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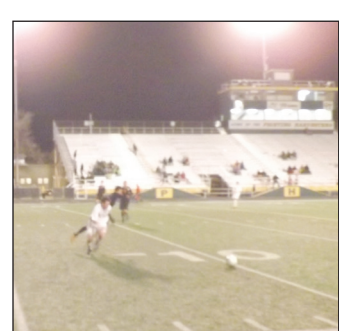
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The PAMPA NEWS

TODAY IN SPORTS



Wednesday, February 6, 2013 www.thepampanews.com Volume 108 • No. 234

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 \$1.50 weekend The six billion dollar scam | **p4** Boys soccer falls to Caprock | **p1B**
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Action group forms against housing project



Photo by Timothy P. Howsare
 A developer from Kansas is proposing a 48-unit housing project on the northeast side of Pampa, east of Navajo Street and north of 23rd Avenue. Residents in the area say they knew nothing about the proposed development until a few weeks ago and have spearheaded an action group to protest its construction.

■ **Group set to meet Feb. 11, to appear at City Commission meeting.**

BY SASHA HELLER
 sheller@thepampanews.com

A group of concerned homeowners in Pampa have aligned to stand up against a proposed 48-unit housing project planned for their neighborhood. Overland Property Group, of Kansas, has targeted Pampa, along with two other communities, to serve as the location of the subsidized housing development.

"They have approached the city and the EDC (Pampa Economic Development Corp.) in reference to constructing a 48-unit affordable housing apartment complex in northeast Pampa," said City of Pampa public information officer Donny Hooper. "The location is east of Navajo, south of Laguna and north of 23rd."

Hooper added that the property is zoned multi-family residential and has been since 1983.



Submitted photo
 Pictured is the Reserves at the High Plains, also designed by Overland Property Group, in Dumas. This photo was taken from the housing development's Facebook page.

Hooper said Overland has not yet contacted the city to arrange any official public hearings or business meetings.

"The property is already platted as well but would need to be re-

platted for the project to move forward," he said. "This would need to go before the Planning and Zoning Commission (PNZ) and the Pampa HOUSING cont. on page 3

State school finance system ruled unconstitutional

■ Landmark decision given in Calhoun County ISD case.

BY SASHA HELLER
 sheller@thepampanews.com

State District Judge John Dietz this week ruled that the Texas school finance system is unconstitutional by siding with



Mark Trachtenberg

plaintiffs representing around 90 school districts from throughout the state.

Dietz ruled the state's property tax system is unconstitutional and that the system failed to allow the school districts lobbying in the case to provide an adequate public education to the students they serve.

"Judge Dietz's ruling is the first step in an important process. While we expect that the Texas Supreme Court will ultimately have its say, there is no reason why the Legislature has to wait on the appeals process before addressing the constitutional deficiencies in the system," said attorney Mark Trachtenberg, who represented the plaintiff school districts.

Trachtenberg said statutory mandates, rising academic standards and declining state funding have afforded school systems limited opportunities to offer enrichment programming critical to the high school experience. Dietz' ruling found the resulting situation creates a de facto FINANCE cont. on page 3

PJHS test scores ruled academically unacceptable



Photo by Sasha Heller
 Pampa Junior High School's 2010-11 TAKS test scores were identified as academically unacceptable.

STAFF REPORT

Pampa Junior High School is currently identified as academically unacceptable following the 2010-11 school year for scores on the spring 2011 TAKS Science Test. "Those results were from 2011 but we had to keep that rating for the past two years because we are in the transition period from the TAKS tests to STARR testing," PJHS Principal Janet Hancock said. "We did not meet the acceptable standard. We missed it by eight students in the science section of the test."

Students are tested in English and Math for sixth, seventh and eighth grade. Social studies and science tests are for the eighth grade and writing tests in seventh grade. Hancock said that each subject is broken into sub-population groups. Examples of the breakdown are

PJHS cont. on page 3

TxDOT tells lawmakers funding crisis around the corner

BY AMAN BATHEJA
 The Texas Tribune

After funding billions of dollars in roadwork through debt over the last decade, the Texas Department of Transportation is two years away from a severe drop in funding unless lawmakers find more cash, agency officials said at a budget hearing Monday.

TxDOT Chairman Phil Wilson told the Senate Finance Committee that the agency is at a crucial turning point as large

state bond programs are set to hit their limit by 2015.

"The fact is, we're running out of capacity to issue the debt — we're maxed out — and that's where most of our money comes from," Texas Transportation Commission Chairman Ted Houghton told the committee.

More than a decade ago, lawmakers paved the way for an era of "innovative financing" at TxDOT in which the agency ramped up highway projects largely by issuing billions of dollars in

bonds and approving more toll roads. The spending peaked in 2009, with TxDOT moving forward with more than \$9 billion in highway contracts that year, according to written testimony submitted by the agency to the committee Monday. If new revenue isn't found, TxDOT expects funding to drop to less than \$3 billion in highway projects in 2016 — a level far short of meeting the needs of a state growing as fast as Texas, agency officials said.

CRISIS cont. on page 3

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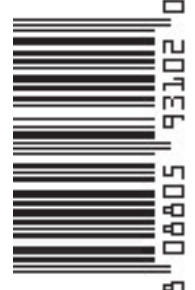
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PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Thursday	Friday
High 67 Low 40	High 53 Low 30	High 60 Low 37

Wednesday: Partly cloudy with a high of 67. No chance of rain. Wind south southwest at 18 mph. Sunrise at 7:39 a.m.

Wednesday night: Partly cloudy with a low of 40. No chance of rain. Wind east at 17 mph. Sunset at 6:17 p.m.

Thursday: Mostly cloudy with a high of 53. Ten percent chance of rain. Wind north northeast at 19 mph. Sunrise at 7:38 a.m.

Thursday night: Clear skies with a low of 30. No chance of rain. Wind east southeast at 7 mph. Sunset at 6:18 p.m.

Friday: Partly cloudy with a high of 60. Ten percent chance of rain. Wind south southeast at 17 mph. Sunrise at 7:38 a.m.

