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best opportunity for me. They gave me a place to work and be with my children. It is the next best thing to staying home with my children. They have also helped me with my babies' develop-Shortly after I started working, I was approached

nizations who benefit

from the United Way Campaign.

I would like to thank the Community Day Care

Center for all their help with my twin babies. I have a boy, Levi, and a girl, Alli, that are nine months old. Working at the day care has been the



cerns about the twin's development. Alli was not eating for me off a spoon, and Levi was behind in his gross motor skills. Levi had major surgery on his head when he was four months old, which we had to drive to Dallas for. He was in the hospital for several days and had a hard recovery ahead of him. Due to his condition he was behind in holding his head up, rolling over and sitting up on his own.

ECI came to the center and evaluated Levi and Alli. They recommended that a physical therapist see Levi to help with his gross motor skills and provide information to teachers to help with the process also. They recommended a speech therapist see Alli to help with her feeding.

Levi is now rolling over, crawling, and almost **CONTINUED** on page 3



Jose Ismael Miranda, and Ansley Stauff with their pumpkins during October Family Night at Lamar Elementary School October 27. Guests were invited to create their own fun masterpiece. Among some of the great creations were cats, pirates and happy scarecrows, as well as pretty fall arrangements made from flowers and leaves. A&T Yard Services donated most of the pumpkins for this events. There were 320 people in attendance.

Newspapers want readers' help with Web credibility

ST. LOUIS (AP) -Publishing online creates a new set of problems for newspapers. Some people ask to have stories "unpublished," while others leave nasty, unsigned comments on articles. Now some newspapers are appealing to their own readers for advice.

The readers are taking part in six "Online Journalism Credibility" projects that were sponsored by the Associated Press Managing Editors

and detailed ries about them and people group Thursday at APME's conference in St. Louis.

The public's involvement suggests audiences care deeply about the credibility of newspapers, said Elaine Kramer, APME's project manager. And it shows "that newsrooms are on the right track when they try to make journalism much more of a twoway conversation with readers," she said.

Readers are still get-

they know get catalogued by search engines that don't forget anything. The Toronto Star's public editor, Kathy English, said she gets requests to take stories down about once a month. Even a former colleague once asked her to make some embarrassing news go away.

She surveyed newspaper practices and found many editors viewed "unpublishing" as censorship. When she wrote a column asking readers their thoughts on 10 such requests faced by various newspapers in recent months, the views of most respondents were in line with editors'.

The Knoxville News Sentinel held a community round table to explore troubling aspects of anonymous, racially charged Web comments that had been elicited by news coverage of a carjackingrape-and-murder case. One community member described the comments as

"toxic to the soul."

The News Sentinel ran video of the community session and put several readers' blog posts on its Web site. The newspaper is now more willing to strike abusive comments.

"There's not an easy answer," said Jack Lail, the newspaper's director of news innovation. "Some horrific comments do reflect readers in your community. The best we

NEWS cont. on page 3





The Pampa News - Weekend Edition, Saturday and Sunday, October 31 - November 1, 2009 - Page 2

or the record

PAMPA FORECAST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday		
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1. 12	1. 19	2 3		
High 68	High 59	High 62		

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 45. South southwest wind around 10 mph.

Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 68. South southwest wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 40. South southeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north.

Monday: Sunny, with a high near 59. North northeast wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 39. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south southeast.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 62. South southwest wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 43.

O This information brought to you by...



Dbituaries Buddy Lowrey, 70

Buddy Pampa-Lowrey, 70, died October 30, 2009, in Pampa, Texas. Services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, November 2, 2009, at First Baptist Church with Dr. Johnny Funderburg, pastor, and Rev. Carl Novian, associate pastor, officiating.

Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors. Mr. Lowrey was born February 26, 1939 in Clovis, New Mexico to Dick and Omalee Lowrey. He married Billie Mae McClellan on May 30, 1959 in Clarendon. He Rex of Pampa; two sons,

had been a resident of Pampa since 1960, and attended West Texas State University. Buddy was a member of the Southwest Cattle Raisers Association, a 4-H leader, Tri-State Rodeo director, Top O' Texas Rodeo Association director, Pampa High School Rodeo sponsor, and was a member of First Baptist Church. Buddy was a lifelong rancher, and was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves. Survivors include his wife, Billie Lowrey of the home; a daughter, JoLinda Childress and husband

Crickett Lowrey and wife Jeffie, and Lee Lowrey and wife Lena, all of Pampa; a sister, Faye Stevens and husband John of McKinney; 10 grandchildren, Kasia Bledsoe and husband Nolan, Grayson Lewis, Caryn Parker and husband Alan, Robyn McLaughlin and husband Cody, Caleb Lowrey, Aaron Childress, Keisha Childress, Ashlee Lucus, Lariat Lowrey and London Lowrey; five great-grandsons and several nieces and nephews. Buddy was preceded in death by a grandson, Ethan Lowrey in 2004.



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MEMORIALS: First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 621, Pampa, Texas 79066-0621, or Gray County 4-H Sign the on-line register at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

Pakistanis confront Clinton over drone attacks

ISLAMABAD (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton faced sharp rebukes from Pakistani audiences Friday, including one woman who accused the U.S. of conducting "executions without trial" in aerial drone strikes. Slapping back, Clinton questioned Pakistan's commitment to fighting terrorists.

"Somebody, somewhere in Pakistan must know where these people are," Clinton said in an exchange almost as blunt as her exasperated comments a day earlier that Pakistani officials lacked the will to target al-Qaida.

Her stormy three-day visit, rocked at the start by a terrorist blast in Peshawar that killed 105 Pakistanis, revealed clear signs of strain between the two nations despite months of public insistence that they were on the same wavelength in the war on terror.

By speaking bluntly about the Pakistanis' failure to find and eliminate top al-Qaida leaders - eight years after they were run out of Afghanistan --- Clinton appeared to be trying to prod the Pakistanis to go beyond their current military campaign against internal militants in South Waziristan.

Pakistan's army recently launched a major offensive in the border area to clear out Pakistani Taliban elements from hideouts there. But two earlier army efforts made little progress there - leaving questions about the military's resolve to tackle al-Qaida head-on.

Clinton's tough talk on Pakistan's apparent inability to root out al-Qaida also appeared to be aimed at reminding the country's civilian and military leaders that the assault on Pakistani Taliban elements in South Waziristan would not be finished unless al-Qaida too was targeted. She noted explicitly that the Taliban militants there are "in league with" the terror group that fomented the Sept. 11 attacks.

handling of terrorists. The sentiment was quickly echoed by other U.S. officials, including on Friday in Washington by White House spokesman Robert Gibbs.

As she sparred with Pakistani citizens and journalists. Clinton faced sharp questions about the secret U.S. program that uses unmanned aircraft to launch missiles to kill terrorists along the porous, ungoverned border with Afghanistan.

But she refused to go into detail about the classified strikes that have killed both key terror leaders and bystanders, long a source of outrage among Pakistan's population despite an equally deadly campaign of militantspawned bombings.

Asked repeatedly about the drones, a subject that involves highly classified CIA operations, Clinton said only that "there is a war going on." She added that the Obama administration is committed to helping Pakistan defeat the insurgents.

Clinton appeared to slightly temper her earlier comments that some Pakistani officials knew where al-Qaida's upper echelon has been hiding and had done little to target them.

"We don't know where, and I have no information that they know where, but this is a big government. You know, it's a government on many levels. Somebody, somewhere in Pakistan must know where these people are. And we'd like to know because we view them as really at the core of the terrorist threat that threatens Pakistan, threatens Afghanistan, threatens us, threatens people all over the world," Clinton said.

IT'S YOUR SPECIAL EVENT. MAKE IT ESPECIALLY DELICIOUS

detail FBI, CIA wrangle over detainees

WASHINGTON (AP) - Newly released documents show the FBI interviewed a naked, chained terror suspect back in 2002 as the bureau struggled with the CIA over how to treat high-value prisoners. Details of the interrogation were contained in documents released late Friday as part of a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit brought by the American Civil Liberties Union for details of U.S. treatment of terror detainees.

As the CIA began to use harsh interrogation techniques against captured terror suspects, the FBI became wary of the legality of the methods, which ranged from forced nudity to waterboarding, a form of simulated drowning. As a result, FBI agents were ordered not to participate in such harsh interrogations.

Yet sometime in late 2002, an FBI agent interviewed accused Sept. 11 plotter Ramzi Binalshibh at a CIA site. The agent later said he got valuable information out of Binalshibh before the CIA shut down the questioning. According to the document, FBI officials told investigators when they arrived at the unidentified CIA site "the detainees were manacled to the ceiling and subjected to blaring music around the clock.'

The FBI agents worked with the CIA in developing questions, but were denied direct access to Binalshibh for four or five days, the report said.

Eventually, one agent was allowed to speak to

of which we we ad the second

him for about 45 minutes. "Binalshibh was naked and chained to the floor," the report said. The FBI agent later said "he obtained valuable actionable intelligence in a short time but that the CIA quickly shut down the interview."

The report said FBI officials later had serious misgivings about their participation in the Binalshibh interrogation.

A censored version of the report was released last year, but Friday's release disclosed a few more details about the Binalshibh case.

"After South Waziristan is finished, the Pakistanis will have to go on to try to root out other terrorist groups, or we're going to be back facing the same threats," she warned.

During the visit and talks with Pakistani leaders, Clinton found herself repeatedly on the defensive from ordinary Pakistanis brimming with resentment toward U.S. foreign policy.

During a live broadcast of an interview before a predominantly female audience of several hundred, Clinton struggled to avoid describing the classified U.S. effort to target terrorists, and still try to explain the efforts of American foreign policy.

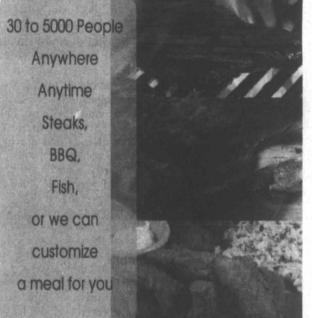
One woman asked Clinton how she would define terrorism.

"Is it the killing of people in drone attacks?" the woman asked. Then she asked if Clinton considered both the U.S. missile strikes and militant bombings like the one that killed more than 100 civilians in the city of Peshawar earlier in the week as acts of terrorism.

"No, I do not," Clinton replied.

Another man said bluntly: "Please forgive me, but I would like to say we've been fighting your war."

But she was also on an offensive of her own, coiled with pent-up frustration about Pakistan's incremental



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LAST MINUTE CLASSIFIED LINE ADS

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HALLOWEEN PICTURES Bring your ghouls and goblins! Oct 31st 3:00-7:00 at Shutterbug Photography,207 N. Cuyler, 669-1441

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PAMPA SHRINE Club We Cater!! 50-200 people. (approx 3000 sq ft) available for rent. Weddings, Banquets, Company Parties or Family Reunions. Kitchen facilities avail. at no extra chrg. Call Ben Watson 665-3359 to reserve!

