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PAMPA NEWS

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Pampa EMS: Service improved



staff photo by David Bowser

BY DAVID BOWSER dbowser@thepampanews.com

The head of the not-for-profit foundation that's behind Pampa EMS said they're trying something that has worked elsewhere, but is not widely used in the Texas Panhandle.

Dr. Jim Hall, president of the board of directors for the EMS Foundation of Texas and a Pampa physician, told the Pampa Chamber of Commerce that the faster injured and sick people are brought to emergency health care, they better they do.

"Up here," he said, "distance is a challenge. Sometimes, it's difficult."

Speaking at the chamber's monthly luncheon, Hall said the foundation was formed because one of the things that he recognized when he started at Pampa Regional Medical Center was that the emergency medical service, essentially the ambulance service, was woefully under funded and understaffed.

He the new service is modeled after the South Texas Emergency Care Foundation in Harlingen. They started about 25 years ago.

Using their model, Hall, Dr. Bobby Smith, Michael Giesler and Kim Laycock formed the foundation, which in turn started the ambulance service.

As of Monday, Hall said the ambulance service received its provider number from the state.

"We're actually fully licensed for operating EMS in the State of Texas now," Hall said.

Prior to that, they were operating under a conditional license. Few things have changed except for the paper work.

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Dr. Jim Hall, head of the foundation behind Pampa EMS, and Pat Montoya with the Pampa Chamber of Commerce Goldcoats look at a jig saw puzzle, one of several given away as door prizes at the Pampa Chamber of Commerce luncheon Tuesday.

Pampa EMS took over ambulance EMS cont. on page 3

Sheriff's Office investigates apparent burglary ring

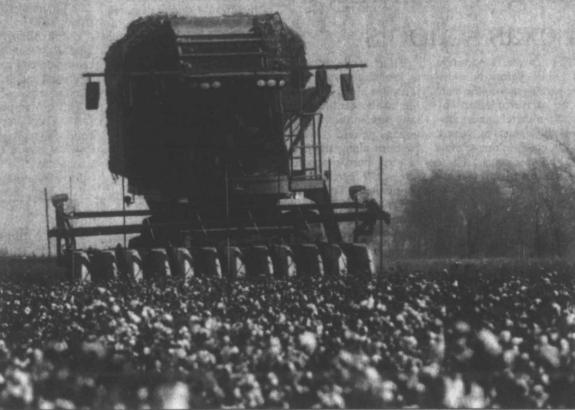
Gray County Sheriff's deputies were expanding their investigation into an apparent burglary ring today after arresting three McLean teenagers.

Garrett Tyler Griffin, 17, was arrested on charges of burglary of a building and also faces charges of driving without a driver's license.

Scott Casey Smith, 17, and Jonathan Paul McAnear, 18, were arrested on charges of Burglary of a building.

All three were in Gray County jail today. Gray County Justice of the Peace Joe Martinez set bond on Griffin at \$2,500. Bonds on Smith and McAnear were set at \$1,500 each.

BURGLARY cont. on page 3



staff photo by David Bowser

Gray County farmer Joe Wheeley rolls through his cotton patch, stripping the white fluffy bolls on a warm fall day as he harvests his cotton for ginning.

PS and other agencies impacting drug trafficking

Through coordinated efforts, DPS, local and federal agencies are impacting illegal drug trafficking operations along the border. One of the most noticeable trends is that law enforcement is disrupting the drug smugglers close to the border and in many cases, forcing them back across the Rio Grande.

Increased law enforcement patrol along the border is thwarting drug smugglers' attempts to transport their loads into Texas. DPS Aviation video shows smugglers as they drive their narcotics-laden vehicles into the river, recover the drugs by boat or other means, and then take them back to Mexico. Video also shows smugglers on the Mexico-side of the border as they attempt to smuggle drugs into Texas, but are forced to abandon their operation because of the presence of DPS and other law enforcement entities. (See video and photos at http://www. txdps.state.tx.us/video/news/border/.) Many loads are recovered by law enforcement before smugglers can distribute them in Texas or take them back to Mexico.

The coordinated efforts between DPS, local

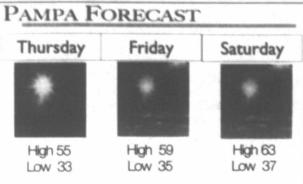
the drugs by boat or other means, and then take and federal agencies have resulted in the fol-

OTTALAD.	
Seizures	CY 2008-2009 Totals
Marijuana (lbs)	2,995,377
Methamphetamine (lbs	3) 1,920
Cocaine (lbs)	24,304
Heroin (lbs)	442
Cash (in dollars)	65,341,631
Drug Arrests	20,306
Referrals of suspected	CALLER TO AND
undocumented immigr	ants
DRUGS cont. on page	3

Christmas Parade M & H Leasing TING December 5th at 2pm Entry forms can be found at: pampachamber.com Jordan Linda "Put on the full na Citizen or the Chamber office at 200 N. Ballard Laycock Broker Oncal Hadley 2012 • Couples Retreat armor of God." as Carol (Dig. 3D Assoc Assoc Deadline is December 4th at 5pm -Ephesians 6:11 806. 806. For more information contact Holly at 669-324 817 Hobart • 665-2061 62 1312 680.992 662.27

- Wednesday, November 18, 2009 - The Pampa News

For the record



Tonight: Clear, with a low around 31. South southeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north northeast.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 55. Wind chill values between 24 and 34 early. North northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 33. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 59. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 35. South southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 63. South wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 37. South wind 10 to 15 mph becoming north northwest. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.

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Obituaries

James Preston Saunders

On November 16, 2009, James Preston Saunders of survived by several grand-Ellicott City died. Loving children. father to William Randolph Family will receive visi-Saunders, Charles Kendall

tors at First Presbyterian Church in Columbia, MD Curran and Leigh Saunders on Friday from 10 to 11 Oates; dear step-father to a.m. where a memorial ser-

Julie Harvick; he was also vice will be held at 11 a.m. Interment will be held at a later date in Pampa. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Pampa Animal Control, City of Pampa Fund 12, PO Box 2499, Pampa, TX

79066. Harry H. Witzke's Family Funeral Home, Inc., 4112 Old Columbia Pike, Ellicott City, MD is in charge of arrangements.

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Pampa-William Earnest "Bill" Kirkham, 69, died November 14, 2009, in Carson County, Texas.

