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TODAY IN SPORTS



Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2012 www.thepampanews.com Volume 107 • No. 259

75¢ And on and on it goes...
\$1.50 weekend Redistricting deal prospects dampen | p10

New goals for Harvesters
No district crown? Time to regroup, says team | p11

Community leaders talk county plan

MOLLIE BRYANT
mbryant@thepampanews.com

A team of community leaders met Tuesday morning to discuss the Gray County Community Plan, which outlines the area's criminal justice issues, including teen pregnancy, drug and alcohol abuse, juvenile crime, sexting and cyberbullying, illiteracy, family violence and child abuse. The plan is a result of federal grants that require communities to meet annually to establish a plan and coordinate services.

Dee Dee Laramore, coordinator of the event and executive director of Tralee Crisis Center, said that the plan helps the community identify needs and collaborate in addressing them.

"It's a lot of brainstorming about what's available to everyone, so we all know that when different situations arise, we can look at that and see what different resources are available, and that just helps us in each of our different realms," said Laramore. "It helps us do our job better and make sure we work together and work with each other."

"From the criminal justice standpoint, it's (about) how we can best serve the people, bottom line," she added.

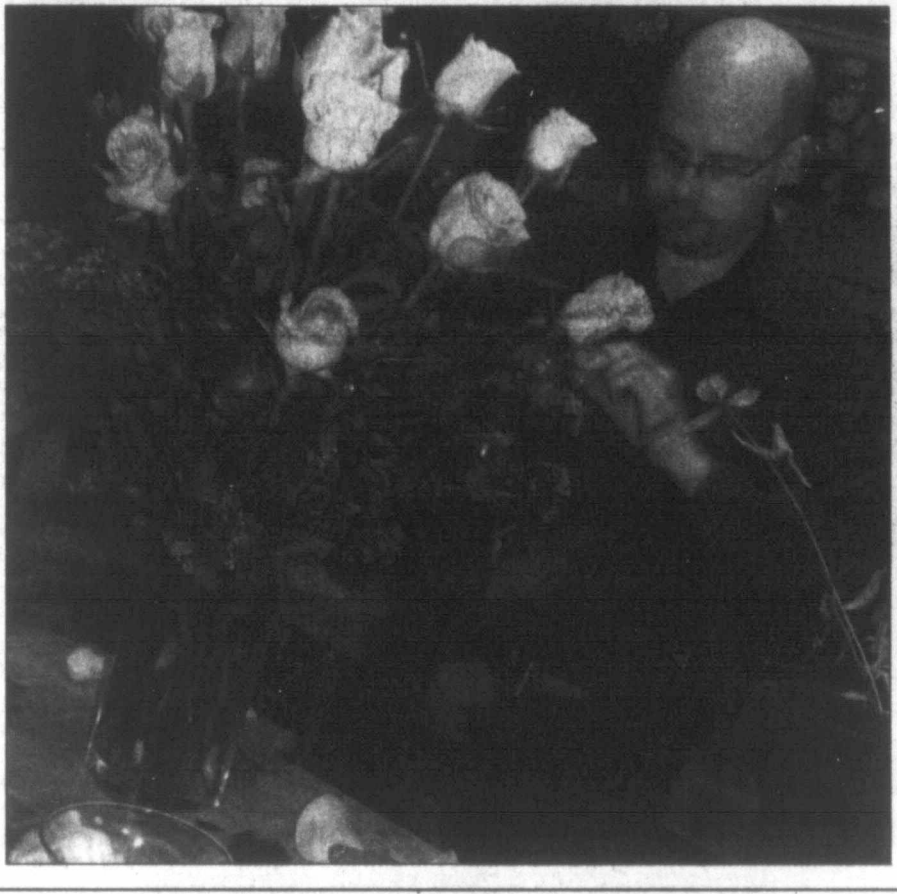
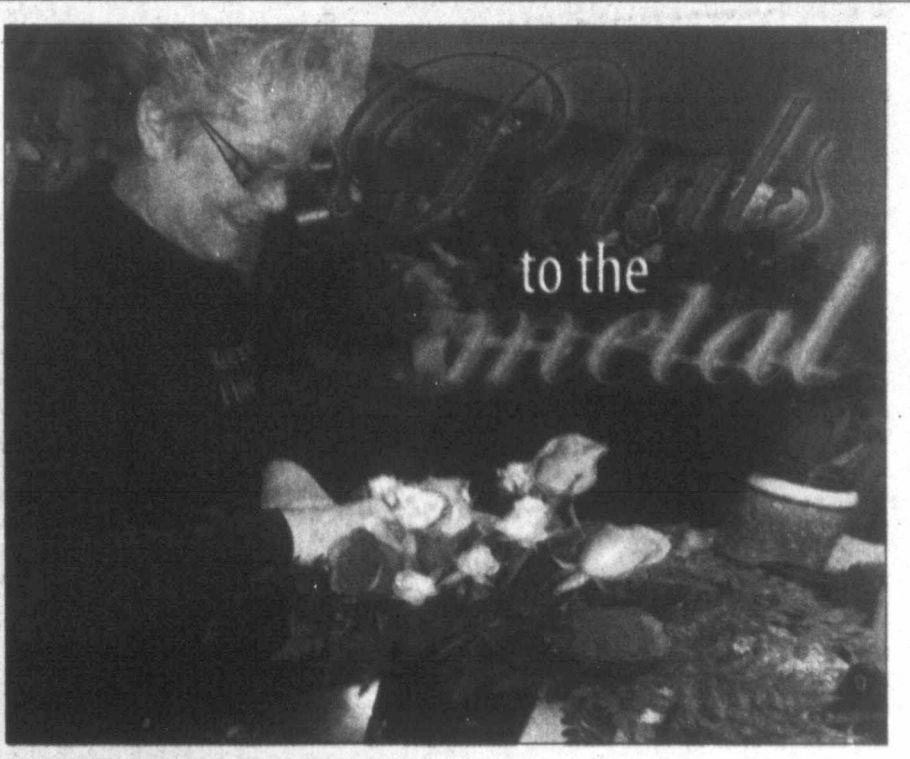
Funding for community services was one issue addressed at the meeting.

"We're all facing the fact that funding is cut," said Laramore. "More is happening, and we have less funding to help meet those needs, so that is a constant thing. As the economy has worsened throughout the country, we're feeling it more and more in this area, and it's not just Tralee. Every one of the agencies is feeling that."

A major issue addressed at the meeting involved the absence of a sexual assault nurse in the area. Amarillo is the nearest place to go for the procedure, which can last up to two and a half hours.

"The biggest thing was that we've had a sexual assault examiner at the hospital here, and we no longer have one here," said Laramore. "So if anyone has a sexual assault exam that **PLAN** cont. on page 12

RIGHT: Sharon McCormick of Roberta's Flowers arranges a Valentine's vase. **BELOW:** Donna Caskey of Brandon's Flowers puts the finishing touches on an arrangement.



Busy Valentine's Day for Pampa's florists



staff photos by Arnie Aurellano

LEFT: Nick Elderkin of Brandon's Flowers concentrates on a rose arrangement. **ABOVE:** Patsy Bright of Roberta's double-checks an order.

Landowner education luncheon to be held

THE PAMPA NEWS

Playa lakes — naturally occurring depressions that occasionally turn into makeshift lakes when flooded — occur commonly around the Panhandle, with over 750 playas in Gray County alone.

With so many playas dotting the landscape, any landowner — whether a farm-

er, rancher, or municipality — grapples with how to manage playa basins on their property.

Interested landowners are invited to attend a Landowner Education Luncheon on Thursday, Feb. 23 from 11:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. at the Gray County USDA Service Center Annex Meeting Room, located at 12125 E. Frederick Avenue.

Those attending will receive information on depletion rates of the Ogallala Aquifer, playa conservation programs and general information about playas and other wetlands. The workshop is sponsored by Ogallala Commons and partners Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District, Hemphill County Underground **PLAYA** cont. on page 12

PISD to expand search for superintendent externally

ARNIE AURELLANO
editor@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Independent School District Board of Trustees is opening its superintendent search to candidates outside the district.

The current superintendent, Barry Haenisch, has announced his intention to retire at the end of the school year.

The board interviewed its internal candidates at the beginning of last week and had extended its initial deliberation peri-

od on them before meeting on Monday for discussion.

"We met (on Monday) on the board voted to extend the superintendent search to external candidates," said Lee Porter, president of the PISD board. "We are going to continue to maintain an internal applicant at the same time. We will be interviewing a search firm in the near future to help us with the external search."

Porter indicated that, due to various **PISD** cont. on page 12

Search for superintendent at Lefors school district, too

MOLLIE BRYANT
mbryant@thepampanews.com

Lefors Independent School District is currently looking to fill its superintendent position, left vacant by Clay Montgomery at the beginning of the year.

Gary Laramore, who retired as Panhandle ISD superintendent two years ago, has been serving as superintendent for the Lefors ISD on an interim basis since January. He said that they posted

the opening on Jan. 2, and closed applications on Feb. 10. Applicants' corresponding vision with the school district is a priority for Laramore and the school board.

"We're looking for someone with exceptional leadership skills, a positive vision of where Lefors ISD can go, someone wanting to improve academic scores and extracurricular activities and someone big on academic success," he said.

LEFORS cont. on page 12

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PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Thursday	Friday
High 50 Low 25	High 49 Low 29	High 54 Low 30

Today: Mostly sunny, with a high near 50. Wind chill values between 22 and 32 early. Breezy, with a north northwest wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 25. North northwest wind 15 to 20 mph decreasing to between 5 and 10 mph. Winds could gust as high as 25 mph.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 49. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 29. Southeast wind around 10 mph becoming southwest.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 54. Southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Friday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 30. Calm wind becoming north between 5 and 10 mph.

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NO NEWSPAPER or Mail Delivery on Mon., Feb. 20, 2012. Pampa News office will also be closed. Open Tues, Feb 21, 8am.

PART TIME help needed, Julie's Hallmark, 125 W. Kingsmill, Pampa.

The PAMPA NEWS

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TPA

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Obituaries

Eugene Neill Laycock Jr., 55

Eugene Neill Laycock, Jr. went to be with the Lord on February 2, 2012. He died at home in Phoenix, Ariz., of natural causes. He was born December 18, 1956, in Pampa. Although our hearts are filled with sadness, he is now in the loving arms of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Clarine Madora Laycock. He is survived by his dad, Eugene Neill Laycock Sr. of Pampa; two sisters, Jowannah Kessel and husband Mike of Amarillo, and Mamie Kelley of Lubbock; and a nephew, Thomas Neill Kelley and wife Brittney of Amarillo. A private memorial was held on February 3, 2012.



