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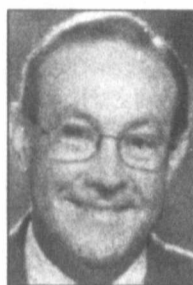
The PAMPA NEWS

Volume 107 • No. 211 **Weekend Issue** Saturday and Sunday, December 17-18, 2011 **75¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50**

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Page 1B
 Viewpoints, Page 4

Pampa ISD to join school funding lawsuit

MOLLIE BRYANT
 mbryant@thepampanews.com
 At its board meeting Thursday evening, the Pampa Independent School District (PISD) decided to join a lawsuit that addresses state school funding. PISD will participate in a lawsuit to be filed by Thompson and Horton LLP. Three lawsuits regarding school finance have been filed against the state recently in addition



Haenisch
 position is that the state does not

provide enough money to fund the educational outcomes that they are expecting, and because there's not enough money, then the property tax that they collect in your county becomes a state property tax," said PISD Superintendent Barry Haenisch. "They don't want to call it a state property tax, but if they're using the property tax to get state-expected results, then it's ultimately a state tax."

The state has been sued in the past over their school finance system, but after losing \$4 billion to spending cuts, proper funding has become increasingly important for school districts across Texas. "(The lawsuit) was probably eventually going to happen, but the cuts to education accelerated it, because in the last case, the Supreme Court said, Well, you **PISD** cont. on page 7

WARM WISHES

Hand warmers en route to Afghanistan via Pampa

RANDY PRIBBLE
 rprbble@thepampanews.com

Some American soldiers serving in the cold mountains of Afghanistan will be a little warmer this holiday season due to the efforts of family and friends in Pampa. Capt. Chris White, 28, will be receiving a package in the next couple of weeks stuffed full of chemical hand and foot warmers. The seeds of the project were planted the last time Chris was in the states with his family, in a conversation with his aunt, Anita Harp of Pampa. "He was home for a two-week leave in October, so I said, 'What can I send you that you really want?'" Harp recalled. "He said, 'You know, I don't really want anything. My job



staff photo by **Arnie Aurellano**

Anita Harp holds a picture of nephew Chris White and his wife, Lauren. Harp sent White, who is stationed in Aghanistan, a package of 382 hand warmers for him and his comrades to use during cold Middle Eastern nights. is mostly indoors and I'm fine, but I would love to have some hand warmers to hand out to my guys who work outside. They're cold and I'd like to do that. That is all I want." Harp mulled over that request **WARM** cont. on page 7

County to pay EMS services near McLean

MOLLIE BRYANT
 mbryant@thepampanews.com

County Commissioners made a decision to provide compensation to volunteer emergency medical services that make runs into the area surrounding McLean at their meeting on Thursday, December 15. This issue arose as McLean's volunteer ambulance service has been disbanded until March of next year. "They just didn't have the volunteers any more," said Gray County Judge Richard Peet. "They had two certified paramedics and some EMTs, but the paramedics have moved. They don't have anybody else, and it takes at least a paramedic and an EMT. You can do it with an EMT, but you're on just basic service. With a paramedic and an EMT, you can have a little bit higher level of service." McLean essentially has no ambulance coverage within its city limits and the area outside of the city limits that was in its original area of coverage. However, volunteer emergency medical services from surrounding areas are assisting the town until its own ambulance service ends its hiatus. "Lefors (Volunteer EMS) will go **EMS** cont. on page 8

Woman jailed after drug search

THE PAMPA NEWS
 On Wednesday, Dec. 14, the Pampa Police Department executed a narcotics search warrant on the 1000 block of North Wells, resulting in a seizure of drugs and an arrest. Officers on the scene seized a controlled substance suspected to be methamphetamine, as well as drug

paraphernalia. Sarah D. Medley, 26, was arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance in an amount greater than four grams but less than 200 grams. Medley was then transported to the Gray County Jail. The Pampa PD investigation is ongoing.

Wreck sends woman to hospital

THE PAMPA NEWS
 A one-car collision occurred around 7:20 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 16 and sent a woman to an Amarillo hospital, according to the Pampa Police Department. Pampa EMS, the Pampa Fire Department and Pampa PD responded to the accident, which took place at the 200 block of West 30th.

The accident happened when a black 2002 Ford car, driven by Dean Hoffman, 56, collided with a pole. Hoffman, a Pampa resident, was airlifted to Amarillo with unspecified injuries. The accident remains under investigation. Hoffman's condition is unknown at this time.




12 kids of Christmas
Marlee Quarles, 7
 Parents: Chad and Amy Quarles
 What I want most for Christmas is: "A new scooter, because it's fun."
 My favorite Christmas movie: "Santa Buddies"
 My favorite Christmas activity: "I like to spend time with my family."

Merry Christmas!
 Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Sunday	Monday
		
High 53 Low 35	High 57 Low 36	High 36 Low 23 70%

Today: Sunny, with a high near 53. Wind chill values between 16 and 26 early. West southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 35. Wind chill values between 28 and 33. South southwest wind around 10 mph.

Sunday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 57. Wind chill values between 26 and 36 early. Breezy, with a south southwest wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Sunday Night: A 20 percent chance of rain. Cloudy, with a low around 36. South southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Monday: Rain and snow likely, becoming all snow after noon. Cloudy, with a high near 36. Breezy, with a east northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north northeast between 20 and 25 mph. Winds could gust as high as 35 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70 percent.

Monday Night: A 50 percent chance of snow. Cloudy, with a low around 23. North northwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

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HOSPITAL GIFT Shop Sale, 40% Off, excludes baby door decor, paperbacks & cookbooks. Nov 7-Dec 21, Only Mon & Tues 9-4 & Wed 12:30-4.

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Political parties propose April 3 primary

AUSTIN (AP) — A federal court postponed the Texas primary vote from March 6 to April 3 on Friday because of a fight over new political maps, a delay likely to hurt Gov. Rick Perry in his bid for the Republican presidential nomination.

The Texas Republican and Democratic parties announced an agreement on a new date and submitted it to the San Antonio court because of the dispute over political redistricting. A federal court in Washington has refused to approve a map drafted by the Legislature, and the U.S. Supreme Court has put on hold a map drawn by the three federal judges in San Antonio.

Court hearings are scheduled to resolve the disputed maps next month, making it impossible to hold the balloting on March 6. By April 3, the courts should have worked out a redistricting map for the 2012 elections.

The later primary date will almost certainly affect the race for the Republican presidential nomination by taking Texas out of the Super Tuesday vote on March 6. Ten states hold either primary votes or caucuses on that day and it is usually a major

turning point in the campaign for the presidency. Perry, who is running for president and is behind in the polls, will find it more difficult to keep his campaign alive without winning Texas delegates on that day.

Nevertheless, both political parties were caught between a tight election schedule and having to wait for a final temporary political map for 2012. A proposal to hold two primaries, one on Super Tuesday and another later in the year, was extremely unpopular and considered too expensive.

"I hope that most Republican elected officials and Texas voters will be satisfied with this proposal," said Steve Munisteri, chairman of the Republican Party of Texas. "We are hopeful that with both a timely ruling from the U.S. Supreme Court and subsequent finalized maps, that this agreement not only preserves the original structure of a unified primary, but provides us enough time to accomplish it in a fair and orderly fashion."

The Texas Democratic Party said it was happy that the primary was not split.

"Given the less-than-ideal circumstances, we think that this election

schedule is a workable solution that will create the least confusion for the voters," Democratic chairman Boyce Ritchie said.

One remaining problem is for candidates who want to file their paperwork to run for the Texas House, Texas Senate or U.S. Congress. The deadline to file is Monday, but right now candidates can't know for sure what districts they live in and who their voters may be.

The U.S. Supreme Court has scheduled arguments over the maps for Jan. 9. The Court can either approve the court-drawn map, give new instructions to the San Antonio-based court to draw the maps again or insist that the state use the Legislature-drawn maps until the lawsuits challenging those maps are settled.

The schedule the parties proposed Friday anticipates a resolution quickly enough to reopen the candidate filing period from late January to Feb. 1. Candidates who have already filed paperwork may amend or drop out at that time and receive a refund of their filing fee.

For those races requiring a runoff that election will be held on June 5.

Drought takes cow numbers down by 600K

LUBBOCK (AP) — The worst drought in Texas' history has led to the largest-ever one-year decline in the leading cattle-state's cow herd, raising the likelihood of increased beef prices as the number of animals decline and demand remains strong.

Since Jan. 1, the number of cows in Texas has dropped by about 600,000, a 12 percent decline from the roughly 5 million cows the state had at the beginning of the year, said David Anderson, who monitors beef markets for the Texas AgriLife Extension Service. That's likely the largest drop in the number of cows any state has ever seen, though Texas had a larger percentage decline from 1934 to 1935, when ranchers were reeling from the Great Depression and Dust Bowl, Anderson said.

Anderson said many cows were moved "somewhere there's grass," but lots of others were slaughtered. He said that in Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Louisiana and Arkansas, about 200,000 more cattle were slaughtered this year, a 20 percent increase over last year.

That extra supply could help meet increased demand from China and other countries, but the loss of cows likely will mean fewer cattle in future years.

"Consumers are going to pay more because we're going to have less beef," Anderson said. "Fewer cows, calves, less beef production and increasing exports."

The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates that beef prices will increase up to 5.5 in 2012, in part because the number of cattle has declined. That follows a 9 percent increase in beef prices in the past year.

Oklahoma, the nation's second-largest cattle producer, also saw about a 12 percent drop in cows, Oklahoma State University agriculture economist Derrell Peel said.

Anderson said beef production nationally will be down 4 percent next year.

In Texas, the problem is primarily due to the worst single-year drought in the state's history. From January through November the state got just 46 percent of its normal rainfall of about 26 inches.

The drought was the result of a La Nina weather pattern, which brings drier than normal conditions to the southwestern states. Forecasters have said La Nina is back, meaning another dry year for Texas, Oklahoma and other nearby states.

The lack of rain coupled with blistering summer heat caused pastures to wither, leaving rancher with the choice of buying feed for the cattle or selling them.

Betsy Ross, a 75-year-old rancher from the small central Texas community of Granger, said she sold all but 80 of the 225 grass-fed animals she had in January. With feed costs up 40 percent and her pasture parched, Ross said she didn't have any other option.

"It's not a profitable year, heavens no," she said. "If you can't keep them on grass when they're grass fed you're not going to make any money."

About 200 miles north in Sulphur Springs, Texas, part-time rancher Dwyatt Bell said producers in his part of the state sold off up to half their herds. Bell said high prices for cattle have helped offset increases expenses, but many ranchers still are struggling to stay afloat.

"It's been a rough year," he said. Across Texas, the drought has caused an estimated \$5.2 billion in losses to farmers and livestock producers, and that figure is expected to rise.

Nationally, the number of cows has dropped by an estimated 617,000 this year, a 2 percent decline from the 30.9 million animals on Jan. 1. That number would be larger, but states in northern plains such as North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska, increased their cow herd.

Anderson said it's unclear whether high beef prices would hurt U.S. sales or limit exports. The U.S. is the world third largest consumer of beef per capita at 85.5 pounds per year. Uruguay is first at 137 pounds per capita.

"Exports have been the strongest part of beef demand all year and they're expected to remain so but higher prices should constrain their growth," he said.

For the record

Police Department
The Gray County Sher-

iff's Office reported the following arrest for the 24 hour period ending Friday,

December 16 at 7 a.m.

Thursday, December 15
Mary Contreras, 59, was arrested by deputies for interfering with public duties.

Kymberlee Smith, 50, was arrested by police for burglary of a habitat.

Scott Johnson, 18, was arrested by police for evading arrest.

Raquel Godoy, 29, was arrested by DPS officers on charges of theft by check and failure to appear or to


identify.

Keith Shannon Helfer, 44, was arrested by deputies for possession of a controlled substance in an amount less than one gram.

Friday, December 16

Amanda Lynn Jones, 39, was arrested by deputies on capias pro fines charges of public intoxication and failure to appear.

Larry Wayne Brown, 54, was arrested by deputies for theft by check.



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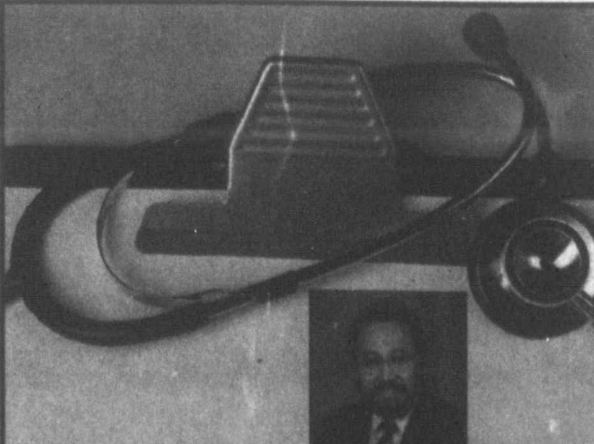
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Perry double dipping salary and pension

Attorney General backs nativity

ATHENS (AP) — The Texas attorney general has sent a letter to an East Texas county judge, offering his help if the county is sued over its nativity scene.

Henderson County officials this month received a letter from the Freedom From Religion Foundation. The group asked that the nativity scene be removed and seeks to put up its own banner. County Judge Richard Sanders says the county is complying with federal law and the nativity scene will remain.

Attorney General Greg Abbott said his office cannot represent the county in court, but would file legal briefs in support.

Backers of the nativity scene plan to rally Saturday. The Athens Daily Review reports hundreds of supporters say they'll be at the Henderson County Courthouse square.

Athens is 70 miles southeast of Dallas.

Former county judge arrested

EL PASO (AP) — Authorities say a former county judge in El Paso and three other men have been arrested by federal agents on charges that haven't been made public.

FBI spokesman Michael Martinez said charges would be revealed during court appearances Friday afternoon for former county judge Anthony Cobos and businessmen Ruben Garcia, Cirilo Madrid and Lorenzo Aguilar.

County judges in Texas are top administrative officials. The El Paso Times reported that the arrests are linked to an investigation of public corruption by LKG Enterprises, a company that was awarded a county contract to help emotionally disturbed children.

A federal audit revealed LKG could not show proof that the company delivered services it was hired to perform.

A phone listing for LKG was disconnected. The defendants weren't immediately listed in jail records.

Deer breeder transport illegal

TYLER (AP) — An East Texas man running a deer-breeding facility has pleaded guilty to federal wildlife charges over his acquisition of some animals.

Prosecutors in Tyler on Friday announced Blake Powell of Cherokee County pleaded guilty to three counts of negligent transportation of wildlife.

Investigators say Powell, who owned Rockin' P White Tails, illegally imported live whitetail deer three times during 2007. The market value of the animals topped \$208,000. Details of the out-of-state sources for the deer were not immediately released.

Powell, who pleaded guilty Monday, faces up to a year in prison. No sentencing date has been set.

Sentencing for smugglers

McALLEN (AP) — Four smugglers have been sentenced to prison over a case where three suspected illegal immigrants were struck and killed on a South Texas road.

Prosecutors in McAllen on Thursday announced the punishment for four people who in September pleaded guilty to conspiracy to harbor illegal immigrants.

Investigators in June discovered three bodies on a road in Duval County. Authorities believe the three were hit by a vehicle while trying to pick up food and water.

Brenda Abi Bazaldua-Mariscal was sentenced to five in prison, while 10-year terms were ordered for Canuto Rodriguez Jr. and Genaro Gomez. They are from Mission.

Maria Del Carmen Martinez-Fraga, described by prosecutors as an illegal immigrant, was ordered to serve eight years in prison.

A total of 15 suspected illegal immigrants were detained.

Used car dealer gets 17 years

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — Prosecutors say a used car dealer in South Texas has been sentenced to more than 17 years in prison in a drug money and trafficking case.

Angel Mario Gonzalez of Corpus Christi in April pleaded guilty to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine and laundering drug money.

A federal judge in Corpus Christi on Thursday sentenced Gonzalez, who owns Mario's Used Cars and Details.

Investigators say Gonzalez was arrested in April following the delivery of nearly 42 pounds of cocaine to an undercover agent in a hotel parking lot.

Two co-defendants who also pleaded guilty in the case were sentenced in September to prison.

Texas rig count up by 16

HOUSTON (AP) — The number of rigs actively exploring for oil and natural gas in the U.S. increased by 32 this week to 2,019.

Houston-based drilling product provider Baker Hughes Inc. reported Friday that 1,196 rigs were exploring for oil and 818 for natural gas. Five were listed as miscellaneous. A year ago this week Baker Hughes reported 1,709 active rigs.

Of the major oil- and gas-producing states, Texas added 16 rigs, Louisiana added five, Alaska, North Dakota and Oklahoma each increased by three and Arkansas added one.

California, Colorado and New Mexico each lost one rig. Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Wyoming were unchanged.

The rig count peaked at 4,530 in 1981. A low of 488 was recorded in 1999.

Wind farm injunction denied

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — A federal judge has turned away a request by the Osage Nation to block a proposed wind farm.

U.S. District Judge Gregory Frizzell on Thursday issued the ruling after hearing testimony that the wind farm can co-exist with oil drilling that is planned on the same land in Osage County.

The Tulsa World reports that the Osage Nation claims in its lawsuit that it owns all the mineral rights "in and under" Osage County and that the wind turbines would interfere with other energy development.

Developers of the wind farm say they need to start construction in time to finish before the end of 2012, when an important tax incentive expires.

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas Gov. Rick Perry is a double-dipper, collecting a salary and retirement benefits simultaneously, according to a personal financial disclosure form made public Friday.

The report filed with the Federal Election Commission shows that Perry is collecting his \$7,700 monthly state pension in addition to his nearly \$133,000 annual salary as governor. State law allows any employee to begin collecting retirement benefits if their years of military and state service plus their age adds up to more than 80.

To qualify, the 61-year-old Perry counted his five years in the Air Force and 24 years in public service in Texas, including as a part-time legislator, agriculture commissioner, lieutenant governor and governor.

Perry was required to file the disclosure form because he is a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination.

His decision to begin collect-



Perry

ing retirement pay while on the public payroll will likely expose him to criticism from conservatives who complain that public sector employees are too generously compensated. The Republican comptroller of Texas said just this week that lawmakers need to review the pension system because it was burdening state finances.

The Texas Democratic Party condemned Perry's decision.

