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# The PAMPA NEWS

Thursday, December 2, 2010 Volume 106 • No. 203 75¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

**TODAY IN SPORTS**



**Time for a win**  
Lady Harvesters need to step up  
Page 8

don't miss it!  
**Pampa's Christmas on Main**  
this weekend

## County constable hires on hold until January

**DAVID BOWSER**  
emailaddress@thepampanews.com

Gray County Precincts 1 and 3 will have to wait a little while longer for a new constable.

The county commission interviewed two applicants, Lefors City Marshal Kerry Hodge and former Pampa Police Officer and Hemphill County Deputy Dave Thomas, for the office Tuesday morning, but decided to delay action on appointing one until

after the first of January.

In other business before the Gray County Commissioner's Court Tuesday:

- Commissioners approved declaring some obsolete radios at surplus.
- Commissioners also approved a request to switch internet service from wireless with AmaTechTel to DSL using NTS.
- AgriLife Extension Agent Joann Gray-Soria told the commission that the various wireless connec-

tions interfere with each other.

The cost will be \$74.95 for the initial hookup, she said, and \$28.95 a month. She said her understanding is that the DSL connection will be less than the wireless connection.

Gray County will pay half the cost and the Texas AgriLife Extension Service will pay the other half.

- The U.S. Natural Resources and Conservation Service, which leases office space from the coun-

ty at the county annex on East Frederic, notified the commission that the space of the offices after remodeling is larger than the county had on its books.

Their measurements showed the space to be 2,957 square feet rather than the 2,908 square feet that county records show. Consequently, the NRCS increased their payment to the county from \$30,873 a year to \$31,373.

- The commission also adopted

**COUNTY** cont. on page 2

## READY FOR CURTAIN

submitted photo

**Noah Evans** of Canadian and **Adeline Little** of Pampa will take center stage this weekend as the Little Prince and Clara in this year's local Christmas production of "The Nutcracker." The show begins at 7 p.m. on Saturday at M.K. Brown Civic Center.

## Christmas events begin on Saturday

**DAVID BOWSER**  
dbowser@thepampanews.com

Pampa's old fashioned Christmas will begin early Saturday.

Christmas on Main, Pampa's family Christmas celebration, will begin at 8 a.m. Saturday with Breakfast with Santa at the Open Range Engineering Building, 217 N. Cuyler.

The Holiday Bazaar will follow from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 200 North Cuyler and at the VFW Building at 106 S. Cuyler. The Holiday Bazaar is sponsored by Shepherd's Helping Hands and will feature everything from homemade chili to jewelry.

The Top of Texas Ice Company will offer carriage rides from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Top of Texas Rodeo Association will be serving free Christmas cookies and cider at the Open Range Engineering Building as Santa, Mrs. Claus, Frosty, Toy Soldiers and Gingerbread Men wander the streets of downtown Pampa amid Salvation Army bell ringers.

Good Samaritan House will be collecting canned good for the holidays and U.S. Marines will be collecting Toys for Tots Saturday in Pampa.

The Festival of Trees will be open all day Saturday at M.K. Brown Auditorium.

Kids can have soup with Mrs. Santa and Altrusa from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 318 N. Cuyler.

Lee Ann's Grooming is sponsoring

**CHRISTMAS** cont. on page 2

## PAWS helps secure new pet beds for animal shelter

**ARNIE AURELLANO**  
editor@thepampanews.com

In another sign of steady progress since the group's inception earlier this year, the Pampa Animal Welfare Society recently helped the Pampa Animal Shelter secure special beds for its animal enclosures, according to PAWS President Faustina Curry.

"There was a real need to get the animals off the wet concrete that they have to live and sleep on," said Curry. "The moisture causes their fur to get matted and then they develop skin disorders, plus illnesses from the constant dampness."

Curry said that the group had received a few donations from the community to purchase the beds, which normally retail between \$40 to \$80, depending on size. The beds are built to stand a couple of inches off the ground to minimize the animals' contact with floor moisture.

"They came in (on Tuesday)," said Curry. Animal control officers and shelter volunteers have begun assembling them for use in the kennels as soon as possible.

The shelter is still accepting spare beds if anyone from the community would like to donate, according to Curry.

"The little animals have gotten really cold in this weather," she said. "Even though

there is no washer/dryer (at the shelter), we thought we would try to keep some around and find a way to wash them for new animals that come in a need a little extra protection."

The PAWS group will continue its local animal awareness efforts with a float in Saturday's Christmas parade, as well as a booth with animal ornaments and dog blankets for sale. Money raised through the sale will be used in the organization's push to start a low income spay/neuter program.

Prospective pets will also be available for viewing at the PAWS booth. Any animals at the booth would be available for adoption through the animal shelter, Curry said.

**Boomtown Christmas Parade**  
Saturday, Dec. 4 at 2 p.m.

Santa will be at the White Deer Land Museum at 3 p.m.

**IN THIS ISSUE:**




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# For the record

## Obituaries

### PAMPA FORECAST

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
High 68 Low 32	High 44 Low 26	High 47 Low 22

**Tonight:** Mostly clear, with a low around 32. Wind chill values between 25 and 30. East northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south southwest.

**Friday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 68. Wind chill values between 23 and 33 early. Breezy, with a southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

**Friday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 32. Wind chill values between 24 and 29. Breezy, with a north northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

**Saturday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 44. Breezy, with a north northeast wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

**Saturday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 26. East northeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Sunday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 47. Breezy, with a east wind 10 to 15 mph becoming south southwest.

**Sunday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 22. South southeast wind around 5 mph.

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### LAST MINUTE ADS

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**ALTRUSA'S SOUP** with "Mrs. Claus", Dec. 4, 11:30am-1:30pm. 318 N. Cuyler (Knights of Columbus). \$5 per person.

**DON'T FORGET** your little "Sugar Plum"! Single wrapped rose \$4, 3 roses \$10, 1/2 dozen (red or pink) \$20 add a vase for \$5. Brandon's Flowers, 123 N. Cuyler, 665-5546.

**CHRISTMAS TOUR** of Homes, Sun. Dec. 5, 1-4pm. Tickets avail. at Pampa Office Supply or at the homes. 12035 Berry lane, 1101 Christine, 8878 Hwy. 70 N. More info? Call 669-0148.

