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The PAMPA NEWS

TODAY IN SPORTS



Wednesday, July 11, 2012 www.thepampanews.com Volume 108 • No. 81

75¢ \$1.50 weekend **Can Cruz ride passion to victory?** Senate Hopeful looks to represent Tea Party | **p4A** **Engle honored** Former PHS player named to Academic All-State | **p4B**

City Commission approves new rules for solicitors

■ *Solicitors can now sell goods in Pampa from 10 a.m. to either 6 p.m. or sunset*

MOLLIE BRYANT

mbryant@thepampanews.com

At its meeting yesterday afternoon, the city gave a final go-ahead to new rules that will expand the hours when

solicitors can sell goods in Pampa from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. or sunset, whichever is later.

However, they cannot sell their wares on Sundays or holidays, including Halloween, and they also can't remain

on a property with a clearly posted "no soliciting" sign."

Lee Waters, city attorney, believes the hours allowed in the previous law were too restrictive.

"There are valid objectives for solicitation ordinances, which primarily are for the prevention of crime and to protect the privacy of our citizens, but solicitors also have rights for free commercial speech, and restrictions on their rights have to meet certain guidelines,"

he said during a city commission meeting last month.

The city commission also approved the \$9,000 replacement of worn out City Hall doors, which will be funded with court security funds.

"One of the biggest problems we're having is we have a security system that automatically locks and unlocks the doors in the morning and later at night, and also, during an emergency, **CITY** cont. on page 7A

HOMETOWN SERVICE



staff photo by **Mollie Bryant**

Louise Kephart (left), co-owner of U-Top-It, prepares sandwiches for Marshall Shortnacy, 8, and Jeff Shortnacy. U-Top-It, a frozen yogurt shop, recently added soups and sandwiches to its menu.

PYP mixer scheduled for July 20

MOLLIE BRYANT

mbryant@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Young Professions has cancelled its meeting today, but has plans for a mixer at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, July 20 at the Pampa Country Club.



Guymon

"We're going to try to keep things going with members and try to work for something bigger in the fall," said Bryan Guymon of Pampa Young Professionals. "Since we cancelled the monthly meeting, we'll have a short business meeting at the social so we won't go too long without something happening."

The mixer will be an opportunity for professionals under 40 in town to get together for networking and fellowship.

"It'll give people a chance to get in an opportunity for networking and to get to know people and have a good time," said Guymon. "We're rolling along and trying to keep things going."

The group is also planning an event with Pampa's emergency management coordinator, Fred Courtney.

Gray County close to 90 percent court case completion

■ *County must reach goal by beginning of August*

MOLLIE BRYANT

mbryant@thepampanews.com

Facing a state mandate to complete 90 percent of its court cases by the beginning of August, the county has been taking steps in recent months to meet the requirement. At 89 percent completion right now, Gray County is confident it will reach its goal, but remains focused, because state funding for law enforcement is tied to reaching 90 percent.

The rule was passed, in part, to ensure quality when it comes to reporting arrests and cases as they move

through the court system. Susan Winborne, Gray County Clerk, has been keeping an eye on the county's numbers each day.

"Any time someone is arrested, they get a tracking number that is reported to DPS," she said. "DPS wants to track those cases and see how long it takes to get them to a final disposition."

"(DPS) found that they had a lot of things mis-categorized or coded incorrectly, and so, cases were just falling through the cracks," said Jason Ferguson, an assistant attorney with the 31st District. "They weren't able to find if (a case) was still open in an office or what the situation was with it."

The completion rate includes cases from 2006 through 2010, so if an open case is over two years old, even if it is pending in court, it counts towards an incomplete case. The catch is that counties that do not obtain the 90 percent completion rate by next month won't qualify

for state law enforcement grants. Additionally, counties have been concerned that future legislation may make other types funding in the county contingent on meeting the quota.

"That really got everybody's attention," said Josh Seabourn, county attorney.

Last month, representatives from the county and district, as well as the sheriff's office and police department, met to discuss meeting the requirement.

"We all looked at the numbers, and agreed to do everything we could to get the numbers to 90 percent," said Winborne. "Everyone has done that. Everyone in Gray County has been very supportive and willing to work and do what it takes to get us there."

"We're all trying to get on the same page, so that when a person is arrested, we're not delaying their justice or their day in court," said Gray County Judge Richard Peet. **CASES** cont. on page 8A

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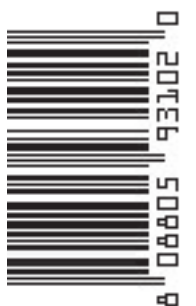
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IN THIS ISSUE:

Obituaries 2A	Antique or Junque? . 8A
Local Record 2A	Comics 9A
Weather 2A	Classifieds 1B-3B
Morning Rush 3A	Puzzles/Dear Abby . . 4B
Viewpoints 4A	
Church Page 6A	



PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Thursday	Friday
		
High 91 Low 64	High 95 Low 67	High 93 Low 67

Today: Mostly sunny, with a high near 91. Northwest wind around 5 mph becoming east northeast in the afternoon.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 64. East wind around 5 mph becoming south after midnight.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 95. South wind 5 to 10 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 67. South southeast wind around 10 mph.

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 93. South wind 10 to 15 mph.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 67. South southeast wind 5 to 15 mph.

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Texas teen testifies on new voter ID law

WASHINGTON (AP) — A San Antonio teenager said Tuesday that she didn't have the right documents to comply with Texas' new voter ID law and would be disenfranchised if it goes into effect.

Victoria Rose Rodriguez, 18, told a federal court in Washington that she had limited documentation — a birth certificate, a high school transcript and a student ID card with a photo on it — but is currently a registered voter in Texas. She said her parents are too busy to take her or her twin sister to get the new voter identification cards required by the law.

Getting a driver's license also is not an option, she said, because it would mean she and her sister would be added to her family's car insurance, a costly move.

"My dad works all day," she said. "And my mother is the soul caretaker for my grandmother."

Rodriguez's testimony came at the end of the second day of a trial to determine whether Texas' new voter ID law violates the federal Voting Rights Act. A three-judge panel is hearing the case after the state of Texas sued the Justice Department, which blocked the law under the Act in March.

The teen will return to the witness stand Wednesday, when she will be cross-examined by attorneys for Texas.

Earlier Tuesday, the Justice Department presented witnesses who testified that the law was passed in haste. Texas state Rep. Trey Mar-

tinez Fischer said the voter ID bill was rushed through the Legislature and passed over the objections of minority lawmakers.

"There was a determined effort to pass this bill in record time," Martinez Fischer testified.

The six-term state representative, who's chairman of the Mexican American Legislative Caucus, testified along with other Justice Department witnesses even though Texas has not called all its witnesses. Because of travel schedules, witnesses for the opposing sides are being called out of order and Texas will continue making its case Wednesday.

Martinez Fischer said he and his colleagues tried repeatedly to block or slow down the voter ID bill. He said it was difficult to determine why the legislation was on a fast track.

"The rationale was constantly changing," he said. "One of the comments was this was 'a solution in search of a problem.'"

State Rep. Rafael Anchia agreed that the legislative process was rushed. "We thought the secretary of state's office could furnish (data on voters) to us so that we could make good decisions," Anchia testified. "That data was never provided."

J. Morgan Kousser, a California Institute of Technology professor, said Republicans in the Texas Legislature had been trying to pass a voter ID law since 2005. Kousser, an expert witness for the Justice Department, said debate about the bill

had become progressively nastier in 2007, 2009 and culminating in the law's passage in 2011.

He described a 2007 fight over the legislation that prompted one lawmaker, who had recently undergone a liver transplant, to set up a hospital bed inside the Capitol complex to ensure that a voter ID bill did not clear the Senate.

Kousser called the Texas electorate "very racially polarized" and said it's become increasingly clear over time that the state's Democratic Party is dominated by minorities.

"In 2011, the vast majority of Democratic legislators are minorities. So a bill that has partisan effects would have racial effects," he said.

Attorney General Eric Holder, speaking Tuesday in Houston at the convention of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said he opposes Texas' photo ID requirement. He said it would be harmful to minority voters and that the Justice Department "will not allow political pretexts to disenfranchise American citizens of their most precious right."

Many who don't have IDs would have to travel far to get them, he said, and some would struggle to pay for documents needed to obtain such IDs.

Holder said that while only 8 percent of white people do not have government-issued photo IDs, about 25 percent of black people lack such identification.

Obituaries

Carolyn Ann Horstman died June 30, 2012. Wells Funeral Home of Canton, N.C., is in search of a family member. If you have any information, please call 828-648-2371.

For the record

Police Department

continued from Tuesday
Saturday, July 7

A suspicious person was reported at Harvester and Banks.

A grass fire occurred at the 1100 block of South Prairie.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at Sunset and Duncan.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 900 block of South Wells.

A theft occurred at the 1000 block of West Wilks.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 1800 block of North Dogwood.

Violations of city ordinances occurred at the 1100 block of North Starkweather and the 700 block of Deane.

Disorderly conduct was reported.

A burglary occurred at the 200 block of North Hamilton.

A violation or city ordinance occurred at the 700 block of East Campbell.

A domestic disturbance occurred at the 1100 block of North Starkweather.

A burglary occurred at the 800 block of West

Wilks.

A violation of city ordinance occurred at the 900 block of Sierra.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 600 block of North West.

An accident occurred at the 200 block of North Russell.

A violation of city ordinance was reported.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 300 block of East Frederic.

Phone harassment was reported at the 1100 block of Campanella.

Violations of city ordinances occurred at the 1100 block of Garland and the 1000 block of North Frost.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 700 block of North Roberta.

A domestic disturbance occurred at Price and Alcock.

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

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 300 block of North Dwight.

Sunday, July 8

Suspicious persons were reported at the 600 block of North Dwight and the 700 block of North Cuyler.

A domestic disturbance occurred at the 1000 block of South Banks.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 400 block of West Brown.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 100 block of South Russell.

Domestic disturbances occurred at the 1100 block of North Hobart and the 1900 block of North Fir.

A prowler was reported at the 100 block of Village.

A burglary occurred at the 1900 block of North Lynn.