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RED SCHOOL House Arts & Craft Show, Nov. 6th, 9-6, Nov. 7th, 9-4. All items hand made. Unique crafts, great gift ideas. 5 mi. north of Pampa, on Hwy. 70.

WE WILL have Flu Shots avail at Pampa Senior Citizen's Center Tues. Nov. 3rd from 10:00-?



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The Pampa News — Weekend Edition, Saturday and Sunday, October 31 - November 1, 2009 — Page 3

Boehner: GOP offering the right ideas on health care

WASHINGTON (AP) Congress and Republicans - Republicans have the answers to lower health costs and expanded coverage, not the Democrats who hold power in Washington and are creating more problems as they "recklessly pursue" a government takeover of the health care system, a GOP leader said.

The top House Republican, Rep. John Boehner of Ohio, outlined his party's alternative in the GOP's weekly radio and Internet address Saturday. Democratic proposals are gaining momentum in

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are scrambling for support to try to block them.

Taking aim at House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's plan, Boehner said it would put Washington in charge of health care decisions, add to the bureaucracy, raise premiums and cut Medicare benefits.

"Enough is enough. Breaking the bank and taking away the freedoms Americans cherish is not the answer to the challenges we face," Boehner said. Debate could begin this coming week on legislation developed by House

- Lt. Cmdr. Che J.

Democrats that extends coverage to 96 percent of Americans, imposes new requirements on individuals and employers to get insurance and provides subsidies for lower-income people. The bill rolled out Thursday includes a new public insurance plan that would pay providers and hospitals at rates negotiated by the health and human services secretary.

The Democraticcontrolled Senate is expected to begin debate within two weeks on a bill crafted by Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev.

Boehner said there is a choice to be made: "We can come together to implement smart, fiscally responsible reforms to improve Americans' health care or we can recklessly pursue this government takeover that creates far more problems than it solves." Boehner said a number

of steps could be taken, such as letting people buy health insurance across state lines, allowing people and organizations to pool together to buy insurance for lower prices and reining in malpractice lawsuits.

How the United Way Helps **Community Day Care Center** Continued from front page

sitting up on his own.

Alli is also doing better and is learning to feed herself. If not for the day care, I would have had to drive to Amarillo for the therapy sessions, which would have ending up costing me a lot of money. Because of our expenses with Levi's surgery and our several trips to Dallas, we were having a hard time coming up with the money for transition car seats for the babies. Kathleen, with the day care is in the process of helping us get car seats for the twins. The day care is also helping me go back to school for Early Child Development and to get my CDA to become an Early Head Start teacher. I look forward to going to work everyday, I love my job.

To make a donation to this year's United Way cam paign, send it to United Way Campaign, P.O. Box 2076, Pampa, TX 79066 or drop it by the office in the Chamber building: Suite 105, 200 N. Ballard.

Federal regulators close 9 banks, mostly in West

Regulators have shut California National Bank of Los Angeles and eight smaller related banks as the weak economy continues to produce a stream of loan defaults.

The banks closed on Friday by the Federal Deposit

Corporation were in California, Illinois, Texas and Arizona. They were divisions of privately held FBOP Corp., a bank holding company based in Oak Park., Ill.

The nine banks had 153 offices, which will reopen as U.S. Bank branches Saturday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS The U.S. Coast Guard has identified nine people feared dead at sea following an air collision between a Coast Guard aircraft and a Marine Corps helicopter. The missing crew mem-

bers from the Coast Guard C-130 are all stationed in Sacramento, Calif., where their aircraft was based. They are:

News

Barnes, 35, Capay, Calif., aircraft commander. - Lt. Adam W. Bryant, 28, Crewe, Va., co-pilot. Chief Petty Officer John F. Seidman, 43, Stockton, Calif., flight engineer.

- Petty Officer 2nd Class Carl P. Grigonis, 35, Mayfield Heights, Ohio, navigator.

- Petty Officer 2nd Class Monica L. Beacham, 29, Decaturville, Tenn., radio operator.

Coast Guard identifies 9 missing in midair crash

Petty Officer 2nd Class Jason S. Moletzsky, 26, Norristown, Pa., air crew.

- Petty Officer 3rd Class Danny R. Kreder II, 22, Elm Mott, Texas, drop master.

The missing crew mem-

bers from the Marine Corps helicopter are:

Maj. Samuel Leigh, 35, Kennebec, Maine. 1st Lt. Thomas Claiborne, 26, Douglas, Colo.

NEW YORK (AP) -

Insurance

Looking for a new Career! **Consider** an education in welding. We have classes starting

> **Pre-registration** November 16th

can do is set some kind of groups to determine whethbar that communities are going to have to be above." In Texas, The Victoria

Advocate lets readers contribute blogs, comments, calendar items, photographs and even stories to the Web site. When the newspaper commissioned a study of 400 readers, gauging their trust of newsroom-generated content versus that submitted by readers, respondents appeared to value straight news much more than content with opinions, Editor Chris Cobler said.

For instance, at a town hall meeting on the subject this month, Cory Garcia of Victoria said he likes the idea of being able to blog online, but worries that civil discourse can become uncivil. Now the newspaper is considering a disclaimer on reader blogs and might create a board of readers who would discuss Internet ethics. "People still trust the news and get the difference," Cobler said. "The challenge is how to engage the community without chipping away at the newspaper's credibility." As news organizations' revenue has dropped, they've felt more pressure to experiment with a type of advertising that is associated with a news story's subject matter and is placed alongside, or pops up when a cursor touches a key word in a story. The Seattle Times tested 18 types of this so-called contextual advertising on its Web site. Then it used reader surveys and focus

er placement of such ads affected the credibility of either the advertisers or the newspaper.

The results were mixed, but the exercise helped the newspaper "figure out where the land mines were," said Kathy Best, managing editor for digital news and innovation.

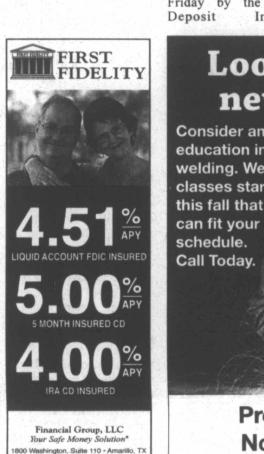
Readers didn't like an ad for jobs at Weyerhaeuser Co. that popped up as they read a story about the timber industry. They also disapproved of an ad for a land commissioner candidate that was next to an investigative story on landslides and the government's policy on clear-cutting forests. The readers cont. from page 1

ers said they valued contextual advertising when it was local and useful.

In another of the APME projects, the Sioux City (Iowa) Journal asked readers how the newspaper could improve standards and accuracy in gathering and reporting news online. And the Salem (Mass.) News is soliciting input on how its involvement with social networking sites affects credibility.

The six projects will be posted on APME's Web site and are the subject of a webinar series beginning Nov. 5 through Poynter's News University.

"I think we'll learn more about how precious credibility is to readers as well



said it hurt the credibility of both the candidate and the news story. On the other hand, read-

as to journalists," Kramer said. "Credibility is our stock in trade. We better have it.'





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Pampa ISD Events for the Week of November 2-7

Watch this space every Sunday for a weekly listing of non-athletic events from every campus in our school district

Pampa High School

November 2-6 • Pink Out-Breast Cancer Awareness November 2-4 • Credit by Exam November 2 • Student Council Meeting 7:00pm Commons November 5 • Senior Cap and Gown Presentation November 6 • Pep Rally 2:45pm November 6 • Football Senior Night November 6 • Dance 10:00pm Commons November 7 • Speech Tournament Canyon

Pampa Junior High School

November 2 • Booster Club Schwann Fundraiser begins November 2 • Choir Fall Concert 7:00pm November 2 • Lovett Memorial Library Literature Circle 7:00pm November 4 • National Jr. Honor Society Meeting

Austin Elementary

November 3 • Picture Make-up November 3 • Sean Watson Magic Assembly November 4 • 4th Grade Field Trip Ag Fair November 5 • Cookie Dough Delivered November 6 • 5th Grade Field Trip -Palo Duro Canyon

Lamar Elementary November 4 • 4th Grade Field Trip to Ag Fair

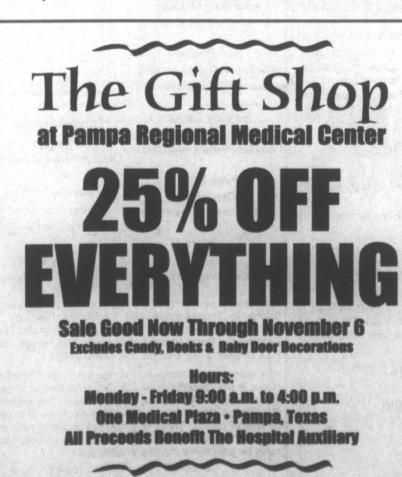
Travis Elementary

1225

November 4 • 4th Grade Field Trip to Ag Fair November 5 • 2nd Grade Field Trip Discovery Center Wilson November 6 • Pancakes with Pops 7:00am

For the most up-to-date Pampa ISD information, Go to the school website at HYPERLINK "http://www.pampaisd.net" From the parent connection drop-down menu, click on the District Event Calendar

Start your new career <u>today</u>! CNA Classes Begin Nov. 9th Clarendon COLLEGE Pampa Center 1601 W. Kentucky · 665.8801



The Pampa News --- Weekend Edition, Saturday and Sunday, October 31 - November 1, 2009 --- Page 4



Today in History

Today is Saturday, October 31, the 304th day of 2009. There are 61 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

1517 - Martin Luther nails 95 theses at Wittenberg Palace church, marking the beginning of the Protestant Reformation in Germany.

1731 - Expulsion of Protestants from Salzburg, Austria, begins.

1922 - Fascist leader Benito Mussolini becomes prime minister of Italy.

1925 - Reza Khan usurps Persian throne; Greek army invades Bulgaria.

1926 - Magician Harry Houdini dies in Detroit of gangrene and peritonitis resulting from a ruptured appendix.

1938 - The day after his "War of the Worlds" broadcast panicked U.S. radio listeners, Orson

'An old error is always more popular than a new truth.'

— German proverb

Welles expresses "deep regret" but also bewilderment that anyone had thought the simulated Martian invasion was real.

1953 - Floods in Bihar state of India leave two million people homeless.

1956 - British and French troops bomb Egyptian airfields in

Suez War.

1961 - Cloud of radioactive debris moves across central Siberia after Soviets explode what is called biggest man-made nuclear bomb.

1967 - Lieutenant General Nguyen Van Thieu takes oath of office as first president of South Vietnam's second republic.

1968 - U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson orders a halt to all U.S. bombing of North Vietnam, saying he hopes for fruitful peace negotiations.