"When you start getting more money from your employer while also continuing to receive your salary, that's called a raise," spokesman Anthony Gutierrez said. "If Perry wants retirement benefits he should do us all a favor and actually retire. Giving himself a raise while thousands of teachers are losing

their jobs is unconscionable." Ray Sullivan, a spokesman for Perry's presidential campaign, issued a terse statement citing the state code that permitted the governor to begin collecting his retirement pay in January of this year.

Sullivan said Perry continues to pay into the state employees' retirement system with a 6.5 percent withholding from his salary.

On the disclosure form, Perry also reported a net worth of at least \$1.3 million. The forms only require candidates to report the value of their personal assets in broad ranges, making it difficult to calculate an exact figure.

He reported a total annual income of \$290,000. Perry listed his wife's salary of \$65,000. Anita Perry is a consultant for a nonprofit organization.

Perry also reported interest and dividend income from his family ranch, a share in an oil and gas company and a money market account.

Texas jobless rate down again

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The unemployment rate in Texas has declined for the second month in a row and was down to 8.1 percent in November, the state's employment agency said Friday.

That's an improvement over October's 8.4 percent and still below the national jobless rate of 8.6 percent, according to the Texas Workforce Commission.

In November, 20,800 nonfarm jobs were added in Texas bringing total employment to an estimated 10.6 million positions last month.

"The Texas economy continued to grow as the private sector added 22,700 jobs in November," Commission Chairman Tom Pauken said in a statement.

Nine of 11 major industries added jobs in November with leisure and hospitality out front

with 5,600 new positions. Commissioner Ronny Congleton called the growth in so many major industries encouraging, "good news."

The financial activities industry expanded its payroll by 4,800, while manufacturing added 3,900 positions.

But construction and government continued to shed jobs last month with cuts of 2,200 and 1,900, respectively.

Unemployment rates are adjusted for seasonal trends in hiring and firing, which most economists believe give a more accurate picture of the job market. Without the seasonal adjustment, the jobless rate in Texas fell to 7.5 percent in November from 8.0 percent in October.

Midland maintained the lowest local unemployment rate at 4.1 percent. The Brownsville-

Harlingen area had the highest rate at 11.2 percent, although that's down from the revised October figure of 11.9 percent. Local figures are not seasonally adjusted.

The preliminary local jobless rates for November, with revised October numbers in parentheses, were:

- Abilene 6.2 (6.8)
- Amarillo 5.1 (5.6)
- Austin-Round Rock-San Marcos 6.6 (7.1)
- Corpus Christi 7.1 (7.5)
- Dallas-Plano-Irving 7.5 (8.1)
- El Paso 9.6 (10.2)
- Fort Worth-Arlington 7.3 (7.8)
- Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown 7.6 (8.1)
- Laredo 7.2 (7.7)
- Lubbock 5.5 (6.0)
- San Angelo 5.7 (6.3)
- San Antonio-New Braunfels 7.0 (7.5)
- Waco 7.1 (7.6)
- Wichita Falls 6.7 (7.2)

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Sat 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30
Sun 2:00 4:30 7:00
Mon/Thur 7:00

Arthur Christmas (PG)
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Sat 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30
Sun 2:00 4:30 7:00
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YEAR-END SPECIALS 2011

Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Saturday, Dec. 17, the 351st day of 2011. There are 14 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 17, 1903, Wilbur and Orville Wright of Dayton, Ohio, conducted the first successful manned powered-airplane flights near Kitty Hawk, N.C., using their experimental craft, the Wright Flyer.

On this date:

In 1777, France recognized American independence.

In 1957, the United States successfully test-fired the Atlas intercontinental ballistic missile for the first time.

In 1975, Lynette Fromme was sentenced in Sacramento, Calif., to life in prison for her attempt on the life of President Gerald R. Ford.

In 1979, in a case that aggravated racial tensions, Arthur McDuffie, a black insurance executive, was fatally injured after leading police on a chase with his motorcycle in Miami.

In 1986, Eugene Hasenfus, the American convicted by Nicaragua for his part in running guns to the Contras, was pardoned, then released.

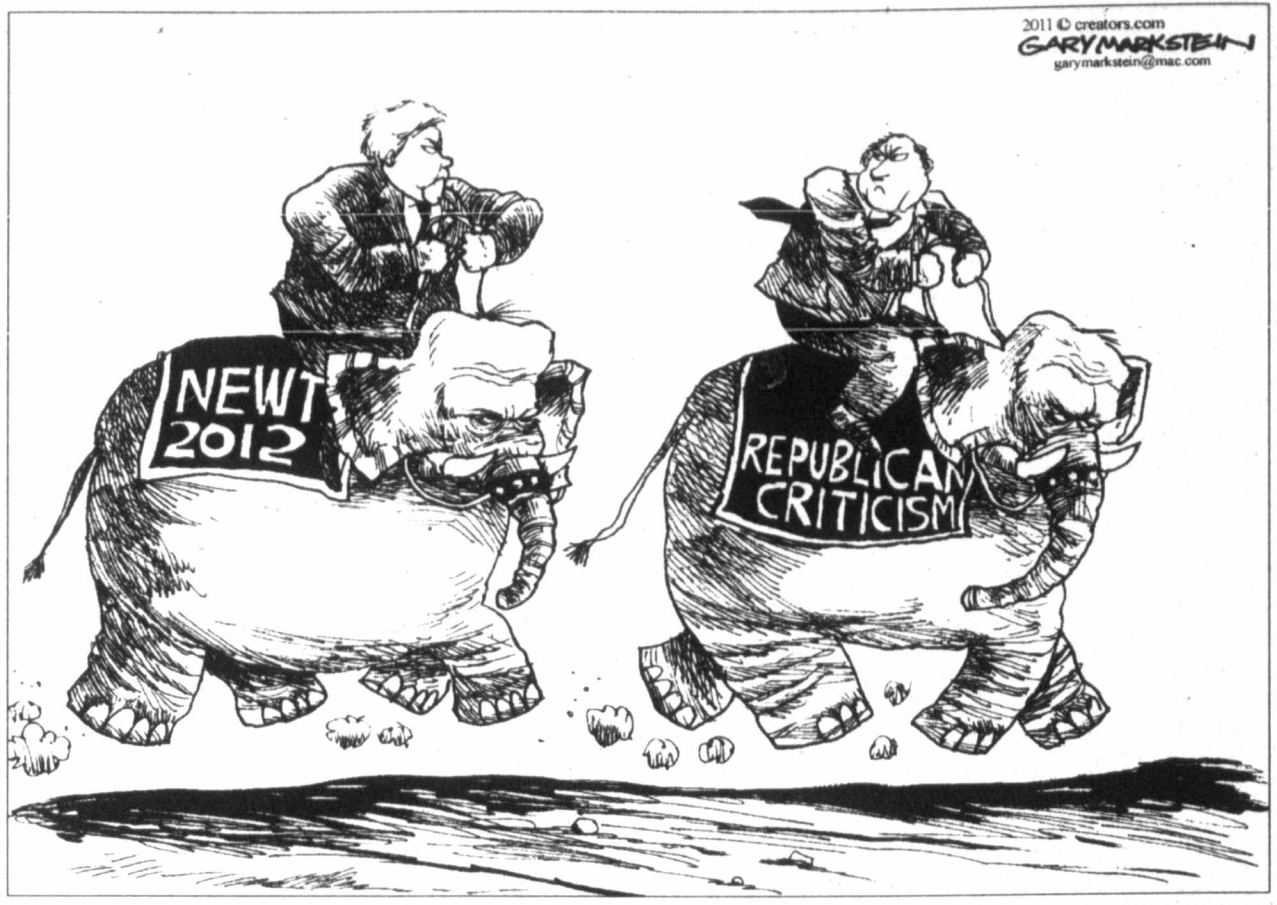
Ten years ago: Marines raised the Stars and Stripes over the long-abandoned American Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan. Gunmen raided Haiti's National Palace, killing at least ten people in an attack the government described as a failed coup attempt (opponents accused the government of staging the attack to clamp down on dissent).

Five years ago: Gunmen in Iraqi army uniforms kidnapped some 30 people at the Red Crescent offices in downtown Baghdad (about half were released the same day). Searchers on Mount Hood in Oregon found the body of missing climber Kelly James (two other climbers, Brian Hall and Jerry "Nikko" Cooke, remain missing).

One year ago: President Barack Obama signed into law a huge, holiday-season tax bill extending cuts for all Americans, saluting a new spirit of political compromise as Republicans applauded and liberals seethed.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Armin Mueller-Stahl is 81. Actor George Lindsey is 76. Singer-actor Tommy Steele is 75. Rock singer-musician Art Neville is 74. Actor Bernard Hill is 67. Actor Ernie Hudson is 66. Political commentator Chris Matthews is 66. Comedian-actor Eugene Levy is 65. Actress Marilyn Hassett is 64. Actor Wes Studi is 64. Pop musician Jim Bonfanti (The Raspberries) is 63. Actor Joel Brooks is 62. Rock singer Paul Rodgers is 62. Rhythm-and-blues singer Wanda Hutchinson (The Emotions) is 60. Actor Bill Pullman is 58. Actor Barry Livingston is 58. Producer-director-writer Peter Farrelly is 55. Rock musician Mike Mills (R.E.M.) is 53. Pop singer Sarah Dallin (Bananarama) is 50. Country musician Tim Cheurning is 49. Country singer Tracy Byrd is 45. Country musician Duane Propes is 45. DJ Homicide (Sugar Ray) is 41. Actor Sean Patrick Thomas is 41. Actress Claire Forlani is 40. Pop-rock musician Eddie Fisher (OneRepublic) is 38. Actress Sarah Paulson is 37. Actress Marissa Ribisi is 37. Actor Giovanni Ribisi is 37. Actress Milla Jovovich is 36. Singer Bree Sharp is 36. Actress Jennifer Carpenter is 32. Actress Shannon Woodward is 27. Actress Vanessa Zima is 25. Actor-singer Nat Wolff is 17.

Thought for Today: "A life of leisure and a life of laziness are two things." — "Poor Richard's Almanack."



Shopping locally pays off for everyone

Classical Gas

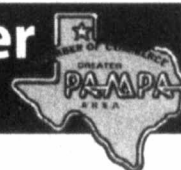
I got a call this week from a man concerned about the price of gasoline in Pampa. He was not the first to express this concern, and I had thought of it myself on several occasions. Unfortunately, the only thing I can do is sympathize — I have to pay the same price and have absolutely no control over what any merchant charges for goods or services.

Some people have told me that they are driving to Amarillo to get gas. Now, that just doesn't make sense—for several reasons. Consider this: gas in Pampa may cost 25 cents more per gallon. With a twenty-gallon fill up, you'll pay \$5.00 more. Now, I don't like paying more than I have to, but \$5.00 will not buy two gallons of gas anywhere — certainly not enough to pay for the trip.

But there is a bigger issue. Wherever you shop in Texas, you pay sales tax, which supports local projects—street maintenance, parks, fire and police protection, etc. When you shop in Amarillo, you help pay for THEIR streets, THEIR parks, THEIR police and fire protection. When you shop in Pampa, you help pay for those things that closely affect you.

I'm not naive enough to think that you will only shop in Pampa. We all have to "get outta Dodge" once in a while. But I believe—and my experience has borne this out—that your local community should get the first shot. In the communities I have lived in, I have consistently heard someone report how they had travelled to "the city" and purchased an item, only to return home and find something better, cheaper, or both. Or their purchased item needed service, which was almost impossible

Chamber Music



JOE WEAVER

to get.

In short, shopping locally pays off...for you, and for the community. (And a recent trip to Plainview proved that gasoline prices are high there, too!)

Kudos

Sometimes it takes several tries to get it right. We were informed that Culberson-Stowers was left out of the belated "Thank You" for Country Fair sponsors printed in the News. Sorry, guys—no slight intended. And while we're on THAT subject, thanks for providing vehicles in the parade for the Citizen and Business of the Year and the Goldcoats.

Thanks also to Troy Newton and Chuck White for their two terms (6 years) as Chamber Board members. And thanks to the newly elected ones for their willingness to serve: Erica Guzman, Kerrick Horton, Pam Dalton, Lynn Hancock, and Shawn Boyd.

And more thanks to Christy Robinson, Allison Watson, Brett Watson, and Kerrick Horton who answered my call for help when Lori was taken out by an injury. (No, I didn't inflict it.)

Life is...

My wife was finishing up a box of

cereal a few weeks ago, commenting how there was nothing but crumbs in the bottom of the bag.

"Just like real 'Life'", I told her. "The closer you get to the end, the crummier it gets."

When we want Your Opinion...

We have had a Facebook Page for quite a while, now, but we recently added a blog to our website (pampa-chamber.com). Join the site and start commenting today! (We reserve the right to edit or delete comments deemed inappropriate.)

Garden Party

Remember that 70s song by Rick Nelson? I understand it was based on a true event—he had been invited to attend a reunion concert in Madison Square Garden, but his classic rock and roll was not appreciated. He "learned his lesson well," that "you can't please everyone, so you've got to please yourself." So...

Thanks to everyone who has offered positive comments on this column—I appreciate it more than you know. I have written a regular column of one kind or another for probably twenty years. It's been fun, mostly, but it's time to let it rest for a while. I can't find time to work on it at the office and I won't have time in the near future to work on it at home, due to a "side project" that's pretty much going to take up any free time I have. I will be making some occasional comments on our blog (see above) and Facebook page, so be sure to check those out.

Joe Weaver is the executive director of the Pampa Chamber of Commerce.

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.

Sunday in History

Today is Sunday, Dec. 18, the 352nd day of 2011. There are 13 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 18, 1865, the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, abolishing slavery, was declared in effect by Secretary of State William H. Seward.

On this date:

In 1787, New Jersey became the third state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1892, Tchaikovsky's ballet "The Nutcracker" publicly premiered in St. Petersburg, Russia.

In 1940, Adolf Hitler ordered secret preparations for Nazi Germany to invade the Soviet Union. (Operation Barbarossa was launched in June 1941.)

In 1957, the Shippingport Atomic Power Station in Pennsylvania, the first public,

full-scale commercial nuclear facility to generate electricity in the United States, went online.

In 1958, the world's first communications satellite, SCORE (Signal Communication by Orbiting Relay Equipment), nicknamed "Chatterbox," was launched by the United States aboard an Atlas rocket.

In 1969, Britain's House of Lords joined the House of Commons in making permanent a 1965 ban on the death penalty for murder.

In 1971, the Rev. Jesse Jackson announced in Chicago the founding of Operation PUSH (People United to Save Humanity).

In 1972, the United States began heavy bombing of North Vietnamese targets during the Vietnam War.

Ten years ago: A federal judge in Philadelphia threw out Mumia Abu-Jamal's death sentence and ordered a new sentencing hearing for the former Black Panther alternately portrayed as a vicious cop-killer and a victim of a racist frame-up.

Five years ago: Robert Gates was sworn in as U.S. defense secretary.

One year ago: The U.S. Senate approved repeal of the military's 17-year "don't ask, don't tell" ban on openly gay troops in a 65-31 vote.

Today's Birthdays: Former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark is 84. Actor-producer Roger Smith is 79. Blues musician Lonnie Brooks is 78. Actor Roger Mosley is 73. Rock singer-musician Keith Richards is 68. Writer-director Alan Rudolph is 68. Movie producer-director

Steven Spielberg is 65. Blues artist Ron Piazza is 64. Movie director Gillian Armstrong is 61. Movie reviewer Leonard Maltin is 61. Rock musician Elliot Easton is 58. Actor Ray Liotta is 56. Comedian Ron White is 55. Actor Brad Pitt is 48. Professional wrestler-turned-actor "Stone Cold" Steve Austin is 47. Actor Shawn Christian is 46. Actress Rachel Griffiths is 43. Singer Alejandro Sanz is 43. Rapper DMX is 41. International Tennis Hall of Famer Arantxa Sanchez Vicario is 40. Actor Josh Dallas is 33. Actress Katie Holmes is 33. Singer Christina Aguilera is 31. Actress Ashley Benson is 22.

Thought for Today: "Whoever wants to be a judge of human nature should study people's excuses." — Christian Friedrich Hebbel, German poet and dramatist (1813-1863).

HOLIDAY BONUS



staff photo by **ReDonn Woods**

Bill Hite, owner and operator of Heard and Jones, presents Joy Combs \$250 cash for her winning ticket in Thursday's drawing.

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James' GOP connections could help analyst's late Senate run

AUSTIN (AP) — As a television college football analyst for ESPN, Craig James is beamed into living rooms and sports bars across the country every week.

Back home in Texas, he's a polarizing figure who was embroiled in Texas Tech university's decision to fire football coach Mike Leach in 2009 and was a member of the record-setting Southern Methodist University football team in the early 1980s when the program entered a series of scandals that ultimately forced the NCAA to shut it down.

As James weighs whether to run for Senate as a Republican, his football resume could hurt him as much as help in a state enthralled by the game.

ESPN said Friday James asked to be allowed to not work next Tuesday night's Beef O'Brady's bowl, fueling speculation that he will enter the race to fill the seat vacated by Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison. The deadline to enter the race had been Monday, though a federal court on Friday moved the deadline to Feb. 1.

Telephone and email messages to James were not immediately returned Friday. James' friend, Roy Bailey, a Dallas insurance executive who has been one of Texas Gov. Rick Perry's top advisers, said James is still undecided.

"He's very, very seriously contemplating this," Bailey said. "He is just sick, as a lot of people are, at what's going on in Washington D.C. If he gets in, I'm all for it."

James, a former player at Southern Methodist University and in the NFL, is a well-known sports figure both in Texas and around the country. But his name recognition could hurt him, particularly back home.

James played at SMU from 1979-1982 and was a major part of the record-setting "Pony Express" backfield with Eric Dickerson. Though the Mustangs won Southwest Conference championships in 1981 and 1982, the team was also embroiled in several NCAA investigations.

In 1987, the NCAA hit SMU with the so-called "death penalty" for repeated infractions, shutting down the program for a year after finding SMU had continued to pay players after promising in 1985 it would stop. SMU also chose not to play in 1988 because the NCAA would have limited the Mustangs to only seven games, none at home.

The scandal is generally considered among the worst in college sports history. The sanctions leveled by the NCAA decimated the Mustangs program and SMU remains the only school to be given the

"death penalty." James was never directly implicated in the NCAA transgressions and he has consistently denied any involvement.

