



# PAMPA NEWS

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Pray for our Military! Thank you Veterans! 945 N. Hobart • 665-2061



staff photo by David Bowser

Capt. Wayne Hinds with the Hoover Volunteer Fire Department works traffic this morning on Texas Highway 152 about a half mile east of Gray County Road 23. The highway was partially closed because of a head-on collision shortly after 7 a.m. today.

ONE DEAD IN HEAD-ON

## Fog may be cause of fatal crash

BY DAVID BOWSER dbowser@thepampanews.com

A Pampa man was killed and a Mobeetie man injured in a near head-on collision in a dense fog today east of Pampa.

Ronnie Ledbetter, 46, of Pampa, was killed shortly after 7 a.m. today when the pickup he was driving and a pickup driven by Jeffery Fraley, 38, of Mobeetie, collided just below the crest of a hill on Texas Highway 152, according to Texas Department of Public Safety troopers.

Officials said the dense fog appeared to have played a role in the collision. Visibility was estimated at the time to be less that 300 feet.

Ledbetter was pronounced dead at the scene by Gray County Justice of the Peace Kurt Curfman.

Fraley was rushed to Pampa Regional Medical Center by Pampa EMS.

Officers said Ledbetter was eastbound at the time of the accident. Fraley was westbound on his way to Pampa.

FATAL cont. on page 3

## additional weeks of benefits

TWC to notify all eligible by mail

AUSTIN -The Texas Workforce Commission is notifying approximately 45,000 Texas unemployment claimants that they may be eligible for an additional sevenweek extension of state Extended Benefits. TWC is mailing letters to claimants who have exhausted their benefits instructing them how to apply for the additional extension. The letters direct claimants who have already exhausted their benefits and have not found work to call a special number provided on the letter to apply for the new extension.

Earlier this month, the U.S. Department of Labor

90%

50%

30%

10%

100%

80%

60%

40%

20%

informed TWC that Texas workers will be eligible for additional benefits because the state's unemployment rate averaged at least 8 percent for three consecutive months. The state's unemployment rate first hit 8 percent in August, rose to 8.2 percent in September, and has remained above 8 percent. Texas is able to pay state extended benefits through the end of the year.

Claimants who are currently receiving state Extended Benefits will automatically have the additional weeks added to their claim and will receive a letter showing BENEFITS cont. on page 3

\$315,000

We are at

55.7% of our goal.

70% \$175,364.41 or

**Our Goal** 

Thank

806.

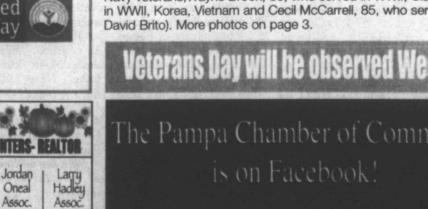
## Texans granted VETERANS DAY PARADE





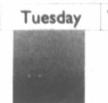
Pampans turned out Saturday morning, November 7 to honor our community's veterans at the annual parade organized by VFW Post 1657. Above, some Pampa children adorn a float during the parade; below three of Pampa's distinguished U.S. Navy veterans, Wayne Brook, 86, who served in WWII; Clayton Locke, 83 who served in WWII, Korea, Vietnam and Cecil McCarrell, 85, who served in WWII, 85. (Photo by David Brito). More photos on page 3.

## Veterans Day will be observed Wednesday, Nov. 11



## For the record

### PAMPA FORECAST







High 64 Low 50 Low 51

High 71 Low 51

Tuesday: Patchy fog before 9 am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 64. Calm wind becoming east southeast between 5 and 10

Tuesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 50. South southeast wind around 10

Veterans Day: Mostly sunny, with a high near 68. South southwest wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low

around 51. South southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 71. South southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 51. South southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

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## bituaries

### Blanche M. Kerkvliet, 91

91, formerly of Fairchild, WI and Pampa, passed with Father Jude Dioka away Thursday eve- officiating. Burial was in ning, November 5, 2009, at Family Heritage Care Center in Black River Falls, WI.

Blanche M. Kerkvliet, daughter of Roy and Bernice (Adams) McMillen, was born December 31, 1917, in Clovis, New Mexico. She attended Texas Woman's College in Denton, Texas before taking a position at Cabot Industries in Pampa, Texas.

She met Edmund J. Kerkvliet on during World War II, and the couple later married on Feb. 28, 1946, at Holy Souls Catholic Church in Pampa, Texas. Ed and Blanche lived in Pampa, before moving to Larchwood, Iowa. They eventually moved to rural Fairchild, where they purchased a farm in 1952. She performed part-time bookkeeping duties for Farmer's Union Co-op and St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Fairview.

She was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Fairview, where she was active in the Altar Society. Due to failing health she had been a resident at the care center since Sept. of 2005

She is survived by two sons, Stephen and Judy Kerkvliet of McKinney, Texas, James and Stephanie Kerkvliet of Racine; daughter-in-law, Nancy Kerkvliet of Corvallis, OR; eight grandchildren, Justin Potter, Peter Kerkvliet, Jason (Dawn) Kerkvliet, Kevin Kerkvliet, Kristin (Andrew) Ross, Angela

Kelly (Robert) Eller, Kerkvliet, Breanne Kerkvliet; and great granddaughter, Ava Kate Eller; sisters -in-law, Fern Kerkvliet and Mary Diffley. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Edmund, son Paul Kerkvliet and sister Janet Graham

Funeral services will be held Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2009, at 10:30 a.m. at St.

Blanche M. Kerkvliet, Joseph's Catholic Church, Fairview, rural Fairchild, the church cemetery. A visitation was held Monday evening at the Anderson Funeral Home in Augusta.

The family would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff of Family



Kerkvliet

Heritage Care Center for the loving care shown to Blanche while she was with them. In lieu of flowers the family would appreciate memorials donated to Family Heritage Care Center, 109 N. 14th. Street, Black River Falls, WI.

## LAST **MINUTE** Classified LINE ADS

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

HOLIDAY TURKEYS, smoked or fried. Knights of Columbus. Deadline to order Nov. 21. Call: Doug @ 669-3367, Neal @ 663-0714, or Jack 665-7161.