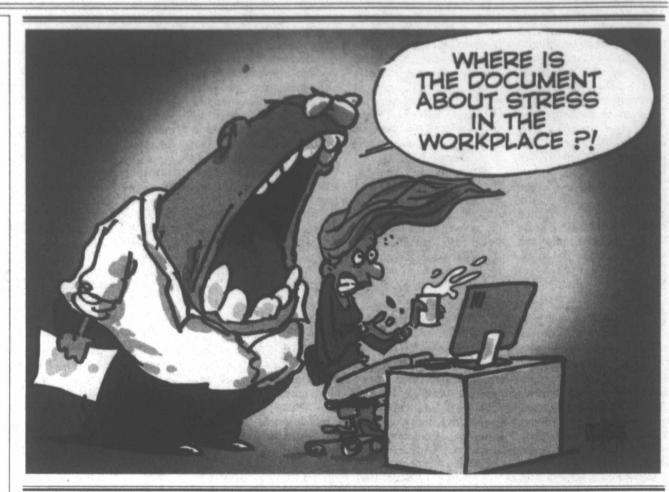
1979 - A concrete and earthen reservoir dam collapses near Indiantown, Florida, sending four-meterhigh (12-foot) floodwaters over 32 kilometers (20 miles) stranding 1,700 persons.

1984 - India's Prime Minister Indira Gandhi is assassinated by her Sikh bodyguards in reprisal for the Indian army attack on a Sikh shrine four months earlier. Two-thousand people are killed in anti-Sikh riots after the murder.

1990 - In an unprecedented action, the Canadian government instructs Canadian subsidiaries of U.S. companies not to comply with a new U.S. law designed to prohibit them from trading with Cuba.

1991 - Zambia holds its first multiparty elections, with Frederick Chiluba winning over independence leader and first president Kenneth Kaunda.

1992 - Five American nuns in Liberia are shot



Analysis: Obama has mixed message on US recovery

 $W^{ASHINGTON}_{(AP)}$ — Tugged in different political directions, the White House is seeking credit for good economic news and trying to escape blame for the bad stuff.

President Barack Obama greeted as "obviously welcome news" a U.S. government report showing the economy grew 3.5 percent from July through September after four quarters of declines. That's unofficial confirmation that the long, harsh recession has ended.

But he had to serve it up with a dose of political reality. Even though the downturn that began in December 2007 may be technically over, a high level of joblessness will persist for months, perhaps years, to come. A sign of the fragility of the recovery was quick to come. Stocks, which had surged on the upbeat growth report the day before, tumbled on Friday, more than wiping out the previous day's gains. A government report that personal spending fell 0.5 percent in September, the largest drop in nine months, added to the gloom. And a new Obama administration assertion that its stimulus program had created or saved over 650,000 jobs failed to supply any traction. It's important for a president to voice optimism after good economic numbers. It can help restore consumer confidence ---crucial for any recovery, since consumer spending makes up two-thirds of the overall economy. Yet Obama couldn't be too upbeat, knowing another government report is looming - one due next

week — that could show unemployment topping 10 percent in October after reaching a 26-year high of 9.8 percent in September.

"We got a long way to go to fully restore our economy," Obama said.

The administration's own economists expect the unemployment rate to hover around 10 percent through most of next year, a midterm election year.

And even in good economic times, the president's party nearly always loses seats in Congress in midterms.

Jobs are sure to be a big issue in those contests.

"Presidents are like everybody else," said Economic Advisers.

But also helping to dig the economy out was the stabilizing of banks and other financial institutions, a process that began under the Bush administration and the Federal Reserve, which kept interest rates low and pumped billions of dollars into the system.

High unemployment almost always persists after a recession. It is viewed as a lagging indicator since many employers will tend to give more work to current employees, including overtime, before hiring new workers in stilluncertain times.

The White House asserted Friday that more than 650,000 jobs Among the reasons the administration was muted in its response to the GDP figure of 3.5 percent growth: Such a level may not be sustainable. The

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That's because growth of GDP — the value of all goods and services produced within the country's borders — was elevated by the Cash for Clunkers program that lifted car sales and by the tax credit for first-time homebuyers that helped home-building. The clunker program has ended. The homebuyers credit expires at the end of the year. There are efforts in Congress to extend it,

to death near the capital Monrovia; the killings are blamed on rebels loyal to Charles Taylor.

1993 - Pledging not to resort to force, the Russian government instead blasts high-decibel rock and rap music at defiant hard-liners barricaded inside parliament.

1994 - Bosnian government forces hand Serbs their worst defeat in 2 1/2 years of war, pushing ahead to threaten a supply route south of Sarajevo.

1995 - A bomb attack on offices of the main antigovernment group in northern Iraq kills at least 22 people.

1996 - A Brazilian jetliner crashes into a residential neighborhood in Sao Paulo shortly after takeoff, killing all 96 people on board and five on the ground.

1997 - The parliament in Russia approves an international treaty banning chemical weapons. Russia has the world's largest arsenal of poison gas.

1998 - Iraq announces that it will no longer allow U.N. weapons inspectors to work in the country.

1999 - EgyptAir Flight 990 bound for Cairo from New York's Kennedy Airport plunges 10,000 meters (32,800 feet) into the Atlantic Ocean, killing all 217 people on board.

2000 - A Russian rocket carrying the first residents of the international space station blasts off from Kazakhstan.

2001 - A New York hospital worker with a mysterious case of inhalation anthrax dies, the United States' fourth fatality in a month of bioterrorism.

2002 - An earthquake strikes the village of San Giuliano di Puglia in the Apennine mountains 225 kilometers (140 miles) southeast of Rome, killing 26 children and one teacher in an elementary school that collapsed.

2003 - Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad resigns after 22 years as Malaysia's leader. His hand-picked successor, Abdullah Badawi, is sworn in that day in a ceremony at the royal palace in Kuala Lumpur.

2004 - Caravans carrying activists traveling from as far as Canada arrive in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, to demand authorities find the culprits behind a string of unsolved killings committed against women since 1993 in this rough border city.

2005 - President Vladimir Putin says that he will not seek a third term in 2008, but vows not to allow "destabilization" in Russia following the vote, leaving the door open for drastic action in the event of a crisis.

2006 - British lawmakers narrowly reject a proposal for an immediate inquiry into the role of Prime Minister Tony Blair's government in the Iraq conflict.

Today's Birthdays:

Jan Vermeer, Dutch artist (1632-1675); John Keats, British poet (1795-1821); Chiang Kai-shek, President of Nationalist China (1887-1975); Eddie Charlton, Australian world snooker champion (1929-2004); Norodom Sihanouk, former Cambodian king (1922--); Vanilla Ice, U.S. rapper (1968--).

American University political scientist James Thurber. "They want to go to heaven without dying, they take credit for the good news and try to run away from the bad news and blame it on the previous administration."

"But we're getting so heavily into this administration that they can't do that anymore," Thurber said.

Obama can hardly be blamed for saying that "steps we've taken have made a difference" toward bringing about a fledgling recovery.

His administration's \$787 billion stimulus spending package, including the Cash for Clunkers program and tax breaks for first-time homebuyers, clearly contributed.

Without the stimulus package, the nation's economic output as measured by the gross domestic product "would have risen little, if at all, this past quarter," said Christina Romer, chairwoman of the White House Council of

We welcome

your letters

To insure publication, please adhere to the

•Letters should be brief and to the point. All

•All letters must be signed. Submit your name,

the service of a state, say, and and have any the service

and the spin such as a diverse

address and telephone number with the letter for

verification. Only your name and city will be

·Defamatory comments will not be pub-

E-mail submissions are welcome.

correspondence will edited for length and

following guidelines:

clarity.

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lished.

have been saved or created under Obama's stimulus plan. However, since he took office in January, the economy has lost a net 3.4 million jobs. Since the recession began in December 2007, overall job losses have totaled 7.2

million.

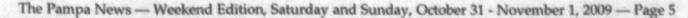
but the outcome is uncertain.

Also, while some companies ramped up operations in the third quarter to replace inventories they allowed to run down during the recession, that trend is expected to slacken in the coming quarters.



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Pampa Art Club news

The Pampa Art Club met Tuesday, October 20, in the Chamber of Commerce building. Madeline Gawthrop demonstrated how to make Christmas ornaments using a dollar bill.

President Carol Dunham called the meeting to order, minutes were read and approved. There was discussion of a location for the spring show and members worked on individual projects.

See how easy that was? Advertise here & get results. Call 669-2525 today.

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Around town

Weekly menus

Pampa Senior Citizens, Inc.

Monday Chicken Fried Steak or mozzarella chicken spaghetti Mashed potatoes Fried okra Beets Beans Slaw, tossed salad, Jello salad Hot rolls or cornbread German chocolate cake or lemon pie

Tuesday

Chile relleños with cheese sauce or chicken breasts Au gratin potatoes Spanish rice Spinach Beans Slaw, tossed salad, Jello salad Hot rolls or cornbread Carrot cake or ice box pie

Wednesday

Roast beef with brown gravy or cook's choice Mashed potatoes Macaroni and tomatoes Turnip greens Beans Slaw, tossed salad, Jello salad Hot rolls or cornbread Strawberry shortcake or cherry cobbler

Thursday

Chicken strips or meatloaf Sour cream potatoes Broccoli casserole Buttered corn Beans Slaw, tossed salad, Jello salad Hot rolls or cornbread Chocolate pistachio bundt cake or vanil-

la pudding cups

Friday

Catfish and hushpuppies or Swedish meatballs with noodles Potato wedges Brussels sprouts Beans Slaw, tossed salad, Jello salad Hot rolls, garlic bread sticks or cornbread Chocolate chunk brownies or tapioca pudding cups

Meals on Wheels

Monday

Chicken sandwich Tater tots Lettuce/tomatoes Applesauce

Tuesday

Chicken chow mein Egg roll Rice/oriental vegetables Pears

Wednesday

Roast Mashed potatoes Green beans corn Banana bread

Thursday

Stew Corn bread Peaches

Friday Battered fish Pinto beans Cole slaw Mixed fruit

Pampa ISD

Monday November 2 PIG IN A BLANKET OR CHICKEN NUGGETS WHIPPED POTATOES ENGLISH PEAS PEACHES PUDDING BREAKFAST OATMEAL TOAST

> Tuesday November 3

Wednesday November 4 SPAGHETTI OR MINI TWIN CHEESEBURGERS GREEN BEANS TOSSED SALAD MIXED FRUIT GARLIC TOAST

BREAKFAST BREAKFAST PIZZA Thursday

November 4

BREAKFAST BISCUIT SAUSAGE PATTY

> Friday November 5

CHICKEN FAJITAS OR HAMBURGER FRENCH FRIES BURGER SALAD BELL PEPPERS & ONION PEARS Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: As a fire officer, I have seen far too many families fall victim to accidental home fires. It is devastating to find out that a life could have been saved if someone had only taken that simple step of replacing a dead battery in a smoke alarm. Nearly 96 percent of American homes have at least one smoke alarm. But did you know that 19 percent of American homes lack a working smoke alarm because the batteries are missing or dead?

For 22 years, the International Association of Fire Chiefs and Energizer have been committed to changing this statistic through the "Change Your Clock Change Your Battery" campaign. This partnership encourages families to change the battery in their smoke alarms when they set their clocks back an hour on Nov. 1. This message also serves as a reminder to communities nationwide to change the batteries in their carbon monoxide detectors.