A burglary of a motor vehicle occurred at the 2100 block of North Wiliston.

A domestic disturbance occurred at the 700 block of North Naida.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 700 block of East Murphy.

A domestic disturbance occurred at the 2300 block of North Aspen.

A gas drive off occurred at the 200 block of West 28th.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 500 block of West Montagu.

A violation of city ordinance occurred at the 1000 block of North Mary Ellen.

A burglary occurred at the 800 block of East Beryl.

A violation of city ordinance occurred at the 1000 block of East Francis and the 900 block of South Reid.

Monday, July 9
A suspicious person was

reported at the 1600 block of North Somerville.

A domestic disturbance occurred at the 1100 block of South Wells.

The Pampa Police Department reported the following arrests for the 24 hour period ending Tuesday, July 10 at 7 a.m.

Pampa PD reported 11 traffic-related incidents.

Pampa EMS and the Lefors Volunteer EMS responded to nine medical calls.

Animal Control officers reported three animal-related incidents.

Monday, July 9

A suspicious person was reported at the 1000 block of North Summer.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 800 block of East Malone.

A suspicious person was reported at the 800 block of North Nelson.

An assault was reported.

A theft occurred at the 700 block of North Dwight.

Criminal mischief occurred at the 900 block of South Osborn.

An assault was reported.

An accident occurred at the 1300 block of North Hobart.

An accident occurred at Frederic and Hughes.

A domestic disturbance occurred at the 1900 block of North Banks.

A hit and run occurred at the 500 block of North Nelson.

A burglary occurred at the 1200 block of South Hobart.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 2200 block of North Chestnut.

Criminal mischief occurred at the 1300 block of North Duncan.

A domestic disturbance occurred at the 400 block of Pitts.

A theft occurred at the 2800 block of North Charles.

A suspicious person was reported at the 400 block of North Ballard.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 1000 block of North Hobart.

A burglary occurred at the 700 block of North Wells.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 1400 block of North Hobart.

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Drug shortage forces change

DALLAS (AP) — Texas prison officials have changed their procedure for administering executions to a one-drug method.

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice said in a statement to The Associated Press Tuesday that it would use pentobarbital in executions instead of a three-drug combination. Department spokesman Jason Clark says the agency changed its protocol July 9 because its stock of one of the three drugs expired.

Pentobarbital is a sedative that is typically the first drug administered. The department says it has run out of the second drug, pancuronium bromide.

TDCJ officials said in May that it had enough doses of pentobarbital for as many as 23 executions.

Last year, officials used pentobarbital to replace sodium thiopental, which became unavailable when its European supplier stopped making it under pressure from death penalty opponents.

Border Patrol shuts stations

EL PASO (AP) — A spokesman for the Border Patrol says it is shutting down nine stations, six of them in Texas, and plans to relocate the 41 agents who work at those outposts to positions nearer the borders.

Border Patrol press officer Bill Brooks says the stations being closed in Texas are in Abilene, San Angelo, Dallas, San Antonio, Lubbock and Amarillo. Stations will also be closed in Billings, Mont.; Twin Falls, Idaho, and Riverside, Calif.

Bastrop County gets heavy rain

BASTROP (AP) — Emergency officials say heavy rain in Central Texas has left behind some flooded roads.

The National Weather Service says a storm Tuesday morning dumped more than 5 inches of rain along the line between Travis and Bastrop counties.

Department of Public Safety Trooper Robbie Barrera says some residents were sheltering in place but no homes had to be evacuated. Barrera says nobody was hurt in the heavy rain that caused some road flooding.

Barrera says the rainfall had eased by early Tuesday afternoon. Forecasters say showers and thunderstorms are likely through Wednesday.

Barrera says the affected areas are not where wildfires last year caused sweeping damage in Bastrop County, about 30 miles east of Austin.

Ex-guard had sex with prisoner

FORT WORTH (AP) — A former federal prison guard in North Texas who had sex with an inmate faces up to 15 years behind bars.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported Monday that court documents indicate Michele L. O'Neal used her keys to enter a locked area to reach the inmate.

The sexual encounter happened in May 2011 in a basement at the Fort Worth Federal Correctional Institution. O'Neal resigned the following month after being questioned by investigators.

She was indicted in February on a charge of sexual abuse of a ward. Defense attorney Alex Tandy says he has no information on why O'Neal in April changed her plea to guilty. Sentencing has been set for October.

The inmate was serving time for arson. Further details on the prisoner weren't immediately released.

Woman with cats gets probation

BEAUMONT (AP) — A Southeast Texas woman has been put on probation after animal workers discovered about two dozen dead cats in her home.

A judge in Beaumont on Monday sentenced 65-year-old Karen Crooke. She pleaded guilty to animal cruelty in a neglect investigation.

Beaumont animal service workers were dispatched to Crooke's home in April after neighbors complained about the property. An attorney for Crooke says the woman just wanted to care for the cats and became overwhelmed in the process.

Six Flags to close wooden coaster

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A South Texas theme park has announced plans to close its towering wooden roller coaster known as the Rattler.

Six Flags Fiesta Texas in San Antonio says the ride will shut down Aug. 5.

Park officials on Monday announced the timetable but did not say why the 180-foot-high coaster, which includes nearly a mile of turns, twists and drops, will close. No information was released on whether a replacement ride is in the works. The Rattler has been operating since Six Flags Fiesta Texas opened in 1992.

Global warming tied to risk of extremes

NEW YORK (AP) — Last year brought a record heat wave to Texas, massive floods in Bangkok and an unusually warm November in England. How much has global warming boosted the chances of events like that?

Quite a lot in Texas and England, but apparently not at all in Bangkok, say new analyses released Tuesday.

Scientists can't blame any single weather event on global warming, but they can assess how climate change has altered the odds of such events happening, Tom Peterson of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration told reporters in a briefing. He's an editor of a report that includes the analyses published by the Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society.

In the Texas analysis, researchers at Oregon State University and in England noted that the state suffered through record heat last year. It happened during a La Nina weather pattern, the flip side of El Nino. Caused by the cooling of the central Pacific Ocean, La Nina generally cools global temperatures but would be expected to make the southern United States warmer and drier than usual. But beyond that, the scientists wondered, would global warming affect the chances of such an event happening?

To find out, they studied computer climate simulations for La Nina years, focusing on Texas. They compared the outcome of three such years in the 1960s with that of 2008. They used 2008 because their deadline for the study didn't allow enough time to generate thousands of new simulations with fresh data from 2011. The two years were similar in having a La Nina and in amounts of greenhouse gases in the air.

The idea of the study, they said, was to check the likelihood of such a heat wave both before and after there was a lot of man-made climate change, which is primarily from burning fossil fuels like coal and oil.

Their conclusion: Global warming has made such a Texas heat wave about 20 times more likely to happen during a La Nina year.

Using a similar approach, scientists from Oxford University and the British government looked at temperatures in central England. Last November was the second warmest in that region in more than 300 years. And December 2010 was the second coldest in that time.

Their analysis concluded that global warming has made such a warm November about 62 times more likely, and such a cold December just half as likely.

Kevin Trenberth, of the National Center for Atmospheric Research's climate analysis section, said that he found the Britain study to be reasonable, given what he called a flawed climate model. As for the Texas result, he said that given how the study was done, the calculated increase in likelihood "could well be an underestimate."

A third analysis considered unusually severe river flooding last year in central and southern Thailand, including neighborhoods in Bangkok. It found no sign that climate change played a role in that event, noting that the amount of rainfall was not very unusual. The scale of the flooding was influenced more by factors like reservoir operation policies, researchers wrote.

Also at the briefing, NOAA released its report on the climate for 2011, which included several statistics similar to what it had announced earlier.

Last year was the coolest since 2008 in terms of global average temperature, which was about 57.9 degrees Fahrenheit (14.4 degrees Celsius). But it still remained among the 15 warmest years since records began in the late 1800s, the agency said. It was also above average for the period 1980-2010.

Official: Texas' electric supply will be tight

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas power grid barely has enough electricity to meet demand this summer, and an unexpected drop in generation or spike in demand could lead to rolling blackouts, the president of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas testified Tuesday.

Trip Doggett told state lawmakers the electric supply will be tight this summer and warned the agency will likely declare Energy Emergency Alerts asking consumers to cut back on use. It may also implement emergency procedures, including taking industrial users offline. But blackouts would only happen if there was an extraordinary drop in generation or the state experienced record high temperatures.

ERCOT is responsible for managing most of the state's electric grid, while private companies generate the electricity. Many of those companies have complained in recent years that Texans don't pay enough for electricity for them to invest in new generation plants. Last month, the Public Utility Commission raised rates to encourage an increase in power generation.

By managing the grid, ERCOT attempts to maintain a 13 percent reserve margin to be ready should demand spike or a generator shut down unexpectedly. But generation capacity has not kept up with population and demand growth, and ERCOT finds it difficult

to maintain that reserve capacity in case of an emergency.

Sen. Leticia Van de Putte asked whether the reserve capacity should be set in law, rather than just be a goal, in order to prevent blackouts. Doggett said he would leave that to the Public Utility Commission, which has scheduled a workshop on July 27 to discuss reserve capacity.

"I will look to the commission to see if that should be an imposed minimum reserve or a target," he said. Doggett said ERCOT is constantly evolving its protocols to make sure the state's energy needs are met.

John Fainter, president of the Association of Electricity Companies of Texas, said flexible protocols that allow generators to develop new sources of electricity will help boot supply.

"We can deal with the problem and we are better off dealing with the problem in a way that remains

flexible to deal with new technology," he said, adding that additional laws are unnecessary.



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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, July 11, the 193rd day of 2012. There are 173 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 11, 1937, American composer and pianist George Gershwin, whose works included "Rhapsody in Blue," "Concerto in F," "An American in Paris," and "Porgy and Bess," died at a Los Angeles hospital of a brain tumor; he was 38.

On this date:

In 1767, John Quincy Adams, the sixth president of the United States, was born in Braintree, Mass.

In 1798, the U.S. Marine Corps was formally re-established by a congressional act that also created the U.S. Marine Band.

In 1804, Vice President Aaron Burr mortally wounded former Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton during a pistol duel in Weehawken, N.J.