THE PAMPA Texas Social Security office will have an Open House Celebration on Thursday Nov. 12th 2:00 pm -4:00 pm. The public is invited to come and join in the celebration.

## **D**bituaries

Judy Gay Wood, 61

Judy Gay Wood, 61, died November 7, 2009, in McLean, Texas. Memorial services will be announced at a later date. Cremation and arrangements are by Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors. Ms. Wood was born August 20, 1948 in Pampa

to Arthur and Vera Wood.

She attended Pampa

schools and was a life-

long resident of Pampa. She worked as a cook for many years for several restaurants. She was a member of Progressive Baptist Church. Her greatest joy was spending time with her family and keeping everybody in contact with each other. When she had to go live at a nursing home, she made the very best of it.

all of their activities and earned the resident of the month award.

Survivors include one aunt, Vardene Searl of Pampa; one uncle, Smokey Harvey of McLean and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins. Judy was preceded in death by a daughter: Anita Gay Burleson; her parents; four She would participate in brothers:, Jimmy Wood,

Earnest Lane, Jerry Lane, Wayne Lane; three sisters, Alice Guthrie, Leta Cook, and Frances Trekell.

MEMORIALS: Diabetes American Association, 8008 Slide Rd., Suite 12-A, Lubbock, Texas 79424

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

### Ronald Dean Rex, 63

Pampa—Ronald Dean Rex, 63, died November 8, 2009, in Pampa, Texas. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

### Viola Bratton Mobley, 99

Bratton Mobley, 99, died Friday, Nov. 6, 2009 in Johnson City.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2009, at Fairview Cemetery in Pampa with Steve Cox, minister of St. Paul United Methodist Church, officiating. Arrangements are by Carmichael-Whatley Directors of Funeral Pampa.

Mrs. Mobley was born on Nov. 2, 1910 in Kimble County, Texas, one of nine children born to Luther C. and Mary Elizabeth Bratton. She was a 1928 graduate of Johnson City

72, passed away Thursday,

November 5, 2009 in

Pampa. Services will be

held at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday,

November 10, 2009 at

Morrison Memorial Chapel

with Rev. Darrell Wait,

Church officiating.

ciating.

Directors.

Johnson City- Viola High School and moved to Amarillo in 1929. She married John T. Mobley on Aug. 12, 1931 in Tucumcari, NM and they moved to Pampa in 1934. Mrs. Mobley was worker, teacher, and superintendent of the kindergarten department at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Pampa for 32 years where she was also a charter member. She was a Girl Scout leader for 8 years and was the owner and operator of the Aquarium Pet Shop for several years. Viola was very proud of her Texas heritage (her family was part of the orig-

Tommy Joe Northcott, 72

1937 in Pampa to Thomas

Northcott. He was a mem-

ber of the 1955 class of

Lefors High School. On

November 14, 1986

he married Janet Seale

Tommy Joe Northcott, was born February 20,

Vernon

inal "Old Three Hundred" settlers that Moses Austin invited to settle Texas). She loved music, playing the piano and organ since she was a little girl. She was preceded in death by her husband, a daughter, Mary Joyce Hatcher, by three brothers and four sisters, and a stepson, Charles L. Mobley.

Survivors include two sons, Gerald L. Mobley and wife Larain of Neola, UT and Ray La Mobley and wife Dixie of Marble Falls; one brother, Ed Bratton of McKinney; nine grandchildren, 16 great grandchildren, and numerous great

daughters, Brenda Bennett

of Amarillo; step-daugh-

KY; step-sons, Buddy

Seale of Buda and Scott

Seale of Dumas; sister,

Glynda Pflug of Dumas;

brother, Richard "Butch"

Northcott of Canadian;

20 grandchildren; 1 great-

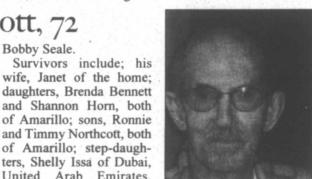
Bobby Seale.

Mobley

great grandchildren.

MEMORIALS: St. Paul United Methodist Church, 511 N. Hobart, Pampa, TX

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



Northcott

nieces and nephews; and his beloved pet, "Koko". The family will be at 304 N. Bliss in Dumas.

### pastor of First Christian in Dumas. He moved ters, Shelly Issa of Dubai, to Dumas in 1977 and United Arab Emirates, worked for Bob Cripps Annette Stark of Glasgow, Graveside services will

and Selma

be held at 2 p.m. in Llano Construction Company and Diamond Shamrock Corp. Cemetery in Amarillo with Rev. John Wagoner retired He retired in 2003 from minister of Amarillo offi-Valero and owned and Arrangements operated Tommy's Hotshot are by Morrison Funeral Trucking until 2006.

Tommy Joe Northcott by his parents and step-son

He was preceded in death

### granddaughter, numerous Lottie Bell Green Cary, 73

Pampa— Lottie Bell Green Cary, 73, died November 3, 2009, in Pampa, Texas.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, November 10, 2009, at Macedonia First Baptist Church, with Rev. Darren Wilson, pastor, officiating.

Memory Gardens under Cemetery the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Cary was born April 7, 1936 in Hugo, Oklahoma to Artie B. and Arlillian Green. She attended public schools in Paris, Lamar County, Texas. Later she Sturns of Rusk; sister,

moved to Pampa and married R. C. Cary in 1953. He preceded her in death in 1993. Lottie was employed by Bob Clements Cleaners for many years. She served as a faithful servant on the Usher Board at Macedonia First Baptist Church for many years, until her health prevented her from doing so. Lottie was preceded in death by her parents; 2 sisters: Sharon Kay Mack in 2007, and Delores Green; and a stepson: R. C.

Cary, Jr. Survivors include her stepdaughter, Eurline

Gladys Straughter and husband David of Chino Hills, California; brother, Artie B. Green, Jr., and wife Patricia of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; a nephew: Keith Ashley of Dallas; three nieces, Stephanie Thomas of Los Angeles, California, and Shumbay Straughter and Shonte Straughter, both of Riverside, California; two God-daughters, Beverly Scott of Pampa and Vietia Busby of Burleson; and a host of other relatives and friends.

MEMORIALS: American Cancer Society,



c/o Gerry Caylor, 2130 Charles, Pampa, Texas

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

## Emilie Ruth Schneider, 70

Pampa— Emilie Ruth Schneider, 70. died November 8, 2009, in Amarillo, Texas.

