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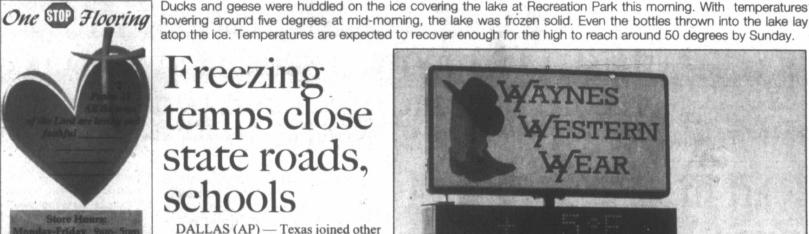
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Cold snap almost over



PAMPA NEWS

staff photo by David Bowser

hovering around five degrees at mid-morning, the lake was frozen solid. Even the bottles thrown into the lake lay atop the ice. Temperatures are expected to recover enough for the high to reach around 50 degrees by Sunday. Freezing temps close state roads, EAR schools DALLAS (AP) - Texas joined other states in the nation's icebox Thursday as temperatures plummeted into the teens and 20s through much of the northern part of the state and hovered just below freezing much of the day. School closings, traffic accidents and icy roads were common in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, which was gripped by he coldest weather snap in a de

Bolin trial set for

BY DAVID BOWSER dbowser@thepampanews.com

Mary Lee Bolin is scheduled to go to trial in Pampa for the death of her sixweek-old baby in mid-April.

Pampa defense attorney Harold Comer and 31st District Attorney Lynn Switzer each announced ready at the docket call in December, but the problem appeared to be getting a courtroom for what is expected to be a week long trial. In addition, arrangements had to be made for a number of witnesses.

The scheduling delays, however, have been worked out and a trial date set in 31st District Judge Steven Emmertt's court for Monday, April 19.

Bolin is accused of killing her baby, Kenzee Renee Bolin, in May of 2007.

The infant died May 21 at Pampa Regional Medical Center after suffering breathing difficulties. Paramedics and police officers tried for about an hour to save the baby's

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Temperatures in the region were expected to remain at or below freezing until Saturday, with lows of 15 degrees predicted for Thursday night and 14 Friday night. Wind chills were expected to make it feel like zero.

The last time the region had two days of such cold was January 1997. National Weather Service meteorologist Jennifer Dunn said. Waco had a similar frozen spell in December 1990, she said.

Thursday, the unusual cold stretched down to the Mexican border, where Laredo officials issued a frost bite advisory and told residents to "dress warmly and stay dry" as temperatures were expected near freezing overnight Thursday.

"Adults and children should wear: a hat, a scarf or knit mask to cover face and mouth, mittens, water-resistant coat and shoes, and several layers of loosefitting clothing," the city advised residents who usually see near 70-degree weather in January. "Additionally, everyone should be eating well-balanced meals which will aid in keeping you warmer."

As a precaution, Gov. Rick Perry activated the National Guard and Dallas police rounded up homeless people for placement in warm shelters Wednesday night. They planned to do the same Thursday evening.

Early morning drizzle iced roads in some areas Thursday, causing scores of accidents and traffic snarls during the morning commute, although most roads had dried significantly by midday.

The University of North Texas in Denton was among a handful of area colleges that closed or delayed their start and thousands of children, mainly in Tarrant, Denton and Collin counties, got an unexpected holiday.

Jack Swearingen, a fourth-grader in Frisco, awoke to find his school closed on his 10th birthday.

"He feels like it's a birthday present from Mother Nature," said his mother, Brandy Swearingen. "But honestly, the

WEATHER cont. on page 3



staff photo by David Bowser Traffic on Hobart was light this morning as temperatures hovered around five degrees under clear skies.

Drug benefit expanded to one million more seniors

WASHINGTON (AP) In case the prospect of nearly \$4,000 in prescription assistance isn't enough to perk up lowincome seniors, the government is using '60s singer' Chubby Checker to publicize "the twist" in the Medicare drug program.

As of Jan. 1, more than 1 million low-income seniors are newly eligible for more generous prescription drug benefits under the "extra help" program. Benefiting from a new law are those with life insurance policies and those who regularly get money from relatives to help pay household expenses but were previously disqualified because of too many assets or too much income.

"The safety net is frayed and this is a way to start stitching it back together again," said Hilary Dalin, associate director for benefits at the National Council on Aging.

Income limits are \$16,245 a year for singles and \$21,855 for married couples living together.

Assets such as stocks, bonds and bank accounts must be limited to \$12,510 for singles and \$25,010 for married couples. The value of homes and automobiles are excluded.

Under the old law, applicants had to include the value of life insurance policies in calculating their assets. They also had to include as part of their income money received on a regular basis from relatives and friends to help pay household expenses.

Social Security Commissioner Michael J. Astrue urged seniors who were rejected for the program in the past to reapply.

To help promote the new twist in the law, Astrue enlisted Chubby Checker, who danced and sang "The Twist" to the top of the pop charts in the early 1960s. Those too young to remember Checker probably don't qualify for the 65-and-up health care plan.

"It's extra help," Checker said in an interview, "and this is what I'm all about." He is scheduled to

unveil an ad campaign Friday in New York City, including posters, brochures and a television public service announcement.