Friday night: Partly cloudy with a low of 37. Twenty percent chance of rain. Sunset at 6:19 p.m.

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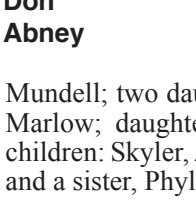
Obituaries

Don Abney

Don Abney, 63, died Jan. 21, 2013 in Pampa. Memorial services will be at 2 p.m., Friday, Feb. 8, 2013, at Carpenter's Church, with the Rev. James Sinyard, pastor, officiating. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Abney was born March 23, 1949 in Kentucky. He attended schools in Kentucky and moved to Pampa in 1970. He worked as a welder for Cabot Corp. and Crall Products for several years.

Survivors include five sons, Ronnie Abney, Bradley Abney, David Mundell, Donald Mundell and Journey Mundell; two daughters, Harmoni Marlow and Melodee Marlow; daughter-in-law: Kavori Mundell; six grandchildren: Skyler, Zack, Promise, Zoey, Zeek and Michael; and a sister, Phyllis Hood and husband Jerry of Pampa.



Sign the on-line register at Carmichael-whatley.com.

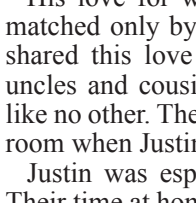
Justin Craig Harvey

Justin Craig Harvey was born to Craig and Kathy Tyrrell Harvey on Jan. 19, 1995, in Shattuck, Okla. Justin made his family complete, joining his sister Kacey and his brother Travis. On Wednesday, Jan. 23, Justin left this life on earth and went to celebrate with Jesus in Heaven after a courageous battle with brain cancer. Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 26, 2013 in the First United Methodist Church of Woodward with the Reverend Charlie Graves officiating. Interment was in the Elmwood Cemetery.

Justin started school here in Woodward. When his family moved to McAlester, Okla., in January 2001, he attended elementary school at Frink Chambers public schools. They returned in 2006 to Woodward where he was a proud member of the Boomer Class of 2013. Always an athlete, he loved sports and participated in football, basketball, and baseball. He was a member of the Boomer Pep Club and Methodist Youth Fellowship.

His love for watching and competing in sports was matched only by his love for hunting and fishing. He shared this love with his father, brother, grandfather, uncles and cousins. His wit and sense of humor was like no other. There was always a joke and laughter in the room when Justin was present.

Justin was especially close to his brother and sister. Their time at home always uplifted his spirits. He looked forward to their times spent together and was always planning their next adventure. From sharing a birthday with his brother, to skydiving in Hawaii or thrilling roller



Justin Harvey

coasters in Ohio, they made a lifetime worth of memories.

He was always looking to the future and planning to join his brother and family alma mater at Oklahoma State University. Wearing his OSU Cowboy shirt and pants to OU Children's Hospital always created interesting conversations with his doctors and nurses.

Justin is survived by his Mom and Dad, Craig and Kathy of Woodward, Okla.; his sister Kacey and her husband Shane Hulin of Oklahoma City; his brother Travis of Woodward, Okla. and Stillwater, Okla.; grandparents Leo and Lavena Tyrrell of Pampa; Guy and Rama Harvey of Laverne, Okla.; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

There have been many hard and challenging days in the last three years, but also many rewarding days filled with love and laughter with family, friends, and classmates. He was often quiet about his fight with brain cancer, but accepting defeat was never an option. We are so thankful for Justin's quiet strength and for what he has taught us about our faith in God and our love for one another. Justin has touched us all — his family and friends, classmates and teachers, his doctors and nurses, his church, and a whole community that reaches far beyond Woodward, Oklahoma.

The Justin Harvey Memorial Scholarship Fund has been set up at the Stock Exchange Bank, Woodward, Okla. Donations can be received there or through Billings Funeral Home, 1621 Downs Ave., Woodward, Okla. 73801.

Remembrances may be shared online at Billingsfuneralhomewoodward.com.

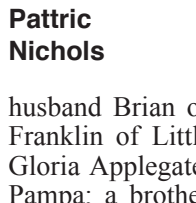
Pattric Nichols

Pattric Nichols, 28, died Saturday, Feb. 2, 2013, in Pampa.

Services will at 2 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2013, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel, with Pastor Jim Robbins, a family friend, officiating. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Pattric was born Dec. 30, 1984 in Lubbock. He had been a resident of Pampa for the past 22 years, attending Pampa schools. He married Storm McCoy on June 6, 2009 in Pampa.

Survivors include his wife, Storm Nichols of the home; his father, Jack Nichols and wife Valerie of Pampa; his mother, Patsy Bridwell and husband Brian of Pampa; paternal grandmother, Joann Franklin of Littlefield; maternal grandparents, Bo and Gloria Applegate of Pampa; a sister, Renee Nichols of Pampa; a brother, Frank Nichols of Pampa; and stepbrother, Alex Bridwell of Pampa.



Pattric Nichols

Sign the on-line register at Carmichael-whatley.com.

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- 57TH ANNUAL** Pancakes & Bacon, St. Matthew's Parish Hall, 727 W. Browning, Tues. Feb. 12, 5-8pm. Tickets, \$5, pre-school free. Day School Support Group Bake Sale & Scholastic Book Fair.
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For the record

Oklahoma man arrested for multiple possession charges

- 62-year-old Larry Don Looper, Granite, Okla., was arrested Monday by the Department of Public Safety for possession of controlled substance — greater than 200 grams and possession of marijuana — less than 2 ounces.
- 57-year-old Esteven Eugene Mathis, Pampa, was arrested Monday by the Pampa Police Department for public intoxication and assault by threat.
- 17-year-old Selena Renteria, Pampa, was arrested Monday by the

Gray County Sheriff's Office for capias pro fine — possession of drug paraphernalia, park curfew, no valid drivers license, failure to maintain financial responsibility and displaying expired registration.

Pampa's most wanted fugitives



Oaty Scott is a 36-year-old white male with blue eyes and blond hair. He is six foot tall and weighs 178 pounds. He is wanted on charges of burglary.