Laycock

Walter L. "Buck" Worley Jr., 88

Walter L. "Buck" Worley Jr., 88, died February 12, 2012 in Pampa.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, February 16, 2012, in First Christian Church with Dr. Jeff Knighton, pastor, officiating.

Burial will be at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, February 16, 2012, in Edith Ford Memorial Cemetery in Canadian, with Masonic rites courtesy Pampa Masonic Lodge #966 AF&AM, and military honors courtesy U.S. Air Force, Blue Knights Honor Guard, Altus AFB, Altus, Okla. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

"Buck" was born October 14, 1923, in Amarillo, to Walter and Buena Worley. After graduating from Canadian High School in 1941, Buck worked as an aircraft mechanic for Consolidated Aircraft in San Diego, Calif. In 1944, he joined the Army Air Force. Buck flew the PT-19-A Fairchild, BT-13A, AT-6, P-40N and anything else he could find while on active duty. Buck remained in the Air Force Reserves and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in the USAF. In addition he flew an L-5 as a member of the Confederate Air Force Dew Line Squadron. Aircraft and flying remained a lifelong passion. After the war, he attended West Texas State University in Canyon for three years where he majored in accounting.

He married Chleo Armstrong on April 7, 1946, in Clovis, N.M. In 1946, Buck started working as bookkeeper for the White House Lumber Co. in Canadian. Eventually, Buck owned the company in addition to Elco Glass and Home Builders Supply. For many years he served as Director and Board Member for the Texas Lumberman's Association in addition to various Pampa civic groups. Buck was a life member of Masonic Lodge 966; Scottish Rite Consistory of Lubbock and Khiva Shrine Temple of Amarillo. He was a member of the First Christian Church in Pampa.

Survivors include his wife of 65 years, Chleo; his son and daughter-in-law, Chuck and Kay Worley of Carlsbad, Calif.; and two granddaughters, Angela Worley of Columbus, Ohio and Megan with her husband Major Doug Krugman of Honolulu, Hawaii.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the First Christian Church, 1633 North Nelson, Pampa, TX, 79065.

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



Worley

Margie Prestidge, 80

Margie Prestidge, 80, died February 12, 2012, in Canyon.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Prestidge was born March 16, 1931, in McLean. She was a lifelong resident of Gray County and served as Justice of the Peace, Precinct #2, for 24 years. She served as president of the West Texas Justice of the Peace Association from 1980-1981, and served on the board of directors in the 1980's. She was a former manager of Tralee Crisis Center and worked for the Salvation Army. She was a member of First Baptist Church of Lefors.

Survivors include a son, David C. Prestidge and wife Kathe of Amarillo; two brothers, Douglas Smith of Pampa and Carroll Smith and wife Dorothy of Kerrville; four sisters, Judith Robertson and husband Bob and Sylvia Johnson, all of Amarillo, Leta Wischkaemper of Shamrock, and Christine Smith of White Deer; seven grandchildren, Justin Prestidge and wife Carolyn, Talea Prestidge and Trystyn Prestidge, all of Bridgeport, Shawn Prestidge of Happy, Cpl. Niki Baldwin and husband Sgt. Sean of Virginia, Felisha Prestidge of Fort Worth, and Ashley Fronterhouse of Canyon; 10 great-grandchildren; daughter-in-law, Beverly Prestidge of Canyon. Margie was preceded in death by her parents, Roger and Clara Smith; a son, Ken Prestidge; two brothers, Bruce Smith and J.T. Smith; a sister, Lillian Nance Smith; and a granddaughter.

Memorials may be made to American Lung Association, P.O. Box 26566, Austin, TX 78755.

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

Isabel G. Galaviz, 74

Isabel G. Galaviz, 74, died February 13, 2012, in Pampa.

Memorial services will be at 3 p.m. Wednesday, February 15, 2012, at Kingdom Hall of the Jehovah's Witnesses, with Benito Ray and Martin Lopez, officiating. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Galaviz was born November 4, 1937, in Paducah. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1960. She was one of Jehovah's Witnesses.

Survivors include her husband, two sons, two daughters, one brother, one sister, 10 grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

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

Pat Mae Gibson, 50

Pat Mae Gibson, 50, died February 13, 2012, in Pampa.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, February 16, 2012, at Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel, with Pastor Paul Nachtigall, of Highland Baptist Church, officiating.

Burial will be at Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Gibson was born April 25, 1961 in Clinton, Okla. She was a graduate of Pampa High School and was a veteran of the U. S. Navy, serving from 1982-1984. She married Rick Gibson on August 3, 1991, in Amarillo. She was an avid culinary competitor in both the Tri-State Fair and the Texas State Fair, winning numerous ribbons. Pat was a loving mother to her three children. She had been a resident of Pampa since 2002 when she moved back to care for her mother. She was a friend to anyone who met her, and she never met a stranger.

Survivors include two daughters, Elizabeth Gibson and Emily Gibson, both of Amarillo; a son, Ricky Gibson of Amarillo; a brother, Roy Rippetoe and wife Connie of Odessa; and several nieces and nephews. Pat was preceded in death by her parents; a sister, Evarene Fritz; and her grandmother, Irene Throckmorton.

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



Prestidge



Gibson

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Delay in test requirement rules?

AUSTIN (AP) — Four Texas senators support postponing rules that new state standardized tests count toward 15 percent of high school students' grades.

A letter signed by Senate Education Committee chairwoman Florence Shapiro clarifies that Texas Education Commissioner Robert Scott can delay requirements on counting the tests toward final grades if he chooses to.

The new test is known as the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness, or STAAR.

Monday's letter says delaying the rule until next school year will allow officials more time to implement it.

The requirement was designed to ensure students take the test seriously but has caused anxiety among parents and school administrators.

The letter was also signed by two of Shapiro's fellow Republicans and a Democrat.

Scott's office confirms he has received the letter, but hasn't commented.

Sinton rejects turbines at school

SINTON (AP) — Leaders of a South Texas city have rejected plans to build two wind turbines at a school amid concerns over noise and distracting views.

Two Sinton boards met Monday night and declined to approve variances for construction of turbines at Sinton High School. A 2011 city ordinance regulates the building of wind turbines in Sinton, located 25 miles north of Corpus Christi.

Supporters say the energy generation would help the school district save money, plus the turbines could be a learning experience for students.

Critics have questioned the noise factor, raised property value concerns and complained that the towering turbines could be eyesores.

The Sinton Planning and Zoning Commission and the city's Board of Adjustment separately rejected the wind turbine proposals.

Federal funds would have helped pay for the turbines.

Houston protesters leave park

HOUSTON (AP) — The Occupy Houston protest at a city park has ended peacefully as officials clean up the public site to prepare for spring festivals.

Authorities say no arrests were immediately reported as the last handful of demonstrators, including those camping, left the downtown Houston park Monday night.

City officials estimate that repairs and cleaning, following the four-month demonstration, will cost about \$13,000.

Mayor Annise Parker had praise for the peaceful demonstration against economic inequality, but says Occupy Houston protesters will not be allowed to move to another city park.

Organizer Joe Roche says Occupy Houston will survive.

Okla. leaders push water plan

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Legislative leaders are pushing forward with a new 50-year water plan for Oklahoma, even though two Native American tribes have sued the state over water rights in southeast Oklahoma.

House Speaker Kris Steele and other House leaders unveiled some of the proposal during a briefing with reporters on Monday.

Several bills being introduced this session will encourage more water conservation and reuse, require increased water monitoring, establish regional water planning groups, and increase funding to improve the state's water infrastructure.

Steele says he hopes the water lawsuit can be settled outside of court. But he says he supports the attorney general's decision to ask the state Supreme Court to decide the rights of the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations to water in major streams in southeast Oklahoma.

'El Chapo' drug maker seized

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexican officials say they've arrested a man who manufactured methamphetamine for the Sinaloa drug cartel run by Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman.

It's the latest in a series of arrests of associates of Guzman, the most wanted man in Mexico.

Federal police say in a statement that 43-year-old Jaime Herrera Herrera was captured in the Pacific coast state of Sinaloa and was one of the principal producers of methamphetamine for Guzman's cartel.

They say he is wanted by authorities in the United States, and has acknowledged moving tons of methamphetamine into the United States.

Robbery suspect dead after shots

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas police say a robbery suspect has died after several officers fired on him when he confronted them with a handgun.

Officers were responding on Monday afternoon to the robbery of several people when a couple said they had just been robbed at gunpoint by a man who fled in a PT Cruiser. After a description of the car went out, other officers located it and began a pursuit.

Police say the suspect then abandoned the vehicle in an apartment complex, fleeing on foot.

The officers opened fire when the suspect turned and confronted them with a handgun.

The suspect, 26-year-old William Banks, was pronounced dead at an area hospital.

No officers were injured. Police say it is too early to determine if the suspect was able to fire his weapon.

Listen when your dog speaks

Dog Talk with Uncle Matty



MATTHEW "UNCLE MATTY" MARGOLIS
Creator's Syndicate

Whether confessional, emotional, baby-like or all business, we humans talk to our dogs. And as those of us paying attention know: They talk back.

They talk with their tails, with their ears, with their eyes, with their posture, with their bodies, with their tongues and with their voices. And unlike we humans, they say exactly what's on their mind — no games, no mixed messages, no hard to get.

A woman called recently and told me her dog growls only when she kisses him goodnight.

Only when she kisses him goodnight? Great. Stop kissing him goodnight. Problem solved.

That's not what she did. She kept on kissing him goodnight, every night, again and again, until he bit her. Eight stitches on the face later, and she's ready to listen.

Her dog warned her. He told her to knock it off. He said with his growl: I don't like it when you do that, and if you don't stop, I'm going to bite you.

In truth, he probably said it in more ways than one. The whites of his eyes might have been larger than usual. His body and tail probably stiffened. He likely lifted his head, nose in the air, and gave her a wide-eyed sideways stare. But she didn't hear any of it — not even the growl.

When I asked her why she persisted in kissing him despite his obvious displeasure,

she told me she loved giving him kisses and didn't think he meant it. Turns out, he did. They always do.

We can do our dogs and ourselves a great service by taking them seriously as the animals they are. And I don't mean "seriously" as in all business, no play. To the contrary, play is an important part of being a dog. In fact, they employ postures and body language that say, "Hey, let's play!" Recognizing a dog's play bow helps dog owners distinguish between friendly play and a potential fight, say, at the dog park.

