Gray County upgraded from severe to moderate drought

- Recent surge of precipitation helped, but farmers still need more moisture for crops


## Molue Bryant

mbryant@thepampanews.com
With recent moisture, Gray County has moved from severe to moderate Drought Monitor

For local farmers and ranchers, this change comes with an attitude of cautious optimism. Brandon McGinty of Gray County
AgriLife Extension said that winter AgriLife Extension said that winter with recent precipitation.
"The wheat's actually beginning to
come back or come on a little bit, but come back or come on a little bit, but moisture that we got ranging anywhere from an inch and a quarter to two inches give or take, depending on where you are," he said. "It was very significant, because it took it a while to dry out, and
with the cold temperatures, with the cold temperatures, freezing and
thawing helps it absorb into the soil thawing helps it absorb into the soil.
In terms of the drought, it helped, but we're still very short when you look at moisture."

McGinty said that two inches of pre-
cipitation to wind up last year was helpcipitation to wind up last year was help-
ful, but the county was about 10 inches short on its average amount of rainfall moisture for 2011. More moisture is needed for hay and wheat and to begin summer crops.
"We're going to continue to need a good amount of moisture, because the soil profile was basically completely depleted of all the moisture," said McGinty. "So, two inches of rainfall is going to go into DROUGHT cont. on page 5A

## MEN AT WORK



City construction crews work to install a water line near the intersection of Hobart and Somerville on Thursday.

## Pampa to host Lions

 ' 12 district conventionArnie Aurellano edinorethepampanews.com

Center, with a golf tournament The Pampa Lions Club has been and sock hop planned that Friday Too Pampa Lions Club has been to accompany the club's official
looking forward to 2012 for the business. With elections for dislast two years. $\quad$ trict-wide officials such as goverThat's because, according to club
president Ray Whice governors and trustees to
nhe, it was two president Ray White, it was two the district foundation, White said
years ago at the District $2-\mathrm{Tl}$ con-
that Pampa will be a focal point years ago at the District 2-TI con-
vention in Canyon that Pampa $\quad$ for the club once the convention was chosen to hos
2012 , convention,
beating out Hereford
and Dumas in the and Dumas in the
process. process.
It will be the first time since
1998 that the con1998 that the conin Pampa.
in Pampa. deal for our club, White said. "We're excited about it. It
will bring in possiwill bring in possibly 150 to 200 people into Pampa,
which will help the economy a litwhich will help the economy a littie bit. I think the district's excited a few years since we've hosted it and we've got a lot of good friends out there who want to come to Pampa."


The convention is slated for a member of the club in 1998, The convention is slated for added that it's quite an honor for
Friday and Saturday, April 20 LIONS cont. on page 5A


Pampa Lions Club Selected to host 2012 Selected to host 2012
District 2-T1 convention convention Pamp's people." Pampa's Lion's Club has been having quarterly meetings to plan
for the convention and will for the convention and will soon begin meeting monthly to final-
ize details, said White, whose ize details, said White, whose
wife, Zoie, is the district's current governor. White, who was also
a member of the club in 1998,

CRMWA looking into pipeline

## Mole Bryant

mbryant@thepampanews.com
After its meeting on Wednesday, the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority
(CRMWA) is looking into building from its Roberts County well field to better benefit its 11 member cities. CRMWA will choose between two different routes for the prospective pipeline
"City managers from our member cities
met recently, and we narrowed down our options," said CRMWA General Manager Kent Satterwhite. "Both options are really expensive."
One possibility, estimated to cost $\$ 257$ milion, would involve a transmission line that would run from the well field through an area southwest of Pampa near Highway 60 , ventually meeting with a main aqueduct near Amarillo. The other route under consideration

## SAFE AND SOUND


 Low 25
Today:
Sunay: with a high near 50 . Wind chill values
between 10 and 20 early. West wind between
5 and 10 mph .
Tonight:
Mostly clear, with a low around 25. Wind chill values between 18 and 23 . West wind between 5 and 10 mph .
Saturday:
Sunny, with a high near 55. West wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south southeast.
Saturday Night:
Mostly clear, with a low around 25. Southeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southwest.

Sunday:
Mostly sunny, with a high near 57 . Windy, with a southwest wind between 10 and 20 mph , with gusts as high as 30 mph

Sunday Night:
Partly cloudy, with a low around 37 . Windy, with a southwest wind around 20 mph , with gusts as
high as 25 mph . high as 25 mph .
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CAJUN DINNER by FIRST BAPTIST Church PHS Softball Booster Club, of Pampa is now on Pampa's
Tues. Jan 31, $5-7$ pm © PHS CableOne Channel 8. Sunday Tues. Jan 31,5 -/ pm @ ${ }^{\text {Jambalaya, }} 11: 00$ am and $6: 00$ pm ser-
Commons.
Etouffee' $\quad$ Gumbo Shrimp vices. Etouffee',' Gumbo, Shrimp vices.
\& Bowtie Pasta, Bread $\&$ Bowtie Pasta, Bread
Pudding, All You Can Eat Pudding, All You Can Eat
$\$ 20 /$ ticket. Call $669-2232$,


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## Obituaries

Lonnie Edward Kotara, 94 Lonnie Edward Kotara, 94,
passed away January 7, 2012 in passed away January had resided
Athens, where he
sine 2005 with his son, Roonald
Knot since 20,
Kotara.
He was born February 6, 1917 , in White Deer, to Edward and Gertrude Kotara, Lonnie graduat-
ed from White Deer High School where he played football and then
worked on the family farm until he joined the Army in 1942, serving as a medic in the American
and Asiatic Pacific theaters until he was discharged in January,
1946. He married La Veme Austin on leave in 1942, and they resided in Pampa after his military service. Lonnie worked in the water
well business until his well business until his retirement. Lonnie was the quintessential
story teller. He entertained his children, grandchildren, great Kotara grandchildren and others with his many stories based on his experiences and world view, amazing everyone with
his vivid and colorful recollections of event his vivid and colorful recollections of events from long ago and his sense of humor about the many challenges he
had lived through and overcame. He was an avid sports fan. The Texas Rangers Baseball team was always on his mind as were the horse racing exploits of his son, Ronnie.
Lonnie was preceded in death by his parents, Edward Lonnie was preceded in death by his parents, Edward
Henry and Gertrude Szepanik Kotar. Henry and Gertrude Szepanik Kotara; his wife of 62
years, La Verne Austin Kotara; great-grandson, Allen years, La Verne Austin Kotara; great-grandson, Alen
Harlton Sheffield; brother, Conrad Kotara; sisters, Proxie
Hendricks and husban Hendricks and husband Otho, Severin Jones, and Lillian
Kotara. Kotara.
Surviv

Sarvi. tara; daughter, Sherrian Batson-Hill (Steve) of Angleton; sons, Ronald Kotara of Athens, Larry Kotara (Kitten) of Lubbock, and Gary Kotara of Pampa, as well as seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.
A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. January 14, 2012, at Memory Gardens Chapel of Peace 2215 North Price Road, Pampa, TX 79065 . Prayers will be said for Lonnie in a mass on January 13,
2012 , at 9.30 a.m. at the Sacred Heart Catholic Ch 2012, at $9: 30$ a.m. at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in
White Deer. In lieu of
be made to the Wounded Warrior Project; www wound edwarriorproject.org; Wounded Warrior Project, 4899 edwarriorproject.org, Wounded Warrior Project,