There are no services scheduled. The family will receive friends on Tuesday afternoon, November 10, 2009, at 1901 N. Nelson

arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors. Mrs. Schneider was

born December 21, 1938 in Shenandoah, Iowa, where she graduated from high school. She married Larry Schneider on June Cremation 20, 1958 in Shenandoah.

Pampa since 1983. She was a "Red Hat" lady. She enjoyed art and she loved to travel, including going to the mountains and the gulf coast.

Survivors include her husband, Larry Schneider of the home; daughter:

She had been a resident of Pam Dennen of Pampa son: Cordell Schneider of the home; grandson: Russel Dennen of Pampa She was preceded in death by her parents: Russell and Ruth Barett Benedict.

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

### Johnny Nase Lofton, 61 Johnny Nase Lofton, 61,

died Sunday, Nov. 8, 2009, in Pampa.

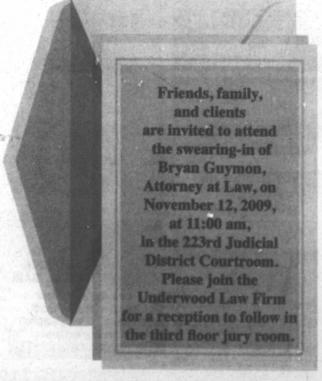
Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Johnny was born May 20, 1948 in Pampa and was a 1966 graduate of Pampa High School. He received a B. S. degree in petroleum engineering from Texas Tech University and was an avid Texas Tech alumni supporter. He was a mem-

ber of the Church of Christ. Survivors include his brother, D. D. Lofton and wife Kerry of Pampa; stepfather: Richard McDonald of Amarillo; three nieces, Lori Gwaltney and husband Ryan of Opp, Alabama, Michelle Smith and husband Billy of Auburn, Alabama, and Lesli Beasley and husband Nathan of Fort Worth; aunt: Dorothy Gallimore of Pampa; and by several cousins. Johnny was preceded in death by his father, Nase Lofton, and his mother, Helen Lofton McDonald.

MEMORIALS: BSA Hospice, 800 N. Sumner, Pampa, TX 79065.

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



## Ft. Hood shooting suspect awake, talking

FORT HOOD, Texas (AP) — The man accused of killing 13 people and wounding 29 at Fort Hood is able to talk, a hospital spokesman said Monday, but it's unknown when investigators might take advantage of his improving health to press forward with their probe into the shooting spree.

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Slide

Authorities say Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan fired off more than 100 rounds Thursday before civilian police shot him in the torso. He was taken into custody and eventually moved to an Army hospital in San Antonio, where he was in stable condition and able to talk, said Dewey Mitchell, a Brooke Army Medical Center spokesman.

Authorities continue to refer to Hasan, 39, as the only suspect in the shootings, but they won't say when charges would be filed and have said they have not determined a motive. A spokesman for Army investigators did not immediately respond to calls and e-mails seeking comment Monday.

Sixteen victims remained hospitalized with gunshot wounds, and seven were in intensive care.

The personal Web site for a radical American imam living in Yemen who had contact with two 9/11 hijackers praised Hasan as a hero.

The posting Monday on the Web site for Anwar al Awlaki, who was a spiritual leader at two mosques where three 9/11 hijackers worshipped, said American Muslims who condemned the Fort Hood attack are hypocrites who have committed treason against their

Awlaki said the only way a Muslim can justify serving in the U.S. military is if he intends to "follow in the footsteps of men like Nidal."

"Nidal Hassan is a hero," Awlaki said. "He is a man of conscience who could not bear living the contradiction of being a Muslim and serving in an army that is fighting against his own people."

Two U.S. intelligence officials told The Associated Press the Web site was Awlaki's. They spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss intelligence collection. Awlaki did not immediately respond to an attempt to contact him through the Web site.

Hasan's family attended the Dar al Hijrah Islamic Center in Falls Church, Va., where Awlaki was preaching in 2001. Hasan's mother's funeral was held at the mosque on May 31, 2001, according to her obituary in the Roanoke Times newspaper, around the same time two 9/11 hijackers worshipped at the mosque and while Awlaki was preach-

Awlaki is a native-born U.S. citizen who left the United States in 2002, eventually traveling to Yemen. He was released from a Yemeni jail last year and has since gone missing. He is on Yemen's most wanted militant list, according to three Yemeni security offi-

The officials say Awlaki was arrested in 2006 with a small group of suspected

al-Qaida militants in the capital San'a. They say he was released more than a year later after signing a pledge he will not break the law or leave the country. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of

The Falls Church mosque is one of the largest on the East Coast, and thousands of worshippers attend prayers and ser-

vices there every week.

Imam Johari Abdul-Malik, outreach director at Dar al Hijrah, said he did not know whether Hasan ever attended the mosque but confirmed that the Hasan family participated in services there. Abdul-Malik said the Hasans were not leaders at the mosque and their attendance was normal.

The London Telegraph first reported the potential link between Hasan and the mosque.

Sen. Joe Lieberman said Sunday he wants Congress to determine whether the shootings constitute a terrorist attack and whether warning signs that Hasan was embracing an increasingly extremist view of Islamic ideology were

Classmates who participated in a 2007-2008 master's program at a military college told The Associated Press that they complained to faculty during the program about what they considered to be Hasan's anti-American views, which included his giving a presentation that justified suicide bombing and telling classmates that Islamic law trumped the U.S. Constitution.

"If Hasan was showing signs, saying to people that he had become an Islamist extremist, the U.S. Army has to have zero tolerance," Lieberman, an independent from Connecticut, said on "Fox News Sunday." "He should have been gone.'

Army Chief of Staff Gen. George Casey said Sunday it's important for the country not to get caught up in speculation about Hasan's Muslim faith, and he has instructed his commanders to be on the lookout for anti-Muslim reaction to the killings at the Texas post.

Casey, who appeared on ABC's "This Week" and CNN's "State of the Union," said evidence to this point shows that Hasan acted alone.

President Barack Obama is scheduled to attend a memorial service Tuesday honoring victims of the attack, and he'll arrive to a post on the mend.