Taking our dogs seriously as animals means not pretending they are human. It means educating ourselves in the wonderful ways of dogs. It means learning how to communicate with them in ways they understand, and learning to listen to them in their many attempts to get their message across.

Recognizing changes in a dog's eating habits and energy level informs a dog owner as to the possibility of a need for a trip to the vet.

Recognizing fear and anxiety in a dog can help a person pinpoint his triggers and gradually lessen their power over him.

Recognizing shy or antisocial behavior in a dog can serve as a guide to designing effective socialization techniques.

And recognizing the signs of aggression, whether isolated or general, will help protect you, your dog and others from harm. But recognition is only the first step. Acceptance is the next. At that point, you're ready to move forward to eliminating or controlling the problem so it never gets worse.

Wolf!

Dog trainer Matthew "Uncle Matty" Margolis is co-author of 18 books about dogs, a behaviorist, a popular radio and television guest, and host of the PBS series "WOOF! It's a Dog's Life!"

Gingrich: I'm in race to stay

SOUTH EL MONTE, Calif. (AP) — Republican Newt Gingrich on Monday dismissed calls to drop out of the presidential contest in order to set up a direct contest between rivals Mitt Romney and Rick Santorum. The former House speaker insisted that his ideas and a new determination to stay positive would help him once again resuscitate his flagging candidacy.

"I think my ideas are much bolder than Santorum or Romney's. I think my ideas are much clearer and more specific and I have to focus on communicating those ideas. Let's see how it plays out," Gingrich told reporters after addressing a Hispanic leadership event near Los Angeles. He is spending most of the week in California attending fundraisers.

Gingrich's comments came as the National Review, an influential conservative magazine, published an editorial calling on Gingrich to step aside and endorse Santorum, the former Pennsylvania senator who has recently surged in polls. Santorum himself suggested in an interview Sunday that he would like Gingrich to clear the way.

Gingrich called the

National Review article "silly" and said he had no intention of abandoning the race. He noted that he had been counted out several times before in the presidential race but had rallied back each time.

"The National Review wanted me to drop out in June," Gingrich said, adding that he planned to revive his candidacy with policy speeches like the one he delivered Friday at a meeting of the Conservative Political Action Committee. The speech was well received, but Gingrich nonetheless placed third in the group's presidential straw poll.

Gingrich was riding high in polls before Iowa's kickoff caucuses Jan. 3, before Restore Our Future, a super PAC backing Romney's campaign, attacked him with negative ads casting him as a tainted Washington insider. The ads helped sink him to a weak fourth place finish there.

Gingrich came back to win a resounding victory in South Carolina's primary Jan. 21, at which time he urged Santorum to consider dropping out. But Romney's campaign, along with Restore Our Future, launched some \$15 million in nega-

tive ads against Gingrich in Florida, crushing his momentum. Romney won Florida's primary Jan. 31, and Gingrich has struggled to catch fire again while Santorum has surged.

Speaking to a tea party group in Pasadena, Gingrich depicted Santorum as a flash in the pan whose own candidacy had been nearly left for dead before he won contests in Minnesota, Missouri and Colorado last week.

"He had a really good Tuesday and suddenly the same people who said I was dead in June are saying, 'See, I told you so,'" Gingrich said. "I have a message for them — I'm still here."

Cinema 4

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Friday, February 10 through
Thursday, February 16.

Safe House (R)
Fri 7:30 9:45
Sat 2:00 4:30 7:30 9:45
Sun 2:00 4:30 7:30
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Women in Black (PG-13)
Fri 7:30 9:45
Sat 2:00 4:30 7:30 9:45
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Journey 2 (3D) (PG)
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Chronicle (PG-13)
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ATS

Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, Feb. 15, the 46th day of 2012. There are 320 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 15, 1952, a funeral was held at Windsor Castle for Britain's King George VI, who had died nine days earlier.

On this date:

In 1764, the city of St. Louis was established by Pierre Laclède and Auguste Chouteau.

In 1812, American jeweler Charles Lewis Tiffany, the founder of Tiffany & Co., was born in Killingly, Conn.

In 1898, the U.S. battleship Maine mysteriously blew up in Havana Harbor, killing more than 260 crew members and bringing the United States closer to war with Spain.

In 1933, President-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt escaped an assassination attempt in Miami that mortally wounded Chicago Mayor Anton J. Cermak; gunman Giuseppe Zangara was executed more than four weeks later.

In 1942, the British colony Singapore surrendered to Japanese forces during World War II.

In 1953, Tenley Albright became the first American woman to win the world figure skating championship, held in Davos, Switzerland.

In 1961, 73 people, including an 18-member U.S. figure skating team en route to the World Championships in Czechoslovakia, were killed in the crash of a Sabena Airlines Boeing 707 in Belgium.

In 1965, Canada's new maple-leaf flag was unfurled in ceremonies in Ottawa.

In 1971, Britain and Ireland "decimalised" their currencies, making one pound equal to 100 new pence instead of 240 pence.

In 1982, 84 men were killed when a huge oil-drilling rig, the Ocean Ranger, sank off the coast of Newfoundland during a fierce storm.

In 1989, the Soviet Union announced that the last of its troops had left Afghanistan, after more than nine years of military intervention.

In 1992, a Milwaukee jury found that Jeffrey Dahmer was sane when he killed and mutilated 15 men and boys. Benjamin L. Hooks announced plans to retire as executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

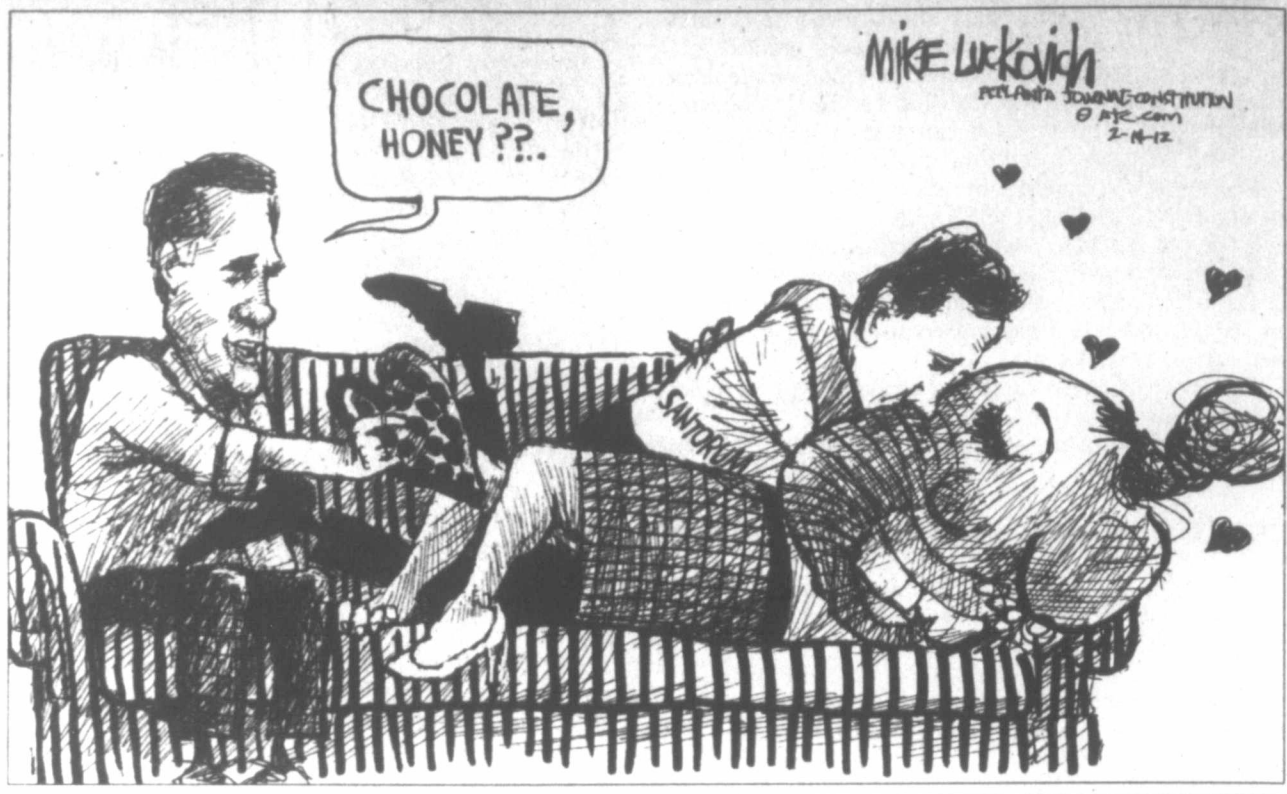
Ten years ago: A private funeral was held at Windsor Castle for Britain's Princess Margaret, who had died six days earlier at age 71. President George W. Bush approved Nevada's Yucca Mountain as the site for long-term disposal of thousands of tons of highly radioactive nuclear waste. (However, the Obama administration decided in 2009 to halt work on the Yucca site.) Skating and Olympics officials awarded Canadian pairs figure skaters Jamie Sale and David Pelletier a gold medal, while letting the Russian pair, Elena Berezhnaya and Anton Sikharulidze, keep their gold medal as a way to resolve a judging controversy that had dominated the Winter Games in Salt Lake City. Broadcast journalist Howard K. Smith died in Bethesda, Md., at age 87.

Five years ago: National Guardsmen in Humvees ferried food, fuel and baby supplies to hundreds of motorists stranded for nearly a day on a 50-mile stretch of Interstate 78 in eastern Pennsylvania because of a monster storm. The U.S. Mint unveiled the new presidential \$1 coin. Oscar-winning songwriter Ray Evans died in Los Angeles at age 92.

One year ago: Protesters swarmed Wisconsin's capitol after Gov. Scott Walker proposed cutbacks in benefits and bargaining rights for public employees. Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi was ordered to stand trial on charges he'd paid a 17-year-old Moroccan girl for sex and then used his influence to cover it up. (Both Berlusconi and the young woman denied having a sexual relationship.)

