in disproportionately high numbers in shootouts over drug turf.

No one expects Obama to wreck his White House chances by challenging the puritanical premises behind the drug war. But except for methamphetamine, which is ravaging many (white) communities in Illinois, Sen. Obama virtually ignores the issue of illegal drugs.

A search for the word "marijuana" on his official Web site, [obamasenate.gov](http://obamasenate.gov) (which archives his Senate

speeches), brings not one hit. Ditto for "cocaine." "Heroin" comes up three times — in connection with Afghanistan and Burma.

Obama is not even in favor of legalizing medical marijuana. And he was the last potential president to promise he'd call off federal drug raids on medical marijuana clinics.

If his past is vetted by the media the way the Clintonistas are praying it will be, Obama's drug experiences may turn out to be not as innocent as he's portrayed. But for now it seems that — like umpteen millions of his fellow law-breaking Americans — he did his pot and coke and didn't get caught.

Too bad. If his life had been spoiled even a little by the evil drug war, he might have more sympathy for the 1.6 million Americans who get busted each year for non-violent drug offenses.

Then, instead of merely being the most charismatic of three indistinguishable liberals competing to see who can use Big Government to "change" America the most, he could become a real American political hero — by using his famed oratorical skills to end America's most senseless war.

—Bill Steigerwald is a columnist at the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review.



**Bill Steigerwald**  
Columnist

## Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Jan. 24, the 24th day of 2008. There are 342 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Jan. 24, 1908, is considered the starting date of the Boy Scouts movement in England, under the aegis of Robert Baden-Powell.

On this date:

In 1742, Charles VII was elected Holy Roman Emperor during the War of the Austrian Succession.

In 1848, James W. Marshall discovered a gold nugget at Sutter's Mill in northern California, a discovery that led to the gold rush of '49.

In 1922, Christian K. Nelson of Onawa, Iowa, patented the Eskimo Pie.

In 1924, the Russian city of Petrograd (formerly St. Petersburg) was renamed Leningrad in honor of the late revolutionary leader. (However, it has since been renamed St. Petersburg).

In 1943, President Franklin Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Churchill concluded a wartime conference in Casablanca, Morocco.

In 1965, Winston Churchill died in London

*'Truth has no special time of its own. Its hour is now — always.'*

— Albert Schweitzer  
German-born missionary and Nobel laureate (1875-1965)

at age 90.

In 1978, a nuclear-powered Soviet satellite, Cosmos 954, plunged through Earth's atmosphere and disintegrated, scattering radioactive debris over parts of northern Canada.

In 1987, gunmen in Lebanon kidnapped educators Alann Steen, Jesse Turner and Robert Polhill and Mitheleshwar Singh. (All were eventually released).

In 1989, confessed serial killer Theodore Bundy was put to death in Florida's electric chair.

In 1993, retired Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall died in Bethesda, Md., at age 84.

Ten years ago: Pope John Paul II, delivering blunt political messages during his visit to Cuba, called for the release of "prisoners of conscience" and respect for freedom of expression, initiative and association. President Clinton, in his weekly radio address, unveiled a proposal to root out Medicare fraud.

Five years ago: The new Department of Homeland Security officially opened as its head, Tom Ridge, was sworn in. Connecticut became the first state to take part in the U.S. government's plan to inoculate a half-million health care workers against smallpox. (Only four doctors agreed to be vaccinated that first day.)

One year ago: The Democratic-controlled Senate Foreign Relations Committee dismissed President Bush's plans for a troop buildup in Iraq as "not in the national interest" of the United States.



## Program packages more user-friendly

As a technology columnist, I am frequently asked to review software as it is released. Sometimes, you, the reader, ask me to look into the usefulness or value of a piece of software. The latter instance launched today's column — a review of Adobe's "CS3: Web Premium" version.

For the longest time, Adobe has been the leader in many pieces of popular software: Photoshop, Acrobat and Illustrator. With their acquisition of Macromedia (makers of Dreamweaver and Flash), they have cornered the market on Web design software and image manipulation tools.