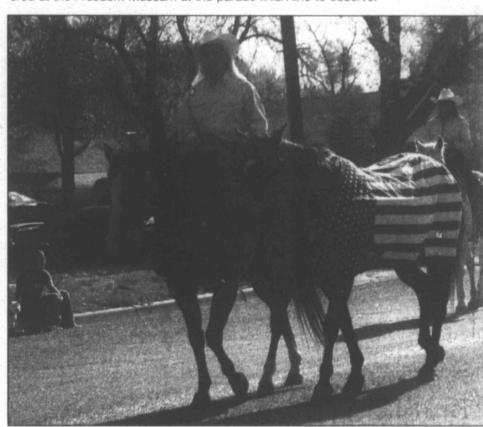
Sgt. 1st Class Frank Minnie was in the processing center last week getting some health tests and immunizations in preparation for his deployment. Minnie said that even after the shootings, Fort Hood soldiers have the attitude that "the mission still goes on."

"Everybody's going to grieve a little bit. It hurts a lot because it's one of your battle buddies, and someone lost a mom, dad, brother or sister," said Minnie, 37, who served in Iraq in 2006. "But it doesn't change my perspective of going to war. I've got a job to do."

## VETERANS DAY PARADE



If you march in the beginning of the parade, you get to watch the rest. Veterans gathered at the Freedom Museum at the parade finish line to observe





Above, a rider honors veterans with an equine tribute. At right, woman's best friend honors the Marine Corps.

## **Benefits**

the additional amount of benefits they potentially could receive.

Claimants who currently receive unemployment benefits should continue to request payment as scheduled. Claimants may update their address information online through http://ui.texasworkforce.

org or by contacting a UI Tele-Center tollfree at 1-800-939-6631. Re-employment services are available through workforce centers statewide or by accessing www. WorkInTexas.com for information.

On Thursday, Congress passed legisla-

cont. from page 1

tion which would further extend federally funded unemployment compensation benefits. The bill awaits the President's signature.

The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the services it offers in unison with its network of local workforce development boards, call (512) 463-8556 or visit www. texasworkforce.org.

### WHICH IRA IS BEST FOR YOU? LET'S TALK

Duane Harp Financial Advisor 1921 N Hobart 806-665-6753



Edward Jones

### Fatal

cont. from page 1

Volunteer Hoover Firemen, Gray County deputies, Texas Department of Transportation employees were routing motorists around the scene of the collision.

The thick fog this morning hampered rescue efforts, officials said. Law enforcement officers and medical personnel arriving on the scene had to block half the highway, cutting

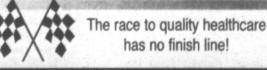
traffic to/one lane. Ledbetter's family was notified of the fatal collision by the Pampa Police Department's chaplain.

Services were pending today with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

## **FREE**

**Baseball Fundamentals Camp** for Ages 9 thru 12 Tues & Thurs 5:30 -7 pm starting Nov 10th Sign up Nov. 10, 5:30 pm at **Pampa Optimist Club** 

## **PAMPA NURSING CENTER**





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## iewpoints

## Today in History

Today is Monday, Nov. 9, the 313th day of 2009. There are 52 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 9, 1989, communist East Germany threw open its borders, allowing citizens to travel freely to the West; joyous Germans danced atop the Berlin

On this date:

In 1872, fire destroyed nearly 800 buildings in

In 1918, it was announced that Germany's Kaiser Wilhelm II would abdicate. He then fled to the Netherlands.

'I think charm is the ability to be truly interested in other people.

In 1935, United Workers Mine president John L. Lewis and other labor leaders formed Committee the for Industrial Organization, later Congress Industrial Organizations.

 Richard Avedon, American fashion photog-

In 1938, Nazis looted and burned synagogues well as Jewishowned stores and houses in Germany

and Austria in a pogrom that became known as "Kristallnacht."

In 1953, author-poet Dylan Thomas died in New York at age 39.

In 1963, twin disasters struck Japan as some 450 miners were killed in a coal-dust explosion, and about 160 people died in a train crash.

In 1965, the great Northeast blackout occurred as a series of power failures lasting up to 131/2 hours left 30 million people in seven states and part of Canada without electricity.

In 1967, a Saturn V rocket carrying an unmanned Apollo spacecraft blasted off from Cape Kennedy, Fla., on a successful test flight.

In 1970, former French President Charles de Gaulle died at age 79

In 1976, the U.N. General Assembly approved resolutions condemning apartheid in South Africa, including one characterizing the white-ruled government as "illegitimate."

Ten years ago: With fireworks, concerts and a huge party at the landmark Brandenburg Gate, Germany celebrated the 10th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. The flight data recorder from EgyptAir Flight 990 was recovered from the Atlantic Ocean and shipped to a National Transportation Safety Board laboratory in Washington.

Five years ago: Attorney General John Ashcroft and Commerce Secretary Don Evans resigned; they were the first members of the Cabinet to leave as President George W. Bush headed from re-election into his second term. Kenny Chesney won the Country Music Association album of the year award for "When The Sun Goes Down" as well as entertainer of the year. Roger Clemens won his record seventh Cy Young Award.

One year ago: Barack Obama's transition chief, John Podesta, told "Fox News Sunday" the president-elect planned to review President George W. Bush's executive orders on such things as stem cell research and domestic drilling for oil and natural gas. China unveiled a \$586 billion stimulus package aimed at inoculating the world's fourth-largest economy against the global financial crisis.

Today's Birthdays: Former Democratic vicepresidential candidate R. Sargent Shriver is 94. Baseball executive Whitey Herzog is 78. Baseball Hall of Famer Bob Gibson is 74. Actor Charlie Robinson is 64. Movie director Bille August is 61. Actor Robert David Hall ("CSI") is 61. Actor Lou Ferrigno is 58. Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, is 57. Gospel singer Donnie McClurkin is 50. Rock musician Dee Plakas (L7) is 49. Actress Ion Overman is 40. Rapper Pepa (Salt-N-Pepa) is 40. Rapper Scarface (Geto Boys) is 39. Blues singer Susan Tedeschi is 39. Actor Jason Antoon is 38. Actor Eric Dane is 37. Singer Nick Lachey (98 Degrees) is 36. R&B singer Sisqo (Dru Hill) is 31. Actress Nikki Blonsky is 21.



