











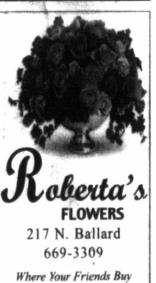




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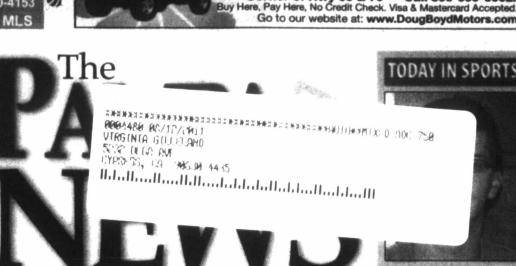






Their Flowers

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it twice How I made my "Top Ten" Pampa-Borger moments list



Monday, May 2, 2011

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## Bin Laden dead after U.S. forces storm hideout

against the

United States

and its allies.

been done,'

President

Barack

Obama said

in a dramatic

announce-

ment at the

"Justice has

**ASSOCIATED PRESS** 

WASHINGTON - Osama bin Laden, the face of global terrorism and architect of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, was killed in a firefight with elite American forces today, then quickly buried at sea in a stunning finale to a furtive decade on the run.

Long believed to be hiding in caves, bin Laden was tracked down in a costly, custom-built hideout not far from a Pakistani military academy. The stunning news of his death prompted relief and euphoria outside the White House and around the globe, yet also fears of terrorist reprisals



Bin Laden

White House. The military operation took mere minutes, and there were no U.S. casualties.

U.S. helicopters ferried troops from Navy SEAL Team Six, a top military counter-terrorism OSAMA cont. on page 2

## Americans gather joyfully

TOM MCELROY Associated Press

NEW YORK - Joyous at the release of a decade's frustration, Americans streamed to the site of the World Trade Center, the gates of the White House and smaller but no less jubilant gatherings across the nation to celebrate the death of Osama bin Laden -- cheering, waving flags and belting the national anthem.

Ground zero, more familiar these past 10 years for bagpipes playing "Amazing Grace" and solemn speeches and arguments over what to build to honor the Sept. 11 dead, became, for the first time, a place of revelry.

"We've been waiting a long time for this day," Lisa Ramaci. a New Yorker whose husband was a freelance journalist killed in the Iraq war, said early Monday. "I think it's a relief for New York tonight just in the sense that we had this 10 years of frustration just building and JOY cont. on page 2



The Pampa News file photo

The Pampa basketball team defeated their Borger rivals in front of a McNeely-era player reunion in January, but how high on our countdown was that big moment?

## The Top 10 Pampa-Borger moments of '10-'11

ANDREW GLOVER aglover@thepampanews.com

With Pampa's drop to 3A in February 2010, the Harvesters got to reacquaint themselves with a familiar foe, as the team found itself in the same district with Borger for the first time since 2001.

In the first year of the renewed rivalry, it was a pretty even matchup between the two schools, though Pampa ultimately prevailed in the 2011 all-sport series with a 13-12-1 record.

With the 2010-2011 high school sports season all but in the books, here's a look at the top moments of the renewed rivalry:

Classic Classic: Pampa vs. Borger Cavalier Classic Championship, February 26 at Harvester Field

Bulldogs met in a non-district game, but gave a preview of what district might entail. Both teams engaged in an 11-inning affair in the Cavalier Classic Championship. Unfortunately for the Harvesters it was the Bulldogs that gained the spoils of victory.



Buzzer beater: Pampa vs. Borger basketball girls

MOMENTS cont. on page 8

## PISD board to discuss parking lot

DAVID BOWSER dbowser@thepampanews.com

- The Pampa Independent School District board of trustees will meet in a special session tonight to discuss construction of a new parking lot at Pampa Junior High

School The school board will also consider rescinding a ground site lease with Clear Wireless.

They will also consider the pur chase of laptop computers for

student's at Pampa High School. The meeting is scheduled to

begin at 7:30 p.m. today at the Carver Center Administrative Office, 321 West Albert

## Reminder: Early voting starts today

DAVID BOWSER

dbowser@thepampanews.com

Early voting polls opened today at the Gray County Courthouse. The polling place is in the nonjury courtroom on the first floor

of the Gray County Courthouse.

205 N. Russell. VOTING cont. on page 3

## Various items covered on County Commission agenda

DAVID BOWSER

dbowser@thepampanews.com

The Gray County Commissioners Court combined boards, bought some more cameras, bought a tractor-mower for this summer and outlawed texting from moving county vehicles.

In their first regularly scheduled meeting this month, county commissioners voted to absorb Top of Texas Community Partners into the Gray County Welfare Board.

The community volunteer group that provides clothes and supplies for children and the welfare board voted earlier this year to join forces.

The Harvesters and the

Top of Texas Community Partners will now be a volunteer advisory board to the Gray County Welfare Board.

In other business:

• Commissioners also approved spending \$5,970 out of the county's security fund for additional video cameras, servers and installation for courthouse security.

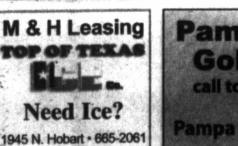
• They also approved a contract with Welch State Bank for an emergency purchase of a tractor-mower for Precinct 1.

Commissioner Joe Wheeley said his precinct traded in two old tractors valued at \$20,000 on a new Case International tractormower valued at \$48,700. Welch State Bank will finance the purchase until the new fiscal year begins when the new tractor will be paid off, Wheeley said.

With the two older tractors broken, Precinct I was left without a way to deal with grass and weeds along rights-of-way

· At Commissioner Gary Willoughby's request, the county commission also set a policy that would prohibit employees from texting while driving county vehicles or operating county equipment.

• The commission approved a request from District Attorney Lynn Switzer for a contract COUNTY cont. on page 3











Thursday

Low 41 Low 51 Low 47 Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 33. Northeast wind around 5 mph becoming west

mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 72. Breezy, with a west southwest wind between 5 and 15

Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 41. Breezy, with a south southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 76. Windy, with a south southwest wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to between 20 and 25 mph. Winds could gust as high as 35 mph.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 47. Windy, with a south southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 76. North northwest wind around 10 mph

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 51. Southeast wind around 10 mph.

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#### Last Minute Ads

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HAVING A. Garage Moving or Estate Sale? Going to put an ad in the Pampa. News Classified Garage Sale column<sup>a</sup> Don't miss the deadline to get your ad in the paper!! Be sure to call the Pampa News Classified Dept. 669-2525, and ask for avail. Tues., May 3rd, \$15 at classified deadline for garage. sale ads. Remember your ad needs to be read, the evening before the sale starts!!