Saunders, Amy Saunders

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, November 19, 2009, at First Baptist Church, with Dr. Johnny Funderburg, pastor, officiating.

Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors. Mr. Kirkham was born

March 20, 1940 in Borger to Adrian and Faye Earnest Kirkham. He attended Pampa schools from 1948 until 1957 when he moved Amarillo, graduatto ing from Amarillo High School. He was in band and swing band, playing the coronet, and was also a judge for speech debate. Bill married Barbara Whitney on June 19, 1959 in Pampa. He returned to Pampa

in 1959 and worked for Diamond Shamrock for 41 years. He coached Little League baseball and football, was a Boy Scout leader in both Perryton and Pampa, and was a member of the Amarillo Racing Pigeons Club. In 1965, he was the Grand Master of Masons in Perryton.

Survivors include his wife of 50 years, Barbara Kirkham of the home; four sons, William Kirkham, Jr., of Fritch, Kevin Kirkham of Dallas, Kurtis Kirkham and wife Shanon of Abilene, and

wife Angie of Pampa; two daughters, Kim Winegeart and husband Johnny of Pampa, and Kay Kirkham of the home; seven grandchildren: Mandi Lunceford of Lubbock, Alicia Brewer and husband Ricky of Pampa, Lori Kirkham of Temple, Jared Winegeart and wife Robyn of Amarillo, Matthew Kirkham, Andrea Riley Kirkham and Katy Relelem Kirkham, all of Abilene; five great-grandchildren: Luke Lunceford, Whitney Lance and Anna Kirkham, all of Pampa, Devyn Lunceford of Lubbock and Tristan Winegeart of Amarillo; two brothers, Jim Kirkham of Fritch and Don Kirkham and wife Sue



of Nederland.

Bill was preceded in death by a daughter, Clair Anna Kirkham in 1964.

MEMORIALS: Community Day Care Center, P.O. Box 2432, Pampa, Texas 79066-2432. Sign the on-line register at www.carmichael-whatley.com

SERVICES MERGENCY

SHERIFF

Gray County The Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests during the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. Tuesday.

Monday, Nov. 16.

Danastry Dawn Mize, 24, of Lefors, was arrested by Gray County sheriff's deputies for forgery in Wheeler County.

Betsy Amanda Crossman, 25, was arrested by Gray County sheriff's deputies on charges of a non-guardian permitting an unlicensed driver to drive. Ira Don Hicks 39 was

911

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests for the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. today.

Tuesday, Nov. 17. Staci Jeanie Proctor, 43. was arrested by Gray County Sheriff's deputies

on charges of driving while intoxicated with a child passenger. Marcos Apodaca, 39, was

arrested by Gray County deputies on charges of driving while intoxicated, third offense or more.

Johnny Lee Dorman, 40, of Lefors, was arrested by the Lefors Marshall on person in the 1100 block of North Hobart.

PAMPA PD

A vehicle was reported stolen in the 1300 block of North Garland.

A fire alarm was reported in the 1500 block of West Kentucky.

A theft was reported in the 2800 block of North Charles. A 911 hangup call was

reported in the 400 block of North Sumner. Fire department officials

were put on standby in the

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1000 block of Park.

An alarm was reported in the 1900 block of North Fir.

A theft was reported in the 2800 block of North Charles.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1500 block of Williston.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 900 block of South Wells. Harassment was reported

in the 300 block of West Henry. A suspicious person was reported at Starkweather

DPS warning Mexican cartels and gangs recruiting in Texas schools

The Texas Department of Public Safety is warning parents across the state to be aware of efforts by Mexican cartels and transnational gangs to recruit Texas youth in our schools and communities. These violent organizations are luring teens with the prospect of cars, money and notoriety, promising them if they get caught, they will receive a minimal sentence.

The Mexican cartels constantly seek new ways to smuggle drugs and humans into Texas are now using state based gangs and our youth to support their operations on both sides of the border.

For example, Laredo natives Gabriel Cardona and Rosalio Reta were recruited in their teens to be hit men for the Zetas. The Zetas, composed primarily of former Mexican military commandos, originally served as the enforcement arm of the Gulf Cartel, but have since become their own cartel. El Paso teens have been recruited to smuggle drugs across the border, many with the packs taped to their bodies.

While such recruitment is growing across Texas, juveniles along the Texas-Mexico border are particularly susceptible. In 2008, young people from the counties along the Texas-Mexico border accounted for just 9 percent of the population in Texas, but 18 percent of the felony drug charges and gang-related arrests.

"As these dangerous organizations seek to coopt our children to support their criminal operations, it is more important than ever that parents be aware of these risks, talk to their children and pay attention to any signs that they may have become involved in illegal activities," said Steven C. McCraw, director of the Texas Department of Public Safety.

To protect our communities and our children from these powerful and ruthless criminal organizations, local, state and federal law enforcement agencies and the District Attorneys in Texas border counties are working together to detect, disrupt and deter Mexican cartel-related crime along the Texas-Mexico border.

Cell phone call delays flight ATLANTA (AP) — Atlanta Tuesday after-

AirTran Airways says a flight from Atlanta to Houston with more than 70 passengers on board was delayed when a passenger refused to end a cell phone call.

AirTran spokesman Christopher White told Atlanta Journal-The Constitution that Flight 297, a Boeing 717, was taxiing on the runway in

noon when a crew member asked a passenger to turn off his phone.

White says that after several failed attempts by the crew member to end the conversation, the captain returned the plane to the gate.

White says the passenger complied when he was asked to get off the plane.

arrested by Pampa police on warrants charging him with public intoxication and failure to appear.

Garrett Tyler Griffin, 17, of McLean, was arrested by Gray County deputies on burglary charges.

Brian Lane Sealman, 26, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of tempering with evidence

Jay Gene Kelly, 45, was arrested by Pampa police officers on burglary charg-

Tuesday, Nov. 17. Scott Casey Smith, 17, McLean, was arrested by Gray County sheriff's dep-

uties on burglary charges. Jonathan Paul Mcanear, 18, of McLean, was arrested by Gray County deputies on burglary charges.

charges of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

Deana Ramona Vargars, 29, was arrested by Gray County deputies for violation of probation on charges of theft of over \$50 by under \$500.

Quinn Andre Evans, 21, was arrested on a bond surrender on charges of evading arrest and driving on an expired registration.