### Fetch your copy of The Pampa News today!

(Or call 669-2525 to have it delivered to your door.)



## American Veterans: Generations of heroic service

BY U.S. SENATOR KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

Veterans Day is a day we set aside as a nation to honor those who have served their nation in war and peace. It is a day to reflect on the deeds of these heroes and stand united in gratitude for their service and sacrifice. We also take this opportunity to honor the enduring service of our active soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen. This year, our recognition of veterans and troops is tinged with pain as we mourn the tragic loss of life and injuries of some of our bravest at Fort Hood on November 5. Their ultimate sacrifice reminds us of how much we owe our men and women in uniform.

Ours is a great nation of free people, and this legacy has endured because, throughout our history, our finest men and women have stood guard and protected the liberty that all Americans enjoy. In peacetime or during conflict, at home or abroad, their service has been character-

ized by selflessness and a sense of greater purpose. Throughout our history, our nation's veterans have answered the call, and they have served with dignity and honor.

I am particularly proud that Texas stands out among other states for its rich tradition of military leadership. Texans have continued to volunteer to serve their nation in record numbers and are stationed throughout the United States and in all corners of the globe. More Marines join the Corps from Texas per capita than any other state. And we are home to more Army and Air Force bases than anywhere else

As these men and women have sacrificed, so too has a far less recognized segment of our Veteran population: their families. For each displaced serviceman, there is often a husband or wife left behind. These silent patriots have kissed their husbands or wives goodbye and sent them off to duty, often in harm's way, without the assurance that their loved ones will return. They diligently run their households while their mates serve at stateside bases or fight on foreign battlefields. The unsung military spouses have often put their own careers on hold and patiently moved the family to the next in a long series of new bases. new neighborhoods, new schools. Wha accolades we bestow upon our veterans, we must also remember the parallel sacrifice of their spouses.

Today our troops are

answering the call to duty in locations around the world. America's brave troops are serving from Western Europe to the Far East Soldiers in South Korea continue to keep watch on the communist regime to their North. The Navy and Coast Guardsmen stand watch over troubled seas, while Air Force pilots fly the skies above the hilltops of Afghanistan, and soldiers and Marines patrol the mean streets of Iraq. Reservists and National Guardsmen continue to

serve, at the expense of their civilian professions, on extended active duty for a year or more. Some of our military patriots serve multiple tours because the nation continues to need their expertise.

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I ask all Texas Veterans, from the Greatest Generation to the young men and women who have recently returned from service in Iraq or Afghanistan, to weave their own narratives into the vibrant fabric of our nation's history through this important effort. Veterans can participate, and all Americans can learn about the Project, at http://www.loc.gov/ vets/vets-home.html.

On this Veterans it is more appropriate than ever that we acknowledge our veterans' service and that we honor it by fighting to keep America great in our own daily lives. We can start by remembering those who have gone before and recognizing tomorrow's veterans who are fighting to keep us free and safe today.

### Letters to the editor

To the editor,

I would like to question why the new water park proposal wasn't brought before the voters of our city, like the tax freeze was.

Is it legal for our city commision to put some agendas before the voters and not others?

I feel that the water park is being shoved down our throats wether we like it or not. Let the majority rule and not just the City Commisioners. Who seem to be tetting the PEDC call the shots on ths.

How can a water park be justified when it will only be open for the five months out of the year at the most. The cost of the up keep will be twelve months of the year, and I feel at a great expense to the tax paters.

It seems to me that our PEDC is just a Distribution Center for our tax money and is not creating any jobs for our community.

Clyde Laycock Pampa

To the editor,

After many attempts and several Presidents carrying the effort, we have something to work with. Is it the best NO, can we work with it YES.

To those who had the courage to stand up--THANK YOU....to those who caved in to the special interest of the insurance industry (what were you waiting for?--another big AIG bailout?)

America let's pull together and move forward to provide needed Health Care for all. After all, shouldn't everyone have what Congress and the Senate have?

Pampa

### We welcome your letters

To insure publication, please adhere to the following guidelines:

•Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will edited for length and clarity.

·All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number with the letter for verification. Only your name and city will be published. Defamatory comments will not be published.

E-mail submissions are welcome.

## THE PAMPA NEWS

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## Researchers find natural answer to unnatural grass

When ecologist Mark Simmons stands on a wellkept lawn, he can appreciate its beauty and the tingle of close-cropped grass under bare feet. He also can't help but see water, fertilizer, pesticides and lawn mowers.

"If you think about most lawns, they're basically a single species on life support," he said.

For most homeowners the greenest-looking component of their residence lawns of St. Augustine and Bermuda grass - belie their steep environmental costs of consuming half the area's drinking water and filling bayous and bays with pollutants.

So Simmons, who works at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center of The University of Texas at Austin, has been searching with some success for blends of native grasses that make for attractive, drought-resistant lawns with less of an ecological

"We're interested in solving an environmental problem with native plants," he said.

The idea seems especially salient after a summer during which one-fifth of Texas was mired in an "exceptional" drought, the worst category tracked by the U.S Drought Monitor.

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Using a two-year grant from Wal-Mart, Simmons and others at the wildflower center have developed a blend of seven species of native, thin-bladed grasses. They tested this native grass against buffalo and Bermuda grass species and

Simmons said the early results are promising: The blend of natural grasses established itself much better than Bermuda grass, more effectively suppressed weeds, had a higher density and required less mowing because it grew more slowly. It also proved to be more drought-toler-

The wildflower center is now working with seed growers to make the mix more widely available, Simmons said.

The research comes after recent work by scientists to better quantify the environmental impact of lawns.

Using satellite mapping, NASA research scientist Cristina Milesi found that some 40 million acres of the U.S. and up to 5 percent of urban areas, are covered by lawns, making turf the country's largest irrigated crop. Keeping a green lawn in many areas, even including "wet" regions like Southeast Texas, requires significant resources.

Lawn watering accounts for about 54 percent of residential water usage in Texas, said Jim Blackburn, an environmental lawyer and adjunct professor in law and the environment at Rice University. That's water that otherwise would be flowing into coastal bays and increasing their vitality, he said.