NATIONAL DAY of Prayer May 5th at MK 12:00-12:50

PAMPA HARVESTER said. Baseball Play-Off Tee Shirts 1-Shirts & More, 665-3036.

## **Osama**

unit, into the compound identified by the CIA as bin Laden's hideout - and back out again in less than 40 minutes. Bin Laden was shot in the head, officials said, after he and his bodyguards resisted the assault.

Three adult males were also killed in the raid, including one of bin Laden's sons, whom officials did not name. One of bin Laden's sons, Hamza, is a senior member of al-Qaida. U.S. officials also said one woman was killed when she was used as a shield by a male combatant, and two other women were injured.

The U.S. official who disclosed the burial at sea said it would have been difficult to find a country willing to accept the remains. Obama said the remains had been handled in accordance with Islamic custom, which requires speedy

"I heard a thundering sound, followed by heavy firing. Then firing suddenly stopped. Then more thundering, then a big blast," said Mohammad Haroon Rasheed, a resident of Abbottabad, Pakistan, after the choppers had swooped in and then out again.

Bin Laden's death marks a psychological triumph in a long struggle that began well before the Sept. 11 attacks. Al-Qaida was also blamed for the 1998 bombings of two U.S. embassies in Africa that killed 231 people and the 2000 attack on the USS Cole that killed 17 American sailors in Yemen, as well as countless other plots, some successful and some foiled.

In all, nearly 3,000 were killed in the Sept. 11 attacks nearly 10 years ago, the worst terror assault on American

Moments after Obama's dramatic late-night announcement on Sunday, the State Department warned of the heightened possibility for anti-American violence. In a worldwide travel alert, the department said there was an "enhanced potential for anti-American violence given recent counterterrorism activity in Pakistan.'

As news of bin Laden's death spread, hundreds of people cheered and waved American flags at ground zero in New York, the site where al-Qaida hijacked jets toppled the twin towers of the World Trade Center. Thousands celebrated all night outside the White House gates.

As dawn came the crowd had thinned yet some still flowed in to be a part of it. A couple people posed for photographs in front of the White House while holding up front pages of today's newspapers announcing bin Laden's death.

The development seems certain to give Obama a political lift as the nation swelled in pride. Even Republican critics lauded him. But its ultimate impact on al-Qaida is less clear (see Viewpoints, page 4).

The few fiery minutes in Abbottabad followed years in which U.S. officials struggled to piece together clues that ultimately led to bin Laden, according to an account provided by senior administration officials who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the opera-

Based on statements given by U.S. detainees since the 9/11 attacks, they said, intelligence officials have long known that bin Laden trusted one al-Qaida courier in particular, and they believed he might be living with him in

Four years ago, the United States learned the man's iden-Brown in the Heritage Room tity, which officials did not disclose, and then about two years later, they identified areas of Pakistan where he operated. Last August, the man's residence was found, officials

"Intelligence analysis concluded that this compound was

custom built in 2005 to hide someone of significance," with walls as high as 18 feet and topped by barbed wire, according to one official. Despite the compound's estimated \$1 million cost and two security gates, it had no phone or

cont. from page 1

Internet running into the house.

By mid-February, intelligence from multiple sources was clear enough that Obama wanted to "pursue an aggressive course of action," a senior administration official said. Over the next two and a half months, the president led five meetings of the National Security Council focused solely on whether bin Laden was in that compound and, if so, how to get him, the official said. Obama made a decision to launch the operation on Friday, shortly before flying to Alabama to inspect tornado damage, and aides set to work

The president spent part of his Sunday on the golf course, but cut his round short to return to the White House for a meeting where he and top national security aides reviewed final preparations for the raid.

Two hours later, Obama was told that bin Laden had been tentatively identified.

CIA director Leon Panetta was directly in charge of the military team during the operation, according to one official, and when he and his aides received word at agency headquarters that bin Laden had been killed, cheers broke out around the conference room table.

Administration aides said the operation was so secretive that no foreign officials were informed in advance, and only a small circle inside the U.S. government was aware of what was unfolding half a world away. In his announcement, Obama said he had called Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari after the raid, and said it was "important to note that our counter-terrorism cooperation with Pakistan helped lead us to bin Laden and the compound where he was hiding.'

One senior administration official said, though, "we were very concerned ... that he was inside Pakistan, but this is something we're going to continue to work with the Pakistani government on.

The compound is about a half-mile from a Pakistani military academy, in a city that is home to three army regiments and thousands of military personnel. Abbottabad is surrounded by hills and with mountains in the distance.

Critics have long accused elements of Pakistan's security establishment of protecting bin Laden, though Islamabad has always denied it, and in a statement the foreign ministry said his death showed the country's resolve in the battle against terrorism. Still, bin Laden's location raised pointed questions of whether Pakistani authorities knew the whereabouts of the world's most wanted man. Whatever the global repercussions, bin Laden's death

marked the end to a manhunt that consumed most of a decade that began in the grim hours after bin Laden's hijackers flew planes into the World Trade Center twin towers in Manhattan and the Pentagon across the Potomac River A fourth plane was commandeered by passengers who

overcame the hijackers and forced the plane to crash in the Pennsylvania countryside.

Former President George W. Bush, who was in office on the day of the attacks, issued a written statement hailing bin Laden's death as a momentous achievement. "The fight against terror goes on, but tonight America has sent an unmistakable message: No matter how long it takes, justice will be done," he said.

For the record

Police Department

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents over the weekend.

Police reported 70 trafficrelated incidents and three accidents. Animal control reported 27 animal-related incidents.

The Pampa Fire Department responded to two structure fires, two alarms and one prevention call.

Pampa EMS reported six ambulance calls.

Lefors Volunteer Fire Department reported one incident

Lefors Volunteer EMS reported one incident.

Friday, April 29

A motorist assist was reported in the 400 block of E. Frederic

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 200 block of S. Henry

An information call was reported at the Pampa Junior High School.

A welfare check was reported in the 300 block of

S. Anne An attempt to serve was

reported at the 3C Racing Stables.

A suspicious person was reported in the 1100 block of N. Hobart.

