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The PAMPA NEWS

Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2009 Volume 105 • No. 122 50¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

County sets \$9.3 mil budget, tax rate

BY DAVID BOWSER
dbowser@thepampanews.com

Gray County commissioners have budgeted \$9.33 million for Fiscal Year 2010 and set a tax rate of 0.48103.

That translates into 3.43 cents per \$100 valuation. During their meeting Tuesday, the Gray County Commissioners Court increased the tax rate from the current 0.44673 to

0.48103 for the new fiscal year.

They also set the dates for commissioners court to meet in FY 2010. Normally, their meetings will continue to be on the first and 15th of each month, although their will be seven meetings that will vary due to the normal meeting date falling on a weekend or holiday.

The commissioners also

voted Tuesday to support a grant request for state funding for Meals on Wheels.

The commissioners also voted to pursue a grant for routine AWOS funding at Perry Lefors Airport.

The commissioners court voted to go out for requests for proposals for comprehensive liability insurance, property insurance, public official and employee liability insurance, general

liability insurance for the airports, a heavy equipment floater, business auto insurance, law enforcement liability insurance and worker compensation.

They will consider the insurance requests when they meet on Nov. 2.

County Treasurer Scott Hahn requested that older juror checks be cancelled if they'd not yet been cashed, something the commis-

sioners court approved.

Hahn noted that the checks were no good after 90 days.

The county has since moved their accounts from Bank of America where the check had been drawn to Happy State Bank.

Hahn said there were \$1,064 in juror checks that had not been cashed.

COUNTY cont. on page 3

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The errors of faith are better than the best thoughts of unbelief.
-Thomas Russell

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Homecoming Week Festivities



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Cali Gibson, Hilary Acker, Matricia Davis, Jordan Mayhew, Elizabeth Terry, Matt Albracht, Jonathan Polasek, Kayla Ware, Payton Alvey, Allie Hevelrich, Jenna Munsell, Jessica Covil and Ashley Williams dress up for mismatch day during homecoming week at Pampa High School.

UT tightens admissions to top 8 percent of class

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — It's getting a bit harder for students to get into the University of Texas.

State law guarantees admission for students in the top 10 percent of their high school graduating class at any public university, but lawmakers this year approved an exception at the UT system's flagship campus in Austin.

University President William Powers, who complained during the last legislative session that the school had lost control of its admissions procedures, wrote in a letter this week to the Texas education commissioner that the top 8 percent will be eligible for automatic admission starting in 2011.

The 10 percent rule remains in place for the other 37 public schools in Texas.

About 85 percent of freshmen this year got into UT under the 10 percent rule. The new law allows UT to cap automatic admissions at 75 percent, and cutting those admissions to 8 percent would meet that limit, Powers said in his letter detailing the policy change.

The top 10 percent law was adopted a decade ago after a federal appeals court decision made affirmative action illegal in Texas college admissions. In 2003, the U.S. Supreme Court allowed universities to use race as one of many admissions factors.

Under the new UT policy, the rest of the incoming class will be admitted based on a "holistic review," Powers said. Race and ethnicity are among those factors.

Last month, a judge dismissed a federal lawsuit brought by two white students claiming admissions policies violate the Constitution and federal law. One of the plaintiffs finished in the top 12 percent of her class but was rejected by UT.

The university admitted about 51,000 undergraduate and graduate students this fall, according to preliminary figures.

Senate Dem: End 'bottomless pit' projects

WASHINGTON (AP) — A senior Democratic senator on Wednesday urged the Obama administration to suspend hundreds of millions of dollars in economic stimulus projects, saying Homeland Security officials were treating the recovery plan like a "bottomless pit" of taxpayer money.

Sen. Byron Dorgan,

D-N.D., said he was not persuaded by assurances from Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano that economic stimulus money was handed out appropriately.

The Associated Press reported last month that Homeland Security officials did not follow their internal priority lists when choosing which border

checkpoints would get money. The result is that tiny crossings in Montana and Dorgan's home state are set to get money ahead of busier, higher-priority border stations.

Homeland Security officials say they acted appropriately. Dorgan was unconvinced, even though his state stands to receive more than \$128 million for

checkpoint improvements.

"There's no common sense at all to a requirement that says you've got to put up a \$15 million facility for a small port of entry that's host to about five vehicles an hour," Dorgan said in a telephone interview.

"That seems to suggest that there's a bottomless pit of taxpayers' money out there to be spent."

Dorgan sits on the powerful Appropriations Committee, which helps control the purse strings for the federal government. His criticism is a blow to the Obama administration, which has promised to crack down on waste and provide unprecedented transparency to stimulus.

Neither Homeland

PROJECTS cont. on page 2

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Pampa ISD Hall of Fame Luncheon
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MK Brown Auditorium
Hall of Fame Inductees:
Edwin Doyle Lane & Justice Fred Woods
Contact Karen at 669-4700 for more information



For the record

PAMPA FORECAST

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		
High 76 Low 57	High 75 Low 57	High 77 Low 57

Tonight: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 56. North northeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Thursday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 76. North northeast wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 57. East northeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Friday: Partly sunny, with a high near 75. Calm wind becoming northeast between 5 and 10 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 57. East wind around 5 mph becoming south.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 77. South wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 57. South wind around 10 mph.

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Police seek men who stole \$50,000 of steel rebar

LAS CRUCES, N.M. (AP) — Las Cruces police are offering a reward for information that leads to the arrest of three men who stole \$50,000 worth of steel rebar.

The suspects are accused of passing fraudulent checks to buy the rebar from Craigentaggett Industrial Supplies in Las Cruces.

The men wrote 14 checks worth \$53,089 that turned out to be fraudulent between May 29 and June 4.

Motorcycle rider offers polite advice

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A "polite" message on a motorcycle in the San Antonio area is not meant to be confused with "police."

But Gary Grimes says some people see it that way and drive more cautiously.

Grimes rides his white motorcycle about 25 miles from Poteet to the University of Texas at San Antonio, where he teaches staff how to be better supervisors.

Grimes bought the vehi-

The suspects picked up the rebar in El Paso, Texas. Two suspects are Hispanic and a third is white and possibly named Shawn.

One Hispanic was last seen driving a gray pickup and pulling a flatbed trailer and the other Hispanic, possibly named Ray, was last seen driving a white pickup.

Police are offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to their arrest.

cle two years ago and noticed the style was similar to San Antonio police motorcycles.

Grimes told KENS-TV that he had decals saying "polite" made and put them on his bike. A closer look shows the word "be" is also part of what a driver ahead of him would see by looking into the rear view mirror.

Grimes says he just tries "to be nice to everyone."

Former police chief arrested

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — A former Texas police chief is behind bars charged with seven felony counts, including possession or promotion of child pornography, promotion of prostitution and engaging in organized crime.

Michael Meissner was arrested Monday in Arlington and is being held at the Dallas County Jail under a \$1.5 million bail. Attempts by The Associated Press Tuesday to reach the jail to determine if he has an attorney were not immediately successful.

Meissner is accused of

committing the crimes in Dallas and Tarrant counties.

He had been police chief in Little River-Academy, located about 150 miles south of Dallas, earlier this year. Little River-Academy Mayor Ronnie White said both parties ended the job by mutual agreement.

Meissner has reportedly held more than 10 law enforcement jobs in the last 18 years.

Obituaries

Tillman John "T. J." Mead, 70

Lefors— Tillman John "T. J." Mead, 70, died September 15, 2009, Lefors, Texas.

There are no services scheduled at this time.

Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors. Mr. Mead was born April 28, 1939 in Hollis, Oklahoma. He was a vet-

eran of both the U. S. Navy and the U. S. Army. T. J. worked as a truck driver for many years. He lived in Sunray, White Deer, Shamrock and Lefors.

There are no known survivors.

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

EMERGENCY SERVICES

PAMPA PD

The Pampa Police Department reported the following calls during the 24-hours ending at 7 a.m. today.

There were 22 traffic stops and related reports.

Officers reported 15 animal related calls of the 71 calls made in the last 24 hours.

Tuesday, Sept. 15.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1200 block of South Faulkner.

A medical emergency was reported in the 8000 block of FM748.

Officers made a program presentation in the 100 block of North Houston.

An accident was reported in the 100 block of North Cuyler.

Officers assisted another agency on a call in the 600 block of North Wynne.

An accident was reported in the 1300 block of North Christine.

Officers provided an escort in the 200 block of East Foster.

The door of a vehicle was keyed in the 900 block of West Wilks.

An assault was reported in the 100 block of East Harvester.

A medical emergency was reported in the 200 block of East Gray in Lefors.

Officials performed a

yard inspection in the 800 block of East Craven.

A medical emergency was reported on U.S. Highway at Kingsmill.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 1200 block of East Francis.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 900 block of Jordan.

A welfare check was performed in the 700 block of Mora.

A suicide attempt was reported in the 1500 block of North Hamilton.

A suspicious person was reported in the 1600 block of North Coffee.

Officers provided an escort in the 100 block of West 30th.

A domestic disturbance was reported at Crawford and Huff.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1600 block of West Somerville.

Wednesday, Sept. 16.

Officers performed a welfare check in the 1400 block of East Browning.

Officers performed a welfare check in the 1100 block of Garland.

Suspicious persons were reported at Frost and Francis, Starkweather and Atchison, 15th and Evergreen, in the 900 block of South Wilcox, in the 300 block of West Kingsmill and in the 1800 block of North Hobart.

The Gray County

Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests in the

SHERIFF

24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Monday, Sept. 16.