Today's Birthdays: Actor Allan Arbus is 94. Former Illinois Congressman John Anderson is 90. Former Defense and Energy Secretary James Schlesinger is 83. Actress Claire Bloom is 81. Author Susan Brownmiller is 77. Songwriter Brian Holland is 71. Rock musician Mick Avory (The Kinks) is 68. Jazz musician Henry Threadgill is 68. Actress Jane Seymour is 61. Singer Melissa Manchester is 61. Actress Lynn Whitfield is 59. "Simpsons" creator Matt Groening is 58. Model Janice Dickinson is 57. Actor Christopher McDonald is 57. Reggae singer Ali Campbell is 53. Actor Joseph R. Gannascoli is 53. Musician Mikey Craig (Culture Club) is 52. College and Pro Football Hall of Famer Darrell Green is 52. Country singer Michael Reynolds (Pinmonkey) is 48. Actor Michael Easton is 45. Rock musician Stevie Benton (Drowning Pool) is 41. Actress Renee O'Connor is 41. Actress Sarah Wynter is 39. Actor-director Miranda July is 38. Rock singer Brandon Boyd (Incubus) is 36. Rock musician Ronnie Vannucci (The Killers) is 36. Actress Ashley Lyn Cafagna is 29. Actress Amber Riley is 26.

Thought for Today: "Like all dreamers I confuse disenchantment with truth." - Jean-Paul Sartre, French philosopher (1905-1980).



Businesses can take big step in ending the use of cellphones behind the wheel

[Editor's Note: Todd Clement, who is quoted in this column, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. T.G. Clement of Pampa.]

It was more like an explosion than a collision. The work truck's cruise control was set at 71 miles an hour and the driver never touched the brake.

A car ahead of him was stopped in the highway, waiting to make a left turn. A 30-year-old woman and her 82-year-old grandmother were killed in an instant.

"The driver said, 'I never saw them.' And though he would dispute it later, in the aftermath of the accident, he told an EMS driver that he was texting prior to the wreck," said Dallas lawyer Todd Clement.

Clement represented the family of the women killed last year outside Sherman. He won a confidential settlement for them from the other driver's company. And Clement has been on a national campaign ever since to ban cellphone use in moving vehicles.

"This case affected me more

than any other in my life," the 49-year-old lawyer said. "A 3-year-old and a 9-year-old lost their mom. A husband lost his wife of 62 years and had to go into a nursing home immediately after the accident."



STEVE BLOW

On Tuesday, the National Transportation Safety Board unanimously recommended that states outlaw cellphone use while driving. And Clement supports that move. But he travels the country urging a step that would have a huge and much more immediate impact.

"Businesses have to ban this activity. That's the only way they can protect themselves," he said.

That goes against the tide, of course. More and more of us use our vehicles as mobile offices. The driver who hit Clement's clients worked for Cable ONE, a major provider of

cable, phone and Internet service. He drove a pickup owned by the company.

But whether involving a company vehicle or not, the law is clear that a business is liable when an employee on the job causes an accident. Clement said. And cellphone use not only makes a crash far more likely, it also increases the likelihood of being found at fault, he said.

And this is an area where juries seem especially eager to issue "send-a-message verdicts," he said — turning their displeasure over cellphones into huge monetary awards.

A 2009 Virginia Tech study concluded that cellphone users are at least six times more likely to be involved in a fatal crash.

A Texas Transportation Institute study released in October found that texting drivers were 11 times more likely to miss visual cues.

Steve Blow is a columnist with the Dallas Morning News. This column appeared in the Dec. 14, 2011 issue of the newspaper, and is reprinted with permission of the Dallas Morning News.

Obama pitches middle while GOP eyes base

CHARLES BABINGTON
Associated Press Analysis

WASHINGTON (AP) - The dust-up over contraception underscored President Barack Obama's political edge in working to attract independent voters without alienating his Democratic base. His Republican rivals are forced to keep emphasizing their conservative credentials to attract the right-leaning activists who dominate the nominating contests.

It's a dynamic that usually plays out when a president seeks re-election without a primary challenger, and the other party fights to determine its nominee.

Obama already is in general-election mode, with the luxury of courting voters who don't ascribe to a political party. The eventual Republican nominee is moving to the right and probably will have to edge back toward the center in the fall. The farther he must go to the fringe to win the nod, however, the tougher his task.

The difference was clear recently, at events two miles apart in Washington.

At the White House, Obama made a carefully calibrated concession to Catholics angered by his decision to require religious-affiliated employers, including Catholic hospitals and colleges, to cover birth control in their health insurance plans. The president tweaked the rule Friday. He said insurance companies would provide contraceptive benefits directly to employees, technically leaving employers out of the transaction.

White House and Obama campaign officials were relieved by the initial reaction.

Groups such as Planned Parenthood, which privately had urged no changes, praised the move. More important, so did the influential Catholic Health Association of the United States, whose criticism of the original rule spelled trouble for Obama's team.

At the same time across town,

three of the four GOP presidential candidates appeared separately at the Conservative Political Action Conference, a major annual gathering of activists on the political right. Each tried to out-do the other in proclaiming conservative fealty.

Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, former House speaker Newt Gingrich and former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum criticized Obama's contraception policy. They painted themselves as conservative crusaders on a range of issues.

Romney drew snickers by saying he was a "severely conservative governor." Gingrich said the Obama administration "is waging war on religion."

Santorum, who built much of his national profile by fighting legalized abortion, said Obama is "telling the Catholic Church that they are forced to pay for things that are against their basic tenets and teachings."

"It's not about contraception," he said. "It's about economic liberty. It's about freedom of speech. It's about freedom of religion."

Democrats hope independent voters will see it differently. Americans, including Catholics, overwhelmingly embrace birth control. Obama's goal was to reframe his policy as a matter of equal access to preventive health care, not a quarrel about religious or economic rights.

"I think the president ended up looking like the responsible person in the room," said Lanae Erickson of the Democratic-leaning group Third Way, which has studied independent voting trends. "The Republican primary candidates went way out on a limb and will alienate themselves with independent voters," she said.

The CPAC speeches were standard fare for such conservative gatherings, and they may not matter much in November. But Democrats will try to use the remarks to portray the eventual GOP nominee as out of touch with middle America.

For now, they're focusing mainly on Romney, who won a straw poll at

CPAC and the Maine GOP caucuses.

"Mitt Romney and the rest may think that catering to the tea party set and Rush Limbaugh is the only way to win the nomination, but the eventual nominee is going to pay a huge price for that approach with voters in the fall," said Brad Rodhouse, spokesman for the Democratic National Committee.

Campaign strategists endlessly debate the right balance between pursuing independents versus firing up the party base. Karl Rove broke new ground in 2004 by placing considerably more emphasis on the Republican base, which propelled President George W. Bush to a second term.

Obama's 2008 victory, however, was built on the more traditional formula of focusing extensively on independent voters while doing as much as possible to keep his party's liberal activists energized. Since then, Obama has struggled to overcome their disappointment.

The shift on the Catholic contraception issue appears modest enough to cause few ripples. But Obama infuriated some liberal groups by dropping plans to tighten ozone restrictions and to have a government-run health insurance provider.

Erickson said Obama can ill afford to appease liberals with left-leaning moves that would alienate independents. As public disenchantment with Congress has soared in the past few years, she said, the ranks of independents have swelled at the Democratic and Republican parties' expense.

"This year is going to have the highest independent turnout in modern political history," Erickson said.

The GOP primary contest shows no sign of wrapping up soon.

The longer it goes on, the more time Obama has to make overtures to independents who, as Erickson put it, "will be the kingmakers in this election."

What is your opinion?
Share it with our readers.
Send your comments to:
rprbble@thepampnews.com

Worship

How do you sense God's presence?

"I sensed God's presence when he gave me courage to pull my cousin out of a deep ditch with a fishing net, and later that night, I knew God had helped me," says Dustin, age 9.

Good catch, Dustin! Every crisis presents an opportunity to experience God's presence and power.

"I sense God's presence when I am scared because he gives me courage," says Alex, 10.

Fear is an immobilizer. It keeps us from living large in God's presence. Most people choose security over adventure. We choose the comfort of self-imposed limits over the faith adventure of letting God lead us.

Through the prophet Isaiah, God told Israel: "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand" (Isaiah 41:10).

"When there is something that you think is impossible, that means God is there," says Brent, 9. "When I do stuff God wants me to do, I feel God's presence."

Yes, God is there when we face the impossible, but remember: He's there for the small stuff as well. Trust him for the attack of the mosquito, and you'll be better prepared to trust him for the charge of the elephant.

Something deep inside us longs to live courageously. We love stories of mighty warriors like William Wallace, especially as depicted by Mel Gibson in "Braveheart." Living with fearless abandon in God's presence is every Christian's inheritance, but too often we feel like a wimp instead of a warrior. We fail to understand the power of God's presence.

When Israel came out of Egypt, God revealed his presence in a glory-cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night (Exodus 13:21-22). Next, he showed his presence in a cloud that descended on the tabernacle the Israelites built according to his instructions (Exodus 40:34). Later, God again revealed his glorious presence through a cloud at the dedication of Solomon's temple (1 Kings 8:10-11).

Today, God's presence and glory won't be found in buildings or tabernacles. Now,



CARY KINSOLVING

KIDS talk about GOD

he dwells in the hearts of his people. The law God gave to Moses never transformed anyone's desires. Rather, it showed the heart's wicked condition. Now, God performs spiritual transplants by giving new hearts to all

who believe in Jesus as their savior (Hebrews 8:7-13).

Go forth with a new heart infused with the love of God, informed by the Word of God and filled with the Spirit of God. Take authority over fear, worry, loneliness, rejection and other negative emotions.

"I sense God's presence when I pray, when I read the Bible and when I tell people about God," says Jonathan, 9.

Jonathan is experiencing God's presence by exercising his royal priesthood and ambassadorship. Through prayer, he goes directly into God's presence. By studying the Word, he's learning more about God. When he shares his faith, he functions as a heavenly ambassador. He is living in God's presence.

"You can sense God is present when you feel deep joy and relaxation," says Alex, 9. "God doesn't talk to us in a loud voice. He speaks to us in a quiet, still voice — almost like a whisper."

Think about this: God often speaks in a still, quiet voice, but he can speak in a loud voice as well. Sensing God's presence is the first step in hearing him speak and living boldly without fear.

Memorize this truth: Isaiah 41:10, quoted above.

Ask this question: Are you aware of God's presence today?

Cary Kinsolving is an experienced public speaker, syndicated newspaper columnist, author, and producer.

CHURCH SPOTLIGHT

Wells takes over as new youth pastor at First Baptist church

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

First Baptist Church has a new youth pastor, as Trey Wells takes over the position.

Wells, 33, comes to Pampa from Valdosta, Ga., where he held the same position at Bethany Baptist. He was introduced on February 5 during the service. Wells said the transition has gone smoothly.