A 911 hang-up call was reported in the 100 block of

W. 19th. A hit-and-run was reported in the 800 block of W

Francis. Criminal mischief was reported in the 200 block of

W. Kingsmill. A suspicious person was reported at Crawford and

Sumner An information call was

reported in the 2100 block of N. Nelson

An information call was read, "Obama 1, Osama 0." reported in the 1300 block of Terrace.

reported in the 900 block of E. Brunow An assault was reported

in the 1100 block of Varnon They have to be a part of this.

N. Starkweather.

Disorderly conduct was of N. Hobart.

An alarm was reported in

vajo Rd. reported in the 1100 block Banner.'

of Seneca Ln. Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1200 block

of N. Hobart. Disorderly conduct was

reported in the 900 block of N. Frost A suspicious person was

reported in the 1000 block of N. Hobart

Saturday, April 30

A prowler was reported in the 300 block of N. Starkweather.

A prowler was reported in the 1200 block of S. Ho-

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1000 block of Varnon Dr

A prowler was reported in the 1800 block of N. Ho-

Criminal mischief was reported in the 800 block of

N. Somerville. A domestic disturbance was reported in the 800

block of N. Somerville. A domestic disturbance was reported in the 2100 block of N. Russell.

building, wanting this guy dead, and now he is, and you can see how happy people are.

She was holding a flag and wearing a T-shirt depicting the twin towers and, in crosshairs, bin Laden. Nearby, a man held up a cardboard sign that

Dionne Layne, 44, of Stamford, Conn., spent the entire night at ground Disorderly conduct was zero with her two children, ages 9 and 11. She planned to spend the rest of the day with them at the site because "they can't get this in a history class.

Layne said she witnessed the sec-A 911-hangup call was ond tower come down on Sept. 11, reported in the 400 block of 2001, from Brooklyn, where she lived at the time.

Uptown in Times Square, dozens reported in the 1200 block stood together on a clear spring night and broke into applause when a New York Fire Department SUV drove the 2700 block of N. Na- by, flashed its lights and sounded its siren. A man held an American flag, An information call was and others sang "The Star-Spangled

In Washington, in front of the White House, a crowd began gathering before President Barack Obama addressed the nation late Sunday to declare, "Justice has been done." The throng grew, and within a half-hour had filled the street in front of the White House and begun spilling into Lafayette Park.

"It's not over, but it's one battle that's been won, and it's a big one," said Marlene English, who lives in Arlington, Va., and lobbies on defense issues. She said she has baked thousands of cookies to send to friends serving in Iraq and Afghanistan over the years and that she was at the White House because they couldn't

The celebrations began to come together late on Sunday night, after Americans began hearing about the death of bin Laden from bulletins on television, texts and calls from family and friends and posts on social networking sites.

Bin Laden was slain in his luxury

hideout in Pakistan, early Monday local time and late Sunday night in the United States, in a firefight with American forces. Obama said no Americans had been harmed in the operation.

cont. from page 1

As news of the president's announcement began to filter across the country, the New York Mets and Philadelphia Phillies were in the middle of a game in Philadelphia, and chants of "U-S-A!" began in the top of the ninth inning at Citizens Bank Park. Fans could be seen all over the stadium checking

their phones and sharing the news. There were smaller, spontaneous gatherings around the nation -- a handful of Idahoans who made their way to the state Capitol in downtown Boise, a small group who waved flags and cheered on an Interstate 5 overpass south of Seattle known as Freedom Bridge.

As Sunday stretched into Monday, the nation continued to reflect and to

## bituaries

Diana Lynn Larkin, 55

SKELLYTOWN-Diana Lynn Larkin, 55, died Friday, April 29, 2011 in Pampa

Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 3, 2011, in Central Baptist Church in Pampa with Rev. Norman Rushing, pastor, and Rev. Rick Parnell, associate pastor, officiating.

Memory Gardens Mausoleum in Pampa under the direction of Carmichael- Larkin Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Larkin was born Aug. 23, 1955, in Great Bend, Kan. She married Gary Larkin on Aug. 25, 1973, in Hoisington, Kan. In 1974, she graduated from Great Bend High School. She had been a resident of Skellytown since 1979. Diana was the postmaster at Briscoe Post Office for the past 15 years and had been employed with the U. S. Postal Service for the past 25 years. She was a member of Central Baptist Church in Pampa and was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star in Panhandle.

Diana loved her God, her family, and her grandbabies. She was best known for being selfless in that she was always putting others first and genuinely concerned with others' well-being and happiness. She will be greatly missed. She was active in doing community service: Diana was preceded in death by her parents, Sixtos and Irene Leon; two sisters, Petra Leon and Barbara Leon, two brothers; Tony Leon and Bennie Leon, and by her father-in-law; Donald K. Larkin.

Survivors include her husband, Gary Larkin of the home; two sons, Dustin Larkin and wife Tanya of Pampa and Keith Larkin and wife Jaclyn of Amarillo; four brothers, Lawrence Leon of Colorado Springs, Colo., Bobbie Leon and Robert Leon, both of Great Bend, Kan., and Richard Leon of Salina, Kan.; five sisters, Juanita Clawson, Gloria Leon, and Dorothy Cannon, all of Great Bend, Kan., Carolyn Rucker of Pampa, and Eloise Leon of Colorado Springs, Colo.; four grandchildren, Brody Larkin and Sydney Larkin, both of Pampa, Mason Larkin and Baby Girl Larkin, both of Amarillo; by her mother-in-law, Floy Larkin of Pampa; and by many nieces; nephews, and cousins.

Memorials may be made to a favorite charity. The family will receive friends from 6-8 p.m. Monday, May 2, at the funeral home.

Sign the online register book at www.carmichaelwhatley.com.

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#### Early voting begins

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AUSTIN (AP) - Early voting has begun for May 14 local elections across Texas.

State election officials say early voting began Monday and runs through May 10.

Texas Secretary of State Hope Andrade says there are on no statewide issues on the ballot, but many cities, school districts and other local entities will hold elec-

She says Texas has more than 12.6 million registered

#### Higher humidities aid fire crews

DALLAS (AP) - Higher humidity readings in West Texas have given an assist to crew battling wildfires in the arid reaches of West Texas.

Federal firefighting team spokeswoman Diane Steltz said no structures were lost or threatened on Sunday as firefighters continue attacking 14 major fires that cover almost 1,100 square miles across the state. However, she said no new fires have sprung up during the week-

As of Sunday morning, most of the remaining fires were at least 90 percent contained and all but one at least 70 percent contained. The wildest fire was one in rugged terrain along the Devil's River about 35 miles north of Del Rio that had consumed 235 square miles.