Two years ago, James was involved in the firing of Leach, the winningest coach in Texas Tech history, after James complained to school administrators that Leach mistreated his son, Adam James, by twice ordering him to stand for hours confined in a dark place after he got a concussion.

Leach denies mistreating the younger James and has said Craig James had called coaches trying to get his son more playing time. Leach also said he suspects an \$800,000 bonus he was due on Dec. 31, 2009, was the reason he was fired.

Leach sued the university and named Craig James as a defendant. The case is pending before the Texas Supreme Court. Many Red Raiders fans remain angry that Leach was fired and some blame James for his ouster.

Austin political consultant and lobbyist Bill Miller said the controversy won't necessarily be bad for James if it keeps him alive in the political conversation.

"It puts him in the middle of the public debate about a pretty important issue," Miller said. "That's good for a candidate."

As a college football analyst and color commentator, part of James' job at ESPN is to take strong positions on which teams deserve top bowl bids or which players deserve national awards.

That can win fans or lose them every week depending on what he says about their favorite teams and players.

James also is a political novice who has never held elected office. He would be joining a primary already crowded with wealthy, powerful and experienced candidates.

"Late starts are just killers," Miller said. "If you want to succeed in this business, you've got to give yourself time to campaign and raise money. He's done neither of those."

But James has friends among key Texas Republicans and could marshal a team of heavyweight fundraisers to help him catch up.

Bailey has worked with former New York mayor and former Republican presidential candidate Rudy Giuliani.

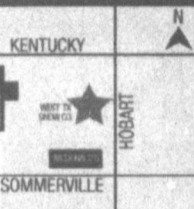
Jim Lee, a Houston investor who was Gov. Rick Perry's campaign finance chairman in 2010 and is helping raise money for Perry's presidential campaign, is one of three founding partners on Texans for a Better America, a nonprofit James set up in April to promote conservative policies.

Lee, who did not return telephone messages seeking comment Friday, has already sent potential James supporters an email trying to drum up financial commitments.

James also is a board member at the Texas Public Policy Foundation, a conservative think tank that is highly influential with Texas Republicans.

He will need those connections and national fundraising muscle to compete. He will likely find it difficult to raise enough money in Texas alone to effectively compete with Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and his \$200 million personal fortune, former Dallas mayor Tom Leppert and former Texas solicitor general Ted Cruz, all of whom have spent months campaigning, raising money and collecting endorsements.

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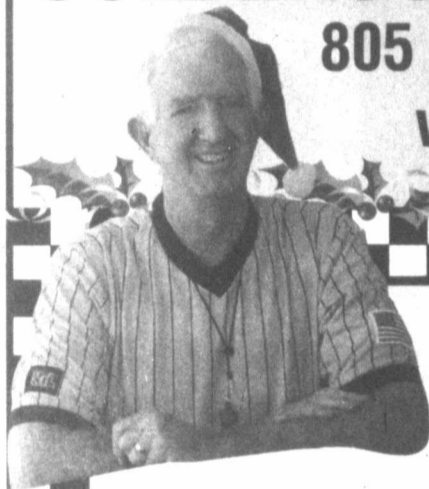
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Sole Dem for Texas Senate seat drops out

AUSTIN (AP) — Retired Lt. Gen. Ric Sanchez, the sole major Democratic candidate in the race to replace Republican U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, said Friday he is dropping out of the Texas race because of "pressing personal challenges" and a lack of funds.



Sanchez

In an email to supporters Friday afternoon, Sanchez thanked those who had encouraged him to run but said he needed to put his family first.

"I am very grateful for the strong support and encouragement I have received from supporters across the country and the wonderful Texans I have met in every part of our great state," Sanchez said. "However, pressing personal challenges, coupled with the recent loss of our home due to fire and lagging fundraising numbers make a statewide election campaign impractical for me at this time."

While the Republican field to replace Hutchison is extremely crowded, Sanchez was the only major candidate from the Democratic party.

Hutchison announced earlier this year that she was retiring.

Many Democratic strategists hoped that Sanchez, who was born in the Rio Grande Valley, could marshal votes from the state's growing Hispanic population. But many liberals felt he was a flawed candidate because he was the commanding general in Iraq when the abuses against Iraqi detainees at Abu Ghraib prison took place.

The official filing period for prospective candidates ends Monday. But because of ongoing litigation over political redistricting in Texas, the filing period will reopen after a federal court approves a final district map, likely in late January, and remain open until Feb. 1.

A new Democratic candidate could emerge once the courts decide the districts for the Texas House, Texas Senate and U.S. Congress. If the court's decision hurts Democratic chances for Congress, some of those politicians might consider switching to the Senate race.

No Democrats hold statewide office in Texas, and the predominantly Republican state is unlikely to elect a Democrat to the U.S. Senate in 2012. But Democratic leaders had hoped to run at least a mildly competitive candidate to force Republicans to spend money on the Senate race.

The Texas Democratic Party had no immediate comment Friday evening.

Boy shot at Texas school can't move legs

McALLEN, Texas (AP) — A 13-year-old, one of two Texas boys shot while trying out for their middle school basketball team on an outdoor court, is unable to move his legs, his doctor said Friday.

Nicholas Tjerina, a student in the seventh grade at Harwell Middle School northeast of Edinburg, has been stable and talking, but it's too soon to know the lasting effects of Monday's shooting, said Dr. Mark Lieser, a trauma surgeon at McAllen Medical Center.

"He has been awake and alert and stable the entire time and that bleeding at this time appears to have stopped," Lieser said. "He's in remarkably good spirits and he's having an ice cream sundae for breakfast this morning."

Nicholas and a 14-year-old boy

who has not been identified were in a parking lot that had been converted into a temporary basketball court behind the school when they were shot about 4:45 p.m. Monday. About 50 children were trying out for the school's team. The other boy is reportedly in stable condition at another hospital.

The bullet entered the lower portion of Nicholas' chest under his right arm damaging the lower portion of his lung, went through the right half of his liver and through one of the bones of his spine before lodging in the soft tissue of his back, Lieser said. "It was probably a pretty high-velocity round, which even if it didn't go right through the spinal cord went right next to it, and it's just the energy from that bullet is going to cause some damage to the

spinal cord," he said.

Investigators have questioned three men who were found on adjacent ranchland after the shooting Monday evening. Two were practicing target shooting about a half mile from the school. A third was an illegal immigrant with an assault rifle who was trespassing on the property. The target shooters were released, but are still under investigation. The other man, charged with misdemeanor trespass and poaching, remained in custody. Investigators didn't know if any of them fired the shots, but hoped to have ballistic test results next week.

Hidalgo County Sheriff Lupe Trevino said Wednesday that investigators were leaning toward it being a target shooting incident rather than a hunting incident.

Warm

and approached her Bible study group and her sewing group.

"I told them what I was going to do and that if they wanted to donate they could feel free to do that," she said. "Well, it just blossomed. On (Dec. 7), I mailed three boxes with 382 packages of hand warmers and foot-warmers."

That was 382 packages containing two hand warmers each. The warmers are plastic tubes containing chemicals that give off heat when the tubes are "cracked."

"They are the kind that hunters use," Harp said. "We went to three area Walmarts and bought everything they had, and they all gave me a deal."

In all, her friends donated more than \$250 in cash, plus some additional hand warmers.

White is a Texas A&M graduate and a member of its "Corps of Cadets."

Upon graduation, he joined the Army Reserve and was sent to Alabama to follow his dream of learning to fly helicopters — not just any helicopter, but the Army's Apache Attack Helicopter.

"He stayed in the Reserves and went back to the job that was held for him while he did his Reserve training," Harp said. "However, he only got to fly once a month and it was not enough for him. So, he volunteered to go to Afghanistan because he wants to fly helicopters."

Harp said Chris became concerned at one point because the Army wanted to promote him to Captain and there are rank limitations on flying the choppers.

"He made a deal with his commander that he would volunteer for duty in Afghanistan, (and they would let him) fly helicopters," she said. "The Army

has been good for him. He was always the fun-loving cousin, the ornery one, but he has a whole different tone, serious."

"It is so cool that this is coming together for his guys," she added, noting that the package will take two or three weeks to get there. She also filled the spaces around the hand warmers with bags of Chex Mix (her family calls it "Scrabble").

"He said he didn't want anything, but if I wanted to fix a little Scrabble, that would be okay."

She has no doubt that all the soldiers in Chris' unit will share the goodies.

"One of Chris' jobs is to make sure extras are disbursed — that people aren't left out, Harp said.

With the hand warmers mailed, Aunt Anita has another project already under way.

"Now Chris wants some blankets for his guys," she said. "Even though the army issues you a blanket, it is not warm enough.

And as his wife says, not everyone has the support that Chris does."

Some blankets are already winging their way there.

Chris' mom, Donnice White, recently mailed an 18 inch by 18 inch cube of blankets to the guys.

"She said the blankets weren't all that heavy but the Velveta and Ro-Tel stuffed inside were," Harp laughed. "That is so he can make his own queso."

Harp is sure her friends will help in the effort, but if anyone else in the community would like help, contact her at dharpo@sbcglobal.net.

She is also thankful for all who made the package of hand warmers possible.

"It was all Chris' idea, but God blessed it," she said. "You know how He multiplies things."

She expects to hear from Chris when the package is delivered, she said with understandable emotion, since "he does not know they are coming."

cont. from page 1

cont. from page 1

PISD

were funding your schools barely adequately," said Haenisch. "And so the argument is going to be (that) if the last time we were barely adequately funding it, and we've cut that amount of money, then by definition it's inadequate."

The School Board has continued negotiations with architectural firm Dekker, Perich, and Sabatini, based in Amarillo, to redesign the former Albertson's building PISD recently purchased. The school district plans to remodel the building to replace the Carver Center as its new central office location. The board authorized continued negotiations with the firm, and also granted Haenisch the ability to sign an eventual contract.

The School Board approved two interlocal agreements with the city that pertain to PISD property. The school district has finalized the decision to give the city a portable building from the former Pampa Junior High School location to be used as additional office space at the animal shelter. In exchange, the city has agreed to sand parking lots

and roads at Pampa Junior High during icy weather conditions.

The second interlocal agreement involves the former Sam Houston site near the Super Playground.

"The Super Playground belongs to the city, and it butts up to our property where the old Sam Houston school sat," said Haenisch. "It butts up to it so close that when they were going in to do some work, they discovered that the handicap accessible sidewalk is all on our property, and so they couldn't legally even use the sidewalk, and so that was going to mean they couldn't use the Super Playground."

PISD will deed to the city the portion of land where the handicap sidewalk is, and in exchange, the city will provide grounds maintenance at the Sam Houston site.

In another property related decision, the School Board approved placing the former Pampa Junior High School site up for bid. Initially up for bid in August, the site now will be broken into four parcels that may be purchased separately.

Moving towards an athletic beau-

tification project at Pampa High School, the board approved fundraising for those efforts that will address the South side of Randy Matson through the school's athletic fields.

"Most of the sidewalks around there are asphalt, so we'll be replacing those with (cement) sidewalks, and getting some plants in there that don't have to be watered all the time, that are arid adaptable, and just some things to make it look nice, yet easy to maintain," said Haenisch.

In other business, the board:

- approved negotiation and preparation of an oil and gas lease pertaining to Gray County's School Lands in Gaines County;
- presented three school calendars for the 2012-2013 school year, currently being considered by staff;
- approved Texas Association of School Board policy updates, which deal with legislation from the most recent session. PISD gave final approval to Update 91, and approved Update 92 on an initial reading.

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Entertainment

'A Game of Shadows' an intelligent, action-packed Sherlock Holmes tale

Two years ago director Guy Ritchie, Robert Downey Jr., and Jude Law teamed up to bring us a new, more action-oriented version of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's classic detective, Sherlock Holmes. That film was a great blend of action, mystery, and humor, with just a shade of homo-erotic tension between the two leads. This weekend's "Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows" brings back the original team for a film that takes everything that made the first film good, only to crank it up to 11.

The film opens with a series of bombings, which the local press are blaming on a group of anarchists, but Holmes has another theory. "Sherlie" (as his brother Mycroft addresses him) believes it to be the illusive Professor Moriarty (Jared Harris). As hinted at in the last film, Holmes love interest Irene Adler (Rachel McAdams) works for the Professor, and this brings the two adversaries into close orbit. In order to keep Moriarty from starting a global world war, Watson and Holmes must travel to France, Germany, and finally Sweden, in a globe-trotting adventure.

The film does a great job of advancing the plot and keeping the audience guessing. And in one shocking development the film kills off a fairly significant character in the first fifteen minutes. The final moments of the film should be familiar to any fans of the original books, as the confrontation between Holmes and Moriarty mirrors that of the climax of "The Final Solution".

Like the first film, "A Game of Shadows," does a great job of juggling the action, humor, and mystery. But here, Ritchie steps up his game giving us a film that is even better in every aspect. The action has been ramped up, with several amazing sequences, one in particular which takes place about halfway through the film as Holmes and his crew run through a German forest. And the final confrontation between Holmes and Moriarty, played out over a game of chess is one of the best scenes of the year.

Much of the credit for the films success goes to the actors, with Downey and Law as Holmes and Watson carrying much of the film on their shoulders. The duo's relationship, which borders on being romantic, is hilarious, and real in a way that most bromances in films could only hope for. Stephen Fry as Mycroft Holmes has several hilarious scenes, and Noomi Rapace (the

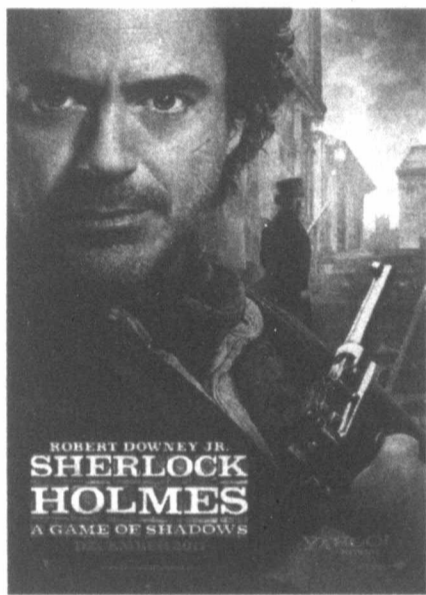


TRAVIS TIDMORE

original "Girl with the Dragon Tattoo") does a great job in her first Hollywood role, as a gypsy who assists Holmes. But the standout of this film is Harris, who shines as Moriarty. It is clear that this is a role he was meant to play, and one hopes that the series will continue with more confrontations between these two arch-nemeses.

All of the elements of "A Game of Shadows" combines to make one of the best films of this year. It is quite possibly the best action movie of the year, easily beating the blockbusters of this past summer. (Although it might lose out to "Mission: Impossible: Ghost Protocol," which opens this weekend as well; look for a review of it in a future edition of the paper.) It is the definition of a must-see.

Travis Tidmore reviews films for The Pampa News as well as on his blog, www.thecinemaniac.com.



Sherlock Holmes: ★★★★★
A Game of Shadows
Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action, and some drug material

Pueblo Council endorses Obama

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — A council representing the majority of New Mexico's Native American tribes on Thursday endorsed President Barack Obama's re-election bid, saying the president has kept his promises to tribal communities.

The endorsement by the All Indian Pueblo Council was presented to Obama campaign manager Jim Messina at a special ceremony on the Sandia Pueblo. It came a few weeks after the White

House hosted its third summit with tribal leaders, where Obama told them: "You have a president that's got your back."

While the endorsement of a Democrat is not surprising, the vote of support came nearly a year before the 2012 presidential elections. Campaign officials attributed the early vote of confidence to its early and aggressive grass-roots outreach to different ethnic groups.

After the meeting with tribal leaders, Messina met with a group of some 30

Hispanic supporters who gathered at Albuquerque's campaign headquarters for a phone bank targeting Hispanic voters.

The campaign has been working closely with the tribes. And while tribal leaders have historically supported Democrats, they have had a hard time delivering actual votes.

Isleta Pueblo Governor Frank Lujan said in a news release that the tribes have vowed to "do whatever we can to ensure President Barack Obama is re-elected."

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

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7 "Lights one

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Yesterday's answer

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12-17

EMS

cont. from page 1

inside the city of McLean to handle their ambulance needs until they get up and running again," said Peet. "In that case, the city of McLean would pay Lefors."

Meanwhile, Volunteer EMTs from Shamrock, Groom, Lefors and Donley County have been assisting with McLean's coverage area immediately outside of the city limits.

"They were making so many runs into this area and into McLean, but they weren't getting any reimbursement for it," said Peet. "They're volunteer systems, so they cannot continue to run into those areas without some type of compensation."

So, Gray County will now pay the volunteer services \$300 per run into the area surrounding McLean.

"We wanted to make sure that the people outside the city of McLean, in McLean's original area of responsibility, that those people have access to an ambulance," said Peet, who said the county will compensate the services until March 1.

"Up until that time, if they make emergency runs into those areas outside of the city of McLean, but along I-40 and so on, we've agreed to pay \$300 a run," he said. "They can only go if they have the manpower and the weather permits."

In other business, commissioners

- approved local match funding for a project on Seminole Road at Grapevine Creek, wherein the state will provide 90 percent of project funding, and the county will provide 10 percent;

- accepted insurance from Duncan, Fraser and Bridges Insurance Agency.

BANANAGRAMS!

Add an S to each of the words below and then rearrange the letters in each word to form a new seven-letter word.

LEVEL

W I L T E D

H E A T E D

H A N G E D

Yesterday's Answer: BOOKIE, XIS, PORT, BIG, TOG, OR, K, I, EXPOS

12.17

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

A baby born today, Dec. 18, 2011, has a Sun in Sagittarius and a Moon in Libra if born after 12:06 a.m. (PST). Before that time, the child has a Moon in Virgo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Sunday, Dec. 18, 2011:

You discover that out of the seeds of the unexpected come some very special opportunities. Learn to work with change rather than fear it. Your circle of friends and associates strengthens because of a willingness and a desire to expand your horizons and network. You can only gain. If you are single, you easily could meet someone very special this year. Be open. If you are attached, the two of you enjoy socializing and being seen out and about. You could witness a newfound closeness this year. **LIBRA** is a good friend.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Others make it clear they desire your presence. Without realizing it, you have processed a lot in your sleep. Don't be surprised if you are more tired than usual. Make sure plans suit you. You don't need to be drained. Tonight: A second wind is likely.