LINO CABRALES SOTO is a 28-year-old white male with brown eyes and black hair. He is six foot, one inch tall and weighs 185 pounds. He is wanted on charges of driving while intoxicated, third or more offense.

JOHNNY DIAZ is a 35-year-old white male with brown eyes and black hair. He is five foot, eight inches tall and weighs 160 pounds. He is wanted on charges of failing to comply with sex offender registration.

MARISA RAMIREZ is a 33-year-old white female with brown eyes and black hair. She is five foot, four inches tall and weighs 90 pounds. She is wanted on a charge of burglary of a building.

PATRICIA GRIFFIN is a 52-year-old white female with brown eyes and brown hair. She is five foot, 10 inches tall and weighs 185 pounds. She is wanted on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.

If you have seen any of these people, please contact the Pampa/Gray County Crime Stoppers at 806-669-2222.

Pampa/Gray County Crime Stoppers is offering up to a \$1,000 reward for information that leads to the arrest or conviction of persons that commit felony crimes or drug dealing anywhere in the Pampa/Gray County area.

Remember, you will remain anonymous. The information contained on these fugitives was correct when published, but may no longer be correct by the time it is read.

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US announcing charges in alleged credit card fraud

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — Federal authorities on Tuesday announced charges against 18 people in an alleged international credit card scam that officials say stole at least \$200 million, which would make it one of the biggest ever broken up by the U.S. Justice Department.

Officials say the losses are still being calculated and could grow much higher. Charges were filed in U.S. District Court Newark against 18 people. By Tuesday morning, 13 of them were in custody.

The scam operated in at least 28 states and millions of dollars were wired to Pakistan, India, the United Arab Emirates, Canada, Romania, China and Japan, according to court papers.

The basic charge is that, starting in 2003, perpetrators used 1,800 different addresses to create thousands of false identities, and used those identities to get 25,000 credit cards.

But there's a sophisticated wrinkle, authorities said: The scammers sent credit rating agencies fictitious reports to persuade them to give the fake cardholders excellent credit scores. The better the credit scores, the more could be charged — and never repaid.

Further, the court documents say the conspirators set up at least 80 sham companies that did little or no legitimate business. The companies, including jewelry stores in Jersey City, had two functions, authorities said: They accepted credit card payments, which their creators kept, and they provided further fake credit reports to help pump up the fake cardholders' credit ratings.

Authorities say the suspects created up to 18 false identities apiece, and obtained up to 298 credit cards.

Two brothers, Muhammad Shafiq and Mohammad Naveed, of Bellrose, N.Y., are accused of together getting 464 cards.

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Housing

Continued From Page 1

City Commission but no such meetings have been scheduled or officially requested by Overland." Hooper also shared some skepticism about the proposed housing development. "The project is still in the early stages and there are two other competing communities for the project including Plainview and Levelland," Hooper said. "We are not even certain that they are coming at this point. (Neither) the city, nor the Pampa EDC, recruited this company, but we are answering all of their questions and providing data for their requests as we do for any developer who wishes to come to our community." Project manager Brett Johnson, with Overland, did not return a phone message before press deadline.

Not in my backyard

Homeowners Jennifer Licklider and Cindy Crawford have spear-headed the action group set to meet at 7 p.m., Monday night at Calvary Baptist Church.

"We're going to be listening to all of the neighbors' concerns and viewpoints," Licklider said. Licklider claims to possess official documents that show the property targeted by the developer was platted single-family housing in 1998. Hooper did say the proposed development would still have to appear before the PNZ, where the property could be re-platted. Licklider shared her concerns about the housing project and claimed increased crime rates and drug activity are associated with low-income housing. "I definitely do not agree that this project be built in my backyard because it will be in my backyard," she said. Crawford is also against the housing development. "We weren't ever expecting it could be multi-family housing," Crawford said. "We feel like there are other locations in the city that would be more appropriate." Crawford said she and her family chose the home they live in because the neighborhood is quiet and peaceful.

Editor Timothy P. Howsare contributed to this story.

Crisis

Continued From Page 1

Wilson told senators the agency needed at least \$4 billion a year in additional funding: \$3 billion for expanding the state's transportation network and \$1 billion to keep up with maintenance. Exacerbating the situation is truck traffic related to the natural gas drilling boom that has caused billions of dollars in unexpected damage to roads and bridges around the state in recent years. Finance Committee chairman Tommy Williams, R-The Woodlands, described the situation as "a fiscal cliff of highway funding." "This is one of those areas where really the future of our state is hanging in the balance," Williams said. TxDOT officials said the agency has accrued about \$13 billion in debt. Its proposed budget for the next two years proposes devoting \$2.5 billion of its \$20.8 billion budget to servicing that debt. State Sen. Kevin Eltife, R-Tyler, said the amount of money TxDOT is having to put toward its debt shows that lawmakers have made poor decisions about transportation funding. He said raising taxes years ago would have been far cheaper than the situation the state currently faces. "Sometimes the conservative thing is to pay cash," Eltife said. While Sen. John Whitmire, D-Houston, agreed with Eltife that lawmakers needed to find more revenue for TxDOT, he expressed annoyance that agency officials hadn't spoken more urgently at the hearing and beforehand about how serious the problem is. "Y'all don't seem nearly

as excited and anxious as I would expect. ...Y'all got to get excited if you expect the Legislature and its constituents to respond," Whitmire said. He accused Wilson, who was appointed to head the agency in 2011, of passively taking his salary and not aggressively tackling the problems. Wilson apologized if Whitmire didn't feel a sense of urgency from the presentation but took issue with the notion that he wasn't committed to finding a solution. "I came back to try and fix this," Wilson said. "I didn't come here to draw a check." At the hearing, lawmakers discussed several options for raising more money for transportation, including increasing car registration fees and withdrawing \$2 billion from the Rainy Day Fund to finance \$4 billion to \$6 billion in transportation projects. Williams spoke about restoring \$400 million of the \$600 million in gas tax revenue that is currently diverted from the state's highway fund each year to support the Department of Public Safety. Wilson declined to tell lawmakers which options he preferred but stressed the importance of having a reliable stream of revenue for TxDOT. Any short-term fixes will make it tougher to plan for projects in the future which will drive up costs, he said. "That ability to plan for five to 10 years is just mission critical," Wilson said.