#### Holland area center of state pop.

HOLLAND (AP) - Getting to the heart of Texas means a trip to Bell County where a plaque has marked the Holland area as the state's center of population.

The Dallas Morning News reported Monday that U.S. Census Bureau figures confirm growth patterns have been so consistent that the geographic center of population has barely moved.

The spot rests in a grove at the end of a gravel road about 2.8 miles northeast of Holland, home to 951

Texas added 5 million people from 2000 to 2010, according to census figures, almost all of it around Dallas leading to a population total topping 25 million.

Holland Mayor Mae Smith says a marker as the state's center of population will remain in town because "they don't put it out in a cow pasture.

#### Victim's birthday means jail time

FORT WORTH (AP) - A 22-year-old man given a 10-year probationary term in an intoxication manslaughter case must spend the victim's birthdays in the Tarrant County jail.

Christopher Elton Campbell was drunk when he rear-ended a car driven by 24-year-old Renee Danielle Horton two years ago. She was killed.

In a plea arrangement in which the prosecutor consulted with the victim's family, it was determined Friday that Campbell must wear a bracelet containing Horton's name; reimburse her mother for funeral expenses; and spend Christmas, Thanksgiving, the Fourth of July and the dates of Horton's birth and death in jail.

Campbell, in pleading guilty, promised state District with the Texas Health Judge Ruben Gonzalez that he'd never wind up in his and Human Services courtroom again, and he apologized to Horton's family. Commission concerning

#### Party fronts for cockfighting

DAYTON (AP) - More than 50 animals have been rescued from an illegal cockfighting ring in Southeast Texas in which a children's party allegedly was used as a cover.

Liberty County sheriff's Capt. Rex Evans says the party, complete with a water slide, apparently was a front juries. for youngsters to play while the cockfighting, for adults, happened nearby.

Investigators say a tip led to the operation in the Dayton area. Two men were arrested on charges of failing to identify themselves and interfering with a law enforcement investigation.

Authorities say 48 birds were rescued, along with two dogs and a horse. A number of dead birds were at the scene Saturday afternoon when deputies arrived.

A trailer that was confiscated had carpeted cages, lights and air conditioning.

## 'Life settlements' draw scrutiny

AUSTIN (AP) - Texas securities regulators are working to shut down at least six companies that buy life insurance policies at a discount from retirees.

The so-called life settlements ostensibly offer the retirees lump-sum payments for a portion of those policies but, in many cases, cost retirees much or all of their investments. Advertised returns of 20 percent or more per year has made the concept enticing to retirees who have seen their retirement portfolios shrink in recent years from market reverses.

However, the business has grown in Texas because of a lack of any meaningful oversight, the Austin American-Statesman reported in Sunday's editions.

According to the Texas State Securities Board, 2,200 investors have put \$220 million into the policies for life settlement cashouts over the past two years. Hundreds of others have paid tens of millions of dollars more into policies that are targeted by Texas-related federal enforcement action.

In Texas, unlike most other states, life settlement investments are not recognized as investments subject to regulation as such. State Insurance Commissioner Mike Geeslin urged lawmakers to consider tighter state regulation of the life settlement business.

Independent Hopkins

## AFTERNOONRUSH Coffee klatch gossip reveals SS myths

TOM MARGENAU Creator's Syndicate

Q: Social Security is a popular topic of discussion at a weekly "coffee klatch" I attend. This morning, someone said she read yet another story about a grown son cashing his deceased mother's Social Security checks and running off to Bermuda with the money.

We all agreed that Social Security would have no problems if they would simply eliminate all the fraud, waste and abuse. I told my lady friends that this would be a good topic for your column. What's your take on this?

A: It sure makes a good headline, doesn't it? "Son cashes dead mother's Social Security checks: heads for paradise." Or how about this even juicier one: "Local man buries grandmother in backyard and lives off her Social Security.

Of course, once in a blue moon, something like this actually takes place, and it always makes for a sensational news story. But the reason it is such a good and juicy "news" story is because it is just that: news that almost never hap-

About 20 or more years ago, such forms of Social Security fraud were more common. (And by "common," I mean maybe three or four cases per year.) But it is a very rare occurrence today for two main reasons

The primary one is the sophisticated computer matching operations that go on nowadays. It's kind of hard for grandma to die today without anyone finding out. A hospital will know about it. A funeral home will handle the body. A bank will figure out that grandma's not around anymore. The bureau of vital statistics will get the information. All of these places have computer systems, and all of these systems are probably talking to one another. And the Social Security computer network taps into these computer matching operations.

And there are lots of more lowtech assurances that this kind of fraud doesn't take place. A neighSocial Security and you

bor, a friend, a relative - someone will notice grandma missing and notify the authorities.

The other reason corrupt family members aren't cashing grandma's Social Security check is because grandma wasn't getting a check. Almost all Social Security benefits are sent directly to a bank or other financial institution via direct deposit. And almost always, when grandma dies, the bank finds out and immediately returns any Social Security benefits deposited to her account

As I've pointed out so many times in this column, people are always looking for easy answers to Social Security's long range financial problems. Instead of raising the retirement age, why not just eliminate waste? Why increase taxes when you simply have to get rid of fraud? It just seems so simple.

Here is an interesting story I'd like to share. Ronald Reagan campaigned on a promise of eliminating 'waste fraud and abuse" in government. So when he was elected president, he appointed a commission to do just that. At the time, I was managing an office of about 40 employees at Social Security's headquarters in Baltimore. We were a staff of primarily writers and editors who produced all of the agency's public information materials.

Members of the "eliminate waste fraud and abuse commission" (I forget their exact title) spent weeks going over our office procedures, just as they spent weeks and months going over the procedures of all federal government offices around the country. After what I recall was a two-year overall effort, they produced an elaborate report for the president. There was much fan-fare and publicity and an official White House ceremony.

Had they ferreted out corruption throughout the government? Had

they identified countless examples of government waste? Well, when the report filtered down to my office, we were required to start using paper out of our wastebascets as scratch pads, and I had to go around and screw out every other fluorescent lighting tube in the ceiling. Yup, we eliminated

waste fraud and abuse all right! It's almost as American as apple pie to believe that government is big and corrupt and wasteful. And I guess people just assume that the Social Security Administration, one of the largest of all federal agencies, must lead the pack when it comes to abuse.

