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The PAMPA NEWS

Friday, December 16, 2011

Volume 107 • No. 210

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 Page 3B Page 5A

Enbridge affiliate to be second PEC tenant

MOLLIE BRYANT
 mbryant@thepampanews.com

At its board meeting yesterday, the Pampa Economic Development Corporation (PEDC) announced that they have entered into two contracts, amounting to \$5.3 million dollars, with two affiliates of Enbridge Energy Partners, LP. The PEDC did not go into detail as to which affiliates are involved.

Enbridge will lease a portion of the Pampa Energy Center, the PEDC's industrial complex, for \$1.3 million. The company will occupy a 116 acre liquids terminal facility that includes a warehouse building, a safety and security building, rail, loading racks and storage tanks. The terms of the lease extend for 40 years.

In addition to becoming the latest tenant at the facility, Enbridge has purchased oil

and gas pipelines on the Pampa Energy Center property from the PEDC for \$4 million. According to Gary Sutherland, president of the PEDC board, the pipelines mostly run from Pampa to plants located in Borger.

Last May, the PEDC purchased the Pampa Energy Center, formerly the site of the Celanese plant, for \$3 million. Flogistix became the center's first tenant in late October. The facility is man-

aged by Open Range Engineering Services, a Pampa firm.

"It is a blessing to the PEDC and the community of Pampa to have gotten the Pampa Energy Center and have this kind of deal," said Sutherland.

He added that the group has prospects for other portions of the facility, but for now, he's pleased to be working with Enbridge.

"Enbridge has been around ENBRIDGE cont. on page 5

THE ANGELS SING



staff photo by **ReDonn Woods**

TOP: Lea Slaughter (from left), Boston Ziegelgruber, Landon Griffith and Kennedy Woods of First Baptist Daycare go caroling at First Bank Southwest on Wednesday. **RIGHT:** The entire class serenades FBSW guests.

Smith files, makes House bid official

ARNIE AURELLANO
 editor@thepampanews.com

Republican Mac Smith, Pampa resident and Texas House of Representatives hopeful, made his candidacy official with the state on Thursday, filing paperwork in Austin to run for the seat being vacated by fellow Pampan Warren Chisum.

Smith, who announced his candidacy in October, said that he has been energized by the early support his campaign has received from the SMITH cont. on page 5

Nine file locally for GOP primary

ARNIE AURELLANO
 editor@thepampanews.com

With the filing deadline for Texas elections three days away, Doug Ware, chairman of the Gray County Republican Party, reported that nine people have filed with the party for local elected office. FILINGS cont. on page 5

Seliger returns to Pampa, talks at Republican Women's meeting

MOLLIE BRYANT
 mbryant@thepampanews.com

Kel Seliger, R-Amarillo, state senator of District 31, spoke Thursday at a meeting sponsored by the Top O' Texas Republican Women at the Pampa Senior Citizens Center. While Gray County is not part of his district, he represents 26 counties in the Panhandle and Permian basin.

As chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Redistricting, Seliger was involved with developing new district maps, which have since become a topic of controversy.

"People worked together in a very bipartisan way to pass those maps, and we still got sued," he said.

The legal issues surrounding redistricting have put Texas in an election limbo, and Seliger says that the state



Seliger

will testify before the Supreme Court in early January. He said whether or not to hold more than one primary is a question raised by the halting of the maps. "(Two primaries) would be really expensive," said Seliger. "The county judge of Maverick County said it would cost their county alone \$84,000. Multiply that to one degree or another in 254 counties, and what you've got is one of the largest unfunded mandates in a long time. The Republican party thinks that's a good idea, and quite frankly, I think it's not. SELIGER cont. on page 8

12 kids of Christmas

Tyler Frazier, 8 Parents: Ryan and Leah Frazier



What I want most for Christmas is: "I want other people to get presents, and I want a Lego set." My favorite Christmas song: "Jingle Bell Rock"

What does Christmas mean to you? "Joy."

Merry Christmas!




From all of us at Pampa Chamber of Commerce Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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- Weather 2A
- Morning Rush 3A
- Viewpoints 4A
- Comics 6A
- NASCAR 7A
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- Puzzles/Dear Abby 3B
- Sports 3B, 4B



PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Saturday	Sunday
		
High 46 Low 25	High 51 Low 32	High 57 Low 36

Today: Sunny, with a high near 46. Wind chill values between 15 and 25 early. South wind around 5 mph becoming calm.

Tonight: Clear, with a low around 25. Wind chill values between 18 and 23. Calm wind becoming west northwest between 5 and 10 mph.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 51. West wind around 10 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 32. Breezy, with a southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 57. Windy, with a southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Sunday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 36. Breezy, with a south southwest wind around 15 mph becoming north northwest. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.

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ANGELS, ANGELS, we have Salvation Army Forgotten Angels for you to choose from on our Christmas tree! These are angels who were not chosen from the Salvation Army Angel tree. Items should be returned unwrapped with angel tag attached before Dec. 20th to the Pampa News or the Salvation Army 701 S. Cuyler, (if you have questions please call 665-7233). Come by The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison, pick an angel & make someone's Christmas brighter this year! We are open Mon.-Fri., 8am-3pm. Merry Christmas from The Pampa News!!

PACK N Mail will be open Sat. Dec. 17, 10am-2pm. Jewelry and Gift Items 25% off starting Dec. 1st except Lakeshore Candles & Miche Bags.

MASSAGE THERAPY Gift Certificates-Christmas Special. Call Cathy Potter, Holly Albert or Brittany Shuman, 669-0013, 1224 N. Hobart Ste. #9.

4-H PECANS for sale-lots of extras! New Specialty items: praline pecans, choc. covered pecans, Hunter's mix & more. Good stocking stuffers! Call 4-H Office 669-8033.

RHEAMS DIAMOND Shop- Register to Win 1/2 Ct. ctw. Blue Diamond Necklace, valued at \$995!! We'll give it away Dec. 22nd. Need not be present to win. Open late Mon-Fri til 8pm, Downtown Pampa.



Today, Dec. 16, 2011, is his birthday. Give him a call at 669-7478 until 6 pm or at 669-3107 after 6 pm.

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Perry links self to military, cites record

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa (AP) — Every now and then, Rick Perry seems to stop campaigning for president. That's when he talks about the men and women who have served in uniform — including himself.

"We've got a lot of heroes: young men and women that we've watched from afar, sometimes up close and personal," the Texas governor said slowly during an otherwise fiery campaign speech to launch a thousand-mile bus tour here Wednesday. "Sometimes, it was your friends and family."

Perry's campaign is looking for a second wind with mere weeks to go until Iowa starts the Republican nominating process with its Jan. 3 caucuses. He is lagging in the polls and is working hard to recapture the fervor of his August entry into the race.

A refocused campaign speech plays up the uniform. Heading into Thursday's debate in Sioux City, look for Perry to highlight his four years flying C-130s in the Air Force.

On Wednesday, Perry reminded Iowans of his military record.

"Growing up in Paint Creek, Texas, I learned some values — just like those of you that grew up in small towns in Iowa — hard work, faith, family were really important," he



Perry

the United States Air Force."

The crowd interrupted with applause.

"My purpose in life has never been to be the president of the United States," Perry said. "My purpose in life has been to serve my country."

From the beginning, Perry hoped military issues would help him. During a September speech at Liberty University, the nation's largest evangelical school, he encouraged students to honor fallen military members by living a moral life.

"A great many of those who perished were approximately your age. Young men and women whose entire future was in front of them. They sacrificed their dreams to preserve yours," Perry said. "Because of what they gave, I simply ask you to make the most of the freedom that

said. "Serving your community, serving your state, serving your country. I'll never be able to give back to this country what it has given to me. Part of my attempt to do that was serving in

they sacrificed."

During the first days of his campaign, he all but cried when talking about a Navy SEAL killed in Afghanistan "so a guy like me can stand up on a soapbox at the Iowa State Fair and talk freely about freedom and liberty and America and that we are an exceptional country and we're going to stay an exceptional country."

Perry's campaign is looking to tap into the pool of veterans — reliable, older voters who helped Sen. John McCain win the nomination in 2008 — and families of military members.

Rep. Ron Paul of Texas is the only other military veteran seeking the presidential nomination. Paul was a flight surgeon in the Air Force and Air Force National Guard in the 1960s; Perry served in the 1970s.

If the GOP nominates anyone but Perry or Paul, it will be the first presidential campaign in 68 years to feature two candidates with no military record. President Barack Obama did not serve in uniform — a fact Perry once sought to exploit.

"The president had the opportunity to serve his country I'm sure, at some time, and he made the decision that that wasn't what he wanted to do," Perry told a Cedar Rapids crowd back in August.

Obituaries

James W. "Rusty" Taylor, 71

James W. "Rusty" Taylor, 71, died December 9, 2011, in Pampa.

Memorial services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, December 17, 2011, at St. Mark CME Church with Rev. Spencer Stoker, pastor, and Rev. Darren Willis, pastor of New Hope Baptist Church, officiating. Cremation and arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Taylor was born September 24, 1940, in Terrell. He moved to Pampa in 1945, graduating from Pampa High School in 1958. James married Bea Powell on April 28, 1984, in Pampa. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army,



Taylor

serving during the Vietnam War. He was employed by Phillips Petroleum, Kerr-McGee, K & K Construction, and was in charge of maintenance for the Pampa Chamber of Commerce Building. James was a member of St. Mark CME Church. He enjoyed shooting pool and was an avid Dallas Cowboys fan.

Survivors include wife, Bea Taylor of the home; four daughters, Lerrisa Taylor Reeves of Renton, Wash., Rachel Adkison of Waco, Cynthia Ellis of Arlington, and Rotounda Lockett of Cedar Hills; three sons, James W. Taylor of Borger, Calvin Minefield of Missouri, and James Allen of Colorado; three brothers, Clyde Steele of Colorado, Bobby Bryant of San Antonio, and Danny Harris of Pampa; a sister, Synora Kendrick of Houston; 13 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. James was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Aleric Taylor; and a daughter, Rosalind Meadows.

Memorials may be made to St. Mark CME Church, 406 Elm, Pampa, TX 79065.

Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whitley.com.

For the record

Police Department

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 24 hour period ending Thursday, December 15 at 7 a.m.

Pampa PD reported 15 traffic related incidents.

Animal Control agents and Pampa PD reported nine animal related incidents.

Pampa EMS responded to eight medical calls.

Wednesday, December 14

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 2200 block of North Duncan.

Criminal mischief occurred at the 400 block of Buckler.

Fraud was reported.

Fraud was reported at the 700 block of East Frederic.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 1900 block of North Zimmers.

Driving while intoxicated was reported at the 1600

block of North Hobart.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 1300 block of North Russell.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 2100 block of North Mary Ellen.

Criminal mischief was reported.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 1400 block of West Somerville.

Harassment was reported.

A domestic disturbance occurred at the 800 block of East Bradley.

A threat was reported at the 1600 block of North Holly.

A suspicious person was reported at the 1100 block of South Dwight.

A domestic disturbance occurred at the 800 block of North Lefors.

A theft occurred at the 700 block of North Gray.

Criminal mischief occurred at the 100 block of Hampton and the 1800

block of North Dwight.

A suspicious person was reported at the 700 block of Bradley.

Thursday, December 15

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 1200 block of East Kingsmill, Craven and Gillespie, and the 400 block of Gillespie.

Criminal mischief occurred at the 1200 block of North Duncan.

A suspicious person was reported at Kentucky and Hobart.

Criminal mischief occurred at the 1000 block of South Varnon.

A threat was reported at the 400 block of North Russell.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 1000 block of South Varnon.

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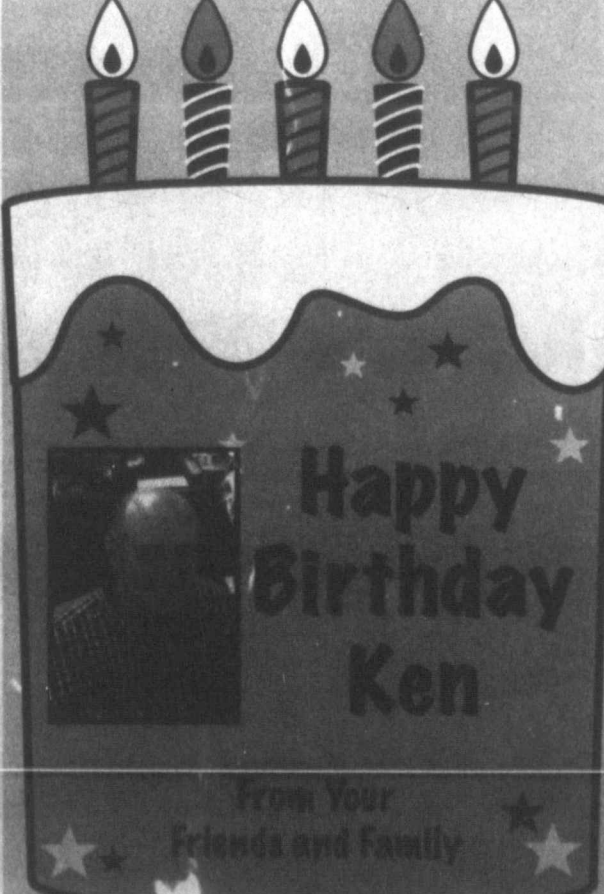
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Happy Birthday Ken

For your friends and family

MORNINGRUSH

Texas approves future water needs plan

River authority downsizing

AUSTIN (AP) — The Lower Colorado River Authority has shed about 200 jobs through buyouts and the elimination of unfilled jobs as it strives to remain competitive in a tight energy market.