The Pampa Police Department reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. today.

Monday, Nov. 16.

An alarm was reported in the 900 block of North Hobart. Found property was turned in to the Pampa

Police Department. Officers fingerprinted a

Freated sewage dumps into central Texas lakes eyed

talists.

VILLAGE OF officials and environmen-VOLENTE, Texas (AP) ----State environmental officials will consider a proposal this week to allow millions of gallons of treated sewage to be dumped into a popular string of central Texas lakes.

The proposal to lift a 23-year-old ban of effluent discharges into the Highland Lakes on the Colorado River is sparking an outcry from waterfront property owners, elected



100 block of West 30th.

A 911 hangup call was reported in the 1300 block of Williston.

A forgery was reported in the 2200 block of North Charles.

Water department officials were called to the 400 block of North Sumner.

A theft was reported in the in the 1100 block of South Prairie.

and Yeager. Criminal mischief was

reported in the 700 block of East Francis. Tuesday, Nov. 17.

A suspicious person was reported in the 1300 block

of North Sumner. Officers were assigned

escort duty in Amarillo. Disorderly conduct was

reported in the 2300 block of North Charles.

Appraisal board meets tomorrow

The Gray County Appraisal District board of directors will meet Thursday morning.

The board will consider appointments to the Appraisal Review Board.

will Thev review expenditures for August, September and October, consider an agreement for auditing services and con-

sider a depository contract. Board members will also consider renewal of health insurance with a Medicare Supplement payment and consider a mineral contract.

The board will meet at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, in the Gray County Appraisal District's conference room, 815 North Sumner.

LAST MINUTE LASSIFIED LINE ADS

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

API MEETING, Thurs. consider- Nov. 19, Pampa Country

DEWALT DAYS at Chief

FAMILY MEDICINE Center H1N1 flu shot clinic for established patients only November 20th, 1 - 4 PM.

HELP US celebrate our 20th year. Open house gifts / refreshments Saturday November 21st, The Cottage Collection. 922 W. 23rd.

LOST FEMALE, black lab mixed dog in 800 block of Somerville wearing Harley Davidson collar. Reward! Call 662-2883.

PECANS FOR Sale, Gray Co. 4-H will be Thanksgiving taking orders thru Nov. 20th. Lora 665-7318 or 4-H Office 669-8033

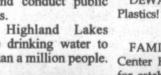
PICTURES WERE sold at a Garage Sale, north of Pampa, by mistake. Family needs these pictures back. Please call 570-9470.

SATELLITE ARTS & Crafts Show, Sat. Nov. 21st 9-6pm, Sun. Nov. 22nd 11-4pm. Ochiltree Co. Expo Bldg., Perryton.

The plan is up for preliminary ation Wednesday by the Club. Speaker Charles Smith. Texas Commission on Social hour 6:30pm., Turkey Environmental Quality. If & Dressing Buffet-(\$15 ea.) approved, officials say it 7pm. Significant others wel-

would still take months or come! Door prizes. longer to implement new rules and conduct public

hearings. The Highland Lakes provide drinking water to more than a million people.



The Pampa News — Wednesday, November 18, 2009 — 3

EMS

service responsibilities for the city and Gray County Oct. 1. With a little over a month of service, Hall said that the emergency medical service has increased in scope and size.

"When Guardian was here," he said of the previous ambulance service, "they had five full-time paramedics and they covered a big area." He said they were understaffed.

Pampa EMS has 32 employees.

"We have 12 full time paramedics instead of five," Hall said. "Paramedics right now are highly trained, highly skilled individuals.

The new ambulance service has two crews on duty 17 hours a day, during the hours that research has indicated when the most calls occur.

"After midnight," Hall said, "one crew goes home for seven hours and is on call. We've almost doubled the level of service and improved response times.

He said they made 180 calls in October.

"We had a very hectic month in October," Hall said. "It was extremely busy."

He said the foundation received a lot of help from the city and county

"One of the big drivers of this is that we went from probably the worst paying service in the panhandle of Texas to the best paying service in the panhandle of Texas," Hall said.

money. These guys work a very dangerous job and long hours. If you want the best, you have to pay for the best.

Hall said that Joe Anstey is a key member of the team. He is chief administrator of the service. He's also a paramedic that actively participates in emergency health care, in particular as part of a flight crew

"He's one of the best paramedics in the panhandle," Hall said.

Hall credited Anstey with putting together one of the best provider packages that state officials said they'd ever seen.

"We got our site visit just two days before Oct. 1," Hall said, "and there were zero deficiencies. It was perfect.'

Because of the success of the ambulance service, Hall said that there has been a lot of interest from others in the panhandle. He again credits Anstey and the paramedics on the ambulances.

"Peggy Coleman is out EMS director," Hall said. "We love her. She's awesome.

Hall said they've been working with LifeStar, the medical flight unit that has a helicopter stationed at Pampa Regional Medical Center.

Rep. Warren Chism has helped them get state funding to build a half milliondollar facility for them behind the hospital. Hall said there has been talk "It's not all about of expanding their medical cont. from page 1

services.

'There are other places that are wanting us to expand this model, and it will happen in time," Hall said, "but out commitment is first and foremost to Pampa and Gray County."

He said that early on the board of directors agreed that with the new service, everything would be locally owned and locally operated, using local resources.

"We had a company here that did the painting on the ambulances," Hall said.

The decision to use Harvester colors, he said, was not by accident.

They have three ambulances and plans for a more sophisticated vehicle, a critical care transfer ambulance. They are forming a critical care transfer team for it.

"It's not an ambulance like you've seen before," Hall said. "It's going to be a true mobile hospital so to speak. We're going to have a respiratory therapist in the back. We're going to have a nurse in the back. We'll have a paramedic in the back."

He says that when LifeStar can't fly because of the weather or any other reason, there will be a crew that can go by ground to go where they need to.

"It's not difficult to do," Hall said. "It just hasn't been done before."

It takes money, but it also takes new protocols and a new way of doing business, he said.

"That's our next project," he said.

about 8 p.m., Monday.

Smith and McAnear were

arrested shortly before 1

investigation is ongoing.

Hoard said today that the

ALTRUSA

TEXAS

INTERNATIONAL, INC.

met November 17, 2009

at Pampa Senior Center.

Guests attending were:

Bridgett Parks, Linda Weaver, and ASTRA

Kitty Hall and Allison

The Accent was given by

Watson served as greeters.