Any government program that keeps records on every working person in this country and pays monthly benefits to 50 million people is going to have a glitch or two every once in a while. But by and large, Social Security is a pretty sophisticated and well-oiled machine. Many different studies by groups inside and outside of government have shown that SSA has a remarkable record of efficiency. The last numbers I saw reported that 99.8 percent of the time, SSA sent Social Security checks to the right person, in the right amount, and on time. And when that person dies, the checks are stopped imme-

Here's an example: My favorite uncle recently passed away. He was almost 100 years old. He got Social Security checks for almost 40 years. He never once missed a monthly payment - not even by a day! And when he died, his benefits were stopped and no one cashed his checks and ran off to Bermuda with the money. My uncle's Social Security story is not the exception, but the rule.

A special note to my readers: I will be traveling and away from my home (and my email) for the entire month of May. So please hold off on sending your questions to me until after June 1. Thank you.

If you have a Social Security question, Tom Margenau has the answer. Contact him at thomas.margenau@comcast.net.

#### County

welfare fraud cases.

Assistant District Attorney Jeromie Oney told commissioners that the commission conducted their own investigations and presented them to local grand

He said there were only a few each year, but the contract specified the arrangement between the district

down the guidelines for handling the cases.

 Commissioners also approved the sale of tax delinquent property in Pampa, Alanreed and McLean.

Minnie Jens and Skovbo bought 508 E. Foster for \$500.

Ana I. Aguilar bought 325 North Banks for \$500

Jesus M. Benjamin bought 1144 Huff for \$1,000, 536 E. Elm for .\$536, 1025 Huff for attorney's office and lay \$355 and 1072 Varnon

bond issue to renovate

cont. from page 1

for \$510 G. Bonita Smith bought 609 and 611 N. Roberts for \$326, 624 N. Roberts for \$325, 700

diately.

335 N. Roberts for \$325. Ivan Gutierrez bought 425 N. Russell for \$300. Jack C. Nix bought a

N. Christy for \$325 and

lot in Alanreed for \$325. Mark and Paige Tate bought five and a half lots in McLean for \$270. Shirley Harbour bought four lots McLean for \$275

**WANTING TO SEND YOUR KIDS** WE CAN HELP. LET'S TALK.

**Duane Harp** Financial Advisor 1921 N Hobart Pampa, TX 79065 806-665-6753 www.edwardjones.com Membe



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May 2, 2011

## **Voting**

Early voting polls opened today and will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. starting today through Tuesday, May

Gray According County Election Administrator Linda Lewis, the polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 3, and Wednesday, May 4.

Election Day for local elections is Saturday, May 14, with voting at M.K. Brown Auditorium for all wards in the city.

Lewis said this is an at large election. While candidates must live within the ward that they wish to represent, anyone in Pampa can vote for any candidate.

In addition to the city elections, Grandview-

cont. from page 1 Voters in Lefors and School District voters are voting on a million dollar

their school building and levy a tax for the bond

McLean Independent School Districts will be electing trustees for their respective school boards.



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## Viewpoints

## Today in History

Today is Monday, May 2, the 122nd day of 2011. There are 243 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: May 2, 1611, is the popularly accepted publication date of the Authorized King James Version of the Bible

On this date:

In 1519, artist Leonardo da Vinci died at Cloux, France, at age 67.

In 1670, the Hudson's Bay Co. was chartered by England's King Charles II.

In 1863, Confederate General Thomas 'Stonewall" Jackson was accidentally wounded by his own men at Chancellorsville, Va.; he died eight days later.

In 1890, the Oklahoma Territory was organized. In 1936, "Peter and the Wolf," a symphonic tale for children by Sergei Prokofiev, had its world premiere in Moscow

In 1941, General Mills began shipping its new cereal, "Cheerioats," to six test markets. (The cereal was later renamed "Cheerios.") In 1957, Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, the contro-

versial Republican senator from Wisconsin, died at Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland. In 1960, Caryl Chessman, who'd become a best-selling author and cause celebre while on

death row for kidnapping, rape and robbery, was executed at San Quentin Prison in California. In 1970, jockey Diane Crump became the first

woman to ride in the Kentucky Derby; she finished in 15th place aboard Fathom. (The winning horse was Dust Commander.)

In 1982, the Weather Channel made its debut. Ten years ago: President George W. Bush and

Republican congressional leaders clinched a budget deal embracing most of the president's tax and spending goals.

Five years ago: Rene Braeunlich and Thomas Nitzschke, two German engineers held captive for 99 days in Iraq, were released unharmed.

One year ago: President Barack Obama traveled to Louisiana to view the response to the BP oil spill, pledging that the government "will do whatever it takes for as long as it takes to stop this crisis.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Theodore Bikel is 87. Singer Engelbert Humperdinck is 75. Actress and political activist Bianca Jagger is 66. Country singer R.C. Bannon is 66. Singer Lesley Gore is 65. Actor David Suchet (SOO'-shay) is 65. Singer-songwriter Larry Gatlin is 63. Rock singer Lou Gramm (Foreigner) is 61. Actress Christine Baranski is 59. Singer Angela Bofill is 57. Movie director Stephen Daldry ("The Reader") is 51. Actress Elizabeth Berridge is 49. Country singer Ty Herndon is 49. Rock musician Todd Sucherman (Styx) is 42. Wrestler-turned-actor Dwayne Johnson is 39. Soccer player David Beckham is 36. Actress Jenna Von Oy is 34. Actress Ellie Kemper is 31. Actor Gaius (GY'-ehs) Charles is 28. Pop singer Lily, Allen is 26. Olympic gold medal figure skater Sarah Hughes is 26. Rock musician Jim Almgren (Carolina Liar) is 25. Actress Kay Panabaker is 21.

Thought for Today: "Have you ever observed that we pay much more attention to a wise passage when it is quoted than when we read it in the original author?" - Philip G Hamerton, English artist and

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## Loss of Osama bin Laden strikes al-Qaida hard

WASHINGTON (AP) - U.S. intelligence officials believe al-Qaida will have a hard time recovering from the death of its murderous leader, Osama bin Laden.

After all, his heir apparent, Ayman al-Zawahri, is a harsh, divisive figure who lacks the charisma and mystique that bin Laden used to hold together al-Qaida's various factions. Without bin Laden's iconic figure running al-Qaida, intelligence officials believe the group could splinter

But if there is one thing al-Qaida has proved it is able to do, it is adapt to adversity. Its foot soldiers learned to stay off their cellphones to avoid U.S. wiretaps. Their technical wizards cooked up cutting edge encryption software that flummoxed American code-breakers. And a would-be bomber managed to defeat billions of dollars in airline security upgrades with explosives tucked in his underwear.

bullet to the head in a raid on his fortified Pakistani hideout early Monday, came 15 years after he declared war on the United States and nearly a decade after he carried out the worst attacks on U.S. soil. But the al-Qaida network he leaves behind is far different from the one behind the World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks.