The *Austin American Statesman* reported Thursday that the authority has also decided to sell one of its largest water and wastewater treatment plants for \$140 million.

General Manager Becky Motal says she expects \$20 million in annual savings from the early retirement buyouts given to 134 staffers, and by shedding 65 unfilled posts. Motal has also imposed a hiring freeze since she began managing the LCRA this summer.

Motal says the measures allow LCRA to keep electric rates competitive. The LCRA owns and manages several Central Texas power plants and reservoirs.

Fashion editor loses eye

DALLAS (AP) — A Texas online fashion magazine editor has lost an eye after she was maimed from walking into the spinning propeller of a small airplane after a flight to view Christmas lights earlier this month.

In a statement, the mother of 23-year-old Lauren Scruggs of Plano said her daughter's left eye was removed Wednesday.

Cheryl Scruggs said, "We have been praying for a miracle. The miracle that Jesus gave us is a prosthesis."

Lauren Scruggs also lost her left hand in the Dec. 3 accident.

Cheryl Scruggs says her daughter is "recovering remarkably well, given the circumstances," but added she's also in "excruciating pain."

Lauren Scruggs is founder and editor of LoLo Magazine, which includes information on fashion, beauty, health and travel.

Gas prices go down

HOUSTON (AP) — A survey finds that retail gasoline prices across Texas have slipped 3 cents this week.

AAA Texas on Thursday reported the average price at the pump was \$3.09 per gallon.

The association says gasoline prices nationwide also declined 3 cents this week, to settle at \$3.26 per gallon.

AAA Texas says analysts have found that global economic uncertainty and low demand for oil and gas continue to affect markets.

Ex-deputy accused of theft

SHERMAN (AP) — A recently fired North Texas deputy has been accused of slipping confiscated guns out of a property room and pawning the weapons.

The Grayson County Sheriff's Office says Errin William Luton (LOO'-ten) of Southmayd was indicted Wednesday on a charge of theft over \$20,000 by a public servant.

Luton, who was fired last week and arrested Wednesday, is free on \$10,000 bond. An attorney for Luton declined comment Thursday.

Sheriff Keith Gary says Texas Rangers are helping with the investigation of thefts allegedly going back to June.

Court looks at State Farm case

AUSTIN (AP) — State Farm Insurance has asked an appeals court to throw out an order requiring the company to refund about \$350 million to Texas customers.

A three-judge panel of the 3rd Court of Appeals in Austin took the case under advisement Wednesday.

A lower court in April ruled that then-Insurance Commissioner Mike Geeslin was within his authority to order the refund. The case involves about 1.2 million policyholders and what regulators say were excessive premiums between 2003 and 2008.

The *Dallas Morning News* reports a company attorney says the facts do not support refunds. Pete Schencken also says the payout would threaten the ability of State Farm Lloyds to continue writing homeowners policies in Texas.

Lawyers for the state say customers who paid rates that were too high deserve refunds.

Woman pleads for identity theft

FORT WORTH (AP) — A former RadioShack Corp. call center employee faces up to five years in prison for stealing customer data and using it to seek tax refunds.

Prosecutors in Fort Worth say Youlanda Rochelle Wright pleaded guilty Wednesday to identity theft and to making false claims against the U.S. government.

An April 23 sentencing date has been set for Wright, who was fired in 2007.

Prosecutors say Wright, as a RadioShack call center representative, often received Social Security numbers and other personal information from customers.

Investigators say Wright used the information to file tax returns, in the names of the unaware customers, to try to claim refunds from the IRS. Authorities did not immediately release details on how much money was involved in the scam.

RadioShack is based in Fort Worth.

Woman guilty of trafficking

ST. CHARLES, Ill. (AP) — A Texas woman has pleaded guilty in Illinois to trafficking \$2.1 million in heroin from a Mexican cartel.

Kane County prosecutors say 42-year-old Claudia Chagoya of El Paso, Texas, agreed Wednesday to a 20-year prison sentence. She pleaded guilty to a felony drug charge. A Kane County sheriff's deputy stopped Chagoya's vehicle in April after she didn't signal when exiting Interstate 90. The deputy's search found the vehicle's driveshaft was filled with seven kilograms of heroin.

Prosecutors say Chagoya told authorities she was working with a Mexican drug cartel to move the heroin from Mexico to the Chicago area. She said she was paid \$1,000 and was to be paid more when she returned to Texas.

Prosecutors say it was the largest Kane County heroin seizure "in recent memory."

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas approved a somberly worded plan on Thursday that lays out where the state should spend \$53 billion to cope with its water needs over the next half century, and warns that future droughts may mean not enough supply to keep up with growing demand.

The 295-page report by the Texas Water Development Board says that to avoid a potentially thirsty future, the state should implement 562 infrastructure and conservation projects that include building 26 new reservoirs as well as numerous dams, pipelines and wells — but it provides little guidance on how to pay for such infrastructure.

Texas is suffering through its worst single-year drought on record, making the question especially acute.

The board's latest version of a plan produced every five years says the state's population is expected to grow 82 percent by 2060, increasing water demand 22 percent even as supply is slated to drop 10 percent. It says failing to meet future water needs could cost Texas \$11.9 billion per year if the current drought approaches the state's worst on record between 1950 and 1957, and up to \$115.7

billion annually by 2060.

"The primary message of the 2012 State Water Plan is a simple one: In serious drought conditions, Texas does not and will not have enough water to meet the needs of its people, its businesses, and its agricultural enterprises," board chairman Edward Vaughan wrote in the introduction.

State climatologist John Nielsen-Gammon says Texas has endured droughts in five of the past seven years, and that the current one is likely to continue at least until next fall — and may rival the 1950s one.

Rains in recent weeks have helped bring Texas back from the brink. About 41 percent of the state is now in exceptional drought, compared to nearly 88 percent three months ago. But La Nina weather patterns will also likely ensure Texas rainfall remains minimal at least through June.

Also, during Thursday's meeting, the board heard that reservoir storage statewide is at a record low of 58 percent.

If all of the plan's recommended projects are implemented, Texas would generate an additional 9 million acre-feet of water per year by 2060. An acre-foot is about

enough water to supply a typical household for a year.

But funding \$53 billion in water projects won't be easy. Facing massive budget shortfalls, state lawmakers have made only about \$1.4 billion available for future water needs. That means the rest would have to come from local communities and municipal water suppliers, which are themselves facing cash shortages.

The report recommends that the state Legislature spell out steps to obtain potential sites for new reservoirs, ease restrictions on the voluntary transfer of surface water and look at more long-term solutions to pay for water plan projects.

The board will present the approved plan to Gov. Rick Perry and legislators before Jan. 5, but there is little mechanism to follow up with lawmakers about implementation after that.

Inaction will only make things more costly, though. Inflation, as well as calling for more use of water treatment and desalination facilities and pipelines, increased the estimated price of the state's water needs from \$31 billion in the 2007 report.

Lawmaker assailed for 'Mexican' remark

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — A Democratic state representative is under fire for calling New Mexico Gov. Susana Martinez a "Mexican" during a heated exchange with a GOP lawmaker in the capitol.

Rep. Sheryl Williams Stapleton made the comment Wednesday during a committee meeting break as she accused Rep. Nora Espinoza of "carrying the Mexican's water on the fourth floor" — a reference to Martinez.

Stapleton later apologized and said she didn't mean to offend anyone. Espinoza said she was offended by the remark as a Hispanic woman, and Martinez called the comments "sad and disappointing."

The Texas-born Martinez, whose grandparents are from Mexico, is the first Latina elected governor in the nation's history.

The term "Mexican" is offensive to many Mexican-Americans and Latinos because it is regularly used racially to lump all Latinos into the same category regardless of birth, immigration status or even ethnicity.

"Often times someone can make a racist statement and hide behind the term 'Mexican,'" said Cynthia V. Duarte, a

University of Notre Dame sociologist who studies multigenerational U.S. Latinos.

The remark followed an argument between the two lawmakers that stemmed from Espinoza's criticism of Stapleton for collecting a lucrative administrator salary with Albuquerque Public Schools while also getting daily pay in the New Mexico Legislature.

Stapleton, an Albuquerque Democrat, said that the criticism was set up by the governor's office because she opposed many of governor's education reform efforts. "You're carrying the Mexican's water on the fourth floor," Stapleton was heard yelling at Espinoza.

"Why that comment? That comment was uncalled for," Espinoza told KRQE-TV. "I was surprised and shocked that she even made the comment."

The state's Republican Party immediately jumped on Stapleton's remarks and demanded that she step down from her position as House Majority Whip.

"That kind of behavior is beyond the pale and has no place in the

New Mexico House of Representatives," said Republican Party of New Mexico Chairman Monty Newman. "Representative Stapleton's rhetoric yesterday was completely unacceptable."

Stapleton, who was born in the Virgin Islands and elected in 1994, is the first black woman elected to the New Mexico Legislature. She said her grandparents were Cuban and Puerto Rican.

Emilio Zamora, a historian at the University of Texas, said the term "Mexican" became a pejorative after segregationists throughout the U.S. Southwest began using the term to try to segregate Hispanics away from whites. As more Mexican-Americans returned from World War I service and began to participate in everyday American life, they sought different terms like "Hispano," "Mexican-American" and later "Latino" to differentiate themselves from Mexican nationals and used any term but "Mexican" assert their civil rights.

Zamora said that legacy of the term's use, especially when used today against a U.S.-born Latino or someone

with deep roots in New Mexico or Texas, is what makes it so offensive to some Latinos.

"The term is so charged," said Zamora. "But when people use the term 'Mexican' now ... a lot of times it depends on the tone you use."

Cinema 4

Movies Showing
Friday, December 16 through
Thursday, December 22

Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG-13)
Fri 7:30 10:00
Sat 2:00 4:30 7:30 10:00
Sun 2:00 4:30 7:30
Mon/Thu 7:30

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G)
Fri 7:00 9:30
Sat 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30
Sun 2:00 4:30 7:00
Mon/Thu 7:00

Arthur Christmas (PG)
Fri 7:00 9:30
Sat 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30
Sun 2:00 4:30 7:00
Mon/Thu 7:00

New Year's Eve (PG-13)
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Sat 2:00 4:30 7:15 9:45
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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Friday, Dec. 16, the 350th day of 2011. There are 15 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 16, 1811, the first of the powerful New Madrid earthquakes, with an estimated magnitude of 7.7, struck the central Mississippi Valley. (There were, according to the U.S. Geological Survey, three main shocks in all; the second struck in Jan. 1812 and the third was in Feb. 1812.)

On this date:

In 1653, Oliver Cromwell became lord protector of England, Scotland and Ireland.

In 1773, the Boston Tea Party took place as American colonists boarded a British ship and dumped more than 300 chests of tea into Boston Harbor to protest tea taxes.

In 1809, the French Senate granted a divorce decree to Emperor Napoleon I and Empress Josephine (the dissolution was made final the following month).

In 1907, 16 U.S. Navy battleships, which came to be known as the "Great White Fleet," set sail on a 14-month round-the-world voyage to demonstrate American sea power.

In 1944, the World War II Battle of the Bulge began as German forces launched a surprise attack against Allied forces in Belgium (the Allies were eventually able to beat the Germans back).

In 1951, a Miami Airlines Curtiss C-46 Commando crashed just after takeoff from Newark Airport in New Jersey, killing all 56 people on board.

In 1960, 134 people were killed when a United Air Lines DC-8 and a TWA Super Constellation collided over New York City.

In 1976, the government halted its swine flu vaccination program following reports of paralysis apparently linked to the vaccine.

In 1991, the U.N. General Assembly rescinded its 1975 resolution equating Zionism with racism by a vote of 111-25.

Ten years ago: After nine weeks of fighting, Afghan militia leaders claimed control of the last mountain bastion of Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida fighters, but bin Laden himself was nowhere to be seen. The first U.S. commercial food shipments since 1963 arrived in communist Cuba.