About 32 million seniors are enrolled in the Medicare Part D prescription drug program. About 30 percent of them are enrolled in the extra help program, also known as the lowincome subsidy.

Benefits vary by income. For many, the extra help program eliminates premiums and annual deductibles and charges copays as low as \$1.10 for generic drugs and \$3.30 for brand names.

Robert Sachs of New York City said his prescription drugs would cost at least \$2,000 a month if he had to pay full price an amount he couldn't afford. Sachs, 67, has multiple sclerosis and other medical problems and must take several medications.

Under the extra help program, Sachs said, he pays \$6 a prescription for name-brand

TWIST cont. on page 3



life. An autopsy indicated that the baby died of blunt force trauma, according to Pampa police officers. A Gray County grand

jury indicted the baby's mother, Mary Lee Bolin, in the baby's death.

She was arrested June 8, 2007, on capitol murder charges and was freed on a \$100,000 bond. A Gray County grand jury indicted Bolin on June 28, 2007.

Prosecutors said they believe the baby was shaken or slammed against a hard surface.

2 - Friday, January 8, 2010 - The Pampa News

For the record

Friday	Saturday	Sunday		
*		#		
High 31	High 44 Low 23	High 50 Low 24		

Tonight: Clear, with a low around 8. Wind chill values between -4 and 6. South southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 31. Wind chill values between -4 and 6. South southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Saturday Night: Clear, with a low around 13. Wind chill values between 1 and 11. South southeast wind around 10 mph.

Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 44. South southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 23. South wind around 10 mph becoming west northwest.

Monday: Sunny, with a high near 50. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Monday Night: Clear, with a low around 24. Northeast wind around 5 mph becoming south southwest.

O This information brought to you by...



2 found dead in burned house

CHANNELVIEW, Texas (AP) - Two people have been found dead after a house fire in east Harris County. Sheriff's Lt. Mitch Weston says the cause of Thursday night's fire, in the Channelview area, is sought. The bod-

ies of a man and a woman were in the residence. Names of the victims were not immediately released. Derek Parrish, who says he is related to the people liv-

Obituaries

ester Kenneth Michael, 81

Lester Lefors-Kenneth Michael, 81, died December 19, 2009, in Lefors, Texas.

Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, January 9, 2010, at the First Baptist Church in Lefors, with Rev. Chris Webb, a Baptist minister, officiating. Cremation and arrangements are under the

Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa. Mr. Michael was born

July 28, 1928 in Pampa where he graduated from Pampa High School. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, during the Vietnam War, serving in the Navy until his retirement, He was a member of the First

direction of Carmichael- Baptist Church of Lefors. Mr. Michael was a devoted and caring son who cared for and loved his mother.

> Survivors include a daughter: Lou Ann Spencer of Puyallup, Washington; a sister, Launa Cain of Shamrock; two grand-daughters, Natalie Pace of Watertown, New York, and Danielle Spencer of

Puvallup, Washington and a grandson, Jonathan Spencer of Lancaster, California. He was preceded in death by a son, Johnny Michael; two brothers, Mike Michael and Orville Michael; and asister: Greela Decker.

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

EMERGENCY SERVICES

SHERIFF

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported only one person arrested in the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. today.

Thursday, Jan. 7.

Michael Keith Norton, 44, was arrested on charges of driving while intoxicat-. ed, third offense or more.

PAMPA PD

The Pampa Police

IN BRIEF

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

Officers reported two traffic stops and one motorist assist. There was ore accident. Animal control reported

five calls. Pampa EMS reported

four ambulance calls. Thursday, Jan. 7. A threat was reported in

the 2200 block of North Perryton Parkway.

Criminal mischief was reported to police.

The Pampa Fire Department launched an investigation in the 2100

block of North Lynn. Harassment was reported in the 1300 block of West Somerville.

A burglary was reported in the 100 block of North West.

Found property was reported in the 400 block of North Ballard. Disorderly conduct was

reported in the 1800 block of North Banks.

An alarm was reported in the 100 block of East Foster.

City water crews were called to the 600 block of North West and to Randy Matson and Sumner. Friday, Jan. 8.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at Hobart and Wilks and in the 1800 block of North Wells.

ERCOT reports record demand

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) The bitter cold that has most of Texas in its grip has generated two winter peak demand records in as many days on the state's biggest electrical grid.

The Electric Reliability Council of Texas operates that grid, which covers most of the state. An ERCOT statement said peak demand reached a new winter record of 55,856 megawatts during the 7-8 a.m. period Friday. That broke the day-old

Saathoff, vice president of system planning and opera-tions, said, "The ERCOT grid has not experienced any major operational issues during this severe weather event.'

One megawatt usually powers about 500 averagesize homes under average conditions.

ERCOT's summer peak wstuck at 10 percent. demand record is 63,400 megawatts set last July 13.

Obama to announce more spending on green jobs

President Barack Obama plans to announce more government spending to create tens of thousands of green jobs as the nation is weighed down by an unemployment rate

The White House says mlast year. yert ano ovad thus him somerne to dean y

WASHINGTON (AP) Obama on Friday will announce projects that will help develop solar and wind power and energy management technologies. The funding is part of the \$787 billion economic stimulus package I'm Congress approved early

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ing in the house, says the pair had mobility issues and he does not suspect foul play.