Today, al-Qaida's core in Pakistan is constantly on the run, hiding from U.S. Predator drones. Communication is slow. The ability to plan, finance and carry out attacks has been greatly reduced. Al-Qaida franchises have sprung up in Yemen, Iraq and Algeria, where terrorists fight local grievances under the global banner of jihad.

U.S. Senator

John Cornyn

"In the aftermath of

9/11, President Bush

promised a fear-

ful, grieving nation

that those individu-

als responsible for

this atrocity would

be brought to justice.

Now, nearly a decade

after those horrific

justice has finally been served.

attacks, President Obama informs us that

those who wish to do our nation harm: If you

murder Americans, you will be hunted, you

will be found and you will be brought to jus-

tice. I commend the military and intelligence

professionals whose tremendous efforts

ended the reign of this terrorist mastermind.

ones back, it is my hope that this will some-

how ease the pain of the families of those

who were lost on September 11th, 2001."

"While this will never bring their loved

"Let this serve as a grave reminder to all

In that regard, bin Laden's death could be far more damaging psy- pick targets and carry out attacks

chologically than operationally. Al-Zawahri has been running al-Qaida operations for years as bin Laden cut himself off from the outside world. There were no phone or Internet lines running into his compound. And he used a multilayered courier system to pass messages. It was old-fashioned and safe but it made taking part in any tion practically impossible. Bin Laden had been reduced to a figurehead by the time U.S. commandoes eliminated him, counterterrorism

experts say. Today, greatest terrorist

threat to the U.S. is now considered to be the al-Qaida franchise in Yemen, far from al-Oaida's core in Pakistan. The Yemen branch almost took down a U.S.-bound airliner on

Christmas 2009 and nearly detonated explosives aboard two U.S. cargo planes last fall. Those operations were carried out without any direct involvement

from bin Laden. Al-Qaida's leadership Yemen has also managed to do what bin Laden never could: adapt the message for Western audiences package it in English. The terrorist magazine "Inspire," coaches wouldbe bombers on how to make explosives. teaches them that they don't need to seek trainwithout any instruction from al-Qaida's core leadership.

ing in Pakistan or Yemen, where

they could be intercepted by U.S.

spies. Rather, they are instructed to

become one-man terror cells that

Bin Laden was more of a symthan anything else, said Qaribut Saeed, a long-time member

o. .... Hezb-e-Islami rebel group led by Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, whom the U.S. has labeled a terrorist. Saeed is currently a member of the Afghan High Peace Council set up to try to negotiate a peace settlement with the Taliban. Bin Laden's loss will be an inspirational one, rather than an operational one, he said.

"Osama bin Laden became a symbol and inspiration for the young Muslim extremists," he said. But the group has expanded into a worldwide movement that is now bigger than bin Laden," he said.

Even if the U.S. manages to find and kill al-Zawahri, whose lastknown sighting was in Peshawar in 2003, it won't mean the end of al-Qaida. Like Hamas and Hezbollah who have seen their leaders eliminated, al-Qaida will probably continue to exist, terrorism experts say.

Within hours of bin Laden's death, for instance, members of groups affiliated with the al-Qaida-linked Haqqani network in Pakistan were already promising that the day-today mission on the ground would not change.

## U.S. Rep.

"While the death

gence professionals who have hunted for him for years, following up lead after lead patiently and persistently, as well as to the expert military professionals who carried out this mission, after constant training and preparation and experience with these types of operations.

has been removed."



## Mac Thornberry

of Osama bin Laden does not remove the threat of terrorism, it is an important milestone.

The credit for this success belongs primarily to the intelli-

President Obama should be credited with

making the decision to proceed with the operation, as should CIA Director Panetta for its oversight.

Our nation is still at risk, and more attacks on Americans and others will come. But the primary instigator of so much cruel violence

#### Chico Ramirez

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To ensure publication, please adhere to the following guidelines: · Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be 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.

· H-mail submissions are welcome.

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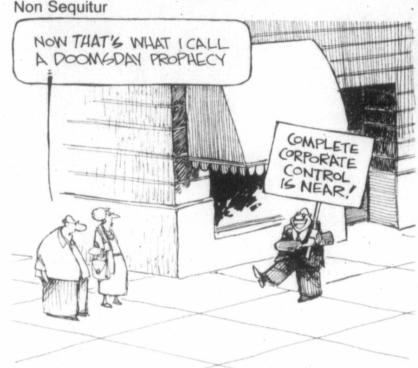
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, May 3,2011:

This year, mental discipline and luck combine to make a new beginning in any part of your life you desire. You are also unusually magnetic. Others often respond to that energy. It is because of you that most of the important happenings occur. In 2012 you will be entering a new luck cycle. In the next few months, consider what isn't working, and let go of that area of your life. If you are single, you could meet Mr. or Ms. Right, but there might be many other people interested in you, too. If you are attached, the two of you enter a new phase in your relationship that will make you happy. GEMINI helps give you

another perspective on money. 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)

★★★ Avoid making major financial decisions right now. Later you could discover how far off you are in what you agreed to. Enjoy what is happening. Look at what you have to offer in a situation besides money. Be willing to take the lead if need

be. Tonight: Pay bills. TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

\*\*\*★ It might only be Tuesday, but the Bull enjoys a little frivolous play. Your light and airy style sets many people back who are used to the solid-thinking Taurus. Enjoy the moment, doing only what you have to do. Tonight: All smiles.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

\*\*\* You might be in a new frame of mind, but hold back. Tomorrow you will be empowered and more energized. Still, you might make some changes to a project. Clear out as much as you can, knowing you could be very busy tomorrow. Tonight: Rest up.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

\*\*\* Though you might reach an agreement in a meeting on how to proceed, it won't hold. Agreements of that nature might need to be done over. Network and do what you must, but make time for key friends. Tonight: Where people are.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

\*\* Others look to you for answers. A meeting today might appear to be in line and it might seem like everyone knows what is going on. You could be surprised by what comes up out of the blue. Relax You might have to finish up a job by yourself. Tonight: Could be a late one.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

\*\*\* Keep reaching out for different people or experts. Some of you might decide to do your own research. Your way of handling a volatile matter could change dramatically. Know what you are aiming for. Do what is necessary. Tonight: Put some music on.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