In 1859, Big Ben, the great bell inside the famous London clock tower, chimed for the first time.

In 1922, the Hollywood Bowl officially opened with a program called "Symphonies Under the Stars" with Alfred Hertz conducting the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

In 1934, President Franklin D. Roosevelt became the first incumbent chief executive to travel through the Panama Canal.

In 1952, the Republican national convention, meeting in Chicago, nominated Dwight D. Eisenhower for president and Richard M. Nixon for vice president.

In 1960, the novel "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee was first published by J.B. Lippincott and Co.

In 1962, American diver Fred Balasare completed an underwater crossing of the English Channel using scuba gear, arriving in Sandwich Bay 18 hours after leaving Calais.

In 1972, the World Chess Championship opened as grandmasters Bobby Fischer of the United States and defending champion Boris Spassky of the Soviet Union began play in Reykjavik, Iceland. (Fischer won after 21 games.)

In 1979, the abandoned U.S. space station Skylab made a spectacular return to Earth, burning up in the atmosphere and showering debris over the Indian Ocean and Australia.

In 1989, actor and director Laurence Olivier died in Steyning, West Sussex, England, at age 82.

Ten years ago: Lawmakers balked at moving the Coast Guard and the Federal Emergency Management Agency into a new Homeland Security Department despite pleas from senior Cabinet officials to stick to President George W. Bush's blueprint. (Both agencies did end up being included in the new department.)

Five years ago: Lady Bird Johnson, the former first lady who'd championed conservation and worked tenaciously for the political career of her husband, President Lyndon Johnson, died in Austin, Texas, at age 94. Pakistani army commandos captured the Red Mosque from militants following a 35-hour battle.

One year ago: Rupert Murdoch's media empire was besieged by accusations that two more of his British newspapers engaged in hacking, deception and privacy violations. Eight-year-old Leiby Kletzky went missing while walking home from religious day camp in Brooklyn, N.Y. (his dismembered remains were discovered two days later; a suspect, Levin Aron, has been charged with kidnapping and murder). So Yeon Ryu won the U.S. Women's Open, defeating fellow South Korean Hee Kyung Seo by three shots in a three-hole playoff.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Tab Hunter is 81. Actress Susan Seaforth Hayes is 69. Singer Jeff Hanna (Nitty Gritty Dirt Band) is 65. Ventriloquist-actor Jay Johnson is 63. Actor Bruce McGill is 62. Singer Bonnie Pointer is 62. Actor Stephen Lang is 60. Actress Mindy Sterling is 59. Actress Sela Ward is 56. Reggae singer Michael Rose (Black Uhuru) is 55. Singer Peter Murphy is 55. Actor Mark Lester is 54. Jazz musician Kirk Whalum is 54. Singer Suzanne Vega is 53. Rock guitarist Richie Sambora (Bon Jovi) is 53. Actress Lisa Rinna is 49. Rock musician Scott Shriner (Weezer) is 47. Actress Debbie Dunning is 46. Actor Gred Grunberg is 46. Wildlife expert Jeff Corwin is 45. Actor Justin Chambers is 42. Actress Leisha Hailey is 41. Actor Michael Rosenbaum is 40. Pop-rock singer Andrew Bird is 39. Country singer Scotty Emerick is 39. Rapper Lil' Kim is 37. Rock singer Ben Gibbard is 36. Rapper Lil' Zane is 30. Pop-jazz singer-musician Peter Cincotti is 29. Actor David Henrie is 23. Actor Connor Paolo is 22.

Thought for Today: "Those people who think only of themselves, are hopelessly uneducated. They are not educated, no matter how instructed they may be." — Nicholas Murray Butler, American educator (1862-1947).



Can Texas' Cruz ride passion to victory?

WILL WEISSERT
Associated Press

AUSTIN (AP) — Ted Cruz has grown accustomed to having his campaign speech interrupted by whoops and hollering, shrieks of "Go Ted!" and even an "A-Men!" or two.

The Tea Party favorite for a U.S. Senate seat from Texas has come a long way since he kicked off his campaign more than a year ago with seemingly no chance of competing against the GOP front-runner in the race, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst. With the backing of national conservative groups and a fiery stage presence that has made crowds across the state swoon, Cruz has pushed himself into the spotlight and sparked speculation about whether he's ready to pull off perhaps the nation's biggest upset this year.

But as the runoff election on July 31 approaches, Cruz faces a difficult obstacle — the solid base of support the 66-year-old Dewhurst has built among Texas conservatives during his 13 years in politics, including nine overseeing the state Senate. In many areas where Cruz holds his high-energy rallies, Dewhurst is already a known quantity, and local party officials and state lawmakers already have pledged to support him.

"You very quickly realize that no single human being can possibly communicate with 25 million people spread across the state of Texas," Cruz, 41, said in a recent interview, reflecting on his efforts to become known through hundreds of appearances at GOP women's group meetings, candidate forums and Bible study groups.

Although tea party candidates have taken down some mainstream Republicans in conservative states, most recently in Indiana, where ultraconservative Richard Mourdock defeated veteran U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar, the Texas race illustrates the disadvantages many still face in campaigns against established and well-organized officeholders.

"There are a lot of people who

don't show up at rallies or write letters or stage protests," said Jonathan Neerman, a Dewhurst supporter and past chairman of the Dallas County Republican Party, referring to the lieutenant governor's network of support. "But that doesn't mean they don't vote."

Among those helping Dewhurst is Texas' popular governor, Rick Perry, who has produced television and web spots for Dewhurst and sang his praises on Fox News Channel. Dewhurst also has formal endorsements from a list of state senators and organizations, including the Texas Farm Bureau and the National Association of Realtors, which are available for help with phone banks, fundraising and get-out-the-vote efforts.

Texas elected officials have been slower to embrace Cruz — though he has won the support of former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin and Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul, both tea party superstars.

Further complicating matters for Cruz is that he and Dewhurst don't disagree on much, mirroring each other's positions on key fiscal and social issues and foreign policy. Both oppose President Barack Obama's health care overhaul — Dewhurst says he'd repeal "every word of Obamacare," while Cruz vows to wipe out every syllable.

Cruz, a former state solicitor general, former Ivy League debating champion and son of a Cuban immigrant, is counting on the enthusiasm of tea party supporters and on his ability to deliver the ultraconservative message to get voters to turn out in the dog days of summer, when turnout may be very low.

"This was our hope and it was the objective. It just didn't always seem possible," he said, referring to his whipping up crowds. "When I started, I was at 2 percent in the polls, and the margin of error was 3 percent."

Dewhurst has crisscrossed the state to campaign, but the energy company mogul has a halting speaking style that doesn't inspire public

fervor. He has relied on his record to speak for itself. "I'm simply running for the United States Senate saying that I want to accomplish the same things that I've done in Texas," Dewhurst says. In overseeing the state Senate, he helped win approval of deep spending cuts to deal with the state's recent budget shortfalls, as well as bills requiring women to undergo a sonogram before having an abortion and voters to show photo identification at the polls — both very popular with the GOP's conservative base.

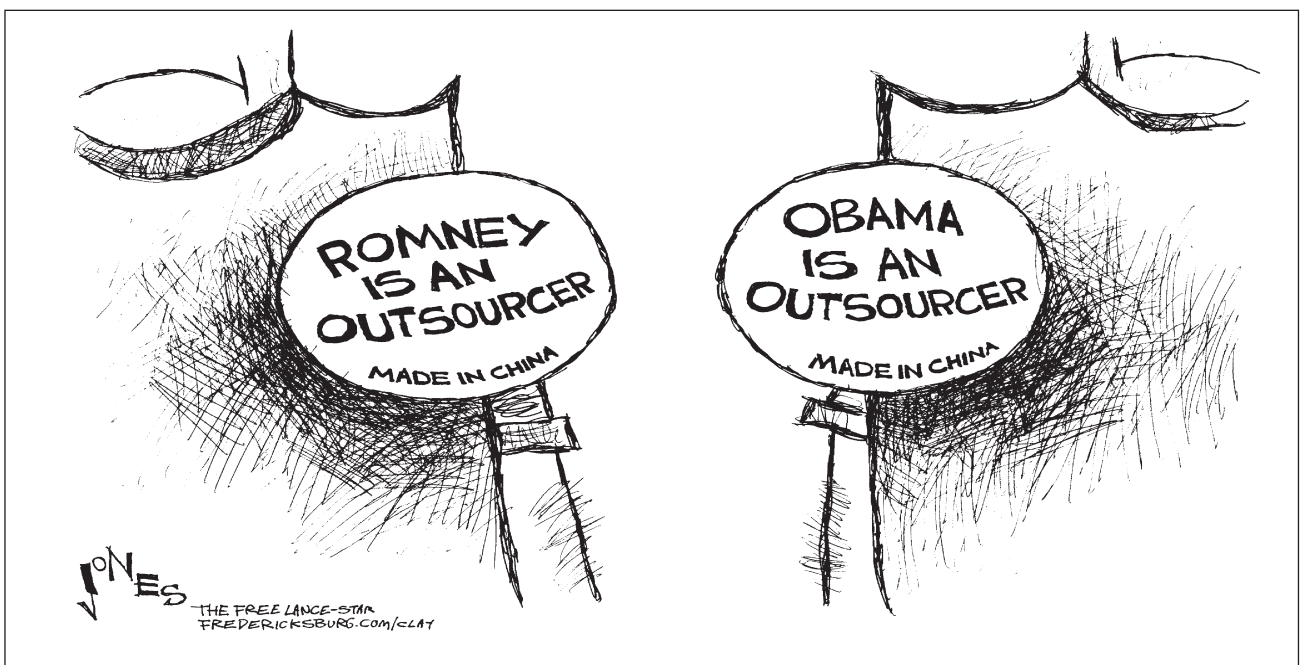
Dewhurst's connections in Texas business and politics are reflected in his fundraising. The lieutenant governor has received nearly \$5.4 million, about 90 percent of it from donors in the state. Cruz has raised about \$6 million, about 30 percent from out of state.