Abel Salazar, 25, was arrested by Texas Rangers on warrants out of Dumas charging him with evading arrest, endangering a child, criminal neglect, resisting arrest and failure to appear.

Lindsey Danielle Hobbs, 22, of Amarillo, was arrested by Gray County deputies on charges of possession of a controlled substance.

AMBULANCE

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

Tuesday, Sept. 15.

2:49 p.m.— A Mobile ICU responded to a call at a home in Lefors.

6:27 p.m.— A Mobile ICU responded to U.S. Highway 60 and Kingsmill.

Monday, Sept. 14.

1:47 a.m.— A Mobile ICU responded to the 2200 block of Hamilton and transported to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

4:28 a.m.— A Mobile ICU responded to 1500 block of West Kentucky and transported one person

to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

7:23 a.m.— A Mobile ICU responded to the 600 block of Gulf in Lefors and transported one person to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

8:38 a.m.— A Mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of West Foster and transported one person to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

9:48 a.m.— A Mobile ICU responded to the 300 block of Ballard and transported one person to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

11:40 a.m.— A Mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of East Browning and transported one person to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

3:47 p.m.— A Mobile ICU transported one person from Pampa Regional Medical Center to Baptist-St. Anthony's Hospital in Amarillo.

Sunday, Sept. 13.

9:35 a.m.— A Mobile ICU responded to the 1900 block of Hilton and transported one person to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

7:40 p.m.— A Mobile ICU responded to the 300 block of Jean and transported one person to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

Elderly man killed by bees

TIVOLI, Texas (AP) — An elderly man from Tivoli (ty-VOH'-lee) died after being attacked by a swarm of bees while mowing the lawn of an abandoned house near his home.

Justice of the Peace Lorraine Lopez identified the victim of Tuesday afternoon's attack as 81-year-

old Amador Villarreal. Lopez says Villarreal died after being stung on his head and upper body.

Refugio County Sheriff Robert Bolcik said a crew would be dispatched to kill the insects believed to be so-called Africanized bees.

Tivoli is about 60 miles northeast of Corpus Christi.

Texan pleads guilty to kidnapping girl

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — A Texan faces 20 years to life in prison after pleading guilty to kidnapping a girl from Texhoma in the Oklahoma Panhandle.

Twenty-seven-year-old Terrance Lynn McGuire of Canyon, Texas, said he kidnapped the then-10-year-old girl in January 2007 for sexual gratification.

Officials say McGuire lured the girl into his car then drove her to his home in Canyon then to a convenience store in Clovis, N.M., where he released her.

He later confessed to his wife who reported him to the FBI after filing for divorce in March.

Sentencing is expected to be in December in Oklahoma City.

Proposed EZ Match lottery game under fire

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A proposed EZ Match lottery game in Texas would be one step closer to drawing the state into slot machine games, critics say.

Gov. Rick Perry years ago supported having slot machines at racetracks to help fund public schools but has since emphasized his opposition to gambling expansion.

"The governor does not support any expansion of gaming and this appears to be an expansion," Perry spokeswoman Allison Castle said.

The Houston Chronicle and the San Antonio

Express-News reported Wednesday that the proposed game would involve players giving their money to a retail clerk, who would provide an instant ticket printed by a lottery terminal.

The Texas Lottery Commission could take up the proposal by Oct. 2.

"It's just like a scratch game, only you don't scratch the latex," commission spokesman Bobby Heith said. "There's no buttons. There's no spinning wheels. There's no levers. You can only get the ticket through a clerk-assisted transaction at a lottery retailer."

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FAMILY MEDICINE Center is having Flu Clinic, Thurs. Sept 17 and 24th, 8-noon, for established patients (18 yrs. & up) only. Pregnant patients confer with your Dr. H1N1 vaccine not yet avail.

THE PAMPA Optimist Club is in their youth football program. Games are on Saturdays, for more info. Call Shane Stokes at 669-5351 or Chris Porter 662-3921

Health

run insurance plan — or option — to compete with the private market. It proposes instead a system of nonprofit member-owned cooperatives, somewhat akin to electric co-ops that exist in many places around the country. That was one of many concessions meant to win over Republicans.

In other ways though, including its overall cost and payment mechanisms, the bill tracks closely with the priorities Obama laid out in his speech to Congress last week.

Baucus is still holding out hope for GOP support when his committee actually votes on the bill, probably as early as next week. "This is a good bill. This is a balanced bill," he told reporters at a Capitol Hill news conference. Earlier, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said, "Everyone should understand it's just the beginning, but it's a good beginning."

The measure represents the most moderate health care proposal in Congress so far, compared to legislation approved by three committees in the House and the Senate's health panel. Obama's top domestic priority is to revamp the health care system to provide coverage to nearly 50 million Americans who lack it and to rein in rising costs.

The bill includes provisions to keep illegal immigrants from obtaining health coverage through the new insurance exchanges — reflecting the White House's newly stringent stance on the issue after a Republican House member interrupted Obama's speech last week to accuse him of lying about it.

The bill also would prevent federal funds from being used to pay for abortions except in cases of rape, incest, or if the life of the mother would be endangered. It's all but certain that the Baucus provisions will not be the last word on either of those volatile issues.

The bill would set up a verification system to make sure people buying insurance in the exchanges are U.S. citizens or legal immigrants, using Social Security data and Homeland Security Department files. The bill would impose penalties for fraud and identity theft.

While only legal residents would be able to

buy coverage through the exchanges, illegal immigrant parents would be able to get insurance for their U.S. born children.

The bill would prohibit abortion from being included in any minimum benefits package. However, plans in the exchange could offer unrestricted coverage for abortions, provided that no funds from government subsidies are used to pay for them. Women who want coverage for abortions would have to pay for it with their own money.

Wednesday's bill release follows months of negotiations among Baucus and five other Finance Committee senators dubbed the "Gang of Six" — Republicans Chuck Grassley of Iowa, Mike Enzi of Wyoming and Olympia Snowe of Maine, and Democrats Kent Conrad of North Dakota and Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico.

Enzi said he couldn't support the Baucus bill and preferred an incremental approach. "Let's start by focusing on the issues where we already have broad, bipartisan agreement," he said.

In the end, Democrats believe Snowe may be the only Republican to support the bill, though she wasn't ready to commit her support Tuesday night. "Hopefully at some point through the committee process we can reach an agreement," she said.

The bill drew quick criticism from Republican leaders.

"This partisan proposal cuts Medicare by nearly a half-trillion dollars, and puts massive new tax burdens on families and small businesses, to create yet another thousand-page, trillion-dollar government program," said Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky. "Only in Washington would anyone think that makes sense, especially in this economy."

Many liberals also have concerns. Some wanted Baucus to include a public option, while others fear that, in his effort to hold down the price of his bill, Baucus didn't do enough to make health coverage affordable to working-class Americans. Sen. Jay Rockefeller, D-W.Va., a member of the Finance Committee, said that he couldn't support the bill in its current form.

Said Sen. Russell

Feingold, D-Wis.: "I am greatly concerned about the absence of certain things."

Baucus' plan, released as a detailed 223-page summary, aims to make health insurance more affordable for self-employed people and those working for small companies, who now have the biggest problems in getting and keeping coverage.

People insured through large employers would not see major changes, but some of their health care benefits would be nicked to help pay for the cost of the plan. The Baucus proposal would limit to \$2,000 a year the amount people can contribute to flexible spending accounts, which are used to cover copayments and deductibles not paid by their employers. That provision would raise \$16.5 billion over 10 years.

Everyone covered through an employer would learn the full costs of their health benefits, which starting next year would be reported on employees' W-2 tax forms. Although family coverage averages about \$13,000 a year most workers don't know how much their employer is paying.

Not carrying insurance could result in a steep fine, as much as \$3,800 per family, or \$950 for an individual. People who can't afford their premiums would be exempted from the fine.

The plan proposes a \$6 billion annual fee on health insurance providers, which would recoup some of the profits the companies expect to make from millions of new taxpayer-subsidized customers.

Unlike the health care bill written by majority Democrats in the House, which permanently rolls back scheduled cuts in Medicare payments to doctors, the Baucus plan only suspends the reductions for one year. That trims more than \$100 billion from the cost of the bill, but has already led to criticism from the American Medical Association.

The legislation makes no changes in medical malpractice laws. It does incorporate Obama's call for federal funds for state experiments on alternatives to malpractice lawsuits.

Democratic leaders are aiming for votes in the full House and Senate this fall.

Texas Physicians: Brace and Prepare for the Flu

cont. from page 1

Flu season is here. Are you and your family members protected from the seasonal and H1N1 flu? Texas physicians are urging Texas families to plan ahead and get their vaccinations as soon as possible. Act now, doctors add, or someone in your family likely will come down with the flu this year.

"We're anticipating a worse than normal flu season this year," said Edward Sherwood, MD, chair of the Texas Medical Association (TMA) Committee on Infectious Diseases and a member of TMA's Be Wise — ImmunizeSM Advisory Panel.

"Seasonal flu is always a serious problem, and this year we also have H1N1 adding to the risks of getting sick," added Dr. Sherwood.

The first line of defense, say physicians, is a flu vaccine backed by good health habits, such as frequent hand washing.

The seasonal flu shot helps protect against the three strains of flu that are expected this year, said

Dr. Sherwood. A vaccine against the fourth strain, H1N1, is under development and is expected to be available in October.

The vaccine for seasonal flu is available as a shot or a nasal spray. People are encouraged to get the seasonal flu vaccine now.

The H1N1 vaccine will begin to be available in October. Priority groups are urged to get that vaccine as it becomes available. The first priority groups recommended to receive the H1N1 vaccine are pregnant women, people who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age, health care and emergency medical services workers who care for patients, children 6 months through 4 years of age, and children 5 through 18 years of age who have chronic medical conditions.