\*\*\* Work with others individually. You'll get the results you desire and have reason to be content. Others ultimately respond to that personal touch. Avoid getting into a decision-making discussion. Time is your ally. Tonight: Chat and visit over dinner with a favorite person.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

\*\*\* Defer. In fact, you might be distracted by something other than work or the norm. Whatever you are doing, make it a point to squeeze in an activity you enjoy. Visit with a favorite friend. Lighten your day. Tonight: The only answer is yes.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) \*\*\* Get as much done as possible, especially things that you know won't demand redoing if someone doesn't agree. Clear your desk. Run as many errands as possible. Schedule a dentist's or doctor's appointment. Tonight: Squeeze in a walk.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

\*\*\* You might wonder what is the best way to discuss a problem. Brainstorm away - a couple of ideas will come forth. It is simply a matter of choice ... yours. Make time for a child or loved one. Tonight: Choose a fun activity.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

\*\*\* Open up to a new possibility, yet realize nothing is written in stone. Your personal or domestic situation could revise itself despite what you think. Maintain a sense of humor with others. Be willing to try another approach. You have nothing to lose. Tonight: Order in.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

\*\*\* Keep conversations going. Ideas can float back and forth without any of them seeming right-on. You might feel discouraged while trying to open up talks with a sibling or neighbor. The timing is off. Tonight: Return calls and emails.

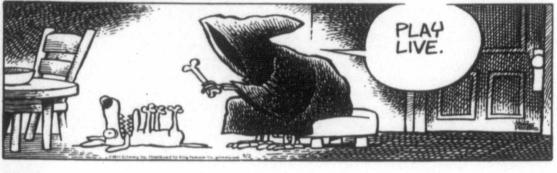
Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW SOMEONE SEDAKA? UNTIL 400 DIG SERIOUSLY? DEEP INTO THEIR FACEBOOK

Garfield



YOU KNOW, I USED TO PAINT WHEN I WAS IN COLLEGE BARNS COUNT



Beetle Bailey





Marvin





Hagar The Horrible



**Peanuts** 



Blondie





DUTY CALLS!



## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

volunteer manager coor- MANAGER IN DENVER dinating services between 200 students and tutors in Sometimes well-meaning an adult refugee English parents try so hard to as a Second Language pro- run interference for their ABLE: I think you should gram. We benefit greatly children that they get in from the skills and perspec- the way, and rather than tions than buying a new tives of young people, but strengthening their chilthe job requires volunteers dren's wings, they don't to be self-directed and ma- allow them to develop. Or browse resale boutiques ture enough to handle the For parents of teens and to see if they have someassignment. May I offer young adults who are insome advice to those who terested in volunteering wish to volunteer for ANY program for class credit -as an intern or during summer vacation?

Understand that your assignment is a JOB. Someone is counting on anniversary party. They you to be reliable and do it are requesting that all the well - even though you're guests wear white. I think not being paid. If you want it's unfair to ask that of a to volunteer, call me yourself. Our conversation will and will have to buy somebe, for all intents and purthing new to wear, besides For him? No. For you, the poses, a job interview. I do not want to talk to your mother unless she's the one

perience and insight into. To have to go out and buy a life that is unfamiliar to you. If you're not ready to commit to an assignment, ask the manager if you can "shadow" someone who is currently volunteering. It's a great way to see if the work interests you.

My volunteers are the most dedicated, intrepid, compassionate people I have ever met. They succeed because they're enthusiastic and sincere in their desire to contribute. They range in age from 17 to 82, but they all have one thing in common: They picked up the phone and spent time doing their own research.

Volunteering is an excellent way to make a difference in the world, especially when you understand where you fit into that

DEAR ABBY: I am a world. - VOLUNTEER something new is a hard-

DEAR MANAGER: and internships, I hope for writing.

DEAR ABBY: I am quested, not ordered. invited to a 60th wedding guest. I recently lost weight paying for my hotel and a

looking for the assignment. and want to share this spe- is enjoying himself, be-Nonprofit organizations cial occasion with them, cause you are not going to offer volunteers work ex- but I'm on a fixed income. change him.

ship. Abby, what do you think? — REASONABLE IN SAN FRANCISCO

REASON-DEAR consider some other opoutfit. Could you borrow a white outfit from someone? thing? If they don't, contact the anniversary couple and see if they would mind this letter will serve as a your wearing the palest wake-up call. Thank you outfit you have. After all, the white attire is being re-

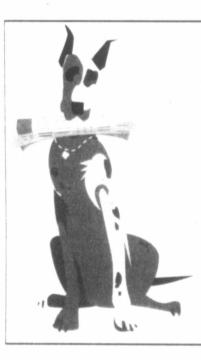
> DEAR ABBY: My fiance is a "screamer" during lovemaking. This bothers me. Is there a cure? -SUBDUED IN ALBU-QUERQUE

DEAR "cure" is to learn to be less self-conscious about I care about the couple the fact that your fiance

## BANANAGRAMS

Each of the two-letter groups below may be extended both on the right and the left to form a six-letter word. Use the tiles directly above each group to fill in the blanks.

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## Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

and the		*	1 3	7.1.1			115	317.6
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CROSSWORD

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By THOMAS JOSEPH

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Saturday's answer

12 Buffy, for one

17"That's it!" 20 Country music's Steve

5 Alaskan city 21 Letter 6 Sum of one's

actions 7 Devoured shop 8 Spot for a orders

workout 25 Dodged 9 Issue 26 Run riot

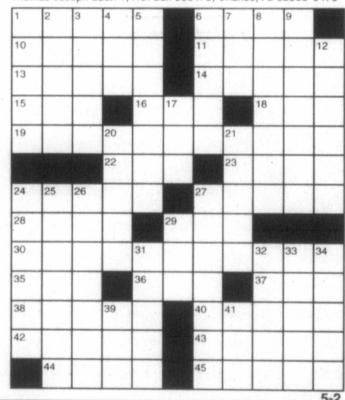
27 Hopi homes 29 And not

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before direction 34 Grazing iota 24 Coffeegroups

39 Play on words 41 Binary digit

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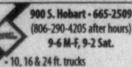
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# Sports

## The thinking behind the Top 10 Pampa-Borger list

This year marked the return of the Pampa-Borger rivalry as both teams were back in the same district for the first time since 2000. As you saw on the front, I came up with my top moments. I thought I used several factors in coming up with that list: exciting victories, big games and memorable moments.