Fire department officials declined comment.

1 dog dead, 3 suffering cold exposure in Beaumont

BEAUMONT, Texas (AP) — Beaumont police say a pit bull has been found dead in a garbage can and three other dogs suffered exposure during freezing conditions.

Investigators want to know if the dumped dog froze to death.

Police say a necropsy will be done. The owners could face animal cruelty charges.

Police on Friday morning answered a call from a passer-by about pit bulls

chained outside, on a day when temperatures dipped into the 20s.

Officer Randy Stevens says the dead dog was in a trash can in a driveway. Stevens says the three other dogs appear to be malnourished and suffering from exposure to the cold.

Stevens says the dogs were allowed to remain with the owners, who agreed to place the animals in the garage or another warm location.

El Paso man convicted in death of 3-year-old

EL PASO, Texas (AP) -An El Paso man is headed to prison for life for killing @ Jacqueline Gonzalez. his girlfriend's 3-year-old daughter.

An El Paso County jury convicted 27-year-old Francisco Javier Castaneda



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CERAMIC TILE. Keith Taylor, 874-1779 lv. msg.

GOSPEL SINGING, Sunday afternoon, 2-4, Pentecostal Holiness Church, 1700 Alcock, Everyone welcome.

PHS 1970 40th Reunion meeting 7 pm Thursday Jan. 14th @ The Coffee Shop. Classmates are encouraged to attend. 666-2213

of capital murder Friday in the 2007 beating death of

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record 52,001 megawatts set during the 7-8 a.m. period Thursday. Kent



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Your future is closer than you think.

West Texas A&M University has partnered with Frank Phillips College, Clarendon College and the Dalhart Community Foundation to bring undergraduate teacher certification courses to local Panhandle communities beginning Jan. 11.

- Borger Frank Phillips College, Center for Access and Innovation, DLR-2
- Clarendon Clarendon College, Administration Building, ADMN 202
- Pampa Clarendon College, Pampa Center, MKBC 106

Dalhart Community Connection - Dalhart High School Library, Spirit Dr.

Courses Offered:

Spring 2010:

6 - 8:30 p.m. Mondays, Jan. 11 - May 6 Educational Psychology

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For more information about this course or to learn how this new program can help you complete your educational objectives, please contact:

> Dr. Jan Ray, 806-651-2616, jray@wtamu.edu wtamu.edu/educationITV

est Texas A&M University

The Pampa News — Friday, January 8, 2010 — 3

Dhama orders up more air security, intel sharing

WASHINGTON (AP) Hundreds of law enforcement officers are being trained as federal air marshals to ramp up security as the Obama administration tries to prevent a repeat of the near-catastrophic attempt to blow up an airliner bound for Detroit on Christmas Day. President Barack Obama ordered the U.S. intelligence agencies to do a better job of recognizing serious terror threats and sharing information with those who can disrupt a plot as quickly as possible. The White House on Thursday released a declassified summary of

began when a 23-yearold Nigerian man allegedly tried to blow up a Northwest Airlines flight from Amsterdam to Detroit with an explosive hidden in his underwear.

Officials received fragments of information as early as October about an alleged terror recruit they later learned was Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab.

Although intelligence officials knew that an al-Qaida operative in Yemen posed a threat to U.S. security, they did not increase their focus on that threat and did not pull together fragments of data needed

a two-week review that to foil the scheme, the review found.

Obama announced about a dozen changes designed to fix that, including new terror watch list guidelines, wider and quicker distribution of intelligence reports. stronger analysis of those reports, international partnerships and an interagency effort to develop nextgeneration airport screening technologies.

Extra air marshals --- one of the additional layers of security ordered for air travel - will add to the more than 4,000 already in the system, officials familiar with the classified

screening technology to detect explosives and other dangerous materials terrorists could try to sneak onto an airplane. While Obama promised

improved security, however, his solutions were laced with bureaucratic reshuffling.

strategy said. Obama has

also called for enhanced

Americans might be surprised that the government was not already taking some of the steps Obama ordered. For instance, he directed the intelligence community to begin assigning direct responsibility for following up leads on

high-priority threats.

Obama himself hinted at the difficulties of improving intelligence and security against a terrorist network that devises new methods as fast or faster

than the U.S. can come up with defenses.

"There is, of course, no foolproof solution," he said. "We have to stay one step ahead of a nimble adversary."

SOS Staffing

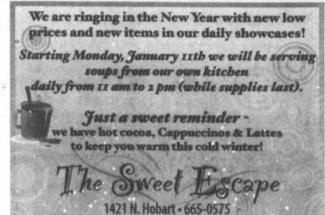
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Security office.

cont. from page 1

below freezing Saturday. Citrus fruit is damaged once the temperature reaches 28 degrees or below and stays there for three to four hours, said Ray Prewett, president of Texas Citrus Mutual. Tree damage occurs if temperatures hold at several degrees lower. He said most growers will probably flood their groves, hoping the water will make the 1 or 2 degree difference

Calvary Assembly of God The Church Built on Love. Service Times Sunday School 9:45am

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Daily Horoscope

plish. Listen to what is being shared by the many different people in your life. You'll accomplish more than you thought possible with the merry-goround of friends and loved ones appearing, Tonight: Choose "cozy

you deal with a situation could change as a result. Tonight: It is your call. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) *** You might want to do something far differently from in the past. Though the idea might appear ripe, the timing

school sophomore. I am at sports, and physical education class is a nightmare. I have become friends with another guy, "Rick," who

has similar problems.

the problem. and have even been physi-

this. We are not gay. We are just good friends who share common problems. We are interested in girls, but they aren't interested in us. When I try to say I'm not gay, they say, "Then who is your girlfriend?" When I tell them I don't have one, they laugh at me.