"Creative Suite" is Adobe's label for selling bundles of software for one price. Basically, they've divided these suites into four offerings: Design, Web, Production and Master. Each

one of these designations is further divided into "premium" and "standard" versions. While this may sound a bit confusing, Adobe is trying to address the professional who wants a discount for buying all of their software from one vendor.

CS3: Web Premium is one of the more popular choices. It includes Dreamweaver, Flash, Illustrator, Fireworks, Acrobat and Contribute. The standard version does not include Photoshop, Illustrator or Acrobat.

While the \$1,500 price tag might be intimidating for some users, many professionals know how much of a discount exists over buying

each package separately. Of course, careful shopping on the Internet might land you a better deal.

On to the review: Overall, the feature you will enjoy the most is "integration."

Every tool seamlessly communicates with the others. Graphics flow effortlessly from Photoshop to Dreamweaver. Graphics designed in Illustrator easily move into a Flash environment. Graphic designers and Web developers alike will save numerous hours over the extra steps needed in previous versions.

Of all the programs included in this suite, Photoshop appears to be changed the least. While it inherits the "look" of CS3,

the underlying features and tools have changed very little. Most users will appreciate this "hands-off" approach. After all, the program is 17-years-old. What else does it need?

**Dreamweaver**  
Before Adobe bought Macromedia, it's Go Live product was the Adobe formal Web development program. With CS3, it's quite obvious that Adobe has promoted Dreamweaver, the Macromedia market leader to that distinction.

Not much has changed in Dreamweaver. However, some new tools deserve mention. My favorite is the Spry framework. This addition allows a developer to easily incorporate Ajax elements into any Web site. If you've ever used Google Maps, you've seen Ajax in action.

See SPELL, Page 7

**Eric Spellmann**  
Columnist



## THE PAMPA NEWS

403 W. Atchison • Pampa, TX 79065

806-669-2525 • 800-687-3348

Fax: 806-669-2520

email: [editor1@thepampanews.com](mailto:editor1@thepampanews.com)

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## Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

Jan. 14  
San Antonio Express-News on the destruction of CIA videotapes of terrorism interrogations:

The finger pointing over the destroyed CIA videotapes of intense terrorism interrogations hasn't been limited to the intelligence agency.

The agency's overseers on Capitol Hill have been chastised for taking their eye off the ball since they were made aware of the videos and the controversial interrogation techniques long

before the matter went public.

But at least one member of Congress exercised due diligence.

In 2003, Rep. Jane Harman, D-Calif., who at the time was the senior Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee, sent a letter to the CIA's top lawyer urging that the videotape be preserved and questioning the interrogation techniques.

The Associated Press obtained a copy of the recently declassified letter this month.

"Even if the videotape does not constitute an official record that must be preserved under the law, the videotape would be the best proof that the written

record is accurate," Harman wrote, according to the AP.

She added, "The fact of destruction would reflect badly on the agency."

Harman also asked the CIA counsel whether President Bush had authorized and approved the interrogation techniques.

Harman released the letter after the Justice Department opened a criminal investigation into the destruction of the tapes, the AP noted.

Until the letter was declassified, Harman could not publicly discuss her actions.