"From an ecological perspective, lawns are absolutely insane," Blackburn

Consider this, he said: We plant grass plugs. We water them. We fertilize them. Then when we

DEAR MIFFED: I

see no reason why you

shouldn't tell Gina --

whether her husband is lis-

tening or not -- how intru-

sive you feel her husband's

eavesdropping is and that

you would like your con-

versations to be private.

After that, it will be up

to her to decide where to

fortunate. I come from

a close and loving fam-

ily. Even though we have

DEAR ABBY: I am

draw the line.

achieve success, we cut the grass. This opens it to increased evaporation, so we have to water it more. It makes the grass vulnerable to insects, herbivores and competition from weeds.

So we fertilize it, he said, and start the process all over again.

Further, a recent study by California environmental horticulturists found that current estimates of pollution from fertilizers and pesticides used on lawns may underestimate the amount washed into storm drains by 50 percent.

An advocacy organization for the lawn care industry, Project EverGreen, has a different view.

'As a consumer you can stand on a piece of concrete in the middle of summer versus a patch of wellutive director. Lawns can be up to 30 degrees cooler than asphalt, he said.

A healthy lawn absorbs rainfall up to six times more effectively than a wheat field, and four times better than a hay field, Gardner said.

All of which means lawns aren't inherently evil, Simmons said.

"Lawns have been of the country," he said. "I've got kids, I like playing outside on the lawn. We're not telling people to rip up their lawns. What we are saying is there's a natural solution to the problem of struggling to keep your goes. imported lawn alive.'



## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

the father of a 12-year-old daughter, "Lia." She catches an early morning bus for school, and I leave for work at the same time her bus picks her up, so I'm in charge of getting her ready in the morning.

Although we have two bathrooms -- one upstairs and one down -- neither of us wants to use the downstairs bathroom to get ready. All our stuff is

upstairs. When I wake Lia up each morning, she heads into the shower and I go feed the dog. I then go into the bathroom and shave while she's in the shower. While I'm shaving we discuss sports and life in general. When I'm finished, I leave until she's done showering and goes back into her room. I then take

my shower. Is this wrong? Lia's mother thinks it's inappropriate for me to be in the bathroom at all while she's taking a shower. I think it is efficient because neither of us is willing to use the other bathroom, and I find it's a good time to find out what's going on in her life. Who's right? -- RIGHT OR WRONG IN

WISCONSIN DEAR RIGHT OR WRONG: Your wife is correct. It's not a matter of "right or wrong." It's a matter of what is appropri-

At 12, your daughter is becoming a young woman. Either you or Lia needs to start using the downstairs bathroom. If you can't agree on who that will be, then draw straws. You can bond with her over breakfast.

DEAR ABBY: My old college roommate "Gina" and I live several states apart, but we have remained close over the vears. Whenever I call her, her husband picks up an extension and listens in. We don't know he's lis-

DEAR ABBY: I need tening until he says some- drawn us closer, strengthan unbiased opinion. I am thing. Other times, he'll ened our love and fueled stand next to her and con- our resolve to support each stantly interrupt her while other no matter what. we're talking. He has his

So why am I writing? I own friends and hobbies, am so full of love and emoand Gina does not know tion that it's not unusual for me to cry frequently. When why he keeps butting in. I have spoken to him we say goodbye after a when she is unavailable to visit, I cry more than anymake him feel involved, one else. My daughter says but this three-way conit's a real downer -- and versation is bugging me. others feel awkward. So Since Gina appears to be how does one turn off the unable to tell him to cut flow of tears? -- TEARYit out, what should I do? EYED IN ALABAMA -- MIFFED IN MADISON

**DEAR TEARY-EYED:** As long as a person understands the reason why she (or he) is crying -- and it isn't because of displaced emotions -- tears are nothing to be embarrassed about, and I see no reason to stifle them. However, it's one thing to shed a few tears and another to come completely unglued. Because your display of emotion makes "others feel awkward," and if this is new behavior, it may be time to consult your physician to determine what's triggering the waterworks.

## GREAT PUMPKIN WINNERS



Ford Family Chiropractic in Pampa held a "Great Pumpkin" weight guessing contest. Pictured from left to right are Dr. Mark W. Ford, Jr., Physical Therapist Joshua Link, winners Michelle Bell and Kristi Glass, and Dr. Lance W. Krogh. Each lucky winner received a \$50 gift card.

## Oil prices above \$79 on kept grass and feel quite a difference," said Den Gardner, the group's exec-

Oil and gasoline futures in storage, the reaction on rose Monday as a tropical storm heading into the Gulf of Mexico and the U.S. dollar both weakened.

Ida had been listed as a Category 1 hurricane until midmorning, a storm with the ability to take 1.3 million barrels of crude off the market.

Yet the U.S. National demonized in some parts Hurricane Center downgraded Ida to a tropical storm once its top sustained winds fell close to 70 mph and it appeared to be heading east of the most crowded region in the gulf as far as energy production

> Weather Insight LP is expecting 700,000 barrels per day of crude oil production to be shut in, and 3 billion cubic feet per day of natural gas production to be taken off line until about

> Given the huge surplus in oil, natural gas and gasoline

> > Ci

PI

the New York Mercantile Exchange where energy futures are traded appeared to be muted.

In fact, crude prices appeared more influenced by the dollar, rising quickly as the U.S. currency weakened against the euro. When the dollar slipped, crude prices edged higher Monday.

Investors holding euros or other strong currencies can buy more dollar-based crude when the U.S. currency falls, and that has sent prices higher throughout the year.

Ida, as a threat to oil and gas production, appeared to fade by midday.

The latest storm track projection showed Ida brushing near Louisiana and Mississippi, then making landfall early Tuesday near Mobile, Ala, before continuing across north

Benchmark crude for December delivery on Monday gained 3 percent, or \$2.35, to \$79.78 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Since hurricanes Gustav and Ike raked the gulf last year, there have been no major threats to the energy complex and demand for crude has left the country well supplied.

Crude supplies are 7.62 percent higher than a year ago and gasoline in storage is up 7 percent, according to energy consultancy Cameron Hanover.

The average price for a gallon of regular gasoline fell a half penny overnight to \$2.664, according to auto club AAA, Wright Express and Oil Price Information Service. That's 18.8 cents more than a month ago, and 40.5 cents more than gas cost at this time last vear



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## Comics

Marmaduke



"Be careful who you flirt with."