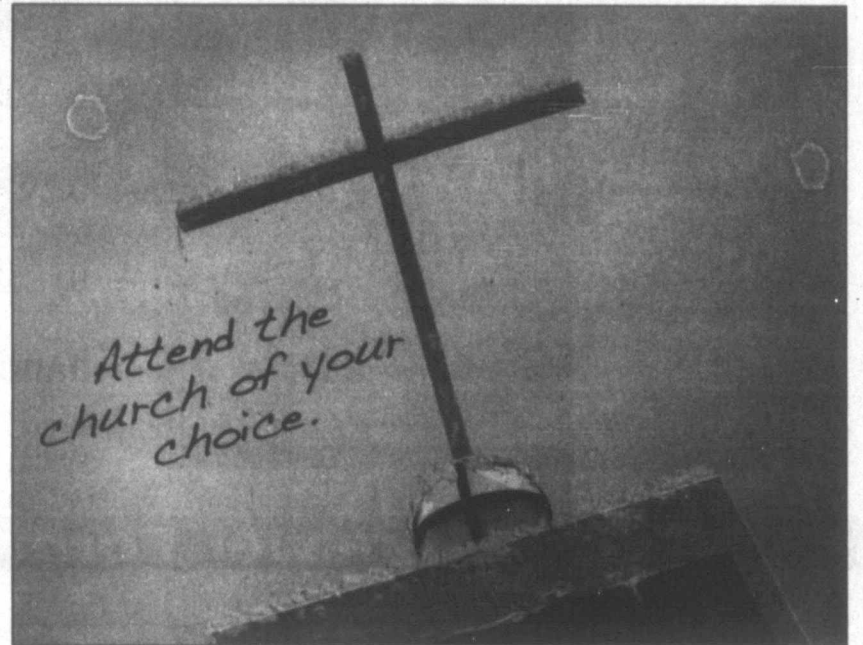
"I've been a youth pastor for 13 years," Wells said. "This has been

one of the easiest first weeks I've had."

Wells said the church has met the youth and is excited about working with them.

"They are a great bunch of students," Wells said. "We are taking them to a concert in Oklahoma City this weekend."

Wells comes to Pampa with his wife Laura, who he's been married to for five and half years. He has a son James, 4.



Pampa Church Directory

- | | | |
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669-7830 | First Freewill Baptist Church
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665-2545 | 441 Elm
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665-4926 |
| Briarwood Full Gospel Church
1800 W. Harvester Avenue
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665-7201 | First Pentecostal Holiness
1700 Alcock
Pampa TX 79065
665-8192 | New Hope Baptist Church
404 Harlem
Pampa TX 79065
665-4044 |
| Calvary Assembly of God Church
1030 Love Street
Pampa TX 79065
669-7207 | First Presbyterian
525 N. Gray
Pampa TX 79065
665-1031 | New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
912 S. Gray St.
Pampa TX 79065
665-4044 |
| Calvary Baptist
900 E. 23rd Street
Pampa TX 79065
665-0842 | First United Methodist
Foster & Ballard
Pampa TX 79065
669-7411 | New Life Assembly of God
1435 N. Sumner
Pampa TX 79065
665-0804 |
| Carpenter's Church
639 S. Barnes
Pampa TX 79065
669-2720 | Gateway of Grace Ministries
720 W. Francis
Pampa TX 79065
806-336-4427 | Open Door Church of God in Christ
402 Oklahoma
Pampa TX 79065
665-6132 |
| Central Baptist Church
513 E. Francis
Pampa TX 79065
665-1631 | Grace Baptist Church
824 S. Barnes
Pampa TX 79065
669-7967 | Pampa Chapel of the Apostolic Faith
711 E. Harvester
Pampa TX 79065
669-9635 |
| Church of Christ
1342 Mary Ellen
Pampa TX 79065
665-0031 | Harvest Fellowship Baptist Church
2700 W. Kentucky Ave.
Pampa TX 79065
665-4922 | Priest Park Church of God
731 N. Faulkner
Pampa TX 79065
688-0174 |
| Church of Christ Somerville
500 N. Somerville
Pampa TX 79065
665-0004 | Harvest Bible Church
300 W. Browning Avenue
Pampa TX 79065
669-2923 | Primera Iglesia Bautista Mexicana
541 Hamilton
Pampa TX 79065
665-8347 |
| Church of God
Gwendolen & Sumner
Pampa TX 79065
669-6372 | Hobart Baptist Church
1100 W. Crawford
Pampa TX 79065
669-3212 | Salvation Army
701 S. Cuyler
Pampa TX 79065
665-7233 |
| Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints
411 East 29th Ave.
Pampa TX 79065
669-2967 | Hi-land Christian Church
1615 N. Banks
Pampa TX 79065
669-6700 | Seventh Day Adventist Church
421 N. Ward
Pampa TX 79065
665-4492 |
| Church of the Nazarene
500 N. West
Pampa TX 79065
669-3144 | Highland Baptist Church
1301 N. Banks
Pampa TX 79065
665-3300 | Southside Church of Christ
11927 McCullough
Pampa TX 79065
665-2183 |
| Community Christian School
1801 W. Harvester
Pampa, TX 79065
662-3393 | Iglesia Bautista Emanuel
1021 S. Barnes
Pampa TX 79065
665-4330 | St. Paul United Methodist Church
511 N. Hobart
Pampa TX 79065
665-8951 |
| Cornerstone Baptist Church
2410 W. 23rd Ave.
Pampa TX 79065
669-6509 | Iglesia Casa Del Alfarero
500 N. Duncan
Pampa TX 79065
665-5898 | St. Mark CME Church
406 Elm Ave
Pampa TX 79065
665-6743 |
| Crosspointe
711 E. Harvester
Pampa TX 79065
665-2480 | Iglesia Cristiana Canaan
905 E. Beryl St.
Pampa TX 79065
669-3330 | St. Matthews Episcopal Church
727 W. Browning
Pampa TX 79065
665-0703 |
| Faith Bible Church
110 W. Kingsmill
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688-9266 | Iglesia Nueva Vida
New Life Church
1200 S. Sumner
Pampa, TX 79065
665-8331 | St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
810 W. 23rd Ave.
Pampa TX 79065
665-8933 |
| Fellowship Baptist Church
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Pampa TX 79065
665-2747 | Jehovah's Witnesses
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669-9355 | Trinity Fellowship Church
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665-3255 |
| Fellowship Baptist Church
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Pampa TX 79065
665-5976 | Kentucky Ave. Church of Christ
1612 W. Kentucky
Pampa TX 79065
665-2572 | United Pentecostal Church
610 Naida
Pampa TX 79065
665-3676 |
| First Assembly of God
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Pampa TX 79065
665-5941 | Lighthouse Baptist Church
725 W. Browning
Pampa TX 79065
665-0262 | United Methodist Church
201 E. Foster
Pampa TX 79065
669-9371 |
| First Baptist Church
203 N. West
Pampa TX 79065
669-1155 | Lighthouse Covenant Fellowship
1733 N. Banks St.
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669-6915 | Zion Lutheran Church
1200 Duncan
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669-2774 |
| First Christian Church
1633 N. Nelson
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669-3225 | Macedonia Baptist Church | |

GOD'S GOOD NEWS

Honesty the best policy with God

John Hull in his book, "Pivotal Praying," tells the story of a little boy who wanted a bike for his sixth birthday. He had some behavior problems lately and his mother thought this would be a good time to speak to him about it. She asked him if he thought he really deserved to get a bike for his birthday. He quickly replied that he thought he should. His mother suggested to him that he go to his room and reflect upon his behavior over



DAVID BOULTER

the last year and then write God a letter and tell Him why he felt he deserved a bike for his birthday. Little Bobby went to his room and sat down to write God a letter:

Dear God,
I have been a very good boy this year and I would like a bike for my birthday. I want a red one.

Bobby knew this wasn't true and he realized God already knew it. He finally decided with God that honesty was the best policy. He then started his third letter:

Dear God,
I know I haven't been a very good boy this year. I am very sorry. I will be a good boy if you send me a red bike.

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Find the missing words from this week's Bible verse in the ads below and fill in the numbered blanks on the answer form with the correct words. On the line below that word, write the name of the advertiser whose ad contains the missing word. Fill in your name, address and phone number and mail to P.O. Box 2198, Pampa Texas 79066 or deliver to *The Pampa News Office* at 403 W. Atchison. Entries must be received by 3 p.m. on Feb. 10, 17, 24 and March 2.

A random winner will be chosen from the forms with the correct answers.

Copies of this form are not accepted. *Bibles donated by Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.*

THIS WEEK'S VERSE HOLY BIBLE (New Living Translation)

Watch out! Don't do your good deeds (1), to be (2) by others, for you will lose the (3) from your Father in heaven. When you give to (4) in need, don't do as the (5) do—blowing (6) in the synagogues and streets to call attention to their acts of (7)! I tell you the truth, they have received all the reward they will ever get. But when you give to someone in (8), don't let your left hand know what your right hand is doing. Give your gifts in (9), and your Father, who sees (10), will reward you.

Matthew 6:1-4

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Answer Form

(1.) _____	(6.) _____
(adv.) _____	(adv.) _____
(2.) _____	(7.) _____
(adv.) _____	(adv.) _____
(3.) _____	(8.) _____
(adv.) _____	(adv.) _____
(4.) _____	(9.) _____
(adv.) _____	(adv.) _____
(5.) _____	(10.) _____
(adv.) _____	(adv.) _____



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525 N. Gray St. • Pampa, TX 79065
806-665-1031

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Sunday School for Children & Adults 9:30 am
Worship at 10:45

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Dinner at 6:30 pm
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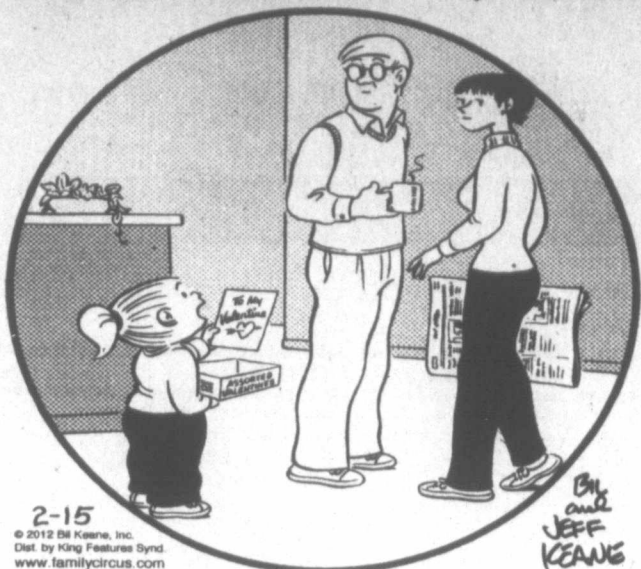
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THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



2-15
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"I have one left over. Which of you still wants to be my valentine?"