This Week: Entertain different opinions, and you'll gain much more than the obvious.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Once more, you need a day dedicated to the tired Bull within. With Christmas heading in, you might not have the luxury of a whole day, yet for everyone's sake, take an hour. You will be happier, and so will others. News forces you to regroup. Tonight: Live it up.

This Week: You are focused on Monday, but you get distracted so easily. Is that OK?

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ You sense something is going on. Follow your intuition emotionally. A relationship takes a higher priority. Don't scatter yourself; focus on one person at a time. Doors open up. Tonight: Let the good times begin.

This Week: Your creativ-

ity bubbles up Monday. The good news is the way in which you funnel it into your work.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ You love downtime at home. Make it so, and others will notice that refreshed and invigorated look. Calls come in, and you just might invite someone over to help with a holiday chore (like baking cookies!). Tonight: Happy where you are.

This Week: Move slowly Monday, because once Tuesday hits, there is no stopping you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You are likely to be the friendliest of signs once you wake up. Make Sunday calls. Reach out for others. Maximize the time you have with each person. Others feel more connected, and you feel great swapping jokes and news.

Tonight: At a local spot.

This Week: Use Monday to set up key meetings for the end of the week. Play it low-key in between.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ Whatever you are up to, your budget is involved. Whether off buying a tree, putting in overtime or playing Santa's elf, communication is important. Listen to someone's sharing. This person walks his or her talk. Tonight: Treat yourself, too!

This Week: You want to get it all done ... now. And for good reason. Take Monday off accordingly. You will be happier.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Lunar rays flatter you. If you are looking for the right time to express a key issue or thought, eye the next few days. Let go of a sense of insecurity. Trust yourself to make the right choices. A family member could be feisty. Tonight: Whatever feels right.

This Week: You are a force to behold Monday. From Tuesday on, you get caught up in the holiday and everything that must be done.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Take a hint from Cancer's message: Stay close to home. Make it all

right to play the recluse. What actually happens might be another issue. Do yourself a favor -- If someone else tries to engage you in a conversation, change the subject. Tonight: Not to be found.

This Week: Do research and quiet work Monday. From Tuesday on you need to be active and available.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Plans could be tossed to the wayside, but all the better. You'll replace them with an activity or get-together that feels so much more fun and appropriate. As you know, there is something to be said about being spontaneous. Tonight: Zero in on what you want.

This Week: Settling into the next few days could be close to impossible. You will have some semblance of being centered Tuesday and Wednesday.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ You feel pressure from various situations. You might be assuming too much responsibility. Let go of what you don't need to do and, if you can, delegate. Choose a holiday happening, and invite a parent or a respected friend to come along. Tonight: Share hot cider.

This Week: Many look to you for help at work or with last-minute holiday details.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ If a loved one or dear friend snaps, know that this is not the situation all the time. Kick back and relax. Some of you might be involved with caroling; others might choose another Christmas event. Understand someone's grumpiness. Tonight: Play out an imaginative idea.

This Week: If you can

take off Monday, do. From Tuesday on, you must make appearances.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Go out with a dear friend or partner. Enjoy yourself, even if you cannot get away from the

crowds. Let go of stress, and accept the situation as part of the holidays. A friend might do a reversal. Accept rather than coax. Tonight: Togetherness is the theme.

This Week: A partner plays a strong role Monday.

Tuesday, try to ground yourself. You are like a little kid.

BORN TODAY
Filmmaker Steven Spielberg (1946), artist Paul Klee (1879), actor Brad Pitt (1963)



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I'm an 18-year-old male living on my own in an apartment not far from my parents' home. They visit me often and take turns driving me to the local college because I don't have a car.

My parents tend to worry about me. I'm rather thin, but I eat healthy. My dad goes over the top with his concern about my weight and it is hurtful. He has called me a "cadaver" in front of friends. And when he drops me off after classes, he often says, "Now go eat something fattening!"

I have tried to discuss how his repeated comments affect my self-confidence, but am always met with, "I'm your father. I have every right to be concerned." Am I wrong to take offense at my dad's brand of concern? Is there anything I can do to evade these hurtful comments? — **TWIG WITH FEELINGS**

DEAR TWIG: Your father's attempt to "help" you by ridiculing you in front of your contemporaries is insensitive. The fact that he is your father does not entitle him to be cruel.

If there is a student health center at your college, go there and talk to a medical professional about what is a healthy weight for

your height and age, and whether any medical tests might be necessary to verify your health. If not, consult your family physician. This may provide the "proof" you need in discussions with your father. Some males fill out later than others.

You should also ask your mother to point out to your dad that what he's doing is counterproductive. Perhaps she can make him see the light. If that doesn't work, arrange other transportation to and from school so you will be less dependent on your father.

DEAR ABBY: A friend and I were talking about how wimpy a lot of guys in our generation are. We're both in our mid-20s and seldom meet guys who take charge.

Several times we have met guys who said they'd call and set up a date. We know they're interested because they have told our friends they'd like to date us again. But then they don't call. Try as we might to give them chances to ask us out, they usually don't.

I know that traditional dating rules are often discarded, but I don't want to be the aggressor. Their being "scared" isn't an acceptable excuse, much less an attractive quality. Why do women so often

have to do all the work nowadays or end up alone? — **PREFERS TRADITIONAL**

DEAR PREFERS TRADITIONAL: Women do not have to do ALL the work in a relationship or risk remaining single for life. But they do have to shoulder a lot more of the responsibility than a generation ago as a result of the women's movement. (Yes, I know I'll catch "heck" for saying it.) As women have become more independent and aggressive, the old rules of romance have started to disappear.

Men aren't stupid. Their view is, "If women are willing to do the courting, why should men do it?" The guys you've described aren't wimps; their passivity hasn't turned other women off. Sending you messages through your friends instead of being direct and following through on their promises to call is business as usual for them. While their behavior may seem immature, it has worked for them before.

Don't give up hope. There are men who are interested in old-fashioned romance, but they are fewer in number. Be patient, keep looking and you'll find one.

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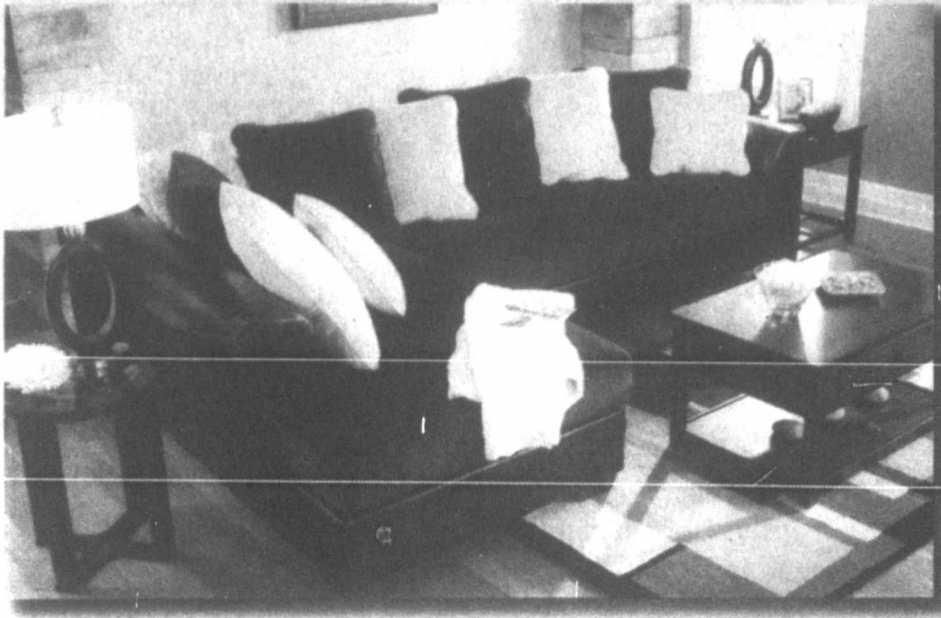
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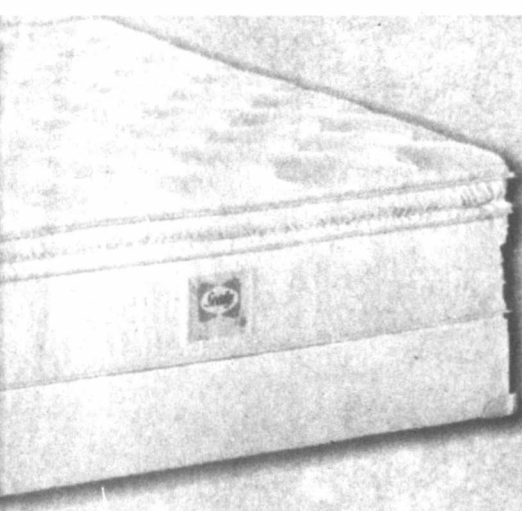
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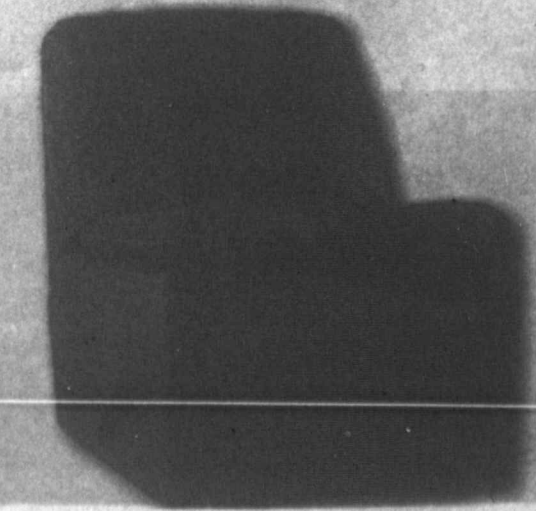
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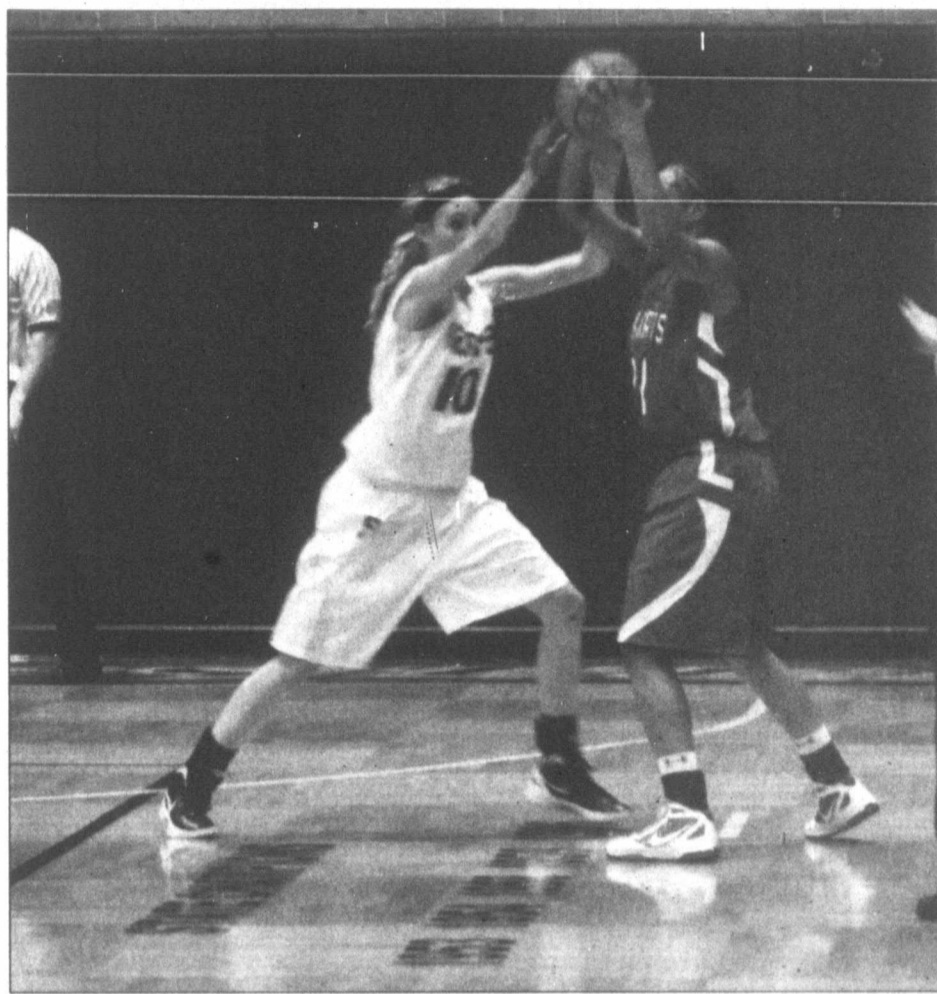


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Lady Harvesters defense strong, down Lady Matadors



staff photo by
Joe Murray

Senior Kailyn Troxell defends Estacado's Aaliyah Briley Friday at McNeely Fieldhouse. The Lady Harvesters won 46-37 for their second straight victory at home. Pampa resumes play December 28 in the Caprock Tournament in Lubbock.

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Lady Harvesters' plan against the Lubbock Estacado Lady Matadors was to slow the game down. In the second half, Pampa realized Estacado wasn't much faster than they are and pulled away in a 46-37 victory Friday at McNeely Fieldhouse.

"It was overall a great effort, offense and defense," senior Kirsten Kuhn said. "Once we saw they weren't faster than us

we got on them and played hard defense."

Head coach Gene Valentine said Estacado didn't really have anyone that wanted to take the ball for them.

"Number 21 (Aaliyah Brown) had 11 on us in the first half," Valentine said. "I felt like we were contesting and making her work. No one else wanted the ball except for 21 and 20 (Tramesha Wilson)."

The first half was a defensive struggle. Both teams primarily stayed around the perimeter and

didn't hit many shots from there. Neither team was able to pull away, since it couldn't take advantage of the other's misses. The Lady Harvesters biggest lead was four points at the beginning of the second quarter. The Lady Matadors led 19-15 midway through the second. At halftime the game was tied at 19.

The Lady Matadors (5-9) looked like they were going to pull away as they scored the first seven points of the quarter. **PAMPA** cont. on page 4B

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Luke 2: 9-12

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Sports

Early Bowl matchups less intriguing but competitive

This is the third year that I've shared my bowl predictions. For the first time since I've started following the Texas Tech Red Raiders, I don't get to talk about them in a bowl game. I do have people I want to thank for that. I'm going to be a professional and refrain from that.

Unless your team is playing, the first week of bowl season is about as good as your Aunt Minnie's fruitcake. In other words the first games are worth watching if you are absolutely bored.

In fact, I think most entertaining part of bowl season will be seeing how accurate I am.

New Mexico Bowl, 1 pm today, Wyoming (8-4) vs Temple (8-4)

This is a good matchup of small conference schools. The Cowboys have a solid running attack led by Alvester Alexander and Brett Smith. The Owls have their own running back in Bernard Pierce, who has scored 25 TDs. Temple will be going against a less than stellar defense.

Last time I picked against my dad's Cowboys, they made me look like an idiot. I'm going with W-Y-O, 34-30.

Potato Bowl, 5 p.m. today, Ohio (9-4) vs. Utah State (7-5)

The name of this bowl sounds like a value meal. Ohio enters the game off of a close loss to Northern Illinois in the Mid-American title game.

The Bobcats are pretty balanced on offense which could give the defense trouble and force the to look for both run and pass.

The Aggies have won five straight to earn a trip to the postseason. Utah State boasts one of the top rushing offenses in the nation, led by Robert Turbin with over 1,400 yards rushing. However, defense has been an issue.

I'm taking the more balanced offense with a better defense. 35-20, Ohio.

New Orleans Bowl, 8 p.m. today, San Diego State (8-4) vs. Louisiana Lafayette (8-4)

The Aztecs boast a strong running attack with Ronnie Holman, who broke a 99-yard touchdown run earlier in the season. Other than that San Diego State is just average.

The Raging Cajuns aren't really



ANDREW GLOVER

is slightly stronger, 31-21.
St. Petersburg Bowl, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Florida International (8-4) vs. Marshall (6-6).

Honestly, I would recommend watching ABC Family's "25 Days of Christmas" or NBA preseason basketball.

The Panthers biggest strength is their defense as they are ranked 16th in points allowed. Their offense is fairly average.

The Thundering Herd are below average in just about every category. Marshall fans can consider it a moral victory that their school is playing one more game. FIU wins big, 38-14.

Poinsettia Bowl, 7 p.m. Wednesday, TCU (10-2) vs. Louisiana Tech.

This game is a complete mis-match. The Horned Frogs barely missed a BCS bowl and is ranked in the top 20 in rushing and points scored.

The Bulldogs had a strong season in the WAC. Let's face it, if they are still in the game by the end of the first half, consider it a moral victory. 49-13, TCU.

Las Vegas Bowl, 7 p.m. Thursday, Boise State (11-1) vs. Arizona State (6-6).

Just like the previously mentioned game, this one won't be close. The Sun Devils are coming off of the firing of head coach Dennis Erickson. They will be looking for a brighter 2012.

The only reason the Broncos are in this game is because of another failed field goal. Boise State dominates, 52-7.

Hawaii Bowl, 7 p.m., December 24, Nevada (7-5) vs. Southern Miss (11-2).

Southern Miss enters the game off their upset of top ten Houston. In this game,

impressive running or throwing. Offensively, they are lead by their quarterback Blaine Gautier who has thrown for 2,488 yards and 20 touchdowns.

One advantage for Lafayette is they are playing close to home. I don't think it will be enough as San Diego State's defense

the Golden Eagles will be tested by the pistol offense of the Wolfpack.

While both teams have great offenses, Southern Miss is a little stronger on defense and should get the stop it needs to win. 35-21, Golden Eagles.

Independence Bowl, 4 p.m. December 26, Missouri (7-5) vs. North Carolina (7-5).

This will be Missouri's final game as a Big 12 team. The Tigers are a strong running team featuring running back Henry Josey and quarterback James Franklin. Franklin also has an arm as he threw for over 2,700 yards.

The Tar Heels are just your typical 7-5 team. Look for sophomore quarterback Bryn Renner to led the offense as he's passed for over 2,700 yards and 23 TD's.

Missouri has been able to handle tough competition, unlike the Tar Heels. 42-27, Tigers roar.

Little Caesar's Bowl, 3:30 p.m., December 27, Western Michigan (7-5) vs. Purdue (6-6).