**JAMMING AT** Woody Guthrie Music Center, Fri. 6:30 p.m.

**CUT YOUR OWN** Christmas Tree-Davis Christmas Tree Farm-Nov. 27th-Dec. 19th. Open Sat. 9-5, Sun. 1-5 or call for appt. 665-0123, 663-9453. 3 1/2 mi. N. of Pampa on Hwy 70. 1/2 mi. W. on County Line Rd.

**LIQUIDATION OF** gift and mail store includes all fixtures, computer equipment, etc. See items at 221 N. Gray, Mon-Fri, 9-4. Call Erica for appt. 669-2265.

**DUE TO** heating & cooling problems "Liquidation Sale" Dec. 1-Dec. 31, excludes Miracle II. All Avon 50% Off. Think Christmas Gifts-purses & jewelry 30% Off, wigs & hair clip-ons 25%. Le Chic Boutique, 113 W. Foster, Pampa. 806-688-1530, 806-665-0346. Mon-Sat 10-5:30.

**OPEN HOUSE,** Dec. 3 & 4! Purses & jewelry 25% off thru Dec. 31st. Register for drawing-LA Nails! Also Mary Kay by Sherry Tyrell. Refreshments.

**PAMPA SLOT** Car Speedway, Coronado Center, Flexi Car Races, Sat. Dec. 4. Races start at 7 p.m. Visit our Hobby Center!

**PARENT'S NIGHT** Out at Gymnastics of Pampa, Dec. 3rd & 10th 6:30 - 9:30, ages 5-12, \$12. Info. 669-0510.

### Kenneth Davis, 63

Skellytown—Kenneth Davis, 63, died December 1, 2010, in Pampa.

There are no services scheduled. Cremation and arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Davis was born November 13, 1947, in Borger. He attended schools in White Deer and Pampa. Kenny married O'Neta Boughan on April 21, 1995, in Clovis, N.M. He had been a resident of Skellytown since

1999. He worked for Baker Hughes and was a Baptist.

Survivors include his wife, O'Neta Davis of the home; two sons, Shelby Davis of Canyon and Gary Don Davis of Skellytown; daughter, Darcie Davis of Amarillo; brother, Jimmy Davis of Skellytown; and a granddaughter. Kenny was preceded in death by his parents, R. T. and Sarah Davis; and a daughter, Carrie Davis.

Memorials may be made to a favorite charity.

Sign the online register at [www.carmichael-whately.com](http://www.carmichael-whately.com).

## CHRISTMAS AT THE MUSEUM



photo courtesy of Ann Davidson

Angela Spearman, volunteer and former White Deer Land Museum board member, looks on while board member Howard Graham and assistant curator Kay Lard set up the museum's Christmas decorations.

### Christmas

a Holiday Pet Contest from noon until 1 p.m. at Von Brunow Park at Foster and Cuyler.

The White Deer Land Museum, 116 S. Cuyler, will be celebrating its 40th anniversary Saturday. Among other things, there will be antique and classic car display outside the museum.

The Boomtown Christmas Parade, sponsored by the Pampa Chamber of Commerce, will start

up Cuyler from the train depot at 2 p.m. Saturday.

Lovett Memorial Library, 111 North Houston, will have story and craft time from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Pictures with Santa will be taken at Shutterbug Photography, 207 N. Cuyler, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Pampa Fine Arts Association will take photos with Santa from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at M.K. Brown

Auditorium.

The Pampa Christmas Tree lighting ceremony with caroling is scheduled for the southside of the Gray County Courthouse from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday.

The curtain goes up at 7:30 p.m. on the Pampa Civic Ballet's Nutcracker at M.K. Brown Auditorium.

The Festival of Trees will continue through Sunday afternoon at M.K.

Brown Auditorium.

The 20th Century Cotillion Study Club is sponsoring a Christmas Tour of Homes starting at 1 p.m. Sunday.

A Christmas Banquet is set for Briarwood Church at 6 p.m. Sunday.

Caroling is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. Sunday.

cont. from page 1

### County

health insurance and COBRA rates for 2011. While the county will still cover

the basic rate for a single employee, the new dependent deduction will go

from \$380.32 to \$425.28 for a family.

cont. from page 1

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<b>Coca Cola</b> 12 pk. <b>3/\$9.99</b>	<b>Bounty Basic Paper Towels</b> <b>69¢</b>	<b>Cheer 2X Laundry Detergent</b> 50 oz. <b>\$4.99</b>

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## AFTERNOON RUSH Virgin America makes splashy Texas entrance

### Honorary TX Ranger for Norris

GARLAND, Texas (AP) - Actor Chuck Norris for years played a Texas Ranger on television. Now he's going to become one in real life.

Texas Gov. Rick Perry is scheduled to present the actor and executive director of "Walker, Texas Ranger" with a designation as an honorary member of the famed law enforcement group Thursday.

Ceremonies to honor the 70-year-old martial arts star and entertainment action hero, who is known for doing good and going after bad guys and gals in the long-running TV series, will take place at a Texas Rangers office in suburban Dallas.

### SA appeals water rights lawsuit

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) - The San Antonio Water System has asked an appeals court to reinstate its \$1.2 billion water-rights lawsuit against the Lower Colorado River Authority.

A three-judge panel of the Texas 3rd Court of Appeals on Wednesday took the request under advisement.

SAWS claims breach of a water-sharing contract. A judge in February rejected the lawsuit.

The Austin American-Statesman reports the appeal hinges on whether San Antonio can convince the judges that LCRA had waived its right to sovereign immunity.

The arrangement would have sent water from the Colorado River to San Antonio for 80 years. In return, the Colorado River basin would get money to fund long-term storage projects and conservation.

LCRA dropped the deal in April 2009, saying it did not have enough water to share with San Antonio

### Nueces ME to get \$75,000 raise

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (AP) - Nueces County commissioners have approved a \$75,000 raise for the county's medical examiner.

Commissioners on Wednesday unanimously approved the salary bump for coroner Ray Fernandez, bringing his annual pay to nearly \$239,000.

Fernandez, who before the raise was already the county's highest-paid employee, said he sought a salary more comparable to other medical examiners.

The average pay for coroners in Harris, Travis and Bexar (bayr) counties is almost \$258,000.

County Judge Loyd Neal said he supported paying Fernandez more and put the item on Wednesday's agenda. Fernandez, who's from Corpus Christi, has worked for the county since 2003.