Five years ago: Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas called for elections to end his violent standoff with Hamas.

One year ago: The House joined the Senate in passing a massive bipartisan tax package preventing a big New Year's Day tax hike for millions of Americans. Interviewer Larry King, joined by a parade of former guests, concluded his CNN talk show after 25 years.

Today's Birthdays: Civil rights attorney Morris Dees is 75. Actress Joyce Bulifant is 74. Actress Liv Ullmann is 73. CBS news correspondent Lesley Stahl is 70. TV producer Steven Bochco is 68. Former Nevada Gov. Jim Gibbons is 67. Pop musician Tony Hicks (The Hollies) is 66. Pop singer Benny Andersson (ABBA) is 65. Actor Ben Cross is 64. Rock singer-musician Billy Gibbons (ZZ Top) is 62. Rock musician Bill Bateman (The Blasters) is 60. Actor Xander Berkeley is 56. Actress Alison LaPlaca is 52. Actor Sam Robards is 50. Actor Jon Tenney is 50. Actor Benjamin Bratt is 48. Actor Daniel Cosgrove is 41. Rhythm-and-blues singer Michael McCary is 40. Actor Jonathan Scarfe is 36. Actress Hallee Hirsh is 24. Actress Anna Popplewell is 23.

Thought for Today: "It's discouraging to think how many people are shocked by honesty and how few by deceit." — Sir Noel Coward, English actor, playwright, composer (born this date, 1899; died in 1973).

STAR TRIBUNE
SBK



THAT CELLPHONE-WHILE-DRIVING BAN CAN'T HAPPEN TOO SOON...

Someone using fame right? Go figure

Former first daughter Chelsea Clinton's debut on NBC's "Nightly News" is drawing plenty of attention, as well it should. Since her father's election nearly 20 years ago, the Clintons set an example of real family values by doing everything they could to keep Chelsea out of the spotlight and allow her to live as normal of a life as possible. By all outside indicators, it worked. She has grown up to be a young woman of intelligence, character and commitment. The press, for its part, pretty much left her alone.



SUSAN ESTRICH

Until she became one of them, sort of. When NBC announced her three-month contract, Clinton was roundly criticized both for joining the ranks of those she had studiously avoided and for not making herself available for interviews when she did. The first criticism seemed silly. Politicians and their kids are a fixture on television news, even those who once complained about how unfairly they were treated by the media and even by the very networks for whom they now work.

Meghan McCain's father, former presidential candidate Sen. John McCain, never has been a fan of MSNBC, which didn't -- and shouldn't -- stop his daughter from working there. I am sure George W. Bush tunes in whenever his daughter Jenna appears on NBC's "Today" show, although he has been skewered more times than he might choose to count by the network that produces "Saturday Night Live." Former Michigan

Gov. Jennifer Granholm is prepping her new show at Current TV; while Sarah Palin and "Huckabee" are staples at Fox.

Clinton probably did make a mistake in not appearing at a press conference when her hiring was announced -- not because she would have said any more than the press release, but because it gave the media something more legitimate to complain about. So be it.

But her first report on Monday night demonstrated why her decision makes perfect sense. It was a report on a woman in President Bill Clinton's home state of Arkansas who has devoted herself to providing after-school support for at-risk kids. It was the kind of story that networks do now and again -- the "hero of the week" type of thing -- and that gets almost no attention. Because Chelsea Clinton did it, it got plenty of attention.

That is precisely the point. Some people seek out celebrity. Others are born into it. What troubles me, frankly, is when parents use their children to make celebrities of themselves (you can fill in the names here) or push their children to take on the trappings of celebrity that they aren't able to handle (another easy fill-in-the-

blank exercise). But Clinton is no longer a child, and she will always be a celebrity. The question that matters now that she is an adult is how she will use it.

In explaining her decision to go public, as if she weren't already, Clinton said her grandmother, Dorothy Rodham, who died last month, urged her to do more with her fame. Taking her advice, Clinton decided to lead a "purposefully public life."

Let's be honest here. Chelsea Clinton is famous and will be for some time to come. She could use that fame to get a front-row seat at the fashion shows, to get invited to the best Oscar parties, to get designers and jewelers to lend her their baubles. She could sell pictures of her private life for a pretty penny to any magazine or tabloid in the world, as so many celebrities do. She could turn her life into a reality show.

Being famous gives you power that others don't have. It gives you the power to set an example, good or bad. It gives you the power to be noticed, for better or for worse.

It gives you the power to tell a story that will (only) be noticed because you tell it.

That is the kind of power Chelsea Clinton has chosen to exercise. And I say more power to her for that.

Susan Estrich is a lawyer, professor, author, political operative, feminist advocate and political commentator for Fox News.

The PAMPA NEWS

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We welcome your letters

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.
- E-mail submissions are welcome.
- The views and opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of The Pampa News or its staff.

Texas senators ask AG's opinion on Valero bid

AUSTIN (AP) — Two state senators asked for an attorney general's opinion Thursday on a tax refund request by a San Antonio-based refinery company.

Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston and chairman of the Senate Government Organization Committee, joined Sen. Wendy Davis, D-Fort Worth, in seeking the opinion on a 2007 tax exemption request by San Antonio-based Valero Energy Corp.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality denied Valero's initial request, but Valero appealed and the panel chairman said last April that the Legislature probably intended a broader interpretation of the law. He instructed his staff to research whether they could award partial exemptions to Valero. There is no timeline for a decision.

Valero has argued that it qualifies for a tax exemption under an amendment to the Texas Constitution. The amendment states that industrial plants do not have to pay taxes on equipment purchased to reduce on-site pollution.

However, Ellis and Davis wrote that "as we understand the requests, the equipment at issue provides no environmental benefit at or near the site."

That is beside the point, legally, said Valero spokesman Bill Day. Whether or not the equipment provides environmental benefits "was never entered into the statute," he said. Such benefits were a standard used by the TCEQ staff that, Valero pointed out, was legally irrelevant to its request.

Nevertheless, Valero contends the pollution control equipment at the center of its request does provide such benefits, he said.

The TCEQ, a three-member commission appointed by Republican Gov. Rick Perry, is evaluating 16 refund requests that could add up to more than \$135 million, according to county tax data and application documents analyzed by The Associated Press. If the commission grants the requests, at least 12 other refineries that have not sought a refund also could qualify.

Valero is among the nation's largest oil refineries seeking huge tax refunds that could cause school districts and local governments across Texas to return tens of millions of dollars. The refineries want the tax breaks in exchange for buying pollution controlling equipment.

In their letter to Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott, Ellis and Davis estimate the fiscal impact of the tax refunds as exceeding \$100 million. Data compiled by the AP show schools alone could be forced to rebate \$62.8 million.

Enbridge

cont. from page 1

Pampa a long time, and they have been a good corporate citizen, so we look forward to working with them into the future," said Sutherland.

"Enbridge already is a great asset to Pampa, and with expansion, that's going to be even better," said Clay Rice, executive director of the PEDC. "We hope to see much more growth."

Ken May, vice president of the PEDC board, believes the expansion of Enbridge's operations will bring new opportunities to Pampa.

"In my personal opinion, I believe this will have an impact on employment in Pampa," he said. "Enbridge is going to be a great partner."

Filings

cont. from page 1

Current sheriff Don Copeland will be joined on the ballot by a pair of veteran crime fighters, Pampa police officer David Lee and former deputy Robert Douglas.

Precinct 3 County Commissioner John Mark Baggerman has filed for re-election, running against current Ward 4 City Commissioner Neil Fulton. Texas state law does not allow Fulton to serve on both councils at the same time, so Fulton will not be seeking reelection for the City Commission. City Secretary Karen Price confirmed that Fulton has already let the city know of his intentions.

Precinct 1 County Commissioner Joe Wheelley, county attorney Josh Seabourn, tax assessor-collector Gaye Whitehead have all re-filed for their current positions. Also filing was Joe Montgomery, four-year veteran of the Gray County Sheriff's Department for Precinct 2 Constable.

The deadline to file for the election is 6 p.m. Monday. The filing deadline had originally been this past Monday and had been extended to yesterday before wrangling over Texas' district maps caused the filing window to be extended a second time.



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An Injustice Anywhere Is A Threat To Justice Everywhere

Repairing a laminate countertop

Dear Pat: I have an attractive laminate kitchen countertop which is only 1 year old. My daughter burned two small spots on it that look bad. Is there a way to repair this type of countertop myself? — Jen B.

Dear Jen: Plastic laminate countertops are attractive and very durable, except for one thing — high heat. If your daughter placed a very hot pan on the countertop, the glossy surface can be permanently damaged. You can attempt to polish it with some automobile body polishing compound, but it will likely never look new again.

The best way to correct the burned spot problem, without replacing the entire countertop, is to place tile in place of these damaged spots. The tile will actually be inlaid into the countertop so it is flush with the surface. By choosing the proper color and pattern of tile, it can add a decorative touch to your kitchen.

Another advantage of using tile is it resists heat. This will be a place for you daughter to place hot items on the countertop if she has to. Select tile with a matte surface finish. This will provide attractive contrast with the glossy laminate countertop surface, and the matte finish will not show scratches, as glossy tile often will.

If you are pretty handy with tools, select tiles designed to be laid with a narrow grout line between each piece. This will look more professional, but any alignment errors will be quite apparent. If this is your first time using a router and laying tile, use a wider grout line that is more forgiving for errors.

Before cutting into the countertop, place the tile on it over the burned spots. Try several patterns until you find one you like. If they are very small spots, you may be able to use the tile in a line or border pattern over a larger area of the countertop.

Use a router with as small a bit as you can find and rout the tile recess slightly deeper than the tile thickness. The small bit will create reasonably sharp corners without the risk of cracking the laminate. In order for the tile to be flush with the countertop surface when the job is complete, you must have some extra depth for the tile adhesive.

Once you have the area for the tile

HOME HOW-TO

routed out, coat the routed area with several coats of urethane to seal it. You want to make sure no moisture penetrates the tile grout through to the particleboard below. It is not designed to handle constant dampness and may begin to swell.

If you have routed out large or long areas, it could have weakened the countertop. It may be wise to reinforce those areas with a piece of particleboard glued underneath the existing particleboard base. You should have easy access to it through the cabinets beneath the

countertop. Use a large piece of particleboard that overlaps the routed area by 6 inches. One of the best adhesives to use for this application is Gorilla Glue (www.gorillaglu.com). After you apply it and press the two pieces of particleboard together, Gorilla Glue foams slightly as it sets to fill any gaps.

Tools and materials required: router, straight edge, tape measure, tile, grout, urethane, particleboard, adhesives.

Send your questions to Here's How, 6906 Royalgreen Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45244 or visit www.dulley.com.

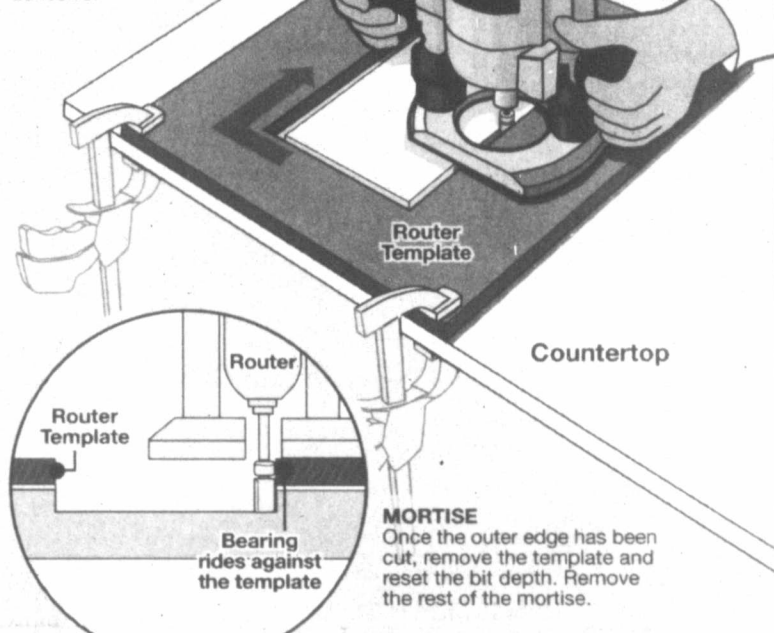
HOME HOW-TO

Countertop Tile

Laminate countertops damaged from burn marks can get expensive to replace. Installing inlaid tile is an inexpensive way to make over damaged countertops.

TEMPLATE
Construct a router template out of plywood or MDF board. Using an electric jigsaw, cut the tile pattern to size.

TEMPLATE MORTISE
Cut the mortise in the countertop by first running the router in a clockwise direction around the inside edges of the template. The recess is cut into the countertop to the thickness of tile and adhesive.