This is just another bowl game between teams that are just happy to be in a bowl. Purdue comes from the powerful Big Ten conference, but that doesn't mean they are the better team.

Western Michigan out of the MAC have one of the best passing attacks in the nation averaging more than 300 yards per game. Junior quarterback Alex Carder has thrown 28 touchdowns to just 10 interceptions and will face a below average Boilermaker defense.

Purdue has been inconsistent all season, beating a ranked Illinois team but losing to Rice. The Boilermakers may come from the bigger conference but won't come with a trophy. Broncos win 42-31.

Belk Bowl, 7 p.m., December 27, Louisville (7-5) vs. North Carolina State (7-5).

Both teams are just average 7-5 teams. The Cardinals are ranked 79th in passing and 94th in rushing. Louisville has been carried by its defense only giving opponents 19 points per game.

The Wolfpack are an average passing team but one of the worst rushing offenses. North Carolina State is middle of the pack defensively.

I think the better of the bad running attacks and the better defense prevails. 27-17, Cardinals.

Military Bowl, 3:30 p.m. December 28, Toledo (8-4) vs. Air Force (7-5).

The Rockets boast a high powered offense. Toledo has two solid quarterbacks in Terrance Owens and Austin Dantin. Owens and Dantin have combined for over 3,000 yards passing and 30 touchdowns.

Adonis Thomas leads the Rockets' rushing attack with 963 yards.

The weakness of Toledo is their defense as they are 89th in points allowed.

The Falcons own a strong rushing attack with Asher Clark the front man with 1,096 yards. However, Air Force is one of the worst passing teams. Its defense is below average.

The balanced offense will take this one. 38-24, Toledo.

Holiday Bowl, 7 p.m., December 28, California (7-5) vs. Texas (7-5).

Back in the mid 2000s this would be a high profile matchup with Aaron Rodgers vs. Vince Young. In 2011, this is a matchup with average teams.

The Golden Bears haven't been that impressive. Offensively they are led by quarterback Zach Maynard and running back Isi Sofele. Maynard has thrown for more than 2,800 yards and Sofele has rushed for 1,270 yards.

The Longhorns still haven't found their answer at quarterback in the post-Colt McCoy era. David Ash and Case McCoy have been rotating at quarterback throughout the season. This has kept Texas from being a great team like it was in the 2000s.

Texas is carried by its running game led by Malcolm Brown and Foswhit Whittaker. The Longhorns' defense hasn't been as strong as it was in the past but still good.

The defense should be enough for Texas to get a W, 31-20.

Prst 2 of 3 will be in December 27 issue.

Andrew Glover is The Pampa News sports reporter. He can be reached online at aglover@thepampanews.com.

Cowboys feel they can make a late season push for playoffs

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — If the suddenly reeling Dallas Cowboys learned anything while letting a solid grip on the NFC East lead slip away, it's not to take anything for granted.

So while Tony Romo and a talented supporting cast may still control their own destiny in the division race, a string of late collapses that's cost them a clear path to the playoffs illustrate why they can't afford to overlook anyone — including the struggling Tampa Bay Buccaneers on Saturday night — down the stretch.

"We take it week by week," Romo said, declining to speculate on the prospects of rebounding from consecutive losses to the Cardinals and Giants to finish atop the standings.

The Cowboys (7-6) are tied with the Giants for first place, however New York holds the tie-breaker advantage after rallying from a 12-point deficit in the final three minutes to win 37-34 in Dallas last Sunday.

Dallas can clinch the NFC East by winning remaining games against Tampa Bay (4-9), at home

against Philadelphia, and on the road against the Giants in the regular season finale.

"Obviously we've lost a couple of close games. ... We just have to come out and play a great game this week, have great energy and play our best game of the year," Romo said. "It's going to be a great challenge. ... Tampa is never an easy place to play."

The Bucs have lost seven straight and eight of nine overall following a 3-1 start, raising questions about whether ownership is contemplating replacing coach Raheem Morris.

There's been talk that Cowboys coach Jason Garrett may be on the hotseat, too, even though Dallas owner Jerry Jones said this week that Garrett's job is safe.

Garrett said he's focused on the Buccaneers, not whether he will be dismissed if the Cowboys fail to make the playoffs.

"There's no question, any time the owner says something positive, that's a good thing," Garrett said. "But again we know what the challenges are, and we've got to keep putting our best foot forward."

We ask our players to do that and we have to do that as coaches, regardless of what anybody says."

The Bucs, who've fallen apart after a start that included victories over NFC South rivals New Orleans and Atlanta, are relishing their role as potential spoilers.

After facing the Cowboys, who've led in the fourth quarter of five of their six losses, Tampa Bay closes on the road at Carolina and Atlanta.

"Dallas is kind of on the bubble right now. ... I can't think of anything happier than to go out and get a win and maybe put a damper on their hopes," Bucs quarterback Josh Freeman said, adding that while Tampa Bay's skid has been frustrating he and teammates haven't given up on themselves.

"Guys just want to win.

We're upset about losing, but guys come into work and want to do something about it to correct it. It's not a deal where we're losing and nobody wants to be around the building or nobody wants to work at it," Freeman added. "Guys are still giving it all they've got, trying to figure out a way to right the ship."

After leading the Bucs to a surprising 10-6 record and narrowly missing the playoffs last season, Freeman has struggled in his second full season as a starter.

A year ago, the third quarterback selected in the 2009 draft threw for 25 touchdowns and just six interceptions. This season, he's been slowed by right thumb and shoulder injuries, made some poor decisions with the football and thrown for 12 touchdowns

vs. 18 interceptions.

Garrett looks at Freeman and sees a 23-year-old experiencing the normal growing pains of a NFL quarterback.

"I think what happens is for any quarterback of any age, taking care of the football is a critical thing. We certainly understand, I think everybody around the league understands that," the Dallas coach said.

"Sometimes interceptions or turnovers happen for a lot of reasons. You have to try to minimize them as best you can. He didn't have a lot of them last year, so he certainly understands how to do that and handle that. He'll grow with every experience he gets. He's certainly a heck of a young player, and a guy who's got a great future."

Tampa Bay turned the

ball over seven times against the Jaguars and enter Saturday night tied with the Eagles with a league-leading 31 giveaways, compared to 19 all of last season. The Bucs also are the third-most penalized team in the league.

Morris declines to make excuses, but stresses that as the league's youngest team the Bucs are far from a finished product. He's adamant that he has the team headed in the right direction. He insists he's not spending time worrying about his job because the pressure to win is no greater than it's ever been.

"If you don't feel like you're working for your job every day," the third-year coach said, "then you're probably not doing your job."

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Sports

WEEKLY SCOREBOARD

Varsity Girls Basketball

THURSDAY

Fort Elliott Tournament

TEAM	1	2	3	4	Final
Wheeler JV	1	12	10	12	35
Lefors	2	10	10	4	26

Leading scorer: K. Porter 10

FRIDAY

Fort Elliott Tournament

TEAM	1	2	3	4	Final
Higgins	15	12	8	15	50
Lefors	2	3	10	18	33

Leading scorer: K. Porter 17

TUESDAY

TEAM	1	2	3	4	Final
Miami	8	15	8	16	47
Pampa	11	13	17	15	56

MIAMI FG 3pt FTA FTM TP

J. Gibbs	0	0	0	0	0
S. Watkins	5	1	5	4	17
K. Skidmore	2	0	2	1	5
S. Douglas	1	0	2	2	4
A. Nelson	0	0	0	0	0
K. Wheeler	1	0	0	0	2
J. Smith	1	3	4	3	14
S. Carr	1	0	4	2	4
M. Smith	0	0	0	0	0
S. Bell	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	11	4	17	12	47

PAMPA FG 3pt FTA FTM TP

K. Kuhn	1	1	6	4	9
K. Troxell	1	0	2	2	4
C. Sieck	1	0	6	4	6
L. Brown	0	1	4	3	6
D. Clendening	5	0	4	2	12
A. Ceyanes	2	0	0	0	4
E. Terry	0	0	0	0	0
H. Baker	3	1	4	3	12
T. Morgan	0	1	0	0	3
Totals	13	4	26	18	56

Leading scorer: S. Pairsh 14, K. Lott 14

Varsity Boys Basketball

TUESDAY

TEAM	1	2	3	4	Final
Randall	20	16	24	16	76
Pampa	7	14	12	28	61

RANDALL FG 3pt FTA FTM TP

L. Brittain	2	3	2	0	13
B. Dunavian	1	2	0	0	8
J. Jennings	0	0	0	0	0
Z. Carlisle	0	0	2	1	1
A. Simmons	1	0	0	0	2
S. Young	0	0	0	0	0
T. Ingram	1	1	4	2	7
M. Evans	2	0	2	1	5
R. Holman	6	4	6	9	29
B. Huchstein	1	0	0	0	2
R. Sims	4	0	1	1	9
Totals	18	10	17	10	76

PAMPA FG 3pt FTA FTM TP

L. Collins	4	0	18	11	19
T. Kennedy	0	1	0	0	3
C. Engle	0	5	4	3	18
R. Miller	2	2	1	0	10
T. Hutto	0	0	0	0	0
L. Harris	0	0	0	0	0
J. Cabrales	0	0	2	2	2
T. Powell	1	0	0	0	2
J. Cox	0	0	0	0	0
D. Pollard	2	1	0	0	7
Totals	9	9	25	16	61

Junior Varsity Boys Basketball

TUESDAY

TEAM	1	2	3	4	Final
Randall	15	10	11	20	56
Pampa	6	8	17	8	39

RANDALL FG 3pt FTA FTM TP

G. Little	3	0	6	4	10
P. Terry	0	0	1	0	0
C. Yates	0	0	0	0	0
J. Jennings	0	2	2	0	6
L. Palmer	0	3	8	6	15
C. Herbolzheimer	0	2	4	3	9
B. Bandy	0	0	0	0	0
N. Grider	3	0	0	0	6
B. Woods	2	0	3	3	7
C. Borchardt	1	0	0	0	2
K. Boltin	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	9	7	24	16	56

PAMPA FG 3pt FTA FTM TP

Hernandez	0	0	0	0	0
Meurer	0	0	0	0	0
Powell	1	0	6	3	5
Miller	0	0	0	0	0
Garcia	8	0	0	0	16
Green	0	1	0	0	3
Stokes	1	0	0	0	2
Alvey	1	0	0	0	2
Marrufo	0	0	0	0	0
Cabrales	0	2	0	0	6
Ponce	2	0	2	1	5
Troxell	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	13	3	8	4	39

Freshman Boys Basketball

Borger Tournament

TEAM	1	2	3	4	Final
Pampa	5	0	0	0	5
Borger	5	0	0	0	5

J. Allen	1	0	0	0	2
C. Webb	2	0	0	0	4
J. Miner	0	0	0	0	0
C. Hampton	0	0	0	0	0
T. Botello	0	0	0	0	0
C. Fuentes	0	0	0	0	0
T. Hooper	2	0	12	3	7
S. Krause	0	0	0	0	0
B. Trimble	1	1	8	2	7
J. Stevens	3	0	0	0	6
A. Avila	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	9	1	20	5	26

BORGER FG 3pt FTA FTM TP

Dickson	0	0	0	0	0
Freeman	0	0	0	0	0
Wilson	0	0	0	0	0
Lopez	0	1	0	0	3
Embers	1	0	0	0	2
Showers	0	0	0	0	0
Landers	0	0	0	0	0
Whitely	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	1	1	0	0	5

TEAM 1 2 3 4 Final

Pampa	14	2	2	3	21
Perryton	20	11	15	2	49

PAMPA FG 3pt FTA FTM TP

J. Allen	0	0	0	0	0
C. Webb	2	0	0	0	4
J. Miner	0	0	0	0	0
C. Hampton	0	0	0	0	0
T. Botello	1	0	0	0	2
C. Fuentes	2	2	0	0	10
T. Hooper	1	0	4	1	5
S. Krause	0	0	0	0	0
B. Trimble	0	0	0	0	0
J. Stevens	1	0	0	0	2
A. Avila	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	7	2	4	1	21

PERRYTON FG 3pt FTA FTM TP

Ventura	2	1	4	1	8
Watson	4	0	2	0	8
Aguirre	0	0	0	0	0
McGarragh	7	0	1	1	15
Espino	0	0	0	0	0
Tevis	4	0	4	2	10
Walker	0	0	0	0	0
Sanchez	0	0	0	0	0
Clapp	0	0	0	0	0
Browsewke	1	0	0	0	2
Vela	2	0	5	1	6
Totals	20	1	16	5	49

Pampa 14 Panhandle 13

PAMPA FG 3pt FTA FTM TP

J. Allen	0	0	0	0	0
C. Webb	0	0	0	0	0
J. Miner	0	0	0	0	0
C. Hampton	1	0	0	0	2
T. Botello	0	0	2	0	0
C. Fuentes	0	0	0	0	0
T. Hooper	3	0	2	0	6
S. Krause	0	0	0	0	0
B. Trimble	0	0	0	0	0
J. Stevens	1	0	2	0	2
A. Avila	2	0	0	0	4
Totals	7	0	6	0	14

PANHANDLE FG 3pt FTA FTM TP

Karger	0	0	4	1	1
Sims	0	0	0	0	0
Wood	1	0	0	0	2
Brown	2	0	2	1	5
Stamos	0	0	1	0	1
McCord	0	1	2	2	5
Gonzales	0	0	0	0	0
Tompkins	0	0	0	0	0
Perkins	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	3	1	9	4	13

TEAM 1 2 3 4 Final

Pampa	0	7	4	12	23
Dumas	19	5	18	15	57

PAMPA FG 3pt FTA FTM TP

J. Allen	0	0	0	0	0
C. Webb	2	0	2	0	4
J. Miner	0	0	0	0	0
C. Hampton	1	0	0	0	2
T. Botello	0	0	0	0	0
C. Fuentes	0	2	0	0	6
T. Hooper	3	0	2	1	7
S. Krause	0	0	0	0	0
B. Trimble	0	0	0	0	0
J. Stevens	1	0	7	2	4
A. Avila	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	7	2	11	3	23

DUMAS FG 3pt FTA FTM TP

A. Villarreal	1	0	4	2	4
Armando B.	2	1	0	0	7
C. Hayhurst	2	0	0	0	4
K. McCoy	6	0	6	3	15
I. Villarreal	3	1	0	0	9
C. Lopez	0	0	0	0	0
J. Ruiz	0	0	0	0	0
A. Jimenez	0	0	0	0	0
O. Mendoza	0	1	0	0	3
A. Williams	1	1	0	0	5
D. Marak	4	0	6	2	10
Totals	19	4	14	7	57

TEAM 1 2 3 4 Final

Pampa	8	8	9	9	34
Borger	15	9	8	5	37

PAMPA FG 3pt FTA FTM TP

J. Allen	0	0	0	0	0
C. Webb	3	0	2	1	7
J. Miner	0	0	0	0	0
C. Hampton	1	0	2	2	4
T. Botello	0	0	4	1	1
C. Fuentes	1	1	0	0	5
T. Hooper	1	0	6	4	6
S. Krause	0	0	0	0	0
B. Trimble	1	0	0	0	2
J. Stevens	4	0	6	3	11
A. Avila	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	11	1	20	11	34

Freeman	2	0	0	0	4
Wilson	1	1	2	2	7
Lopez	1	0	0	0	2
Embers	3	0	4	2	8
Showers	0	0	0	0	0
Landers	1	2	4	3	11
Rollinson	1	0	0	0	2
Whitely	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	10	3	14	8	37

TUESDAY

TEAM	1	2	3	4	Final
Randall	21	10	5		

Sports

Pampa

cont. from page 1B

Valentine called a timeout and his team responded. Pampa outscored Estacado 11-3 and grabbed a 30-29 lead with a three by senior Delaney Clendening. At the end of the quarter, Clendening hit another three to give Pampa a 35-32 lead. The Lady Harvesters got the distance they needed in the fourth quarter, as they scored the first nine points. Sophomore Hayley Burnett said the team came together in the second half.

"We had good attitudes about every-

thing," Burnett said.

Burnett returned Friday after missing the last three games because of a concussion.

"It felt really good," Burnett said. "I was ready to play. I was kind out of shape."

Kuhn led the Lady Harvesters in scoring with 19. Clendening followed with 13. The victory was Pampa's second straight and second straight at home. Valentine said the victory definitely was

a confidence boost.

"We got two in a row at (McNeely)," Valentine said. "There's going to be more here."

Kuhn said the team is gaining momentum.

"We're hoping to start a tradition here and get his program back to where it should be," Kuhn said. "It feels good and hopefully we will keep it up going into district."

This was the Lady Harvesters' last game before Christmas break. They will return to action December 28 in the first round of the Caprock Tournament in Lubbock. Valentine said they will do a little work and rest.

"We got three days to work out next week," Valentine said. "We will take our five-day Christmas break then we will come back."



staff photo by Joe Murray

Senior Elizabeth Terry battles for a rebound with teammate Kailyn Troxell (10) against Lubbock Estacado Friday. The Lady Harvesters won 46-37.