As winter approaches, more people will begin using gas appliances to heat their homes and may find themselves at risk of carbon monoxide poisoning, called the "silent killer" because this gas is colorless, odorless and tasteless.

Thank you, Abby, for helping us spread this lifesaving message to your readers. --JEFFREY D. JOHNSON, PRESIDENT, INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS

DEAR JEFF: I'm glad to help, and I know my readers are grateful for your timely reminder. It may seem like a menial task, but safeguarding yourselves and your families is extremely important -- so change those batteries this weekend!

DEAR ABBY: For the last two years I have been going out with a guy I'll call "Ricky." My problem is I don't love him anymore. A few weeks ago I told him I no longer wanted to be with him, and he started crying. He scared me when he said his life was in my hands. Abby, I want to end it. Ricky suffocates me. He's depressed because his mom works and doesn't have time for him. His dad doesn't live with them, so Ricky feels he has only me to talk to. He wants to marry me, and I don't want to lie and say I will. It disturbs me that he still wants to be together even though he knows I'm not happy with him. He believes that if he's happy, I will be, too. Please tell me what do. -- TROUBLE IN SALINAS, CALIF.

DEAR TROUBLED: I'm sure the news that you wanted to break up was painful for Ricky to hear -- hence the tears -- but saying his life is in your hands was a form of emotional blackmail. For your sake, please don't fall for it.

Ricky appears to be needy and immature. Call his mother, tell her that you are ending the relationship and that he isn't taking it well. She's in a better position to see he gets emotional and psychological support than you are.

DEAR ABBY: My best friend, "Heather," is trying to trick her husband into having another child. They already have one, but he doesn't think they can handle two.

They have been fighting about this, and it has created problems in their marriage. Heather confided to me recently that she is going to stop using birth control "just to see what will happen," and I'm pretty sure she's not going to tell her husband first.

I wish I didn't know. But now that I do, I'm not sure where my responsibilities lie. Should I tell him, or keep my mouth shut and act surprised when Heather gets pregnant? -- KNOWS TOO MUCH-IN BETHESDA

DEAR KNOWS TOO MUCH: This is your best friend. You should tell Heather that she's making a serious mistake. What she is doing is dishonest, underhanded, and could be the final straw that breaks her marriage apart. And yes, you should tip him off. If it isn't already too late, he may want to take precautions.



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POPCORN SHRIMP OR CHEESE NACHOS BLACKEYED PEAS SPINACH FRESH FRUIT BREAKFAST WAFFLE STICKS SYRUP

EGG ROLLS OR PIZZA CORN BROCCOLI FLORETS APPLESAUCE RICE PILAF

BREAKFAST CEREAL TOAST

Father arrested for failing to pay child support

CLARENDON – Danny Mullins was booked into the Donley County Jail on Wednesday for failing to pay \$35,000 in courtordered child support. In 1993, Mullins was ordered to pay \$195 a month for the care of a daughter in Clarendon. Mullins, 36, faces criminal prosecution in Donley County.

"Mullins' arrest reflects a concerted, coordinated effort to hold a negligent father accountable for failing to pay court-ordered child support," Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott said. "Despite his legal obligation to make monthly child support payments, the defendant ignored his responsibility to support his child. We are grateful to District Attorney Luke Inman for his hard work on this case and his commitment to

Texas children." Mullins was arrested Oct, 1 in Nashville, TN, for felony criminal nonsupport. He was transported to Donley County on Wednesday to face the pending charges. A criminal nonsupport conviction carries a penalty of up to two years in a state jail and a fine of up to \$10,000.

In 1993, Mullins was ordered to pay \$195 per month for the support of his daughter, now 16.

Due to missed payments and interest that accrues on the past due balance, Mullins now owes more than \$35,000 for his daughter's care.

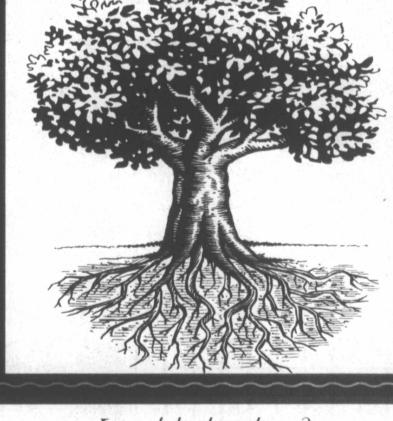
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Hey Kids... Avoid Scary Cavities and let Dr. Jay buy back your Halloween Candy! Bring your un-opened candy to Dr. Johnson's Office

Monday, November 2, 2009 between 3:00 and 5:30 p.m. 2427 N. Hobart

and receive \$1.00 for each pound of candy plus a cool prize! We'll send the candy to our troops overseas!

Wear your Halloween Costume if you'd like! It'll be



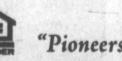
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"Pioneers in your financial future"

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Around town

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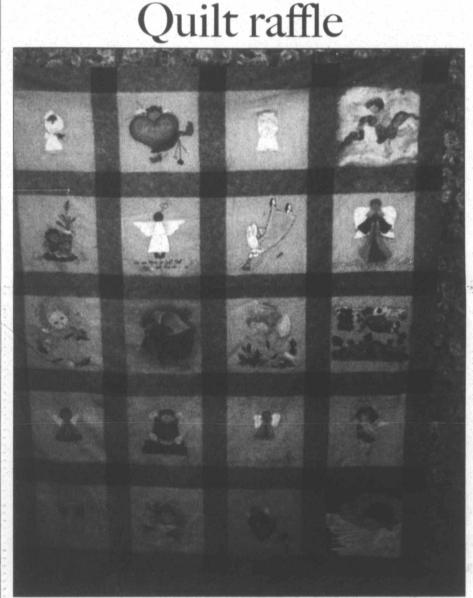
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Rotary members participated in a Highway Pick-up Saturday, October 24. We are having a complementary breakfast at the Hospital Cafeteria before starting at 9 a.m. the teamfinished by 10:30 a.m.. Those participating were Darville & Myrna Orr, Todd and wife Lorenz, Kenny Rigoulot, Faye LaBarr, Doug Ware and his children, Glennette Goode and not pictured, Katrina Bigham.



Accolade Home Care to offer confidential memory screenings

Pampa- In an effort to detect Alzheimer's in its early stages, Accolade Home Care is offering confidential memory screenings at 38 locations across Texas and Oklahoma. As of 2000, it was estimated that 270,000 Texans were afflicted with Alzheimer's. This number is expected to increase more than 26 percent to 340,000 in 2010.

"Screening tests for Alzheimer's disease are simple, painless and very effective at identifying individuals in the early stages of the condition," said Dr. Phillip D. Isbelle.

These screenings will be offered to Pampa and surrounding area residents at Pampa Senior Citizen Center, 500 W. Francis Pampa, TX 79065 on November 13 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Mary Benson has been the primary caregiver for her husband, Jim for two years. "My husband took care of everything for 20 years and now I have had to train myself to take over those responsibilities, since he was diagnosed with Alzheimer's" Mary said.

Jim, who was once a pastor, now relies solely on his wife and Accolade Home Care to perform every day duties.

Physical Therapist Assistant, Jonette Schnaufer, works with Jim two times a week

"It takes a lot of encouragement to get Mr. Benson to participate in the exercises, but I have noticed a huge improvement in his ability to get up and down on his own," Schnaufer said.

Sonny Braely is currently experiencing the early stages of Alzheimer's and wants to spread the word to get tested if possible. His wife Donna stated, "If you are afraid of a screening, swallow your fear and get screened. I'm so glad we got Sonny help, you have to maintain what is still there."

Donna and Sonny both attend an Alzheimer's support group, which allows them to interact and communicate with others who are going through the same trials. "These help with denial, as you are able to witness that you are not alone and that there are others out there struggling with the same issues. You are able to comfort others and it builds a community of support; feels like an extended family," Donna said.

Sonny works daily to help him remember things, "I mimic my wife's organization routine. She has a color coded calendar and the colors at a glance help organize and calm any anxiety about when and where things are."

"The sooner you participate in a screening, the sooner you can get a plan of action set into place," Jane Hale, Certified Dementia Practitioner, stated.

The screenings take roughly five to ten minutes to complete and consist of simple questions and tasks. Each screening is administered by a qualified healthcare professional and provides individuals with information on Alzheimer's disease, dementia and successful aging and local resources.

Southwest kicks mom, cranky kid off flight

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) - Kids will be kids, but an Marilee McInnis says one cranky 2-year-old was removing a crying child acting too much his age for a Southwest Airlines flight but crews have leeway to

Southwest spokeswomfrom a flight is unusual,



The Annual Heritage Art Club Handpainted Angel Quilt Raffle will begin Monday, Nov. 2. The quilt be on display at the Pampa Senior Citizens Center. To purchase tickets please see any art club member or they are available at the Senior Citizens Center. All proceeds will benefit the Pampa Senior Citizens Center. The drawing will be held Dec. 4, the ticket holder need not be present to win.

Navy identifies 2 pilots missing off Texas coast

McALLEN, Texas (AP) - The U.S. Navy has identified two instructor pilots missing since their plane disappeared Wednesday off the Texas coast.

The Navy says 29-yearold Lt. John Joseph Houston of Houston and 30-year-old Lt. Bret Travis Miller of East Troy, Wis., were both instructors with Training Squadron 28 at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi.

Rescuers resumed the search Friday morning

for the pilots and their trainer aircraft not heard from since Wednesday. Coast Guard Petty Officer Charles Reaves told The Associated Press that a plane and a helicopter were part of the search effort that resumed shortly after 7:30 a.m. Friday.

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi lost contact with the Navy T-34C Turbomentor training plane Wednesday afternoon. The singleengine plane's last known location was near San Jose

Customs agent

charged in illegal immigration case

McALLEN, Texas (AP) — A 43-year-old U.S. customs officer working on the U.S.-Mexico border has been charged with transporting an illegal immigrant.

Rudy Trace Soliz made his initial appearance in federal court in Brownsville Friday, a day after his arrest. The U.S. Attorney's Office in Brownsville says he remains in federal custody.

Soliz resigned after his arrest, but it's unclear whether he'd retained an attorney.

crew who kicked him off a plane getting ready to leave for San Jose.

Pamela Root says she was confident her son Adam's screams of "Go! Plane! Go!" and "I want Daddy!" would subside once the plane took off Monday in Amarillo, Texas.

But she says the plane taxied back to the gate and the pair was escorted off.

The 38-year-old stay-athome mom wants an apology and compensation for the portable crib and diapers she had to buy for the extra night away from home.

Have a news tip? Call 669-2525

Island, east of Rockport

resolve situations. McInnis says the airline is looking into the incident.

Edward Jones

Concealed Handgun Class

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PHS tennis team "Pink's Out" for the cure



Junior and senior PHS tennis players support "Pink Out for the Cure" for Breast Cancer Awareness. Back row: Aaron Silva, Myles Foreman, Kaitlin Winegeart, Sammi Finney, Garrett Couts, Holly Gage. Front row: Erin Buck, Nichole Cox, Alyssa Hoelting, Kayla Ware. Not pictured: Robin Fernuik, Hilary Acker



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NOAH AND THE ARK A 6 foot long scale model of the Ark will be on display Come and bring your friends

> Sunday · November 1, 2009 11:00 am 806-665-5976



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WELCOME



Cadie Lynn Waldrip

Cadie Lynn Waldrip was welcomed by her parents Carrie and Nathan Waldrip of Pampa September 1, 2009 at 4:21 p.m.