Non Sequiter



Nest Heads



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Feb. 16, 2012:

This year you focus on broadening your inner circle and forging stronger friendships. If you are attached, a partner frequently could be angry or jealous. Indulge your sweetie more often, and treat him or her like your best friend. You will relate more easily. If you are single, a friend could become more, or you might meet your next sweetie through a friend, most likely after June. You cannot always be as empathetic or understanding as you might like. Still, accept what others say, even if you would not respond the same way. **SAGITTARIUS** gets you energized.

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)
★★★★ Use your strong sense of direction to enlist supporters and get the job done. A situation that usually is more complicated than necessary is a piece of cake today. Even a reluctant partner or associate goes along with a new idea. Tonight: Burning the midnight oil.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Deal directly with a key person in your life. You do not need to agree with each other, but right now, the likelihood is high that you will. Recognize your limits, with both time and energy. Do not let an argument build. Tonight: Enjoy a relaxing meal, then decide.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Continue being more passive. Someone's attempt to get you into an argument might result from his or her discomfort taking the lead. Do not just placate this person and come to the rescue. Let this person ask, but in the meantime, do not let him or her trigger a reaction. Tonight: Follow the crowd.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You might want to understand more of why someone is under your skin or vice versa. You could point to this person as the reason, but this behavior is a trigger for you. Stay centered, knowing what is possible here. Tonight: Clean your desk.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Pressure builds causing you a problem that is unexpected. Think positively about what you need to do. Step up and take your natural role as a leader within your community circle or at work. You

could feel a little strange with a situation involving a neighbor or sibling. Tonight: Whatever lights up your life.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Deal with a situation before it deals with you. You could be angry and internalizing it. Without realizing it, your anger could pop out when you least expect it to. Stay centered, knowing full well what your objectives are. Use care with funds. Tonight: Make it OK to be quiet and at home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Read Virgo's message for a hint, especially with your feelings. Know that you might be better off expressing even difficult feelings in a manner someone can hear. You will lighten up as a result. Tonight: Hang out. Make weekend plans.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Make sure that what seems like a good risk really is. If you feel unsure, back off. Instincts guide you in a powerful manner. When another person of interest makes the first move, you feel great. Tonight: Pick up the tab at dinner.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Do not let early morning aggravation become total day irritation. If need be, indulge in a pastime that helps you become more carefree. Eating a cookie or even swapping a joke would work. You want to take advantage of others' good moods and your unusual charisma and creativity. Tonight: Let the good times happen.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Your low profile might be a little boring, but it will prove worthwhile. Someone opens up and reveals much more of his or her thoughts and feelings. Worry less. Good news heads your way. Tonight: Out and about.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Continue to forge ahead, even if a partner becomes irate. Clearly you cannot control this person, and it seems quite possible that he or she cannot even control his or her mood. Detach if you do not feel comfortable. Tonight: Accept a family member's offer.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ When someone is upset, you often take it personally; try not to. Instead, focus on one project after another, one issue after another. Communication will flourish soon enough if you stay neutral. Tonight: Touch base with a very unusual person in your life.

Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Hagar The Horrible

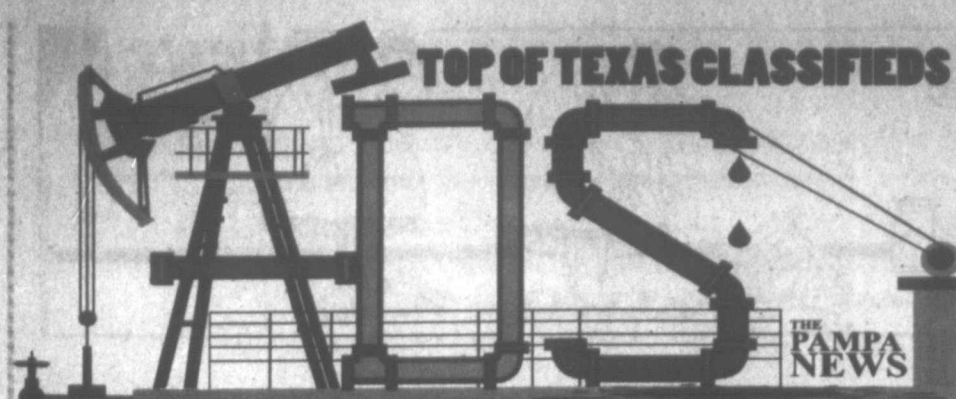


Peanuts



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Railroad Commission chair resigns

AUSTIN (AP) - Texas Railroad Commission Chairwoman Elizabeth Ames Jones resigned Monday to pursue a seat in the Texas Senate.

Jones, a Republican, said she was resigning effective Feb. 28 to focus on her race to represent Senate District 25 in San Antonio and Central Texas. She accused the incumbent, state Sen. Jeff Wentworth, of using legal maneuvering to force her to either resign her post or drop out of the Republican primary for the Senate.

Wentworth's supporters have challenged whether or not Jones meets the

residency requirements to represent District 25. As railroad commissioner, Jones was required to live in Austin, but Jones said she has maintained residency inside the district.

"Although the Texas Constitution provides that state officials who reside in Austin working on state business don't forfeit their voting residence back home, Senator Wentworth and his Democrat lawyer have ignored the Constitution and continued their baseless attacks," Jones said in a statement explaining why she resigned. "I will not allow Sen. Wentworth to continue to sidestep his

failed record on these issues with frivolous lawsuits and political stunts."

Jones said she did not seek re-election to the commission because she believes elected officials should limit their terms. She said Wentworth should do the same.

"It's about a new vision, new energy, a new breed of conservative," Jones said in an interview.

Gov. Rick Perry appointed Jones to the Railroad Commission in 2005 and she was elected to the post in 2006. Before that, she was elected to the Texas House three times representing San Antonio. Last year, Jones started

a campaign for the U.S. Senate, but dropped out of the crowded Republican field and switched to the state Senate race.

Wentworth was elected to the Texas Senate in 1993. Jones has questioned his dedication to conservative values and some of his business dealings. Tea party supporter Donna Campbell is also running in the Republican primary to replace Wentworth.

Perry has the authority to appoint someone to replace Jones on the commission to serve out the rest of her term, which ends this year.

TransCanada hopes for 2015 startup

TORONTO (AP) — TransCanada has pushed back the possible startup date of a controversial pipeline that would carry Canadian oil to refineries in Texas.

The Calgary, Alberta-based company said Tuesday in an earnings release that its executives continue to work with Nebraska to determine the best route that avoids Nebraska's environmentally sensitive Sandhills region.

Last month, the administration of

President Barack Obama denied a permit for the project, but left the door open for TransCanada to apply for a new pipeline route. The company said last month it expected the new application would be processed in an expedited manner so that it could be in service in late 2014.

TransCanada has now moved that back to early 2015.

The company said it remains fully committed to the construction of Keystone XL and said "plans are

already under way on a number of fronts to largely maintain the construction schedule of the project."

They reiterated that they will reapply for a permit and that they expect a new application would be processed in an expedited manner.

The U.S. State Department, however, has previously said it wouldn't necessarily expedite what would be a new review process.

Obama blocked the \$7 billion pipe-

KEystone cont. on page 10

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I married "Andy" a year ago. He has three children from a prior marriage. He had a vasectomy eight years ago, but promised he'd have it reversed so we could have a child together. He didn't get around to it, but I'm pregnant anyway.

At first we felt it was our miracle baby. However, 15 weeks later, Andy is now "sure" the baby isn't his. Things have gotten so bad that I moved out of our house.

Abby, I have NEVER been unfaithful. A paternity test will prove he's the father, but that can't be done until after our baby is born. I have scheduled an appointment with a therapist, but I'm not sure I want to reconcile with him.

Have other readers been in this situation? What was the outcome? — PREGNANT AND ALONE ON THE EAST COAST

DEAR PREGNANT AND ALONE: Yes, other readers have been in your situation. In those cases, the vasectomy had somehow reversed itself without surgery. (Perhaps it wasn't done properly in the first place.) Your husband should consult a urologist and have his sperm levels checked. It could provide the "proof" he's looking for a lot sooner than your due date.

Because this has been emotionally devastating for you — which is under-

standable — talking with a therapist will be beneficial regardless of what you decide about your marriage.

DEAR ABBY: My stepson, "David," lives with my husband and me and our 9-year-old son. He is 20 and has been with us since he was a child because his mother couldn't control him. He had major problems in school — detentions, failing grades, etc. — and has been nothing but trouble. David is disrespectful, a chronic liar and a thief. He has even threatened to kill us.

David's mother bought him a car and his grandmother gives him money to buy anything he wants — including guns. He won't get a driver's license, refuses to get a job, won't help around the house and lies to people, saying we don't feed him. He has even said his dad beats him every day.

I want my husband to give David a choice: Get his license, get a job and help around the house, or get out, but my husband refuses. His excuse is, where will he go?

My husband works out of town occasionally, and when he's gone I have our 9-year-old sleep with me and I lock the door because I'm afraid of David. What can we do? — AFRAID OF MY STEPSON

DEAR AFRAID: Because your husband is unwilling to assert his authority, there's nothing you can do. Since he can't or won't

get his son the help he needs, for YOUR son's safety you should make other living arrangements.

The situation you have described is dangerous because David has access to weapons. Was he ever given a psychological evaluation? If not, he should have one as a condition of continuing to stay with you and his father. It may provide you with some sorely needed insight because you need more help than I — or anyone — can offer in a letter. Without

professional help for him, I predict that your stepson will wind up in trouble with the law.

DEAR ABBY: At what point is a person considered to be addicted to prescription drugs? — BORDERLINE IN SOUTH CAROLINA

DEAR BORDERLINE: When the person increases the dosage beyond what has been prescribed, lies about it and/or tries to get the drugs by devious means.

BANANAGRAMS!

Change one letter in the top word to one of the letters that appears in the bottom word, then rearrange the tiles to form a new common word. Do the same with each new word until you arrive at the bottom word. For example, the path from BARK to PLUM is BARK, MARK, RAMP, RUMP, PLUM.

PLAIN

TOUGH

Yesterday's Answer: BASKET, KISMET, SPOKEN, SKETCH

2.15

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Deal prospects dampen in Texas map redrawing case

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — If Texas can still hold an April primary, now is when the state likely finds out.