Harman was among a number of  
See CIA, Page 7



# BUSINESS REVIEW

## JESSICA WHITELEY PHOTOGRAPHY

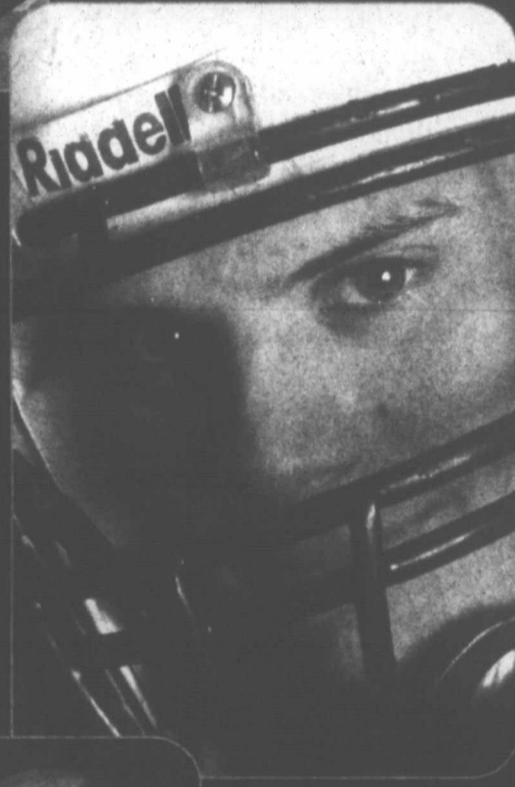
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## CIA

Cont. from Page 4

people, including former Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, who recommended against

destroying the tapes, according to reports. CIA officials will have to deal with the consequences on their own, and attempts to spread the blame should be taken with a grain of salt.

## PGWCD

Continued from Page 1

AgriLife Research offices in Amarillo, concerning the district's weather modification program. Texas AgriLife is the new name for the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

Williams said the state agency had received several letters complaining about the cloud seeding program, but none of the letters were from inside the district.

Tom Cambridge, Amarillo's representative on the board, said the complaints he's heard fall into two basic categories. First, there are the people who say the program doesn't work and it's a waste of money. Second, there are those who claim the program causes it to rain not on their land, but on adjoining land, primarily in the district.

Cambridge also announced that he had resigned from the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) board of directors to which he had been appointed representative from the water district.

While he said he thinks the TIRZ program is good, he said he was resigning for personal reasons. The water district, which represents only about one percent of the taxes collected in the zone, can appoint someone of their choosing to the nine-member TIRZ board or the Amarillo City Commission will appoint someone.

The board also approved two agricultural loans from its water conservation equipment loan program. The district has access to money from the state to lend to farmers to make their irrigation projects more efficient.

The two loans, \$48,789 and \$69,274, were for center pivot irrigation systems.

## Editor settles suit with Leno, NBC and others

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A humor editor who published books of jokes by Jay Leno and other comedians without their permission has apologized and agreed to pay hundreds of thousands of dollars in damages.

Judy Brown and her publishers has settled the federal copy-

right infringement lawsuit filed on behalf of NBC Studios; Leno; Rita Rudner; Jimmy Brogan; Diane Nichols; Sue Pascoe; Kathleen Madigan and Bob Ettinger.

"I thought it was important to make it clear that jokes are protected like any other art form,"

Leno said in a statement.

Brown's attorney, Ralph Loeb, declined to comment Wednesday on the settlement.

However, in a statement Brown apologized. "The best comedians may make comedy seem easy, but I know it takes talent, hard work and careful

preparation to make people laugh," she said. "That is why I am settling this lawsuit by agreeing never again to publish their jokes without asking their permission to do so."

The board also debated whether to extend the loans to drip irrigation systems and how to secure those loans.

With center pivot sprinklers, the district will finance up to 80 percent of the equipment and holds a lien against the equipment.

Yvonne Thomas, with the district, said the water conservation district had loaned about \$4.65 million since 1992 when they first started the program. She said there had never been a default.

But Jason Green, the board representative from Donley County, said the cost of a drip irrigation system was much more than a center pivot system even though the drip system, which is

buried in the ground, is much more efficient.

Action on the drip irrigation system was tabled until people in the drip irrigation industry could come to one of the district's board meetings.

Williams said that the City of Amarillo had bought more water rights in Carson County to enlarge their stake, and Kent Satterwhite with the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority said CRMWA had filed to begin

work on Phase III of its program to pump more groundwater from Roberts County. The board also accepted a bid of \$1,155 for a piece of tax delinquent property at Howardwick in Donley County.