She weighed 7lbs 2 ozs and was 20 1/4 inches long at birth.

Cadie was born at Golden Plains Community Hospital in Borger.

Her grandparents are Vickie Hoover-Daley, Melissa and Ricky Waldrip, all of Pampa.

Cadie's great grandparents are Donnie and Shirley Ray, Dollie Barker, Gary and Harriet Smiley, Judy Hoover, the Late Lee and Louise Hoover, and the Late James and Imogene Angel all of Pampa, and great-great grandma Geraldine Shultz of Pampa.

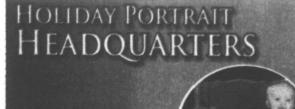
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American Red Cross-Eastern Texas Panhandle Chapter November 14, 2009

Adult, Child & Infant CPR/ First Aid class Time: 9 a.m until 3 p.m. Place: 108 N. Russell, Pampa Full class \$40.00 Discount for renewal. For more information call 806-669-7121 or 800-297-2270 Please get trained you could save a LIFE!



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Offer available on select phones. Coverage is not available in all areas. See coverage map at stores for details. Limited-time offer. Other conditions & restrictions apply. See contract & rate plan brochure for details. Subscriber must live & have a mailing addr. within AT&T's owned wireless network coverage area. Up to \$36 activ. fee applies. Equipment price & avail may vary by mrk & may not be available from independent retailers. Early Termination Pee: None if-cancelled in the first 30 days, but up to \$35 restocking fee may apply to equipment returns; thereafter up to \$175. Some agents impose add1 fees. Unlimited voice services: Unitd voice services are provided solely for live dialog between two individuals. No additional discounts are available with unlimited plan. Offnet Usage If your mins of use (including until secs) on other carriers' networks ("offnet usage") during any two consecutive months exceed your offnet usage allowance AT&T may at its option terminate your sec, deny your contd use of other carriers' coverage, or change your plan to one imposing usage charges for offnet usage. Your offnet usage allowance is equal to the lesser of 150 mins or 40% of the knytime mins incfd with your plan (data offnet usage allowance is the lesser of 6 MB or 20% of the KB incfd with your plan. FamilyTalk* plans 1,400 minutes+ are eligible. Only standard domestic landline or wireless numbers are eligible. AT&T Promotion Cards; samsung Solstice" price before AT&T Promotion Cards; minimum \$20/mo data plan required, & with 2-year se; agreement is \$124.99. Allow 60 days for turliment. Card may be used only in the US. & is valid for 120 days after issuance date but is not redeemable for cash & cannot be used for cash withdrawal at ATMs or automated gasoline pumps. Card request must be oostmarked by 12/11/2009 & you must be a customer for 30 consecutive days to receive card. Sales tax calculated based on price of unclowed as plan required for 200 of the cash is to acclowed and point or activated based on price of unclowe transmin. Card request must be used only if the O.S. is valid for 220 organite issuance date outs for request more than a cannot be used on a submarked at Aris of automated pumps. Card request must be postmarked by 12/17/2009 & you must be a customer for 30 consecutive days to receive card. Sales tax calculated based on price of una equipment. C2009 Samsung Telecommunications America, LLC Samsung is a registered trademark of Samsung Electronics America, Inc. and its related entities. Facebook is a trade Facebook, Inc. C2009 AT&T Intellectual Property. Service provided by AT&T Mobility. All rights reserved. AT&T, the AT&T logo and all other marks contained herein are trademarks of Intellectual Property and/or AT&T affiliated companies. All other marks contained herein are the property of their respective owners.

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Sports

Pirates clinch district in record breaking fashion

BY ANDREW GLOVER aglover@thepampanews.com

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The Lefors Pirates were named history makers four years ago when they made it to the playoffs for the first time in school history.

Friday night against the Groom Tigers (6-2, 2-1), the Lefors Pirates (9-1, 4-0) made history again, winning back to back district titles for the first time in school history in a 103-77 win.

Coach Head Joey Czubinski (Ski) said it is a relief for his team to win their second consecutive title

"There were doubters who thought we couldn't do this, repeat (as district champions)," Coach Ski said. "We sneak up on everybody last year and this year they had a bulls eye in their face every week. Every team in district had two weeks to prepare for us. I was very happy for the young men because they've sacrificed and really worked hard."

The players felt good about winning the district title back to back.

"It feels like a burden has been lifted," Wakely Pairsh said.

With the victory the 2009 senior class was the first in Lefors history to make the playoffs all four years. Keenan Lott said it was special for the senior class to accomplish that.

"Even though we didn't play all four years, we were still part of it being part of the history makers," Lott said. "I guess back to back district champions you can't beat that."

The game was also historic for the Pirates as they beat their school record for

"Every team in district had two weeks to prepare for us. I was very happy for the young men because they've sacrificed and really worked hard." -Coach "Ski"

fast start in the first quarter. Lefors only needed 1:15 to drive down field, Lott scored on a five-yard run. Trever Czubinski's extra point kick was good giving the Pirates a 8-0 lead.

The Groom Tigers scored quick as well. One minute and 19 seconds later Jacob Torres connected with Tyler Babcock for a touchdown. The Tigers converted the extra point kick tying the game at eight.

The Pirates would take control of the game. In the less than a minute Trever Czubinski gave Lefors the lead for good on a six-yard run. The kick was no good giving Lefors a 14-8 lead with 6:49 left in the first.

On the ensuing kickoff, the Pirates recovered an onside kick inside the Tigers' 35. Pairsh finished the drive with his first touchdown of the game on a one-yard run. On Lefors next possession, Pairsh expanded their lead catching a pass from Lott and taking it 30-yards for a touchdown. After the two-point kick the Pirates had a 30-8 lead which they took to the end of the first quarter.

22 seconds into the second quarter Trever Czubinski scored on a 48-yard run. The twopoint kick was no good but Lefors had a commanding 36-8 lead. The Tigers got on the scoreboard again. Torres connected with Billy Corley on a 22-yard

Lefors responded quickly to Groom's score as Pairsh scored his third touchdown of the game on a 28-yard run. Trever Czubinski completed the one-point pass and The Pirates were ahead 43-14. On the Pirates next possession Lott completed a pass to Joey Johnson. The extra point kick was blocked but Lefors only needed one more score to clinch the game, leading 49-14.

Torres delayed Lefors from celebrating a district title scoring on a 49-yard run. The Tigers completed the one-point pass to cut Lefors lead to 49-21. Lott put the Pirates within one score of ending the game, with a 34-yard run. But Groom again responded with Babcock catching a 32-yard pass to pull the Tigers within 57-27.

Both teams got one more score before the end of the half. Lott threw a 12 yard pass to Colten Helfer and following the kick Lefors led 65-27. Torres scored on a 22-yard run with a second left in the first half. The Pirates led 65-34 at halftime.

In the second half both teams exchanged scores. Trever Czubinksi scored three rushing touchdowns. Lott had a kickoff return for a touchdown and a passing touchdown for the Pirates.

Torres had four rushing touchdowns and one passing for the Tigers. Coach

turn the corner on them, maybe put them away they fought back," Ski said. "Every time we thought we were going to take that next step they responded." Coach Ski was proud of

how his seniors played and enjoyed coaching them the last seven years.

"I'm a lucky man,"

thought we were going to Coach Ski said. "I got to coach this men for seven years. What made it even more sweeter was my son (Trever Czubinski). I thought Keenan, Wakely, and Trever tonight, that triple threat backfield really stepped up.

> Lefors will have a bye in the last week of the regular season. Trever Czubinski

said it was a much needed break for the team.

"Every week it's been a tough game for us," Czubinski said. "We're all beat up and we're going to need the extra week.

The Pirates will compete in the bi-district round of the playoffs in two weeks.



points scored in game with 103. The Pirates got off to a

pass. the kick was no good 36-14.

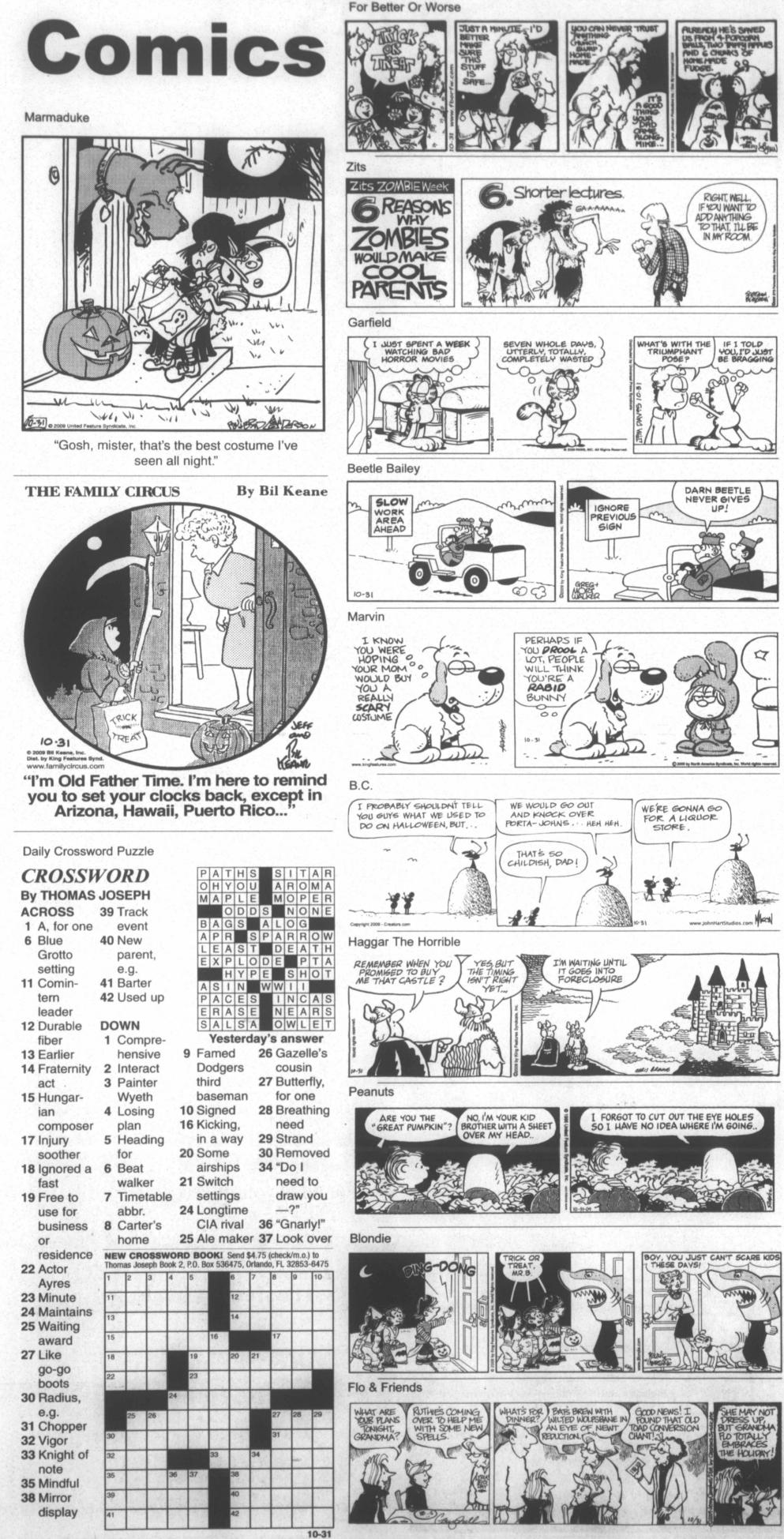
Ski gave Groom credit for cutting Lefors lead to how they played the game. "Anytime we (Lefors)



Keenan Lott (7) looks to follow his blocks to gain more yards Friday against Groom. The Pirates won 103-77 to win back to back district championships for the first time in school history. Lott played his final regular season home game Friday along with Trever Czubinski, Wakely Pairsh, Seth and Casey Wyant.