"A" students. We keep telling ourselves that we will succeed where some of the macho guys who are obvious losers will not, and we'll have the last laugh. However, this is still a terrible situation for us, and we can't stand the thought of another two years like this. Please help. -- SOPHOMORE IN SACRAMENTO DEAR SOPHOMORE: If you and your friend haven't already told your parents what's going on, do so immediately. Then you and your parents should pay a visit to the school principal to report that you have been attacked by other students and misidentified as gay not only by your peers, but also by a member of the staff. It appears that both staff and student body in your school need to be educated about the fact that discrimination, assault and hate crimes are illegal. And if the harassment is not stopped immediately, your families should take this

short, 5-foot-5-inch high small-boned and my voice is high-pitched. I'm terrible

DEAR ABBY: I am a

is much like me, and it helps to have someone who

hang out together, some of the macho guys have started a rumor that we're gay, and now everyone in the school thinks it's true. Our PE teacher has even made comments to this effect, which compounds

Rick and I are both

matter to a lawyer. married

sun is shining, the road is dry, so I think they should have been in school, maybe delayed."

Hardware stores in parts of the state had runs on portable heaters and insulating materials. Texans snapped up plastic water pipe covers in anticipation of more cold.

In the Rio Grande Valley, South Texas citrus growers studied forecasts that disagreed on whether the temperature would actually get

9. 2010:

Because Rick and I

Rick and I are shunned cally attacked because of

DEAR ABBY: My 38-year-old daughter's house is filthy. Her youngest is now in

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

the hospital with pneumonia, and her two other kids are sick all the time. They are constantly coughing, have runny noses, fever and ear infections. I have tried talking to her regarding her housekeeping but

she doesn't want to hear anything I have to say. Her husband has con-

vinced her that they have "more important things to be concerned with" than a clean house. He says they have love, and a clean house doesn't matter. The oldest girl is 11, and she tells me she's embarrassed to have anyone visit her. She has no friends (nor does my daughter) and I am afraid her life will go down along with my daughter's. Can you help me to help them? -- GRANDMA IN

SOUTH CAROLINA DEAR GRANDMA: My first suggestion is to hire someone to clean your daughter's house once a month, if that's doable. The second is to discuss your very real concerns with the doctor who is treating your grandchild for pneumonia. While your son-in-law may think that a house filled with love doesn't have to be clean, if it's so dirty it is hazardous to the health of the children who live there, he is seriously mistaken.

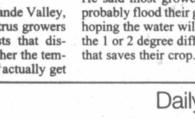
consumer group based in New York.

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"Even with Part D drug

coverage, many folks can't afford the drugs that they need," said Joe Baker,

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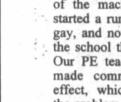
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couldn't have this benefit." he said in an interview. Sachs said he learned of the program from the Medicare Rights Center, a

drugs and less for gener-

cont. from page 1 president of the Medicare Rights Center. "Extra help gives them what they need

affordable." Low-income

to make the drug benefit seniors

can apply for the program online at socialsecurity. gov, or by calling 1-800-772-1213. Seniors can also apply at their local Social

ics. "I wouldn't be here if I

DEAR ABBY: I have an etiquette question my friends and I are wondering about. What is an appropriate response when you find out someone is expecting but she doesn't want to be? "Congratulations" doesn't seem right, but neither does, "You have my sympathy." I feel lost when this situation comes up. Do you have any ideas? -- MELISSA IN KANSAS

DEAR MELISSA: How about, "I heard the news. If there is anything you need, please let me know."

em to work as a team will be in your success. You also make new friends through networking who could prove to be more helpful than in the past. If you are single, you are likely to meet someone quite special through friends. Don't rush into formalizing this tie. Get to know this person well. If you are attached, the two of you will want to socialize more often. Also, together decide to do something you both have always wanted to do. SCORPIO often points the way to the right path.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, Jan.

This year, you have many opportunities

to make several key goals possible.

Being able to mobilize others and getting

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

**** Sitting around at home won't make you happy, and could be the source of arguments. You have so much energy go out for a walk, even if it is brisk. If you decide you must stay close to home, stack wood, start working on your taxes, just stay active. Tonight: Make plans with a favorite person.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) **** Defer to others. You might not

have a choice, as a partner, family member or friend cannot help but be dominant. You actually might like the adventure that being a follower could take you on. Tonight: People pop out of the woodwork

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) *** You might have a lot to accomCANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ Your imagination cannot be held back. Often, you choose not to share your thoughts. Your ideas will invigorate your day, as well as others'. With spontaneity as an ally, you could be off for a fun, different adventure before you know it. Tonight: Stay in motion.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Take a hint from Aries. Go to the gym or indulge in a favorite sport. If you remain sedentary, quarrels could erupt from out of nowhere. Make time for a key family member. Tonight: Take the dog for a longer walk. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ Return calls and make plans with family or close friends. A neighbor might have an interesting tidbit to share. Listen, but don't take the information as gospel. Check out a purchase of a car or computer with a great deal of care.