Lynn Switzer who spoke

on membership criteria.

Switzer reminded members

of the membership drive

which is set for December

1 to March 31.

member, Nichole Cox.

PAMPA,

OF

to the Border Patrol 19.015

In the past, these drugs would have ended up in major cities across the United States for distribution and consumption. Now, DPS uses land and air operations to aggressively patrol the border region in a coordinated effort with other law enforcement reported on the projects planned by ASTRA.

Make a Difference Day Lynn Switzer reported on the flag presentation for the elementary schools.

December 2 –Leona Willis asked for volunteers to make follow-up calls to consultants speaking at

December 5- Annette Chase reported on donations received for the event and reminded members to volunteer for duties.

Children's Shopping Tour - December 12 - Sue Pribble asked for volun-

Lynn Switzer and Kitty Hall

agencies to disrupt drug trafficking organizations (DTOs). This effort has placed so much pressure on the DTOs' supply chains that drug smugglers can no longer afford to have their narcotics seized along the border, forcing them to attempt to recover the drugs and return them to Mexico.

cont. from page 1

A porous border with Mexico increases the threat of not only drug smuggling, but also human smuggling and terrorism. DPS, local and federal agencies are meeting this threat through a coordinated offensive that makes the state safer and helps to decrease crime.

The following committee reports were given: Style Show - Eileen Kludt gave a final report teers for the event. on the proceeds from the recent style show ASTRA -Nichole Cox

Leticia Goodrich and Mary Sweeny of the Amarilo Area Breast Health Coalition presented a program for Altrusa members.

CLUB NEWS ΓRUSA

Career Clinic at PHS-

Ringing. The program was presented by Mary Sweeny, Career Clinic. Leticia Goodrich, and Soup with Mrs. Claus-

Brenda Tucker, Terri Williams, Judy Warner,

Brenda Crayne from the Amarillo Area Breast Health Coalition. Breast cancer literature was distributed and a demonstra-

Church.

chairs.

tion showing proper steps for self-examination. The next meeting will be held December 8 at noon at the First United Methodist

were presented Certificates

of Appreciation for out-

standing work as project

The club voted to wrap

gifts for Tralee Crisis

Center and to participate

in Salvation Army Bell

Sheriff's Department Lt. Joe B. Hoard said today the sheriff's office was notified of the burglary of Trinity Crossroads Church in McLean about 3 p.m.

Burglary

Monday. "There were several items taken," he said. The investigation led to

a house on West Fourth Street in McLean. Officials said 223rd District Judge Lee Waters issued a search warrant for the residence where deputies found items from the church and items reported taken in other burglaries. Among the recovered items, Hoard said,

cont. from page 1 were laptop computers. Griffin was arrested by Gray County deputies

a.m., Tuesday.

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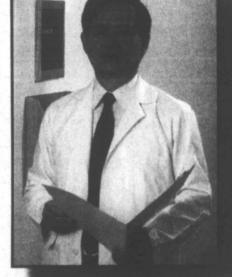
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Sale, ll be iving . Lora e 669-

ld at a ampa, needs Please

Crafts -6pm, -4pm. Bldg.,

Ray H. Chen, MD, FACS **Cardiovascular Surgery Thoracic Surgery**



Medical Degree: National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan

Residency: National Taiwan University Hospital - Dept. of Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery, and St. Joseph Hospital, Houston, Texas

Fellowships: Cardiovascular Surgery, Cardiac Transplant, and Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery, Texas Heart Institute, Houston, Texas

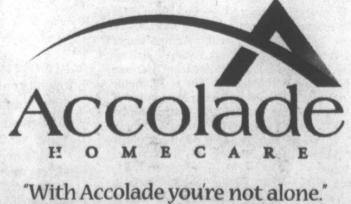
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4 — Wednesday, November 18, 2009 — The Pampa News



Today in History

Today is Wednesday, Nov. 18, the 322nd day of 2009. There are 43 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 18, 1959, "Ben-Hur," MGM's Biblicalera spectacle starring Charlton Heston and directed by William Wyler, had its world premiere at Loew's State Theatre in New York.

On this date:

In 1883, the United States and Canada adopted a system of Standard Time zones.

In 1886, the 21st president of the United States, Chester A. Arthur, died in New York.

'If an historian were to relate truthfully all the crimes, weaknesses and disorders of mankind, his readers would take his work for satire rather than for history.'

In 1909, President William Howard ordered Taft two warships to Nicaragua, a day after the government of President Jose Santos Zelaya executed two American mercenaries along with several hundred revolutionaries. Lyricist Johnny Mercer was born in Savannah, Ga.

In 1928, Walt

Dry." Disney's first soundsynchronized animated cartoon, "Steamboat Willie" starring Mickey Mouse, premiered in New York.

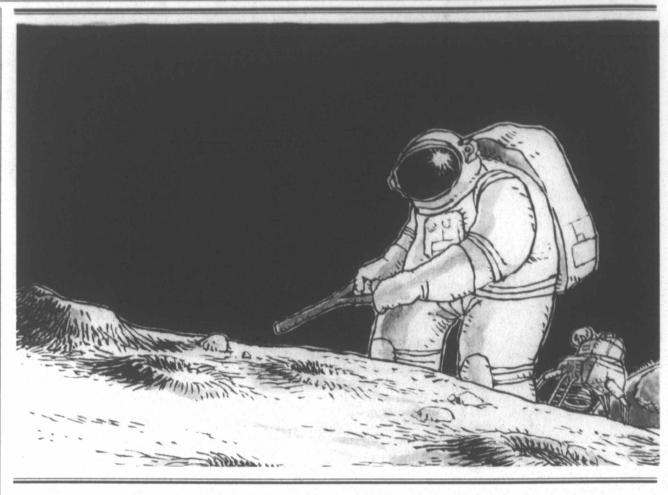
In 1936, Germany and Italy recognized the Spanish government of Francisco Franco.

In 1958, the cargo freighter SS Carl D. Bradley sank during a storm in Lake Michigan, claiming 33 of the 35 lives on board.

In 1966, U.S. Roman Catholic bishops did away with the rule against eating meat on Fridays outside of Lent.

In 1969, financier-diplomat Joseph P. Kennedy died in Hyannis Port, Mass., at age 81.