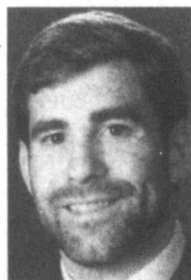
Source: www.thisoldhouse.com

Creators.com/Bob Kast

Smith

championed water management and local control of the educational system.

While Smith's political agenda has been concrete for a while, the district he is vying to represent remains clouded in uncertainty. The Texas redistricting process is currently in limbo after the Supreme Court recently issued a stay on the interim district maps for the state's House, Senate and federal congressional elections. The interim maps were redrawn by a panel of federal judges after a lawsuit was filed over the original maps drawn by the Texas legislature, claiming that the legislature's mapping could be discriminatory against minorities.



Smith

88 by the map originally drawn by the legislature. The map redrawn by federal judges renumbered the district as District 85 and added an extra county: Carson.

"While I oppose the federal intrusion of the three-judge panel

into the redistricting process, I do have friends and strong supporters in Carson County and would be proud to represent them in the Texas Legislature," Smith said.

A ruling clarifying the boundaries and numerical designation of the district is expected in early 2012.

Because of the confusion, the date of the 2012 Texas primary remains unclear, with state Republican and Democratic leaders meeting to sort out the possibilities. Smith is running against de facto incumbent Jim Landroop of Plainview, former state House representative Gary Walker of Plains, and Canadian school board president Ken King.

cont. from page 1

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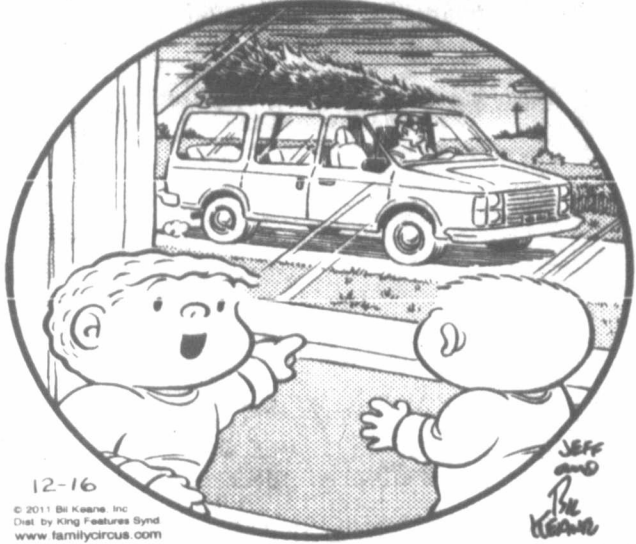


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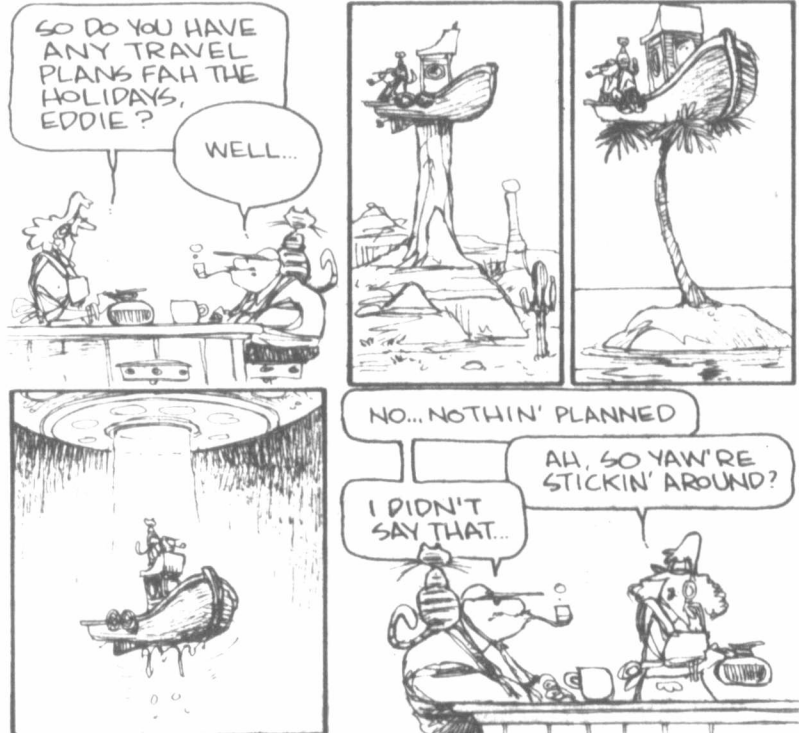
THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



12-16
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“Mommy, get the decorations ready!
Daddy finally captured our
Christmas tree!”

Non Sequitur



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Nest Heads



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, Dec. 16, 2011:

You are unusually direct and precise this year. At times, your candor could distance others. Work could be a source of confusion and/or misunderstandings. Contain this problem to the workplace. A promotion or pay raise could appear. You will need to flex. If you are single, you are in a position to meet many potential suitors. If you are attached, the two of you need to go out more together, bonding you closer. Choose a common commitment. VIRGO can push hard.

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)
★★★★ Remain as mellow as possible. Pressure builds quickly, as you could be judging yourself a little too much. Let go of this internal conversation. Go off and accomplish what you must. Tonight: Easy works.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ While many people stress out as a misunderstanding sets in, you find unusual solutions. A change in perspective might be absolutely necessary. You have a strong drive and a need to achieve. Your goal could be a social and/or personal one. Tonight: Fun and games, of the TGIF variety.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ You are well anchored and determined to achieve exactly what you want. Stay light with a family member who often has to speak of gloom and doom in the name of realism. Have you considered that you might be too gracious? Still, express your uniqueness. Tonight: At home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You are full of fun and excitement. Listen to your inner voice about a misunderstanding. What purpose does a misunderstanding serve but to push someone away? Rarely does that behavior serve you in the long run. Give it up! Tonight: Make a caring gesture.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Be aware of what you have to offer — not everything can be measured in financial or monetary terms. A loved one could create quite a smoke screen. You might want to express your depth and caring to another person in a way that counts. Tonight: Bring others together for a fun activity.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You are all smiles and move through a hassle easily. You might want to do something very different. Do just that. Some of you want to explore a new, different or updated neighborhood. Others might have different fancies. If you're at work, open up to a new idea. Tonight: Whatever knocks your socks off.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★ You might want to vanish and play it low-key. Your innate creativity points to an imaginative flight of fancy. Others try to get you to land, to no avail. Take action later, when you're grounded. Tonight: Not to be found. Let others wonder.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Zero in on what you want. A meeting plays a significant role in your plans. You could be confused about a domestic or personal matter. Put this issue on the back burner for now. Let a key person know that you both have been a victim of a misunderstanding. Tonight: Friends will want to join you wherever you are.

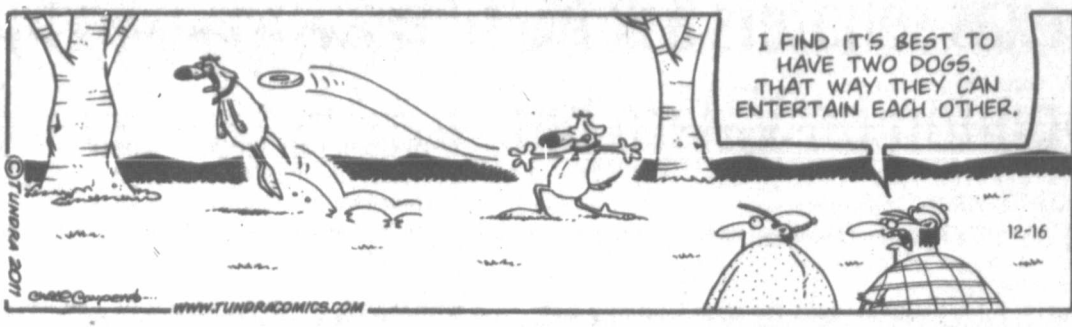
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Pressure builds wherever you are. You feel overly responsible, as if you must perform. You jump through some unnecessary hoops. Stop and indulge yourself a little. Buy yourself that coveted item. Tonight: In the limelight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You discover the importance of breaking past a self-imposed barrier. You will see situations more clearly and feel better ultimately. Make plans before it is too late to meet a friend or loved one halfway during the next few weeks. Swapping gifts in a new setting could be fun. Tonight: Let your mind relax to great music.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You might believe you are too dependent on another person. Don't worry about it. You are far more independent than you realize. Relax and enjoy this person in your life. Tonight: Try to live more in your heart than your head.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Others come toward you and share a lot of themselves. In a professional situation, you might not mind — personally, you could feel burdened by some of what is said and feel that in some way you are the cause of the problem. Tonight: The only answer is “yes.”

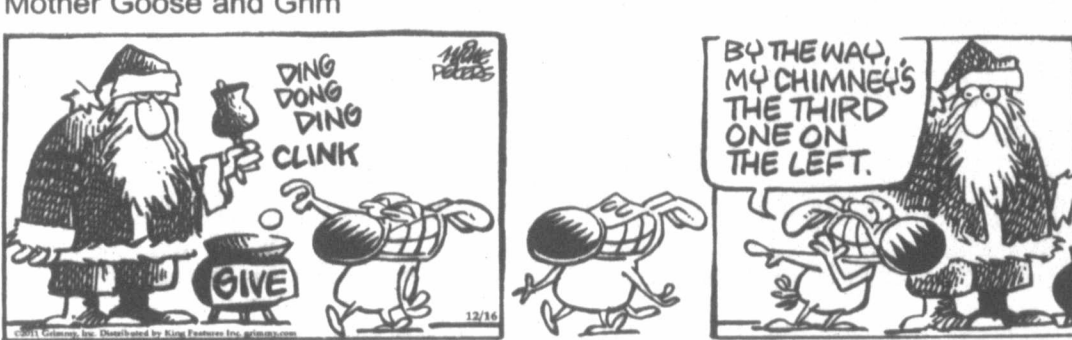
Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



NASCAR THIS WEEK

ON THE TUBE

Sprint Cup 2012
Daytona 500, Feb. 25, Time TBA

Nationwide Series 2012
DRIVE4COPD 300, Feb. 25, Time, TV TBA

Truck Series 2012
NextEra Energy Resources 250, Feb. 24, Time TBA

BURNING ISSUES

- It seems incredible that, for the moment, Kurt Busch's best options seem to be at minor teams Phoenix Racing and TRG Motorsports.
- Those kinds of prospects are enough to send a NASCAR driver to drag racing, which is apparently one of Busch's options.
- Reports suggest that David Ragan will sign a one-year contract with Penske Racing as Busch's successor.
- In addition to Brian Pattie's hiring as Clint Bowyer's crew chief with Michael Waltrip, apparently a number of laid-off Red Bull Racing crewmen will join Michael Waltrip Racing, as well.
- Sprint will remain as corporate sponsor of NASCAR's top series until at least 2016.
- Michael Waltrip and his NASCAR business partner, Rob Kauffman, will compete together in the Rolex 24 endurance race at Daytona on Jan. 28-29. MWR will field the Ferrari to be driven by Waltrip, Kauffman, Travis Pastrana and Rui Aguas.
- One of NASCAR's familiar public-relations faces will become slightly more familiar as Dennis Worden moves from "manager" at Michigan International Speedway to "director" at Darlington Raceway.
- Brendan Gaughan, most noted for his Truck Series victories, is scheduled to run a limited Nationwide Series schedule at Richard Childress Racing.
- It appears likely that Daytona 500 winner Trevor Bayne's status will remain parttime at the Sprint Cup level, and there appears to be no place for the Nationwide champion, Ricky Stenhouse Jr., to move up.
- It's hard to remember a December with so many incomplete plans still lingering. The 2012 season is drawing ever closer, and economic uncertainty continues to plague NASCAR.



John Clark/NASCAR This Week
On Oct. 9, 2005, Mark Martin was one of four Roush Fords to finish in the top five of the Banquet 400 at Kansas Speedway.

LEGENDS AND LORE

Roush Memories

Roush Fenway Racing had a great day at Kansas Speedway on Oct. 9, 2005 when the team's Fords took four of the top five positions in the Banquet 400. Mark Martin won by 557 of a second over teammate Greg Biffle, with another teammate, Carl Edwards, finishing third and Matt Kenseth fifth. The only driver in the top five who didn't drive for Jack Roush was the season's eventual champion, Tony Stewart, who finished fourth. Roush then fielded five Fords in every race. The team's other driver, Kurt Busch, finished 14th.



WHO'S HOT AND WHO'S NOT

Who's hot: Denny Hamlin is not the champion, but his new crew chief is... Darian Grubb came out of his controversial firing with an exciting new opportunity.