Wilson declined to tell lawmakers which options he preferred but stressed the importance of having a reliable stream of revenue for TxDOT. Any short-term fixes will make it tougher to plan for projects in the future which will drive up costs, he said. "That ability to plan for five to 10 years is just mission critical," Wilson said.

PJHS

Continued From Page 1

Hispanics, African-American, Caucasian, low-income, median-income and high-income. "We were acceptable in all subjects but science. We missed science by eight students in the Hispanic group," said Hancock. Hancock said that to ensure PJHS does not fall below the standard in this spring's STARR testing, they have been working really hard in professional development. "We have some new teachers that are fantastic. We have specialists come in from Amarillo to help," added Hancock. "We are confident that our scores will be increasing. Specifically in science, the students have been focusing on vocabulary and making science relevant." Another program that was initiated at the beginning of the school year by Hancock is the "iTEM program." She said that it is a time from 3-3:30 p.m. each day for students who feel they need more study time and intervention to work with the teachers for an extra 30 minutes each day. "We feel like this program is helping our students. Our teachers are the heroes," Hancock said. A TEA member comes in every month and sits down with Hancock and the leadership team at

PJHS. They discuss all matters from attendance to professional development. "He is very positive about what we are doing on our campus. Also our consultants that have been coming over from Region 16 have gave us glowing reports," added Hancock. She thinks the score results from this spring's STARR testing might come in the summer sometime. "They haven't really told us when to expect them. I mean we just got the results from 2011," Hancock said. Because of PJHS' ranking on a low-performance list, students attending the school may obtain a transfer to another school district, according to a letter sent to parents by Hancock. Under the Texas Education Code, students may attend a public school in the district in which the student resides or may use a Public Education Grant (PEG) to attend any other district chosen by the student's parent. To transfer a child, the parent must contact the desired district in writing. Providing this letter to the district and the PEG list of schools will provide adequate justification for the transfer request, the letter states. A school district is not required to grant a transfer request by a parent, but is required to follow the same protocols they follow for evaluating non-PEG request transfers from other districts.

'Cookie Monster' sends 2nd note in sculpture theft

BERLIN (AP) — Police in Germany say someone dressed as the Cookie Monster has sent a second note regarding a stolen cookie sculpture — this time saying he wants to return it. But officials aren't sure the person in the photo actually stole the 20-kilogram (44 pound), century-old sculpture. The gilded bronze item was part of a statue outside German cookie baker Bahlsen's Hannover

office, and it was reported stolen last month. The Hannover police's statement says a local newspaper on Monday received a picture of someone dressed like the Sesame Street character holding what appears to be the stolen cookie. The enclosed note is written in cut-out letters. An earlier letter demanded that cookies be delivered to children at a city hospital, but the new note made no demands.

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Finance

Continued From Page 1

state property tax, which the Texas Constitution prohibits. Trachtenberg then described the perceived valley that exists between sharp decreases in funding and rising academic standards. "Judge Dietz' ruling on adequacy confirms what school districts have known all along," he said. "State funding has dramatically decreased at the same time that academic expectations have dramatically increased. The Constitution requires that districts have access to adequate resources to ensure that all of their students have a meaningful opportunity to meet state expectations and graduate college or career-ready." Judge Dietz, in his decision, agreed with Trachtenberg, saying that graduating seniors are leaving school unprepared for higher education. "I would point out that we are not now producing college and career ready students in the opinion of many of our political and business leaders," Deitz said. Deitz then shared changes he would like to see incorporated into Texas public education. "We're going to have to develop a new curriculum, we have to substantially upgrade our technology in schools, we have to increase training for teachers, we have to hire some new teachers in complex content areas that we will be teaching, and we have to provide more tutoring and remediation to our challenging population," he



John Deitz

said. "We need to have evaluation and accountability to make sure we are meeting our goals concerning these increased standards.

"Finally, we need some public outreach to make sure the parents buy into this new program."

From the bench, Deitz recommended the state spend an additional \$2,000 per student, totaling between \$10-11 billion annually.

"We either want the increased standards and are willing to pay the price or we don't," he said.

He added that education costs money but that ignorance is an even greater expense.

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Continued From Page 5

In a vision, the Lord showed Amos a plumb line. It represented God's standard of holiness for His people. Israel was "out of plumb" because it had turned away from God's standards. God's wrath came upon Israel as punishment for unfaithfulness to His laws.

This should be a lesson to us today. God's standards never change. He does not compromise His values, and He will punish any nation that doesn't keep His standards. There will be constant attempts by the enemy to get us to let down our guard and conform to the world's

standards. However, Romans 12:2 says, "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world."

Jesus warns in Matthew 7:13, "You can enter God's kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose that way."

The narrow way is one without compromise, but many will follow the broad way that leads to destruction by compromising their beliefs. God demands our absolute obedience, and there is no room for compromise in our love, obedience and devotion to Him.

Chris Ely is a Pampa resident and author of the book Through Eyes of Faith. He can be contacted at Eyeofaith.webs.com.

Invasive plant moving into other East Texas lakes

MARSHALL, Texas (AP) — Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials say an invasive plant that's become a problem on Caddo Lake has been spread to at least four other East Texas lakes.

The non-native giant salvinia is showing up on boat ramps at Lake O' the Pines, Lake Wright Patman, Lake Gilmer and Lake Murval.

Agency spokesman Lynn Wright tells the Marshall News-Messenger boaters accelerate the plant's march through the state's lakes because it clings to boats and trailers. A single plant can double in just a week.

The plant grows to a thick carpet on the lake surface, blocking light for other plants beneficial to fish. Once established, the salvinia is nearly impossible to eliminate.

The problem is severe this year on Caddo Lake, where most boat ramps are clogged with it.

\$150,000 worth of cocaine found in door

POPLAR BLUFF, Mo. (AP) — A southeast Missouri automotive repair shop had an unexpected find with the SUV door it bought from a Texas salvage yard — cocaine hidden inside the door with a street value of \$150,000.