Tonight: You don't have to go far. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) *** Stay sensitive to spending and know when you have gone overboard. Recent months have encouraged more spending, and your budget might need an immediate diet or restoration! Learn to say "no." Tonight: Learn less expensive

ways of indulging others. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21).

**** You are all smiles, moving into a new realm. Understanding will evolve to a new level if you remain open, even if someone challenges you. How

might not be right. Hold off for several days, and you'll get far more positive results. Tonight: Do something just for you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ Don't lose sight of your objectives, or you might be sorry later. A partner expresses his or her irritation. How you process this person's complaint and your attitude could be a marker in this tie. Tonight: Where the action is. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

*** Others look to you. Know that you are the lead player in making plans today, whether you like it or not. Listen to suggestions, but your energy, smile and attitude are the landmarks that create change. Tonight: A must appearance. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ If you are in the mood for a day trip or want to make travel plans for the near future, go off and do just that. You probably need a change of scenery. You will feel much better as a result. Tonight: Put on a great piece of music.

BORN TODAY

Guitarist, songwriter Jimmy Page (1944), singer Crystal Gayle (1951), singer, political activist Joan Baez (1941)

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

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- Friday, January 8, 2010 - The Pampa News

Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Friday, Jan. 8, the eighth day of 2010. There are 357 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 8th, 1935, rock-'n'-roll legend Elvis Presley was born in Tupelo, Miss.

On this date:

In 1798, the 11th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was declared in effect by President John Adams nearly three years after its ratification by the states; it prohibited a citizen of one state from suing another state in federal court.

In 1815, U.S. forces led by Gen. Andrew Jackson defeated the British in the Battle of New Orleans the closing engagement of the War of 1812.

'The devil is easy to identify. He appears when you're terribly tired and makes a reasonable request, which you know you shouldn't grant.'

- Fiorello LaGuardia,

Mayor of New York City

In 1918, President Woodrow Wilson outlined his "Fourteen Points" for lasting peace after World War I. Mississippi became the first state to ratify the 18th Amendment to the Constitution, which established Prohibition.

In 1959, Charles de Gaulle was inaugurated as president of France's Fifth Republic. In Cuba, Fidel Castro and his army arrived in Havana in triumph following the overthrow of Fulgencio Batista.

In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson declared a "War on Poverty" in his State of the Union address.

In 1973, the Paris peace talks between the United States and North Vietnam resumed.

In 1976, Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai died in Beijing.

In 1987, for the first time, the Dow Jones industrial average closed above 2,000, ending the day at 2,002.25.

In 1989, 47 people were killed when a British Midland Boeing 737-400 carrying 126 people crashed in central England.



On Christmas Eve, just as Americans were getting ready to celebrate the

holiday with family and friends, Senate Democrats passed a partisan health care bill without a single Republican vote. It was crafted in secret and packed with sweetheart deals. A majority of Americans

were rightly opposed to the bill, but it was rushed through without regard to the rising concerns raised by citizens throughout our country.

Over the past year, Republicans repeatedly offered constructive, concrete proposals to reform America's health care system, but over and over again we were shut out

RAGING MODERATE

BY WILL DURST All right, it was a hecka- outline a plan to fix the long holiday season. I'm Social Security problem tired and you're tired. And neither of us has the energy to go through the whole post-modern deconstructionist explanation as to why you're reading a predictions column here. Yes, I'm doing a predictions column. What's the matter with you people? It's the beginning of a new year. Heck, it's the beginning of a new decade. That's what journalists do: prediction columns. It's a festive tradition. Like mistletoe or Hopping John or calling hospital emergency rooms when Uncle Bud goes missing in the wee hours of Boxing Day. And no, I don't care that we're already deep enough into January that most of our resolutions lie broken on the calendar floor like branches of a discarded Noble fir on the shoulder of a logging-camp approach road. C'mon people, what am I, flying solo here? Deal with it. Or don't. Because here they are: a list of predictions of what we can or should expect from various people during the 1st year of the second decade of the 21st century. I PREDICT THAT IN **THE YEAR 2010:** The Airline Industry will make every effort to rid the skies of the most dangerous security threat known to man: panties. Charlie Sheen will attempt to hire whoever is responsible for Tiger Woods' damage control. Barack Obama will finally purge himself of that overabundance of expectations for a bit of Congressional assistance.

ed. On the Senate floor, we were blocked from offering a reasonable number of Republican amendments to address issues such as tax increases and Medicare cuts. And promises to give the public ample time to read the bill online - a bill that was more than 2,000 pages long - were broken. Even Senate Democrats reluctantly acknowledged that they had yet to see the final version of a bill that leaders of their own party had been amassing

and will not be in the legislation, as well as to know who is sitting at the table during the talks. That is why several of my Senate colleagues and I recently wrote to Senator Reid urging him to fulfill President Obama's campaign pledge to allow C-SPAN cameras to go behind closed doors and televise the final health care bill deliberations live and in their entirety.