The money for the coroner's pay hike is expected to come from \$144,000 set aside to pay a jail physician, whose contract has been canceled.

### Students protest liberal arts cuts

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) - About 150 students and faculty protested at the University of Texas in Austin as liberal arts programs face possible budget cuts.

Texas legislators who convene next month will write the next two-year state budget amid a shortfall that some estimates have put as high as \$24 billion.

The peaceful campus protest Wednesday included students concerned that ethnic, women's and gender studies will be among the programs trimmed.

Some demonstrators held signs that said: "These budget cuts are racist."

Police say nobody was arrested.

### Socorro voters consider recall

SOCORRO, Texas (AP) - Voters in Socorro will decide whether to remove indicted Mayor Guillermo "Willie" Gandara Sr. and a city councilman arrested in a drug case.

The city council Wednesday night approved holding a recall election. The ordinance says the criminal charges damage the reputation and public image of Socorro.

Gandara, who is accused of conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud when he was a school board member, says the citizens should decide whether they want him as mayor.

Councilman Luis Varela was arrested Nov. 16 and charged with possession of a controlled substance. Varela was not at Wednesday's meeting.

### USS Fort Worth to be christened

MARINETTE, Wis. (AP) - The U.S. Navy will break out the champagne this weekend to help christen a battleship in northeast Wisconsin.

The USS Fort Worth is a littoral combat ship. That's a new class of warship designed to conduct water combat just off an enemy's shore.

Navy officials will christen the ship Saturday at the Marinette Marine Corp. shipyard. Former deputy Defense Secretary Gordon England will carry on the Navy tradition of cracking a champagne bottle across the bow.

The Navy says the ship was named in honor of the Texas city's history of supporting the armed forces.

Littoral combat ships can be used to defend ground troops and hunt submarines. They're also designed for quick modification. For example, a ship's anti-submarine package could be quickly swapped out for a mine-warfare package.

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) - Decked out in clothing straight out of a spaghetti Western, Richard Branson climbed down from Virgin America's first flight to Texas on Wednesday, marking the start of a showdown with American Airlines.

Virgin America has carved a niche for itself by offering amenity-rich service at low fares between California and the East Coast. But Virgin has never flown anywhere in the middle of the country, and it's never entered a fortress hub like Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, where AMR Corp.'s American controls more than 80 percent of the flights.

Branson said it's precisely American's dominance that provided an opening for Virgin to come in with lower fares, newer planes and more passenger amenities.

"We can get our fair slice of the market," said Branson, who wore leather chaps, a pearl-button Western shirt, red bandana and cowboy hat for the occasion.

Within four or five years, he predicted, Virgin will command 8 percent of the U.S. air travel market ICB or about what US Airways Group Inc. and Continental control now. That's a bold forecast for a three-year-old airline that, according to its own CEO, barely survived the 2008 surge in fuel prices.

Virgin will start small in Dallas, offering two daily nonstop flights between DFW and Los Angeles, and two to San Francisco. It plans to add at least a third flight to each city, but even six flights would pale compared to the hundreds flown by American and its regional affiliate, American Eagle.

American is already fighting back ICB cutting fares, offering double frequent-flyer miles and handing out freebies such as \$100 gift cards aboard some flights on the Dallas-Los Angeles and Dallas-San Francisco routes. American spokesman Tim Smith declined to discuss Virgin specifically, but said, "At DFW, there are a total of 18 different airlines. We compete vigorously with all of them."

Robert Mann, an aviation consultant in the New York area, said American "will undoubtedly make it very punishing for Virgin to serve the market, which Virgin may ultimately conclude isn't worth pursuing."

One of the passengers on the first Virgin flight to Dallas was Rick Seane, CEO of travel website FareCompare.com. He came away impressed with "the product," which includes in-flight TV and movies at every seatback, mood lighting instead of fluorescent glare, and young flight attendants serving a la carte snacks and drinks.

Los Angeles and nine to San Francisco from Dallas. Cush said, however, that Virgin doesn't plan to launch service between Dallas and New York or other Eastern cities. He suggested that JetBlue Airways Corp. might want to do that.

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

## North Panhandle Regional Business Forum

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# Viewpoints

## Today in History

Today is Thursday, Dec. 2, the 336th day of 2010. There are 29 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:**  
On Dec. 2, 1970, the newly created Environmental Protection Agency opened its doors. (Its first director was William D. Ruckelshaus.)

**On this date:**  
In 1804, Napoleon crowned himself Emperor of the French.

In 1823, President James Monroe outlined his doctrine opposing European expansion in the Western Hemisphere.

In 1859, militant abolitionist John Brown was hanged for his raid on Harpers Ferry the previous October.

In 1927, Ford Motor Co. formally unveiled its second Model A automobile, the successor to its Model T.

In 1939, New York Municipal Airport-LaGuardia Field (later LaGuardia Airport) went into operation as an airliner from Chicago landed at one minute past midnight.

In 1942, an artificially created, self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction was demonstrated for the first time, at the University of Chicago.

In 1954, the Senate voted to condemn Wisconsin Republican Joseph R. McCarthy for conduct that "tends to bring the Senate into disrepute."

In 1969, the Boeing 747 jumbo jet got its first public preview as 191 people, most of them reporters and photographers, flew from Seattle to New York City.

In 1980, four American churchwomen were raped and murdered outside San Salvador. (Five El Salvador national guardsmen were later convicted of murdering nuns Ita Ford, Maura Clarke and Dorothy Kazel, and lay worker Jean Donovan.)