The Poplar Bluff Daily American Republic reports that authorities believe the six pounds of cocaine arrived in Missouri last week by mistake.

Poplar Bluff Police Chief Danny Whiteley says the door apparently came from an SUV that wrecked in the Dallas area, was impounded by police and never claimed. It ended up in a Dallas salvage yard.

A Poplar Bluff repair shop had the door ordered. When it arrived Wednesday, workers found powder cocaine tucked inside five plastic storage containers inside the door.

An investigation is under way to try and trace the source of the drug.

Lawmakers to hear testimony on drought

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The state climatologist says Texas continues to experience a serious shortage of rainfall and is on track to experience the second-worst drought on record.

John Nielsen-Gammon told the House and Senate Natural Resources Committees on Tuesday that most of the state was still in extreme drought. The long-range forecast also tilts toward drier than normal conditions through spring.

Gammon said the drought that began in 2011 is so far the third most serious in state history and, if it continues through summer, will rank second.

Lawmakers also heard testimony that the state needs to spend \$53 billion over the next 50 years to meet the state's long-term water needs.

Gov. Rick Perry and top lawmakers have recommended taking \$2 billion

from the Rainy Day Fund to finance water projects.

\$3 million San Antonio church fire investigated

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Federal arson officials now are among nearly three dozen investigators looking into a fire that gutted a historic San Antonio church.

The Childress Memorial Church of God in Christ went up in flames Friday. It's about a mile north of an area where at least five other fires over the past two months have been ruled as arson blazes.

A federal team from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives joined authorities who already include a forensic chemist, engineers and accelerant detection dogs.

San Antonio Fire Chief Charles Hood tells the San Antonio Express-News investigators also are trying to stabilize the 100-year-old church and recover artifacts from the rubble that are of value to people who attended services there. He estimates the loss at \$3 million.

World's longest cat dies in Reno

RENO, Nev. (AP) — Stewie the Cat, the longest domestic cat in the world at more than 4 feet long from nose to tail, has died.

Stewie was surrounded by family when he succumbed to a yearlong battle with cancer Monday evening at his Reno home, owner Robin Hendrickson said Tuesday. He was 8.

Guinness World Records declared Stewie the record-holder in August 2010, measuring 48.5 inches from the tip of his nose to the tip of his tail.

Hundreds of fans flooded Stewie's Facebook site with memories and condolences Tuesday. The Maine Coon cat was a certified therapy animal that frequently visited a Reno senior center and helped promote animal welfare awareness with the Nevada Humane Society.

"Stewie was always very social and loved meeting new people," Hendrickson said. "He has touched many lives, and for that I am grateful."

Stewie's full name was Mymains Stewart Gilligan. Hendrickson bought him from a breeder in Hermiston, Ore., in 2005. Last month, he attended the International Cat Show in Portland, Ore.

"He did really well at the show, even though he wasn't feeling totally perfect," said Valerie Horton, the show's entry clerk. "He loved being there because he loved the public. He always did."

Officials for Guinness World Records did not immediately respond to inquiries about a successor to Stewie's record. The previous record-holder, Leo, a 48-inch-long Maine Coon owned by Frieda Ireland of Chicago, died several years ago.

YOUNG AT HEART



Submitted photo

Marie Boyd, a resident of Pampa Nursing Center since 2004, celebrated her 103rd birthday on Feb. 2 with family and friends. She moved to Pampa from Kellerville in 1961. Boyd handmade quilts for the firefighters at the Pampa Fire Department. From her garage, Body handed clothing to those in need before the Good Samaritans was founded. She assisted the community in many ways. Everyone wished her well on her birthday.

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PampaSports

Junior high teams end season

BY ZACHARY GREEN
zgreen@thepampanews.com

Monday night the Junior High boys basketball teams hosted Bushland for the final game of the season.

The seventh grade B team lost on a buzzer beater 29-28. The last time Pampa faced Bushland, Pampa won in triple overtime with four guys on the floor for the final two overtimes. Zane McCoy led the team in scoring with 14 points, and Zack Trimble had seven. The B team finished the season with a 7-5 record.

The seventh grade A team lost 29-16. Cade Lauderdale and Moses Avila led the team in scoring with three points each. It was an offensive struggle for the guys all night. Brady Porter led the team in rebounds.

The eighth grade B team finally beat Bushland on the third attempt this year. The first time around, Bushland beat Pampa by 11. The second time, Pampa took them into overtime.

And finally, last night Pampa beat them 45-35. It was a great team effort. Derek Norris led the team with 12 points. Greyson

Wilson had 10 points and a ton of steals to go with it. Kade Woods had nine points and Brett West had eight. Bushland could not handle the press, and that was the difference in the game. Pampa finished the season with a 10-2 record, finishing second in district.

The eighth grade A team lost a heartbreaker 38-37. Pampa led the whole game, but with 10 seconds left, two players were going up for a rebound under Bushland's goal and tipped the ball in. Pampa was able to get the ball down the court and run a play, but their shot attempt was unsuccessful. Nick Stevens led the team in scoring with 13 points, and Enrique Villanueva followed with 11. Brandon Sieck also had a good game, knocking down four jump shots for eight points. Bryce Parker came up with some big rebounds all game. Pampa finished the season with a 6-6 record, finishing fourth in district.

"I can't say enough about the character and heart of the eighth grade teams this year," said Pampa Coach Brittin East. "They continually showed improvement and never gave up on each other. These guys have a bright future ahead of them."

SOCCER IN ACTION



Photos by Zachary Green

KICKING IT. Above, Sophomore Madelyn Solis receives a pass and tries to outrun a Caprock defender to the goal. Below, Sophomore Macie Loggins dribbles the ball in hopes to get in position for a goal. Pampa scored a goal in the game Monday night.



AIRBORNE



Photos by Charla Shults

ABOVE THE REST. Tyler Powell and Derrek Pollard soar above defenders for layups in the Dalhart game last Friday night.