"Many people put off getting the shot and making preparations in the event they or another family member becomes ill with flu," said Dr. Sherwood.

"To keep our communities and nation running smoothly, families should have a plan," added the infectious diseases specialist. His suggestions include:

- Arrange for childcare in advance in case a child becomes sick and you need to go to work.

- Have supplies on hand or have someone who can bring groceries if the adult gets the flu.

- Make sure ill children or family members do not return to school or work until they have been without fever for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications (longer for health care workers).

- "We need to have enough fire fighters, school teachers, health care workers, electrical workers, and other business people on the job to maintain critical services," said Dr. Sherwood.

He suggests people check with their doctor if they have any questions about the flu and getting a seasonal or H1N1 vaccine.

Projects

cont. from page 1

Security nor White House officials immediately responded to requests for comment.

In 2003, Congress required Homeland Security officials to rank every border crossing based on security concerns, traffic and the need for repairs. Instead of relying on that list, the Obama administration added its own sub-

jective decision-making, making the process both secretive and susceptible to political influence.

Two Montana Democratic senators, for instance, said they personally appealed to Napolitano to get money for lower-priority border projects. That includes a \$15 million plan to build a station the size and cost of a Hollywood

mansion at the sleepy Whitetail, Mont., border crossing.

Homeland Security refuses to make public the initial priority list or their reasons for deviating from it. Instead, officials say the final project list is all they need to make public.

County

cont. from page 1

In other business, the Gray County Commission will meet again on Thursday next week to consider a contract with Emergency Services Foundation of Texas, which is expected to contract for the city and county ambulance service.

The local non-profit had expected to contract with the county this week but is still awaiting the paperwork to clear various agencies.

With no final contract as of Tuesday, Gray County Judge Richard Peet went over a draft of the service contract that had been

pounded out by county and city attorneys.

Emergency Services of Texas Administrator Joe Anstey of told the commission that the foundation had three new ambulances that are being equipped and painted.

He said they expected to be operating Oct. 1.

Judge Peet noted that it takes time for the paperwork to clear state agencies.

The emergency medical service will operate out of the Pampa Chamber of Commerce building temporarily. The new ambu-

lance service expects to build offices, emergency medical facilities and medical helicopter hanger as soon as they can.

The county will own the building in order for the emergency medical company to get state funds to build the new facility.

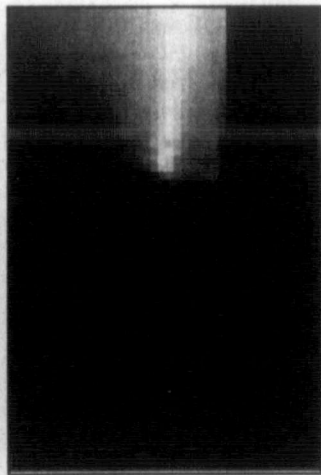
The Gray County Commission will meet again at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 24, to review the proposed contract.

Pets of the Week... sponsored by The Pampa News

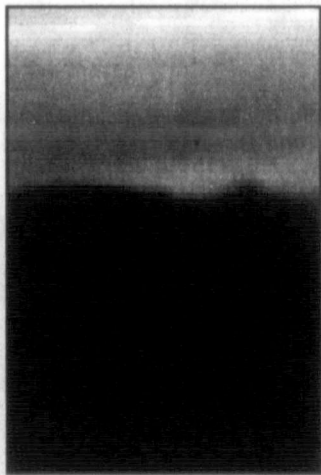
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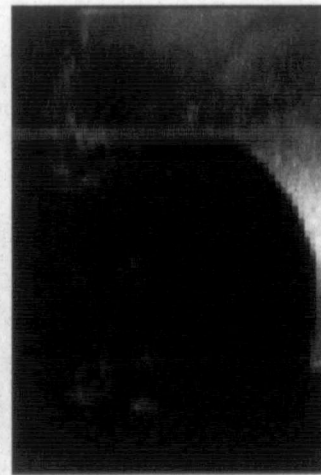
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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, September 16, the 259th day of 2009. There are 106 days left in the year.
 Highlights in history on this date:
 1673 - Holy Roman Emperor Leopold I declares war against France.
 1810 - Mexicans begin their revolt against Spanish rule.
 1955 - Argentine President Juan Peron is ousted by a military coup during his second term in office and begins an 18-year exile.
 1963 - Malaya, North Borneo, Sarawak and Singapore form Federation of Malaysia.
 1967 - U.N. Secretary-General U Thant calls on United States to halt bombing of North Vietnam.
 1970 - Weeklong "Black September" civil war starts in Jordan, with King Hussein declaring martial law and calling up troops to fight Palestinians.
 1974 - U.S. President Gerald Ford announces a conditional amnesty program for Vietnam War deserters and draft-evaders.

'He who loves himself best need fear no rival'

— Latin proverb

1987 - Two dozen countries sign the Montreal protocol, designed to reduce emission of gases that deplete the ozone layer by the year 2000.
 1990 - Iraq opens Kuwait's borders and thousands of Kuwaitis attempt to flee their country.
 1992 - Russian and Cuban officials announce they reached an agreement on the withdrawal from Cuba of a 1,500-troop brigade stationed there by the former Soviet Union.
 1994 - A federal court jury in Anchorage, Alaska, orders Exxon Corp. to pay \$5 billion in punitive damages to Alaskan fishermen and natives for the March 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill.
 1997 - Typhoon Oliwa hits southwestern Japan, killing six and forcing 80,000 people from their homes.
 2001 - Typhoon Nari lashes northern Taiwan with fierce winds and torrential rain, shutting down schools, closing railway lines and triggering landslides and flash flooding that kills nine people.
 2004 - The Mexican government promises to give free homes to 47 mothers of women killed in a string of sexually motivated slayings in Ciudad Juarez, angering some who say that the gifts gloss over the lack of results in the criminal investigations.

1975 - Papua New Guinea, previously under Australian administration, becomes an independent nation.
 1978 - More than 11,000 people are feared dead after an earthquake measuring 7.7 on the Richter scale hit the southeast region of Iran.
 Today's Birthdays:
 France's King Louis XIV (1638-1715); John Gay, English poet (1685-1732); J.C. Penney, U.S. entrepreneur (1875-1971); Lauren Bacall, U.S. actress (1924--); B.B. King, U.S. blues musician (1925--); Peter Falk, U.S. actor (1927--); Molly Shannon, U.S. actress/comedian (1964--); Amy Poehler, U.S. actress/comedian (1971--); Marc Anthony, Latin/pop singer (1969--).



PISD tax increase facts

BY DARRELL DELOACH
 PISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES
 PRESIDENT

It has been said that there are only two certainties in life: Death and Taxes.

Certainly, few events evoke as much passion and emotion as can be produced by Death or Taxes.

Recently, the Pampa Independent School District approved a tax increase of approximately 4 cents per 100 dollar property valuation for all residents who live within the taxing entity.

During the presentation of this proposal, much discussion occurred. Indeed, some of the discussion was highly volatile, emotional and passionate.

One local news media outlet (News Channel 10 in Amarillo) attended a School Board Meeting in which the tax proposal was discussed and promptly reported that the Board of Trustees was proposing a 15 percent increase in taxes within our district.

While the untrue, misleading and inaccurate story was later retracted by News Channel 10, the damage was done.

Throughout my life, I have discovered that events which produce emotion are often clouded in half truths, misleading information and inaccurate reporting of events.

For this reason, I have found that simply researching the facts will often times dispel highly emotional and volatile discussion.

As a result, I would like to take this opportunity to share some facts with you concerning the recent tax increase within the Pampa Independent School District.

In 2005, I was elected to the Board of Trustees and it has been an honor and privilege to serve this community. At the very first meeting I attended, a report was presented to Trustees concerning the state of facilities within the School District.

Due to deterioration of facilities, the previous Board had wisely employed a consultant to perform an evaluation of existing facilities within the District. Incidentally, the consultant was Dr John Troutman, a man who had once managed the facilities within the Dallas ISD.

I applaud the Board's decision to hire this highly recommended individual.

Within the report, it was stated that our facilities were rapidly deteriorating. In fact, the report concluded that approximately 100 million dollars would be needed to rectify the state of existing deterioration of facilities within the District.

Immediately, the Board of Trustees discussed possible strategies to manage this issue. It was determined that a group of concerned citizens would be appointed to assist the Board in devising a strategy to manage the issue before us. In an effort to communicate with voters, numerous public meetings were held. Eventually, a Bond proposal was crafted and sent to voters for their approval. In November 2006, voters approved the Bond proposal by a margin of approximately 20 percent.

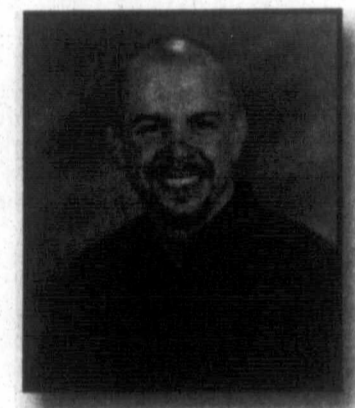
During public discussions of the Bond proposal, voters were informed that the District would construct a new Junior High School, renovate the existing High School and consolidate existing central administrative offices at a cost of approximately 48 million dollars.

Throughout the course of discussions, the public was informed that if the Bond Proposal were approved, the Interest and Sinking portion of our local School Tax rate would be increased by approximately 4 cents whenever Bond repayment began.