In 1978, U.S. Rep. Leo J. Ryan, D-Calif., and four other people were killed in Jonestown, Guyana, by members of the Peoples Temple; the killings were followed by a night of mass murder and suicide by more than 900 cult members.



Letters to the editor

To the People of Pampa and the Surrounding Areas:

I appreciate that there is much concern about the EDC, their decisions and the proposed Aquacenter but; how many of you are concerned about the hospital (Pampa Regional Medical Center)? We know the decisions coming from Washington will impact the decisions being made here regarding healthcare but I ask you to consider what going on with our own hospital. One of the greatest assets to any small community is the available medical care. Because of our own harrowing recent experience with the emergency room at PRMC I started asking questions. I have heard complaint after complaint about the ER and the quality of care from the 'hired' doctors who work there. One ER physician alone had not hundreds but thousands of complaints against him before something was done. This is in itself making people go elsewhere for their emergency medical care and my question is why should we have to? Do you know where this corporation is trying to take the hospital? I believe the corporation is trying to remove all the private practice doctors out and bring in their own corporate doctors the bottom line being making money. This means the lack of care by the ER was a drop in the bucket toward what we will see. There will be no private practice physicians, only corporate doctors. These corporate doctors will work for the company not the people. Do you think they will have the care and compassion that our private physicians have? Also you could see a different doctor every time you go for a checkup, follow-up, etc. I don't know about you but I am happy to know my doctor has taken care of me long enough to get to know me, my concerns,

my health issues and cares for me as if I were his family member. Those will be gone if going to corporate doctors is their intent. Confidence in your doctor is eighty-five percent of the healing process. Having a different doctor every time you see one is not my idea of good health care. PRMC is a nice facility and could be a great hospital but it will take the interest and involvement of the community to take it back and let the board and the corporation know that they will not stand by and tolerate this kind of action. Most Pam pans have been here most of their lives and can remember the Highland General Hospital and the Worley Hospital and the confidence that was abound in both of them. I

myself was born and raised

What a wonderful Veterans Day program presented by Travis Elementary School children at M.K. Brown in honor of all veterans. They touched so many hearts. There were tears and laughter shared by all. Thank you Travis school for a special blessing. Opal Ray

To the editor,

My personal Christmas resolutions.

I will not buy from any store that doesn't use the word Christmas in their advertising.

I will not buy from any store that bans The Salvation Army. That organization helps needy people and doesn't spend excessive money on supervisor's salaries.

I will not buy gifts for people who don't need them and probably don't want them.

I will rid myself of "Political Correctness". I am an American citizen and I say what I mean and mean what I say.

I will spend more time thanking GOD for our great country that has survived with HIS help without drastic changes.

I will do as I wish to be done by.

Betty Ireland

The Pampa News office will be closed Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27 so that our office employees may enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday. There will be no newspaper Thursday, November 26. We will publish the weekend edition on Friday, November 27. There will be no newspaper delivery on Saturday,

In 1987, the congressional Iran-Contra committees issued their final report, saying President Ronald Reagan bore "ultimate responsibility" for wrongdoing by his aides.

Ten years ago: Twelve people were killed when a bonfire under construction at Texas A&M University collapsed. A jury in Jasper, Texas, convicted Shawn Allen Berry of murder for his role in the dragging death of James Byrd Jr., but spared him the death penalty. American author and composer Paul Bowles, best known for "The Sheltering Sky" and other novels set in North Africa, died in Morocco at age 88.

Five years ago: Former President Bill Clinton's library opened in Little Rock, Ark.; in attendance were President George W. Bush, former President George H.W. Bush and former President Jimmy Carter. Former Ku Klux Klansman Bobby Frank Cherry, convicted of killing four black girls in the racially motivated bombing of a Birmingham, Ala., church in 1963, died in prison at age 74. Britain outlawed fox hunting in England and Wales. (Scotland had already outlawed hunting.) Composer Cy Coleman died in New York at age 75.

One year ago: Detroit's Big Three automakers pleaded with Congress for a \$25 billion lifeline, warning of a national economic catastrophe should they collapse. Belgium-based InBev SA formed the world's largest brewer with its 41 billion-euro (\$52 billion) takeover of U.S.-based Anheuser-Busch Cos. Inc. Boston's Dustin Pedroia won the American League MVP award, becoming the first second baseman to earn the honor in nearly a halfcentury.

Today's Birthdays:

Former Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, is 86. Actress Brenda Vaccaro is 70. Author-poet Margaret Atwood is 70. Actress Linda Evans is 67. Actress Susan Sullivan is 67. Former Cherokee Nation chief Wilma Mankiller is 64. Country singer Jacky Ward is 63. Actor Jameson Parker is 62. Actress-singer Andrea Marcovicci is 61. College Football Hall of Famer Jack Tatum is 61. Rock musician Herman Rarebell is 60. Singer Graham Parker is 59. Actor Delroy Lindo is 57. Comedian Kevin Nealon is 56. Football Hall of Fame quarterback Warren Moon is 53. Actor Oscar Nunez is 51. Actress Elizabeth Perkins is 49. Singer Kim Wilde is 49. Rock musician Kirk Hammett (Metallica) is 47. Rock singer Tim DeLaughter is 44. Actor Romany Malco is 41. Actor Owen Wilson is 41. Singer Duncan Sheik is 40. Actor Mike Epps is 39. Actress Peta Wilson is 39. Actress Chloe Sevigny is 35. Country singer Jessi Alexander is 33. Actor Steven Pasquale is 33. Rapper Fabolous is 30. Actor Nate Parker is 30. Rapper Mike Jones is 29. Actor Nathan Kress is 17. here and remember when my father had a major heart attack and refused to go to Amarillo because his confidence was in his doctor and hospital here. We have had and lost and now again have good doctors here and we need to stand up for and with them. We need to know what is going on. Corporations and sometimes boards seem to thrive on keeping business and their actions from the people. If we as an interested community do not demand to know their intentions then the first thing we know our hospital has been closed and our doctors are gone. I am asking people in the community, physicians, and all interested parties to please join with me in getting involved and finding out what the intentions are concerning our hospital and medical care in Pampa. Get to know who is on the board, personally connect with your physician, ask questions of everyone from lawn maintenance workers to administration. Know that you are going to have good healthcare available to you. Sandy Davis

Sumuy Duris

To the editor,

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.

November 28.