By Bil Keane THE FAMILY CIRCUS © 2009 Bil Keane, Inc. Dist. by King Features Synd

"The trees would stay warmer if they held on to their leaves in winter.

Daily Crossword Puzzle

### **CROSSWORD** By THOMAS JOSEPH

**40** Hot

**DOWN** 

2 Placed in

clubs

4 Brussels-

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7 Cold and

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**ACROSS** 1 B — boy **41** Go by

www.familycircus.com

5 Gift

toppers 9 Extremely 1 Niche

10 Zodiac ram

12 "Get outta 3 Some golf here!" 13 Book or

film category 14 Question

to a brown 6 Mine COW

16 Light metal 17 Preceding 8 Regular

nights 18 Loathing 9 Theater

21 Warning color

**22 HMO** outlays 23 Wild card,

often 24 Fetters

26 Gibson of "Braveheart"

29 Dead ringer 30 Chess

turn 31 Orange

tuber 32 Specula-

tive question 34 Glorify

37 Build

38 Mister, in Madrid 39 Buoyant tunes



Saturday's answer

19 Gorillas and gibbons

20 Road sealer 22 Spring

shape 23 Boxing poke 24 Sweet-

11 Transmit talks **15** "I had no 25 Compassionate

26 Digs for travelers

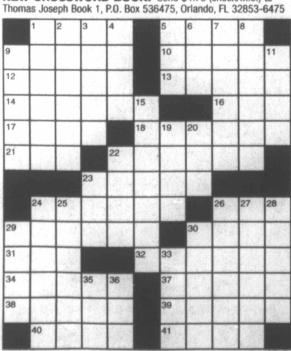
27 Kicks out 28 Some

turns 29 Colors 30 Opera's

Callas 33 Lend a hand 35 Smoked

salmon

idea!" 36 Attempt NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



For Better Or Worse



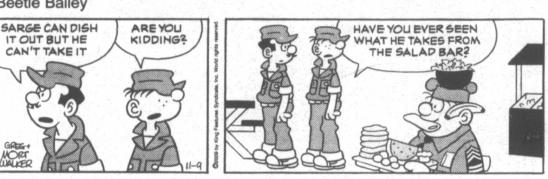
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**Beetle Bailey** 

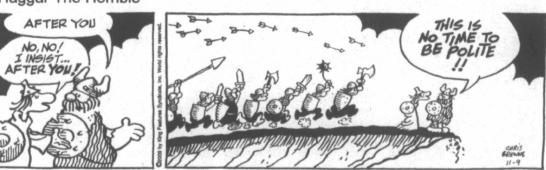


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**Peanuts** 



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The Pampa News'

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month. 317 N. Nelson 2

a month. 665

\$425 a month.

1130 Christine

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NIGHT.

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of BARBARA R. WHITTEN, Deceased, were issued on November 5 2009, in Docket No. 9670, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas, to: ALAN B. WHIT-

ALAN B. WHITTEN is a resident of Kaufman County, Texas. Claims me be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate, addressed as fol-

Independent Executor Estate of Barbara R. Whitten,

Deceased c/o Don R. Lane P.O. Box 1781 claims against this Esbeing administered are Call 806-662-5565

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Alan B. Whitten Nov. 5, 2009

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Alan B. Whitten

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		3/1.75/2 - 1716 SF/GCAD
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1801 N Zimmers	\$92,500	3/1.7	5/2 - 1426 SF/GC
1818 N Nelson	\$85,000	3/	2/1 - 2941 SF/GC
2109 Zimmers	\$73,000	3/1.7	5/2 - 1128 SF/GC
1100 Willow	\$72,000	3/1.5	0/3 - 1146 SF/GC
2101 N Wells	\$69,900	3/1.7	5/2 - 1435 SF/GC
2312 N Rosewood	\$65,000	3/	1/1 - 1325 SF/GC
1024 Terry	\$65,000	4/	2/0 - 1483 SF/GC
1801 N Banks	\$62.500	3/1	5/1 - 1196 SF/GC

532 N Red Deer	\$87,000	3/1.75/2 - 1846 SF/GCAI
121 Starkweather	\$75,000	3/2/1 - 1400 SF/GCAI

OTHER AREAS		
530 Acres Near Lefors	\$530,000	Ranch West of Lefor
14140 I-40 McLean	\$169,900	3/2/0 - 2176 SF/GCAD
216 E 9th St, Lefors	\$69,900	
704 Gardenia, WD	\$65,900	3/1.75/0 - 1795 SF/CCAD
412 S Grimes, WD		
801 S Grimes WD		3/2/2 - 1400 SF/CCAD

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This year, you make waves and gain understanding of people. Zero in on your goals, and when confused, stop and take a gander at your priorities. You will

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, Nov.

regain your centering quite quickly. The unexpected does occur, encouraging you to rethink situations more often. Your creativity kicks in frequently when facing challenges. If you are single, you will meet someone through a friendship, or a friendship could become more. If you are attached, the two of you need to socialize more as well as work on the quality of your friendship. You will bond more closely. VIRGO comes through for 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)

\*\*\* Get the job done through focus and direct action. A must appearance could baffle you. Out of the blue, you discover that others are changing their needs, thus impacting a project. Zero in on the long-term priorities, and you'll come out on top. Tonight: Work as late as

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

\*\*\*\* Let your imagination kick in when another solution obviously is needed. A brainstorming session could provide many answers or potential solutions. You might be wondering which way to go when dealing with a boss. Take your cue from him or her. Tonight: Be creative when deciding

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

\*\*\* You might want to reconsider a decision and come from a fundamental base of understanding. Your ability to understand what others are doing allows greater flow. An offer will make life easier. Why not say yes? Tonight: Head

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Your imagination and intellect meet, making it possible to deal with a wide range of issues and projects. You might even enjoy the variety that becomes possible. A partner tries to pitch in and be more supportive. Tonight: Change gears. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) \*\*\* Be aware of your spending and

long-term desires. You will lighten up considerably if you relax and work with

the moment. Extremes hit left and right as you attempt to juggle a lot more than normal. Tonight: Buy a treat on the way VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) \*\*\*\* Put your best foot forward.