Within the state of Texas, School taxes are divided into two categories: The Maintenance and Operation (M&O) rate, which is mandated by the legislature and the Interest and Sinking rate (I&S), which is determined by Bond indebtedness within a School District. When determining the District Tax Rate, these two figures are simply added together. For example, for the 2009-2010 School year, the PISD tax rate is 1.36 per 100 dollar property valuation. Presently, the M&O rate is 1.04 and the current I&S rate is .32 cents.

Since 1997, the PISD tax rate has varied from a low of 1.32 in 2007 to a high of 1.56 in 2003.

The PISD Board of Trustees and Administration are committed to providing exemplary academic facilities which assist in the promotion of a



premium educational experience for all of our students within our District. Additionally, we are committed to the concept of financial accountability and integrity from those who pay taxes within our District. Finally, we are committed to providing timely payment to those who purchased Bonds during the 2006 Bond Proposal.

I firmly believe that the facilities of our District will be enhanced substantially whenever the present construction projects are completed. As a result, I feel that all students within our district will have access to enhanced educational experiences. Additionally, I feel strongly that most within our community will view these improvements with great pride.

In closing, I can assure all voters of this simple fact: The notion of increasing taxes is a responsibility taken seriously by every member of the PISD Board of Trustees. Through the years, we have worked hard to gain your trust and confidence.

All members of the PISD Board of Trustees view the relationship we have forged with voters as a sacred trust. It is certainly my sincere hope that every effort will be made in the future to foster continued trust and confidence.

Without a doubt, it is certainly my hope that we will continue to forge a partnership which fosters academic excellence for our students, as well as the highest levels of financial accountability among those who proudly call Pampa home.



We welcome your letters

To insure publication, please adhere to the following guidelines:
 • Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be edited for length and clarity.
 • All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number with the letter for verification. Only your name and city will be published.
 • Defamatory comments will not be published.
 • E-mail submissions are welcome.

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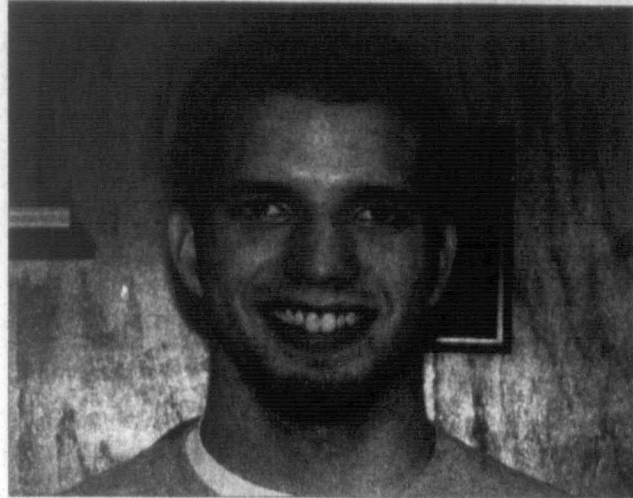
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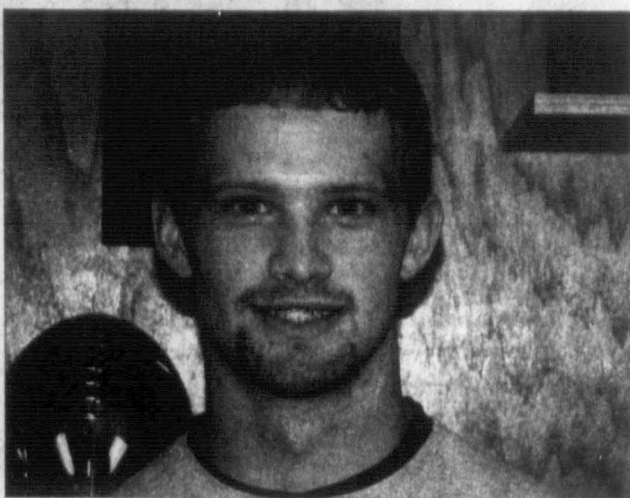
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Sports

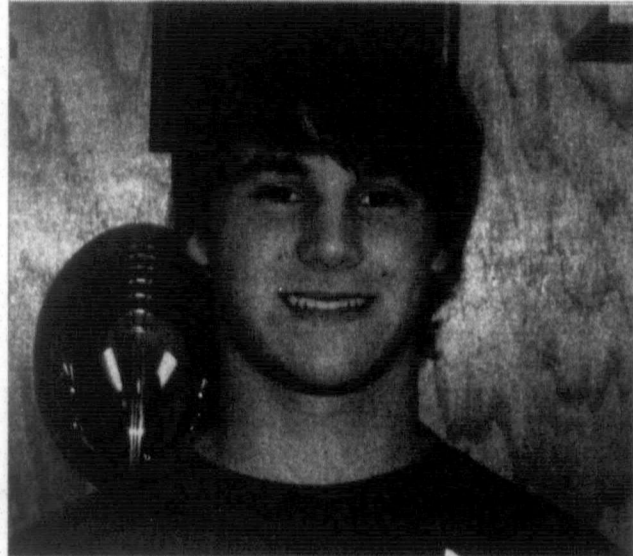
Harvester Athletes of the Week



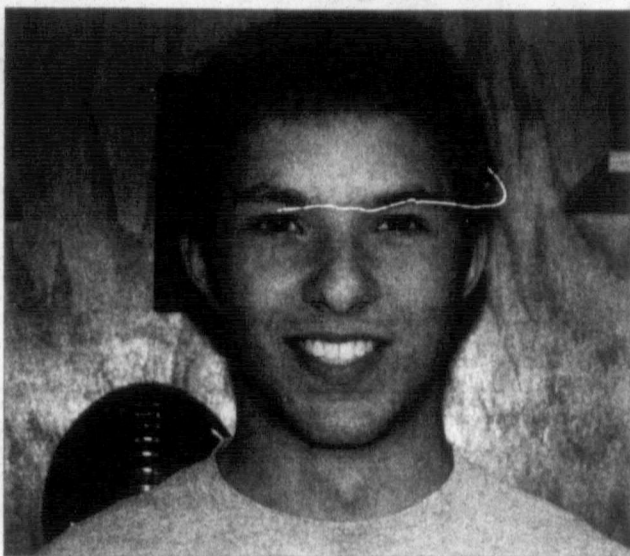
Nathan Webb, Sr. POW against Estacado.



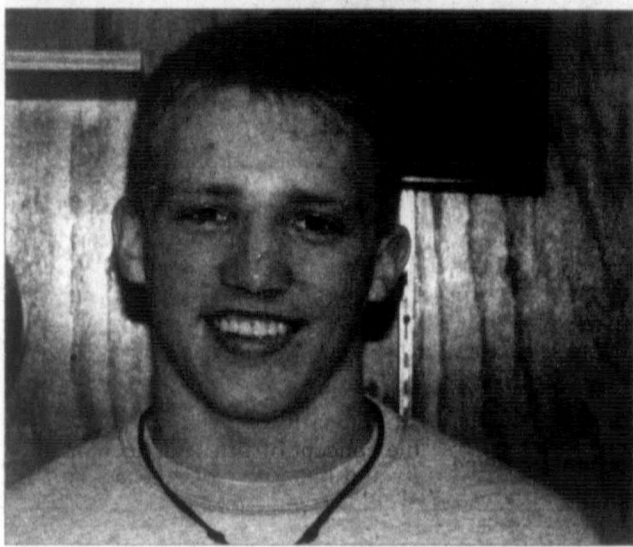
Braden Hunt, Sr. POW against Big Spring.



Brendon Rice, Junior POW against Estacado.



Garrett Ericson, Junior POW against Big Spring.



Ryan Smith, Freshman POW against Estacado.



Chris Howard, Freshman POW against Big Spring.

Football Booster News

The Boosters wish to thank everyone for their contributions to the 2009-2010 Harvester Football Program. Your unwavering support for this athletic program and the kids that proudly call themselves Harvesters has been invaluable.

Coach Parker and his staff have named the Players of the Week for the following weeks:

Against Lubbock Estacado
Freshman—Ryan Smith; Sophomore—Daniel Hulsey; Junior—Brenden Rice; Senior—Nathan Webb
Against Big Springs
Freshman—Chris Howard; Sophomore—Trevor Smith; Junior—Garrett Ericson; Senior—Braden Hunt

Parade is Thursday at 4 p.m.

Pep Rally on Friday at 2:30 at McNeely Field House

Homecoming Court (King and Queen) to be announced on the field at 7 p.m.

Kick off at 7:30 p.m. Pampa vs. Perryton Rangers

Homecoming Dance to follow the game.

Next Meeting: Monday, 9-21 at 7 p.m. The booster club meets in the Ready Room inside the Athletic Building (Val Halla) on Randy Matson Avenue. Parents of 7th—12th grade players are encouraged to attend and be a part.

PLEASE COME OUT AND SUPPORT YOUR HARVESTERS!

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

9	3	8	5	1	4	6	2	7
5	4	7	6	3	2	8	9	1
6	2	1	7	8	9	4	5	3
2	1	9	8	4	6	7	3	5
4	7	5	1	2	3	9	6	8
8	6	3	9	5	7	2	1	4
1	9	4	2	7	5	3	8	6
3	8	2	4	6	1	5	7	9
7	5	6	3	9	8	1	4	2

Sudoku

	4							9
6	8			7			4	2
				4			8	
2			7	6				
5						1	6	
						3		
1					2			
		2						4
				5				1

Level: Intermediate

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I am a male in my early 20s and lucky to have several good friends and acquaintances. I'm invited to gatherings and parties pretty regularly.