Dewhurst, whose personal wealth exceeds \$200 million, has lent his campaign over \$10 million and hasn't ruled out spending more. Cruz has gotten millions from South Carolina Sen. Jim DeMint's Senate Conservatives Fund, the anti-tax Club for Growth and former Texas Rep. Dick Armey's FreedomWorks — all of whom say Dewhurst is too moderate for sometimes compromising with Texas Senate Democrats to get key legislation approved.

Dewhurst's network of supporters helped him beat Cruz 44 percent to 34 percent in the May 29 primary. He fell about 70,000 votes short of winning the nomination outright in a field of nine Republicans running to succeed retiring Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison.

Dewhurst and Cruz are campaigning hard in the Dallas area to win over supporters of the third place finisher, former Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert, who hasn't endorsed either. But getting voters to the polls at all will be a challenge, said Neerman, the former Dallas GOP chairman.

"In the summer in Texas," he said, "folks are more worried about their trips to Colorado and Disney World and the lake than they are going to vote."



We welcome your letters

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- Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be edited for length and clarity.
- All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number with the letter for verification. Only your name and city will be published.
- Defamatory comments will not be published.
- E-mail submissions are welcome.
- The views and opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of *The Pampa News* or its staff.

Lawmaker: Texas voter ID bill rushed

WASHINGTON (AP) — Texas state Rep. Trey Martinez Fischer said Tuesday that a bill requiring Texans to show photo identification at polls was rushed through the Legislature and passed over the objections of minority lawmakers.

The veteran lawmaker spoke during the second day of a trial in federal court in Washington that will determine whether the 2011 Texas law violates the federal Voting Rights Act. A three-judge panel is hearing the case after the state of Texas sued the Justice Department, which blocked the law under the Act in March.

“There was a determined effort to pass this bill in record time,” Martinez Fischer said during testimony.

Martinez Fischer, the Justice Department’s first witness in the case, testified even though Texas has not called all its witnesses. Because of travel schedules, witnesses for the opposing sides are being called out of order and Texas will continue making its case on Wednesday with an expert witness.

The six-term state representative, who’s chairman of the Mexican American Legislative Caucus, said he and his colleagues tried repeatedly to block or slow down the voter ID bill. He said it was difficult to determine why the legislation was on a fast track.

“The rationale was constantly changing,” he said. “One of the comments was this was ‘a solution in search of a problem.’”

The environment at the state Capitol was different than in previous years, he said. While acknowledging sharp partisan divides were common in Austin, Martinez Fischer described a regular effort at bipartisan civility that he said seemed to dissipate in 2011.

“We had a governor that wanted to secede,” he said, referring to Texas Gov. Rick Perry. “We had a select committee on state sovereignty.”

State Rep. Rafael Anchia also testified that he felt the

legislative process was rushed.

“We thought the secretary of state’s office could furnish (data on voters) to us so that we could make good decisions,” Anchia said. “That data was never provided.”

The Justice Department also called an expert witness to testify Tuesday. J. Morgan Kousser, a California Institute of Technology professor, said Republicans in the Texas Legislature had been trying to pass a voter ID law since 2005. He said debate about the bill had become progressively nastier in 2007, 2009 and culminating in the law’s passage in 2011.

Kousser described a 2007 fight over the legislation that prompted one lawmaker, who had recently undergone a liver transplant, to set up a hospital bed inside the Capitol complex to ensure that a voter ID bill did not clear the Senate.

Kousser called the Texas electorate “very racially polarized” and said it’s become increasingly clear over time that the state’s Democratic Party is dominated by minorities.

“In 2011, the vast majority of Democratic legislators are minorities. So a bill that has partisan effects would have racial effects,” he said.

Attorney General Eric Holder, in remarks Tuesday at the convention of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in Houston, said he opposes Texas’ photo ID requirement. He said it would be harmful to minority voters and that the Justice Department “will not allow political pretexts to disenfranchise American citizens of their most precious right.”

Many who don’t have IDs would have to travel far to get them, he said, and some would struggle to pay for documents needed to obtain such IDs.

Holder said that while only 8 percent of white people do not have government-issued photo IDs, about 25 percent of black people lack such identification.

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Father, son denied bond in ICE shooting

McALLEN (AP) — A federal judge denied bail Tuesday for a father and son charged in the shooting of a federal immigration agent conducting surveillance near their South Texas home.

U.S. District magistrate Judge Peter Ormsby called the charges “very troubling” and said evidence presented by another agent who was conducting surveillance that night and the pair’s previous encounters with the law convinced him Pedro Alvarado, 41, and his 18-year-old son, Arnoldo Alvarado, should be held pending trial.

Also in custody is Pedro Alvarado’s 16-year-old son, who is charged as a juvenile in a state district court with attempted capital murder.

The adult Alvarados are charged with assault of a federal officer and

knowingly using and carrying a firearm during a violent crime. They face up to 20 years in prison if convicted on the assault charge and a minimum of 10 years and up to life in prison on the weapons count.

Special Agent Kelton Harrison with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s Homeland Security Investigations was conducting surveillance July 3 before dawn in anticipation of a drug transaction down the street from the Alvarados’ home. He was not in uniform and was alone in an unmarked SUV.

Around 3:30 a.m. Harrison radioed that he was being shot at and later that he had been shot, HSI Special Agent J.P. Reneau testified Tuesday. Reneau drove to where Harrison had been stationed but found nothing. The investigation had been going on

for two years, but the surveillance was not on the Alvarados’ home, he said. Ten minutes later Harrison called Reneau on his cellphone to say he was off the road in some bushes.

An ICE spokeswoman said Tuesday that Harrison continues his recovery in a local hospital. Reneau testified that Harrison was shot once in the back while fleeing in his vehicle from the Alvarados and was expected to make a full recovery.

Reneau found Harrison’s shot-up vehicle about three miles from the original scene. Another agent drove Harrison to meet an ambulance.

Later that day, federal agents searched the Alvarados’ home. They found two illegal immigrants and two guns allegedly used in the **SHOOTING** cont. on page 7A



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Worship

Main truth: 'Know that I am Lord'

My prayer as I write this column is that I can get you to write something in your Bible. Now you may be one of those people who consider that sacrilege, and if so I certainly wouldn't ask you to violate your conscience. However, if you mark in your Bible or if you at least don't consider it wrong, please open your Bible to the book of Ezekiel and get ready to write.

Now when most believers praise their favorite books of the Bible, Ezekiel is seldom mentioned. Since it is the third longest book in the Bible, only out distanced by Psalms and Jeremiah, you would think that it would at least have a few fans, but alas not so. So then why am I writing this column?

Ezekiel, more plainly than any other book in the Bible, has one major point to make and makes it so often that once it is pointed out it seems to jump off of the page. Now the book discusses many things, but Ezekiel can be summarized in 6 words: "know that I am the Lord."

In the whole Bible that phrase is used 77 times in the New American Standard 1995 edition, 63 of those times are in the book of Ezekiel. In the NIV 67 times, 54 of them in Ezekiel. In the KJV 77 times, 63 in Ezekiel. No book in the Bible makes a single point as many times as Ezekiel drives home "Know that I am Lord."

And also note that the Gentiles were targeted in 1/3 of Jehovah's proclamations of "know that I am the Lord". Now that makes sense, the Gentiles weren't His children. But don't miss the point the 2/3 of God's insistence to "know that I am the Lord" were directed at His children who should have known perfectly well who He was. That might be a lesson today for everyone who says they are "saved"; those who cry out



MIKE SUBLETT



"Lord, Lord." Mt 7:21 It is totally possible, even common, for someone who should know God, not to know Him at all.

So please take a permanent writing utensil and at the beginning of Ezekiel write:

Main truth: "Know that I am the Lord"

Everything else that Ezekiel has to say pales in comparison to this. Then maybe in addition to this the next time you read Ezekiel you can start looking for all of those references and even circle them.

Just in case you want a jump start, here are the references for marking.

Israelites

6:7	6:10	6:13	6:14	7:4
7:27	11:10	11:12	12:15	12:16
12:20	13:9	13:14	13:21	13:23
14:8	15:7	16:62	17:24	20:12
20:20	20:26	20:38	20:42	20:44
22:16	23:49	24:24	24:27	33:29
34:27	36:11	36:23	36:38	37:6
37:13	37:28	38:23	39:6	39:7
39:22	39:28			

Gentiles

25:5	25:7	25:11	25:17	26:6
28:22	28:23	28:24	28:26	29:6
29:9	29:16	29:21	30:8	30:19
30:25	30:26	32:15	35:4	35:9
35:15				

Mike Sublett is the pastor at Hi-Land Christian Church.

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- Fellowship Baptist Church**
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- First Assembly of God**
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- First Baptist Church**
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669-3225
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- First Pentecostal Holiness**
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665-8192
- First Presbyterian**
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You are all part of a cause so great

The Apostle Paul wrote, "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of the dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in high places" (Ephesians 6:12). We must remember as Christians that we are involved in the midst of a spiritual warfare between the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Satan. We also need to realize Satan isn't really seeking to just defeat you, but to defeat the work and purpose of God. We are entangled between them, here on earth.

John Hull illustrates this by using a high school couple who broke up. The boyfriend wanted to end their relationship. The girl was so angry she would hardly speak. When she got home she took his picture on her dresser and ripped it to pieces, even breaking the picture frame. Afterward she felt much better. Her adolescent emotions had been satisfied.

When we consider this analogy we must ask, "Did the girl hurt her former boyfriend as she attacked his picture?" Not at all. He was miles away totally untouched. What she hurt was the image of her boyfriend — his picture. And that is how Satan attempts to hurt God. You are made in His image. You are the closest thing to God that Satan can attack. Since he cannot get at God, he attacks you.

So many of us forget we are involved in a war. When we get opposition in our walk with God, it surprises us. We must remember that we are



DAVID BOULTER

soldiers of the cross. When you became a member of the family of God by salvation, you also became a part of His army, His force for good.

John Piper in his book, "Prayer: The Power That Wields The Weapon," writes, "The problem is that most Christians don't really believe that life is war and that our invisible enemy is powerful. They say they believe these truths, but watch their lives.

There is a peace-time casualness in the church about spiritual things — all is well in America, the Disney Land of the universe."