Paula S. (Records) Hagerty, 59 Paula S. (Records) Hagerty, 59, died January 5, 2012,
in Orange County, Calif., due to cancer. She was cremated and services are pending
Paula was born July 23,1952 Paula was born July 23, 1952, in Borger, to Francis A
and Margie (hompson) Records. She lived in Texas tive duty ana until 1960, when her father went on ac-

## Fortherecord



## Tim Pirtle

 INJURED?KNOW YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS CALL ME... FREE Initial Consultation

manufacture or delivery of a mal related incidents. controlled substance greater Pampa EMS responded to han four grams and less 11 medical calls. han 200 and manufacture or Tuesday, January 10 A sexual assault occurred
stance greater than one gram at the 100 block of West Harbut less than four. $\quad$ vester. John Hardy King, 60, was A suspicious person was
arrested by deputies for pub- reported at Crawford and $\begin{array}{ll}\text { arrested by deputies for pub-- reported at Crawford and } \\ \text { lic intoxication. } & \text { Varnon. }\end{array}$ Tic intoxication.
Tuesday, January $10 \quad$ Varnon.
Endangerment of a child Tuesday, January 10
Dewayne Eugene Chilton,
Endangerment of a child 32, was arrested by police on or the 1500 block of North a warrant for theft by check Banks. n an amount greater than Harassment occurred at the
$\$ 20$ but less than $\$ 500$.
1100 block of South Huff ... A A suspicious person was
Police Department The Pampa Police Depart-
ment reported the following
curred at ment reported the following curred at the 500 block of
incidents for the 24 hour North Dwight. incidents for the 24 hour
period ending Wednesday, January 11 at 7 a.m. Pampa PD reported 23 A sexual offense was re Pampa PD reported
raffic related incidents. Animal Control agents and A structure fire occurred at ampa PD reported 13 ani- the 1400 block of Dogwood


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## MORNINGRUSH

Replica grenade prompts evac MANOR (AP) - Authorities are investigating atter a omeone spotted a replica grenade in the velicle when a nan who wasn't a faculty member or student. Travis County sheriff's spokesman Roger Wade says
Manor High School was cleared and arriving students were diverted to a middle school when the device was seen before classes started Thursday.
Wade described the replica grenade as a novelty item and said officials "were trying to figure out why" it was
in plain sight in the man's vehicle. Wade said it isn't crime to have the item, but the way it was found required a response.
Students were allowed back in the high school about wo hours after the incident was rep
Manor is 15 miles from Austin

## Lovett inducted into HOF

FORT WORTH (AP) - Grammy Award-winner Lyle Lovett is getting another feather in his cowboy hat.
He's being inducted into the Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame on Thursday night in Fort Worth.
The hall of fame honors excellence in competition,
business and the support of rodeo and the western business and the support of rodeo and the western
lifestyle in Texas ifestyle in Texas.
Lovett is a native
riding and showing horses who is involved in breeding,
The four others being honored are former rodeo star Vernon "Dude" Smith; Buddy Jeffers and Jim Odle, who founded Superior Livestock, one of the nation's busiest livestock auction houses; and the late George
Paul, the 1968 world champion bull rider. Paul, the inductees include Grammy winner George Strait, bull-riding champion Ty Murray, Oscar winner Tommy Lee Jones, and Texas Rangers owner and
Miniature horses fatally stabbed DALLAS (AP) - An animal cruelty investigation has been launched in Dallas after three miniature horses
were found stabbed to death outside the owner's home. WFAA-TV reported Wednesday night that Maera Ortega discovered the dead horses in her yard. She's now worried about the safety of her family as investigators try to determine a motive for the horse killings. All three animals of the horses had been tied to a tree. Alead while in a fenced area. Ortega, who found the dead animals Monday, says the
family bought the miniature horses a couple of months ago.

## Okla., Tx. top 2nd round

LAS VEGAS (AP) - An Irish step-dancing Miss
Oklahoma tops contestants in the second round of the Oklahoma tops contestants in the second round of the Miss America talent competition in Las Vegas, while a
swimsuit-clad Miss Texas scores honors in the lifestyle and fitiness category. Miss Oklahoma Betty Thompson took home a $\$ 2,000$
scholarship for dancing to "Warriors" at Wednesday scholarship for dancing to "Warriors" at Wednesday
night's preliminary. The talent portion is 35 percent of a contestant's score.
Miss Texas Kendall Morris earned a
$\$ 1,000$
scholarMhiss after appearing in a Monte Carlo Komplique swim-
suit. The fitness category is 15 percent of a contestant's suit. The fitness category is 15 percent of a contestant's
score.
One more winner will be selected
during a final day of preliminaries.
during a final day of preliminaries.
In Tuesday's round, Miss Wisconsin Laura Kaeppeler won for talent and Miss Utah Danica Olsen won swim-
suit.
The finals are Saturday at the Planet Hollywood
Resort \& Casino. Resort \& Casino
Man killed on Juarez school patio CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico (AP) - A man has been shot to death in the courtyard patio of an elementary
school in the Mexican border city of Ciudad Juarez. It's an unusual event even for a city where children have enormous exposure to violence.
Prosecutors' spokesman Arturo Sandoval says gunnen wounded the man outside the school. Then when the victim ran onto the campus trying to
escape, the attackers followed him and finished him
escape, the attackers followed him and finished him
off.
Children were in class at the time of Thursday's killing. Murders in Ciudad Juarez have sometim happened outside schools, but seldom inside Children in Ciudad Juarez are given training on have required psychological counseling because of the city's drug-fueled violence.
TSU added to 'emerging' schools
SAN MARCOS (AP) - Texas State University has been added to the list
of schools classified as emerging research universities in the state. The Texas Higher
Education Coordinating Education Coordinating
Board on Thursday notiBoard on Thursday noti-
fied the school in San Marcos about the designation.
Since 2004, Texas State University had been
olassified as a doctoral university, as part of an expanded accountability
system for public higher education. Texas State currently has more than 400 doc -
toral students, along with more than $\$ 33$ million in research expendur fiscal year.