Who's not: Brian Vickers' future remains uncertain since his former team, Red Bull, closed its doors on Dec. 8, putting 150 employees out of work... Landon Cassill's status at Phoenix Racing is uncertain.



If you have a question or comment, write: NASCAR This Week, c/o The Gaston Gazette, P.O. Box 1538, Gastonia, NC 28053 or send an e-mail to rdutton@gastongazette.com. You can also send your NASCAR questions to Monte on Facebook at [Facebook.com/monte-dutton](https://www.facebook.com/monte-dutton) and at [Twitter.com/MonteDutton](https://twitter.com/MonteDutton). Please specify you are submitting them for the NASCAR This Week page.

2012 LOOKAHEAD

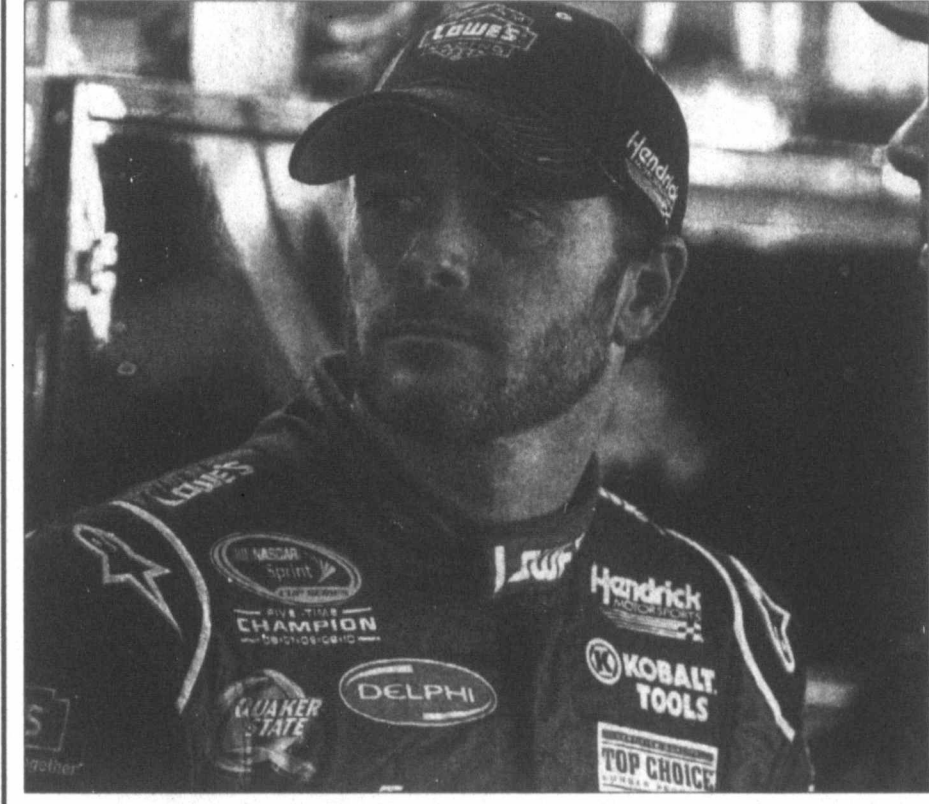
SPRINT CUP SERIES
The first of the season's two all-star events will be run for the 34th time and for the ninth consecutive year under the lights. In the years 1979-97, it was known as the Busch Clash. It was the Bud Shootout 1998-2000 and became the Budweiser Shootout officially in 2001.
Next up: Budweiser Shootout, Daytona International Speedway (2.5 mi.), Daytona Beach, Fla., Feb. 18.
Last year's winner: Kurt Busch, Dodge.
Recent winners: Busch (2011), Kevin Harvick (2009-10), Dale Earnhardt Jr. (2003, '08), Tony Stewart (2001-02, '07), Denny Hamlin (2006), Jimmie Johnson (2005), Dale Jarrett (2000, '04).

NATIONWIDE SERIES
For many years, Daytona hosted a National Sportsman race known as the Permatex 300 on the day before the 500, but this race's lineage officially began when what is now the Nationwide Series was founded in 1982. Dale Earnhardt won the first one and later captured five in a row from 1990-94.
Next up: DRIVE4COPD 300, Daytona International Speedway (2.5 mi.), 120 laps/300 miles, Daytona Beach, Fla., Feb. 25.
Last year's winner: Tony Stewart, Chevy.
Recent winners: Stewart (2005-06, '08-'11), Kevin Harvick (2007), Dale Earnhardt Jr. (2002, '03, '04), Randy Laloe (1999, 2001), Matt Kenseth (2000).

CAMPING WORLD TRUCK SERIES
Trucks never raced at Daytona until 2000, when Mike Wallace won the crash-marred debut of the series on a so-called restrictor-plate track. Toyota drivers have won the past five races and, surprisingly, no driver has ever piloted a Chevy to victory. The first seven races saw Fords win four and Dodges three. A Toyota has visited victory lane in each race since.
Next up: NextEra Energy Resources 250, Daytona Int'l Speedway (2.5 mi.), 100 laps/250 miles, Daytona Beach, Fla., Feb. 24.
Last year's winner: Michael Waltrip, Toyota.
Previous winners: Waltrip (2011), T. Peters (2010), T. Bodine (2008-09), J. Sprague (2007), M. Martin (2006), B. Hamilton (2005), C. Edwards (2004), R. Crawford (2003), R. Pressley (2002), Joe Ruttman (2001), M. Wallace (2000).

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

JIMMIE JOHNSON SPRINT CUP SERIES **No. 48 Lowe's Chevrolet**



John Clark/NASCAR This Week
After his streak of Sprint Cup championships was broken this year by Tony Stewart, Hendrick Motorsports stalwart Jimmie Johnson is determined and "highly motivated" to get back to his usual winning self.

Still Motivated

Johnson targeting more Sprint Cup championships

By Monte Dutton
NASCAR This Week

Tony Stewart won his third championship in 2011, and no one has ever been more spectacular down the stretch. He won five of the final 10 races, the most ever since the Chase was implemented in 2004, and yet still won only by tiebreaker over Carl Edwards, who had the same number (2,403) of points.

Edwards has finished second or third three times now and had the best average finish, 4.9, of any driver in Chase history.

So who is the favorite for 2012? It's obvious, even though it's neither Stewart nor Edwards.

The favorite is the driver who won championships in 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010: Jimmie Johnson. Johnson finished sixth, 99 points behind Stewart and Edwards. It wasn't a championship season, but it wasn't bad, at least not by any standards other than those established by Johnson and his Hendrick Motorsports crew chief, Chad Knaus.

FEUD OF THE WEEK



DENNY HAMLIN VS. MIKE FORD

To appearances, Hamlin and Ford worked in concert in spite of a season that fell far shy of the previous one. When, however, Ford was released at Joe Gibbs Racing last week, he reportedly said, "I'm kind of relieved. It had been dragging on for so long, I'm actually relieved there's finally a resolution."

NASCAR This Week's Monte Dutton gives his take: "It's hard to be critical of Gibbs officials since Ford's replacement is Darian Grubb, who only won the championship with Tony Stewart. Few crew chiefs were as valued a year earlier, but now it'll be seen for Hamlin as a trade up."

YOUR TURN

LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

Know Your NASCAR

- Who was the upset winner of the 1966 Firecracker 400 at Daytona?
- Who won the first race sanctioned by NASCAR?
- In what year did William H.G. France turn over the reins of NASCAR to his son, William C. France?
- Who was the first woman driver to compete in the Daytona 500?
- In what year did Richard Petty win the last of his seven championships?
- In what year did Dale Earnhardt win the last of his seven titles?
- In what year was use of the fuel cell first implemented in NASCAR?
- In what year was the series now known as Nationwide begun?
- In what year did NASCAR first run "a demonstration race" in Suzuka, Japan?
- In what year was every Cup race first televised live?
- What was the date of Richard Petty's 200th victory?
- Who was the first driver to run a qualifying lap at over 200 mph?

- 29, 1982
- 12, 1949
- 11, June 4, 1984
- 10, 1989
- 9, 1996
- 8, 1982; then known as the Busch Series
- 7, 1965
- 6, 1994
- 5, 1979
- 1977
- 1, 1972
- 3, 1972
- 2, Red Byron, on Feb. 15, 1948, in Daytona Beach
- 1, Sam McQuigg



John Clark/NASCAR This Week
NASCAR legend Richard Petty

Surprise! Stewart is the top story of the race year

By Monte Dutton
NASCAR This Week

Tony Stewart's third Sprint Cup championship — actually one was Winston and another Nestlé — was chosen as the top moment of the 2011 season by a poll conducted at nascar-media.com. Specifically, the "moment" was Stewart's victory in the final race, the Ford 400 at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

Stewart and Carl Edwards, who was the runner-up in that race, finished the season with 2,403 points each. Stewart won the tiebreaker because he won five races — all in the season-ending Chase — to Edwards' one. In order, here are the rest of the top 10, as voted on by journalists visiting the site:

- Trevor Bayne's Daytona 500 victory
- Brad Keselowski's win at Pocono after breaking his left ankle in a testing accident
- Jeff Gordon's 85th victory
- Regan Smith's Southern 500 win at Darlington
- Jimmie Johnson's .0002-second

NUTS AND BOLTS

margin of victory in the Aaron's 499 at Talladega

- Paul Menard holds off Gordon to win the Brickyard 400
- Austin Dillon becomes the youngest Camping World Truck Series champion
- Danica Patrick posts best NASCAR finish by a female driver with fourth place in Las Vegas Nationwide race
- 2010 rookies Ricky Stenhouse Jr. and Dillon win 2011 Nationwide and Truck championships
- **If only he had raced there** — Elmhurst, Ill., native and 1965 Daytona 500 winner Fred Lorenzen was honored by his home state's General Assembly in ceremonies at Chicagoland Speedway in Joliet on Dec. 7. Lorenzen, who is ailing and was unable to attend, was represented by family members. Two of his friends from his NASCAR career, Waddell Wilson and Charlie "Slick" Owens, visited Lorenzen and attended the ceremonies.
- "Even before I worked for him, I idolized him," said Wilson. "He was my hero; he still is."
- Lorenzen became the first driver to earn \$100,000 in a season in 1963 and won 26 races at the sport's highest level.
- **Vacancies** — David Ragan, out of a job at Roush Fenway Racing, met last week with Penske Racing officials, who are seeking a replacement for Kurt Busch in the team's No. 22 Dodge.
- Ragan has a tentative offer from Phoenix Racing, which owner James Finch said was "subject to him getting a better deal." Finch has also talked with Busch but has been quoted as saying he wouldn't tolerate the driver's sometimes volatile behavior.
- **Grubb lands** — The championship crew chief, Darian Grubb, will work with Denny Hamlin next year. Grubb led Stewart's team to the championship even though he had been told he was out at season's end.
- Mike Ford is now out of a job at Joe Gibbs Racing. Though 2011 was a disappointment, Ford was Hamlin's crew chief when he finished second to Johnson in the 2010 Chase.

FAN TIPS

Coming And Going

► NASCAR drivers Brad Keselowski and Joey Logano were part of a USO/Armed Forces Entertainment Tour that visited the facility in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, on Dec. 12-14. The tour was part of an ongoing effort between NASCAR and the USO to strengthen a connection to the military and help boost the morale of U.S. troops and their families stationed around the world.

► The NASCAR Sprint Cup Awards Ceremonies completed, at least contractually, its three-year run in Las Vegas. The banquet and Champion's Week moved from New York to Vegas in 2009. That doesn't mean it's moving somewhere else. "We certainly have a desire to come back," said NASCAR's chief marketing officer, Steve Phelps on nascar.com. "There's a desire, I think, from them to have us back. I think we're just trying to figure out what are the right assets that work for them. What is the best way to engage with the fan base and bring as many people to the city as possible? But we're excited about the possibilities of getting something renewed. We don't have anything right now. There are discussions that are going on."