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The Pampa News - Wednesday, November 18, 2009 - 5

Around town



BY ANDREW GLOVER

aglover@thepampanews.com

Del Smith was the Harvesters freshmen boys basketball coach during Heath Parker's first stint as head football coach at Pampa. This year Smith returns to coach the freshman boys.

Smith said he wants to keep his team excited about the season.

"I want to work on fundamentals and make it fun," Smith said.

A Honor Roll:

Julia

Grade - Presley Alvey,

Kayla Monds, Isaiah Nies,

Courtney Parsons, Andrew

Stevens, Evan Boyd, Blake

Christen, Jessica Gooch,

Hunter Nicholas, Kambry

Smith, Zachari Staples,

3rd Grade - Braydon

Burrell, Jordan Littlefield,

Jakan Reeves, Keely Rex,

Bethany Jo Roden, Jace

Ware, Kinley Beyer, Jaxon

Chaney, Jace Clark, Taylor

May, Elle McCracken,

Parnell,

Chae Ward.

Karson

freshmen basketball coach, Smith is an assistant football coach. A lot of the basketball players this year are football players. Smith said he encourages freshman to play multiple sports.

"I think the ninth graders are excited about it (play-ing basketball)," Smith said. "They're excited about starting something new. That's what we tray to do. Most of the time my kids that are playing both

experience in Pampa the Austin Elementary Second Six Weeks Honor Roll

2nd

sports you have to have that. We need them to play them both. Our numbers dictate that and we encourage that."

This season there will be cuts on the freshman team with a lot trying out. Smith said as a coach he hates it.

"That's the worst part of the job," Smith said. I hate having to cut them as freshmen. because you don't know what they are going to be like as freshmen or seniors."

difference between junior high basketball and high school is defense.

"When they get to high school they learn a system and they stay in that system for four years," Smith said. "That first year you are really trying to teach them that defensive system."

The freshmen open their season with the Canyon Thursday tournament through Saturday.

Smith said the biggest



Archer Family Singers at Church of the Nazarene

Pastor Jimmye and the congregation at the Church of the Nazarene invite you to come enjoy the talent and ministry of the Archer Family Singers on Saturday, November 21 at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall and on Sunday, November 22 at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary.

You'll enjoy the humor, quality of sound and genuineness as this family pres-Moreno, Hayden Reagan, ents some old favorites and some of their original 4th Grade- Logan compositions. The chilwith any questions. Martindale, Evan Read, dren contribute much to Do you know a four or Do you know... three year old (before or an infant or on Sept. 1st)? pregnant mom? Early Head Start Birth to three Region 16 Head Start has a center-based program in your neighborhood.

this family's performance so you'll greatly enjoy their refreshing style.

Attending their concert would be a wonderful way to prepare for the week of Thanksgiving! You'll be blessed and glad you came and we will be blessed by your participation. There will be a love offering received at each performance at the Church of the Nazarene, 500 N. West (corner of West & Buckler). Call 669-3144

Brenna Kay Seideman

Ashliegh and Jeremy Seideman of Amarillo welcomed their daughter Brenna Kay Seideman September 9, 2009 at 3:19 a.m.. Brenna was nine pounds nine ounces and 21 1/2 inches long at birth.. She was born in BSA Hospital in Amarillo.

She is the sister of Reese Seideman of Amarillo. Brenna was also welcomed by maternal grandparents Paula and Steve Smith of Pampa. Her paternal grandparents are the late Debbie Seideman and the late Rick Seideman. Brenna's great grandparents are Bill and Judy Steinberger of Perryton and Doyle and Mary Smith of Pampa. She has two more great grandmothers, Gleva Ward of Tulsa, Okla. and Bobbie Seideman of Amarillo. Her great-great grandmother is Sis Steinberger of Stafford.



ABBY: Please don't think grieving the loss of a par-I'm stupid for asking this, ent, a child or a spouse but I need some help. The whether the death may be practice of letter-writing sudden or after a lingering appears to be a dying form illness because of e-mail and tex-DEAR ABBY: When my husband and I married ting -- which I'm good at. But when I receive a nice two years ago, we both gift, I know the proper way wanted children. I am havto acknowledge it is to ing second thoughts now. write a thank-you letter. We recently discovered Can you please tell me that there's a genetic dishow to do one that doesn't order on one side of the come across as awkward? family, and it scares me to Christmas is coming and think we may not have a this is hard for me. When healthy child. I try to get my thoughts To be perfectly honest, down on paper, I am ... even if we could have a STUCK! healthy child, I am also not STUCK!: sure I want to go through DEAR There's no such thing as the challenge of parenting a teenager. How should I a "stupid" question, and your problem is one that is approach my dear husband shared by many. A thankabout my change of heart? you letter doesn't have to SECOND-GUESSING be long and flowery. In IN N.Y. SECONDfact, short and to-the-point DEAR can be more effective. GUESSING: Be gentle, I have found that keepbut be honest. Rather than ing a notepad handy when say you don't want kids, I open a gift and jotting start by saying you are havdown the first thought ing serious doubts about that comes into my head whether you would be good parent material. Then when I open the package is helpful. (Hint: Is it soft? tell him why.

Cuddly? Tasty? Something you had wanted but had not

been able to find? Clever? If the answer is yes, then

Christmas isn't the only

gift-giving occasion when

a thank-you letter is called

for. There are also wed-

dings, anniversaries, grad-

uations. My booklet "How

to Write Letters for All

Occasions" offers samples

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personalized. It can be

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0447. Shipping and han-

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for writing a love letter

-- and those letters that are

the hardest of all, letters

of condolence. Included

are specific suggestions on what to say, and equally important, what NOT

11

Also included are tips

price.

And by the way,

write it down.)

DEAR to say when someone is

Rebekah Andrews, Jordan Moore, Makenzie Whitney Banks, Braeden Nicholas, Bryson Paronto, Meredith Pooley, Sienna Christen, Jayden Holland, Robert Hough, Allison Albers, Brady Albert, Ariel Pooley, Abigail Strickland, Cambern, Brayden Dyson, Emily Sutherland, Julian Elaine Nava, Ryan Roden, Velasquez, Halie West, Garrett Ely, Brandt Logan, Allen, Conner Mason McKay, Bryce Anstey, Caitlynne Budd, Parker, Mason Richards, Nicholas Stevens, Indy Avery Cochran, Marcus Davila, Gage Gerhardt, Sullivan. Georgia Osborne, Conner AB Honor Roll: 2nd Scott, Cooper Trolinger, Grade - Gabriel Heiskell, William Karson, Ashlynn Abigail DeLoach, Roc Doan, Riley Elliff, Brock Ferguson, Taylor Jefferies,

Karson, Alex Smith.