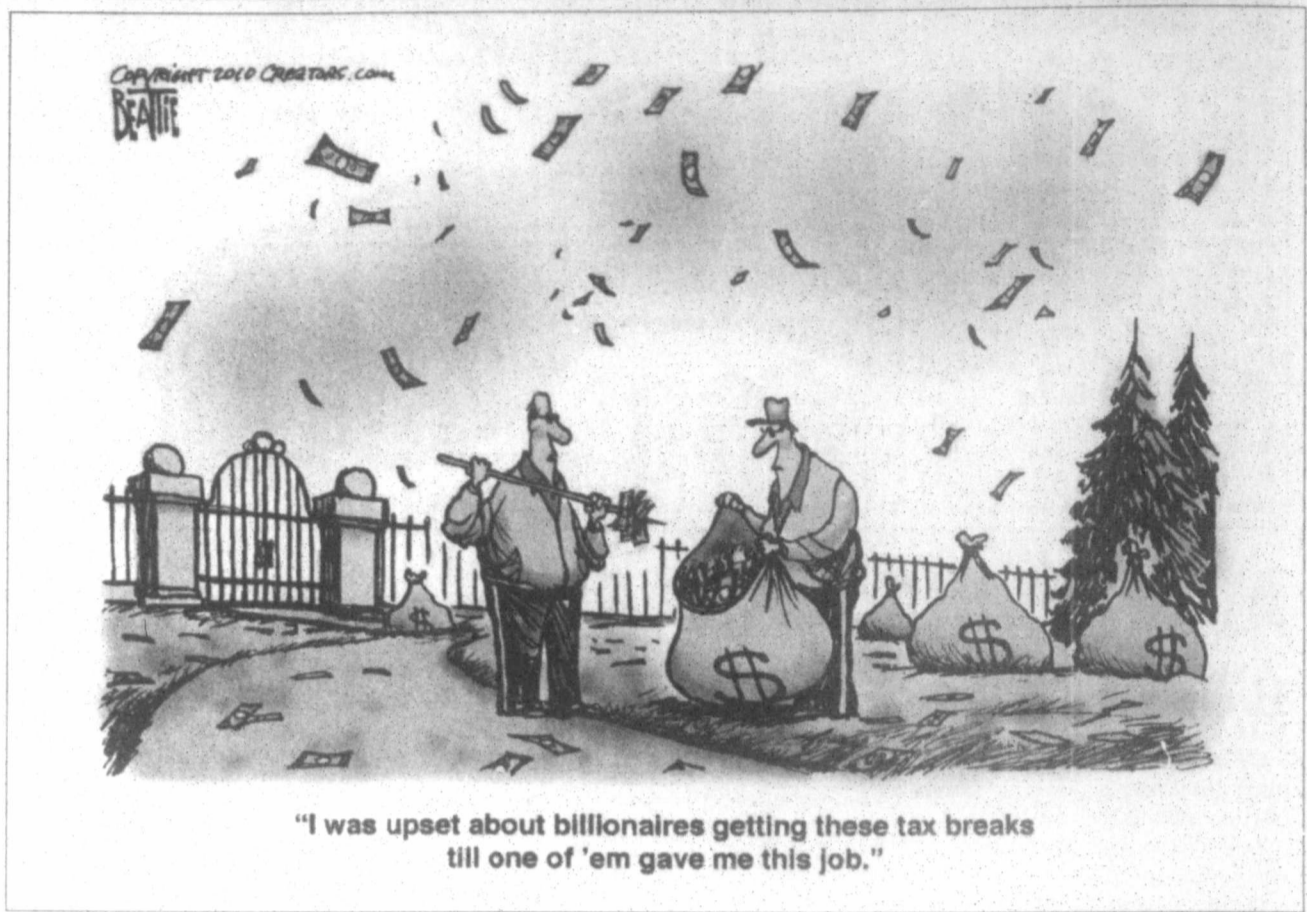
**Ten years ago:** Al Gore sought a recount in South Florida, while George W. Bush flatly asserted, "I'm soon to be the president" and met with GOP congressional leaders.

**Five years ago:** North Carolina inmate Kenneth Lee Boyd became the 1,000th person executed since the U.S. resumed capital punishment in 1977.

**One year ago:** A day after President Barack Obama announced plans to deploy 30,000 more troops in Afghanistan, leading congressional Democrats said they had serious misgivings but would not try to stop the deployments while Republicans said they supported the force increase even as they questioned Obama's July 2011 deadline to start bringing troops home.

**Today's Birthdays:** Actress Julie Harris is 85. Former Attorney General Edwin Meese III is 79. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid is 71. Movie director Penelope Spheeris is 65. Actor Ron Raines is 61. Country singer John Wesley Ryles is 60. Actor Dan Butler is 56. Broadcast journalist Stone Phillips is 56. Actor Dennis Christopher is 55. Actor Steven Bauer is 54. Country singer Joe Henry is 50. Rock musician Rick Savage (Def Leppard) is 50. Rock musician Nate Mendel (Foo Fighters) is 42. Actress Rena Sofer is 42. Actress Lucy Liu is 42. Rapper Treach (Naughty By Nature) is 40. Tennis player Monica Seles is 37. Singer Nelly Furtado is 32. Pop singer Britney Spears is 29. Actress Daniela Ruah is 27. Actresses Deanna and Daniella Canterman are 18.

**Thought for Today:** "When we cannot find contentment in ourselves it is useless to seek it elsewhere." - Francois, *Duc de la Rochefoucauld*, French author (1613-1680)



"I was upset about billionaires getting these tax breaks till one of 'em gave me this job."

## You can stop paying for Al Gore's mistake

In Greece earlier this month, Al Gore made a startling admission: "First-generation ethanol, I think, was a mistake." Unfortunately, Americans have Gore to thank for ethanol subsidies. In 1994, then-Vice President Gore ended a 50-50 tie in the Senate by voting in favor of an ethanol tax credit that added almost \$5 billion to the federal deficit last year. And that number doesn't factor the many ways in which corn-based ethanol mandates drive up the price of food and livestock feed.

Sure, he meant well, but as Reuters reported, Gore also said, "One of the reasons I made that mistake is that I paid particular attention to the farmers in my home state of Tennessee and I had a certain fondness for the farmers in the state of Iowa because I was about to run for president."

In sum, Gore demonstrated that politicians are lousy at figuring out which alternative fuels make the most sense. Now even enviros like Friends of the Earth

have come to believe that "large-scale agro-fuels" are "ecologically unsustainable and inefficient." That's a polite way of saying that producers need to burn through a boatload of fossil fuels to make ethanol.

Gore also showed that most D.C. politicians can't be trusted to put America's interests before those of Iowa farmers. But there is one pursuit in which homo electus excels: spending other people's money.

Beware politicians when they promise you "the jobs of the future." Last week the Washington Post ran a story about a federal grant program in Florida designed to retrain the unemployed for jobs in the growing clean-energy sector. Except clean tech isn't growing as promised. Officials told the Post that three-quarters of their first 100 graduates haven't had a single job offer.

In May, President Obama came to a Fremont, Calif., solar plant where he announced, "The true

engine of economic growth will always be companies like Solyndra."