Others cannot help but respond. Your enormous creative resources come forward. You seem to be able to handle more than your normal share. Your caring nature reveals itself more than ever. Tonight: The world is your oyster. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

\*\*\* Know when to pull back and understand what is happening. Much bubbles forth that is interesting but needs to be dealt with. You have imagination and ingenuity working for you. Use those assets. Be careful with spending. Tonight: Take some private time.

\*\*\*\* Listen to news that is forthcoming. Understanding comes forward. You are coming up with ideas, and others see and understand your unique resourcefulness. Focus on your direction

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

and goals. At least you will be pleased! Tonight: Wherever the action is. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

\*\*\* A must appearance is inevitable. You see a child or loved one from a new perspective. Your understanding evolves when dealing with others. How you handle a personal situation could change dramatically because of pressure. Tonight: A must show.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) \*\*\*\* Keep reaching out for others

and get more information. You might be surprised by what comes up. Get past a problem immediately. Curb a tendency to give too much or spend too much. Tonight: Put on a great piece of music. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) \*\*\*\* Relate to others on a one-on-

one level. This attention tends to help them feel secure and relaxed. In this atmosphere, much more will be gained by all parties. Listen to your inner voice on a money matter. Tonight: Make plans with a favorite person. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

\*\*\*\* Togetherness isn't possible without you revealing more of your inner feelings. Reach out for someone at a distance who you care about. Realize what is happening behind the scenes. Tonight: Defer to someone else's ideas.

Theologian Martin Luther (1483), actor Roy Scheider (1932), lyricist Tim Rice (1944)

**BORN TODAY** 

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# Sports

## Lady Harvesters win four of six scrimmages

BY ANDREW GLOVER aglover@thepampanews.com

The Lady Harvesters won four of six scrimmages Saturday at McNeely Fieldhouse.

All three Lady Harvester basketball teams scrimmaged against West Texas, McLean, White Deer and Sanford-Fritch. The freshmen and junior varsity played one five minute quarter against each team and no score was kept. The varsity played one 10 minute quarter against each team, playing West Texas and McLean twice.

The varsity beat West Texas 18-3, tied McLean 12-12, beat Sanford-Fritch 7-2, beat West Texas 15-7, beat White Deer 14-5 and lost to McLean 11-7. Head Coach Gene Valentine was pleased with how his team played.

"You play a couple of quarters then you sit for 30 minutes," Valentine said. "It's hard to get motivated to come back. They played hard. I saw a lot of good things. It helped having the volleyballers in there."

**Emilie Troxell and Taryn** Eubank were playing their last volleyball game of the season when they scrimmaged last week. Valentine liked how his defense played when the team was going at high intensity.

"Full court, half court (defense), it helped basically to fuel our offense," Valentine said. "It helped our transition offense. That's what we're trying to do to help our lack of size."

The Lady Harvesters play their first game against Plainview on Tuesday and Valentine said his team needs to work on their press defense.

"The kind of press we're running we are going to play areas," Valentine said. "We need to be able to recognize areas and try to defend them. We let a girl five straight times catch a ball on the sideline. We got to recognize things like that."

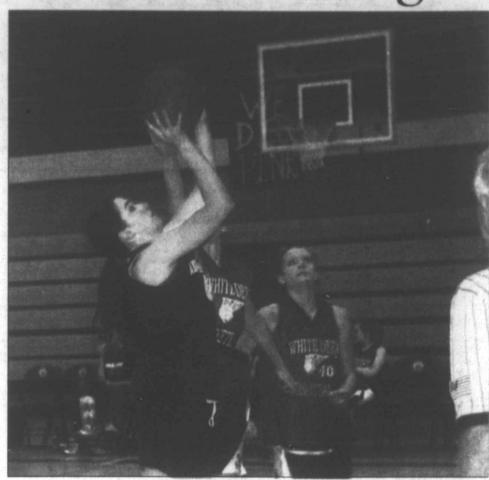
Junior varsity coach Forrest Harding said he liked what he saw out of

"They've worked real-ly hard," Harding said. We're not shooting well but that's expected this early. We played some 1As. We're going to find out Tuesday how good we can be and how bad we can be both...These girls are such good girls and they work really hard. I'm excited about the year."

Freshmen coach Alan Segura said he saw some really good things from his

"Overall it was really good," Segura said. "I got to see what are strengths are and what we need to work on. We need to work on our defense and our transition game. They need to learn a few things and get them down better than they do now. Overall it wasn't bad."

Segura said his team did well on breaking the press and at times on offense and defense. The freshman open their season today against the Borger Lady Bulldogs in Borger.



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Taryn Eubank goes for a shot against the White Deer Does. Pampa won 14-5.

## Seven PHS tennis players earn all-district honors

BY ANDREW GLOVER aglover@thepampanews.com

Seven Harvester tennis players earned all-district honors for the 2009 fall season.

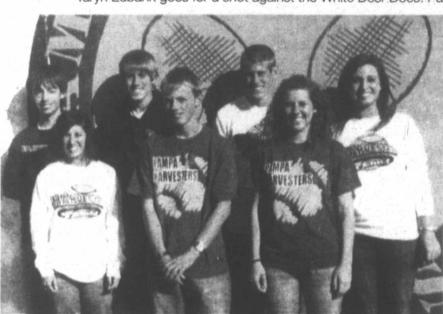
For the girls, Senior Kayla Ware made second team in number seven girls singles. Seniors Hilary Acker and Erin Buck were honorable mentions in number three girls doubles.

For the boys, senior Myles Foreman was an honorable mention in number two boys singles.

Freshman Nick Nelson made second team in number six boys singles. Sophomore Landon Karbo made second team in number seven boys singles. Sophomore Logan Karbo and Nelson were honorable mentions in number three boys doubles. Nelson won boys newcomer of the year.

Dumas had the most all-district nominations with 21. Canyon had 14, Randall had eight, Palo Duro had six and Hereford had one.

The Harvesters will resume play in the spring.



staff photo by Andrew Glover Back row L to R: Myles Foreman. Landon Karbo, Logan Karbo, Erin Buck Front Row L to R: Hilary Acker, Nelson Nick and Kayla Ware earned all-district honors for the fall tennis season. The Harvesters will resume play in the spring.

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