WRESTLING AT DISTRICT



Photos by Chuck Cryer

REGIONAL BOUND. Isidro Estrada wrestles in a recent match. Estrada placed first in the district duals and is headed to El Paso this weekend to compete in regionals.

Pampa falls to Caprock

BY ZACHARY GREEN
zgreen@thepampanews.com

Pampa's boys soccer team hosted Caprock on Monday night. Pampa fell 6-0.

Caprock scored three goals in the first and three goals in the second half.

"Caprock is leading the district standings over Amarillo High and Palo Duro. It's not yet settled who is the best in the Texas Panhandle, but they will be in the conversation," said Pampa Coach Byron May. "We came out with a plan to stack our defense, and counter. We held up for a while, but it's

probably not our style. We can take more pressure off our defense by playing more aggressively up front. I was proud of our kids sticking to the plan for as long as they did, despite the adversity they faced."

Coach May wanted to also credit Adrian Ramos, senior midfielder. "He knows when our defense is struggling, and he knows when he can push the team forward in transition. We count on his leadership out on the field. Also, Rance Tipps, freshman forward, continues to provide a lot of pressure on opposing defenses, and has provided a spark for his teammates," said May.

CORRECTION



Romel Lee escorted by his parents Ronald Lee Jr., and Melanie Lee.

Editor's note: We are rerunning this picture because it incorrectly listed Ronald Lee Sr. in the picture and didn't list Ronald Lee Jr. and Melanie Lee as Romel's parents.



JUST MISSED. Above, Tacoma Mathews wrestling in a match. Below, Joseph Slatten in a match. Slatten and Mathews just missed regionals by placing fifth in district.



PLAY

WHO'S WHO

AND WIN \$25, \$50, or \$100 Pampa News bucks



It's Easy – Just identify your friends and neighbors who own, manage or are employed at local businesses with ads on the facing page.

Just follow these simple rules:

1. The faces below are numbered. Search the ads for blank photo spots and match the faces below to their names and the businesses with which they are associated.
2. Fill out the form at left. Use the form in the paper - no photo copies will be accepted. (The easiest way to succeed at this game is to visit the stores and see for yourself. However, be aware that some of the businesses may not be accessible to the general public. Please respect the safety concerns of private businesses and rely on family and friends to help solve those not accessible.)
3. The Who's Who Contest will appear in the Jan. 29th, Jan. 31st and, Feb. 2nd issues of The Pampa News. Bring or mail your entry to The Pampa News office at 403 Atchison Street (P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, TX 79066). All entries must be received in our office by 4 p.m. Feb. 4th. All correct entries will be placed into a drawing to be held Feb. 5th to determine the winners.

Employees of The Pampa News, and their immediate families, are not eligible to win. All of the photos will be identified in the Feb. 6th issue of The Pampa News.

WHO'S WHO

Taylor Miller Insurance
Trent Taylor #15

Frank's Hardware
Woodie Sons #1
Joe Stevens #16

Jewett's Automotive
Justin Williams #11

Thomas Automotive
Marty Green #2
Roger Green #10

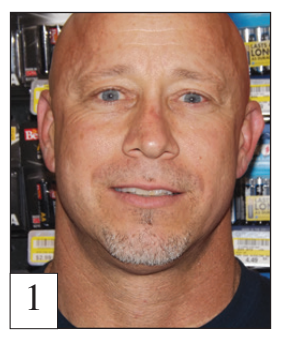
John Harvill #9
Erica Granillo #6
Blanca Barrera #18
Brandy Maxwell #13

Keyes Pharmacy
Merlin Rose #5

Triangle
Rhonda Cooper #4
Jerry Carillo #7

National Bank of Commerce
Heather Thompson #19
Kevin Hunt #20
Samantha Helms #21

The Pampa News
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Sasha Heller #14
Dana Whinery #3



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Local News
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Local News
Brothers create warmup song for the Hustlin' Harvesters

Athletes of the Week
Derek Pollard Madigan Brown

National Bank of Commerce

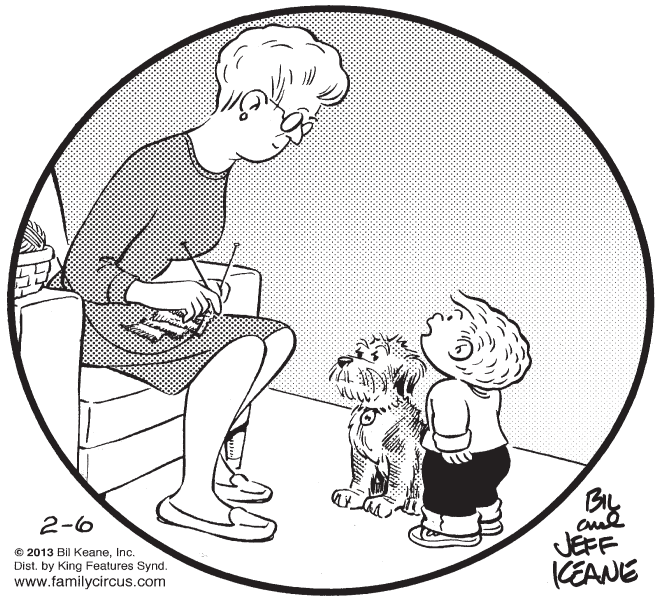
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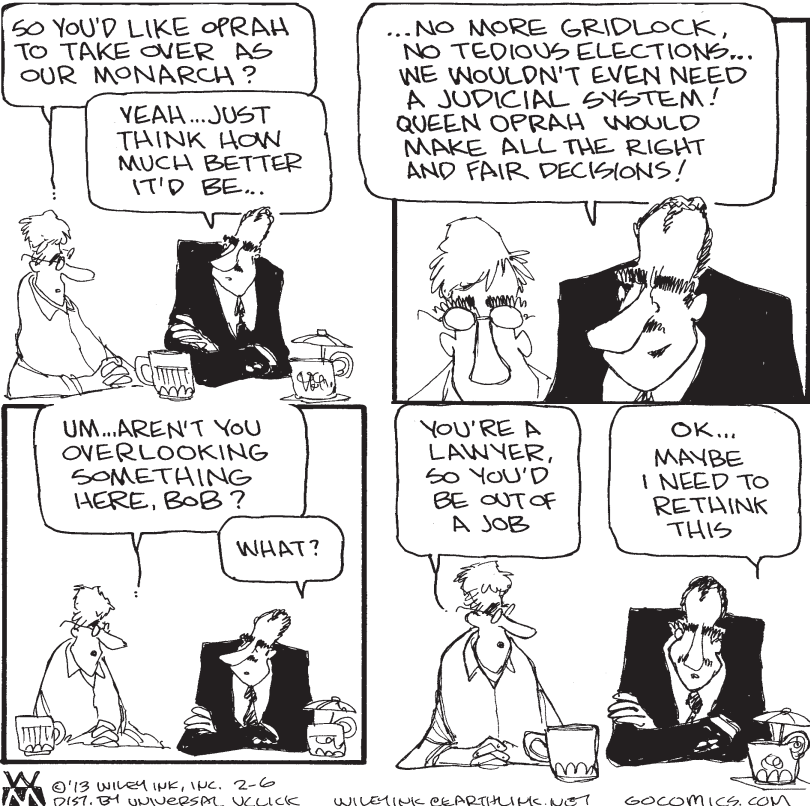
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Bil Keane
JEFF KEANE