I have no problem relating to people I know well. But when I have to converse with people I don't know -- the "friends of friends" -- I feel uncomfortable.

It's not that I am particularly shy. It's that I stumble and become tongue-tied when I try to talk to someone I don't know very well. The conversation lags, and I think the other person ends up feeling as uneasy as I do.

In the scheme of things, I realize this is not like some of the other serious issues I see in your column, but I believe you have mentioned becoming better in social situations before. I don't want to come across as stuck up or unfriendly, and I'm afraid that's what might be happening. Can you help? -- DIALOGUE-DEFICIENT IN ST. PAUL

Just remember to be tactful, discreet and not too personal. Example: Do not ask someone you've just met how much he or she paid for something, or whether the person always drinks as much as it appears he or she has that evening.

Be generous with compliments, but be sure they're sincere. Most people can spot a brown-noser within five minutes.

Stay informed about current events. The more you know about what's going on in the world, the better company you'll be. Read the news and editorials and -- of course -- Dear Abby.

These commonsense suggestions and more are contained in my booklet "How to Be Popular." It can be ordered by sending your name and mailing address, plus a check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds), to Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

But before I finish with this subject, a word of warning: Don't be a know-it-all. People who come on like they're an authority on everything are about as welcome as a skunk at a garden party. They make those of us who are just average feel insecure and uncomfortable.

And when you talk to someone, look that person in the eye. If you're constantly looking over his or her shoulder, the person will think you're looking for other company. This happened to me when I was introduced to a man who was running for office, and needless to say, the man didn't get my vote.

Also included in the awards, but not available for pictures were:
Daniel Hulsey, Sophomore POW against Estacado.
Trevor Smith, Sophomore POW against Big Spring.

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The PAMPA NEWS
PAMPA, TEXAS
ISSUED WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2009
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PHS renovation nearing final stage
The Pampa Independent School District board of trustees approved the final stage of the Pampa High School renovation project on Tuesday. The board approved the final contract for the renovation, which is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

City, PEDC to team up against trash
The City of Pampa and the Pampa Economic Development Corporation (PEDC) have announced a partnership to combat the problem of illegal dumping in the city. The partnership will involve joint efforts to clean up illegal dumpsites and to educate the public on proper waste disposal.

Debate on name of PJHS mascot favors unity
A debate over the name of the Pampa Junior High School mascot is ongoing. The school board is considering several options, but the goal is to reach a decision that unites the school community.

Perry says he will call special session
Gov. Rick Perry has announced that he will call a special session of the Texas Legislature to address the state's budget deficit. Perry says the session will be held in the coming weeks.

Open meetings violation suit filed against PISD
A lawsuit has been filed against the Pampa Independent School District (PISD) for allegedly violating the Texas Open Meetings Act. The lawsuit claims that the district failed to provide proper notice for a board meeting.

Gov breaks collarbone in biking accident
Gov. Rick Perry has suffered a serious injury in a biking accident. He broke his collarbone while riding his bicycle on a trail near his home. Perry is recovering in a hospital and is expected to be home in a few weeks.

READ IT ONLINE

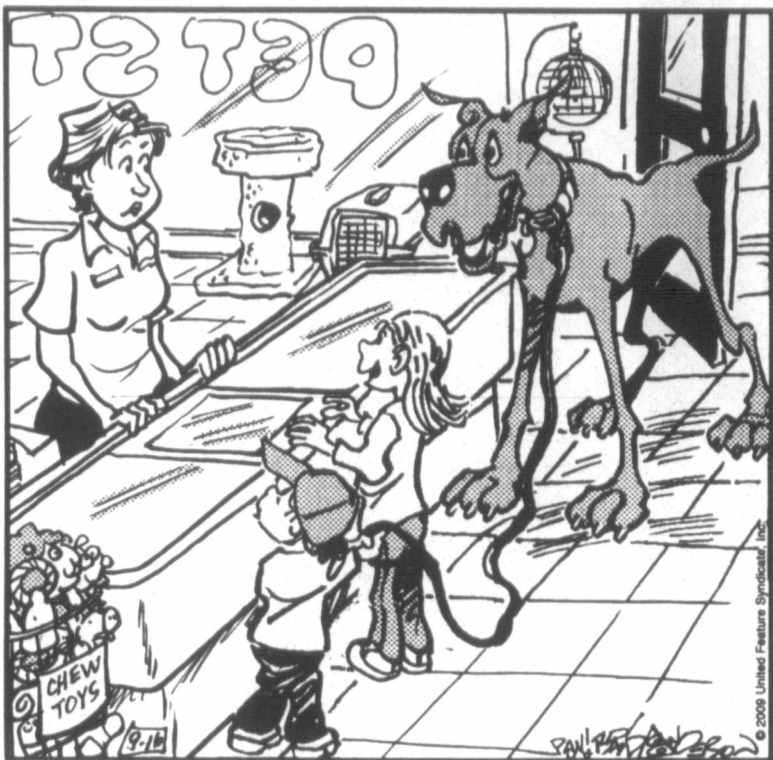
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Comics

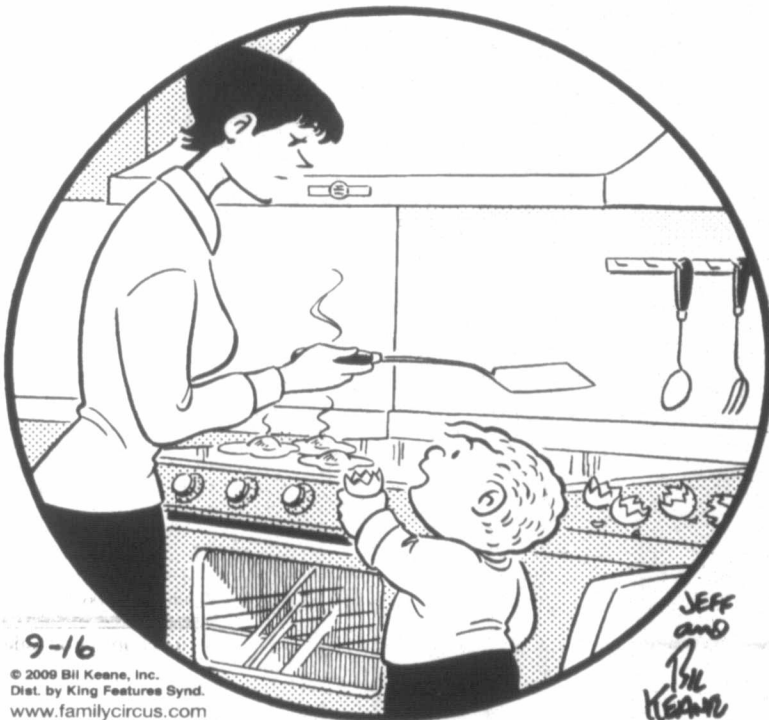
Marmaduke



"Do you have a leash with a parachute that opens when we hit 90?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

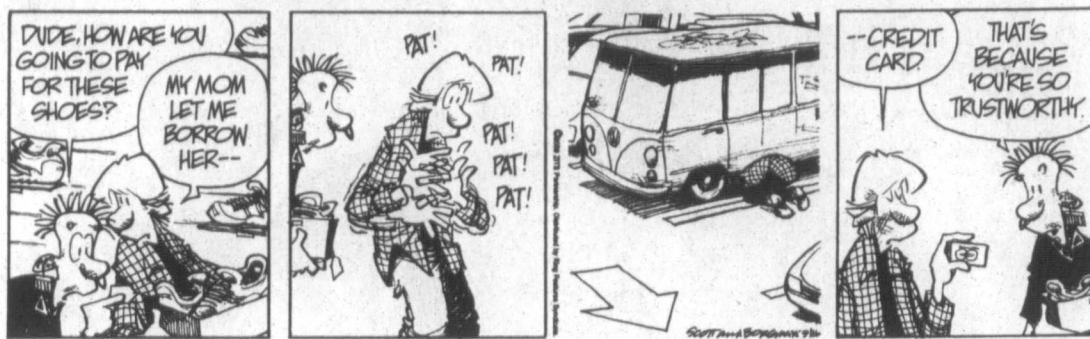


"Shouldn't we give these back to the chickens so they can recycle them?"