Create a family studio from unused space

| Dear Pat: We have a large dinling room that we seldom use. I was considering reducing lis size and making the laundry room next to it larger to create a family studio. Would this limprove the value of the house? - Nedra P. |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | e long until a com- |
|  |  | puter or tw | nake their way into |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  | ak | ily studio inviting and |
|  |  |  | nstalling a dropped |
| Dear Nedra: The concept of a family studio is becoming more popular in today's home. People tend to be less formal than in the past, so as you have found, large formal dining rooms are used less often. <br> With both parents often working |  |  | te bright recessed |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | ches so you will not |
|  | Storing |  | to keep them all on. |
|  | lapsible Workmate workbench on | Also run th | able to the room so the |
|  | hook from the ceiling will come in handy at times. | televisio modem | be used and a cable accessed. |
| and the children involved in many | n you have the new |  |  |
| outside activities, families seldom sit down to a dinner together anymore. The dining room table in most homes just ends up being a catch-all | built, install extra electrical outle | Send your q | 1estions to Here's How, 6906 |
|  | along the wall. You may even w | Royalgreen.dul visit www. | y.com. |
|  | homes just ends up being a catch-all the service panel with a line to for school books and small projects. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| size of your dining room to the point of being unusable, adding a family studio room should make your home more attractive and valuable | HOME HOW-TO |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | Homework Center |  |  |
| to families. As a minimum, your downsized dining room should be able to seat eight people comfortably around the dining table. <br> Research shows that stud have regularty structured h succeed by creating an ide |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| The family studio will become the location for your family to do | BUUUETN BOARD | for boo | cation |
| many of their projects, crafts, studying for school, laundry, etc. Since | a monthly calendar on which your child can keep track of long-term |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| this room is separate from the rest of the house and will look like the laundry room, you won't have to feel embarrassed by the mess when |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Before you start knocking out the dining room wall, make sure you |  |  |  |
| have ample floor space. The minimum size for a functional family |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| that will be slightly cramped. With the wall moved to create a room of |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| also will want a usable dining room. Since you are using your laundry |  |  |  |
| room as the base for the family |  |  |  |
| studio, you will already have wateravailable and a sink for projects and |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| cleanup. If your laundry appliances |  |  |  |
| are old, consider installing newer efficient, space-saving models. A acomputer or laptoProvide an adlustab |  |  |  |
| efrest-loading clothes washer with |  |  |  |
| the dryer mounted on top of it will cor |  |  |  |
| free up some floor space. A com-bination washer-dryer is another |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Perry loses backer after Romney swipe

BLYTHEWOOD, S.C. (AP) - backed away from the attack line and Presidential candidate Rick Perry's
criticism of Mitt Romney's busicriticism of Mitt Romney's busi-
ness past had a boomerang effect ness past had a boomerang effect
Thursday, costing him the support of a prominent Republican in South Carolina.
Investment fund executive and top GOP donor Barry Wynn told The
Associated Press he was leaving the Perry fold to endorse Romney, he former Massachusetts gover-
nor. Wynn said Perry's attacks on Romney's time at the helm of the
private equity firm Bain Capital had crossed the line in a political party that values free-market capitalism. "I've been fighting for this cause nost of my life,"-Wynn said. "It's
like fingernails on the chalkboard. Iike fingernails on the chalkboard.
It just kind of irritated you to hear those kind of attacks." Perry, the Texas governor, swung hard this week at Romney's work at Bain Capital. The firm sometimes
turned big profits even as companies turned big profits even as companies
it invested in went under, including some in South Carolina, and people lost jobs. Perry called Romney a "vulture capitalist" who put profits ahead of jobs.
By late We

Katon Dawson, a top Perry adviser
in South Carolina, tried to minimize didn't mention in during remarks to
crowds at campaign stops. crowds at campaign stops.
Perry is desperate for a strong
showing in South Carolina, where showing in South Carolina, where
the primary is Jan. 21, to keep his presidential hopes alive. He finished near the bottom of the pack in the "It's unfortunate and disappointing. But at the end of the day we
are marching on," Dawson said. "It won't have any impact. The only mpack it will have is on the media trying to report it.


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## Viewpoints

## Today in History

Today is Friday, Jan. 13, the 1
There are 353 days left in the yea
There are ' 353 days left in the year
Tighlight in History:
On Jan. 13, 1982, an Air Florida 737 crashed into Washington, D.C.'s 14th Street Bridge and
fell into the Potomac. River after taking off during a snowstorm, killing a total of 78 people; four passengers and a flight attendant survived. (Hal an hour after the Air Florida crash, a Washington Metro train derailed during rush hour, killing three passengers.)
On this date:
In 1794, President George Washington approved measure adding two stars and two stripes to the American flag, following the admission of
Vermont and Kentucky to the Union. (The number ormont stripes was later reduced to the original 13.) In 1864, composer Stephen Foster died impoverished in a New York hospital at age 37. (In his
pocket, a note which read, "Dear friends and gentle pocket, a note which read, "Dear riends and gente
hearts.") Alfred Dreyfus, "J'accuse," was published in Paris In 1945, during World War II, Soviet forces
began a huge, successful offensive against the began a huge, successful
Germans in Eastern Europe.
Germans in Eastern Europe.
In 1962, comedian Emie Kovacs died in a ca crash in west Los Angeles 10 days before his 43 rd birthday.
In 1966, Robert C. Weaver was named Secretary
of Housing and Urban Development by President f Housing and Urban Development by President
yndon B. Johnson; Weaver became the first black Cabinet member.
In 1990, L. Douglas Wilder of Virginia became he nation's first elected black governor as he took In 1992, Japan apologized for forcing tens of for its soldiers during World War II, citing newly uncovered documents that showed the Japanese
army had had a role in abducting the so-called
In 2001 women. Geological Survey at magnitude 7.7 struck EI Salvador; more than 840 people were killed. Ten years ago: Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill
and Commerce Secretary Don Evans said on the Sunday talk shows they had never considered intervening in Enron's spiral toward bankruptcy,
nor did they inform President George W Bush of nor did they inform President George W. Bush of requests for help from the fallen energy giant.
Five years ago: Nine people were killed in an apartment building fire in Huntington, W.V.. One year ago: Vice President Joe Biden became the first top U.S. official to visit Iraq since the country approved a new Cabinet; Biden empha-
sized to Iraqi leaders that the U.S. wanted nothing more than for Iraq to be free and democratic. Today's Birthdays: Actress Frances Sternhagen is 82. Comedian Rip Taylor is 78. Actor Billy Gray
is 74. Actor Richard Moll is 69. Rock musician is
James Lomenzo (Megadeth) is 53 . Actor Kevin Anderson is 52 . Actress Julia Louis-Dreyfus is
51 . Country singer Trace Adkins is 50 Actress Penelope Ann Miller is 48. Actor Patrick Dempsey is 46. Actress Traci Bingham is 44. Actor Keith
Coogan is 42 . Actress Nicole Eggert is 40 . Actor Thought for Today: "Never underestimate your power to change yourself; never overestimate