Keselowski

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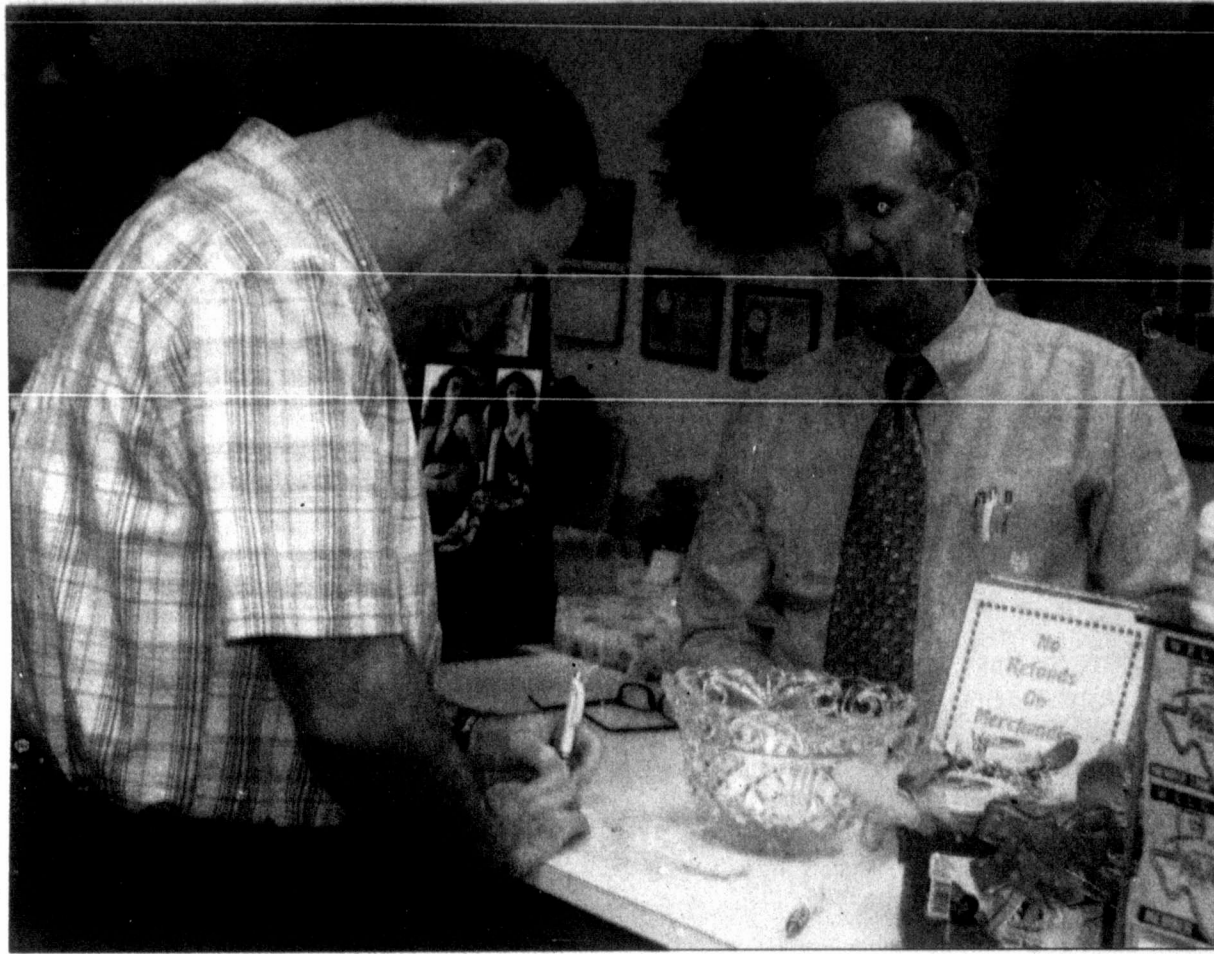
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WHAT A PRESENT THAT WOULD BE



Keith Woods (left) registers to win a blue diamond necklace from Rheams Diamond Shop on Thursday as store owner Ken Rheams looks on. The diamond will be given away on Dec. 22.

staff photo by **ReDonn Woods**

Military dogs' death at airport spurs suit

HOUSTON (AP) — A military contractor has filed a lawsuit claiming negligence over 14 bomb-sniffing dogs found dead inside an unventilated truck last year as they awaited shipment to assist U.S. troops in Afghanistan.

The suit filed in state district court in Houston by the dogs' owner, American K-9 Detection Services of Lake County, Fla., seeks unspecified damages against Indian Creek Enterprises Inc. and Live Animal Transportation Services, the *Houston Chronicle* reported. The contractor had previously sought compensation exceeding \$1 million in trying to work out a settlement.

According to court documents, the dogs died Dec. 21, 2010, while being kept in a sealed, unventilated truck at Live Animal Transportation's shipping terminal at Houston's Bush Intercontinental Airport.

The dogs were taken to the shipping terminal the day earlier and certified in good health by a veterinarian, the lawsuit alleges.

When no flight was available that day for the dogs, Live Animal Transportation employee Christopher Hay said they would be boarded in the terminal's kennel and warehouse overnight.

However, when American K-9's agents visited the terminal early the next morning, they found the dogs inside a box truck with a foul odor detected. When the agents shook the dogs' crates, the animals did not move.

All were dead, and the agents found blood on the truck floor and damage to crates suggesting the dogs had tried to escape, according to the lawsuit.

Hay, who now owns Live Animal Transportation, told the *Chronicle* he was unaware of the lawsuit and couldn't comment. There was no telephone listing for Indian Creek Enterprises in Houston.

Montana OKs Keystone; Seliger federal approval needed

cont. from page 1

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — Montana officials on Thursday announced environmental approval for a major oil pipeline from Canada's tar sands to the Gulf Coast, but the proposal still needs approval from the federal government and Nebraska.

TransCanada's 1,700-mile Keystone XL pipeline would carry oil from western Canada to refineries in Texas, passing through Montana, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma.

The project has been fiercely opposed by environmental groups and some landowners along the route, and the Obama administration last month said it was postponing its decision on Keystone XL until after the next election.

Republicans in Congress are trying to speed up a decision by linking approval to a measure renewing a payroll tax cut.

The \$7 billion project would include a loading point for domestic crude as the 36-inch line passes through Montana near the booming Bakken oil field.

"Some people say this pipeline is just about the oil sands, it is not. It is also about Bakken oil in Montana," Gov. Brian Schweitzer said after announcing the approval. Schweitzer said the project would generate \$60 million in property taxes annually in the state.

TransCanada would have to post a \$100 million bond to cover any future problems with the line in Montana.

Montana's announcement that it intends to issue a permit to the project under the state's Major Facility Siting Act means the pipeline could proceed with construction under state law.

But with federal approval pending, TransCanada spokesman Shawn Howard said there were no immediate plans to begin work in Montana.

He said construction has started on a tank farm connected to the project in Hardisty, Alberta, but not on any sections of pipe. The Calgary-based company has asked the State Department if it can begin work on a 435-mile section of Keystone XL from Oklahoma to the Gulf Coast, but Howard said no decision has been made.

"We don't have plans to construct other portions of the line at this time," he said.

An eastern Montana woman whose property would be crossed by the line criticized Schweitzer's announcement and said the state should have waited until the federal review of the project is completed.

TransCanada announced Thursday that it had received new commitments from potential Keystone XL customers that could allow it to expand the capacity of the line to 80,000 barrels a day from 700,000 barrels. Subject to approval, the company also said it would build a 48-mile extension of the line in Texas to reach refineries in Houston.

The prior endpoint for the line was in Port Arthur, Tex.

except for the Republican party of Texas or the governor of Texas."

Seliger discussed the challenges of a legislative session that opened with a \$27 billion projected deficit.

"By the time it was over, we cut spending in the legislature by \$15 billion, and there was pain everywhere, as you can imagine," he said.

Public schools faced one of these spending cuts, losing \$4 billion in funding. Seliger said that in the future he would like to work on a new school finance formula that would get away from the current method that takes into account a school district's property taxes.

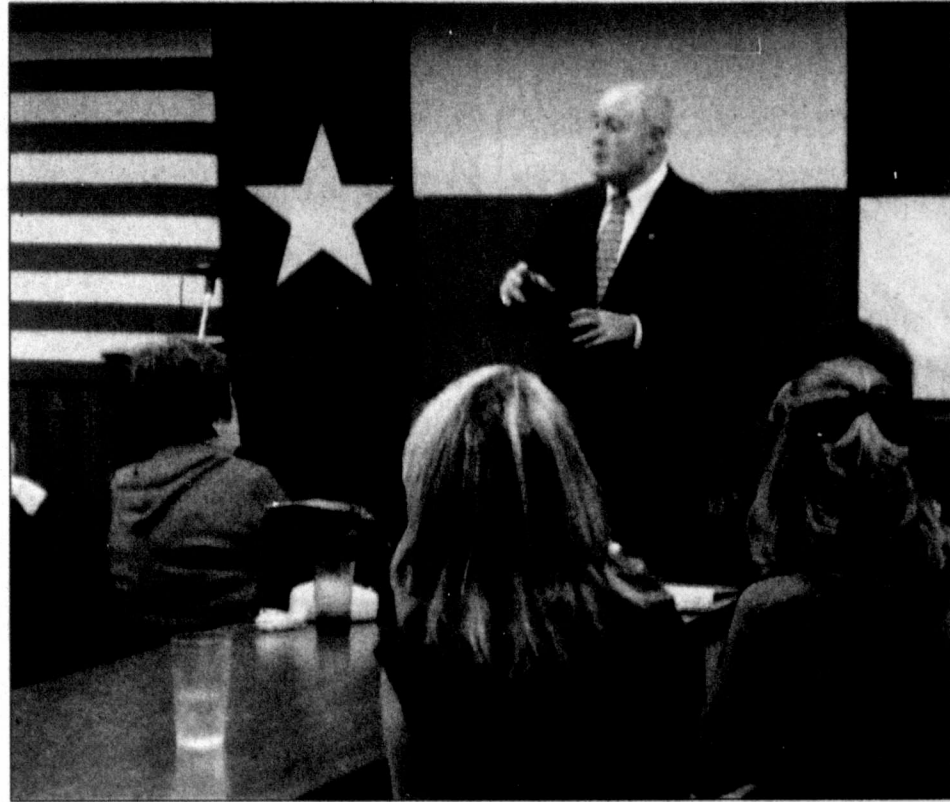
"You have 1,040 some odd school districts, and you're using, as a primary mode of funding, local property taxes that go all over the place," he said. "Some counties have oil and gas reserves that have very high property values. A lot of places around Texas have low property values."

Seliger has also served on the Senate Education Committee.

"My kids went to public school, and did very well. It is the obligation of the people of the state of Texas to see that we have a good, strong public school system," he said. "It's our insurance policy that we're going to have a good future that will be determined by the workforce that we educate and train here."

At the same time, Seliger takes a strong stance against increasing taxes.

He said, "This is a big state, and there's a lot of property value in it, a lot of oil and gas, but as I travel around and do town hall meetings, one message is



staff photo by **Mollie Bryant**

State senator Kel Seliger (standing), R-Amarillo, speaks to the Top of Texas Republican Women during their meeting

very, very clear. Texans are convinced they already pay enough (taxes), and I'm one of those, as a small business owner and a parent."

Seliger has also served on the Senate Natural Resources Committee, and he says that water availability is an issue close to his heart.

"The key to water supply in the future is careful planning, and we are going to reauthorize the statewide water plan this year, and it's absolutely essential, because it ensures that people are going to get and develop water in the future," he said. "One of the things we know is we're going to have to make use of brackish water that's under the ground here in the Texas Panhandle and all over the northern part of Texas. Communities are going to have to use recycling. It's going to cost a lot of money."

Water security has become a growing concern, particularly as the state faces one of its worst droughts in history. Seliger recommended protecting our resources locally, such as the Ogallala Aquifer, which would cover each state with 1.5 feet of water if spread across the United States. The aquifer is an important resource in eight states, particularly for use in irrigation of farmland.

"The Ogallala Aquifer is not rechargeable. What's there is going to have to serve the needs of our children and grandchildren and great-grandchildren," said Seliger. "It's an agricultural economy here, and 95 percent of the water produced from the Ogallala Aquifer goes into agriculture. We need to ensure that we have that agricultural economy for generations and generations, because when we

don't, we won't have an economy."

Seliger believes the drought has highlighted the importance of water security.

"Here's the positive thing about the drought. It has focused people's attention on water deficit to a degree that probably hasn't been done since the 30s and 40s, and what the challenges are going to be and how tough it is going to be to meet those challenges," he said.

"We have a water infrastructure fund," he added. "Proposition Two on the ballot from the elections last fall was about money to loan out to cities and water districts and things like that at low interest rates, secured very often by utility bills (and) income taxes, to do some of that infrastructure. It will be for big cities and small cities."

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Happy Holidays

1B

Section B
December 16, 2011

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Youth Movement

Give youth in a jar. Or tube. Or bottle, box, vial, stick or compact. Wildly popular, anti-aging products make a perfect gift.

This season, select a gift that will make your friend or loved one glow with more than gratitude. Feel-good creams, serums, lotions and toners that promise to soften the ravages of time are hot, not just for women of a certain age (Hi, Grammie!) but for the younger set, men and women alike.

Anti-aging products once purchased and used discreetly now sit boldly atop many gift lists. "These products have become really eloquently packaged and extremely desirable. Like It handbags, there are It creams," says Erin Flaherty, executive beauty editor at Marie Claire. "You can even call some of these status symbols."