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



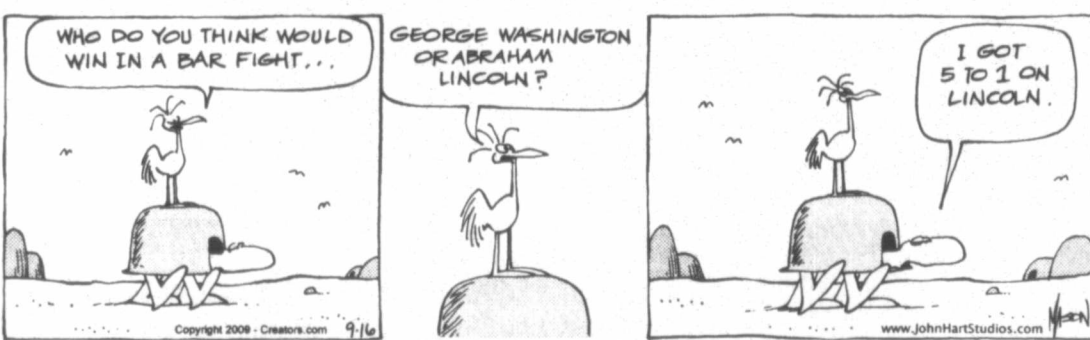
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Daily Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 46 Capitol group
 - 1 This answer has two
 - 7 Swindle
 - 11 Bored by routine
 - 12 Casual top
 - 13 Ross' TV sister
 - 14 Miseries
 - 15 He loved Roxane
 - 17 "Art of the Fugue" composer
 - 20 Make fresh
 - 23 Mil. address part
 - 24 Joplin field
 - 26 Gal of song
 - 27 GI entertainer
 - 28 Meditative school
 - 29 Robert Downey Jr. movie
 - 31 Conclude
 - 32 Take it off
 - 33 Whirlpool
 - 34 Be adamant
 - 37 Disconcert
 - 39 African expanse
 - 43 "— Around"
 - 44 How Rome wasn't built
 - 45 Murder mystery find
- DOWN**
- 1 Energy
 - 2 Lennon's love
 - 3 Pale
 - 4 Writer Segal
 - 5 Ethel's pal
 - 6 Flag feature
 - 7 Small piano
 - 8 Settled in
 - 9 Completely
 - 10 Yr. parts
 - 16 Inert gas
 - 17 Starting point
 - 18 Isolated
 - 19 Like some formerly
 - 21 Correct text
 - 22 Peter Pan's friend
 - 24 Rear ends
 - 25 Simile center
 - 30 Right angle
 - 33 Patriot Allen
 - 35 Goddess with cow horns
 - 36 Rational
 - 37 Little lie
 - 38 In the past
 - 40 Okla-homa city
 - 41 Scoundrel
 - 42 Yeoman's "yes"

C	A	M	P	S	A	B	E	T	S	
A	B	O	U	T	R	O	X	I	E	
F	U	N	N	Y	P	E	O	P	L	E
E	T	A	L	I	T	O	L	D		
		O	U	G	H	T				
T	R	A	P	S	A	R	R	O	W	
W	I	P	E		I	O	W	A		
O	M	E	N	S	P	A	Y	E	R	
		S	T	E	E	L				
A	P	T	A	G	E	B	E	E		
R	E	I	G	N	O	V	E	R	M	
C	R	E	E	D	E	M	A	I	L	
H	U	R	L	S		D	U	S	T	

Yesterday's answer

- 19 Like some formerly
- 21 Correct text
- 22 Peter Pan's friend
- 24 Rear ends
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- 30 Right angle
- 33 Patriot Allen
- 35 Goddess with cow horns
- 36 Rational
- 37 Little lie
- 38 In the past
- 40 Okla-homa city
- 41 Scoundrel
- 42 Yeoman's "yes"

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11						12				
13						14				
		15				16				
17	18	19				20		21	22	
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45					46					

The Pampa News'

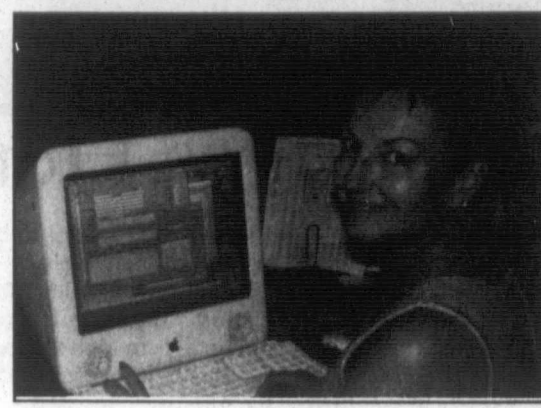
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Sell it fast!

Call Classified Advertising Specialist Beverly Taylor at 669-2525

for help in composing and placing a classified ad.

Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.



Beverly Taylor

3 Personal

ADOPT Kids' Dentist & will be stay home Mom lovingly await 1st baby. Expenses paid. Mike & Sophie 1-800-562-7393

5 Special Notices

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10 Lost/Found

FOUND pocket knife at Chataqua. Call to describe. Pampa News, 669-2525.

FOUND glucose test meter & other items at car wash, on Foster St. 806-663-1062 to claim

FOUND Adult Boxer on Browning. 440-3047.

LOST Female Cat, Black, Brown & Grey. Long haired, fat. Call 663-3042.

LOST male white & gray Pit Bull, 4 mo. old, around 1600 bl. Hamilton, Reward, 806-231-7874 or 688-0031 ask for Myrna.

LOST Sept. 11, Pampa Harvester stadium, during football game, sterling silver chain-link bracelet w/ gold toggle clip. **VERY SENTIMENTAL. REWARD.** Please call 665-5135

13 Bus. Opp.

GREAT Investment opportunity Howardwick Convenience store. 665-1875, 806-383-1985.

14a Air Cond.

BROWNING Heating & Air Cond., 665-1212. Free esti. on new equip. We service all brands!

14d Carpentry

Carpentry, Roofing, Replacement Windows, steel siding & trim. Continuous gutters. Jerry Nicholas 669-9991, 662-8169

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

14e Carpet Serv.

NU-WAY CLEANING SERVICE Bob Marx Owner-Operator. Call 665-3541.

14h Gen. Serv.

CERAMIC tile work. Remodeling floor, shower, kitchen. Texture, painting, dry wall. Free esti. Call 665-3453 leave message, Jesus Barraza.

14h Gen. Serv.

HOUSE Cracking? In bricks or walls? Childers Brothers, Inc. 800-299-9563, 806-352-9563

COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.

SOLIS FENCING, New Fence / Fence Repairs. Free estimates. 806-486-1368, 662-2473

PAINTING, carpentry, yard work, roofing, floor tile. Reasonable price! 806-440-4721.

14s Plumbing/Heat

JACK'S Plumbing, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115.

14u Roofing

WENDELL'S ROOFING CO. Metal Roofs, Composition Roofs and Built-Up Roofs. Free Estimates. 806-665-7648, or toll free 888-664-7648.

19 Situations

HOUSECLEANING. 2 mature ladies work together. Reliable, trustworthy & dependable. References. 806-665-0678 or 806-665-0151

21 Help Wanted

THE CITY OF PAMPA is currently accepting applications for the following position:
Buildings And Grounds Superintendent

This position plans, coordinates and performs modifications to the interiors and exteriors of City of Pampa facilities and structures including plumbing, HVAC, electrical and carpentry work. Contracts and oversees major repairs and renovations and supervises all part time custodial staff. To qualify for this position you must have a high school diploma or equivalent with a valid driver license. Graduation from a 2 or 4 year college or university. HVAC and / or plumbing certifications preferred. General knowledge of HVAC, plumbing, electrical systems, carpentry and public elevators preferred. Work hours are Mon. thru Fri., 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. with occasional night and weekend work. Must also be available for emergency call out. Position open until filled.

Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

NOTICE The Pampa Optimist Club is in need of officials for their youth football program. Games will be on Saturdays, for more information, call Shane Stokes at 669-5351 or Chris Porter 662-3921

Pharmacy Tech (Certified or Trainee) needed
*Full time
*No Sundays!
No Phone Calls, Please!
Mail Resume to
Keyes Pharmacy
928 N. Hobart
Pampa Tx 79065
or fax to
806-669-0957

Applications can be filled out online at www.cityofpampa.org or picked up in the Human Resources office, in City Hall, 200 W. Foster, Room 304.

The City of Pampa is an Equal Opportunity Employer

21 Help Wanted

RETIRED Couple or Single to manage apt. complex, some experience req. 665-1875.

QUALITY Control earn up to \$15 hr. Evaluate retail stores. Training provided. 877-471-5645

NOW hiring for Management Position. Must have references. Apply in person, Dyer's BBQ, Pampa, ask for Nick.

SEEKING exp. rig operator for Sunray area. Send resume to PO Box 1422, Pampa TX, 79066.

BUYING "Costumes" Now! Halloween, Play, School, Homemade. Bring to 109 N. Cuyler, Pampa, between 2-4:30pm. daily

96a Garage Sales
1901 Fir, Thurs. & Fri. 9-6pm. Furni., kg. headboard, lamps, ladies sz. 12 & up clothes, misc. 214-641-0661.

GARAGE Sale to help raise money for Lung Cancer patient. Th. 1-7 Fri. 8-7 Sat. 8-7 1128 S. Wells.

FREE Bird dog to good home. 806-595-0240.

FREE Bobtail Kittens, to good homes. Call 662-5762 after 5pm.

PUPPIES to give away to good homes. Call 835-2805 or 595-0205.

1 Female Bichon Frise for sale. 7 weeks old. 440-6962.

FEMALE full blood min pin to good home. 779-3234.

MALE 1/2 Chihuahua, 1/2 Min Pin, 7 wks old. Female 1/2 Chihuahua, 1/2 min pin. 779-3234.

FREE Female 1/2 Chihuahua, 1/2 Min Pin. 2 Yrs old. 779-3234.

49 Pools/Hot Tubs

DEMO SPA, 5 PERSON! WARRANTY! Will go quickly! Call 806-358-9598.

50 Building Suppl.

White House Lumber
101 S. Ballard
669-3291

60 Household

FURNITURE SALE Sept 16 thru Sept. 19 1901 Fir 214-641-0661

69 Misc.

ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

69 Misc.

THE RED BARN WILL RE-OPEN ON SAT. SEPT. 19TH.

FOR Sale - Kimball "Artist Console" piano. Good condition. \$500. 665-5647.

BUYING "Costumes" Now! Halloween, Play, School, Homemade. Bring to 109 N. Cuyler, Pampa, between 2-4:30pm. daily

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FREE Female 1/2 Chihuahua, 1/2 Min Pin. 2 Yrs old. 779-3234.

95 Furn. Apts.

2/1, 1130 Christine. Open floor plan. Built-ins, gas fireplace. \$695 mo. + dep. 669-6006.