A federal court in San Antonio that has spent months refereeing a clash over bitterly disputed Texas voting maps reconvened Tuesday, and Republicans and Democrats were hoping to learn when the state's primary elections will finally take place.

April 3 is the currently scheduled date, but that no longer seems realistic since not even temporary maps for the 2012 elections in Texas are settled. Another weekend of court-ordered negotiations between the state and minority rights groups, meanwhile, ended with little to show for it.

Yet despite the attention surrounding the primary date, the court didn't immediately address whether Texas can still hold one in April. The Texas attorney general's office and minority groups instead spent Tuesday morning laying out obstacles to a compromise on voting maps for the 2012 elections.

David Mattax, an attorney for the state, suggested that differences on one map that draws four new congressional seats in Texas can't be resolved.

The stalemate doesn't yet spell doom for the chances of Texas holding primary elections sometime in April. But the continued deadlock further dampens prospects of a deal, which the three-judge panel in San Antonio favors over drawing the maps themselves.

At stake is the political balance of power in both Texas and Congress. Texas was awarded four new congressional seats following the 2010 census, and whether they go Democrat or Republican could affect the balance of power in the U.S. House.

The 2010 census shows that the population boom in Texas was driven by nearly 3 million new Hispanic residents over the last decade, but minor-

ity groups and Democrats say those numbers weren't reflected in how the Legislature redrew districts statewide.

Rather than inch closer to a resolution over the weekend, both sides might have dug in their heels further. Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott told the court that one deal-breaker is carving up the district currently held by Democratic U.S. Rep. Lloyd Doggett, which would in turn help make Republicans more electable in heavily Democratic Travis County.

Abbott wrote in a filing Monday that his office was reviewing new proposals to other changes on the map. But he also acknowledged that Doggett's district alone could prevent any chance of a breakthrough.

"The State cannot compromise on this district and that may prevent a global compromise on the Congressional map," Abbott wrote.

The Texas NAACP, one of nine parties suing the state, urged the court Monday to wait until another federal court in Washington rules on the separate issue of whether the original maps drawn by the Republican-controlled Legislature violate the Voting Rights Act.

Waiting, however, could push the Texas primary into May or June. When the San Antonio court ordered both sides Friday to continue negotiating over the weekend, the judges made clear that an April primary was the goal.

Texas NAACP president Gary Bledsoe said for a quick settlement to be reached, the state would have to do better than the 11 minority-opportunity congressional districts he said is being offered now.

Under a partial compromise reached last week, the state agreed to make two of the four new congressional seats Hispanic-opportunity districts. That, combined with other adjustments, was good enough to satisfy Democratic U.S. Rep. Henry Cuellar and the

Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund.

But the majority of the plaintiffs involved in the lawsuit said the offer wasn't good enough. One expert analysis filed by the Texas NAACP read that "while the revised map corrects some of the most egregious problems in the enacted plan, it still has major flaws."

One of the major legal disputes is over so-called crossover or coalition districts, places where members of no single group dominate. The groups suing want current coalition districts maintained in the interim maps, while the attorney general's office argues that a recent Supreme Court ruling forbids a court-drawn map from having coalition districts.

Two of these districts appear to be the major stumbling blocks in drafting compromise maps: Doggett's district in Austin and Texas Senate District 10 in Fort Worth.

The staunch defense of the two districts reflects the political reality of the redistricting battle, groups on all sides draw these lines to increase or defend the political power of one party.

Doggett, who's been targeted by Republican mapmakers in the past, currently represents a diverse population in central and eastern Austin as one of three representatives from Travis County. The map drawn by the Legislature divides heavily Democratic Travis County into five districts, with white Republicans dominating four seats and a San Antonio-based Hispanic most likely winning the fifth seat.

State Sen. Wendy Davis represents Senate District 10, and as one of the most vocal and liberal voices in the Texas Senate, Republicans hope to force her out by redrawing her district. But since both Davis and Doggett are white, protecting their seats before the court could be difficult.

Report gives new detail in Brownsville school shooting

McALLEN (AP) — A police sergeant gave the order to "take him out" and an armed teen was fatally shot after he turned toward another student in the hallway of a Texas middle school, according to a report released by the state attorney general.

The new report provides the most detail yet on the death of Jaime Gonzalez, 15. He was shot Jan. 4 by Brownsville police who responded to a call about a student at the school brandishing a handgun.

Texas requires police to file a report with the attorney general's office within 30 days of someone dying in police custody. The report on Gonzalez was first obtained by The Brownsville Herald.

Two officers with semi-automatic rifles fired in response to the sergeant's order, and Gonzalez was hit twice, in the chest and the abdomen. He had been

holding a realistic-looking pellet gun.

The report confirms officers' earlier statements that Gonzalez pointed the gun at them but also raises the possibility that he fired. The other student told investigators he believed Gonzalez had fired at police, and crime scene technicians recovered evidence that suggested Gonzalez fired at officers during an initial encounter near the school entrance. The report does not specify what the evidence was.

Police said Gonzalez did not appear to be intoxicated or exhibit mental health problems, but he repeatedly ignored their orders to drop his gun.

When police first peered through the school entrance and saw Gonzalez in the hall outside the office, the gun was tucked in his waistband. An officer approached, and Gonzalez pulled out a **SHOOTING** cont. on page 12

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Fancy dance
- 5 Took on, as work
- 11 Lotion ingredient
- 12 Maine park
- 13 Small amphibian
- 14 Email field
- 15 Boxer Norton
- 16 Ailing
- 17 City on the Mohawk River
- 19 Fireplace sight
- 22 High points
- 24 Inquiry
- 26 Lounge attire
- 27 Tiny bit
- 28 Coat of arms
- 30 De Mille of dance
- 31 That woman
- 32 Parting word
- 34 Stratum
- 35 Spoil
- 38 Folder type
- 41 Skilled
- 42 Arthurian island
- 43 Rose of baseball
- 44 Official documents
- 45 Walked over

DOWN

- 1 Vault setting
- 2 Out of the wind
- 3 One or two
- 4 Charter
- 5 Elementary
- 6 Pole feature
- 7 Refinery sight
- 8 Unmatched
- 9 "For shame!"
- 10 Way off
- 16 Bro's sib
- 18 Casual tops
- 19 Auction catalog identifier

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N	E	A	T	O	F	A	S	T		

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2-15

Keystone

line last month, saying officials did not have enough time to review the project before a February deadline imposed by Congress.

The pipeline would carry 800,000 barrels of oil a day from Alberta across six U.S. states to the Texas Gulf Coast, which has numerous refineries.

TransCanada first applied to build the pipeline in 2008, under the George W. Bush administration.

TransCanada says the pipeline could create as many as 20,000 jobs, a figure opponents say is inflated. A State Department report last summer said the pipeline would

create up to 6,000 jobs during construction.

The pipeline is a dicey proposition for Obama, who enjoyed strong support from both organized labor and environmentalists in his 2008 campaign for the White House.

Environmental advocates have made it clear that approval of the pipeline would dampen their enthusiasm for Obama in November. Some liberal donors even threatened to cut off funds to Obama's re-election campaign to protest the project, which opponents say would transport "dirty oil" that requires huge amounts of energy to extract and contributes to greenhouse gas emissions blamed for global warming.

cont. from page 9

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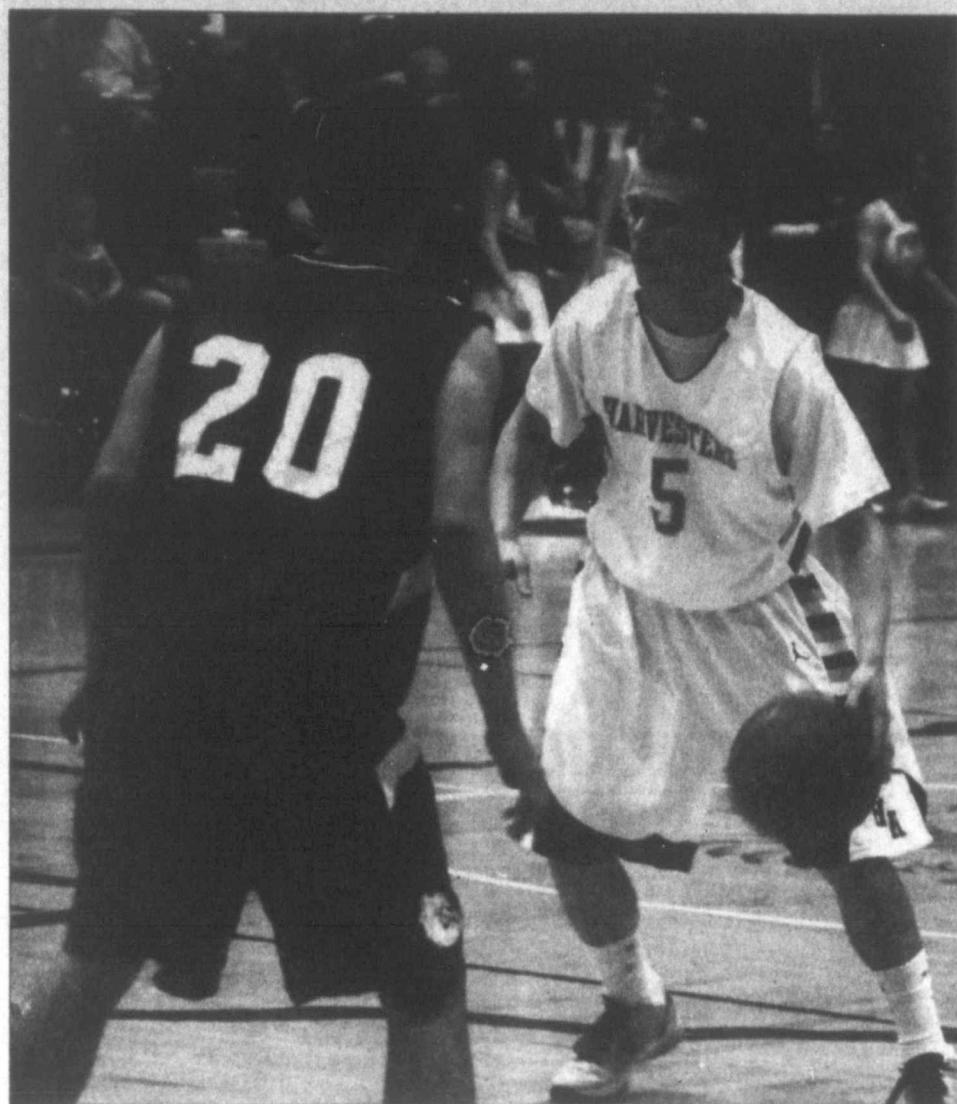
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Sports

Harvesters moving on after not repeating in district



staff photo by Joe Murray

Senior Latigo Collins drives against Borger Friday. The Harvesters will be the second seed out of District 1-3A and will play in the bi-district playoffs.