Warren Wiersbe says, "God gave us the weapon of prayer to use in the battle against opposition. Prayer is the vehicle not only to maintain a relationship with our Father in Heaven, but also to communicate and carry out His purpose of world conquest. Prayer is our vital lifeline in the midst of the battle."

You are part of a cause for Christ so great, so important that you must not surrender to the circumstances around you, but live your life on mission with God.

David Boulter is the pastor of Highland Park Baptist Church in Chattanooga, Tenn.

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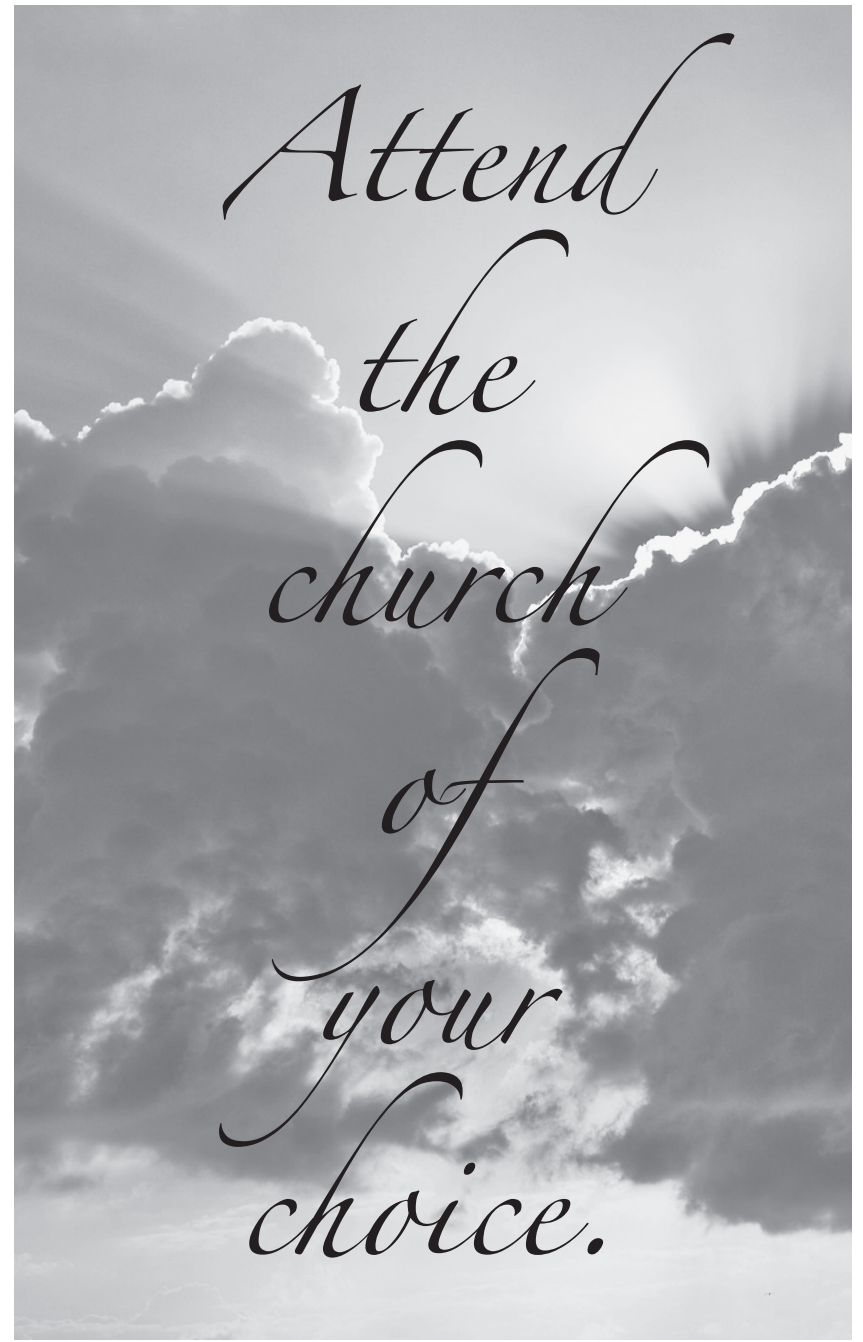
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Shooting

cont. from page 5A

attack. Reneau said the Alvarados told them where to find the immigrants and the guns in the attic.

Arnoldo Alvarado told federal agents that his father had woken him and the 16-year-old around 3 a.m. after receiving a phone call about a suspicious vehicle nearby. Pedro Alvarado told them to grab their guns and come along, according to the criminal complaint. Arnoldo Alvarado said he had a 9 mm handgun, the minor had a .22-caliber rifle and Pedro Alvarado was driving. The younger son began firing at Harrison's vehicle first, then Arnoldo Alvarado fired two shots into the air and many more at the vehicle as it fled.

Reneau testified that the bullet remains in Harrison's back, but X-rays lead investigators to believe that it was a 9 mm. He said he did not know if Harrison was armed or fired any shots, but said it would be unusual if he did not have a weapon.

Carlos Garcia, an attorney for Arnoldo Alvarado, said his client had told investigators that he had heard several shots he thought were fired at them before they began shooting. Reneau confirmed for Garcia that Harrison had been parked on private property though he was not certain whether it belonged to an Alvarado relative.

Arnoldo Alvarado "did nothing more than defend himself and their property from what they perceived as a threat," Garcia said. "He fired after he believed he was fired upon."

Oscar Alvarez, the lawyer for Pedro Alvarado, said Alvarado's wife had told investigators that shots were fired in a home invasion incident at their house only months earlier.

Reneau said they had information that the Alvarado home and another nearby house were narcotics stash houses, but they found no drugs in their home that day.

Two illegal immigrants from El Salvador are being held as material witnesses. Alvarez said the Alvarados were not involved in bringing them to the U.S. but had assisted one who was injured nearby in an automobile accident. They had been working at their home.

Ormsby noted that Pedro Alvarado had three prior convictions for drug trafficking and there was an outstanding warrant for Arnoldo Alvarado's arrest for a misdemeanor assault charge.

In explaining the warrant, Garcia said the notice for Arnoldo Alvarado's court appearance had been sent to the wrong address.

City

cont. from page 1A

someone from dispatch could automatically lock the doors to keep someone from getting in or out," said City Manager Richard Morris. "Currently, the doors, in order for that system to work, they have to completely close properly."

To make that happen, Morris said the doors must be replaced.

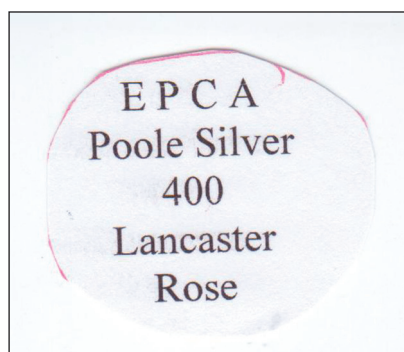
Child's bowl serves more than oatmeal

Q: I bought the china child's bowl seen in this photo at a yard sale and didn't pay much for it. It is decorated with a boy and girl skating and measures 4 inches in diameter. On the border are the word "Baby" and also a mushroom, a frog and blue flowers. It is in good condition, except for a small chip near the frog. Marked on the bottom are words in a circle that are too blurry to read.

I would like to know if it has any value.

A: Children's bowls and dishes are popular collectibles. They were made in the late 1800s and early 1900s in both Europe and the United States. Many were decorated with the ABCs, children and animals at play, or nursery rhymes. As a rule, the decorations were transfer prints rather than hand-painted scenes. Because the mark is illegible, the manufacturer and the origin can't be identified.

Your bowl was made in the early 1900s and would probably be worth \$10 to \$25.



Coffee and tea service made by Poole Silver Co.

Q: I have inherited my grandmother's sterling silver coffee and tea service. The set includes a large tray, coffee and teapots, a cream pitcher and a covered sugar bowl. I have enclosed a drawing of the mark that is on each piece. My grandmother bought the set about 50 years ago. I remember she saved her money for a very long time in order to buy it.

I am proud to have inherited it

Antique
OR JUNQUE?



Children's dishes are popular collectibles.

and will pass it down to my daughters one day.

Anything you can tell me about its history and value will be appreciated.

A: Your coffee and tea service was made by Poole Silver Co. in Taunton, Mass. They were founded in 1893 and eventually were bought out in 1970 by Towle Silversmiths Manufacturing Co. located in Newburyport, Mass. Poole Silver Co. was well-known for their high quality silver. The letters "EPCA" stand for Electro Plated Copper

Alloy. That also means your set is silver plate rather than sterling silver. "Lancaster Rose" is the name of the pattern and the number "400" refers to the design.

Your circa 1960 set can be found selling in the range of \$800 to \$1,200.

Address your questions to Anne McCollam, P. O. Box 247, Notre Dame, IN 46556. Items of a general interest will be answered in this column. Due to the volume of inquiries, she cannot answer individual letters.



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Doctor: Lack of sleep prompted JetBlue pilot's breakdown

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — A psychologist testified that a JetBlue Airways pilot who screamed about religion and terrorists during a flight had “a brief psychotic disorder” due to lack of sleep, according to a transcript of the trial obtained by The Associated Press on Tuesday.

A judge found Clayton Osborn not guilty by reason of insanity during a brief and unpublicized trial earlier this month in Texas. Osborn had been charged with interference with a flight crew for his behavior on a March 27 flight from New York to Las Vegas.

Passengers said they wrestled the pilot to the floor after he ran through the plane's cabin yelling about Jesus and al-Qaida. The flight was diverted and safely landed in Texas.

According to the court transcripts, forensic neuropsychologist Robert E.H. Johnson testified that Osborn's disorder lasted about a week after the incident. Johnson didn't specify how long Osborn may have gone without sleep, and his psychiatric evaluation was sealed during the trial, but he said he determined Osborn suffered from brief psychotic disorder and delusions “secondary to sleep deprivation.”

Osborn, who was taken to a mental health facility after the flight, could not appreciate the nature and quality of his actions and he didn't appreciate their wrongfulness, Johnson testified.