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Sports

PJH 7th grade B team wins, A team loses against Perryton jr. high Rangers

BY ANDREW GLOVER aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Junior High seventh grade B football team won and the A team lost vs. Perryton, Tuesday at Harvester Field.

The B team won 14-8. Coach Clint Allen said Colby Arbuckle, Trace Leftwich and Ashjen Payne all ran the ball well. Allen also praised the offensive line for their performance. Pampa's offensive linemen are Chris Grajeda, Erick Kuehne, Key'Shawn Morris, Dakota Roberson and Cesar Armenta. Allen said Allan Stovall and Braden Keown had good games defensively.

The A team lost 28-6. Allen said his team allowed four long runs in the first half but settled down in the second. Coach said Jonathan Stevens, Braxton Maul, Aaron Allen, John Allen, Brycen McClendon and Colton Lesly had good offensive performances. Allen said Kolton Dyson and Nathan Taaggert had good games defensively.

The seventh grade plays their final game at Dalhart 5:00 p.m., Tuesday.



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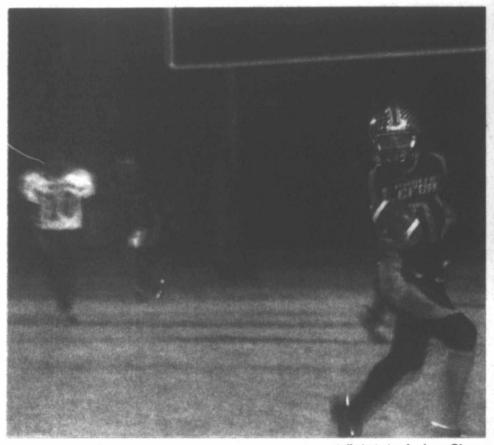
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staff photo by **Andrew Glover** Keenan Lott (7) makes a one- handed catch of a Trever Czubinski pass Friday against Groom. The Pirates beat Groom 103-77 breaking a chool record for most points scored in a game. Lefors will compete in the bi-district playoffs in two weeks.

Football Booster News



Blake Caldwell struggles to stay in bounds after a nice eight-yard run. (above) Daymon Villegas looks to escape Perryton defenders in the eighth grade game against Perryton Junior High Tuesday in Perryton. (Photos contributed by Shawn Clifton)

PHS Football Boosters ..

The booster club will meet again on Monday, November 2 at 7:00 p.m., in the Ready Room inside the Athletic Building on Randy Matson Ave. Parents of 7th—12th grade players are encouraged to attend and be a part of the planning for senior night coming up next Friday, November 6 when the varsity hosts the Palo Duro Dons at Harvester Field.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK recipients for the week of Oct. 12-16th are as follows:

Jake Milligan, 7th grade POW against Dumas Cyler Clifton, 8th grade POW against Dumas Scott Kelly, Freshman POW against Canyon

Ryne Richardson, Sophomore POW against

Canyon Brandon Voyles, Justion POW against Canyon Agapito Salazar, Senior POW against Canyon For the week of Oct.

19-23:

Johnathan Stevens, 7th grade POW against Borger Daymon Villegas, 8th grade POW against Borger Joshua Owen, Freshman POW against Dumas

Cody Parks, Sophomore

Tyler Arbuckle, Junior

POW against Dumas

Congrats Lefors on back to back district titles !!! Enjoy your much deserved bye!

Leonel Madrid, Senior POW against Dumas The positive energy and encouragement of the fans that have come out to support the various teams have been invaluable for our coaches and boys. As always we encourage fans to stay till the d of the game(s) win or lose... Can't make the game... You can now purchase an individual copy (DVD) of each of the games, even out-of-town games! Call the athletic office at 669-4830 to order the game(s) of your choice.

POW against Dumas

Wash your hands often. Scrub for at least 20 seconds with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand cleaner



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The Pampa News - Weekend Edition, Saturday and Sunday, October 31 - November 1, 2009 - Page 1C

Texas food stamp jobs: more hours, less training

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) - As Texas begins hiring hundreds of food stamp

workers to help erase an application backlog that has left families waiting months for aid, no one expects the problems to disappear any time soon.

The new state workers are entering a system in crisis. They'll have far fewer experienced colleagues than they would have five years ago. Training is shorter. Mentoring has mostly fallen by the wayside. And employees are working an average of 13 hours of overtime per week which, in some cases, is mandatory.

"We're just overrun," said Sheila Badzioch, a caseworker in Houston, one of the state's slowest processing areas. "The attitude of the higher-ups is, 'You can do more.' Well, you can't. There are only so many hours in a day."

For all the struggles that the state employees known as eligibility workers are facing, several said it's not lost on them that some of the 2.9 million Texans on food stamps are coping with tremendous stress, too. In September, Texas processed 58.6 percent of applications within the 30 days required by the federal government. By the end of that month, nearly 42,000 families were waiting for a decision even though the deadline had passed

The length of time families are waiting often two to three months, and sometimes as long as five or six is perhaps the longest ever, state officials said.

The Legislative Budget Board a group of elected leaders earlier this month OK'd the hiring of 250 more workers and directed the agency to fill 400 vacant jobs.

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"We've moved in the right direction," Gov. **Rick Perry told reporters** last week. "Help is on the way.

But it could take months for the employees to be hired and trained. State Sen. Tommy Williams, R-The Woodlands, one of two senators recently tapped by Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst to monitor food stamps, said that adding employees might be a good long-term solution but isn't an immediate fix.

"I'm not sure that getting 250 or 500 people in there who don't know what they're doing is really going to solve this problem," Williams said. "The only way out is to have a task force of people we know can do the job, and efficiently, and ask them to help us get out of this hole we're in.'

A state estimate shows that if the new workers are hired and workload and productivity stay the same, the backlog wouldn't go away until next July.

And now, with the Thanksgiving and winter holidays approaching, state officials are bracing for more challenges as offices close and workers take vacations.

"Every day we're closed is a day the work piles up, but our workers desperately need a break,' said Stephanie Goodman, spokeswoman for

the Health and Human Services Commission.

Since March, Badzioch has been assigned to a special office that focuses on working the past-due cases of other offices that are overloaded.

In El Paso, supervisor Judy Lugo said her employees often work 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and come in on Saturdays. She recent-



In this photo clerk Estella Sandoval, not seen, assists applicant Elvira Peña, background, in the process of obtaining her food stamps at the Health and Human Services Commission office in south Austin, Texas. Texas law requires food stamp applicants to be fingerprinted, but federal administrators say the state needs to speed up the process or risk losing funds.

ly lost a caseworker who couldn't handle the workload, she said.

"You're caught in like a Catch-22," said Lugo, who is also president of the Texas State Employees Union. "If you don't work overtime, then the clients don't get benefits, but if you do, workers are stressed out and quit, so which do you do?"

Overall, the workers who

sign up Texans for programs such as food stamps and Medicaid have far less experience than those working five years ago. In 2004, more than 90 percent of workers had more than two years of experience on the job; in 2009, less than half do. And in 2004, 95.4 percent of supervisors had more than a year of experience. This year, 67 percent of supervisors do.

New employees aren't getting much support, workers said. In previous years, a new caseworker went through months of training (Badzioch said that when she was hired 11 years ago, her training lasted several months) and then eased into cases with a more experienced worker at his or her side

Now, new workers are less likely to have mentors; many of the senior workers have been assigned to work emergency food stamp cases instead. For some employees, training lasts two weeks.

Donna Richardson, a Houston caseworker for nearly three years who had been working children's Medicaid cases, was recently transferred to food stamps and had four weeks of training. She said the training was enough to

grasp some basics but not enough to fully understand policy. She tries to seek out more experienced workers for help, she said, but many of her co-workers are new.

Goodman said streamlined training is one of several new, short-term fixes designed to help work through the backlog.

The idea was that new workers would take a 10-day crash course on food stamps (instead of 40 days) that would be enough to help them work basic cases, and that when the backlog subsides, they'd go back for more training.

"The feedback we're getting is not very good on that," Goodman said. "We may not be trying it much longer.'

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Gov't says stimulus saved or created 650,000 jobs

WASHINGTON (AP) scheduled to be released to say the government is About 650,000 jobs publicly later Friday, spending too much for too have been saved or created under President Barack Obama's economic stimulus plan, the White House said Friday, saying the president's goal of 3.5 million jobs by the end of next year is on track. New job numbers from businesses, contractors, state and local governments, nonprofit groups and universities were

White House economic adviser Jared Bernstein said the figures will show that, when adding in jobs linked to \$288 billion in tax cuts, the stimulus plan has created or saved more than 1 million jobs.

The economy has shed millions of jobs since Obama signed the stimulus in February, giving Republicans ammunition

little effect. The White House says the report bolsters its case that the economy would

have been far worse without the stimulus - a package of government spending, tax cuts, state aide and social programs.

The number released Friday represents the most accurate head count of stimulus jobs to date.