## PAMPMNEWS

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A more rounded way to gauge Congress
1 suspect that -most members of uphold processes that allow
Congress will want to forget the year each one to perform effec Congress will want to forget the year
that just ended. that just ended.
The institution democracy finished symbolizes our depths of unpopularity it has never experienced before. Its low approval ratings set records - suggesting,
as Gallup put it, "that 2011 will be as
remembered as the year in which the American public fost much of any remaining faith in the men and women they elect and send off to
Washington to represent them " Washington to represent them."
The poor jobs picture, the lurch ing from one brink-of-disaster deadline to the next, the polarization that keeps the parties from working
together, the widespread sense that together, the widespread sense that
Congress is so dysfunctional it Congress is so dysfunctional it can
not meet the nation's challenges all play a role. So, I believe, does the nation's political polarization: Whatever action Congress takes,
some large portion of the electorate some large portion of the electorate
will disagree with it. These are all valid ways of judging Congress, but they are not the
only way. Every year the Center only way. Every year, the Center on
Congress at Indiana University polls Congress at Indiana University polls
a group of congressional scholars on how they think the institution is doing, and one of the challenges we face is devising a set of questions
that meaningfully probe Congress's that meaningfully probe Congress's
performance. It's not as easy performance.
The historic mission of the
Congress has been to maintain ongress has been to maintain
freedom, a goal whose achieve ment is impossible to measure in
year's - or even a few years' time. Moreover, a well-functioning
Congress has to operate on many Congress has to operate on many
fronts: as the legislative body representing a diverse nation, as a coun-
ter-balance to the President, as an overseer of the federal bureaucracy, as a forger of policy, as two separate
institutions (Senate and House) that
 government. It must stand LEE
apart from and serve as a
HAMILTON check upon the excesses of presidential power. So how -actions? well is it safeguarding its powers set sufficiently high standards for
Fom presidential Does it live in determining the federal per role keeping excessive partisanship in How's it doing at oversight of the check and making sure its members How's it doing at oversight of the are behaving ethically. Are mem-
executive branch? Is it generating bers well-educated on the issues they executive branch? Is it generating bers well-educated on the issues they
meaningful, politically sustainable must decide and capable of educating policy alternatives, or just sitting their constituents on them - in subback and letting the White House stantive ways, not with platitudes?
take all the political risks? Does it set $\begin{aligned} & \text { And finally, how strong is }\end{aligned}$, take all the political risks? Does it set And finally, how strong is the
the national agenda, or act timidly? the national agenda, or act timidlly? connection of members of Congress
And does it safeguard the war pow- to their constituents back home? Do And does it sateguard the war pow- to their constituents back home? Do
ers assigned it by the Constitution?
they understand their constituents and Its second great role is to represent $\begin{aligned} & \text { try to represent them in Washington? } \\ & \text { the American people. This means } \\ & \text { Do they make themselves accessible }\end{aligned}$ the American people. This means Do they make themselves accessible
making sure that all voices get a fair in a variety of settings, and speak making sure that all voices get a fair in a variety of settings, and speak play a part in crafting initiatives - of need? Do they listen well and all while safeguarding institutional are they closely attuned to the core all while safeguarding institutional are they closely attuned to the core
practices that allow legistation to needs and interests of the people they
move forward in a timely manner. represent? Just as important, does Congress spend its time on key issues facing the country, or instead let itself get diverted by partisan concerns or by issues of importance only to well-
heeled special interests? heeled special interests?
Third, in a country as politiThird, in a country as politi-
cally and demographically varied as ours, negotiation and compromise are key to crafting legislation that can enjoy broad political support.
To gauge whether Congress is following sound process, you would want to know several things. Are
its leaders capable of working hard All of these questions add up All of these questions add up to
how well Congress represents the interests of the American people, and as always, it does better on some than
on others. Despite its obvor on others. Despite its obvious trou-
bles, the picture is not entirely bleak And I the pin'ture is not entirely but beak
Andieve that the more well-rounded our understanding of where Congress falls short and where it performs well, the better we can hold it to account.

Lee Hamitton is Director of the Cinter
on Congress at Indiana University HE HE
was a member of the U.S. House o have to find common ground and to forge a consensus? If they can't, $\begin{aligned} & \text { was a member of the } \\ & \text { Representatives tor } 34 \text { years. }\end{aligned}$


Believe it or not: Young voters propelling Paul's campaign
MANCHESTER, N.H. (AP) - A 76 -year-old greatgrandfather who gives eye-glazing specches on mon-
etary policy, displays a crotchety streak and disappears etary policy, displays a crotchety streak and disappears
from the Republican campaign trail for days at a time to rest is captivating young voters.
Texas Rep. Ron Paul's libertarian message of less
goverment, personal liberty and ending U.S. military
involvement govermment, personal liberty and ending U.S. military
involvement overseas clicks with young people, who are supplying zest for his stronger-than-expected presiden-
tial campaign. Nearly half of all voters under 30 went tial campaign. Nearly half of all voters under 30 went for Paul in the first two states to vote, helping to propel
him to a second-place finish in the New Hampshire primary and third place in lowa's leadoff caucuses. Why would young people gravitate to the oldest guy
in the field? in the field?
"Freedom is a young idea," says Eddie Clearwater, a 22 -year-old Des Moines photographer who attended
a Ron Paul party in Ankeny, Iowa, earlier this month. "All of his policies are such a good, radical change. It's what we need."
Paul's campaign events are charged with an energy that any politician would love, attracting an eclectic
band of youthful activists ranging from preppy lege students to blue collar workers to artists sporting piercings and dreadlocks. At his party after the New Hampshire primary, there were spontaneous chants of and "President Paul! President Paul!"
and "President Paul! President Paul!" a wonderful idea, and that's why I get so excited. But I really get excited when I see young people saying it." "We are dangerous to the status quo of this country,"
said Paul, who seems to relish making political mischief said Paul, who seems to relish making political mischief
and has taken on the role of a feisty attacker in some of the GOP debates.
While Paul is unlikely to win the GOP nomination and young voters make up a relatively small slice of
the electorate - 12 percent in the New Hampshire primary and 15 percent in the Iowa caucuses - their primary and
lopsided support has made Paul a force to be reckoned with in the 2012 campaign. And it could prompt a more serious consider
Democrats alike.
Democrats alike.
"Ron Paul is bringing unorthodox ideas to the market"Ron Paul is bringing unorthodox ideas to the market-
place that don't fit with the conventional pillars of either political party," said Matthew Segal of OurTime.org, a nonpartisan group that promotes pelitical participation
among young people. "And because young people today among young people. "And because young people today are a uniquely indep
resonating with them."
According to polling-place interviews conducted for
Ans The Associated Press and the television networks, 53 percent of under-30 voters in New Hampshire and 35 percent in Iowa identified as independents or something
else. They are not establishment Republicans, and not

## Drought

cont. from page the soil, but for every foot of soil, our soil holding capac-
ity is two inches. Your're looking two inches of rainfall
and about one foot of soil depth, and we need to fill it up and about one foot of soil depth, and we need to fill it up all the way to six feet to really get a good start on next year and this coming year's crop. It's a great start and
it's a good help, but it did not break the drought by any it's a good help, but it did not break the drought by any
longshot."
Irrigated wheat is doing well, but there is no substitute for precipitation.
"Wheat is going to utilize a lot of moisture starting about March, which is not too far away at this point, so
we really need to get some more winter moisture to keep
that going," said McGinty. "It's in decent shape, considthat going, said we had. I think a lot of guys are probably
ering the year we
optimistic about the wheat, but if optimistic about the wheat, but if we don't start getting some more moisture, that optimism is going to change to
pessimism, and it can change abruptly," pessimism, and it can change abruptly
The pattern of ranchers reducing
The pattern of ranchers reducing their herd
slowed, as they wait to see what the future holds. "I think for the most part, a lot of guys have sold off
what they're going to sell for now, and they're prober what they're going to sell for now, and they're probably
going to wait and see what the winter and early spring going to wait and see what the winter and early spring
bring," said McGinty. "If we start getting some moisture and seeing some grass grow, they probably won't be selling any more cows, but if it continues to stay dry, probably by this spring we'll see some more guys sell
some more cattle. Their feed supplies are going to be some more cattle. Their feed supplies are going to be
depleted greatly, and they just can't afford to feed these Co, for ano her whole year and just hope it gets better So, for the most part, they're probably going to sit on
their cattle, and (take a) wait and see attitude. By early to mid-spring or late spring, depending on what the wheat does also, because a lot of guys are keeping cows on the
wheat more than they usually would have, they're probwheat more than they usually would have, they're prob-
ably going to wait and see. If it stays dry, they'll probably going to wait and
ably sell some more."