This month, Solyndra announced it was canceling its expansion plans. The announcement came after voters rewarded the green lobby by defeating Proposition 23 -- which would have postponed California's landmark greenhouse gas reduction law AB32 -- because voters bought the green-jobs promise.

Back to Gore. There is a movement in Washington to end Gore's mistake, Republican Sens. Tom Coburn of Oklahoma and Jim DeMint of South Carolina have proposed ending the 45-cent-per-gallon subsidy on corn ethanol, which is set to

expire on Dec. 31 unless Congress extends it.

As DeMint explained in an e-mail to the Washington Post's Greg Sargent, "Government mandates and tax subsidies for ethanol have led to decreased gas mileage, adversely effected the environment and increased food prices. Washington must stop picking winners and losers in the market, and instead allow Americans to make choices for themselves."

That's what free-market types who oppose corporate welfare -- like me -- have been saying for years.

So the question is: Will this new batch of Republicans have the intestinal fortitude to buck the farm lobby and agribusiness by weaning them from the public teat? Or are they no better than the farm-lobby-pandering Al Gore?

*Debra Saunders is a nationally syndicated columnist.*



DEBRA SAUNDERS

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**The PAMPA NEWS**  
403 W. Atchison • Pampa, TX 79065  
806-669-2525  
Fax: 806-669-2520

**Randall Pribble**  
Publisher  
rpribble@thepampanews.com

**ReDonn Woods**  
Advertising Manager  
rwoods@thepampanews.com

**Sue Pribble**  
Advertising Representative  
spribble@thepampanews.com

**Beverly Taylor**  
Classified Advertising  
classified@thepampanews.com

**Kera Kent**  
Subscriptions  
circulation@thepampanews.com

**Carrie Hair**  
Accounting  
bookkeeper@thepampanews.com

**Chico Ramirez**  
Circulation Manager  
Circulation2@thepampanews.com

**Arnie Aurellano**  
Editor  
editor@thepampanews.com

**David Bowser**  
Reporter  
dbowser@thepampanews.com

**Andrew Glover**  
Reporter  
aglover@thepampanews.com

**Marijane Kent**  
Composing  
composing@thepampanews.com

**Marcus Elkins**  
Press Supervisor  
press@thepampanews.com

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"The Chinese want to buy all the coal I'm getting from Santa, this year!"

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# Leach says he hasn't heard from any schools

BETSY BLANEY  
Associated Press

Mike Leach would love to be back on the sidelines next season. He says he just hasn't heard from anyone interested in hiring him yet.

The former Texas Tech coach is getting some lobbying help for the open job at Miami, though.

Donald Trump sent a letter to university President Donna Shalala this week, suggesting the Hurricanes hire Leach to replace the departed Randy Shannon. Leach and Trump have been friends for several years.

"It'd be fun" to coach at Miami, Leach told The Associated Press.

After all, it's just a three-hour drive to Miami from Key West, Fla., where Leach moved his family from Lubbock shortly after his dismissal last December.

Besides Miami, there are Big Ten coaching vacancies at Indiana, which fired Bill

Lynch over the weekend, and Minnesota, which dismissed Tim Brewster during the season. Speculation abounds about the future of Rich Rodriguez at Michigan, which ended the year 7-5, and Pac-12-bound Colorado fired Dan Hawkins, too.

"I think most folks know where to find me," Leach said. The fact that he hasn't heard from any schools with openings, "further illustrates the damage" the firing has had on his reputation, Leach said.

Texas Tech fired Leach on Dec. 30, 2009, two days after suspending him amid allegations he mistreated Adam James, a receiver with a concussion. James, the son of former NFL player and ESPN analyst Craig James, has said Leach twice ordered him to stand for hours while confined in a dark place during practice.

Leach has denied he mistreated the player and sus-

pects an \$800,000 bonus he was to have received Dec. 31, 2009, was the reason he was fired. He has sued the university for wrongful termination and filed a separate libel suit last week that accuses ESPN and a Dallas PR agency of slander.

As for football, Leach said he doesn't care which conference he winds up in. What matters to him, he said, is to coach a competitive team at a school that backs his emphasis on academics and in a position where there would be stability.

At least he has Trump on his side. The tycoon lobbied Miami to hire Leach in 2006, when they ultimately chose Shannon. University officials confirmed the authenticity of Trump's note Wednesday.

"You made a big mistake when you did not take my advice and hire Mike Leach of Texas Tech ... and you can now get him for the right price," Trump wrote to Shalala.

## Panel says to deny coal plant permit

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (AP) - A Texas administrative panel has again recommended state regulators deny an air permit to a proposed coal-fired power plant in Corpus Christi.

The administrative law judges made their recommendation Wednesday. They say it is unclear the developers of the Las Brisas power plant can "ensure that emissions from the proposed facility would not contribute to air

pollution" and violate the federal Clean Air Act.

Earlier this year, the judges accused the developers of conducting air pollution modeling in a "reckless manner."

The recommendation will go to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, which issues permits. The commission is not bound by the recommendations.

Environmentalists fear the plant will spew high levels of "particulate matter," air pollution that con-

tributes to asthma and other respiratory diseases.



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## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I'm responding to the letter from "Petless in Maryland" (10/13), who moved without her dog, cat and goldfish, but wants to encourage her son's love of animals. Your advice was spot-on, but there is a deeper issue that was not addressed. By moving and leaving their pets behind, she has taught her son that animals are "disposable." An animal is a commitment for life, not an object to be disposed of once one's lifestyle changes. A pet is a member of the family, the same as a child or other family member.

"Petless" should have kept looking until they found an affordable place where they could keep their pets. The shelters are full of pets who have been abandoned by their families due to moves, divorces, etc.

"Petless" cannot afford the fees to keep a pet — but I'm willing to bet that she can afford a cell phone, cable TV, etc. She missed a chance to teach her son how to be a responsible pet owner, and how to honor the commitment that was made to those pets. What a shame. — RESPONSIBLE PET OWNER, READING, PA.