The water conservation district board of directors approved drilling permits for

a two-inch well for Midstream Energy Services, LLC, in Carson County south of Borger; for a one-inch well for Lynn Willis east of Pampa, and a one-inch well for Glenn Estates north of Amarillo.

They will also approve a permit for a one-inch stock well for Mike Clay south of Pampa.

The board approved two four-inch irrigation wells for Bob White in Donley County and one four-inch irrigation well for Mike Newhouse, also in Donley County.

They approved a five-inch industrial well for Cabot Corp. south of Pampa.

**The two loans, \$48,789 and \$69,274, were for center pivot irrigation systems.**

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## Siberia

Continued from Page 1

afford to own motorized vehicles or buy the fuel to use in them. Horses are ridden and also used to pull carts.

Those who are fortunate enough to have motor vehicles run the risk of having parts stolen off of them at every opportunity afforded to thieves, Lytkin said. Other forms of theft are also common, including taking things from an absent neighbor's house, he said.

Motor vehicle owners often have ministers dedicate the vehicles, a Siberian tradition, Lytkin said.

Vehicles frequently get bogged down axle-deep on "highways," which are rarely paved, whenever wet weather occurs. Some thoroughfares are little more than two wheel ruts.

Alcoholism is a problem in Russia, and items are sold on the black market in order to pay for vodka. One health problem is tuberculosis. "Fifty percent of the people in the republic of Buryatia have tuberculosis," Lytkin said.

"We organize community aid projects in the poorest parishes of our church," he said.

Dirt roads, vast distances and lack of church buildings are some of the things ministers face in Russia.

"Our country used to be bigger. Now parts of it are other countries," Lytkin said. By the end of the 19th century, ministers needed six months to travel their entire territory in parts of Siberia, he said.

Even with the breakup of the U.S.S.R., Siberia and other parts of Russia still

cover a large amount of the globe. Lytkin is in charge of 22 parishes within a distance of 5,500 miles.

The distance to cover all congregations in the country has sometimes meant that some church members rarely receive visits from the clergy.

"I was the first to visit a group of Lutherans since 1936," Lytkin said.

"This was a group originally from Poland who had taken advantage of the U.S.S.R.'s offer of free land to anyone who would settle on it in parts of Siberia."

Congregations meet for worship wherever they can find the space unless they are lucky enough to have their own church.

One effort by the Siberian Lutheran church is aimed toward helping the deaf.

"Nobody cares for hand-

icapped people in our country. There is no support from the government," Lytkin said. "So our church tries to help. Many of the deaf are not educated."

One Lutheran minister helped reorganize the Boy Scouts in Russia after the fall of Communism, he said.

Lytkin has been a Lutheran clergyman for 14 years.

"I grew up in a non-religious family," he said. "My family was not atheists, but not Christians either. My parents were math professors at a university in Estonia, which is now an independent state."

"I was taught not to trust official Russian propaganda," Lytkin said. He credited this attitude as his first step toward becoming a Christian. He was baptized at age 20.

For more information on the Siberian Lutheran Church, visit their web site at [www.tslms.org](http://www.tslms.org).

**Lytkin is in charge of 22 parishes within a distance of 5,500 miles.**

## Spell

Continued from Page 4

Illustrator

The primary changes to Illustrator appear to be in the "ease of use" department. Document Profiles allow you to easily start projects with preset characteristics such as document size, color mode, preview mode, measurement settings and even raster effects resolution settings. In addition, the people at Adobe have heard the complaints of many of their users concerning toolbar overload. Now, you can easily reduce palettes (called "panels" in CS3) to icons that dock to the side of your screen, giving you more project space.

Contribute, Flash, Acrobat, Fireworks

For people who need to make updates to Web sites but don't need all the overhead of Dreamweaver, Adobe created Contribute. It protects areas of Web pages from accidental changes while allowing content providers an easy and low-learning-curve tool for site updates. The newest additions to this program can be summed up as "blog support." Users can use Contribute on a daily basis to automate the task of keeping their online diary current.