## Paul

 were just as as their top likely as older voters to cite the economy ers who said the economy is the most important issue Overall, he drew 46 percent of under- 30 voters in New Hampshire, beating front-runner Mitt Romney by a full 20 percentage points in that age group. In Iowa, he got 48 percent of the youth vote, 12 points higher than top-Ino-finishers Romney and Rick santorum combined. In interviews, Paul's young supporters say they fear ableak future of joblessness, steep college loan payments pandering politicians and a government made sluggish by debt. Paul's pledge to adhere to the Constitution an shrink government appeals to many young voters looking to get back to ba
problems at home.
"We're in such a crisis right now we should focus on us, not choose which country we aid and which country we invade next," said Nick Wright, a 23 -year old volunteer at a Paul campaign event in Meredith, N.H. to slash taxes would spur job creation.
"A lot of us are graduating with a lot of college deb
and we can't pay for it unless we get jobs," the 18 -year old said.
Many of Paul's younger supporters say they believe the government is overly intrusive and encroaching Patriot Act, which Congress his pledge to overturn the Patriot Act, which Congress passed in the wake of the "Any political operative in either party would be stu-
Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks to allow law enforcement pid to ignore Ron Paul's appeal," Segal said.

## Walker speaks to Texas conservatives

AUSTIN (AP) - Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker told a conservative
political forum Thursday that he hopes the changes he has overseen will help his state challenge Texas in attracting businesses.
"I stole from your
I stole from your governor and put up signs all over the state that
said Wisconsin is open for busisaid
ness," Walker told several hundred elected officials, political activists and legislative workers. He bragged that Wisconsin's standing among private employers was ris-
ing, despite an effort by unions and Democrats to have him face a recall
election.
Walker triggered a firestorm last
year when he introduced a bill that stripped most public workers o almost all their collective bargaining rights. About 50 protesters gath-

## CRMWA

spoke, many from unions holding
signs supporting the recall effort. signs supporting the recall effort.
Walker told the enthusiastic audience that helping him fight a recall would have repercussions across
the country Walker the country. Walker described Wisconsin as a potential swing
state in the 2012 presidential elec tion and said supporting his figh against a recall election would help Republicans win the White House. He did not make a direct appea
for donations, but a spokeswan for donations, but a spokeswoman
for Walker said he would meet with potential campaign supporters while in Texas. Texas homebuilder an conservative activist Bob Perry has
given him $\$ 250,00$ given him $\$ 250,000$. criticized Walker's participation in the forum sponsored by the nonprofit Texas Public Policy Foundation. The annual event is intended to pro-
mote conservative positions in state government. "Scott Walker's visit makes $\begin{array}{lll}\text { "Scott Walker's visit makes } \\ \text { a mockery of the pain } & \text { Texas }\end{array}$ Republicans have already inflicted on Texas families," Texas Democratic Party spokesman
Anthony Gutierrez said Texas is a right-to-work state, meaning it bars contracts that mandate employees pay union dues for representation, and unions in the
state have little state have little power.
Walker touted what he called the benefits of weakening the public employee unions in Wisconsin. "The unions like to talk about
collective bargaining," Walker said collective bargaining,", Walker said,
"Collective bargaining is not a right, collective bargaining is an expensive entitlement and its time we put the power back in the hands of the

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people."
people."
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greater access to people's email, telephone and other
records.
The heavily wired generation of younger voters also Tesponds to Paul's warning that the federal government is poised to limit Internet privacy. He often rails against
a bill pending in Congress called SOPA, the Stop Online a bill pending in Congress called SOPA, the Stop Online
Privacy Act, that Paul insists would allow the government to snoop on people's Internet searches.
"They want to take over the Internet," Paul said to
boos at a campaign stop in boos at a campaign stop in lowa. "Can you imagine how much we're going to be curtailed in the spreading of our Paul does part ways with youn
issues. He opposes abortion rights, even as polls show hat a majority of young people support a woman's right to have an abortion. He says the subject of gay marriage should be left to the states. Polls show young people
strongly support same sex marriage, much more so than older voters.
While he might not share their views on these issues, his libertarianism means he's not trying to outlaw them. After the presidential race shifted to South Carolina
this week, Paul decamped to Texas for a few days of rest. His young supporters say age matters little to them. His message, they say, is what matters.
President Barac
President Barack Obama "should be the poster child for why you shouldn't vote for someone for their age or
because they look presidential," said Anthony Mazaka, a 27 -year-old architect who voted for Paul in New Hampshire. "People have to realize Obama isn't the president he said he was going to be.
Obama won 66 percent of young voters in 2008 and ity has dipped with young voters, as it has with many other groups amid a weak economy and persistent high unemployment.
Paul's young
Paul's young supporters may choose not to back either Obama or the Republican primary victor. And Paul keep many young voters in his camp.
cont. from page 1
would be less expensive at $\$ 173$ million, and would run parallel to the current groundwater pipeline fron
field to the main aqueduct near Lake Meredith.
"The next step is to gather information from our mem"er cities to see what future needs they might have," said
Satterwhite. "This project is several years down the road."

Lions

Pampa's Lions Club chapter to be selected to host.
"I think it's just a reflection of our club," White said. "We're a representative in the district and everybody in we're a club that people like and trust and see as a good

*

"ng our new nome wa
Whether you're building a now home, or Blueprints into Dreams. Serving Pampa and the Surrounding Low Country Area For $30+$ Years

cont. from page 1
club to represent what the district is all about. I'm kind oxcited being president of the club this year. "I think this is a feather in Pampa's hat as far as the about it and really looking forward to it."


Have you made yours yet?
The Executive Board of Pampa Chamber of Commerce is extending the
deadline for nominations for
Pampa's Citizen of the Year
and
Business of the Year to Feb 1st.

Nomination forms at the
Chamber Office, 200 N . Ballard
"If I can't see any germs before I wash my hands, how do I know when I get them all off?
Non Sequitur