JetBlue declined to comment on the psychologist's testimony, citing no medical authority on the topic. But company spokeswoman Sharon Jones said Osborn did not fly March 24 or March 25, and worked a round-trip flight March 26 that gave him 17 hours of off time leading into the flight March 27.

The Federal Aviation Administration is still investigating, spokesman Lynn Lunsford said, adding: “It's still too early to draw conclusions about any potential actions that might occur as the result of this incident.”

Osborn is at a mental health facility in Fort Worth. Court records show he is scheduled for another hear-

ing early next month where the burden will be on him to show “by clear and convincing evidence” that his release would not pose future danger.

U.S. District Judge Mary Lou Robinson sealed Johnson's psychiatric evaluation and said during the trial that it would remain the sealed.

Osborn showed up at the airport unusually late for the March 27 flight, and the plane was in midair when he eerily told his first officer they wouldn't make it to their destination, according to court documents.

He then started rambling about religion, the documents say. He scolded air traffic controllers to quiet down, then turned off the radios altogether and dimmed the monitors in the cockpit. He said aloud that “things just don't matter” and encouraged his co-pilot they take a leap of faith, according to court documents.

The first officer then “became really worried,” according to a sworn affidavit from FBI agent John Whitworth. “Osborn started trying to correlate completely unrelated numbers like different radio frequencies, and he talked about sins in Las Vegas.”

Osborn then left the cockpit, according to witness accounts compiled by investigators. Osborn, described by neighbors in Georgia as tall and muscular, “aggressively” grabbed the hands of a flight attendant who confronted him and later sprinted down the cabin while being chased.

From inside the locked cockpit, which Osborn tried to re-enter by banging on the door, the co-pilot gave an order through the intercom to restrain Osborn, the affidavit said. Passengers wrestled Osborn to the ground. One female flight attendant's ribs were bruised, though no one on board was seriously hurt.

At least 10 passengers sued JetBlue after the incident, claiming they feared for their lives and that the airline was “grossly negligent” in allowing Osborn to fly.

FAA rules going into effect late next year add specifics to how much time a pilot must get to rest.

The new rule requires a pilot have a 10-hour rest period, including eight hours of uninterrupted sleep opportunity.

Currently, rules specify that a pilot must get nine hours of rest, reducible to eight hours, but do not factor in sleep opportunity.

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Cases

The District Attorney's office, County Attorney's office, district and county clerks, and Gray County Jail all initially made sure that arrests and cases were coded properly in their files.

“From there, we've just been checking on those open cases a little bit harder,” said Ferguson.

The state issued a few allowances that bring counties closer to the desired number of closed cases. For instance, cases in which the defendant was issued a warrant for failure to appear in court don't count against the 90 percent rate. But the district and county are still forced to come up with ways to efficiently and properly bring cases to an end.

“We are trying to push through these a whole lot quicker, but we don't want to do it without proper justice,” said Peet.

The district court has been scheduling plea negotiation conferences with defendants and 223rd District Judge Phil Vanderpool.

“We don't always reach agreements, but the biggest thing it does, is for those who have offers out that we think they'll take, it forces them to come in and listen to it,” said

Ferguson. “If they're not going to take an offer, then we're going to go to trial. It really forces a decision to be made on all those cases, so it's really been a good tool.”

To get closer to the 90 percent, Seabourn said that his office had dismissed a few cases that they probably could have prosecuted.

“We try to be smart about the old cases that we dismiss,” he said. “If there was a victim in it, like an assault or a theft victim, we didn't just let it go. DWI's and stuff like that, we didn't just dismiss. It was really just ... crimes that there wasn't a citizen victim, like failure to ID.”

“Not to minimize what we prosecute, but at the same time, trying to balance the good of prosecuting someone for a three-year-old failure to ID, versus a local charity losing two or three thousand dollars, it's really no contest,” he added. “We'll let the failure to ID go, and make sure they get their funding, but it's still frustrating.”

Defense attorneys also can inadvertently delay the completion of cases.

“The old mantra from the defendant's side was the only way to win

a criminal case is to never try it, so we're having to overcome that, and that extends to everybody,” said Ferguson. “Everybody's having to deal with that.”

The county and district believe that they will be ready for the deadline next month.

“We're going to get there,” said Winborne. “We've been working really hard on it, and so has the district court.”

“In some ways we were lucky, but it wasn't really luck,” said Seabourn. “It was people doing their job. Between the Sheriff's Office, PD and local DPS, entering cases when they first came in, and ...with properly reporting as cases are resolved, we were one of the counties that, in terms of reporting arrests and resolutions of arrests, was really good.”

Winborne described the movement towards compliance as a joint effort in the county.

“I think, more than anything else, we're just really aware of it now, and it's just been a priority in everybody's office, because we want to get the numbers there and keep them there,” she said. “Everybody's just worked really hard at it.”

cont. from page 1

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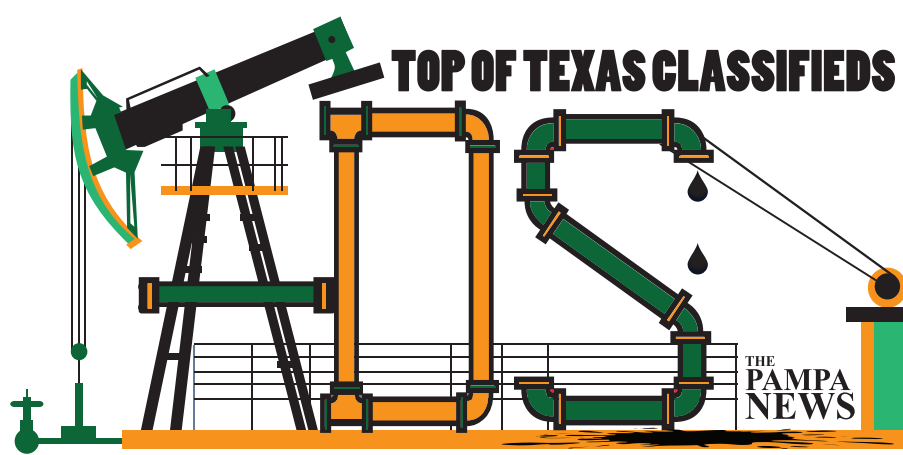
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AXYDLBAAXR is LONG FELLOW
One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

CRYPTOQUOTE
Z I K L J T O B J Z A Q Z G J
J N Z L N A K M Q C K O C K C K Z L J
C B U J K A D Y Z A A K M T A M D T L
N C K D B L J N N B U K .
— T A B H K L Q K O M K A A C T A U K J
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: I AM A GREAT BELIEVER IN FOUND FAMILIES, AND I'M NOT A GREAT BELIEVER IN BLOOD. — JOSS WHEDON

CRYPTOQUOTE
Z I K L J T O B J Z A Q Z G J
J N Z L N A K M Q C K O C K C K Z L J
C B U J K A D Y Z A A K M T A M D T L
N C K D B L J N N B U K .
— T A B H K L Q K O M K A A C T A U K J
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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I have been in an on-again/off-again relationship with a man for 16 years — more on than off. We have two boys together. He recently moved back in, and things are going well.

We're in our 30s, and I'm ready to be more than girlfriend and boyfriend. I'd like to ask this special man in my life to marry me, but I'm not sure if a woman should ever propose marriage to a man. Should I go ahead and do it, or just be patient and hope that one day he will ask me to take the next big step? — LONGING FOR MORE IN TEXAS

DEAR LONGING FOR MORE: By all means, ask him to formalize your relationship. After 16 years and two children, you deserve to know where the relationship is going. And when you do, mention that you'd like him to go to the altar before the boys are big enough to hog-tie and drag him there to make an "honest woman" of their mother.

DEAR ABBY: I have been a vegetarian and anti-fur advocate for many years, and most of my friends and family know it. I feel strongly

that wearing fur and leather is cruel and unnecessary, but I don't lecture anyone who doesn't ask my opinion.

What would be the proper response when someone gives me an item with real animal fur or genuine leather? It has happened before, and while I appreciate that someone has bought me a gift, I'm horrified and heartbroken seeing what's inside the box when I open it, and disappointed knowing that the person has contributed to the unkind and atrocious fur industry. I find it difficult to bring myself to say "thank you" for something I find so morally abhorrent.

What is the appropriate response in this situation? Is it acceptable for me to use this as an opportunity to educate the person on the horrors of fur fashions? — VEGGIE IN NEW YORK

DEAR VEGGIE: No, it isn't. Good manners dictate that you graciously thank the giver and then, if you wish, give the gift a respectful, private burial or regift it to a carnivore.

DEAR ABBY: My ex-husband is remarrying. We have always tried to be civil toward each other because of our daughter,

who is 16. I try to be the bigger person in dealing with him in order to set a good example for her.

He called her last night after not having called her in several weeks and told her that if she wants to be in his wedding, I (meaning me) should purchase her dress. I thought it was inappropriate for him not only to tell her that, but also to expect me to pay for it.

When I remarried years ago, I never would have dreamed of asking him for money for her attire. My daughter even thinks this is unrealistic.

I usually try to keep things positive when it comes to situations with him, but I don't think I'm giving in on this one. Do you agree? — EX IN ILLINOIS

DEAR EX: You said you try to keep things positive to set a good example for your daughter. While I agree your ex's demand that you pay for the dress is petty (and cheap), be the bigger person one more time and buy it for her if she wishes to participate rather than argue about it. Then cross your fingers and hope it's his last wedding.

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Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

Level: Intermediate

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

BANANAGRAMS!

For each bunch below, rearrange the letters to form two intersecting words that fit into the corresponding grid.

LEVEL

A C I I I L I M S Y M

A B B F F E O I C

Yesterday's Answer: ENIGMA, APATHY, BISTRO, SEWAGE

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

40 Invasion time

41 Carry

DOWN

1 Model sticker

2 Spanish province

3 "Please stay!"