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

Last year when the Pampa Harvesters won their final game against the Borger Bulldogs, they found out they were district champions. Friday after beating the Bulldogs, Pampa found out that Dalhart beat Perryton, guaranteeing that the Harvesters can't take first.

Going into the playoffs, the Harvesters are now moving forward and looking to accomplish their goals there.

"It is hard to not just dwell on the past but we have to forget about it and focus on what's next," senior Cole Engle said. "Hopefully the momentum we've gotten will help us win the first playoff game we play."

Dalhart's victory Friday gave it six wins, which means the best Pampa can do is tie them. The Harvesters lost two out of three against them, giving Dalhart the tiebreaker. Senior Reid Miller said it doesn't feel good not repeating.

"It's our fault," Miller said. "We have to live with it."

The Harvesters will be the second seed out of District 1-3A and will play the third-place team in District 2-3A

in the bi-district round on Monday or Tuesday. Head coach Dustin Miller said his team's focus is on the playoffs and trying to improve on last year's run to the regional finals.

"With the success we had last year in the playoffs, it was a battle all year not to over look things and get in the playoffs," he said.

Reid said the team will have to keep playing strong.

"We are just trying to stay sharp and keep playing well," Miller said. "Everyone is playing for the common goal."

The Harvesters are looking at playing either Levelland or Lamesa first, depending on how the District 2-3A race finishes out. To return to the regional tournament at Texas Tech University, Pampa could have to face perennial 3A power Lubbock Estacado. If the Harvesters advance to the regional semi-finals they could face Burkburnett, who beat them in the regional finals last year.

Engle said they will have a more challenging path than last year.

"I would much rather be on the other side of the bracket," Engle said. "It's what we are stuck with."

Reid said their play put them in this position and just have to make the best of it.

"We've dug our own grave," Reid said. "It's what it is. We have got to take it head on. I'll take one shot at any team in the state. You never know."



Engle



D. Miller

Lady Harvesters 2012 seniors put program on a good path

Last night, Pampa Lady Harvesters' seniors Kirsten Kuhn, Kailyn Troxell, Caitlin Sieck, Lindsey Brown, Delaney Clendening and Elizabeth Terry took the court in a playoff game. That's quite an accomplishment to have in your final season. Hopefully, last night isn't the only game these girls will get to play. Regardless of the outcome of last night's game, the seniors get to finish their career in a much better place than their junior year ended. They have definitely set the standard for the future of the Lady Harvester program.

As sophomores, they watched the senior class of Shelbie Watson, Andi Hutto and Emilie Troxell battle through District 3-4A and return Pampa to the playoffs after winning only two games the previous season. In their junior season, they had to endure a season where they were the only team in the district to not play in the postseason. That's something this group of young women didn't take well. They saw that season as a bug in a dish that needed to be sent back to the chef. In their senior season, Kuhn, Troxell, Sieck, Brown, Clendening and



ANDREW GLOVER

Terry made sure that the 2011-12 Lady Harvesters would see the postseason.

This group wasn't going to let anything stop them from reaching that goal. They didn't let the fact that their fellow classmates were picking on them and making them the butt of jokes hinder them. In fact, they used that as motivation. They didn't let the early season struggles get to them because they knew going in it was going to be tough road going against ranked teams like Canadian, Gruver, Amarillo and Shallowater. This group of seniors turned the Lady Harvesters from a team that couldn't win at home into a team with a home-court advantage.

When this senior class entered district, it looked like we were heading for the same story as Pampa routed Borger but lost to Dalhart and Perryton, except on January 20 in Borger, the path changed.

Senior Delaney Clendening threw up an offensive rebound at the buzzer to secure a 40-38 victory. What defines this senior class is what happened in the final round of district. After taking care of business against Borger, the Lady Harvesters took district-leading Perryton to the wire. This was a team that Pampa lost by eight to 15 points in the previous five match-ups. An official at that Perryton game broke Pampa's hearts by denying them a chance at overtime. There's one thing she didn't destroy, and that was the seniors' and the Lady Harvesters' will. On February 7, Kuhn, Troxell, Sieck, Brown, Clendening and Terry got to finish their careers at McNeely Fieldhouse with a whipping of Dalhart. This led these six seniors to lead a confident Pampa on the court in Plainview.

No matter what the scoreboard read last night, this group of seniors have plenty to be proud of. This team has the highest win total and win percentage in a season under head coach Gene Valentine. This team proved that Pampa can compete with anyone. It will be interesting next year to see how the Lady Harvesters handle

Dalhart when Jeana Sybesma isn't on the other side. I remember standing through the three-hour ceremony (actually, it was only 30 minutes) at Perryton and smiling knowing who won't be returning.

Next year, the Lady Harvesters are going to have to replace Kuhn's scoring and ball handling, Sieck's hustle, Troxell and Terry's play in the post and Clendening's rebounding and scoring. That will be up to the 2013 seniors and the returning Lady Harvesters to fill. The 2012 seniors have definitely left a legacy to be built on.

The recap from Tuesday's game against Shallowater will be in Thursday's paper due to technical difficulties with the press. I apologize for the delay in reporting results the past week. We've had some mechanical issues that we hope to get fixed soon and get back to a regular schedule. Thanks for your patience and understanding.

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

LIMBER LADIES



photo courtesy of Larry Petty

The Gymnastics of Pampa Tumbling & Trampoline team pose inside their studio. The team has competed in tournaments in Levelland and Lubbock. Back row from left are Stori Stribling, Chandler Petty, Katie Smith, Haley Fossett, Payton Demetriades, Jaden Perez and Saylor Stribling.

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Shooting

"black semi-automatic pistol, resembling a Glock handgun." Only later did police discover it was an air gun that fired pellets.

At one point, Gonzalez pointed the gun at his temple and then aimed it at police. One officer fired a shot high into the glass of the school's locked door. Officers believe Gonzalez fired too before retreating down a hallway. Officers turned down the hallway and saw Gonzalez

at the end. Another student, identified only as "JG" in the report, was in a corner about 13 feet to Gonzalez's left.

"(The student) was terrified because he was right against the wall, palms in touching the wall along with his entire body; his eyes looked really big as he looked back and forth between us and the suspect," Officer Raul Cazares wrote in his report.

Officers continued to order Gonzalez to put down

the gun.

"I feared for the child against the wall and/or that the suspect would run off into the school and hurt the students or the staff," Cazares wrote.

As officers approached, Gonzalez swayed back and forth, sometimes with the gun at his side and once up toward his head.

Police Sgt. Albert De La Rosa wrote in his report that Gonzalez "was pacing, look-

ing around with the gun still in his right hand. I again viewed the student by the door and was concerned that the subject (Gonzalez) was going to confront him, shoot him or take him hostage."

De La Rosa gave the order to "take him out" when Gonzalez turned toward the student. Cazares and officer Everardo Longoria each fired one shot.

Attorney Dale Kasofsky, who represents Gonzalez's parents, said Tuesday he had received little documentation of the incident and had not seen the custodial death

report. Gonzalez's parents argued immediately after the shooting that lethal force was not necessary.

The Brownsville school district has requested an

opinion from the state attorney general on whether it must provide The Associated Press with surveillance videos from the school that may show what happened.

cont. from page 1

PISD

circumstances, the board will likely not be able to meet until Sunday, Feb. 26, at which time it will discuss the next steps in its search, including the possible selection of a firm to assist in its search.

He added that the board hopes to choose Haenisch's successor before the school year is over.

"That would be our desire, to have a finalist announced at the end of April, first part of May," he said.

Porter and the school board have been laudatory of Haenisch's tenure since he announced his decision to retire, and Porter said that the board is being cautious to ensure that the district continues on a positive track with the next superintendent as well.

"We're taking our time," Porter said. "This is one of the most important decisions that any school board makes -- the hiring of a superintendent -- and we're taking our time. We're being delib-

erative. The board is very cordial and we've got really great members there. We're working together to

arrive at the best possible person for the students of Pampa."

cont. from page 1

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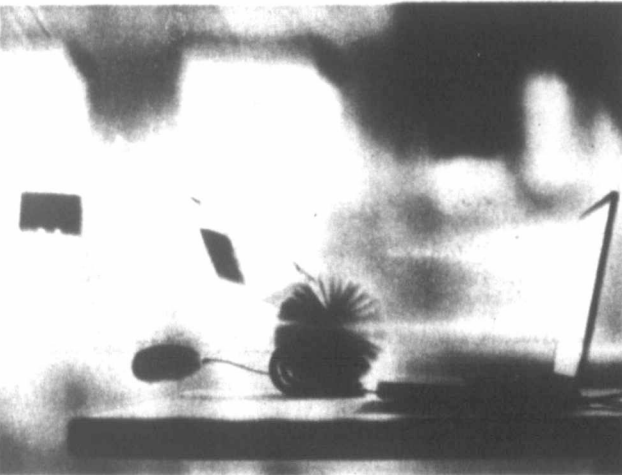
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Lefors

cont. from page 1

"We are in the selection process of choosing applicants to interview the next two Fridays," he added.

Laramore said that the school district plans to have the position filled by the first of April.

"My primary focus right now is to find a leader for the district, and we have an aggressive timeline for that," he said. "We have a very good candidate pool, and hopefully we will name a lone candidate on the first of March."

Plan

cont. from page 1

needs to be done for forensic purposes, then it has to go to Amarillo to be done. So that's changed everything, and that's a real need here, because we serve not just Pampa and Gray County here, but a whole large area."

Laramore was pleased with the collaboration of different entities in town, from law enforcement and criminal justice to juvenile and victim services.

"It's a wonderful way for everyone to work together, and we even discussed that maybe we need to meet more often than once a year," she said.

Playa

cont. from page 1

Water Conservation District, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Playa Lakes Joint Venture. There is no charge for the session.

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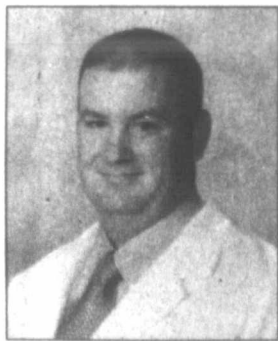
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