Nest Heads


HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, Jan. friends are.
4, 2012. This year many new opportunities ap- $\quad \star \star \star \star$ Your ability to let go and move
pear involving your public image and long- forward is marked by your choice of varipear involving your public image and long. forward is marked by your choice of van
term desires. For some of you, the impact ous activities. You laugh, and another per. could involve your work; for others, it son relaxes. Loosen up, and understand might even be a political commitment. No your personal needs as well as others'. If
matter what your choices are, they will suit you need to indulge a little, by all means, matter what your choices are, they will suit you need to indulge a little, by all means
you. You opt to change your domicie in do Tonight Your treat you. You opt to change your domicile in
some manner, whether painting, remodel- Tonight: Your treat.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
ing or moving. If you are single, you meet $\quad \star \star \star \star \star$ Follow your instincts right
several potential sweeties. The choice is now. Make plans with people you want several potential sweeties. The choice is now. Make plans with people you want
yours. If you are attached, through a mu- to be with. You see trust develop in a key yours. If you are attached, through a mu- to be with. You see trust develop in a key tual commitment, the two of you will see bond. Understand that this person's con-
an enhanced closeness. LIBRA pushes you torling side has nothing to do with you,
into the limeligh.
but with his or her own insecurity Tonight: ARIES (March 21-April 19)
$\star \star \star$ V Visualize more of what is hap- SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
pening behind the scenes. You could be a $\quad \star \star \star \star$ The unexpected causes change
little off and nervous when dealing with and demands you to flex. You like plans little off and nervous when dealing with and demands you to flex. You like plans to
the sporadic behavior of others. Excess be locked in tight. Don't resist the tide of comes forward. Someone might judge events. Someone close could be extremely you. Whether this person says it or tor, his trying, yet you care about this pexson. Just or her face says it all. Tonight: Sort through don't play his or her game. Tonight: Weav
invitations.
some mystery into the moment.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Some mystery into the moment.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
$\star \star \star \star$ Out of the blue, when you least $\quad \star \star \star \star$ Your enjoyment of the moment expect it, a stroke of good luck hits. At first often is enhanced by having companions
you might not agree. If your attitude is pos- and friends around you. You cannot disyou might not agree. If your attitude is pos- and friends around you. You cannot dis-
itive, it could tum this situation into a vic- miss the importance of a child's or loved
tory dance. Someone lets you know how one's surprising behavior. You might won-
ory dance. Someone lets you know how GEMIN (May 21-Jume 20)
the action is, go, do and bel ad-take between you and and more gerse--CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
$A$ friend's message tosses your inson. $\star \star \star \star$ Your creativity comes forward, A friend's message tosses your imagina- allowing greater give-and- take in a friend-
tion into fifth gear. Peals of laughter also ship. A key person shares a litte too much, mark your interactions. Understand that but look a the action rather than the words. not everyone is in your carefree mood. This person trusts you. A need for a power Share your happiness. Tonight: Where you play or a negative knee-jerk reaction won't are, the party is.
CANCER (Jume 21-July 22)
$\star \star \star$ Slow down and listen to feedback om a family member. You could discover hat one particular person might be unusually controlling or difficiult. Center on what positive around you. Invite friends over order in.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
ant than you realize.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) \#\#त\# The unexpected occurs. As a event is right up your alley ill find that to. Tonigh: sion of your life has loosened up. Be direct Follow the music. nother's eyes as you listen and ideough PISCES (Feb, 19-March 20) with him or her You might be surpried, $A * \pi \star$ Your conslderate and sensitive by some of what this pesson says or slares loved one mioht feel mathor. Adeum lare when relaxed over a meal. In your mind, not only for him or ber but for you. You you might be imposing strong limits on don't want to hang with a gumpy person!
what you do and say. Tonight: Where your Tonight Visit over munchies and a drink.


Zits


Garfield


Beetle Bailey


Marvin


Hagar The Horrible


Peanuts


Blondie



## GOT GOLD, SILVER OR COINS? CASH IN RIGHT NOW! AREA RESIDENTS RECEIVING CASH ON THE SPOT!

They are paying cash on the spot for my stuffl Awesomel

By David Morgan
STAFF WRTIER
A refinery spokesperson for the event said he expects to pay local residents in excess of A refinery spokesperson for the event soid he expects to pay local residents in excess of
$\$ 350,000$ this week for their Gold and Silver Jewelry, Old Coins, Sterling Silverware $\$ 350,000$ this week
xamples of rransoctions mis wook include
A lady cleaned out her jewelry box and brought in a few piecess she didn't wear any longer such as a herringbone neckloce, mismatched earrings and a class ring an
A gentleman brought in a Sterling Silverware set he inherited from his parents and walked out with $\$ 1,382$
Young couple brought in a Gibson Guitar, some Costume Jewelry and a few pocket watches and left with a check for $\$ 4,6371$
With the rough economic times we're in, if's cool that an event like this would come whole processs simple and stress freel

The Reliney istar and cities.

ITEMS OF INIERES
COINS: All coins (silver or gold) made efore 1970 including Silver Dollors, Maves, Quariers and Dimes, we also buy and Wheat Pennies
JEWELRY: Any and all Gold or Silver necklaces, closs rings or diamond rings, brocelets and eorrings in any condition WRIST \& POCKET WATCHES: Pocket or rist watches including Rolex, Hamilion Omego, Elgin, Illinois, Woltham, Bunn
-
EERUNG: Silverware sets, Tea Sell
owelry and anything 925


Above: " I'm glad I came in! I really needed money so I cashed in my old silver coin collection," said Betty Montgomery, who received $\$ 2,738$ for her coffee can of coins.

## SILVER AND GOLD COIN PRICES UP DURING POOR ECONOMY.

Collectors and Enthusiasts in Pampa with $\$ 350,000$ to Purchase Yours!
y Ken McIntosh
STAFF WRITER
Got Coin? It might be iust cash in. This week, starting Monday and continuing through Saturday, the International Collectors Association in conjunction with the Ohio Valley Gold \& Silver Refinery will be purchasing all ypes of silver and gold coins direct from the public. All types are welcome and the event is tree.
Coliectors will be on hand to identify and sort your coins. Then the quality or rade the more they are worth according grade the more they are worth, according and gold markets high, prices of older coins are too. Any coins minted before 1965 in the U.S. are $90 \%$ silver, except nickels and pennies.
The coin's worth is determined by the arity and the grade. Old silver dollars are worth a groat premium right now, aven well worn heovily circulated ones are bringing good promiums. Franklin and Kennedy haif doliars, Washington quarters, Mercury and Roosevelt dimes While older types like Seoted liberty tanding liberties, and Baiber coine are worth even more.
Gold coins are reolly worth a lot right now, according to Brian Eades of he International Collectors Association. This country didn't stort minting coins until $1792^{2}$ soys Eodes. He explained, Before that, people would trade goods using gold dust and nuggots. Some
hop keepers would toke more gold there needed to pay for items purchased. There was no uniform system of making change.
The government opened the firs mints and began distributing the coins in 1792. By the beginning of the 19th century, coins and paper currency were wide spread and our monetary system was here to stay. In 1933 Roosevelt in all gold coins. Once all banks turned all gold coins. Once all banks turned old standard from $\$ 20.00$ per ounce to $\$ 33.00$ per ounce. This was his way of stimulating the economy during the great epression. However, gold coins were never redistributed after the recall. But not oll gold coins were furned in. "Many folks during that time didn't completely trust the government and chose to keep their gold said Eades
These gold coins are sought after by
collectors today and bring mery collectors today and bring many times the face value. Any gold coins with the mint marks of $\mathrm{CC}, \mathrm{D}$ or O will bring nice glad to show you where to look. Other glad to show you where to look. Other ypess of coins will also be purchased
including foreign coins, Indian cents, two cont pieces, half dimes, three cent pieces and buffalo nickels to name a fow.
Collactors warn people ag. mying to clean their coins, as significica domage can be done and the coin's value lessened.
 tative processes their sale!

Dozens cash in yesterday with gold and silver jewelry, coins and guitars. An estimated $\$ 350,000$ in Pampa.


ITEMS WE WILL ACCEPT INCLUDE:

Scrap Gold Jewelry Investment Gold Gold Coins
Dental Gold
Sterling Silverware All Pre-1970 Coins Proof Coin Sets Costume Jewelry Silver Dollars Sterling Tea Sets

## INFORMATION

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Harvesters start district title defense hosting Wolves


PRIZED BOUNTY

submitted photo Samantha VanHouten, 15, shot an eight-point whitetail deer in Gray County during the Thanksgiving holidays with her dad Don VanHouten. This was Samantha's third buck; she has been hunting since she was 11

## Come In Or Call For A Quote

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staff photo by Andrew Glove Senior Reid Miller drives against Monterey Friday. The Harvesters open district against Dalhart 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at McNeely Fieldhouse.