On the other end of the technical spectrum lies

Flash, the builder of most of the Web's flashy, glitzy and interactive content. You won't notice much difference between the CS2 and CS3 versions of this program. However, you will notice Adobe has put more of an emphasis on using Flash in mobile devices. To that end, they've created a site called Device Central where you can test your Flash creations in multiple environments. And, as with all CS3 products, Flash talks better with Photoshop and Dreamweaver.

In my review, Acrobat and Fireworks had very little updates from their CS2 predecessors, but their addition in this suite round out the needs of most Web professionals.

Overall, I would give Adobe CS3 Web Premium high marks. They didn't give into a "kitchen-sinking" approach taken by many other software developers. Instead, they focused on integration and data movement. If you want to use the tools the pro's use, get this software!

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	General Fund	Capital Projects	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>REVENUES:</b>				
Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$1,765,722	\$2,186	\$17,301	\$1,785,209
State Program Revenues	447,679	-	21,682	469,361
Federal Program Revenues	-	-	69,098	69,098
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>2,213,401</b>	<b>2,186</b>	<b>108,081</b>	<b>2,323,668</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>				
<b>Current:</b>				
Instruction	699,080	-	52,470	751,550
Instructional Resources and Media Services	6,015	-	-	6,015
Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	4,428	-	5,919	10,347
School Leadership	66,684	-	-	66,684
Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	8,662	-	-	8,662
Health Services	4,658	-	-	4,658
Student (Pupil) Transportation	36,017	-	-	36,017
Food Services	-	-	64,924	64,924
Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities	103,956	-	-	103,956
General Administration	141,199	-	-	141,199
Facilities Maintenance and Operations	207,220	-	-	207,220
Data Processing Services	38,086	-	-	38,086
<b>Debt Services:</b>				
Debt Service - Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	-	45,000	-	45,000
<b>Capital Outlay:</b>				
Facilities Acquisition and Construction	-	2,880	-	2,880
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>1,316,005</b>	<b>47,880</b>	<b>123,313</b>	<b>1,487,198</b>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	897,396	(45,694)	(15,232)	836,470
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):</b>				
Capital Related Debt Issued (Regular Bonds)	-	2,000,000	-	2,000,000
Transfers In	6,557	-	19,404	25,961
Transfers Out (Use)	(19,404)	-	(6,557)	(25,961)
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	<b>(12,847)</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>	<b>12,847</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>
Net Change in Fund Balances	884,549	1,954,306	(2,385)	2,836,470
Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning)	330,307	-	6,557	336,864
<b>Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending)</b>	<b>\$1,214,856</b>	<b>\$1,954,306</b>	<b>\$4,172</b>	<b>\$3,173,334</b>



# Sports

## Dumas possession



Pampa News photo by JORDAN REAGAN

Dumas claims possession of the ball after Pampa's Amber Brown (20) loses control of the ball when hit from behind by a Dumas player during Tuesday night's game at McNeely Fieldhouse in Pampa. Brown had a total of six points in the Lady Harvesters' 42-46 effort against the Demonettes.

## Zeno scores 33 as Texas Tech beats Missouri

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — Martin Zeno was in Bob Knight's doghouse not too long ago.

After Tech lost at Oklahoma State earlier this month, Knight called Zeno's play disappointing.

Wednesday night he scored a career-high 33 points to lead Tech to a 92-84 win over Missouri.

"It's motivation," he said of Knight's admonishment after the loss to the Cowboys. "Also, it makes me go out there and just do my best, just prove him wrong. That just gives me the edge right there."

The loss left the Tigers winless on the road this season, while Tech's win gave Knight his 901st career win.

Tech led by a dozen midway through the first half but Missouri came back to hold a slight edge at halftime.

After the break, Missouri

built a 49-44 lead before Tech (11-7, 2-2 Big 12) turned things around.