We look forward to the Majority Leader's response to our request and hope that he will demonstrate a renewed commitment to full transparency as the Senate works with Speaker Pelosi and the White House to come to a final compromise. The goal of health care reform should be to bring down the high cost of health care and make insurance coverage more affordable. Kay Bailey Hutchison is the senior U.S. Senator from Texas

Americans deserve greater transparency in health care bill negotiations

of the legislative process.

NA

In committee hearings, Republican commonsense amendments were defeat-

Action-Star Film Series. The U.S. Congress will

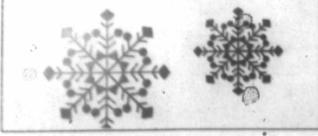
In 2003, a US Airways Express commuter plane crashed at the Charlotte, N.C., airport, killing all 21 people on board. A Turkish Airlines jet crashed in Turkey, killing 75 people.

Ten years ago: During a debate in Johnston, Iowa, Democratic presidential candidate Bill Bradley accused Al Gore of trying to scare voters by misrepresenting his health care proposal; for his part, the vice president said he had not been hiding in a Washington bunker but campaigning on "the front lines in the fight for our future."

Five years ago: An Army platoon sergeant who'd ordered his soldiers to throw Iraqis into the Tigris River was sentenced to six months in military prison; the jury in Fort Hood, Texas also reduced the rank of Army Sgt. 1st Class Tracy Perkins by one grade.

One year ago: President-elect Barack Obama urged lawmakers to work with him "day and night, on weekends if necessary" to approve the largest taxpayer-funded stimulus ever. Obama named Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine the next Democratic National Committee chairman. The U.N. Security Council called for an immediate cease-fire in Gaza by a 14-0 vote, with the United States abstaining® No. 1 Florida beat No. 2 Oklahoma 24-14 for the BCS national title. Cornelia Wallace, former wife of Alabama Gov. George Wallace, died in Sebring, Fla. at age 69.

Today's Birthdays: Actor-comedian Larry Storch is 87. Actor Ron Moody is 86. Broadcast journalist Sander Vanocur is 82. CBS newsman Charles Osgood is 77. Singer Shirley Bassey is 73. Game show host Bob Eubanks is 72. Country-gospel singer Cristy Lane is 70. Rhythm-and-blues singer Anthony Gourdine (Little Anthony and the Imperials) is 69. Actress Yvette Mimieux is 68. Physicist Stephen Hawking is 68. Rock musician Robby Krieger (The Doors) is 64. Rock singer David Bowie is 63. Movie director John McTiernan is 59. Actress Harriet Sansom Harris is 55. Singersongwriter Ron Sexsmith is 46. Actress Maria Pitillo is 45. Actress Michelle Forbes is 45. Singer R. Kelly is 43. Rock musician Jeff Abercrombie (Fuel) is 41. Actress Ami Dolenz is 41. Reggae singer Sean Paul is 37. Country singer Tift Merritt is 35. Actress-rock singer Jenny Lewis is 34. Actress Amber Benson is 33. Actor Scott Whyte is 32. Singer-songwriter Erin McCarley is 31. Actress Sarah Polley is 31. Actress Rachel Nichols is 30. Actress Gaby Hoffman is 28. Rock musician Disashi Lumumbo-Kasongo (Gym Class Heroes) is 27.



Tiger Woods will win the Masters, evidencing such a triumphant links return that other PGA wives will be encouraged to take 9 irons to their husbands' Escalades.

Termed-out California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger will band together with Jean-Claude Van Damme and Steven Seagal to form The Seniors

once and for all that may or may not involve raising the retirement age to 83.

In order to thwart further underwear bombing plots, the TSA will perfect the speedy implementation of the two-handed wedgie.

The Teabaggers will actively set out to find someone in their movement involved in popular culture sufficiently to help them vet a new name.

Law & Order Producer Dick Wolf will create his own network and fill each and every prime time slot with Law & Order & Law & Order spin-offs including a posthumous CGIenhanced Law & Order featuring fan favorite Jerry Orbach.

Joe Biden will undergo intense personal training to learn how to shut the hell up during moments of silence at Arlington National Cemetery.

Hillary Clinton will finally get rid of that piece of meat stuck in her craw.

Jerry Brown will receive a clean bill of health from his paleontologist and go on to win the California gubernatorial election after being recognized as the biggest goober in the race.

George Steinbrenner will convince the Commissioner to award the 2010 World Series championship to the Yankees before the season starts to save wear and tear on his expensively fragile lineup

CEO of the CIA, Leon Panetta, will get a piece of meat stuck in his craw.

Former Vice President Al Gore will continue to cultivate a high profile in order to finally realize his dream of becoming a permanent cast member on Saturday Night Live.

Sarah Palin will actually finish, nah, never mind.

Will Durst is a political comedian who has performed around the world. He is a familiar pundit on television and radio.

in secret.