"Grandma, can you please teach us how to order a pizza?"

Non Sequitur



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Nest Heads

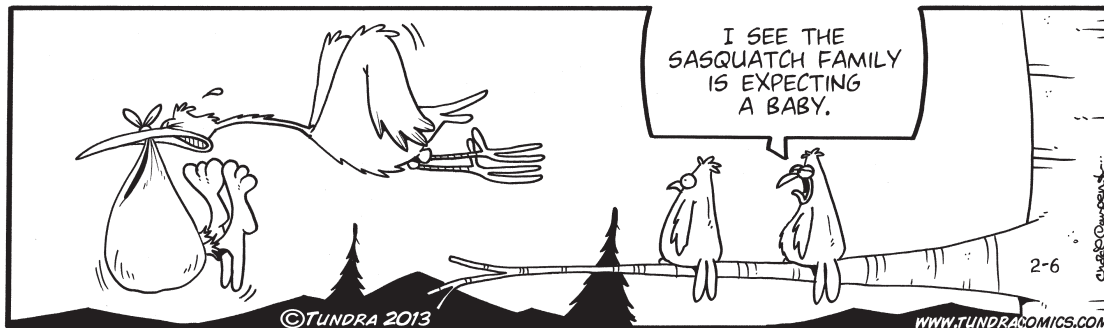


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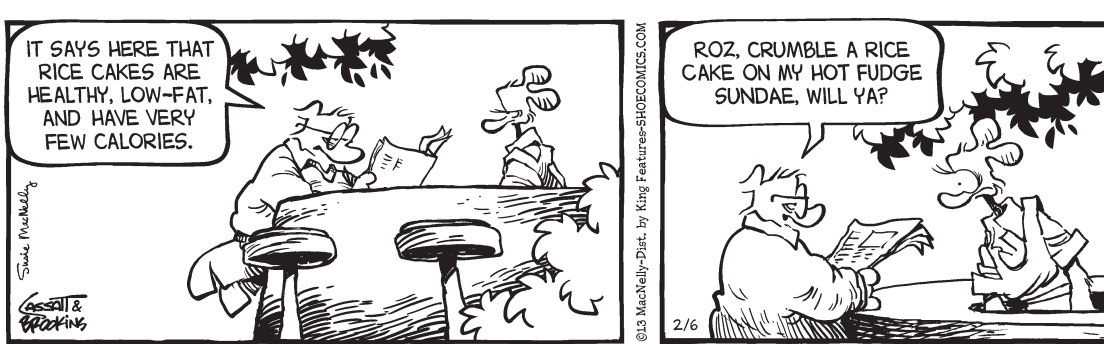
HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013:
This year, when thinking about difficult situations, you often feel as if you would like to throw away all the hard work you've done in order to start over. Be careful if you choose to proceed in this manner, as few people can adjust to such radical actions. If you are single, you could attract someone who often is involved in uproar. In some way, you enjoy the excitement; otherwise, this person would not last. If you are attached, be sure that you both agree on how to handle a situation that could affect your relationship. CAPRICORN makes a great healer for you.
The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult
ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You might feel as if someone has caused you an unwarranted problem. Give this person some space so that he or she can see the damage that's been done. You could reverse an opinion if you decide to toss out prior judgments and/or assumptions. Tonight: A must appearance.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Revise an idea by starting over from scratch. Carefully consider your different options, especially if they take you down a new path. You might need to adapt your thinking and past judgments. You can't avoid a loved one's concerns. Tonight: Out and about.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Your wit and adaptability emerge when dealing with a loved one. Remember, you have been known to overindulge this person. You will see his or her true essence emerging. Adjust your schedule in order to include an important matter. Tonight: Togetherness.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Others clearly dominate. Realize that the situation won't change, no matter what you do. You might want to step back and not interfere; others will see the results of their actions that way. Call someone at a distance about weekend plans. Tonight: Say "yes" to an offer.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You can get only so much done by yourself; however, with additional help, that situation could change. You know how to encourage others to pursue a certain course of action, and you could reverse directions quite suddenly. Know

your limits. Tonight: Join a friend.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You might not know how to switch gears right now. Speak honestly about how you feel at this particular moment. You will need to rebuild from the beginning if you should change your mind. Ask questions before making a decision, not after. Tonight: Observe.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Not everyone gets your distinctions, which is why you could have a lot of misunderstandings. The good news is that you are so present in the moment that you often make someone feel like the most important person in your world. Tonight: Happily head home.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Share more of your heartfelt desires. You will revise a situation and approach it in a more dynamic way. Others will remain responsive, unless you decide to be a strict taskmaster. Try to explain yourself rather than cop an attitude. Tonight: Chat the night away with someone special.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Decide whether you have the time and funds to pursue a special invitation. Be reasonable. Though you often deviate from your budget, it would be wise to honor it now. Be sure that you can really afford this adventure. Tonight: Treats do not have to break the bank.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Weigh the pro and cons of following the logical, yet difficult, course. You might want to be more optimistic and trustworthy. Know that doing so would make you far happier. You clearly have the capacity to make changes anytime you so desire. Tonight: Trust yourself.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You still might be trying to come up with a solution to an immediate problem. A reversal seems likely, regardless of whether you say or do anything. Your imagination could be creating some far-out scenarios. Understand what is happening within you. Tonight: Get as much sleep as possible.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Don't hesitate to pursue your dreams and desires. Just because something is OK for one person does not mean that it's OK for someone else. Laughter marks a gathering with friends. Tonight: Lighten up the moment by not getting overserious about the moment.