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Daily Horoscope
HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Sept. 17, 2009:
Claim your power this year. As you do this, some people could become more reactive. You will see a lot of change, as well as new opportunities. Claiming one's power differs from holding on to your rigid position. Others will appreciate a mental openness. You will be able to accomplish more goals. If you are single, you meet people easily, as you have strong energy and magnetism. Be sensitive to your sweetie's needs if you are attached; you could be too me-oriented. VIRGO reads you cold.
The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult
ARIES (March 21-April 19)
**** Accomplishment needs to be your middle name as you deal with different pressures and realities. Your high energy, drive and commitment come out, time after time. Avoid a power play by stepping back and understanding what is happening. You might not make sense to others, but you grasp the situation. Tonight: Put your feet up.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
**** Your creativity allows greater give-and-take. You could use a jolt to grow past an issue. How you handle this hurdle among others defines you. Guard yourself from overworking a situation, and come to terms with the status quo. Tonight: Let your imagination play out.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
**** Pressure builds. You can either live in this tension-laden whirlpool or you can back off and detach. Don't step into a problem or create a hassle. The less said at the moment the better. You'll gain an overview. Tonight: Make it easy.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
**** Communication sizzles, and you gain more insight. An unanticipated change of plans could have you regrouping and considering your options. A partner doesn't want to hear your thoughts. Bite the bullet and accept responsibility. Tonight: Resist overtalking.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
**** You have the power and energy to create a different type of financial or business partnership. You might be a little too focused on what is yours, and not on the common good. Avoid power plays and control games by walking away from them. Tonight: Pay your bills, then decide on plans.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
**** You experience your dynamic strength. Even if the unexpected makes ripples in your morning, your strength, endurance and focus prevent you from dropping the ball. You might want to kick back and gain more insight later in the day. Tonight: Only what you want.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
*** You need to get behind an issue happening. You might not make sense to others, but you grasp the situation. Pressure builds to a new level from family, a personal investment and an obsessive tendency of a family member (perhaps even you). You could worry and overthink things. Tonight: Take some personal time.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
**** Emphasize the positives, not the negatives, of a perpetually changing and sometimes shocking situation. Odd enough, your creativity excels with instability and when you are forced to seek solutions. Update your communication style if you aren't getting through to others. Tonight: Zero in on what you want.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
**** Listen to a higher-up and under-

stand where he or she is coming from. Upehval surrounds your home base and what you deem as secure. It could be stunning to find out otherwise. A boss or someone in charge could be overly serious and morose. Tonight: Working late?
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
**** You are changing, and others might be feeling insecure. If someone challenges you, be understanding. How you react could determine the future of this tie. Let go of a need to control others, and simply flow. Detach whenever triggered. Look to a bigger picture. Tonight: Break past rigid thinking.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
**** One-on-one relating could take you through some surprising moments. As a reaction, you might want to run for the hills. Do a better job of listening. A sense of heaviness marks a relationship. Tonight: Visit over dinner.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
**** You are unusually perky and full of life. Your way of looking at a problem could change radically as a result of someone's strong attitude. You might need to settle in and discuss what you both want. A friend could be difficult and cause a problem. Tonight: Sort through your options.
BORN TODAY
Supreme Court Associate Justice David Souter (1939), 15th Supreme Court Chief Justice Warren Earl Burger (1907), singer Hank Williams (1923)
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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.
9-16 CRYPTOQUOTE
DQRLQVHH XHK'E ZWCV FM VWQPM
QXHVQH. XE'H ZWCV FM PWYM
ZVK EQMXXKL ER AXKC VWHXVQ
IWMH ER CR HRZVEGXKL.
— QRFVQE W. GVXXKPVXK
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: IT IS HARDER TO CONCEAL IGNORANCE THAN TO ACQUIRE KNOWLEDGE. — ARNOLD GLASGOW

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Sports

PHS edges Hereford for first district tennis victory

BY ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

Pampa's Robin Fernuik knew something was going on, when she stepped onto the court for her singles match. Everyone was paying close attention to the match. Fernuik won the match 6-1 and 6-1. Head Coach Sarah Corse told her she got the 10th win, as the Harvesters won their first district match 11-8 over Hereford, Tuesday at the Harvester Tennis Courts.

Fernuik came onto the court with the Harvesters leading in match victories 9-8. Fernuik said when the team came and cheered her on she fought harder in the match.

"I kind of knew this is what decides it all," Fernuik said. "The pressure was good. It made me fight harder and take care of business at the end."

Corse said Fernuik handled the pressure well.

"I think she knew it was happening," Corse said. "Because when I went out there and told her she got the tenth, she said I knew something was up because everyone was watching. She just went out there and took care of each point, one point at a time. She's come so far. She's really impressed me so far and

I'm looking forward to her the rest of the year to."

The girls were dominant against the Whitefaces, going 2-1 in doubles and 5-1 in singles. Fernuik said the girls were focused.

"We were ready to win and we took care of business," Fernuik said.

Corse said momentum in the match turned when Holly Gage won her singles match.

"It started with Holly's match," Corse said. "She won in the third set 7-5. It was like a domino effect. Holly wins, Alyssa (Hoelting) yells 'Harvester tennis', Sammi (Finney) yells 'Harvester tennis', then it's Robin. Just like that we get 10 wins. That was kind of exciting."

Hilary Acker and Erin Buck won their doubles match 6-2 and 6-0. Hoelting won her singles match 6-3 and 7-5 and Buck won hers 6-2, 1-6 and 6-1. Finney came back and won her singles match (0-6, 6-4, 6-3) after losing 6-0 in the first set. Corse was proud of how Finney came back.

"Down 6-0 you would have thought match over," Corse said. "She comes back and wins 6-4 and 6-3. That's fighting and that's what I'm trying to get the kids the heart to fight

back." Finney and Gage also had a come from behind win in their doubles match 4-6, 6-4, 6-2.

On the boys side Logan Karbo and Nick Nelson were strong winning both their singles and doubles. Karbo and Nelson won their doubles match 6-4, 5-7, and 6-2. Karbo won his singles 6-0 and 6-2. Corse was amazed at how fast Karbo took care of business.

"I look down there and he's on the court," Corse said. "Then I look and he's off the court."

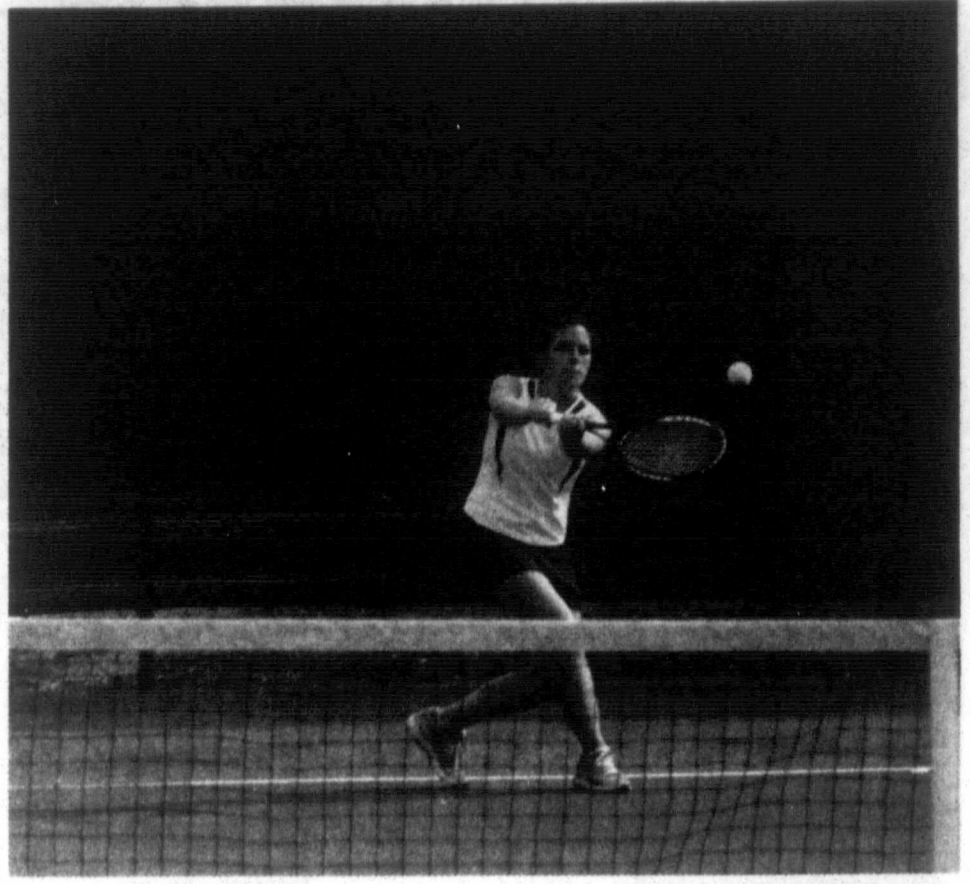
Karbo said the team getting their first district win definitely increased their confidence.

"It's really great to get a victory tonight," Karbo said. "Just having that feeling of winning is great."