Now that the Democrats have rammed this legislation through Congress, they are once again closing the doors on the American people as they merge the House and Senate versions of the bill. During the upcoming negotiations to reconcile the House and Senate versions of the bill, the American people deserve to see what will



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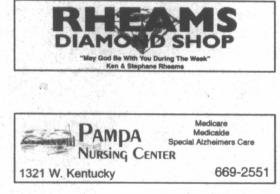




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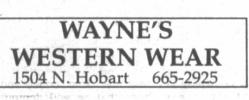
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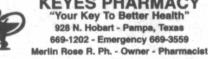


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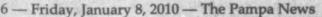
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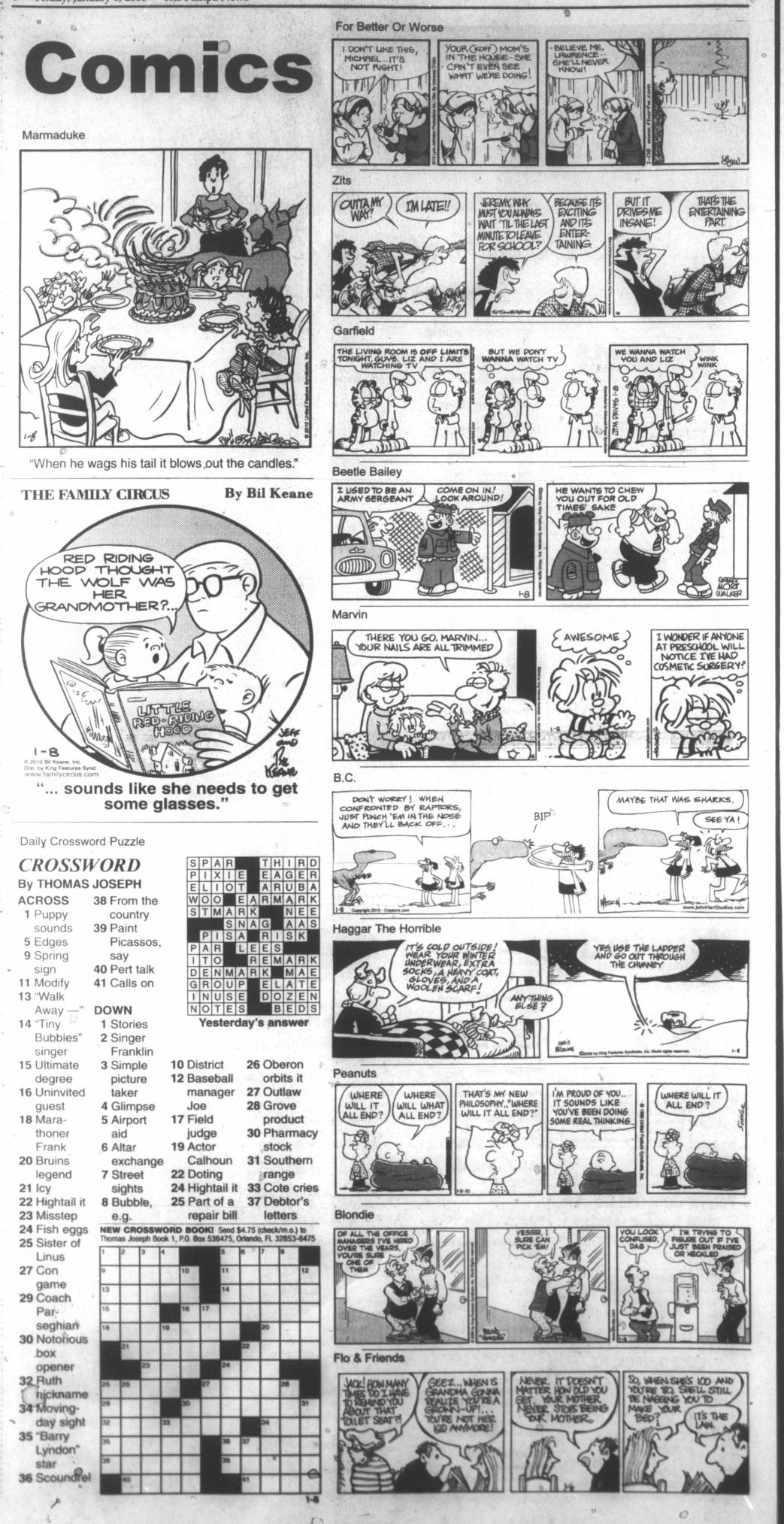
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The Pampa News — Friday, January 8, 2010 — 7



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YETERARY'S Cryptoquote: EVERYBODY IS BORN WITH GENIUS, BUT MOST PEOPLE ONLY KEEP IT A FEW MINUTES. — EDGARD VARESE

Sports

A look back: Feb. to May 2009 Sports in Pampa

THIRD IN A SERIES

BY ANDREW GLOVER

aglover@thepampanews.com The McLean Tigers lost to Happy 63-53 in an area basketball playoff game February 27 in Claude.

The Pampa tennis team competed in the Canyon Open February 27-28.

Steven Botello placed fifth and Jeremy Maxwell won the consolation at the state wrestling meet February 27-28 in Austin.

Seniors Colby Dennis, Cole Guyer, Dustin Neef and junior Kelly Stoffle placed 14th in the state swimming meet February 27 and 28 as a relay team in both the 200-yard and 400-yard freestyle relays. Neef finished sixteenth in the 50-yard freestyle race and the Harvesters were 35th in the state meet.

The Pampa Harvesters beat Bushland 14-5 in baseball March 3.

Libby Dyson signed a letter of intent to play volleyball for East Texas and Jessica Miner signed a letter of intent to play for Redlands Community College on March 4.