Travis Elementary wants to thank you for filling America's shoes



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November 11, 2009 1:30 pm M.K. Brown Auditorium

A reception will follow for all veterans and their families in the Heritage Room

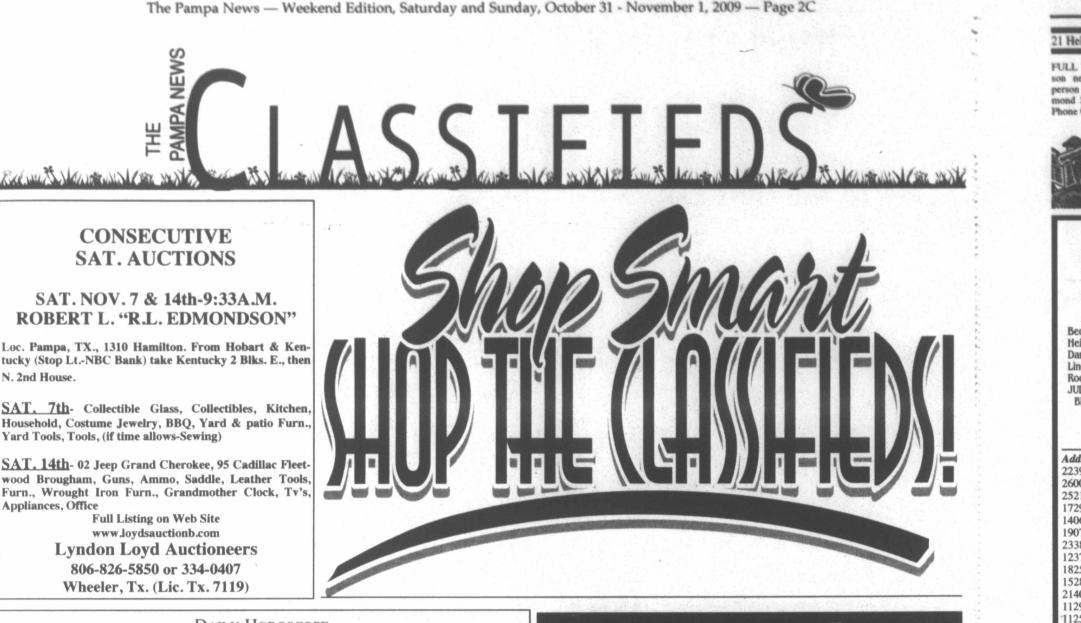
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DAILY HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Sunday, Nov. 1, 2009:

Passions run high this year, and you will respond in kind. Be careful, because as a 1 numerologically and as a Scorpio, you are quite powerful. Your imagination comes out at home when relaxed. Share some of your wild thoughts more often. The dating process will be more fun and successful in 2010, if you are single. If you are attached, do more couples activities, enriching your lives. PISCES supports your intuition.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

*** High energy marks everything you do. Your imagination could lead you down a strange path at best. Passions run high, and someone close could be quite critical. Be smart, and don't make a big deal of any situation right now. Tonight: Out for dinner. Your treat.

This Week: Curb a need to "have" Monday and Tuesday. The pace gets hectic Wednesday.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

*** You really are out of sorts right now. You will center quickly with some downtime or with taking the morning for yourself. Don't consider this an indulgence, but a necessity. Later, you will feel much better. Tonight: The world is

you don't want to. You get a longdeserved, wonderful late afternoon. Go for what you want. Tonight: Time to enjoy. You deserve it. This Week: Others run the show. Get used to it right now.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) **** Your fiery personality and happy style naturally make others feel cared about. Be realistic about a loved one, or you could get a jolt farther down the path. Go off for a day trip or drop in on a flea market. Tonight: A must appear-

This Week: Dive into work Monday, because distractions will be heading down your path.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

 \star \star \star \star Deal directly with key people, whether it is a phone call or going out for brunch. Everyone needs to feel special, and it feels like everyone needs this attention at the same time. Don't fight city hall; roll with the moment. Tonight: Let your mind wander - a movie? Listen to a new CD.

This Week: Your creativity surges. Funnel it into work. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

you have a choice - to join in or not. Your creativity and charm help you get around a situation and make it more to vour liking. Just don't tell. Tonight: Be with your favorite person.

your plate. Stop. Ask for help, even if Eve. You are full of life and perhaps want to squeeze a lot into one day. Be thoughtful of your companions. They might not be Supermen today. Tonight: Act as if there is no tomorrow.

> This Week: Sometimes you need to spend money. Keep some semblance of a budget!

> CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) *** Remain close to home. Whether

you are recuperating from the array of witches and ghosts or reading the Sunday paper makes no difference. You need some downtime, and if you knew what lies ahead, you would agree. Tonight: Pretend it's Friday night.

This Week: Energized Monday and Tuesday, you could be hard to stop. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

 $\star \star \star \star \star$ Allow greater ebb and flow. You don't have to be so uptight, and those around you will appreciate a little more give. Communication excels to a new level of understanding, especially if the two of you go off and do a Sunday type of activity together - no one else allowed. Tonight: Head home early. You need some R and R. This Week: Get needed space Monday

and Tuesday. You are a force to be dealt with Wednesday on.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★ Be aware of your finances. Being

slightly tired, you could really blow your budget. Make plans for later today, when you are more relaxed and together.



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home opportunities and job lists, The

of

This Week: Look beyond the obvious, and you'll come out smiling.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) **** Use the daylight hours to get together with friends. Whether at a movie or off doing some other fun event, just being together makes you all feel good. Don't forget to call someone at a distance. Tonight: Get some much needed rest.

This Week: Work with each person individually. People feel much differently about you

CANCER (June 21-July 22) **** You could feel quite emotion-

al with everything that is being tossed on

This Week: Allow greater fluidity between you and those close to you. Your creativity surges midweek. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ You have a project or something on your mind that needs completing. Don't stand by and worry about it. Just go and do it. If you can, share the work with a loved one. Make plans for late p.m. Tonight: Finally - fun! Let your hair down. This Week: Understand what others are

saying, even if you don't agree. Walk in their footsteps SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) **** Containing yourself right now is like containing a child on Christmas

Joining friends for an early dinn movie suits your needs. Tonight: Don't count on making it early. This Week: Zero in on what you deem key

BORN TODAY Singer Lyle Lovett (1957), golfer Gary Player (1935), novelist Stephen Crane (1871)* * *

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at www.jacquelinebigar.com. © 2009 by King Features Syndicate Inc

CONOCOPHILLIPS

WRB Refining LLC **Borger Refinery**

ConocoPhillips is an international, integrated energy company with operations in nearly 40 countries. As the third-largest integrated energy company in the United States and fifth-largest refiner in the world, ConocoPhillips' goal is to deliver energy in a safe, environmentally and socially responsible manner. Approximately 32,600 ConocoPhillips employees work worldwide to consistently deliver top performance and value to maintain the company's global market position. Employees' individual talents and strengths combine to create a diverse and energized workforce within ConocoPhillips.

The Borger Refinery is located in Borger, Texas, in the Texas Panhandle approximately 50 miles northeast of Amarillo, Texas. The refinery processes 146 mbpd of medium and heavy gravity sour crudes plus fractionates 50 mbpd of mixed natural gas liquids. The Borger Refinery produces LPGs and motor fuels products for the Rocky Mountains, West Texas and Central U.S. market areas. Additionally, the refinery produces pentane and heptane solvents for specialty products applications. The refinery also markets coke as a fuel for cement manufacturing and power generation facilities. We have opportunities at our Borger Refinery in Borger, Texas in the following position:

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The Borger Refinery is seeking to fill openings for Yardmen who perform a wide variety of manual labor tasks with varying day-to-day work assignments. A Yardman position is an entry level position at the Borger Refinery with excellent progression opportunities into Operations and Maintenance crafts. The entry level rate of pay for this position is \$16.88/hr with a pay increase after 9 months to \$19.57/hr and again in another 9 months to \$21.41/hr. From a Yardman position, an employee has the opportunity to progress into Operations or Maintenance. The entry level rate of pay for an Operator is \$23.65/hr with an increase every 12 months reaching top Operator pay of \$30.28/hr after 36 months. The entry level rate of pay for a Maintenance craftsman is \$23.65/hr with an increase every 12 months reaching top craftsman pay of \$31.60/hr after 48 months. The Borger Refinery provides extensive training to employees, both classroom and on-the-job.

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For consideration and more information on the qualifications for this position, apply online at: www.conocophillips.com/careers and click on "enter" in the ConocoPhillips Careers section, then on "search" in the Job Search area. Scroll down and look for the job titled: "Yardman - Entry Level Position -Borger Refinery, Job Requisition #007NU.

All applications must be submitted electronically via the ConocoPhillips website by November 15, 2009. An electronic resume must be attached to your electronic application. To seek computer help with the on-line application visit your local area Workforce Commission office.