Mulanax, Seth Starnes, Landon Boehmisch, Kellan Stokes, Allyson Gutierrez, Addison Smith, Shelby Watson. 3rd Grade

-Mason L''Esperance, Ethan Lemke, Andrea Velasquez, Keely Williamson, Jacob Ebenkamp, Braden Albers, Jace Gant, Brody Larkin, Andrew McIntosh, Erica Garrison Stevens.

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1	Brenden Courtney, James
1	Davila, Joshua Garvin,
	Jazmin Guzman, Avery
	Hoganson, Raymond
i	Mendoza, Allie O'Brien,
	Dalton Riggs, Reagan
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)	4th Grade - Madeline
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UMINADRUM

Jadyn

Thomas Costley, Brianna Pickett, Aspen Sullivan, Destany Young, Patrick Allen, Dylan Childress, Angel Gonzalez, Dylan Jeanson.

Grade-Jesse Downs, Brock Duncan, Rylee Novian, Ashten Snapp, Kami Ware, Emily DeLoach, Jett Richards, Brandon Sieck, Ethan Brock, Chainee Corley, Anastasia Lemke, Thu Nguyen Greyson Wilson.

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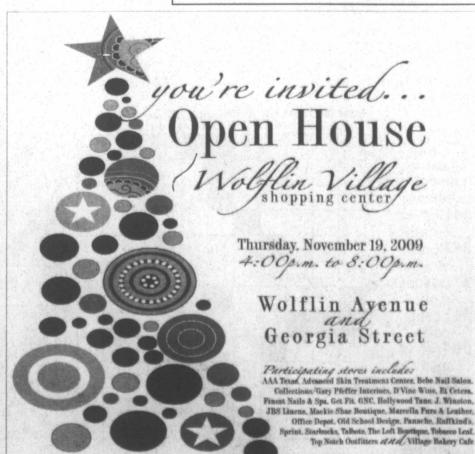
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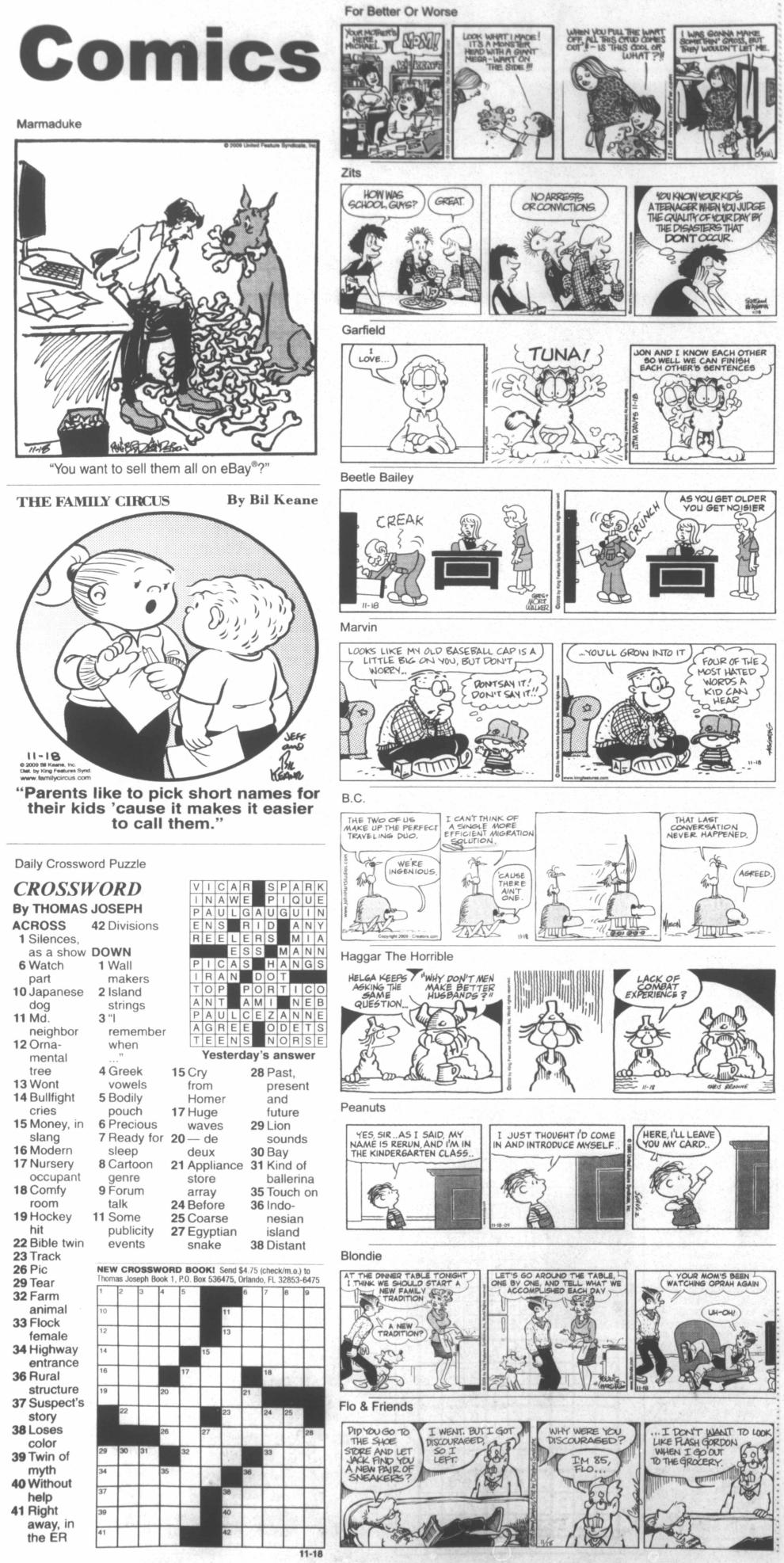
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Wednesday, November 18, 2009 — The Pampa News