## BCS DISCUSSION

BCS may see significant change
NEW ORLEANS (AP) - The Bowl Whatever we do we have to protect the $\begin{array}{ll}\text { Championship Series as college football } & \text { regular season," BCS executive director } \\ \text { fans have come to know it is going away. } & \text { Bill Hancock said Monday at a }\end{array}$ fans have come to know it is going away. Bill Hancock said Monday at a meeting
Over the next six months, the people of the Football Writers Association of Over the next six montms, he people of the Foobatice Writers Association of season format will talk about how to field the more damage to the regular reconstruct the system for crowning a national champion. In the tumultuous
14 -year history of the BCS, the for change among college football's leaders has never been stronger.
"It's my impression that
be meaningful discusssion about possible changes to the BCS," Southeastern Conference Commissioner Mike Slive
said last week as SEC rivals LSU and Alabama prepared to play in the title game Monday night at the Superdome.
The 11 conference commissioners and The 11 conference commissioners and
Notre Dame's athletic director will meet Tuesday in New Orleans to exchange Whas.
What the changes will be is hard to say because its ail open for debate, from
eliminating automatic bids eliminating automatic bids to top-tier
bowl games to creating a four-team playoff - an idea that's known as the plusone model.
What's not a realistic option is exactly
what many football fans are clamoring what many football fans are clamoring
for, a full-scale playoff that wuld require for, a full-scale playoff that would require
numerous teams to play additional games.

## Still, there is likely to be a BCS extreme

 Still, there is likely to be a BCS extrememakeover in the 2014 "Everything you can imagine will be discussed," Hancock said. "Everything from format, who plays who, to where they play, to the business aspect of it
it's all going to be on the table." it's all going to be on the table.
The last time changes were whe last time changes were considered support of Atlantic Coast Conference Commissioner John Swofford, made a push for the plus-one model to the rest of
the group. Slive's proposal was unceremoniously shot down.
Simply put, the plus-one would match the No. 1 team in the BCS standing after the regular season against the No. 4
team in a bowl game, and No. 2 agains No. 3 in another, creating two national No. 3 in and
semifinals.
The winne
The winners would play in a champion-
ship game the following week. ship game the following week. BCS cont. on page 4 B


But The Best Rates \& Service!

# Sports 

## Playoff win keeps Tebow in spotlight

DENVER (AP) -
kneels in prayer at times
kneels in prayer at times $\quad$ off record by averaging $\begin{aligned} & \text { Hedney Opera House, in }\end{aligned}$ when many players would
be pounding their chest,
and is winin and is winning with a style the experts insist canno
work for long. work for long.
Tim Tebow's success and fame is no typical for the NFL. So, is it a football miracle? Or the
perfect blend of luck timperfect blend of luck, tim-
ing and big plays? That's ing and big plays? That's
the debate that makes the tale of the Denver Broncos quarterback one of the most compelling stories in America these days. Hardly anyone stands
on neutral ground when it comes to the purveyor
of this unorthodo of this unorthodox mix of
throwing mechanics, bigthrowing mechanics, big-
time sports and devout rime sports and devout
religion, a 24 -year-old
Christian who is the subChristian who is the sub-
ject of comedy skits on ject of comedy skits on Saturday nights and serious
sermons on Sunday mormings.
But what most people will agree on is that it's hard to take your eyes off
Tebow these days - a man Tebow these days - a man
who unapologetically uses football to take his message beyond the field while also taking his team on an unexpected
the playoffs.
"I'm just very thankful for the platform that God has given me, and the oppor-
tunity to be a quarterback what a great organization," Tebow said after his latest shocker - an 80 -yard
touchdown pass on the first play of overtime Sunday the wild-card playoffs. The play, according to
Twitter, spawned a record Twitter, spawned a record 9,420 tweets per second.
Not lost in that flurry was Not lost in that flurry was
that Tebow threw for 316 yards and set an NFL play-


Sydney Opera House, in
front of the Western Wall in Jerusalem, etc.
Entertaining as
has been, it has $m$ has been, it has made fans and the media rethink
the way they judge and cover their sports stars.
Reporting that a cover Ueir sports slars.
Reporting that a player
was including the Lord in was including the Lord in
his postgame analysis has his postgame analysis has
long been widely thought
of as trite and inappropriof as trite and inappropri-
ate, something to simply skip over when typing in the quotes.
Tebow's
Tebow's five fourthquarter comebacks and
his four overtime victories - each more improbable
than the last - and his than the last - and his
steady, genuine, yet somehow unassuming insistence
on bringing God into the on bringing God into the
conversation has forced an uncomfortable question upon those who want to hake it only about what happens between the lines.
Does God really care about football? "Not one whit," said Joe
Price, a professor in the Price, a professor in the
religious studies religious studies depart-
ment at Whittier College "But does God care about people who play football? You betcha." In a sports season filled with unsavory stories
NFL and NBA labor wars child sex abuse scandals at Penn State and Syracuse, and a baseball MVP
accused of using steroid accused of using steroids

- Tebow is seen by many as a sports star who really could be a role model, contrary to what Charles Barkley or anyone else
might say. might say.
But the Tebow angst still
exists, in large part because exists, in large part because
there is seemingly no way there is seemingly no way
to analyze what he does on analyze what he does out religion seeping int
at least some part of tha


## Dear Abby...

By Pauline \& Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I have ties may have allowed it, inappropriate at times. I have
been accepted to a school
that's the alma mater of hat's the alma mater of
several of my relatives. My mother, several aunts and
other family members all beother family members all belonged to one soronity at this
college. They are urging me college. They are urging m to pledge there and
the family tradition.
They say they had some
of the best times of their lives of the best times of their lives as members of that sorority chapter. The members sorority insists on it. They made lifelong friends, and heir sorority contacts have been extremely helpful per onally and professionally.
Although this chapter is very exclusive and accepts only the best-of-the-best, will have no problems, get-
ting in, not only because of ting in, not only because of
my academic record but also because I'm a "legacy." So what's the problem? This sorority chapter still uses the paddle. Technically they don't haze - that is,
have any initiation stunts but they do use the paddle for disciplinary purposes. When I mention my concerns about the paddling to my mother
and aunts, they say I should suck it up, as the advantages far outweigh the disadvancages. One of my aunts said he thinks the rules and discipline would be beneficial for kind of a "wild child."
Abby, I don't know if you know anything about oronties, but T'm asking from someone not directly nvolved. - POSSIBLY DEAR PPP. DEAR P.P.P.: I jolned
sorority fin college, and I NEVER heard of a soror thembers. Some fraterni-
ut certainly not sororities. been fighting this battle ev Whether your aunt ery day since he was 2. I hav discipline is beside the pist available and exhausted point. Striking someone every resource I could find. with a paddle is assault and now we have either aged with a weapon. A young out or my son isn't "ba
man died a short time ago enough" to be eligible. man died a short time ago enough" to be eligible.
in Florida because of the
However, he is still diffikind of hazing this national cult to handle, and I still need organization is winking to buy grocereries and run er at. Are young women who rands. Sometimes that paren
behave that way really the you re giving the dirty behave that way really the you are giving the dirty looks
kind of people you would to is near the end of her rope kiid of people you would to is near the end of her rope
like to be lifelong friends? and could use a little compasIf not, then pass on that so- sion or at least silence from rority!
DEAR ABBY: My son you see isn't gallery. What DEAR ABBY: My son you see isn't always what
is chronologically 12 and you get. - STRUGGUNG is chronologically 12 and you get. - STRUGGLINC
the size of an adult, but emo- MOM IN LONG BEACH tionally he is age 5. He's a MISS. moderately functioning child DEAR STRUGGLING
with autism, ADHD and be- MOM: Please accept my havioral issues.
PLEASE let PLEASE let people know er parents of children with see a disability does not realities of daily living the mean there isn't one. I often last thing you (or they) need get dirty looks and rude com- is criticism from strangers. ments, and I am extremely if someone makes a com-
frustrated with it. Being nice ment or gives you a look, or ignoring it does no good. you should say, "My son I know my son's behav- can't help himself; he's au