The Red Raiders turned the ball over less and scored on six of seven possessions, using a 15-2 run to go up 65-55 with just more than nine minutes left.

"The best moment that our team has had all year was when they fought back in the second half and got the game in a position where we had a chance to win it, and then closed it out," Knight said.

Zeno had 11 during the spurt but the Tigers, who used a full-court press throughout the game, pounced back. They used an 8-2 run to whittle the margin to 67-63 just a couple of minutes later.

After that, Missouri pulled within three points three times, the last at 87-84 with 36 seconds remaining.

### VOLLEYBALL BOOSTER CLUB

Volleyball boosters will meet tonight to discuss plans and elect officers for next season.

The meeting will be at 6 p.m. today at McNeely Fieldhouse, and all booster club members and volleyball parents are encouraged to attend.

### Attention: Softball parents

A mandatory meeting for all parents of 2008 softball players.

The meeting will take place at 7 p.m. today in the Ready Room at the Pampa

High School Athletic Building.

All parents and booster club members must attend.

For more information, please contact PHS Athletics at 669-4830.

## Alumni Scrimmage



Courtesy photo

Pictured here from left to right are: Urvish Travidi, 2007 graduate; Tanner Dyson, PHS senior; Adam Brown, 2005 graduate and US Army soldier just returning from Iraq; and Enrique Marquez, PHS senior.

### AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

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

1-24 CRYPTOQUOTE

L MWA DLDX GB LQALXB

NSW DEGZSNWBN RLYBW CJE

EFWFJGRGMZ GM LMX SJYBW

WPALEP CWMNJM

Yesterday's Cryptquote: OFTEN IT SEEMS A PITY THAT NOAH AND HIS PARTY DIDN'T MISS THE BOAT. — MARK TWAIN

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, Jan. 25, 2008:

Dynamic changes will occur in your life this year. Don't fight city hall or try to control others. You could make situations worse. Learn that you are master of your own ship, but not of others' lives. Often you will need to regroup and consider what is happening, which could be most unexpected. You frequently could be overwhelmed by events. Your finances could be like a roller-coaster ride; you need to manage them more quickly. If you are single, a partnership could evolve quickly or it could be difficult. Remember to flex. Not every relationship has to be "the one." If you are attached, the two of you will bond on a tighter level with work. VIRGO can be controlling.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Express your willingness to get into a project, and establish limits if possible. You might want to revise how you deal with work and your commitments. You do know how to say enough. Question your choices carefully. Tonight: Easy does it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Your creativity comes through. How you view a partnership and his or her funds has changed during the year. You discover that a new perspective is heading in your direction. The unexpected tumbles into your lap, whether you like it or not. Tonight: Be your ever-playful self.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Stay anchored knowing what you want and expect from business and personal affiliations. Your path through life could be very different from someone else's. Adjustments might need to be made. Tonight: You're happiest close to home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Your ability to see beyond the obvious emerges. You could believe that you have had enough of a key person in your life. Don't get involved in another's power plays. Consider your options. Tonight: Visit with a friend over dinner.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Indulge and treat yourself to a little more time. New beginnings become possible. The unexpected occurs out of the blue. Your creativity emerges. Tonight: Curb any wild spending.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You are full of vigor and energy. Your imagination bubbles forth. Answers come in from out of left field. Let your magnetism flow forth. If you want to understand a partner, don't judge quite so much. Tonight: Start the weekend in style.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Move in a new direction, and be willing to change your course if you hit an obstacle. How you view life could change, especially regarding the personal and domestic areas of your life. Power plays could be difficult. Tonight: Happy at home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Zero in on what you want. Clearly someone could be overreacting or doing something quite differently. You might need to make an adjustment where you least expect it. Consider alternatives and see life differently. Tonight:

Speak your mind.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ You have become stronger and much more aware during the past few years. Investigate what you want from a financial matter. Your goals might change in this area during the next few years. The unexpected occurs out of the blue, especially with your domestic and personal life. Tonight: A must appearance.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ A major planet enters your sign today. Even those born in December might feel the transformation. If possible, detach from power plays or demanding situations. Learn to support yourself more often. Tonight: Take off early if you can.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Understanding takes you in a new direction. Don't jump to conclusions; rather, observe a partner and his or her reactions. Use caution when dealing with finances, and you might experience some unanticipated twists and turns. Tonight: Easy does it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Many judge you to be unpredictable and/or difficult at times. Don't force anyone to agree. Allow others to call the shots. Let go of a need to control others. Tonight: Let your mind soar.

BORN TODAY

Singer Alicia Keys (1981), writer Virginia Woolf (1882), actress China Kantner (1971)

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

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## Falcons hire Jaguars defensive coordinator Mike Smith as coach

ATLANTA (AP) — The Atlanta Falcons say Mike Smith is everything they want in a head coach, no matter that he's never been one before.

The first test for Smith, the former Jacksonville defensive coordinator hired by Atlanta on Wednesday night, will be to outlast the 13-game stint of Bobby Petrino, the 2007 rookie coach who quit during the season to return to the college ranks.

"Mike possesses all of the key qualities we were looking for in a head coach," said general manager Thomas Dimitroff, in his first month on the job.

Dimitroff said the 48-year-old Smith, a 26-year NFL coaching veteran, "has strong experience with winning teams, a track record of success, a solid, smart approach to the game, and high character and integrity."

Smith, the Jaguars' defensive coordinator since 2003, had his second interview with the Falcons on Friday.

Smith said his emphasis on each side of the line will be the running game.

"My goal is to build a well-disciplined, hard-nosed football team that

will be able to run the football on offense and stop the run on defense," Smith said. "I've always believed that's what makes championship teams."

Falcons quarterback Byron Leftwich was with Smith in Jacksonville for four years.

"I've played against his defense more than anybody in the world," Leftwich said. "I did it every day in practice for four years. I think he's a great guy for the job."

"A lot of people might not know his name, but I've seen the work he puts in every game, how guys were so prepared on Sundays that they knew exactly what teams were going to do."

Smith, a former defensive assistant with Baltimore, had the league's No. 12 defense with Jacksonville this season after ranking second in 2006 and sixth in 2005.

Leftwich said Smith would never receive enough credit in Jacksonville because many assumed Jaguars coach Jack Del Rio, a former defensive coordinator, was the real mastermind of the defense.







*Safety award*



COURTESY PHOTO

D.W. Stidham, western area manager for Cameron Compression Systems, right, recently presented Travis Jennings, field service tech II, with a jacket, an award that was bestowed on Jennings as the December Safety Employee of the Mon.

**Atmos**

Continued from Page 1

that pay directly, but the consumers.

The reason for joining the other cities, Horst said, was that it gave the cities more power in the negotiations.

"That" was the purpose of going into that," said Pampa City Commissioner Brad Pingel.

For the average citizen, Horst said, it mean 50 cents a month more on their bill.

"This is on the base monthly cost of a residence," Horst said. "That brings your monthly minimum bill will be \$10.08. Then you will pay \$11, roughly, per 1,000 cubic feet of natural gas."

That price is negotiated, Horst said.

ATMOS bases their negotiations on long-term contracts that they hold.

"Obviously, there's a profit margin in there," Horst said.

Commercial gas service will go up about \$1.43, for a total customer charge of \$18.52. Public authority gas

service will increase \$3.52, to a total base charge of \$53.19. Small industrial gas service will increase \$21.44, to about a total base charge of \$106.61. State institution gas service will increase \$7.07, to about \$59.72.

Horst said that the cities decided continuing with the lawsuit would have been too expensive.

"I have talked to some ATMOS representatives, and they would really like to get away from the GRIP and negotiate with each individual city," Horst said. "I don't know all the pros and cons of that."

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