Dustin Forsyth of Lefors High School signs a letter of intent to play college football for Dodge City Community College March 5.

The Pampa Harvesters baseball team advanced to the final round of the Snyder tournament with a 3-0 record March 6.

The Lefors boys track team finished first and the girls finished fourth in the Pirate Relays March 6.

The Pampa Harvesters baseball team finished second in the Snyder tournament losing 4-3 to Lubbock Trinity in the finals March

The Pampa Lady Harvesters soccer team lost 3-1 to the Canyon Lady Eagles March 7. lost to Caprock 4-3 April 1 in Caprock.

The Pampa Harvesters baseball team lost to the Hereford Whitefaces 10-7 April 3

The Pampa Lady Harvesters softball team lost to Canyon 2-1 April 3. The Pampa Lady Harvesters softball team

lost to Randall 18-8 April 7 Valerie Miller of Lefors won the long jump with a jump of 15'8 1/4" and Dustin Forsyth of Lefors High School won the discus with a throw of 139'11" and the shot put with a throw of 45'1/2" in the district track meet April 8.

The Pampa Harvesters baseball team lost 6-5 to Canyon April 8

Pampa high school student Dustin Neef traveled across the state of Texas on his bike on a 1,000 mile trip during the summer

The Pampa Lady Harvesters softball team beat Palo Duro 11-1 April 9 in Pampa.

The Pampa Harvesters lose 4-3 to Randall April 10 in Amarillo.

The Pampa Harvesters baseball team beat Palo Duro 11-1 April 14 in Pampa.

The Lefors Pirates placed 10th and the Lady Pirates placed seventh at the district track meet in Panhandle April 14.

Gene Valentine chosen as Lady Harvesters girls basketball coach with an approved two-year teaching and coaching contract April 16.

Pampa High School golfer Shelby Rose quailified for the regional high school golf competition in San Angelo April 18.

Pampa High School student Natalie Parker qualified for the regional track meet with her third place finish in the 400 meter run of 1:00:07 in the district meet April 18. Heath Parker was named Head Football coach for the Pampa Harvesters after the Pampa ISD board of trustrees approved his contracts April 21. McLean High School tennis players Sheri Haynes and Nancy Castillo advanced to the state tournament in Austin April 23.



staff photo by **David Bowser** Lady Harvester Sammie Pearson tags a Lady Eagle runner coming into to home in the fourth inning of an April 24 game against Canyon. Pampa beat Canyon 5-4 infront of a home crowd during the last regular game of the season.

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The Pampa Harvesters soccer team lost 3-0 to the Canyon Eagles March 7.

The Pampa Harvesters tennis team competed in the Amarillo Sandies tennis tournament March 7 through March 8 and placed in the top 20 in 10 events.

The Pampa Harvesters baseball team beats Perryton 18-5 March 10 in Pampa.

The Pampa Harvesters baseball team goes 3-0 in the Burkburnett Tournament Friday with a 5-0 win over Abilene Wylie, Wichita Falls Rider and Sequoyah. March 13.

The Pampa Harvesters baseball team beats Randall 14-13 March 17 in Pampa.

The Pampa Lady Harvesters softball team beat Palo Duro 5-3 March 19 in Amårillo.

The Pampa[®] Harvesters baseball team lost 10-8 to Palo Duro March 20 in Amarillo.

The Pampa Lady Harvesters softball team beat Plainview 7-5 March 21 in Plainview.

Pampa Harvesters football coach Andy Cavalier resigned March 25.

Hayden Skinner won offensive player of the year award, Blake Sieck won defensive player of the year and assist award, Alex Clendening won rebound award, MVP award, and Hustlin Harvester award, Alex Torres won free throw award, VISA award, Offensive player of the year, Korban Harris won most improved and John Luke Covalt won the I am third award at the annual basketball banquet March 31.

The Pampa Harvesters baseball team defeated the Dumas Demons 11-6 April 1 at Pampa.

The Pampa Lady in the region Harvesters softball team in Levelland.

The Pampa Harvesters baseball team lost to Caprock 11-7 April 24. The Pampa Lady

Harvesters softball beat Canyon 5-4 April 24.

The Pampa Harvesters baseball team kept their playoff hopes alive with a 2-1 victory over Hereford April 25.

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The Pampa Lady Harvesters softball team clinched a playoff spot with a 9-4 victory over Caprock 9-4 April 25.

The UIL postponed athletic competition until May 11 due to the swine flu outbreak.

Jack Ware and Rachel Lee earned second all-district for their 10-2 district record in mixed doubles in the Spring.

The Pampa Harvesters baseball team season ended with a 17-3 loss to the Canyon Eagles May 8.

The Pampa Lady Harvesters sweep their bidistrict playoff match with 6-2 and 4-1 victories May 8 and 9 in Lubbock.

The Pampa Lady Harvesters softball team advanced to the regional quaterfinal with 10-0 and 12-1 victories over El Paso Burgess May 15 in Seminole.

Lefors High School students Valerie Miller finished fifth in the pole vault, third in the long jump and 14th in the triple jump, Emily Jackson finished 12th in the 200 meter dash and Dustin Forsyth finished fourth in the discus and seventh in the shot put in the regional track meet in Levelland



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