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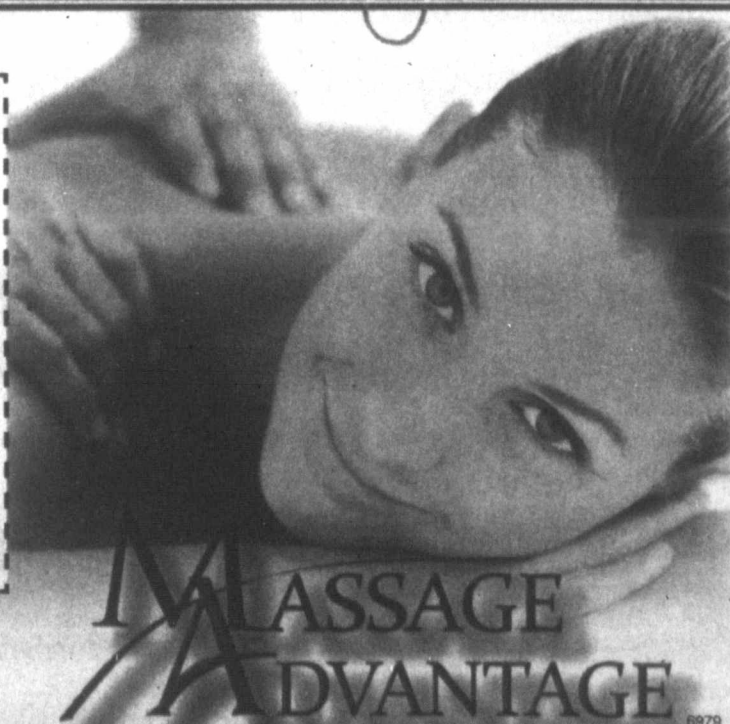
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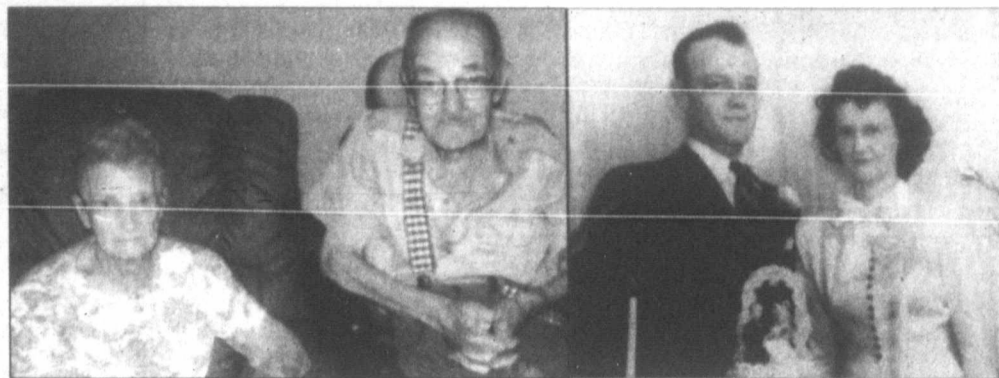
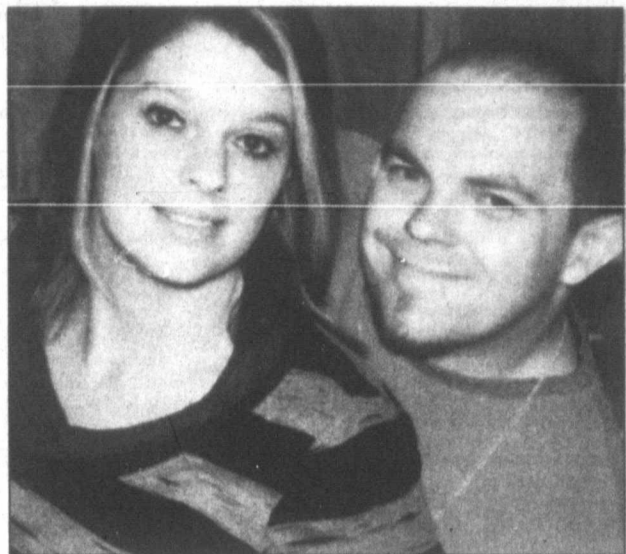
Peevey, Reynolds engaged Kings celebrate 65th anniversary

Brent and Dana Davis of Lefors announce the engagement of their daughter, Kayla Peevey, to Ricky Reynolds Jr.

Both the bride and groom are from Pampa.

Ricky is the son of Sue Reynolds of Pampa and the late Ricky Reynolds.

The wedding will be December 30, 2011 at The Salvation Army Church, 701 S. Cuyler, Pampa.



John and Betty King, now and then

John and Betty (Parks) King of Pampa recently celebrated 65 years of marriage. The Kings were married on Dec. 14, 1946 at the First Christian Church in Pampa. The Rev. Buford Norris presided.

The Kings are the owners/operators of John T. King & Sons. The couple have one son, John H. King of Pampa; one daughter, LaJeanna; and five great-grandchildren.

Silva, Harris married at Central Baptist



Sharod and Erika Harris

Erika Silva and Sharod Harris, both of Lubbock, TX exchanged wedding vows on October 8, 2011 at Central Baptist Church, in Pampa. The ceremony was performed by Reverend Rick Parnell. Erika is the daughter of Daniel and Cindy Silva, Pampa. Her grandparents are Pete and Olivia Hernandez and Heliodoro and Antonia Silva, all of Pampa. Sharod is the son of Rodney Harris, Pampa and Tonya Young, Oklahoma City, OK. His grandparents are Danny and Debbie Harris and Johnny and Joanna Scott, all of Pampa.

The maids of honor were April Silva and Kelly Silva, sisters of the bride. The bridesmaids were Natalie Knowles, Tanna Stowers, Maegan Patterson, Natasha Bailey, Whitney Morris, Kaci Reyes, Sarah Kyrouac and Victoria Ward. The flower

girls were Jasmin Silva cousin of the bride, Avayah Young and Aliyah Young cousins of the groom.

The best men were Trenton Harris and Cobran Harris, brothers of the groom. The groomsmen were Braydon Barker, D.J. Dickson, Michael Robinson, Laketon Harris, Craig Crowell, AJ Washington, Shawn Arwine and Andrew Horton. The ushers were Zac Hernandez, Dillon Davis, Marlon Kraus and Zach Brooks. The ringbearer was Rico Reyes, cousin of the bride.

Callie McKimney and Jessica Dunn registered guests. The wedding reception was held at the AmericInn Event Center. Erika and Sharod will celebrate their marriage with a honeymoon cruise to Cozumel Mexico, in January 2012. The couple are making their home in Lubbock, TX.

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The evening is sponsored by Tommy and Pam Bowers who have offered to match a portion of the donations raised to benefit The Good Samaritan, an organization that provides assistance to families who are in need of food or utilities. Prize tickets will be passed out at the door. For every non-perishable food item brought, you will receive another ticket to increase your chances of winning exciting Christmas give-a-ways like an Apple TV or a Wii, all while helping a good cause.

Seating starts at 6:30PM and the performance begins promptly at 7PM. The event is for "kids from 1 to 92."

f For more info search "Christmas With Clay" on facebook.com.



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Does not include Last Minute Ads
Prices Good Dec., Jan, Feb.

SELL IT FAST IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

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.

12-17 CRYPTOQUOTE

Y N Z K Z Y H M K Q Z S G M
Q Z P J W M T H M E J P H N M O K M Z H
Q F Q M P H T G C H J H J T Q Z E M
J P H N M T Q Z V V F P M T

— I N J V V J I T G K F F A T
Yesterday's Cryptquote: WHY NOT UPSET THE APPLE CART? IF YOU DON'T, THE APPLES WILL ROT ANYWAY. — FRANK A. CLARK

1 Public Notice

ADVERTISEMENT AND INVITATION FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals addressed to the City of Pampa, Attention Karen Price, City Secretary, will be received at City Hall, Room 205, 200 W. Foster Ave., Pampa, Texas, 79065-6436, or P.O. Box 2499, Pampa, Texas 79066-2499 until **1:30 p.m., January 17, 2012**, for construction of "Municipal Water Wells & Discharge Piping Improvements". Immediately following the closing time for receipt of bids, proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Copies of the bid documents may be secured at the office of Parkhill, Smith & Coopers, Inc., 1001 S. Harrison Street, Amarillo, Texas 79101 (Phone (806)376-8600) in various formats.
B-36 Dec 18, 2011, Jan 8, 2012

1 Public Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of EDWARD K. WIENS, Deceased, were issued on December 13, 2011, in Docket No. 9887 pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas to: VIRGINIA JANE DEWEY. 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
Virginia Jane Dewey
B-38 Dec 18, 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

CUSTOM Building & Remodeling. New Homes & Additions. Shawn Deaver Const., 806-662-2977.

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347, 806-663-0192.

14e Carpet Serv.

NU-WAY CLEANING SERVICE Bob Marx Owner-Operator Call 665-3541.

14g Elec. Contr.

RUSSELLCROW Electric for your electric needs! Comm., Resi. 665-0878, 440-1171.

14h Gen. Serv.

HOUSE Cracking? In bricks or walls? Childers Brothers, Inc. 800-299-9563, 806-352-9563

CERAMIC tile work, stucco, cement. Remodeling, floor, shower, kitchen. Texture, painting, dry wall. Free estimate. 665-3453 leave message, Jesus Barraza.

14h Gen. Serv.

COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.

TILED

Floors, Showers, Backsplashes, Cabinet Tops, etc. Stone & Ceramic. 25 Yrs. Exp. Keith Taylor 874-1779 lv. msg.

LET M&S help you w/ your concrete needs. Free Est. Doc or Mike 669-6990, 664-0066

LET M&S help you w/ your concrete needs. Free Est. Doc or Mike 669-6990, 664-2009

14s Plumbing

JACK'S Plumbing 715 W. Foster 665-7115

14w Air Cond/Heat

BROWNING'S Heating & Air and Refrigeration Specialists since 1964!! 665-1212.

21 Help Wanted

NOTICE: All ads that contain phone numbers or give reference to a number with an area code of 809 or a prefix of 011 are international toll numbers and you will be charged international long distance rates. For more information and assistance regarding the investigation of work at home opportunities and job lists, The Pampa News urges its readers to contact the Better Business Bureau of South Texas, 609 S. International Blvd., Weslaco, Tx. 78596, (210) 968-3678.



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806-669-2525

The PAMPA NEWS

TODAY IN SPORTS

Silver splash
PHS boys swimmers second in Seminole
Page 7

inside:
Social Security and you
by Tom Margenau
Page 8

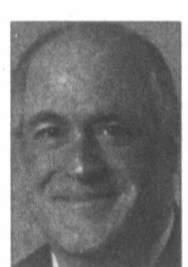
Monday, December 12, 2011 Volume 107 • No. 206 75¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

Seliger to return to Pampa for legislative update

MOLLIE BRYANT
mbryant@thepampanews.com

The Top O' Texas Republican Women will host State Senator Kel Seliger, R, Amarillo, of the 31st District, at the Pampa Senior Citizens Center from noon to 1 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 15.

While Gray County is outside of his Seliger's district, Seliger does represent 26 counties in the Panhandle and Permian Basin.



Seliger
updated on the goings-on in Austin.
"A lot of legislation passed

recently, and we got to vote on it in November, but a lot of it didn't pass or won't go into effect until the end of the year," said Whitehead. "He'll talk about things they'd been working on that the general public might not know about."

This will be Seliger's second visit to Pampa during the year. In August, Seliger spoke at an informal town hall meeting at the Chamber of Commerce, where he discussed, among other things, water depletion,

public schools and nuclear waste disposal.

Whitehead encouraged the community to attend and bring any questions or concerns you might have.

"Mr. Seliger always is so open, and he tries to make himself available to the general public," she said. "We want anyone and everyone to come, especially if there's something you're curious about. I'm sure he'll make time to answer any questions you might have."

READ IT online

Access a complete issue of The Pampa News every day,
Monday through Saturday, on you computer!

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ADVERTISE YOUR GARAGE SALE HERE

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Call Beverly Taylor today to start advertising in The Pampa News' Classifieds!

Call about rates and deadlines.

806-669-2525

21 Help Wanted

SIVALLS Inc. is looking for the following: Welder-Fabricators w/ welding test. Maintenance Tech w/electrical, mechanical exp. & good driving record.



Recycle This Newspaper Please and Thank you.

First Landmark Realty (806) 665-0717

Must See 3 bedroom brick, 2 1/2 baths, 2 fireplaces, living room, dining room, large open den-kitchen, granite counter tops.

One of a Kind Brick home with 5 bedrooms and 3 baths. Wonderful formal living and dining rooms.

Bobbie Nisbet BKR 662-8118 Irvine Riphahn GRI 665-4534 Chris Moore GRI 665-8172 Lilith Brainard 665-4579

WE NEED LISTINGS! CALL US FOR A FREE MARKET ANALYSIS. WE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS.

21 Help Wanted

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

EXPERIENCED Cook needed. Apply in person at Granny's Home Cookin', 328 E. Frederic.

SWINE GENETICS COMPANY Smithfield Premium Genetics, (SPG), the leader in world class swine genetics is seeking to fill positions at our facility East of Pampa.

Smithfield Premium Genetics 11 miles east of Pampa on Hwy 60 between the hours of 10am and 3pm. Monday thru Friday

21 Help Wanted

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

Mechanics Eastex Crude Co. is taking applications in Pampa, TX

Applicants must have knowledge & experience in servicing of diesel trucks, brakes & general repair.

Full Benefit Package (903)856-2401 x137 (800)443-8580 Clint

21 Help Wanted

McLEAN ISD is accepting applications for a Technology Coordinator. Position includes network and infrastructure maintenance, working with software, server and computer repair.

McLean ISD does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, disability, military status, genetic information or any other basis prohibited by law.

21 Help Wanted

PART TIME INSERTER About 25 hrs. per week. Must work every Sat., have driver's license & be 18 yrs. old or older.

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

Local CPA Firm is searching for an experienced TAX ACCOUNTANT (prefer Certified Public Accountant or candidate for CPA license) with 2 to 5 years experience.

21 Help Wanted

NEEDED Exp. Dry Cleaning Pressers, either for laundry or dry cleaning. Exp. in pressing shirts, pants, blouses, coats, silk, etc. MUST HAVE EXPERIENCE!! Please call 512-431-5106.

SMOKIN' Joe's hiring Servers. Apply 732 E. Frederic, 8-10am, M-F. No phone calls.

OPERATOR II for Frontier Field Services, responsible for all processes and duties necessary to ensure optimum plant performance.

21 Help Wanted

NOW taking applications for all positions, managers, line & prep cooks. Apply in person between 2pm-5pm, Chubby's Burrito Company, 1328 N. Hobart.

NEEDED Exp. Dry Cleaning Pressers, either for laundry or dry cleaning. Exp. in pressing shirts, pants, blouses, coats, silk, etc. MUST HAVE EXPERIENCE!! Please call 512-431-5106.

SMOKIN' Joe's hiring Servers. Apply 732 E. Frederic, 8-10am, M-F. No phone calls.

21 Help Wanted

JBS Carriers in Cactus, TX Looking for Drivers!! Looking for experienced Livestock Haulers for a local livestock hauling position. Great pay, great medical, dental, vision insurance. If interested you can call 866-298-4573 Ext. 2

APPLY ONLINE AT WWW.JBSCARRIERS.COM

69 Misc.

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

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

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.

ROOM For Rent. \$100 wk, all bills paid incl cable. Private entrance. 806-661-8508

96 Unfurn. Apts.

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

70 Musical

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

80 Pets & Suppl.

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

69 Misc.

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

WINTER CLASSIFIED LINE AD SPECIALS

4 lines-4 days \$18.50 8 lines-4 days \$21.50 Prices good Dec., Jan., Feb. Questions?? Call 669-2525

95 Furn. Apts.



All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination based on these factors."

96 Unfurn. Apts.

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

98 Unfurn. Houses

PICK up rental list in the Black Box at 125 Houston, Pampa

96 Unfurn. Apts.

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

BENT CREEK APARTMENTS

*Lovely 2 & 3 Bdr Apts *All Single Story Units *Electric Range *Frost-Free Refrigerator *Blinds & Carpet *Washer / Dryer Connec.

BUY & SELL HOUSES

We Buy & Sell Houses Call us today!! 665-1875

96 Unfurn. Apts.

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

1 and 2 bdr avail. now at the Gwendolen Apts. Largest square footage in Pampa 665-1875

NO transportation, not a problem. These large 1 bdr. apts. w/ appliances, are in walking distance to everything you need. 665-4274

PAM APTS

1 Bdrm. Apts. Only 2 persons maximum. Income based rent. 1200 N. Wells 669-2594

SCHNEIDER Apartments Call for special rates. Short term leases. Business people welcome. 665-4415

98 Unfurn. Houses

PICK up rental list in the Black Box at 125 Houston, Pampa

5 bdr, 3 ba, 2 car garage executive home on 1/4 acre. \$1500 mo. 662-7542

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

HAMILTON VILLAGES AVAILABLE NOW!!

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

1507 Alcock 806-440-0054

3 bdr, 2 ba. house for rent. \$600 month. Call for more info. 281-683-7571

3 small room efficiency Perfect for single \$250 mth. \$300 dep. 665-8550. 662-4678

99 Stor. Bldgs.

TUMBLEWEED Acres, self storage units. Various sizes. 665-0079. 665-2450

102 Bus. Rental

DOWNTOWN office space for rent. Utilities & cleaning service provided. Ample parking. 669-6823

OFFICE Space for rent. ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841

METAL Building 50x100, offices, warehouse & fenced yard. Western st. 669-5264

103 Homes For Sale

2 bdr house, 1124 S. Wells 4-1 bdr efficiency in 1 property 1109 thru 1113 S. Banks. HUD appr. 8 unit 1 & 2 bdr. 700 & 710 N. Russell-HUD appr. Contact Ed Hedgecock for details. 806-217-1018

3 bdr, 1 ba., c/h/a. recently updated home in John Bradley addition. Asking \$45,000 or will Owner Finance with appropriate down payment. Please contact 806-662-4542 to see.

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. 806-355-7999 or 352-2333.

SPACIOUS 3,526 sq. ft. home, 1715 Christine, 3 bd/3 1/2 ba., f.p. in den, dbl corner lot. \$230,000 to view call John 806-570-0622.

TRUSTAR Real Estate for all your complete real estate needs. Show list, property mgmt. 665-4595.

115 Trailer Parks

TUMBLEWEED Acres, Storm Shelters, fenced, stor. bldg. avail. 665-0079. 665-2450.

120 Autos

TAKE OVER PAYMENTS- 2005 Honda Accord, Loaded & Sunroof! \$1400 dn, \$385 p/m, 18 mo. left, 1-806-433-5165.

129 Aircraft

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

Pampa Realty Inc. 669-0007 Pampa MLS & Amarillo MLS Jim Davidson (BKR/OWNR) 662-9021 Linda Lapacka, GRI, ePro 662-9611 Andrea Walling 664-6227 Zeb Sailors 664-0312 Donna Courter 595-0779 Katrina Bigham 898-8510 John Goddard (BKR) 595-1234 Sandra Schuneman (BKR) 662-7291

Table with columns: Address, Price, Br/Baths, gcad/sq. ft. Rows include properties in Austin School District, Travis School District, Wilson School District, and other areas.

Office Hours: M-F 8-5, Saturday 9-2, Sunday call our agents. Visit our web page at: www.pamparealtor.com

BSA BSA is seeking a Part Time Registered Nurse for the Hospice Home Care PAMPA AREA. Must have a current TX RN license through the Board of Nursing.