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907 Evergreen	139,900	- Contraction	VERGERENE	tools, yard tools,	gin, or intention to	Tree Apts., 663-0432.	2542 Mary Ellen. 3 Storage bldg. Ce
338 Fir	130,000	Contraction of the second	Ind I watersteiner	wheels, jewelry, snook- er table, new lighting,	make any such prefer-	PAM APTS	heat & air. A
		 Contraction of set 	Contraction of the local division of the loc	clothes, household,	ence, limitation, or discrimination." State		School. \$800 per
				kitchen, dog run, Col-	law also forbids dis-		\$400 dep. Call
2140 Chestnut		1901 Fir	512 Red Deer	lectibles Coca-Cola,	crimination based on	ALL FLEE TREE	4666.
1129 Terry	102,000			John Deere, Elvis, Betty Boop.	these factors. We will	1200 N. WELLS	AVAILABLE Nov. 3 bd, central h/a,
125 Harvester		\$157,500	\$89,500	1705 Williston, Sun. 1-	not knowingly accept any advertising for re-	a 669-2594	fenced, Austin Scl
		DEMAX	Lamataum	5pm. Medical equip.,	al estate which is in vi-		2 bd, double gar/
			Hometown ton Parkway	books, furni., sm. com-	olation of the law. All	SIGN 7 mo. lease & get	
2204 Lynn		806-6	65-7355	puter desk, toys, cas-	persons are hereby in- formed that all dwell-	1/2 Off 1st mo. rent. Furn/ unfurn. You pay	4180, 440-3044. CONDO-3 bdr, 1
			hometown.com Patti Hudson	sette & video tapes, good girl's & women's	ings advertised are	elec. 2 on-site laundries.	ba, some appli.,
		JACKIE SWINDELL - BROKE jswindell@remax.net	pattihudson@remax.net	clothes/shoes, holiday	available on an equal	1 bdr. starts \$390. Cap-	hookups, firepl.,
055 N. Dwight	62,500	806-626-5454	www.pattiselispampa.com 806-662-4896	& home decor.	opportunity basis.	rock Apts., 665-7149.	water pd, sing gar,
	62,000						tin Schl Dist., 6 lease, \$500 dep.,
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		FIRST Lanur	nark Really	I.C.	LONGFELLO		6841, MonThurs.
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101 N. Zimmers			0717	for the three L's,	X for the two O's,	etc. Single letters,	tral Heat & AC.
		2545 Perryton Pkw	y. in the Pampa Mali	apostrophes, the l	ength and formation	of the words are all	mo. 669-9817
		Beautiful Home	dows. Den. Utility		ne code letters are di		3 bdrm. W/D hoo Larger than it l
00/000 111 111	COMMERCIAL	Features custom built		10-31	CRYPTOQUOTE	지나 아님, 동안 같은 것	125 S. Sumner.
	ll 299,000	brick 3 bedrooms plus	Beautiful front entry.				6121.
		office or could be	Patio is screened for	R ZWJX	К Х Ј Х О	SXI W	3 bedroom,
	g99,900	4th bedroom. 2 baths			알고 말하는 것 같아.		1 bath house. Gar Washroom,
29 N. Hobart	65,000LOT	in master bath. Living	Double car garage. 7608	JWSHRO	X HXOL	UKWEEB,	Nice area. HUD
	50,000LOT	room has tray ceil-					Call
		ing and wb fireplace.	New Listing	CAIR	GUK'I PK	UN NZWI	665-4082.
			Lovely 3 bedroom			그 같이 많아, 이번 것같	99 Stor. Bldgs.
			brick, 1 3/4 baths. Eat in kitchen has	SRFZI Z	WННХК IU	JSUOOUN.	TUMBLEWE
	10,000LOT		lots of cabinets. Tiled				Acres, self st
	1,500	and back, Double car	entry and baths. Steel	- CXEW	EAFULR	al Failer I	units. Various
			wrap on eaves. Yard	Yesterday's	Cryptoquote: YO	U MAY NEVER	665-0079, 665-245
		an appointment. 8363	sprinklers front and back. Workshop/stor-	KNOW WHAT	RESULTS COM	E FROM YOUR	102 Bus. Rental
		Looking for 4	age room in garage.		FYOU DO NOTHI		DOWNTOWN
		Bedrooms?	Storage building. Large		с. — МАНАТМА G	ANDHI	space for rent. Ut
Domme De	room noo		covered patio. Call for			and the second second	& cleaning service vided. Ample par
ramua Ke	ealty Inc. 669-0007	Perfect family home.	an appointment. 8420				669-6823
Domno	MIS a Amonilla MIC	Large living area has wbfp and windows that					
rampa	MLS & Amarillo MLS		2 Bedroom 1 bath				OFFICE Space for ask about 3 months
Cat	2019년 1월 1일 - 1일 1일 ⁴ 2 1일 - 1일	Formal dining room.	located in a nice area.		RKW		rent. 669-6841.
Centu	Jim Davidson (BKR/OWNR)662-9021	Spacious kitchen has	L shaped living-din-				103 Homes For S
	Repectu Akilia	bay window. Sun room	ning. Large kitchen.	0	klahoma Ga	s Company	Contraction of the local division of the loc
	Robert Anderwald		Breakfast area. One car garage, would make				3 bd house on 2
_	Katrina Bigham		a wonderful invest-		HOMA GAS COMPANY		needs work, & 12 ty lots in Skelly
1	Twila Fisher (BKR)		ment. Priced at only	Position Title: In	strumentation and Ele	ctrical Technician	848-2517, 662-856
	John Goddard (BKR)		\$36,000.00. Call Irvine		er County, Tx and/ or V		3 bdrm, 1 bath, d
	Linda Lapacka	Great Location	for details 8447	1 - 2 - 2 - 2 - 2 - 2		장 영화는 말 관계가	3 bdrm, 1 bath, di rm, utility rm, Cer
and the second	Zeb Sallors	Very nice 3 bedroom		Experience an	d qualifications in the	following areas:	heat, OWC, \$29
	Sandra Schuneman (BKR)662-7291		64,000 square foot free standing building		그는 것 같은 것 같		505 Dwight. 662-75
				5 years of applicab	e experience. Fisher R	OC. Totalflow,	820 N. West. O
Vielt CENTURY OF CO	OMMUNITIES [™] on AOL@Keyword:CENTURY 21	room has new win-	for lease. Call Irvine		he ability to trouble sh		\$37,000. 2 bedroor

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DAILY HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, Nov. 2, 2009:

This year, flexibility is a must if you want to make headway and feel good about yourself. Others are often tense and uptight. You cannot change their mood, but you can change how you approach them. Misunderstandings happen too easily, so relax with the moment. Confirm communication and doublecheck meetings, and everyone will be happier. Others will present many different ideas. If you are single, the issue is not if or when, but who you will choose! If you are attached, allow for more differences, and respect them. The strength of your bond will evolve through that attitude. TAURUS zeros in on you.

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)

*** Pressure builds financially. You might not be able to handle a problem and stay at a certain level without getting more out of control. You will feel generally out of control. You see an either/or situation evolve. Tonight: Get a different perspective.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

**** You are more in control than you realize. Recognize when you can no longer evoke a strong response. Others feel wacky and out of control, and until they process and settle down, you won't be able to gain an understanding. Tonight: Claim your power, even without support

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ** You could feel as if you dropped several balls at once, and they are all rolling around in different directions.

z t

3.22

Your ability to communicate and dot your i's and cross your t's helps solidify your mind-set. Tonight: Talking up a storm

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

**** You are juggling friends and goals. Somehow the juggling doesn't work, and different pieces of the puzzle seem to be unavailable. Know when to let go and move on. It might be a hard realization. Tonight: Get together with

friends. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

*** Your ability to understand what is happening within a relationship helps many, though they could be reactive. Know when you have had enough or are barking up the wrong tree. Rather than get angry, just move on. Tonight: A must appearance

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

**** You might want to understand what is happening with others, as sud-denly events toss you topsy-turvy. You are upset and reflective at the same time. Do little and understand more. This is the only policy. Tonight: Reach out for more inform

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

**** Deal with others directly if you want results. You might not get a completely positive answer. You might need to rethink a situation carefully before launching into action. Be willing to see another point of view. Only then will you find a solution. Tonight: Togetherness SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

**** Others challenge you, perhaps more than you'd anticipated. Your way of handling a matter might change radically because someone challenges you. Your sense of justice leads you to a dif-ferent perspective. Tonight: Let your hair

down SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) *** Dive into work without a thought of stopping or slowing down. Know what is enough and what is acceptable. Listen to news that comes forth. Investigate the options presented, but don't miss a beat!

Tonight: Oh yes, the easy chair, and your favorite one at that. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

*** Keep focusing on the creative approach and the dynamic way of handling a situation, project or problem. A brainstorming session, though challenging, still could bring many unthought-of ideas. Tonight: Kick up your heels. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

*** Pressure builds, and no matter which way you go or what you think, steam keeps building. Yes, you are in the proverbial celestial pressure cooker. Hang in there - relief is around the corner. Tonight: Put on some music.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) *** Even if others go up in smoke with today's pressures, you feel much better than you have in a while. If you are in the right mood and up for a change and a little flash, today is a great day. But remember, not everyone is having as

good of a time as you. Tonight: Rolling along.

BORN TODAY

Queen of France Marie Antoinette (1755), 11th U.S. president James K. Polk (1795), hip-hop artist Nelly (1974)

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The Pampa News --- Weekend Edition, Saturday and Sunday, October 31 - November 1, 2009 --- Page 4C

No boom time for Big Oil, but production up

NEW YORK (AP) Oil companies have begun to pump more petroleum and bring in more profits as they recover from an otherwise miserable year. None of the world's biggest producers, however, see a quick return to boom times of last year.

America's thirst for fossil fuels dropped considerably during the recession and it hasn't come close to recovering fully. Throughout most of 2009, storage houses have been crammed with oil and gas.

Exxon Mobil Corp. said Thursday that net income slumped 68 percent to \$4.73 billion, or 98 cents per share, when compared with the same July-September period in 2008, the most lucrative ever for the oil industry.

Last year, crude spiked to near \$150 a barrel, helping Exxon break its own profit records.

Royal Dutch Shell PLC, Europe's largest oil company, said that its profit was more than halved to \$3.25 billion and sales tumbled 43 percent. The bad year for major producers has led to thousands of job cuts from the Gulf of Mexico to Amsterdam.

Shell said Thursday it would cut 5,000 jobs and that 15,000 employees must reapply for employment.



A Mobil gas logo is seen on a gas pump in East Montpelier, Vt. The world's largest publicly traded oil company said Thursday, Oct. 29, third-quarter profit tumbled with crude prices, but like other big energy companies, production is bouncing back. (AP Photo/ Toby Talbot)

holding euros or other relatwo." tively strong currencies

can buy more crude.

demand.

oil prices.

It is not clear how long

dollar-driven oil demand

can last without a sig-

nificant rebound in real

A number of independent

refiners have already shut

down operations because

of low demand and high

Exxon's refining busi-

ness took an especial-

ly large hit from July to

September, with profits

But the oil giant which

pumps about 3 percent of

the world's crude seems to

have weathered the down-

turn better than others.

dropping 89 percent.

Those comments were echoed by almost every oil executive speaking this week.

"In Europe there are few if any signs of demand recovering," Shell Chief Financial Officer Simon Henry said. In the U.S., there might be some improvement in demand, but it's not "firm enough

to call a recovery," Henry said.

Analysts noted that Shell appeared to be behind the curve in restructuring for the downturn compared to its main European rival, BP. BP said earlier in the week it had cut costs and boosted oil production, leading to a third-quarter profit of \$5.3 billion.

Until oil demand picks up, petroleum companies must find a way to cut costs

while boosting production, said Jason Gammel, an analyst with Macquarie Research.

Crude prices will likely remain well above the first quarter of this year, which will help oil companies post higher quarterly profits in 2010.

Elsewhere, ConocoPhillips said it would slim down its business before reporting Wednesday that third-

quarter profits dropped 71 percent.

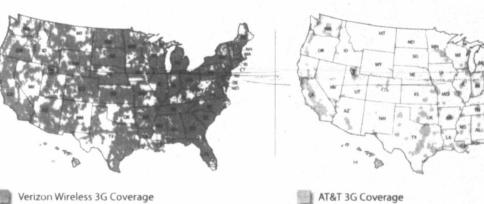
The nation's third-largest oil company behind Exxon Mobil and Chevron Corp. said it would shed \$10 billion in assets and slash capital expenditures next year by 12 percent. ConocoPhillips also may sell part of its exploration and production operations, pipelines and terminals in North America.





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Those cuts come on top of 500 layoffs among senior management earlier this year.

ConocoPhillips said Wednesday that it was selling off \$10 billion in assets and becoming a smaller company

Even the rising energy prices which usually fatten profits at companies like Exxon have come with a price this year. The refining side of the business is getting hit hard because it must pay more for crude to make fuel, but demand for fuel has not rebounded strongly.

The current price of crude has bought oil companies time to pare down where they can, though the reason for higher prices is not because of a healthy rebound in demand.

Rather it is the dollar, which is used to buy and sell crude, that has driven energy prices up. When the dollar falls, investors

It increased oil and gas production in the third quarter, even though crude prices had dropped by \$50 a barrel when compared with 2008. Crude was starting to rally during the summer, however, and the boost in production added a layer of revenue that some oil companies missed.

Exxon, based in Irving, Texas, said Thursday its fourth quarter dividend would be the same as the third quarter's 42 cents per share, and company officials said they expect to invest as much in capital expenditures as last year.

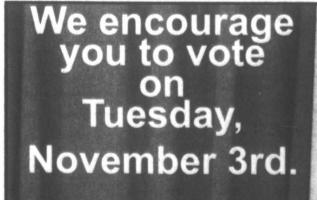
We're pleased with how we're sitting and don't see a whole lot of change in the near term," David Rosenthal, Exxon's investor relations chief, said in a conference call with analysts. "I think it's important that we don't get too excited about short term changes, or people looking down the road a quarter or Browse the Web and download music and apps, at 3G speed, in five times more places than AT&T. Before you pick a phone, pick a network.

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