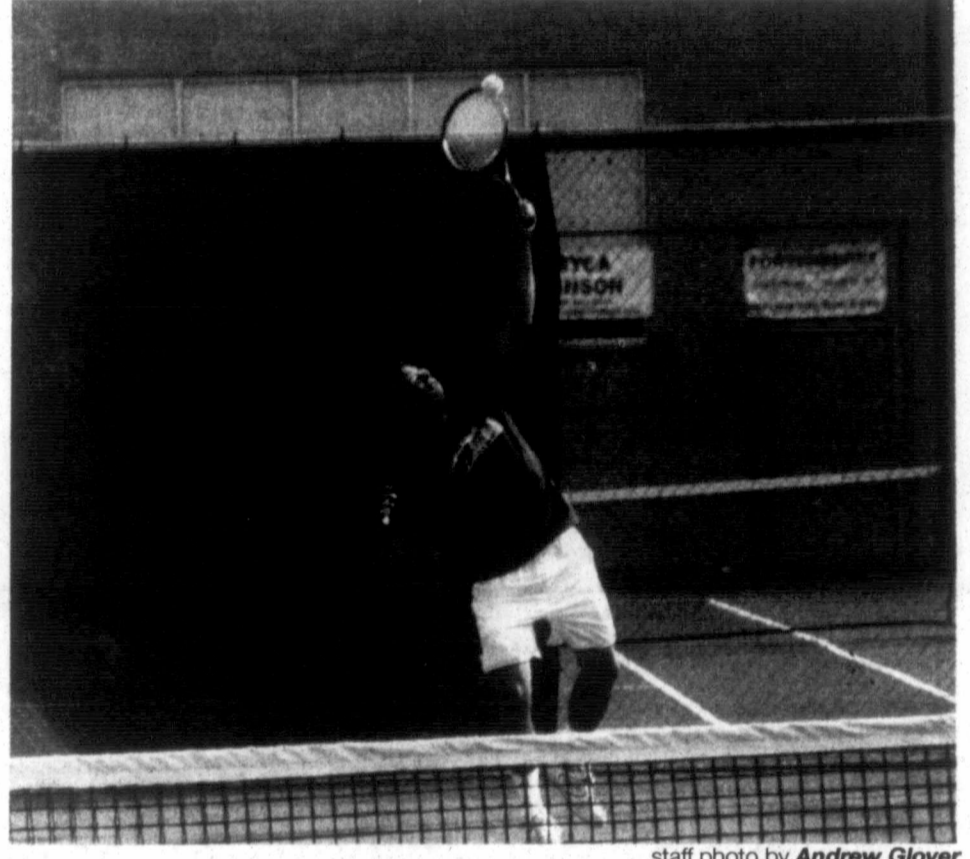
Corse said getting their first district win means a lot.

"You know you can do something," Corse said. "The kids have been telling them they can win. You got to feel very comfortable. It was a hard fought match. It was down to the last matches."

The Harvesters will continue district play at Canyon on Saturday against the Eagles.



staff photo by Andrew Glover
Kaitlin Winegeart returns a ball in her mixed doubles match with Landon Karbo. Winegeart and Karbo won their match against Hereford Tuesday.



staff photo by Andrew Glover
David Moore serves in his doubles match with Aaron Silva. Moore and Silva lost their match 4-6, and 5-7 against Hereford on Tuesday. Pampa won 11-8.

Lady Harvester v-ball sweeps Dons

BY ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

Volleyball Head Coach Libby Garza said her team entered their match against the Palo Duro Dons believing they could win. The Pampa Lady Harvesters did exactly that sweeping the Dons (25-7, 25-20, 25-10) Tuesday at the McNeely Field House.

Garza said her team set the tempo in the match.

"We kept our side fast," Garza said. "We ran the plays we needed to run."

Delaney Clendening said she thought the team performed really good.

"We were pretty consistent except for the second game," Clendening said. "But overall I thought it was great."

In Pampa's first district match against Randall they never led in the match. This match was exactly the opposite, with Pampa in control the whole match. In the first game the Dons jumped out to an early 3-0 lead but that would be the biggest and one of the few leads they would get in the match. The Lady Harvesters (13-8, 1-1) took over from there. Pampa took a 6-4 lead and with the score 9-5, Pampa went on a 14-0 run. Senior Kara Stephens said it was nice for the team to be able to have the momentum.

"When you're on, you're on," Stephens said. "It's easier to flow throughout those runs because you know you're going to get the next number."

Palo Duro's coach called a timeout with the team trailing 17-5. However, it didn't stop the Lady Harvesters, as they ended the game with an 8-2 run.

In game two, Pampa took a 3-2 lead then expanded it to 10-5. The Lady Harvesters led 20-10 when they had to hold off a Don rally. Palo Duro went on a 10-3 run prompting Garza to call a timeout with her team leading 23-20. The Lady Harvesters got a side-out and won the game on their next serve.

In game three, the Lady Harvesters didn't allow Palo Duro to get close. Pampa took a 3-2 lead and expanded it to 18-6, prompting Palo Duro's

coach to call a timeout. The Lady Harvesters outscored the Dons 7-4 to win the match.

Garza was able to relax most of the match, only needing to call one timeout. The head coach said it was nice to sit back.

"I get excited when we do good things," Garza said. "I do try to stay relaxed and it's nice when your team takes care of business."

The Lady Harvesters got contributions from everyone and not just their seniors. Garza was impressed with how Kailyn Troxell and Clendening played.

"Those girls play way beyond their years," Garza said. "Delaney played great today. She was very composed and aggressive. That's the Delaney we know. Kailyn was getting the sets she needed and doing what she does best."

Senior Emilie Troxell was impressed with how some of the younger players played.

"It's always good when everyone puts in their fair share," Troxell said. "Everyone feels they were part of the win. Especially our younger players. It was a really good thing everyone made their contributions."

Stephens said it's pretty exciting for the team to get their first district win.

"It's nice to win," Stephens said.

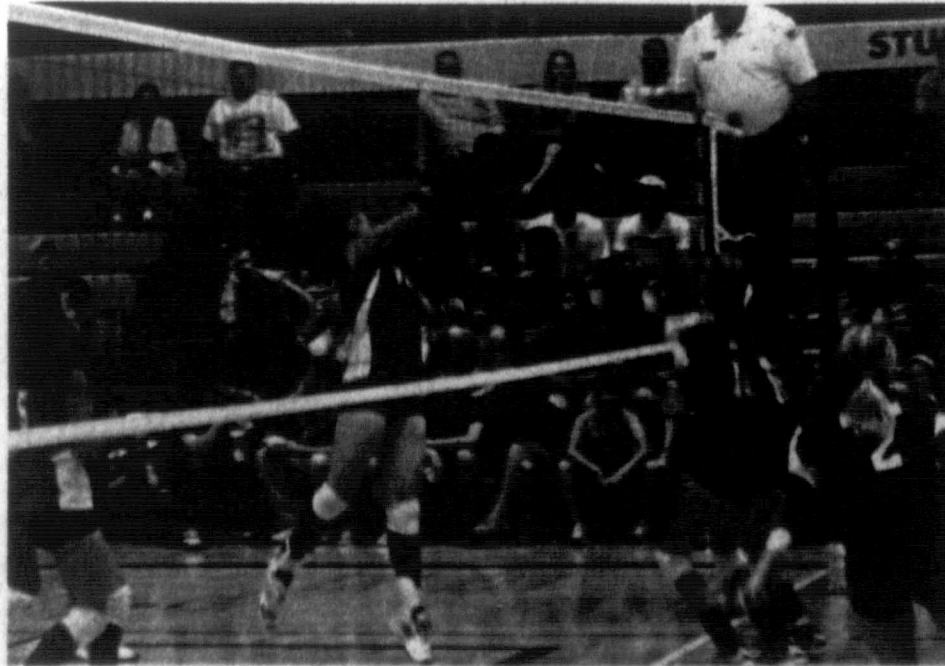
Garza said getting their first district win is huge.

"It's hard starting the year off with Randall," Garza said. "They're great. I definitely think we could have competed more. It's nice to see the character of the girls and the team bounce back from a loss like that and be able to come out with confidence and fire they needed to compete."

The junior varsity swept Palo Duro 25-11 and 25-16. In the first game, the teams started out playing close but the Lady Harvesters started pulling away. With the score 8-7, Pampa went on an 8-2 run to take a 16-9 lead. The Lady Harvesters used a 9-2 run to close out the game.

In the second game, Pampa jumped out to a quick 4-1 lead. Palo Duro evened it up quickly tying the game at five. The Dons were able to gain a 13-10 lead but the Lady Harvesters took the lead back quickly. Pampa went on a 6-2 run, prompting a timeout by the Dons JV coach. The Lady Harvesters went on a 9-1 run to close out the game. Coach Matt Embry was pleased with how his team performed.

"We played great," Embry said. "We limited our errors. Last week we



staff photo by Andrew Glover
Kailyn Troxell (10) and Emilie Troxell (far right) prepare to jump for a block against a Palo Duro attack. The Lady Harvesters won the match in three games Tuesday.

had 17 serves into the net tonight we only had three. That's 14 points to give away that we've taken care of and that was the difference in the match."

The freshman lost in three games to Palo Duro (25-21, 13-25, 6-25). In the first game, Pampa trailed early 10-5. That's when the Lady Harvesters took over the game, they used an 11-4 run to take a 16-14 lead. Pampa pulled the game out with both teams exchanging points at the end.

In the second game the Lady Harvesters started out strong with a 9-5 lead but the momentum went towards Palo Duro the rest of the match. After Palo Duro's coach called timeout the Dons outscored the freshman Harvesters 20-4 to take the second game.

In the third game it was all Palo Duro as they jumped out to a 14-2 lead, going on to win by 19. Freshman coach Deanna Polasek said her team could have won that match.

"First game looked great," Polasek said. "We had serves, serve receives, setting up the ball, hitting, it all looked really good. The second game was not quite as good we missed some serves at opportune times when we needed them. After that we couldn't pull it back together I guess."

The Lady Harvesters are off on Saturday and play at Dumas on Tuesday.

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