DEAR RESPONSIBLE PET OWNER: Your point is well-taken, and some readers did agree with you. However, not knowing the woman's circumstances, I am unwilling to judge her. Other readers did reach out to offer ways to encourage "Toby" to love animals and someday become a responsible pet owner. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: There are a lot of options for pet lovers without resources for permanent adoption. "Petless" could contact the local SPCA and other agencies that might be looking for volunteers to have "visits" with pets. There is also a pretty big market for "dog walkers." There is even a

market for pet sitters, who do it to make extra money for their families. — SAN-DI IN SAN FRANCISCO

DEAR ABBY: There are rescue groups that have to put some of their adoptable dogs into boarding while they wait for a forever home. These dogs would love an hour or two of "breaking jail" for a walk or a trip to the dog park. A reputable organization would know the personalities of their dogs and be able to steer the mom toward "kid-tested" dogs that would get along great with her son. It would not only be an excellent way to encourage the boy, but also a wonderful thing for the dogs. — ASHLEY IN SAN MARCOS, CALIF.

DEAR ABBY: How about "Petless" contacting a senior center to see which seniors might need assistance with walking their dogs or with cat care? An assisted-living facility could also use this type of help. It would provide "Toby" a chance to share the love of animals, and the elderly residents would welcome such a sweet helper. — PEGEEN IN RIO RANCHO, NEW MEXICO

DEAR ABBY: You frequently recommend readers seek therapy. I have been in therapy for eight years and see very little progress. Do you have any statistics that prove how helpful therapy actually is? — SKEPTICAL IN SAN FRANCISCO

DEAR SKEPTICAL: Although I don't have statistics, I do have testimonials from individuals who have found therapy to be beneficial. I have printed some of them in this column. I do, however, have a suggestion for you: After eight years and "very little progress," you may be with the wrong person, and you should seriously consider changing therapists.

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS DOWN

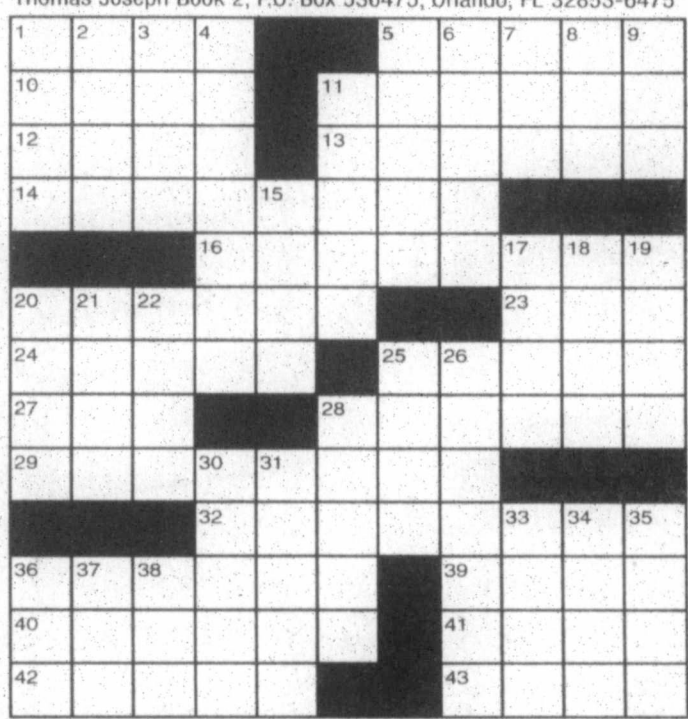
- 1 Bible book
- 5 Tightfisted
- 10 Transport
- 11 Pipe collar
- 12 Last of the Stuarts
- 13 "Turn it up, please"
- 14 Boston nickname
- 16 Petula Clark hit
- 20 Moves stealthily
- 23 Game piece
- 24 Brings up
- 25 Calls cabs
- 27 Plugs
- 28 Censuses
- 29 Spencer Tracy film
- 32 Birthplace
- 36 Valentine words
- 39 Goopy cheese
- 40 Tips off
- 41 Otherwise
- 42 "The same"
- 43 Took in



### Yesterday's answer

- 19 Capone's foe
- 20 Zodiac animal
- 21 Give a new look to
- 22 Relaxed
- 25 Hockey's Gordie
- 26 Opie's watcher
- 28 Gets in
- 30 T, for one
- 31 Scout master?
- 33 Paris airport
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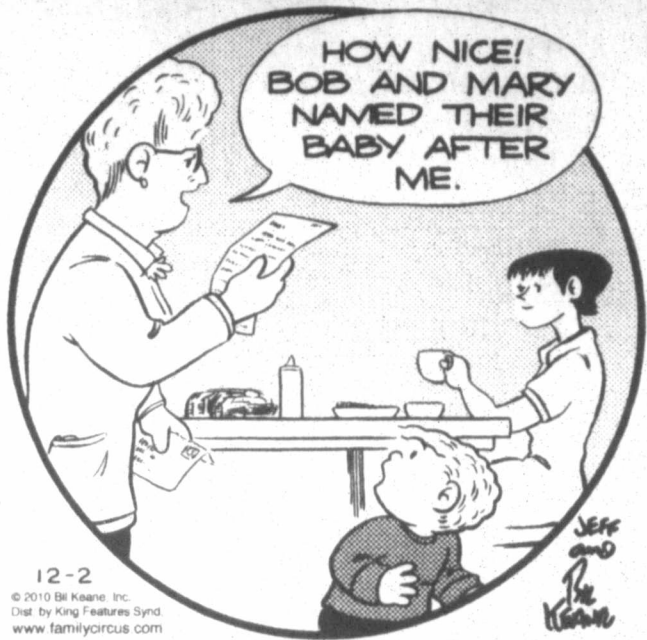
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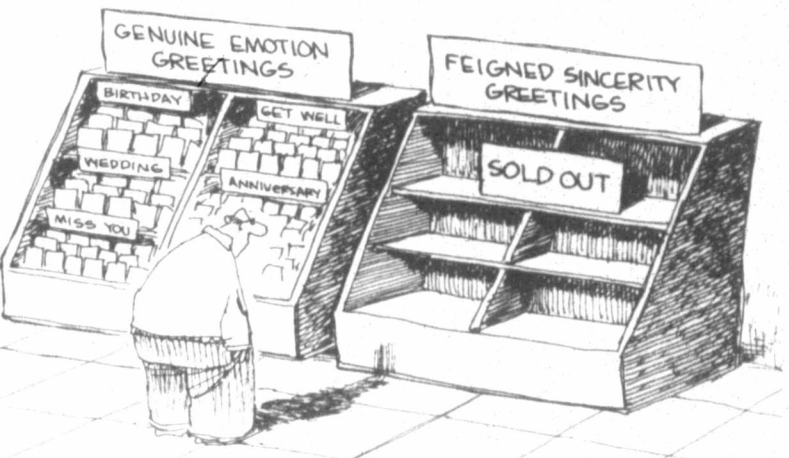


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"They named their baby 'Grandma'?"