Keagy-Edwards, Inc. Quentin Williams REALTORS 7362 Becky Baten 669-2214 Heidi Chronister 665-6388 Darrel Schom 669-6284 Rod Donaldson 665-2800 JUDI EDWARDS GRI, CRS BROKER-OWNER 665-3687 Roberta Babb 665-6158 Joan Mabry 669-3201 Sandra Bronner 665-4218 Maxine Watson 662-9052 MARILYN KEAGY GRI, CRS BROKER-OWNER 665-1449

Table with columns: Address, Price, Br/Baths, gcad/sq. ft. Rows include properties in Pampa area, such as 1033 Christine, 1812 E Harvester, etc.

INDUSTRIAL OILS UNLIMITED, LLC Strong, growing company looking to add DRIVERS in the Pampa office. Local deliveries, great benefits and pay commensurate with experience.

ALLIED CUSTOM GYPSUM NOW HIRING! HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATORS Needed at our Hefley Mine in Twitty, TX (5 mi. north of Shamrock, Tx) Full-Time & Part-Time Heavy Equipment Operators

RE/MAX Hometown Featured Home: 1813 Zimmers - 3/1.75/2 • 129,500 1209 WILLISTON 2/1.75/1 \$76,000 1215 WILLISTON 3/1/1 \$62,500 2101 WELLS 3/2/2 \$70,000 1212 MARY ELLEN 2/1/1 \$71,000 1136 CINDERELLA 4/1/0 \$65,000 131C WILLISTON 2/1/1 \$64,900 2134 SUMNER 3/1/1 \$63,000 1115 CHARLES 3/1.75/0 \$75,000 2121 DWIGHT 4/1.75/1 \$92,500 121 FAULKNER 4/3/2 \$95,000 312 W. 17TH 3/3/2 \$95,000 705 E. 6TH LEFORS 3/2.5/0 \$88,900 901 TERRY 4/1.75/2 \$104,900 1918 CHESTNUT 3/2/2 \$116,000 1828 EVERGREEN 3/1.75/2 \$145,000 2328 DUNCAN 3/2.5/2 \$139,900 132 GREENBELT 3/2/0 \$145,000 2537 CHESTNUT 3/2/2 \$150,000 1824 DOGWOOD 5/2.5/2 \$174,900 12006 WHITE ACRES 5/3/3 \$235,000 1015 DEER PLACE 3/2.5/4 \$475,000 8320 CO LINE RD 3/2.5/2 \$488,000

CLUB NEWS

Altrusa International, Inc.

Altrusa International, Inc. of Pampa, Texas, met December 13, 2011, at First United Methodist Church with President Rochelle Lacy presiding. Susan Winborne served as greeter. Dee Dee Laramore attended as a guest.

Brenda Tucker presented Laramore, Director of Tralee Crisis Center, a \$2000 check from Altrusa International Grants Program and a check for \$386 for donations received at the Tralee Pantry Drive last month.

Committee Reports

Soup with Mrs. Claus — Brenda Tucker reported that 285 were served the day of the event. The club voted to donate the cash donations received from pictures taken with Mrs. Claus to a P.H.S. student diagnosed with cancer.

Lunch with Dignitaries — Susan Winborne reported that the next visit would be to Pampa Regional Medical

center in January.

Members were reminded of the Christmas Reception to be held Sunday, December 18 at 2:00 p.m. at the home of Kathryn Green, 2319 Chateau Drive.

Appreciation was expressed to Sue Pribble and Pat Johnson for club publicity.

Birthday greetings were extended to Kadda Schale, Judy Warner and Mattie Norton who celebrate birthdays this month.

The next meeting will be held January 10, 2012 at noon at First United Methodist Church.



submitted photo

Brenda Tucker of Altrusa presents a \$2,000 check to **Dee Dee Laramore**, director of the Tralee Crisis Center.

Daughters of the American Revolution

The Las Pampas chapter of The Daughters of the American Revolution met on December 1, 2011 in the home of Karen Slate. Those attending the meeting were Mary Cantrell, Betty White, Mary Potter,

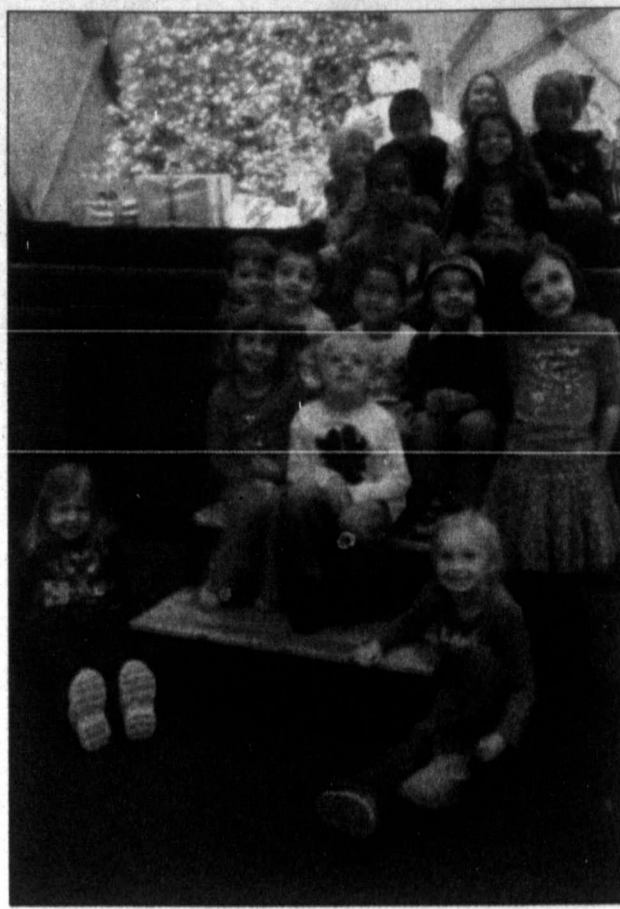
Shirley Williamson, Oma Jean Lewis, Karen Slate and visitor Janice Lively. Cantrell, the club regent, led in the opening ritual. Slate read the minutes for the month of October. Lewis read a report on DAR Schools. Williamson gave a report on women's news, including that this is Alzheimer's month, and news on the Cancer Society. Dec. 7 was recognized as the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Williamson also gave the National Defense program. She gave the information on the War of 1812 which included the burning of the White House. Our President's wife at the time of the burning was Dolly Madison. She loaded up

a wagon full of valuables from the White House and was able to save them. The most treasured was a picture of President George Washington. She was unable to carry the heavy frame which enclosed the picture. She instructed the picture to be cut from the frame. The picture was saved along with many valuable items. Williamson made the motion that we change our fiscal year to January 1 through December 31. White seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Dues will still be paid in September. The hostess, Karen Slate, served fresh coconut layered cake, nuts, bugles with coffee and punch.

CONCERT KIDS



submitted photo

The kids from the First Baptist Child Development Center recently went to the KinderKonzert by the Amarillo Symphony on Dec. 2. Attending the concert were (top to bottom, left to right) Kevin Zhang, Lea Slaughter, Landon Griffith; Kennedy Woods, Sterling Sims-Knotts, Surhea Gray; Boston Zeigelgruber, Brayden Parker, Isaiah Estrada, Noah Aguiano, Halee Adams; Fallon Sharp, Sawyer Burleson; Alex Thornton and Emma Perry.

Weekly Menus

Meals on Wheels

MONDAY, Dec. 19

Spaghetti with meat sauce, green beans, breadstick, cookies

TUESDAY, Dec. 20

Polish sausage, cheese grits, mixed greens, cake

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 21

Tater tots, cabbage, black-eyed peas, mixed fruit

THURSDAY, Dec. 22

Ham, okra/tomatoes, pinto beans, cornbread, pudding

FRIDAY, Dec. 23

Closed for Christmas Holiday

Pampa Senior Citizens Center

MONDAY, Dec. 19

Chicken fried steak or chicken spaghetti, mashed potatoes, spinach, beets, northern beans, slaw, tossed salad, Jell-o, coconut creme cake, chocolate pie, fruit cup, hot roll, cornbread.

TUESDAY, Dec. 20

Chicken alfredo or mushroom smothered steak, tater tots, Brussels sprouts, cream corn, beans, slaw, tossed salad, Jell-o, yellow cake, pineapple squares, fruit cup, hot roll, cornbread.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 21

Roast beef brisket/brown gravy or cook's choice, mashed potatoes, breaded tomatoes, peas, beans, slaw, tossed salad, Jell-o, lemon streusel cake, cheery creme pie, fruit cup, hot roll, cornbread.

THURSDAY, Dec. 22

Baked turkey/dressing with giblet gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, yams, tossed salad, cranberry sauce, deviled eggs, stuffed celery, olive/cheese/pickle skewers, pumpkin squares, cherry cobbler, diet pumpkin pie/cherry cobbler, hot roll.

Take-out orders may be called in by Wednesday or before 9 a.m. Thursday morning. All plates will be fixed the same, if possible. Your choice of dessert and whether it is diet or regular. Six dollars a plate, here or takeout.

FRIDAY, Dec. 23

Closed for Christmas Holiday

Pampa Independent School District

MONDAY, Dec. 19

PBJ uncrustable, pig in a blanket (Wilson and PJHS only) or chicken nuggets, green beans, sliced carrots, mixed fruit. Breakfast: French toast sticks.

TUESDAY, Dec. 20

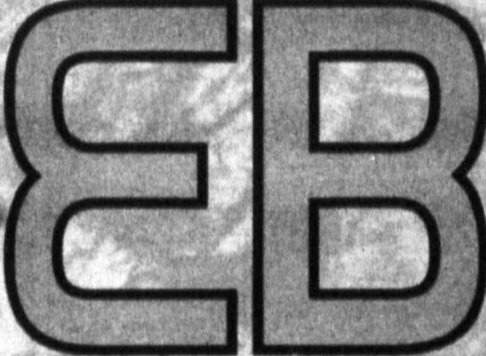
Ravioli or macaroni & cheese, corn, western beans, pears, garlic toast. Breakfast: Biscuit, gravy

WEDNESDAY, Dec 21

Burrito or hot dog, french fries, corn, mandarin oranges. Breakfast: Cinnamon pastries


THURSDAY, Dec. 22 and FRIDAY, Dec. 23

Closed for Christmas holiday.



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10% discount on package purchases through Christmas. Simplify holiday shopping with a gift certificate too...



SPA

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- Pumpkin spice with body polish
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- Larson Storm Doors
- Thermaru Entry Doors
- Alumax Shower Doors
- Larson-Jull Framing
- Alabie Doors

CERTIFIED CONTRACTOR

O tannenbaum, are you best natural or artificial?

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — If the holidays are truly a time for peace on earth and goodwill toward all, someone forgot to tell the Christmas tree people.

For these holiday antagonists, there can be no yule truce: It's either a natural tree grown at a farm or an artificial model that lasts year after year.

Choose wisely, each side says, because the other option can be downright dangerous, carrying risks for allergies, environmental damage and even lead.

The best choice, of course, depends on whom you ask.

"Misinformation is the biggest competition," said Rick Dungey, spokesman for the National Christmas Tree Association, which represents growers of natural trees. "People think a lot of weird things about trees. ... They think they're allergic to them, or they're going to burst into flames or they're a hassle."

Thomas Harman, the founder and chief executive officer of Redwood City, Calif.-based Balsam Hill, a manufacturer of artificial trees, agreed there is plenty of misinformation. He blames much of that on the natural tree group.

"There is a perception among the National Christmas Tree Association that artificial trees are stealing their business," said Harman, who is also president of the American Christmas Tree Association. "Whether or not that's really true or Christmas tree use per capita has declined, they've historically put out a bunch of content about artificial trees that isn't true."

It's a dispute that has

remained bitter even as the market for all Christmas trees, natural and artificial, has

slumped since the start of the Great Recession in December 2007. That year, the National Christmas Tree Association reports that Americans bought 31.3 million natural trees and 17.4 million artificial trees. By 2010, the group said the number of natural trees sold had dropped to 27 million, and the number of artificial trees had more than halved, to 8.2 million.

The American Christmas Tree Association, formed in 2008, disputes those figures, saying artificial tree sales average 10 million to 11 million a year.

ACTA won't reveal membership numbers but said members include merchants who sell both real and artificial trees. Harman said the organization supports both kinds of trees, but the group's website is slanted to artificial ones.

In an effort to reverse the sales slump, the National Christmas Tree Association asked the U.S. Department of Agriculture to approve a 15-cent fee on each tree sold to raise money

for natural tree promotion efforts. The USDA backed the fee but delayed the move after criticism by conservative critics, who accused President Barack Obama of taxing Christmas trees.

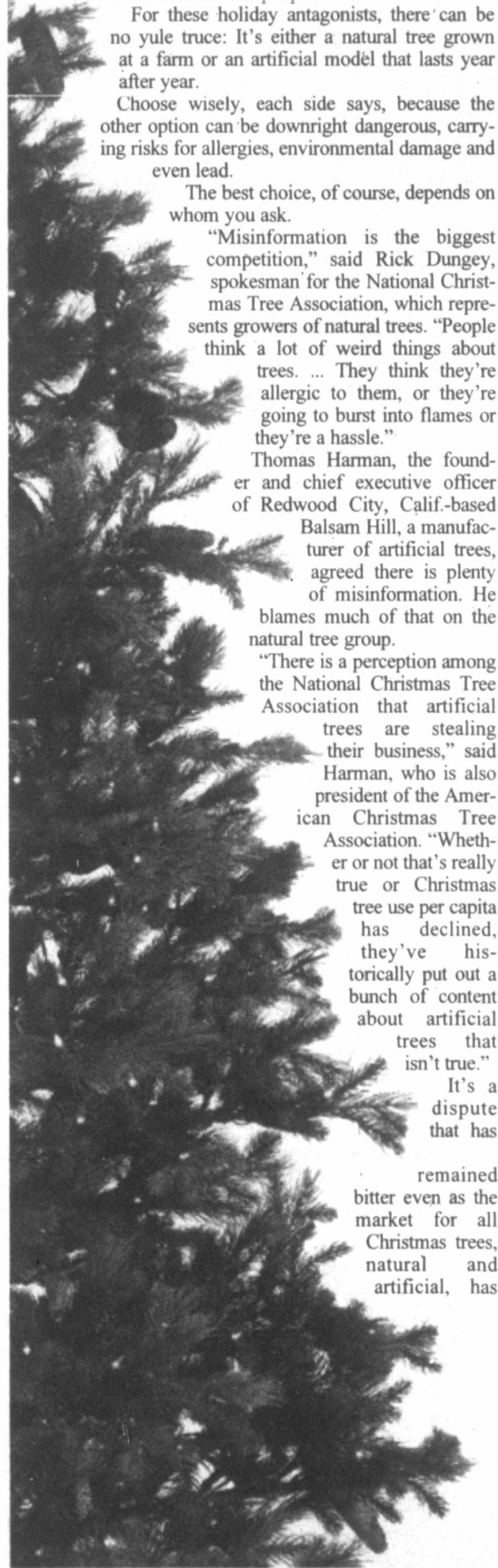
In the great debate over natural or artificial trees, it's easy to find people with strong views on each side.

Katie Dow, a 44-year-old photographer from Raleigh, N.C., doesn't disguise her disdain for artificial trees like the one her mother would decorate at their home in Bradford, N.H.

"It never looked right," she said. "It made me nauseous."

For her first Christmas after she graduated from college, Dow bought a natural tree, and her friends bought ornaments for her. One year, her mother wanted her to put up the artificial tree for a Christmas Eve dinner. Dow refused.

"I literally took the tree I had decorated, put it in the Jeep **TREE** cont. on page 4



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this Holiday Season

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4G BLACKBERRY™ TORCH™ 9610

Brilliant display with liquid graphics and rich 24-bit color

BlackBerry



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MOTOROLA ATRIX™ 2

Over 250,000 apps in Android Market™

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4G speeds delivered by HSPA+ with enhanced backhaul. Not available everywhere. Deployment ongoing. Compatible device and data plan required. Learn more at att.com/network.

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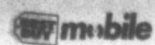
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Limited-time offer. Subject to wireless customer agrmt. Credit approval req'd. Actv fee \$36/line. Coverage & svcs, including mobile broadband, not avail everywhere. Geographic, usage & other conditions & restrictions (that may result in svc termination) apply. Taxes & other chrgs apply. Prices & equip. vary by mkt & may not be avail. from ind. retailers. See store or visit att.com for details and coverage map. **Early Termination Fee (ETF):** None if cancelled during first 30 days, but a \$35 restocking fee may apply after 30 days. ETF up to \$325, depending on device (details att.com/equipmentETF). Subject to change. Agents may impose add'l fees. **Regulatory Cost Recovery Charge** up to \$1.25/mo. is chrg'd to help defray costs of complying with govt. obligations & chrgs on AT&T & is not a tax or govt. req'd. chrg. **Offer Details:** MOTOROLA ATRIX 2 with 2-year wireless svc agreement on voice & minimum \$15/mo DataPlus plan required is \$49.99. **4G BLACKBERRY TORCH 9610** with 2-year wireless svc agreement on voice & minimum \$15/mo DataPlus plan required is \$49.99. **Sales Tax** calculated based on price of unactivated equipment. **Smartphone Data Plan Requirement:** Min. \$15/mo. DataPlus (200MB) plan required. \$15 automatically chrg'd for each additional 200MB provided if initial 200MB is exceeded. All data, including coverages, must be used in the billing period in which it is provided or be forfeited. **For more details on data plans, go to att.com/dataplans.** BlackBerry, Intel, Research In Motion, Android, Google, and related trademarks, names and logos are the property of Research In Motion Limited and are registered and/or used in the U.S. and countries around the world. Used under license from Research In Motion Limited. Screen images simulated. ©2011 AT&T Intellectual Property. Service provided by AT&T Mobility. All rights reserved. AT&T and the AT&T logo are trademarks of AT&T Intellectual Property. All other marks contained herein are the property of their respective owners.