Baby boomers account for some of the surge. "The boomers are much more embracing of health and extending their youth and being very upfront about wanting to stay young and young-looking," says Mark Lees, skin care specialist and author of "Skin Care: Beyond the Basics" (Milady, 2011).

But a younger crowd also increasingly uses anti-aging products, seeking to forestall signs of aging, says Paula Begoun, author and creator of The Cosmetics Cop line of skin care products. "Couple this with an economy where we're more cautious about spending," Begoun says, "and anti-aging products, especially the pricier ones, make ideal gifts."

Prices for anti-aging concoctions can be sky high. But the lineup of moderately priced treatment products is growing rapidly at drugstores and mass merchants. Bethenny Frankel, of "Real Housewives of New York" and low-calorie margarita fame, is launching Skinnygirl Face & Body solutions in select Walgreens this fall. Prices will be less than \$15. "A \$150 eye cream is ridiculous and absurd," Frankel told Women's Wear Daily.

Wrinkle busters

No one wants wrinkles, so give the gift of wrinkle prevention. Seeping deep into the skin and high in vitamin C, Ole Henriksen Truth Serum Collagen Booster (\$48, department and specialty stores) purports to prevent aging and brighten, firm and smooth the skin. "It's a safe bet for someone special regardless of their skin type," says Dr. Debra Jaliman, a board-certified dermatologist in New York City.

Give a face mask product for spa day at home. It's an especially nice gift if a special occasion is coming up, Lees says. "It really does perk up your skin for about 12 hours," he says.

New Black Rose Cream Mask is Sisley's first anti-aging mask (price pending, department stores). "It's supposed to instantly smooth and plump and brighten," says Marie Claire's Flaherty.

Moisturizers

Olay's first daily, nighttime moisturizer works while you sleep to accelerate exfoliation and hydrate for smoother skin. Olay Regenerist Night Resurfacing Elixir contains glycolic acid that is designed to smooth skin in one week (\$24 for 1.4 ounces, drugstores).

Nivea, the iconic skin care company that celebrates its 100th anniversary this year, is reaching out to the next generation of customers, signing the singer Rihanna as the face and voice of its year-long 100 Years of Skin Care global party. Fans can win tickets to Rihanna's LOUD concert tour and a chance to meet the star. Her face is on a limited edition tin bestowed only on lucky winners of online promotions. A classic blue jar of Nivea Crème, for use all over the body, is easy enough to pick up just about everywhere (\$6, drugstores).

Screen Test

Where there's a favorite TV show, there's bound to be a favorite gift in the wings

Zombies and mad men and superheroes, oh my! No, it's not the nightmare before Christmas. The characters and creatures that star in the year's most popular TV shows and movies have inspired T-shirts, toys and all sorts of gifts sure to delight the pop culture aficionado.

There's great presents out there for everyone influenced by either the small screen or the silver screen.

Mad about 'Mad Men'

The award-winning series about the lives of Don Draper and company, set in the New York advertising world in the 1960s, has managed to generate a cult following in a handful of seasons.

Give the Mad addict in your life any of the first three seasons of the hit series (\$39.99 DVD/49.99 Blu-ray). Collectors will be charmed with season one packaged in a limited edition case in the shape of a classic Zippo lighter (\$59.98, DVD).

For the adman, or adwoman, in your life, "Sterling's Gold: Wit and Wisdom of an Ad Man" (Grove Press 2010), is filled with witty one-liners from Roger Sterling, the pithy founding partner of the fictional agency. A sample: "Being with a client is like being in a marriage. Sometimes you get into it for the wrong reasons and eventually they hit you in the face."

Red for the holidays

The undead just won't die. In fact, their grip on fans may be getting stronger. In its fourth season, "True Blood," the TV drama about humans and vampires in the heart of Louisiana, is still going strong. Catch up on the latest action and romance with "True Blood: The Complete Third Season" (\$59.99 DVD/\$79.99 Blu)

For those that wish they could be patrons of Eric Northman's dark vampire club, Fangtasia, a souvenir T-shirt of sorts ought to satisfy (\$24.99).

Eric's stylish, non-nonsense, right-hand woman Pam has shown countless times that even the undead can always look good. Delight a fan who'd love to replicate her look with the True Blood Collectors Palette by Tarte (\$52). The kit also includes instructions from the show's lead make-up artist, Brigitte Ellis.

"The Walking Dead," a gripping TV drama about a group of survivors in the wake of a zombie apocalypse, is based on a graphic novel series.

Gift individual print issues (Image Comics, \$14.99) or a collection of eight (\$59.99).

To satisfy a would-be zombie hunter, grab a Walking Dead shooting target poster (\$40). They'll be ready to take on the undead in no time.

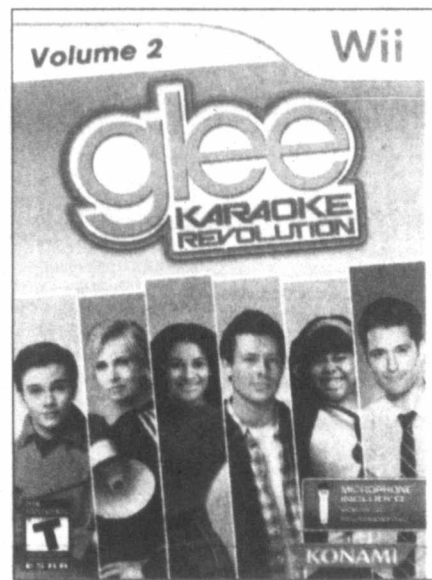
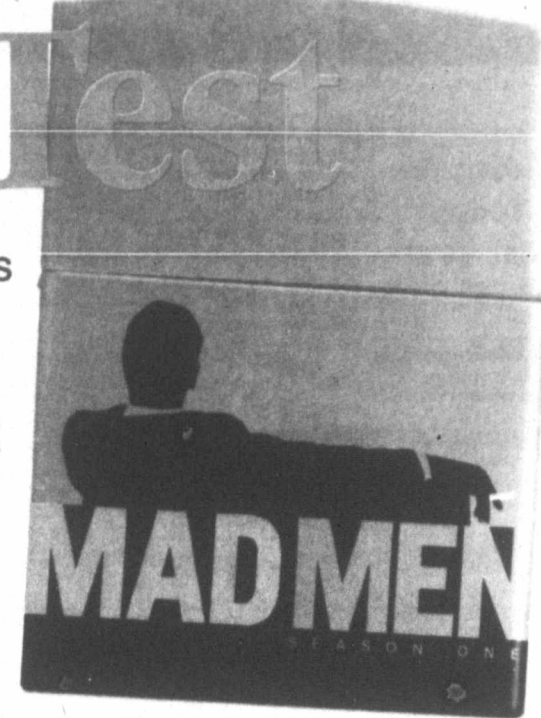
For the kids

Superhero blockbuster movies "Captain America" and "Thor" both bowed at No. 1 at the box office this past summer, with "Transformers: Dark of the Moon" also at the top of the pack with a worldwide gross of over \$1 billion.

Whether kids want to embrace their inner first avenger (Captain America) or their inner Norse god (Thor) they'll have their weapon of choice to battle the bad guys: Captain America's Disc

Launching Shield (ages 5 and up, \$19.99) and Thor's Lightning Hammer (ages 5 and up, \$19.99).

Transformers are evil-fighting robots disguised as everyday



Tidings of comfort and Glee

In "Glee," the Fox TV hit, a group of high school misfits find common ground (and their voices) by joining the McKinley High School glee club.

The show that's punctuated with spontaneous musical performances has gained a very, very loyal fan following, and there's no shortage of available presents for the Glee (or two or three or four) on your Christmas list.

Share Christmas classics as sung by the Glee cast with "Glee: The Music, The Christmas Album" CD from Columbia Records (\$10.98).

Hardcore Glee fans who know practically every song sung on the show will love strutting their stuff with "Karaoke Revolution Glee: Volume 2" from Koname (\$39.99 for Wii).

For those who aren't quite so non-video game literate, the board game contingent can get in on the act, too, with Cranium: Glee Edition (\$34) and Yahtzee: Glee Collector's Edition (\$19.95), both from USAopoly. The Scene It? Glee! DVD game from Screenlife (\$29.99) brings the McKinley High high jinks live to a living room near you.

The Glee-tastic Microphone (\$17.99) is the perfect toy for younger fans who enjoy singing their hearts out.

Merry Christmas

from the *Coronado Center* merchants

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1 Public Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of CHARLES W. SHELTON Deceased, were issued on December 13, 2011, in Docket No. 9888 pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas to: CURTIS W. SHELTON.

Claims are required to be presented within the time and manner prescribed by law in care of Don R. Lane, attorney for the estate's representatives, P.O. Box 1781, Pampa, TX 79066-1781.

DATED the 13th day of December, 2011
 Curtis W. Shelton

B-37 Dec 16, 2011

5 Special Notices

ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

10 Lost/Found

REWARD! Missing male Great Pyrenees. Call 806-662-2679.

14d Carpentry

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14g Elec. Contr.

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14h Gen. Serv.

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21 Help Wanted

FULL-TIME Pharmacy Clerk. Apply in person Keyes Pharmacy, 928 N. Hobart, Pampa. No phone calls please.

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21 Help Wanted

DYERS BBQ is now hiring kitchen help and dishwasher. Apply in person.

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NOTICE

Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

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8am-3pm Mon-Fri The Pampa News 403 W. Atchison Pampa No phone calls please

Local CPA Firm

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BOX 17

Pampa News Po Box 2198 Pampa, Tx 79066 or bring by 403 W. Atchison M-Fri 8am-3pm

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69 Misc.

ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

NEW Queen Mattress Sets! Sale Price \$246. Red barn, 1424 S. Barnes, 665-2767

69 Misc.

ANGELS! ANGELS!

We have Salvation Army Forgotten Angels for you to choose from on our Christmas tree! These are angels who were not chosen from the Salvation Army Angel tree. Items should be returned unwrapped with angel tag attached before Dec. 20th to the Pampa News or the Salvation Army 701 S. Cuyler, (if you have questions please call 665-7233). Come by The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison, pick an angel & make someone's Christmas brighter this year! We are open Mon-Fri, 8am-3pm. Merry Christmas from The Pampa News!!

QUEEN Mattress Set-Holiday Sale

Price \$226, now thru Sat. Then we will be closed for 2 weeks for the Holidays. We want to thank all our customers for a great 15 years at the Red Barn. Don & Lois Minnick. Open only on Sat, call anytime 665-2767. Don Minnick retiree with Montgomery Ward. Selling Quality Mattresses for 30 years and finding you the best buy!

69a Garage Sales

MOVING Sale 2143 N. Faulkner Wed-Sat 14th-17th Lots of Misc. and tools!!!

GARAGE Sale: 112 N. Somerville, Fri, Sat 8am-?? New person's stuff!!!

70 Musical

GUITARS, Mandolins & Violins for sale. Call 663-2686.

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FOR ADOPTION

Siamese, Calico, Orange, Tabby, Gray. Spayed / Neutered & shots. Call 665-4901 lv. msg.

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For Sale, 2 female, 1 male, \$200. Call 663-9712.

FREE adult Calico cat

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1 bdr, \$400 mo. water paid, \$200 dep. 1 bdr \$500 mo, all utilities paid, \$200 dep. 806-661-8682

APTS. Houses Duplexes. K&B Properties.

Ref. & dep. req. Lakeview Apts. 669-4386

FOR Lease: 4 bdr., 3.5 ba, attached gar., 2900 sq ft. Call 440-2866

MINUTES from downtown-efficiencies. Short term leases avail. 806-665-4274.

SCHNEIDER Apartments.

Call for special rates. Short term lease. Business people welcome. 665-0415

97 Furn. Houses

FULLY Furnished Executive Home.

Previously rented by oil company in Pampa. 3 bdr., 2 ba., 2 car gar., 2 liv areas. C/h/a. \$1500 mo.+ utilities. Call 972-468-6111.

98 Unfurn. Houses

PICK UP rental list, in the Black Box, at 125 S. Houston, Pampa.

2/1/1, central heat, fresh paint, new floor tile, hardwood floors, new plumbing. Section 8 ok. \$650 mo + dep. Rob 214-801-4005.

HAMPTON VILLAGES AVAILABLE NOW!!

Rush In... Won't last Long!! 3 Bdrs & 4 Bdrs (Income Qualifications Apply) Christmas Special: Application Fee Waived and Security Deposit in 2 payments if you apply and are approved in December!!

1507 Alcock 806-440-0054

ROOM For Rent, \$100 wk, all bills paid incl. cable. Private entrance.