Non Sequitur

## The DIRECT MALE MARKET



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Nest Heads



## daily horoscope

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Friday, Dec. 3, 2010:

This year, much that comes to fruition stems from reflection and an innate thoughtfulness. Treasure your time alone, as it will give birth to many great ideas. You will remain more centered than in the past. Your domestic life proves to be a source of continual happiness. Many of you will move in new directions, buy new homes, add to your family or even live with someone for the first time. If you are single, romance blooms spring 2011. Know that this is a special period in which you could attract someone quite unique. If you are attached, the two of you renew your vows in spirit in 2011. SCORPIO understands you.

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

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)**

★★★★ Move through a problem decisively and firmly. Deal directly with the person who might be involved. Keep reaching out for others. Your sixth sense homes in on the bottom line once others share. Tonight: Choose a special restaurant or place. Be with a favorite person.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**

★★★★ Defer to others quickly. Sometimes it is better that others take on more responsibility. A meeting or get-together proves to be a joyous occasion. The unexpected hits with someone who is angry and demanding. Tonight: Just don't be alone.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**

★★★ Work with someone directly and understand what is going on. A must appearance could add pressure to a partnership. You might want to venture out without this person. A little nurturing could reverse this issue. Tonight: Don't push beyond your limits.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**

★★★★ Keep reaching out for those at a distance. Your ability to get past what others think are necessary steps might not always help. Streamline issues, and root out the real problem behind the scenes. Tonight: Switch modes. Time to play.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**

★★★★ Express your feelings directly. Your creativity will start to flourish if you are coming from your authentic self. Those who relate on a one-on-one level with you respond positively to your resourceful ideas and conversations. Tonight: Not far from home.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**

★★★★ Your style can be efficient or critical. If someone flees the scene when you are speaking about details, perhaps your efficiency has evolved to pickiness. Bring this issue up for discussion, and you'll gain the confidence of others. Tonight: Hang at a favorite haunt.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**

★★★ Center yourself and press forward. Though at first you might be uncertain about a situation, you'll come up with great results. Yes, you have stamina and energy, but how much can you really take on? Remember, you also need to relax. Tonight: Do for yourself first.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**

★★★★ Simply follow what seems to be the best course. Your judgment is fine-tuned. The results you get from this type of centering might blow you away. Touch base with a child or loved one. If you are artistic, just let it happen. Tonight: You deserve your reputation as a wild thing.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**

★★★ Understand that not everything is meant to be shared or discussed. In fact, sometimes it is easier to let others tell you what they know or think. Helping them process could be more important. Tonight: Keep it private.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**

★★★★ Conversations lead you in a new direction. At first you could be jolted by information that heads your way. Rethink a situation, and zero in on what feels right. A conversation opens up a friendship or association. Tonight: TGIF.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**

★★★ Your stand and ability to handle a lot of responsibilities and understand an excess of information puts you in a position where you might not be comfortable. Use your instincts and good sense with a money offer. Tonight: Could be a late one.

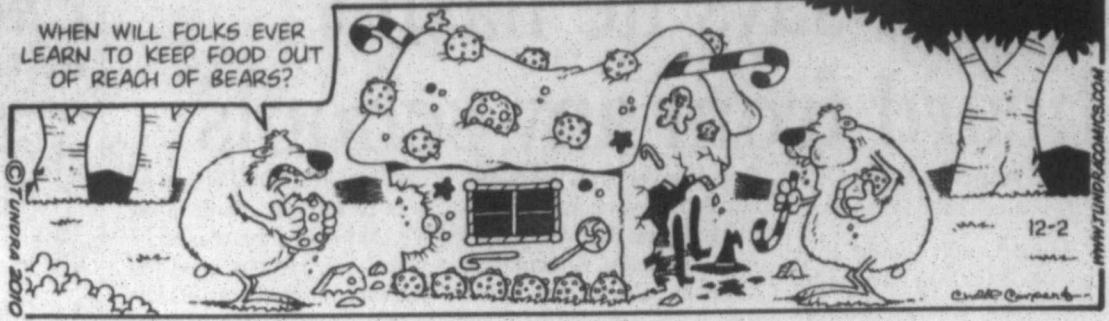
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**

★★★★ Allow your imagination to soar. The more ideas that are substantiated by information that comes forward, the greater the choices. This statement might refer to something as simple as your weekend plans. Tonight: Take off if you can.

**BORN TODAY**

Actress Daryl Hannah (1960), figure skater Katarina Witt (1965), novelist Joseph Conrad (1857)

Tundra



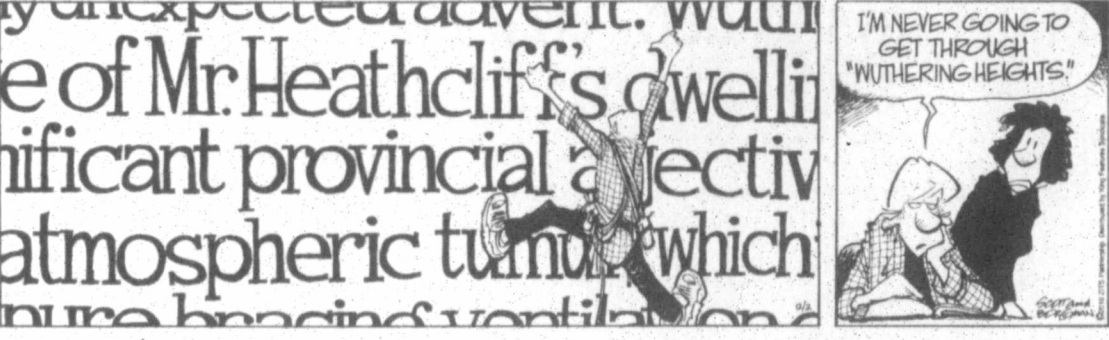
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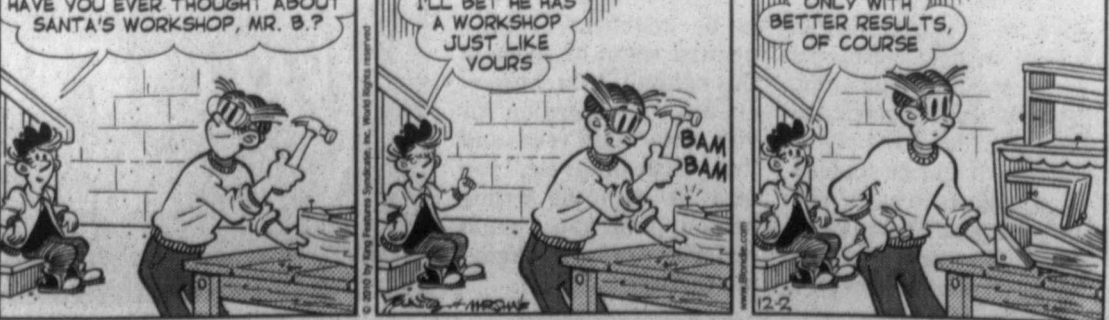
Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie





# Sports

## Lady Harvesters need to step up — the sooner, the better

About two weeks ago, I wrote a column saying it wasn't quite the time to worry about the Lady Harvester's slow start.

Since then, though, they have lost three games, two to 1A schools. Pampa desperately needs to start turning things around beginning with the Clarendon game today.

For starters, the Lady Harvesters have had their full team for the better part of three weeks and have had two weeks of practice together. Therefore, it's no longer an excuse that they haven't had much time together as a team. The departures of certain players is now old news. The ten girls that are



ANDREW GLOVER

out there need to step up and work together.

The team needs leadership from their players.

Gene Valentine is a great coach, but he can only gather the team up to talk things over six times a game. The team's floor leaders need to lead, or they are going to have a tough time winning.

Junior Kirsten Kuhn and seniors Kayla Hughes and

Cori Cook had significant experience on last year's team. For this team to continue making progress they need to step and be leaders and hold their teammates accountable. Also, everyone else on the team except sophomore Taylor Morgan played together on JV last season. The majority of the team is accustomed to playing together.

The Lady Harvesters need to execute and maintain aggression throughout the whole game. The team that executes the best in 32 minutes is going to win the game. So far this season, Pampa has had a large portion in a quarter that they haven't executed perfectly.

As we can tell by the record it has been very costly.

Defensively, this is going to be key for Pampa because they don't have an abundance of size. So they need to fight for every rebound.

Offensively, they need to be more decisive with the ball and make faster decisions. At times this team has had trouble getting to attempt a shot. In the first few games, opponents have liked pressing against us. The key to beating a press is making fast and smart decisions. If they don't that will probably mean the other team taking the ball and putting two or three points on the board. When they are across half court they need

to decide whether they are going to shoot or pass.

Pampa needs to maintain a steady pace throughout the game. One of the issues of this team is rushing things when they are doing well or trailing. Valentine said after their loss to Gruver that there isn't an eight-point or nine-point basket. That's true whether they are winning or losing. Teams don't get put away in the first quarter. What the Lady Harvesters need to do is focus on winning a possession on offense and on defense. Then win the next one.

In high school sports the most important part of the

season is district, which for the Lady Harvesters is their last nine games. Pampa needs to win so they have confidence and know they can win with this team. It needs to happen sooner than later.

This isn't to say that these girls can't win — far from it. This is a talented group of young women who we've seen overcome adversity in other athletic avenues, and no credit should ever be taken away from them as competitors.

Still, if the hoops season is to be salvaged, it's hard to deny: The time to step up is now.

## Turnovers plague Fr. girls vs. Palo Duro

ANDREW GLOVER

aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Lady Harvesters freshman basketball team struggled with turnovers in a 48-26 loss to the Palo Duro Lady Dons Monday in Amarillo.

Coach Alan Segura said they cannot put back to back games together.

"We are still struggling with turnovers and lots of the little things," Segura said. "We will continue to work hard and get better."

The Lady Harvesters trailed 12-6 after the first quarter and were outscored 8-5 in the second to trail 20-11 at halftime. The Lady Dons took control of the game in the third quarter, outscoring Pampa 24-3 and

held a commanding 44-14 lead.

Bailey Dixon led the team in scoring with nine points. Alexa O'Brien scored six, Samara Cummins scored three, Summer Tatarevich, Savanna Mertz and Jazmyn Hair each scored two, Jessie Dixon and Emily Terry each scored one. The Lady Harvesters (1-4) start competition in the Borger tournament today.

## PJH eighth grade girls sweep Perryton

ANDREW GLOVER

aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Junior High eighth grade girls basketball teams defeated Perryton Monday at Pampa.

The A team won 45-25. Pampa shot 49 percent from the field, made all three free throws and missed all three three-pointers. The Lady Reapers turned the ball over 16 times, had 23 rebounds, eight assists and 15 steals.

Madison Brown led the team in rebounds with five.

Taylor Eubank and Caragan Niccum followed with four each, Meagan Martinez and Risa Rodriguez each had three. Eubank led the team in assists with four.

Ty Johnson followed with two, Macie Loggins and Rodriguez each had one. Brown led the team in steals with four. Eubank had three, Johnson had two and Niccum had two. Eubank led the team in scoring with 16. Brown scored 15, Rodriguez and Johnson each scored four, Martinez, Niccum and Allison Noble each scored

two.

The B team won 30-24. Pampa shot 22 percent from the field, missed one free throw and one three pointer. The Lady Reapers turned the ball over 25 times, grabbed 31 rebounds, four assists and 21 steals.

Kiesha Daniels led the team in rebounds with nine. Kiana Scoggins and Raven Neal each scored six, Kristina Brown and Kinli Thomas each got three. Madelyn Solis led the team in assists with two. Neal and Villanueva

each got one. Neal led the team in steals with six. Daniels and Solis each got four, Thomas got three and Durate got two. Solis led the team in scoring with 10. Neal scored six, Daniels and Thomas each scored four, Brown, Duarte and Villanueva each scored two.

## Hidden Hills golf results

Hidden Hills Seniors Results for 12-1-10

First- 58  
G. Hall  
M. Sargent  
N. Lancaster  
O. Sargent

Second- 60  
R. Parnell  
J. Bridges  
D. Dunham  
C. Albus

Third- 62

RD Stephens  
C. Byrum  
H. Malone  
M. Ball

Fourth- 63  
DD. Lofton  
OK. Lee  
G. Owens  
C. Lacy

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