analysis.
Opine Opine about his unorthodox throwing motion
widely derided by scouts and coaches and seemingly more suited for tossing a
boomerang than a football - and the quick assumption becomes that you might not like him because
of his religious belief. of his religious beliefs. Defend him as a win-
ner who cares less about conventionality and depends more than mechanisc - well,
then you must be then you must be drinking
the Kool-Aid, a Tebow fan because you're in line with his Christian beliefs.
"I still "I still have doubts about
him as a long-term answer him as a long-term answer,
as I think most reasonable as I think most reasonable
people do," said radio host people do," said radio host
Sandy Clough, who has been manning Denver's sports talk shows for more han 30 years. "Does one
game, if he plays well, not only invalidate his play
from from the other (bad) games but anything anyone's ever
said about it? Well, no it said about it? Well, no it
doesn't. It's all part of the doesnn't It's all part of the
mix. It's a fascinating mix, He's the toughest player I've ever had to analyze,
because there because there are all these extraneous fact
have to bring in."
have to bring in."
Sensing the excitement and loving his message, Tebow is also being court-
ed by Republican presiden ed by Republican presidential candidates. The quar-
terback recently told The Associated Press he's been asked by more than one of the contenders for his
support. He wouldn't name support. He wouldn't name
names, but did say he'd declined the offer.

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## The Pampa News Classifieds



## Sports

Saban has always liked. I just feel that only having two teams sort of takes
lot of teams out of it," he said during media day in New Orleans.
Currently, the top two teams in the BCS stand ings after the regular sea on, including conferenc hampionships, advance mat that's led to frequent debates about whether th right teams were getting a hot to play This year's contro versy involved whethe Alabama ( $11-1$ ) should ge second chance at und champion Oklahoma State (12-1, including its bow victory over Stanford) had earned a shot to play fo he national title. caused as many argument as settled them, and draw he ire of fans all ove he country in the pro pressure from a politica action committee called PlayoffPAC, and been the subject of a congressiona of Justice inquiry, Even President Barack Obam has said he doesn't like it. Apparently, all that con ternation is starting to makers in the sport "I sense that people who un college football and an the conferences obvi said Burke Magnus, ESPN enior vice president college sports programThe structure in place with four bowl games the Orange, Sugar, Ros and Fiesta - each takin urns hosting the champi nship game, in additio he plus-one. Slive said that he will not be the one champion ing the plus-one this time
around "I'm eager to hear from views, but I fully antici-
pate that there will also be a meaningful discushe said. Stindin the plus-one last time were the plus-one las ac-10, Big
the Big Ten, Pace East and Big 12. Since then, the Pac-
has become the Pac has become the Pac-12 missioner, Larry Scott, who has quickly established himself as one of the most forward-thinking leaders in college sports.
Previous commissioner Previous commissione
Tom Hansen was adamantly against a plus-one. Scott is willing to listen. "We don't have a definite opinion on that or
any other model yet," he said. "It's a little premature. Those conversations are going to start in ear-
nest this nest this spring and I'll
have opportunities to talk have opportunitites to tall
to other people informally within our conference and with other conferences between now and then."
The Big 12 has an inter The Big 12 has an inter-
im commissioner, with Chuck Neinas replacing the ousted Dan Beebe, who was a vocal opponent
of any type of playoff of any type of playoff. has a new commissioner too. John Marinatto has been busy trying to save
his league, and it's his league, and it's doubt-
ful the conference is in ful the conference is in a
position to be a force in the upcoming BCS negotiations. What hasn't changed is
the Big Ten's stance, led the Big Ten's stance, led
by its influential commis by its influential commis-
sioner, Jim Delany. Delany is steadfastly against a full-blown playoff and has said his big-
gest fear with the plus-one gest fear with the plus-one
would be that once a fourteam playoff becomes a reality it would inevitably grow. Id don't necessarily think "I don't necessarily think
the slippery slope is theothe slippery slope is theo-
retical," he said last month. retical," he said last month.
"I think the slippery slope is practical." " But Delany has come out in favor of another poten-
tially major change to how tially major change to how
all the other marquee bowl
cont. from page
games are set: the elimin ion of automatic bids. The Big Ten, Big 12 Big East, ACC, SEC and Pac-12 champions receive BCS. One champion from the Mountain West Conference, the Western
Athletic Conference, the Athletic Conference, the
Suin Belt Conference, the Sun Belt Conference, the and Conference USA can
potentially earn an autopotentially earn an auto-
matic bid each season by reaching certain BCS standings targets. That format has allowed
teams such as TCU and Boise State to play in the
BCS , but it's BCS, but ins also created class system ostensibly mean the mos deserving teams would play in the biggest games.
But the free market But the free market in
college football is often more about earning potential for bowl organizers than performance on the to more opportunities foa to more opportunities for
brand-name teams from the power conferences and less for upstarts such as Boise State in all the
bowls, not just the BCS bowls, not just the BCS.
"I think it's time look at the entire system," said Mountain West Conference commis-
sioner Craig Thompso sioner Craig Thompson,
a playoff advocate who appeared with Hancock on Monday.
It's clear there is much work to be done before
June, when BCS une, when BCS offi new format in place to negotiate the next television contract. The current
ESPN deal ESPN deal runs through
the 2013 season and the the 2013 season and the network will get first
crack at retaining whatever postseason system is created. "We've had a fairly lengthy timeline with the current process," Slive
said. "It's time to take meaSure of where we were. What's working. What isn't working. I think it's
time. I think it's a good
time.

Evans' comeback bid gets serious
AUSTIN (AP) - If Janet Evans is Texas. She'll find out just how far she has Joing to cap her comeback with a return to go and whether her body will
o the London Olympics, it's time to get
there against athletes half her age. erious. The Austin meet is the beginning
Once the precocious teen queen of American swimmers, the 40 -year-old married mother of two returns to elite com- swimmers. Michael Phelps, Ryan Lochte
petition for the first time since her 1996 petition for the first time since her 1996 and Missy Franklin, the latest teen sen-
retirement at the Austin Grand Prix this weekend to start the final stretch of what sation among the American women, are he hopes will be a return to the Olympics international swimmers who will compete The former gold medalist and world this weekend. record holder will swim her signature kids," Evans tweeted before boarding events, the 400 and 800 meter freestyle flight to Austin on Thursday. She decline

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