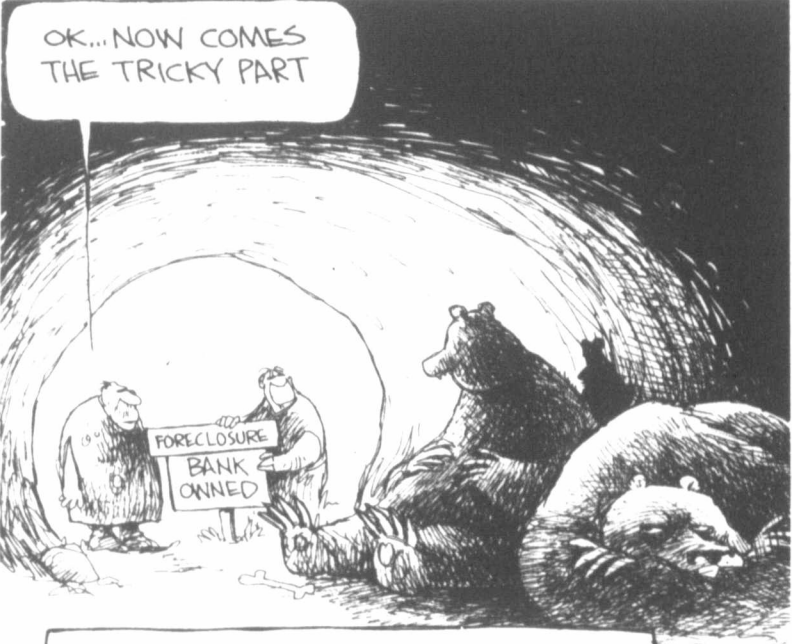
comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



12-17
© 2011 Bil Keane, Inc.
Used by King Features Syndicate
www.familycircus.com
"Yes! Now it's beginnin' to look a LOT like Christmas!"

Non Sequitur



OK... NOW COMES THE TRICKY PART
THE GOOD OLD DAYS OF BANKING

© 2011 WILEY-LINK, INC. 12-17
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Nest Heads



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, Dec. 17, 2011:
This year you open up to many different options professionally. On some level, this stretch could carry some discomfort at first. Complete issues and situations before jumping into any new ones. You could be a bit self-indulgent. If this issue is key, try to use a little more self-discipline. If you are single, someone could be drawn to your image more than to the real you. Be aware of what motivates others. If you are attached, the two of you could launch your own business. VIRGO can be judgmental.
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)
★★★★ You might feel as if you are left holding the bag. How much are you setting yourself up? Evaluate this issue as you try to move past an emotional matter. Be caring, and you'll gain greater results. Tonight: Could go quite late.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Get into weekend mode. You could be delighted by what comes up for you if you relax. A romance could feel a bit awkward in the morning. By the afternoon, whether chatting over a meal or shopping playing Santa's elves together, you feel connected. Tonight: Add that extra touch.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Stay close to home. You might decide at the last minute to throw a tree-decorating party. Whatever you do, keep your priorities in mind. Check in with an older relative or friend. Invite this person to join in some holiday fun. Tonight: Add some Christmas music or go caroling.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You might be the one who hangs the mistletoe, not dreaming you could be caught smooching under it. Someone you care about might be acting like Scrooge this year. Your call helps this person lighten up. Tonight: Share eggnog with friends.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You offer much more than you are aware of. Just because someone is strutting his or her stuff like you is no reason to become insecure. A caring gesture toward a key person melts barriers. Listen to news openly. Tonight: Run some holiday errands.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You could be overwhelming to someone you live with or within your family. You might find it hard to imagine that this person is so vulnerable. Make an effort to reveal more of your gentleness. Tonight: A simple gift expressing your affection could mean more than a big present.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Take your time, especially in the a.m. You could have a tendency to take others' statements personally. They could sense an attitude from you. Let go and relax a little more. You also might need to be less defensive. Tonight: Quiet works.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Get together with friends and/or family for a fun few days. You cannot believe how others also seem to be in the mood for holiday fun. A female friend or loved one appreciates your invitation. Many more people could be alone during the holidays than you think. Tonight: Where the action is.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You might want to rethink a decision involving a respected family member, or maybe a boss. Being just a little more understanding and less judgmental might help. You have your own perspective about how different situations should look. Tonight: Doing what you must, or should.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Try to break free from the traditional roles you often lock yourself into. Perhaps you long to approach a situation differently. Why not? You will never know what could happen until you take another path. Good vibes come from someone at a distance. Tonight: Let your spirit soar. Great music counts.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Listen to the drum beats, and you will be OK. Sometimes a partner or close friend might hesitate. Let it be known that you do want to know how he or she feels and where he or she is coming from. You could see a fast change of attitude. Tonight: Follow another's lead.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You might want to defer to a partner or friend one more time. Though there could be a clash between you and this person, is it all that important? Only you can answer that question. Accept a person's very caring gift or thought as it is meant. Tonight: Just not alone.

Tundra



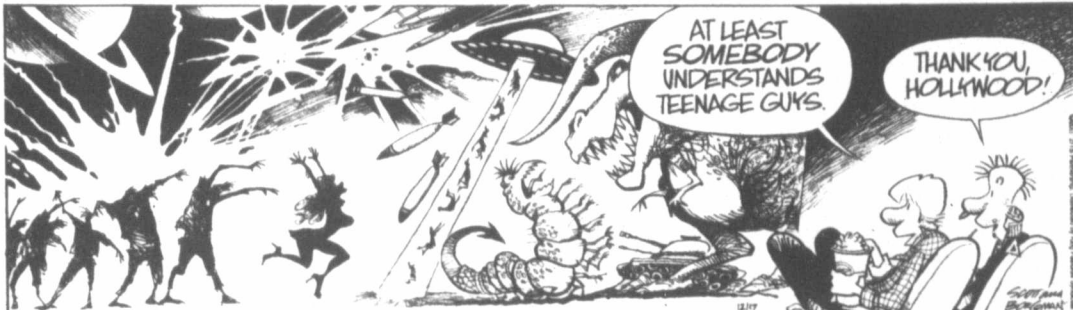
Shoe



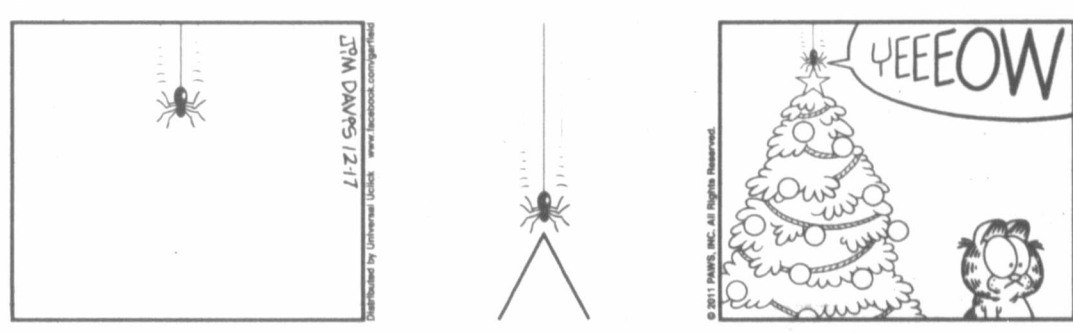
Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Hagar The Horrible

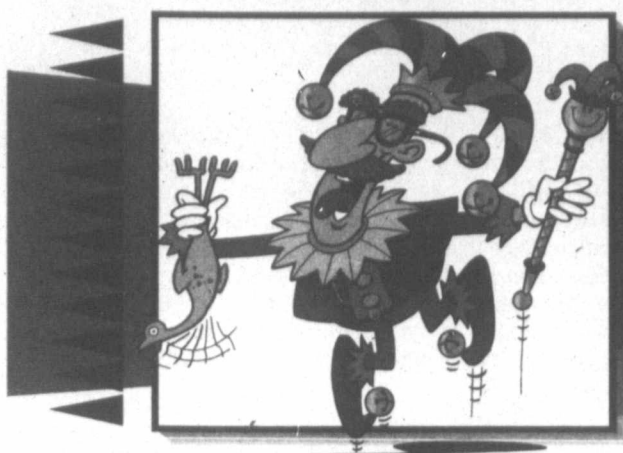


Peanuts



Blondie





kicks kids

GAMES AND PUZZLES

DRAW IT!

DRAW A BEARD ON SANTA...
HO, HO, HO!!

GIVE ME 5 RHYMES FOR CLAUS...
HOW ABOUT PAWS?!

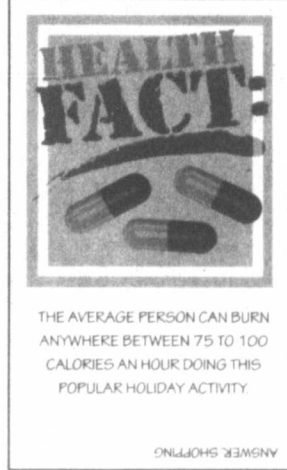
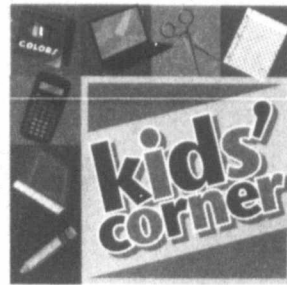
UNSCRAMBLE PUP TO SEE WHO DELIVERS CHRISTMAS PRESENTS TO ALL THE FISH IN THE OCEAN...
AASNT WSAJ !!

SANTA LOVES ALL GIRLS AND BOYS, SO HE BRINGS THEM LOTS OF TOYS! SOLVE THE CODE AND YOU WILL SEE WHY HE GOES DOWN THE CHIMNEY!

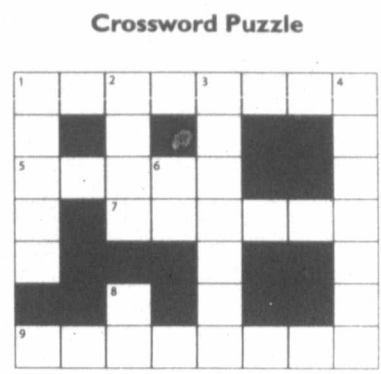


WRITE US... WE'LL WRITE YOU BACK!
IF YOU HAVE ANY FUN GAMES OR JOKE'S SEND THEM TO: PUP
95 LAUREL STREET
HARRISONBURG, VA 22801
OR EMAIL: PUPTOON@AOL.COM

WHERE DOES SANTA STAY WHEN HE'S ON VACATION?
AT A HO-HO-HOTEL !!
THE Plaza



How they say that in...
ENGLISH: Score
SPANISH: Tienda
ITALIAN: Emporio
FRENCH: Magasin
GERMAN: Laden



Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
1. Winter month
5. Move without power
7. Makes happy sounds
9. Powers the sleigh

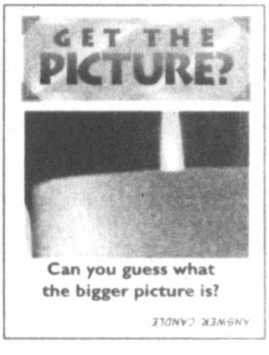
DOWN
1. Room furnishings
2. Heat source
3. Got older
4. Male chicken
6. Salvation Army (abbr.)
8. Rhode Island (abbr.)

1. decer 2. coal 3. matured 4. rooster 5. SA 8. RI
Down
1. December 5. coast 7. laughs 9. reindeer
Across

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY
DEC 23
• 1783 GEORGE WASHINGTON RESIGNED AS COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE U.S. ARMY
• 1958 THE TOKYO TOWER IS DEDICATED
• 1966 DICK KUTAN AND JEANA YEAGER FINISH THE FIRST NON-STOP AROUND-THE-WORLD FLIGHT WITHOUT REFUELING

New Word
jovial
cheerful and friendly

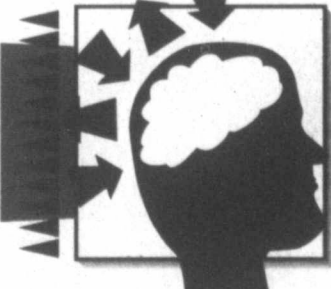
Did You Know?
SOME BIBLICAL SCHOLARS BELIEVE JESUS WAS BORN ON SEPTEMBER 15 AND NOT DECEMBER 25 BUT DECEMBER 25 IS STILL SIGNIFICANT IN THE CHRISTIAN FAITH



Dear Shagg,
How long can a sloth sleep?
Hugh Jones
Wayland, MA

ANIMAL IQ WHICH ANIMAL DOESN'T BELONG?
A. CARDINAL B. EAGLE C. ROBIN D. BEAR
ANSWER: C. ROBIN. IT DOESN'T REPRESENT AN NFL FOOTBALL TEAM.

SOME SAY A SLOTH CAN SLEEP 18 HOURS, WHILE OTHERS SAY ONLY 10.
THE ALARM CLOCK IN HIS HEAD PROBABLY GOES OFF AFTER 10 HOURS OF SLEEP.
...BUT HE'S SO SLOW IT TAKES ANOTHER 8 HOURS TO TURN IT OFF.



adult addlers

Word Search — New Year's Eve

Baby Ball Celebration
Champagne Confetti Countdown
Dance Fireworks Midnight
New Noisemaker Party
Resolution Times Square

Chew the Fat

CREATORS NEWS SERVICE

ACROSS
1. Croatian
8 Rusted along
18 Send forth
14 Composer of The Merry Widow
15 Rider
16 Precedes arm or kick
17 The Omni, e.g.
18 Short holiday
19 Russian despot
20 Face the music
23 Six games
24 Galley propellers
25 Liner location
28 Doublfire
29 Paul Bunyan's tool
30 Xanadu rockers
31 Kenyan tribe
34 Travis Bickle drove one
36 Egyptian sun god
37 Derivative retort to one's rival
40 Palm cocktails
41 Monstrous Scottish loch
42 Articles
43 Drives
44 not what your country...
45 Government protec-

lion agcy.
46 Cause of weakness
48 Privatized
50 Pages from Newsweek
53 Difficult to accept
56 Dr. Frankenstein's aide
58 Let sleeping lie
59 Ingenuous
60 Uprising at Folsom
61 Place
62 Birdie's cry
63 Rooney role
64 Otherwise
65 Famed surrealist

DOWN
1 Hunks of meat
2 Creepy
3 Scarlet fever cause?
4 Ruin, to Keats
5 Handel opus
6 Merlin, at times
7 Sonnet segments
8 Jacob's twin
9 Reading impairment
10 Cosmeticsian leader
11 Amorous plant?
12 Author Tarbell
13 AK, once
21 Possesses

22 Potassium hydroxide
26 Guts
27 Doe and
28 Say Hey Kid
29 Lines in geometry
31 Still's partner
32 He finished with 75.3
33 Colorado acquired in 1876
34 Star
35 Signs of comprehension
36 boy!
38 Remove burden
39 Good
44 Precedes force and mail
45 A Good Men
47 1955 Paddy Chayefsky film
48 Seats at the Bijou
49 Point of concern
50 1979 Sigourney Weaver thriller
51 Symbols of peace
52 Took the series without a loss
54 Work away
55 Cowardly Lion portrayal
56 Rosemary's Baby author Levin
57 nummy

Crossword Puzzle Answers

1. DECEMBER
5. MOVE
7. LAUGH
9. ROOSTER

1. ROOM FURNISHINGS
2. COAL
3. MATURED
4. ROOSTER
5. SA
8. RHODE ISLAND
9. REINDEER

Word Search Answers

1. BABY BALL
2. CHAMPAGNE
3. CELEBRATION
4. CONFETTI
5. COUNTDOWN
6. DANCE
7. FIREWORKS
8. MIDNIGHT
9. NOISEMAKER
10. PARTY
11. RESOLUTION
12. TIMES SQUARE

PEOPLE PUZZLE

HIDDEN IN THIS CRISS-CROSS NETWORK OF PASSAGEWAYS IS THE FIRST AND LAST NAME OF A WELL-KNOWN PERSON. A CLUE TO HIS OR HER IDENTITY IS GIVEN IN THE BOX BELOW. ~SELECT A STARTING LETTER AND TRACE THIS NAME WITH A CONTINUOUS LINE. AT NO TIME MAY ANY LETTER OR PASSAGE BE REUSED. MOVIE COWBOY

Chew the Fat

CREATORS NEWS SERVICE

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15 Rider
16 Precedes arm or kick
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People Puzzle Solution

THE ANSWER IS: **BOB DEVLIN**

Tree

cont. from page 1

— decorations and all — and put it in the living room for the party," Dow said.

Chris O'Donnell was a live tree person all his life — until he lost his job the day after Thanksgiving 2010 and a friend loaned him an artificial tree.

"I was one of those live-trees-til-

death people," said O'Donnell, 44, of Fredricksburg, Va.

The loaned artificial tree changed all that.

"Once we had a fake tree in the house and I didn't have to clean up needles and I didn't have to climb under it twice a day to water it, I kind of wondered why I ever both-

ered with the real ones," he said.

O'Donnell is now the director of sales for a technology company. He recently paid \$110 for a 7-foot artificial tree.

"I guess if we miss the pine smell, we can buy some candles," he said.

To draw people to their sides,

both tree associations make claims about the safety of the other products, with topics including allergies and lead dangers. The NCTA points to the artificial trees that end up in the landfill, while real trees can be recycled, for example. The ACTA published a study on its website this month that concluded

either kind of tree has a negligible impact on the environment.

Safety-testing company Underwriters Laboratories Inc. said fire is the biggest threat, not the possibility that artificial trees contain lead. The company notes that natural and some artificial trees can burn up in as little as a minute.

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\$249
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Family Size

TOYS 50% OFF (retail)

CHRISTMAS MERCHANDISE 50% OFF (retail) (excludes candy)

LARGE SELECTION of Gifts for Him & Her 50% OFF (retail)

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\$299
12 pk double roll

3 for \$999
12 pkg. cans
Coca Cola, Dr. Pepper, Sprite

Order your Christmas Pies
by Thursday, December 22

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- Thermos - Stainless Steel** \$9⁹⁹
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- Pedicure Set** \$5⁹⁹
by Covergirl • 6 pc. set
- Set of 6 Coffee Mugs** \$9⁹⁹
w/stand
- Men's Dress Socks** \$3⁹⁹
5 pair gift box

Come see the beautiful Christmas lights of Downtown Pampa!

Rheams DIAMOND SHOP

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- 25% OFF Diamond Bracelets
- 25% OFF Diamond Fashion Rings
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Given away 7 pm Thursday, December 22

Santa's Gift List

- Kameleon Jewelry
- Fossil Watches - UT & OU
- Bracelets and Charms
- Gold Roses
- Kid's Jewelry
- Seiko Music & Mantel Clocks

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Come downtown and look at the Christmas lights!