4 Hubbub

5 Hunger indicator

6 Prime minister

7 Draw closer to

8 Play place

10 Finale

11 Diana of "The Avengers"

16 Golfer's cleek

18 Farm animal

21 Slam sound

23 Put a price on

24 Like some jackets

25 Zambia neighbor

27 Geisha garb

28 Be short with

29 Pottery piece

30 Source of bad luck

31 Honking birds

33 Overcast

37 Whole bunch

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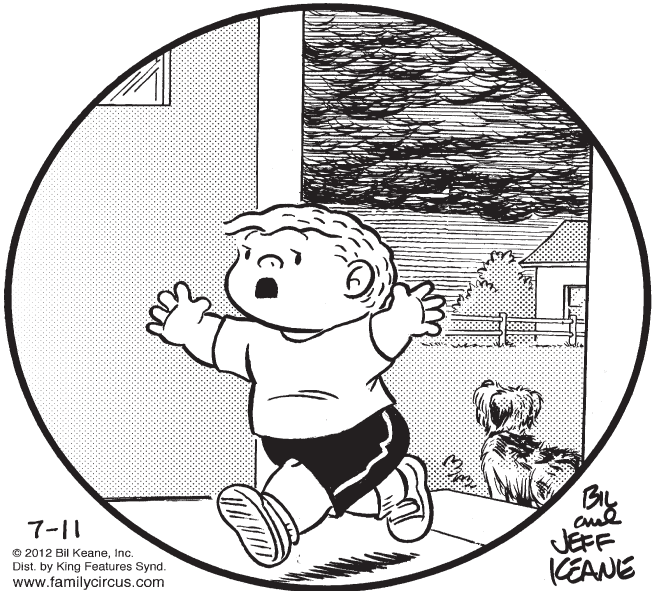
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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35					36	37	
38					39		
40							41

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THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



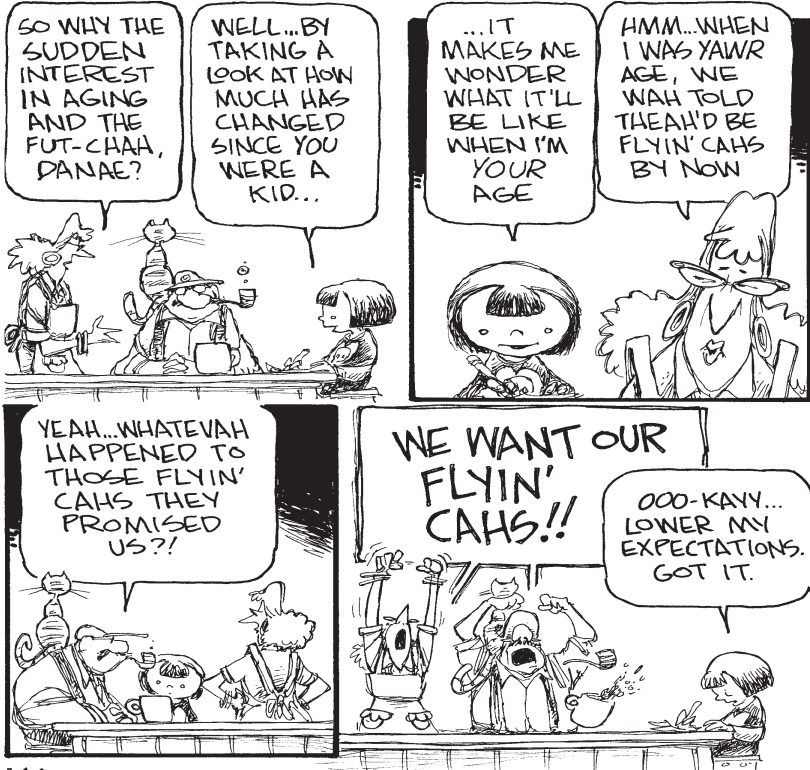
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BIL KEANE
JEFF KEANE

"I'm coming back inside. The sky keeps growlin' at me!"

Non Sequitur



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Nest Heads



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daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, July 12, 2012:
Ride the crest of good luck this year, which will become even better next year. Eliminate what no longer works for you. As you close doors, new ones will open. Opportunities strike wherever you put your focus. Pick only those you really want. If you are single, you could have quite the pick of suitors. Enjoy the process. If you are attached, the two of you seem to enjoy a new tango, where you turn up the love temperature. You might opt for a special, long-desired trip together. **TAURUS** helps pave the way for you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Clearly an adjustment is made by others, but perhaps not for the reason you wanted. The change occurs because of certain financial benefits. Don't get picky — just be happy. Confusion surrounds conversations. Maintain a sense of humor. Tonight: Treat yourself, too.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You know when it is prime time to make your move, and that time is now. Do not hesitate to push in order to get what you feel is needed. You have your eye on the long term, so do not be surprised if you get some flak from others who don't see your logic. Tonight: The world is your oyster.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Even if you must maintain a low profile, you'll gain a different perspective. In the long run, this stance is perfect, as new insights will allow you to make better choices. You see the light, so to speak. Tonight: You do not always need company — do you? Do your own thing.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ A goal-driven response inspires close-to-perfect action. You cannot always operate like this, but you like the results. A partner might demonstrate an innate confusion when speaking or responding to you. Focus on your long-term goals instead of getting too uptight about a problem. Tonight: Where crowds can be found.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Others continue to look to you for guidance and understanding. You might want to change your M.O. as you discover what a burden you might be carrying. Give yourself time if you feel uncomfortable. Tonight: Leader of the gang (again).

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Keep reaching out for someone you really care about. Pressure builds and forces your hand. Detach, and don't react. A partner demonstrates unusual imagination and caring. Be ready to take a leap of faith. Tonight: Choose a relaxing activity.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You cannot ignore a loved one's request. You might not know what to say, but you need to say something, should you be speechless or undecided. Work with others on an individual level, and you'll gain success. Be subtle and nonjudgmental when asking questions. Tonight: Visit over dinner.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Defer to others, especially as they are determined to have their way. Communication flows, so use your ability to help yourself and others process a problem. A friend could disappoint you. Plans also might change. Tonight: Sort through invitations. Think "weekend."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You are tempted to plunge into whatever you do 100 percent. You could be confused by a personal matter. Revamp your budget if you need to; do not let someone's opinion affect you. Give yourself time. Don't demand the impossible from yourself. Tonight: Get some exercise.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Once more, others are taken with a side of you that does not come out often: your creativity. You are known for your endurance and intellect. Ingenuity — the blend of imagination and logic — can find solutions where others cannot. Let more impulsiveness in. Tonight: Fun and games.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Stay close to home, and refuse to be intimidated. You might be seeing a constant flow of cash leaving your checking account. If this makes you uncomfortable, you know what to do — just stop spending. Ask questions in a nonthreatening manner. Tonight: Your home is your castle.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ State your case, ask questions and loosen up about a situation. You can achieve this without standing on ceremony or changing your goals. Most people will be highly responsive, with the exception of a close loved one. Tonight: Yap up a storm.

Tundra



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Shoe

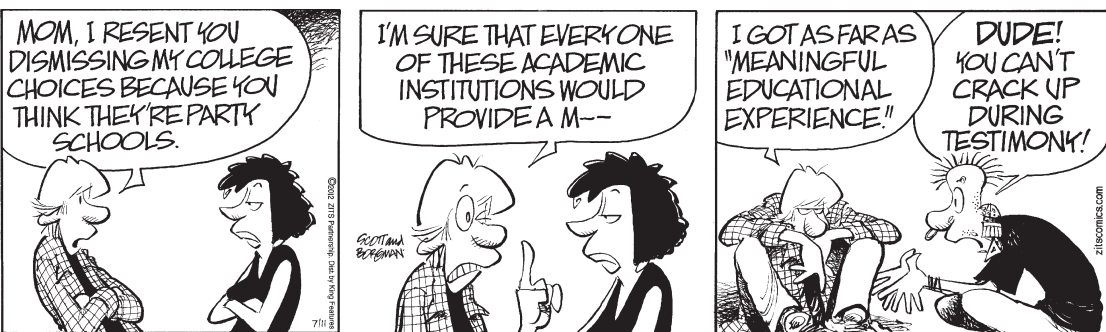


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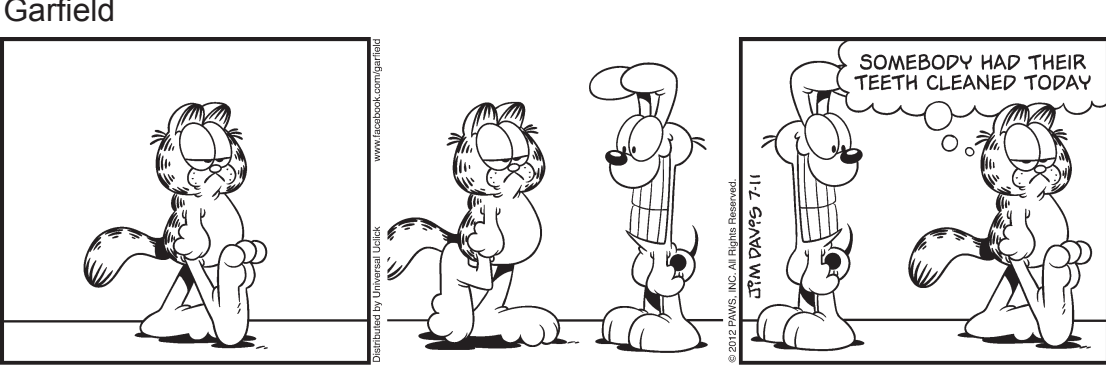
Mother Goose and Grim