806-661-8508

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1 bdr, \$400 mo. water paid, \$200 dep. 1 bdr \$500 mo, all utilities paid, \$200 dep. 806-661-8682

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IN White Deer, 3 bdr, 2 ba, 2 car gar brick. New tile floors, carpet, etc. Move-in Ready! 580-799-0172, 806-375-2139 or 806-663-9015

OWC 820 N. West. \$37,000. 2 bdr, 1 ba. Newly renovated. Very nice. 806-355-7799 or 352-2333.

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115 Trailer Parks

TUMBLEWEED

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128 Aircraft

25% Membership in Cessna 172 for sale. Call 440-1347 for details.

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

12-16 CRYPTOQUOTE

MBV LNH OIWAH HBA YIEA

DYUH? CK VNO XNL'H. HBA

YIEAW MCEE UNH YLVMYV.

— KUYLQ Y. DEYUQ

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: PROGRESS IS IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT CHANGE, AND THOSE WHO CANNOT CHANGE THEIR MINDS CANNOT CHANGE ANYTHING. — GEORGE BERNARD SHAW

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Sports

Pampa Sr. Kennedy grateful to be on the court after battle with staph



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Senior Taylor Kennedy launches a three against Sanford-Fritch Dec. 1. Kennedy has emerged as Pampa's sixth man (first off the bench) after missing his junior season with a staph infection in his hip.

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

Pampa high school basketball player Taylor Kennedy was in his junior year and was four games into his junior varsity season when he felt some pain which turned out to be serious.

"I spent a week in and out of the doctor," Kennedy said. "They decided to hospitalize me."

It turned out that Kennedy had a staph infection in his hip and got into his blood. Kennedy spent a week in the hospital and missed the rest of his junior season.

Now in his senior year, Kennedy has emerged as the Harvesters' sixth man and hopes to help them on another playoff run.

"I'm just thankful to get to play," Kennedy said. "I was so thankful to be alive and walking."

During his week in the hospital, Kennedy was given antibiotics three times a day. It took 200 days for the infection to clear. Kennedy said the stay in the hospital wasn't too bad except for being heavily medicated.

"It's a blur," Kennedy said. "I was on morphine and any kind of drug you could think off. It wasn't terrible. Physical therapy

wasn't much fun. The hospital was a blur."

Kennedy said the hardest thing for him was to not play the sport he played most of his life.

"I got to travel to the regional tournament," Kennedy said. "To just sit there and see my fellow JV teammates suiting up was difficult. Basketball has been a big part of my life. To be without may be a glimpse of what's to come, but it was painful."

Kennedy missed most of the offseason and was in the trainers office daily to rehab.

"Going to the trainer's office daily was painful, because it was little steps

at a time," Kennedy said.

"My recovery time in the

KENNEDY cont. on page 4B



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My fiancée said, "Shut UP!" during a recent conversation with my mom, using the phrase in the same way people say, "No way!" or, "Get outta here!" to express friendly disbelief.

Mom didn't say anything and gave me no reason to believe she was offended; however, I find talk like that better suited to friends and siblings — not parents or future in-laws.

As soon as we were alone I asked my fiancée to please not use that expression with my parents. She said she'd try, but warned me that it might be hard to stop herself. A frequent reader of your column, she also said you probably would have told me to let it go. I suggested we find out. Should I have said nothing? — **POSSIBLE PRUDE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE**

DEAR POSSIBLE PRUDE: Your fiancée is mistaken. I would never advise someone to ignore something that could be offensive. You were right to speak up. For people in your parents' generation, "shut up" has a different connotation than with younger people and could be considered offensive. I hope your intended will take your suggestion to heart. However, in case she should slip, explain to your folks

that the phrase is used commonly and isn't meant as an insult — as jarring to them as it may be to hear.

DEAR ABBY: I have had the same group of friends for 20 years. They are an affluent group — doctors, lawyers, etc. — and very social. My best friend got wind of the fact that I had gone out with an African-American man. She confronted me, told me we could no longer be friends and then kicked me out of her house. If I call her, she hangs up on me.

We had a loving, long-time friendship. It has been five months now and **NO ONE** has called. I am sad and shocked. I always thought of her as my best friend, and my other friends who were also dear to me are shunning me as well. What should I do? — **OUTCAST IN THE SOUTH**

DEAR OUTCAST: I know this has been painful, but you need to recognize that in spite of their educational and financial advantages, your friends' thinking hasn't changed despite nearly 50 years of improving race relations. You grew; they didn't. For your own sake, you must accept that you and these people are on different paths and will never agree on this. Look elsewhere for companions who think more

like you do. Believe me, there are many out there.

DEAR ABBY: With the holidays here and family gathering to celebrate, some will be overnight guests. Although we have had pets here in the past, my wife and I are older now. Our home has been remodeled and we no longer have pets because we don't have time to properly maintain an animal. We also travel frequently and don't want to leave a pet in a kennel.

My point is, if people are guests during one of these gatherings, please check first to see if pets are welcome. I know some relatives may feel their pet is one of the family, but they need to consider it may be a burden for the homeowner.

Thanks for getting my message out, Abby. — **"THE OLD GUY" IN WISCONSIN**

DEAR "OLD GUY": Excuse me? What if the family members your message is intended for happen to miss reading my column? Because you want to ensure the message is received, the most effective method to do that would be to speak up and make your wishes known in advance — especially in a case like this one.

BANANAGRAMS!

Use the 15 tiles in this bunch to create words that fit into the grids below. To get you started, a few tiles from the bunch have been placed and the BANANA BITES provide hints. Reuse the 15 tiles in the bunch for each grid.

LEVEL

X O G I O I P
I O S K R E T B

BANANA BITE:
One word means "be alive."

BANANA BITE:
One word means "take hold of."

Yesterday's Answer: SOIREE, GLOBAL, PURSUE, PHOBIA, MUSEUM, INFAMY

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Advanced

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Send in
 - 6 Store fixtures
 - 11 Psychoanalyst Fromm
 - 12 Singly
 - 13 Surgical tool
 - 14 Bravery
 - 15 Twisty turn
 - 16 Holiday "lead-in"
 - 18 Have debts
 - 19 "The Matrix" hero
 - 20 Lend a hand
 - 21 Harry's friend
 - 22 Has faith in
 - 24 Ump's call
 - 25 Dwelt
 - 27 Narrow point of land
 - 29 Bocelli and Caruso
 - 32 Musical ability
 - 33 Frilly wrap
 - 34 Quarrel
 - 35 2001 biopic
 - 36 Mess up
 - 37 Altar promise
 - 38 Rock band The — Spoonful
- 40 Generous one**
- 42 Make better**
- 43 Without break**
- 44 Sounds from pounds**
- 45 Pub projectiles**
- DOWN**
- 1 Show mercy
 - 2 Pencil part
 - 3 Omaha is on it
 - 4 Road hazard
 - 5 Menaces
 - 6 Spoke wildly
 - 7 Copying
 - 8 Moab is on it
 - 9 Have information about
 - 10 Peaceful
 - 17 Guest
 - 23 Match part
 - 24 Capitol Bldg. worker
 - 26 Greg Kinnear movie
 - 27 Aquanaut's base
 - 28 Picasso's daughter
 - 30 Rat or muskrat
 - 31 Fencing needs
 - 33 Flexes
 - 39 Tattoos, slangily
 - 41 — heap

R	I	D	E	S		I	D	A	H	O
A	R	O	S	E		N	O	L	A	N
P	A	W	A	T		D	U	E	T	O
			N	U	T	M	E	G		
F	L	U		L	A	X		H	O	P
L	I	N	G	E	R		L	E	N	O
U	N	D	E	R	S	H	I	R	T	S
T	E	E	M		H	A	V	E	A	T
E	R	R		P	A	N		U	P	S
				H	O	L	D	I	N	
S	A	J	A	K		B	O	D	E	S
A	M	A	Z	E		A	T	E	A	T
T	I	M	E	R		G	A	R	R	Y

Yesterday's answer

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1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10
11						12				
13						14				
15					16	17			18	
19					20				21	
22			23				24			
		25					26			
27	28					29			30	31
32					33				34	
35					36				37	
38			39				40	41		
42							43			
44							45			

Sports

Kennedy

cont. from page 3B

trainer was two to three months. I did little exercises. Mentally, I felt great but physically I didn't have the strength."

The senior said it was kind of tough jumping into preseason basketball.

"Mentally I was ready," Kennedy said. "I had to limit myself. I think I'm back to 100 percent. I feel better than I did ahead of time."

Kennedy said playing this season feels great.

"I have no pain in my hip," Kennedy said. "The doctors said I would feel pain all year. To feel none all year is awesome."

Head coach Dustin Miller said he is

really excited about Kennedy's recovery.

"He came from a life-threatening situation to an invaluable piece to this team," Miller said. "He is a special kid on and off the court. I'm definitely not surprised how he has bounced back. Basketball has always been his passion."

Kennedy said coming off the bench was different for him but he's enjoyed it.

"I've been a spark of energy," Kennedy said. "It's new for me. I've never not started when I've played. I've enjoyed it. I can get some energy in there and hit some shots."



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Senior Taylor Kennedy sets up the offense against Sanford-Fritch December 1. Kennedy said he enjoys being a spark off the bench

TRUE GRIT

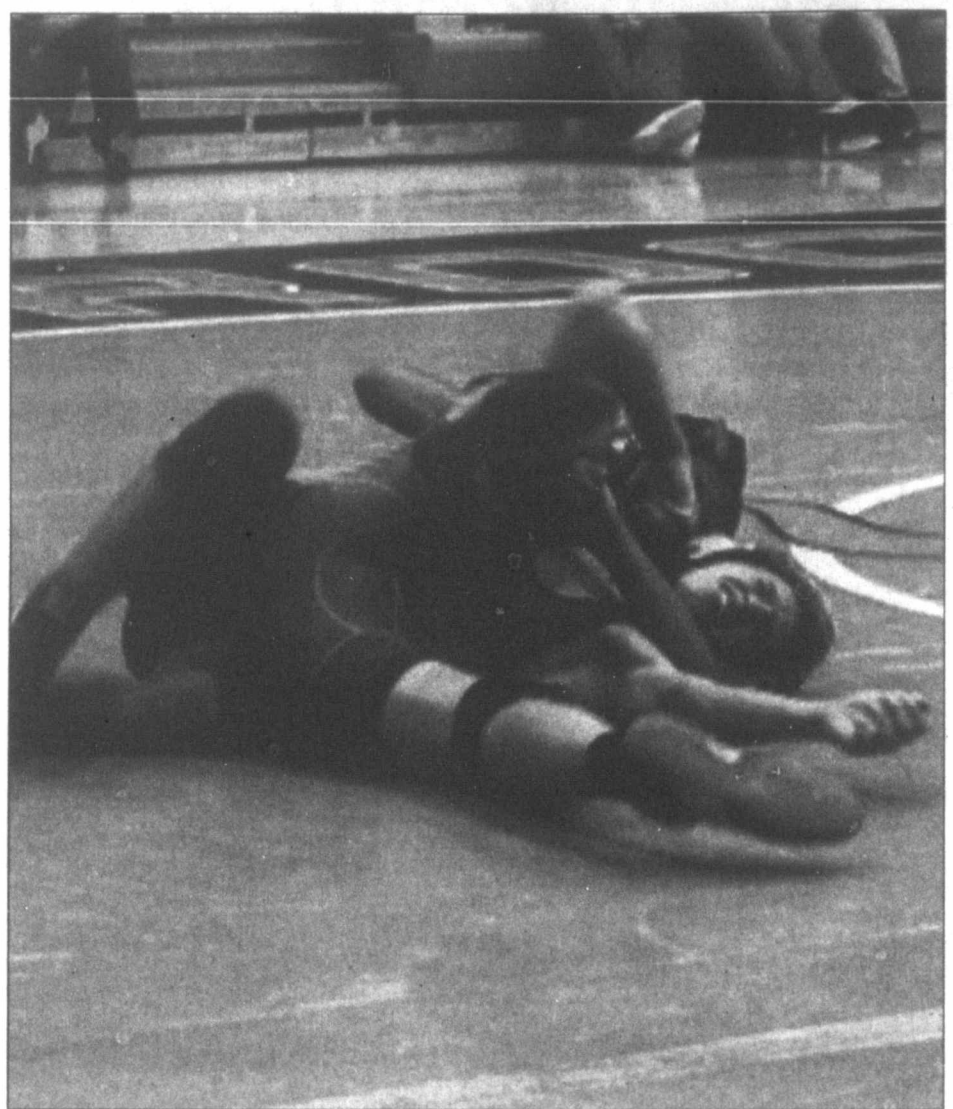


photo courtesy of Leah Pearson

Hunter Hall reacts as his opponent has him wrapped up at Caprock Tuesday. Hall was 1-1 and the Harvesters lost to Caprock and Tascosa.



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