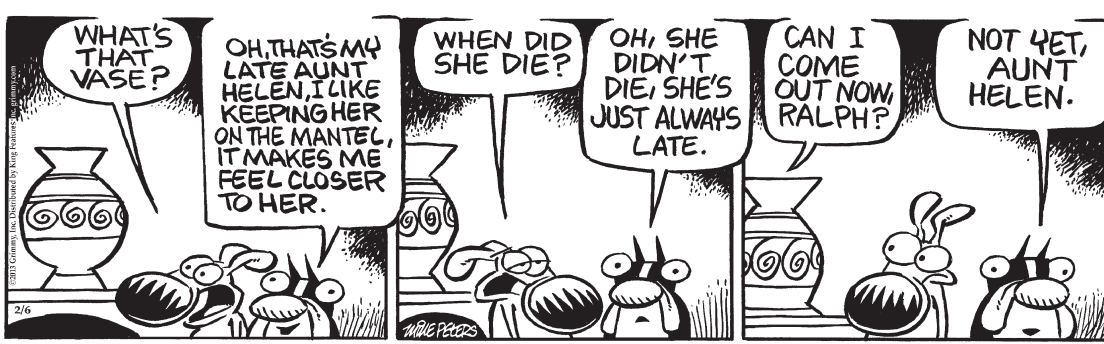
Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



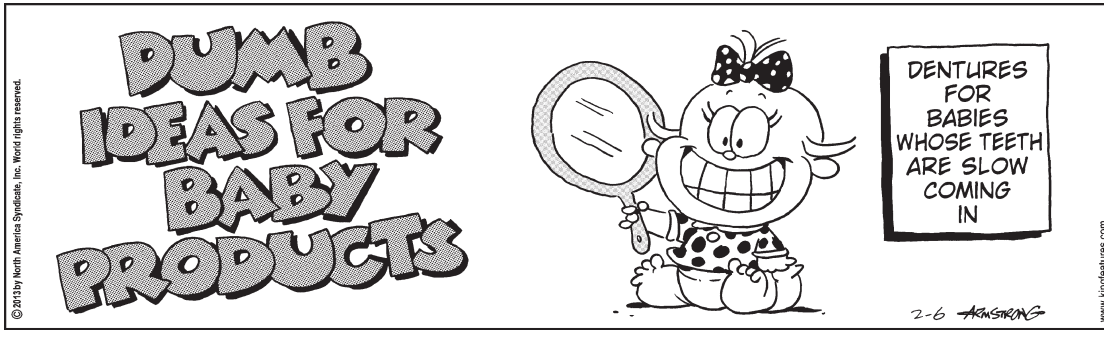
Garfield



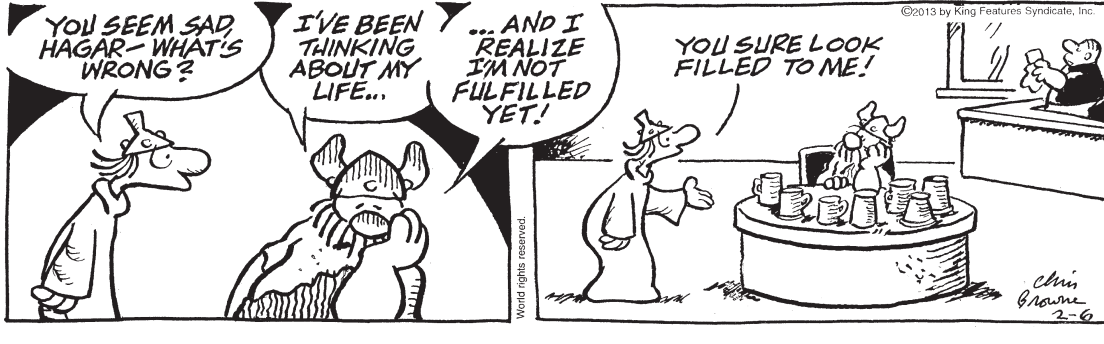
Beetle Bailey



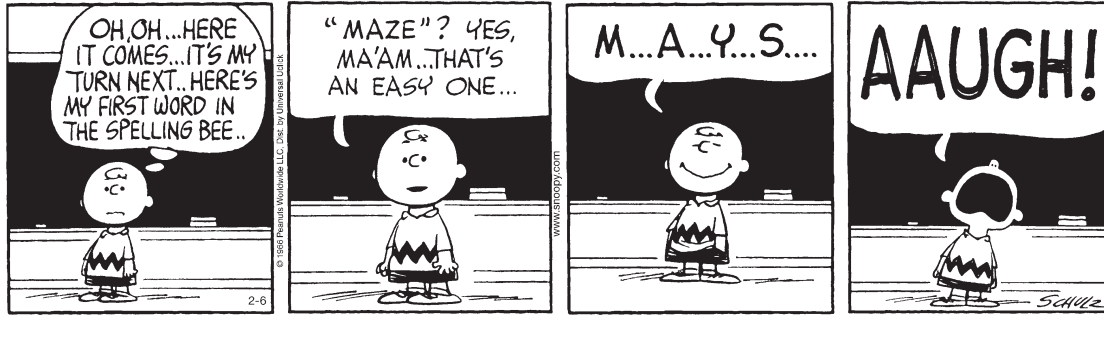
Marvin



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie