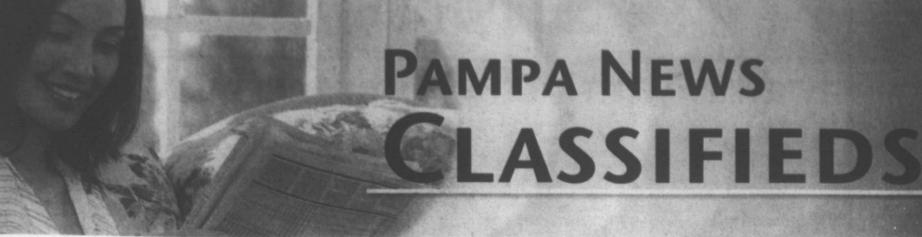
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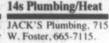
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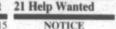
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TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

**** A partnership or friendship is tested frequently. You are coming from a place of security. Where you see opportunities, others might feel jeopardized. Understanding evolves to a new level. A boss has spectacular dreams. Tonight: A

Though you have many great ideas, the question remains whether to instrument them. Try to verify information. Tonight: Return calls, and then decide. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★ Be aware of what is possible financially. Sometimes you overspend, which is part of a tendency to go to

Ryan (1961)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at www.jacquelinebigar.com.

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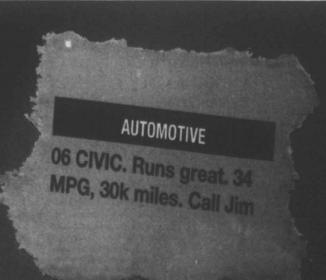
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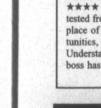
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8 — Wednesday, November 18, 2009 — The Pampa News

Sports

Owls fly away with victory over the Lady Pirates

BY ANDREW GLOVER aglover@thepampanews.com

If you were to ask Lefors Head Girls Basketball Coach Tory Peet what he was pleased with in their 43-15 loss to the Silverton Lady Owls Tuesday in Lefors, his answer was not a whole lot.

"I'm going to have to watch the video (of the game) and see how the did on the video," Peet said. "Lots to work on. It's never as bad as you think it is and it's never as good as you think it is. I'm sure there will be some positives come out but right now I can't think of any.

Peet said one of his team's weaknesses was their shooting.

"We missed a lot of shots, we took a lot of bad shots," Peet said. "We'll

just have to spend more time in the gym shooting. Just lots of work.

The Lady Owls took an early 5-2 lead on the Lady Pirates. Both teams made baskets as the quarter ended with Silverton ahead 7-4. In the second quarter, Story Pairsh hit a two-pointer and Taylor Overstreet hit two free throws cutting Silverton's lead to 9-8. The Lady Owls scored six unanswered points expanding their lead to 15-8. Kaittlynn Porter cut Silverton's lead to 15-10 at halftime.

The Lady Owls took full control in the second half. Silverton scored the first seven points of the third quarter. Overstreet broke up the Lady Owls run with one free throw. Shayley Morriss made a jumper to cut the Lady Owls lead to 22-13. Silverton led 29-13 at the end of the third.

The Lady Owls ended any hope of a fourth quarter rally, scoring the first six points of the quarter. Lacie Johnston scored the Pirates final points of the game with a jumper.

Peet said his team did well on defense in the first half but struggled getting back on defense in the second half.

"They had the ball we tried to jump them, we tried to trap them when we needed to get back on defense," Peet said. "They ran the floor better than us. I thought they were in better shape than us. That's stuff I can fix."

The Lady Pirates (1-1) travel to Samnorwood to play the Eagles Friday.



Sandies edge Harvesters

The Pampa Harvesters varsity boys basketball team had eight out of ten players on the varsity football team. The team only had one day of practice before opening the season against Amarillo High Tuesday. The Harvesters came up short in the season opener in a 66-59 loss to the Amarillo High Sandies. Head Coach Dustin Miller was pleased with how his team played given the circumstances but not satisfied.

"There are a lot of positives considering this is the first time we have played against someone who isn't in our program," Miller said.

In the first quarter the game was back and forth. The largest lead anyone got was four which the Harvesters had at 8-4. The

Sandies had two leads of 2-0 and 12-10. The teams were tied three times as the quarter ended in a 12-12 tie.

In the second quarter, Amarillo High took the lead and this time for good. The Sandies scored the first four points of the quarter. The Harvesters would get within a point as an Alex Clendening threepointer cut Amarillo's lead to 18-17. The Sandies outscored the Harvesters 9-1 to take a 27-18 haftime lead

In the second half, Amarillo expanded their lead to 13 points. Latigo Collins cut into the Sandies lead scoring the Harvesters first nine points of the third quarter. Pampa trailed 44-33 at the end of the third.

In the fourth quarter, the

Sandies expanded their lead to 50-36 but that's when the Harvesters would rally. Pampa went on a 10-0 run to cut Amarillo's lead to four with Clendening scoring six of those points. But that was as close as the Harvesters would get.

Miller said his team allowed to many uncontested shots on defense.

"They got a couple of crucial offensive put backs when we were making a little run at them," Miller said.

The junior varsity lost 53-31 to the Sandies. Coach Matt Embry said his team competed well.

"We were only down six at halftime," Embry said. "We ran out of gas in the second half.'

The Harvesters (0-1) host Frenship Friday at 6:30 p.m

ildcats maul frosh girls

BY ANDREW GLOVER aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Lady Harvesters freshmen girls basketball team were outscored 34-9 in the first half, as they lost their first game of the season 51-26 against the Canadian Lady Wildcats Monday in Canadian. Coach Alan Segura said

his team came out flat. "We got behind and

could not catch up," Segura said. "At the end of the first half of play it was 34-9. "The girls fought back and finished the game strong."

Canadian outscored the Lady Harvesters 16-2 in the first quarter and 18-7 in the second to take a 25-point halftime lead. The Lady Wildcats won the third quarter 9-6 to exand their lead to 43-15. Pampa outscored the Lady Wildcats 11-8 in the final

staff photo by Andrew Glover Story Pairsh shots a jumper Tuesday in Lefors game against the Silverton Owls.

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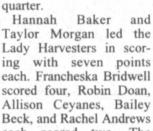
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The Lady Pirates lost 43-15 for their first loss of the season.



ing with seven points each. Francheska Bridwell scored four, Robin Doan, Allison Ceyanes, Bailey Beck, and Rachel Andrews each scored two. The freshmen's next game is at home against Dumas 10 a.m. Saturday.