Just like how I determine players of the week, victories play a big role. One of those was the girls basketball team's 49-48 victory in the Caprock Lournament. Plus, Kirsten Kuhn made buzzer beater and that put it over the op In the overall picture, this wasn't as high of a moment as the girls basketball cam didn't qualify for the playoffs. Also volleyball, Pampa pulled an exciting an set victory to clinch a playoff spot. This year included matchups with playor implications. The Pampa Harvesters asketball team clinched the district title

at Borger, which was Pampa's first since 1996. The game wasn't exactly competitive, but the fact that it was a district clincher made the list. The fact that Pampa won the game is why it's ranked number one. The volleyball regional quarterfinals made the list as the two rivals met in the

playoffs. It would have been ranked higher if the Lady Harvesters would have

**ANDREW** 

**GLOVER** 

I had some other moments that happened on and off the field of play. One was Reid Miller's touchdown to Latigo Collins, because it was our first score in the renewed rivalry. Due to the fact, that

was the only score of the game is why it's barely in the top 10. Also, Pampa and Borger played a four extra inning baseball game for the Cavalier Classic title. This was is in the bottom half of the list because Pampa lost and the Harvesters didn't have a full team.

I included some off-the-field moments, too. In the boys basketball team's home game against Borger, the McNeely era Alums were honored. This group of athletes were the most dominating team in Harvester history. The fact that the Harvesters beat the Bulldogs by 29 was just icing on the cake.

Also, the alumni football team made the list for similar reasons. Most of that team played under the late Dennis Cavalier. That game kicked off the renewed Pampa-Borger rivalry. The other moment included really had nothing to due with sports but was important. There was three Borger-themed vandalism incidents and the Pampa students didn't retaliate. Character speaks a lot and is probably more important than winning on the scoreboard. Honestly, I don't think my high school, Cinco Ranch, would have responded in the same way if they had to deal with a Katy- or Taylor-themed

There were so many moments in the first year that it was tough to limit it to ten. You have to admit is pretty humorous having two dog delays in the Pampa-Borger soccer game in Borger. Three of the four girls basketball games against Borger were decided by three points or

We'll see what next year brings.

Andrew Glover is The Pampa News sports reporter. He can be reached by email at aglov-

cont. from page 1



Humber Bresh December 30 at Lubbock he Panga Lady Harvesters met their district rival for the statement the Caprock Classic in Lubbock. Borger held a 39 30 lead going into the fourth quarter: The and Hanvesters rallied back with junior Kirsten Kuhn making a layup and hitting a free throw with one-tenth of a second left to give Pampa a 49-48 victory. The Lady beat Borger two out of three times in district at soft aids a make the playoffs.

Touchdown, Harvesters: Pampa vs Barger football, first touchdown October 15

Reid Miller threw a 63-yard touchdown pel auto Collins to tie the game 7-7 against the ned Bulldogs. Sadly this was one of the few bright pots as Borger was victorious 28-7

Caged 'dogs: Pampa softhall team sweeps The Pampa Lady Harvesters played Borger for the first time in five years. In three games, impositioninated winning all three. The Lady Harvesters and Burger 39-15.

> Kids with class: Pampa students don't retaliate September 7 to February 12

Since the Borger rivalry returned there were three vandalism incidents that included toothall stield, head coach Heath Parker's house ethall team's bus. None of these incidents a Chlution by Pampa students, as they let cener take place on the field.

For all the marbles: Pampa vs. Borger volwhat regional quarterfinal, November 9 at Herri Levas A&M

The Pampa-Borger rivalry heightened as allowmet in the playoffs. The Lady Harvesters the first four meetings but the regional quarterfinals cae thrown to the Dogs as the red and white celebrated.

October 19 at Borger

Talk about playoffs: Pampa vs. Borger-

After having to forfeit two games because

lead and held on late for a victory that clinched their first district title since 1996. The only thing that kept the Harvesters from celebrating on Borger's bulldog was not knowing that Perryton lost to Dalhart until they were in the locker room. The Harvesters didn't stop with a district title, as they finished a season a game short of reaching the state tour-

Pampa a playoff spot for the first time since the 1990s. All-Harvester Team: Pampa vs. Borger Alumni Game, August 14 at

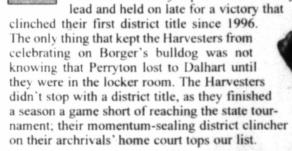
Harvester Field So it wasn't exactly a "real" Pampa vs. Borger high school tilt, but there was no better way to renew the rivalry than have the people who experienced it the first time return to the field. Pampa and Borger

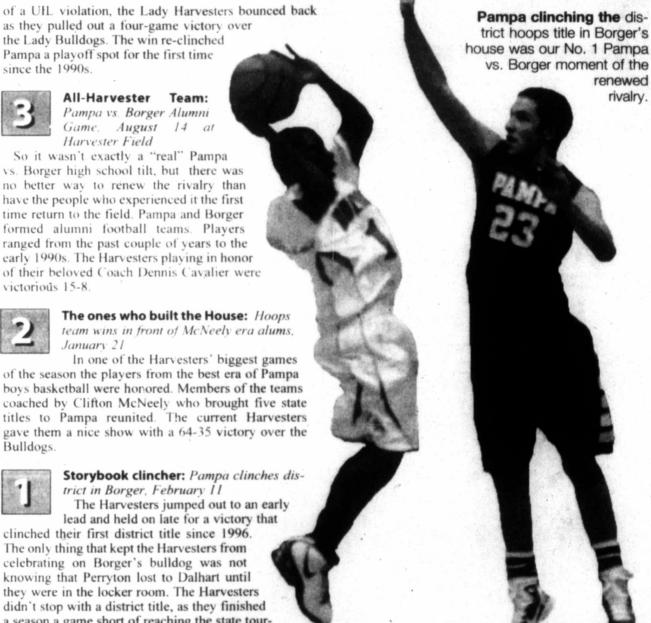
formed alumni football teams. Players ranged from the past couple of years to the early 1990s. The Harvesters playing in honor of their beloved Coach Dennis Cavalier were victorious 15-8.

The ones who built the House: Hoops team wins in front of McNeely era alums, January 21 In one of the Harvesters' biggest games

of the season the players from the best era of Pampa boys basketball were honored. Members of the teams coached by Clifton McNeely who brought five state titles to Pampa reunited. The current Harvesters gave them a nice show with a 64-35 victory over the

Storybook clincher: Pampa clinches district in Borger, February 11 The Harvesters jumped out to an early





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