Zits

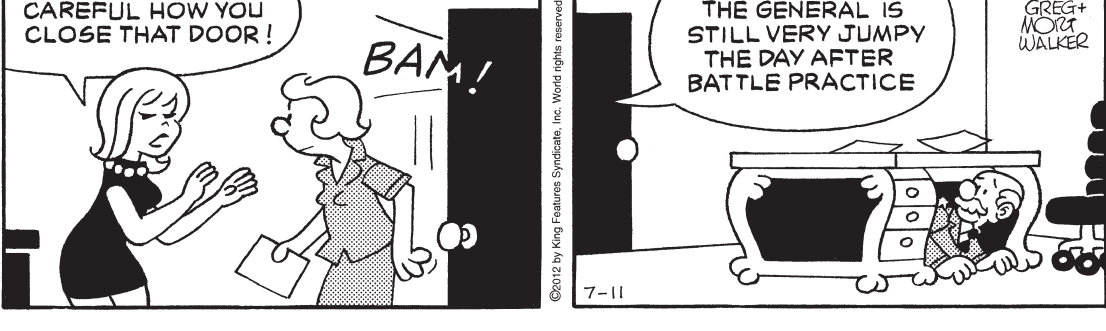


Garfield



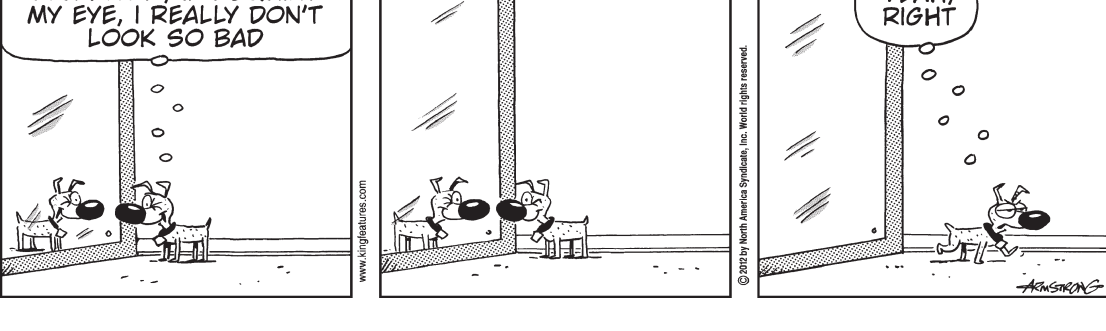
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Hagar The Horrible



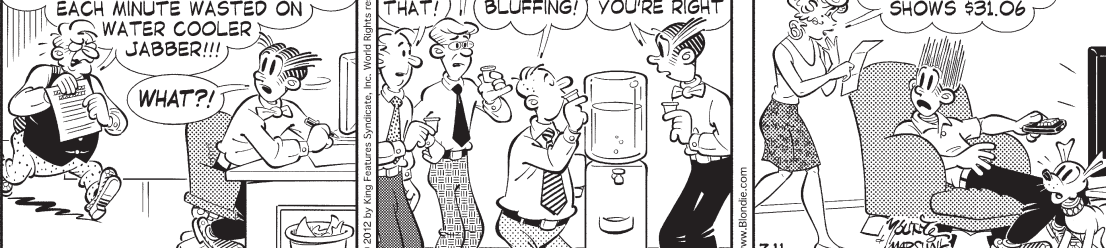
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Blondie



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Sports

ACADEMIC ALL-STATE

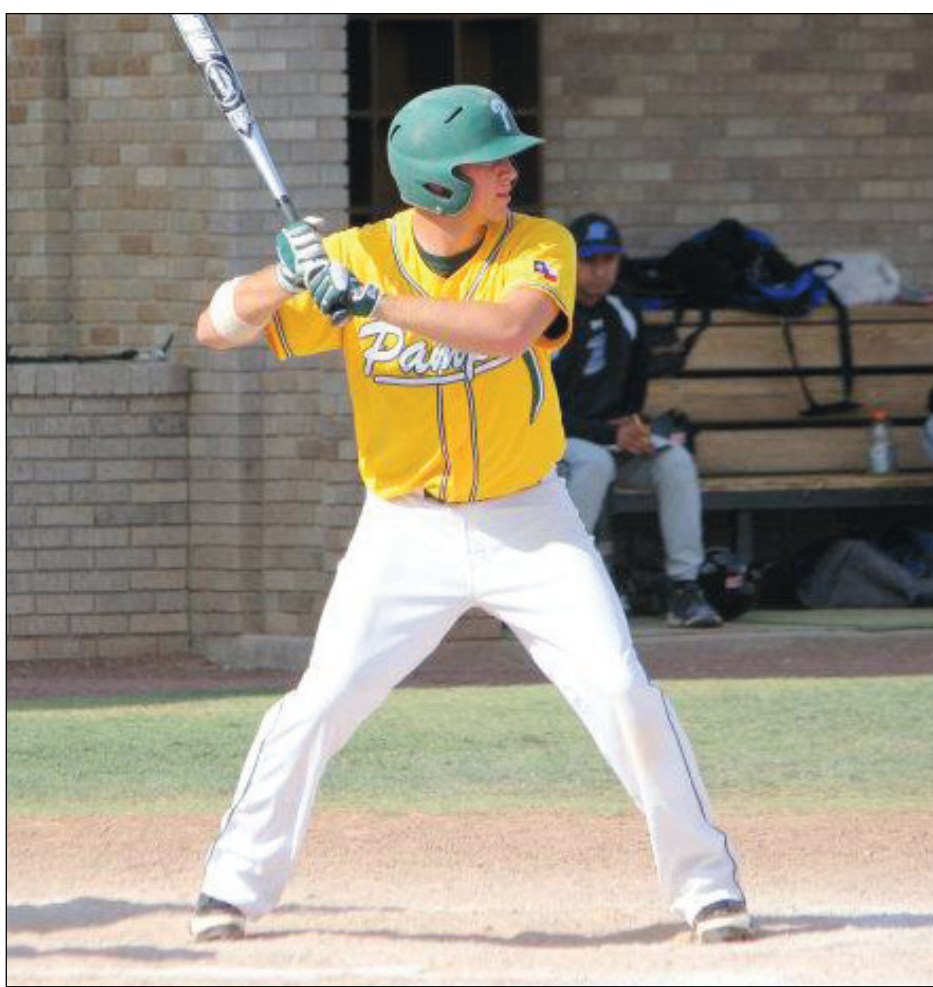


photo courtesy of **Toni Engle**

Recent Pampa High School graduate Cole Engle was only one of two players within District 1 3-A to be named to Academic All-State for baseball.

Draft picks a bright spot for Mavs

DALLAS (AP) — What a dismal offseason so far for the Dallas Mavericks, who just last summer were celebrating their first NBA championship.

They've let go of some key title pieces in moves that helped create salary-cap flexibility for this free agency period.

Except Deron Williams couldn't be swayed to play for his hometown team, their top free-agent target opting instead to stay with the Nets for their move to Brooklyn.

Guards Jason Kidd and Jason Terry are both leaving in free agency. Kidd decided to go to the New York Knicks rather than take a similar three-year deal from the Mavs, and Terry is headed to Boston. Then Steve Nash bypassed a possible reunion in Dallas with good friend Dirk Nowitzki to play for the Los Angeles Lakers.

Mavericks fans certainly have reason to feel frustrated.

"We feel the same thing internally. We were in position, we put our best foot forward," general manager Donnie Nelson said Tuesday, without mentioning any specific names. "Things didn't pan out the way that we would have hoped for. And at this point, we're in the thick of it, and we're trying to get quality, get youth, get athleticism. Be competitive next year, yet keep our powder dry for free agency in the future."

There was a bright spot for the Mavericks on the day before NBA free-agent deals came become official, as they welcomed their three draft picks to Dallas before the rookies start prepping for the summer league in Las Vegas.

Guard Jared Cunningham, post player Bernard James and forward Jae Crowder were called "solid building blocks at three different positions" by Nelson. All three could get a chance to have an early impact.

"There's going to be opportunity here," coach Rick Carlisle said. "I think that's pretty obvious."

Cunningham, the first-round pick, led the Pac-12 in steals the past two seasons. As a junior at Oregon State last season, the 6-foot-4 guard averaged 17.9 points (second in the conference) and had 91 steals.

"More and more now in the league, we're getting to guys that are playmakers. ... You've got to have guys that can make plays offensively and defensively," Carlisle said. "We see him as a guy that's got some real dynamic athleticism. He's got a skill set that has a lot of upside, and we know he's a hard worker."

He also plays a position where the Mavericks definitely have a need.

But Cunningham may not get to play in summer league games because of a hamstring issue. Carlisle said the goal is to make sure the guard is completely healthy and ready to go when veteran training camp opens in late September.

ly healthy and ready to go when veteran training camp opens in late September.

The 6-foot-6 Crowder was the Big East Player of the Year last season for Marquette. James is a 27-year-old 6-10 center from Florida State, a former Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Air Force who served six years in the service with three tours of duty in the Middle East.

"This is a special guy. We're excited to have him here from a basketball standpoint. But we're honored to have him as part of our organization for what he's done for us and our country," Carlisle said. "That's a big deal, and you don't get a chance to draft a guy like that every day."

The coach described Crowder as one of the hardest-playing guys available in the draft and Cunningham as a competitive player.

"Getting three guys like this is a coup for us," Carlisle said.

Armstrong associates banned

AUSTIN (AP) — With Lance Armstrong digging in for a legal fight, the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency issued lifetime sports bans Tuesday to three former staff members and consultants on the cyclist's winning Tour de France teams for drug violations.

Luis Garcia del Moral was a team doctor; Michele Ferrari was a consulting doctor; and Jose "Pepe" Marti (team trainer) worked for Armstrong's U.S. Postal Service and Discovery Channel squads.

All had been accused by USADA of participating in a vast doping conspiracy on those teams during part or all of Armstrong's seven Tour victories from 1999-2005.

Armstrong also has been charged and has declared his innocence.

Several hours after

USADA announced its sanctions against the others, Armstrong's attorneys refiled a lawsuit asking a federal judge in Austin to prevent the case against from going forward.

U.S. District Judge Sam Sparks had thrown out Armstrong's initial 80-page complaint Monday, but invited him to submit a new one that was shorter, more to the point and less about his career and personal battles with anti-doping officials.

Armstrong's attorneys refiled a 25-page suit arguing that USADA violates athletes' constitutional rights, that the agency doesn't have the jurisdiction to bring the charges and that it may have violated federal law in its investigation.

Armstrong wants the court to rule by Saturday, his deadline to either

accept USADA's charges and sanctions or send his case to arbitration.

An Armstrong spokesman declined immediate comment on the USADA bans issued Tuesday.

Under USADA rules, Moral, Marti and Ferrari had until Monday to challenge the allegations against them in arbitration or ask for a five-day extension. If they did not respond, USADA could impose sanctions.

Although none lives in the United States, USADA says the ban blocks them from participating in any sport that falls under the World Anti-Doping Agency code.



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