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 Ex 21:40
 Matt 21: Matt 23
M & H Leasing
TOP OF TEXAS

The PAMPA NEWS

Volume 105 • No. 230 Weekend Issue Saturday and Sunday, February 6-7, 2010 50¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

Joint primary scheduled for March 2

BY DAVID BOWSER
 dbowser@thepampanews.com

With primaries less than a month away, campaigns are in full swing in the contested races of the Republican Party in Gray County.

There is only one local name on the Democratic Primary ballot, said Linda Lewis, election administrator, and that is Janie Street for the county chairman.

There are, however, several contested races in the Republican Primary.

The primaries are scheduled for March 2.

"We're holding a joint primary," Lewis said.

Each party will have a table at each of the seven polling places in the county, she said.

The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Early voting will be from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Tuesday, Feb. 16, through Friday, Feb. 26, in the second floor courtroom at the Gray County Courthouse in Pampa.

The courthouse will be closed on President's Day, Monday, Feb. 15.

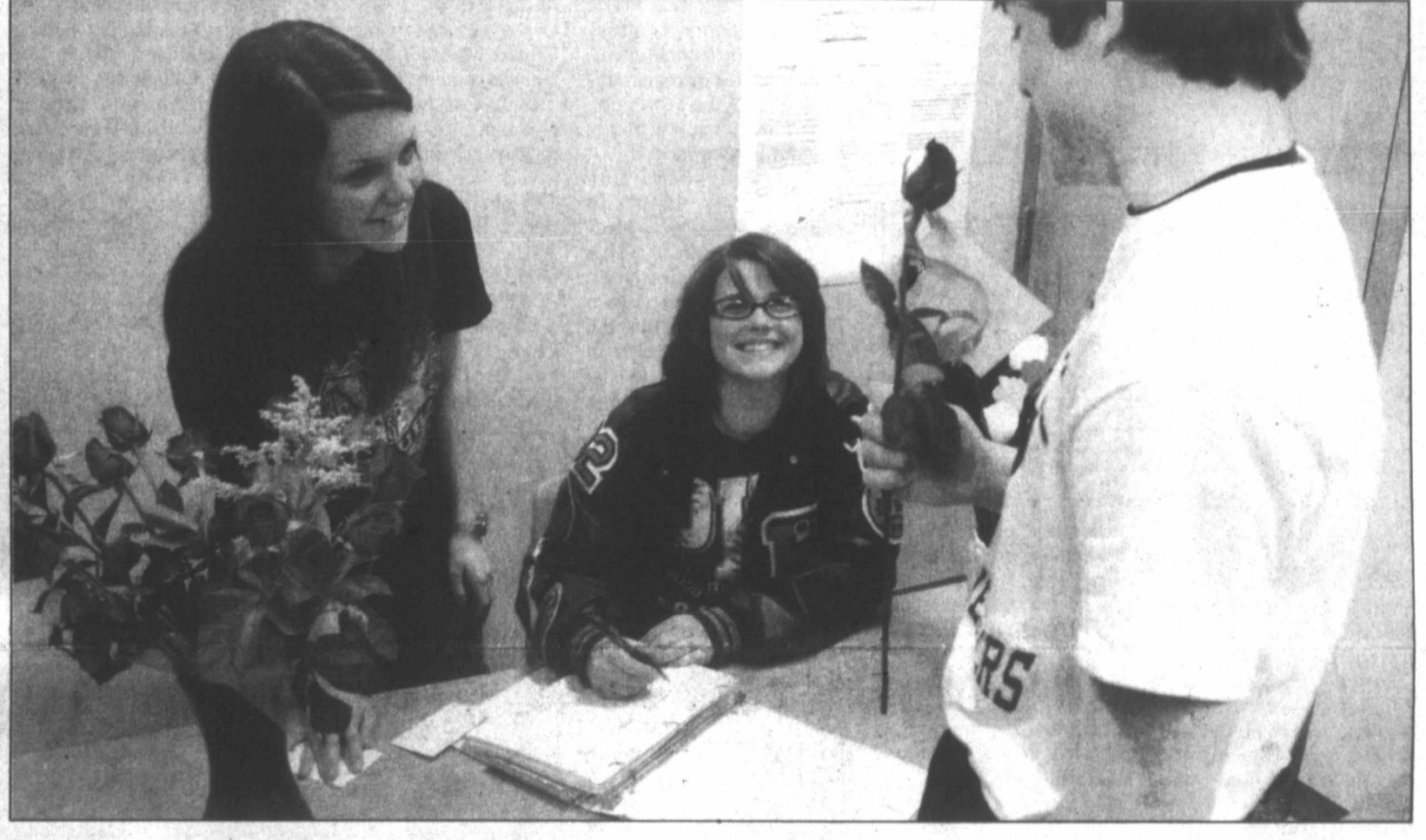
Early voting will also be available in McLean, Wednesday, Feb. 24, and Thursday, Feb. 25.

For the primary election in March, there are seven voting locations. They are for Precinct 1, the Lefors Community Center in Lefors; Precinct 2, Lovett Memorial Library, Pampa;

Precinct 3, Grandview-Hopkins School; Grandview-Hopkins School; Precinct 4, Lovett Library, McLean; Precinct 5, First Christian Church, Pampa; Precinct 6, Zion Lutheran Church, Pampa, and Precinct 7, M.K. Brown Auditorium, Pampa.

PRIMARY cont. on page 3

Almost Valentine's Day



It's almost Valentine's Day. Cali Gibson, left, and Samantha Pearson take an order from Jonathan Polasek for a rose at Pampa High School for Valentine's Day next week. The student council is selling roses for delivery next Thursday at the high school. *staff photo by David Bowser*

Annual pancake supper Feb. 16

Each year in preparation for the Lenten season, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church of Pampa sponsors the Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper.

This year, the event will be from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, February 16 in the Parish Hall of St. Matthew's, 727 W. Browning.

"For centuries the Church has observed Mardi Gras or Fat Tuesday-Carnival as a way of enjoying one last fling with worldly pleasures before Lent begins on Ash Wednesday," said The Rev. Linda Kelly, Rector of St. Matthew's. "Join us at St. Matthew's on Tuesday, February 16 and help us with the task of 'consuming the bacon and pancakes (meat, eggs, butter) that at one time were forbidden during Lent. We must eat up all these foods so there will be nothing in the pantry to tempt us during the great fast. Bring your friends and family and indulge with us. Then we invite you to return and join us in worship on Ash Wednesday at 10 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. to mark the beginning of a holy Lent."

This year will be the 54th year the local church has been holding the pancake suppers. On Feb. 14, 1956 St. Margaret's Guild, of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, sponsored the first Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper to be held in the Parish Hall.

Tickets for the all-you-can-eat pancakes and bacon are \$5 and may be purchased at the church office, from church members and at the door. Children five and under eat free.

Since 1976, all proceeds have gone to St. Matthew's Day School Scholarship Program which is used for the education of young children. Scholarships are provided to assist pre-school and pre-kindergarten students in attending the Day School.

Classes are currently offered for 3 yr. olds and Pre-K 4 yr. olds. Day Care is also available for 18 month old

PANCAKE cont. on page 3

Chamber selects Rheams Business of the Year

Rheams Diamond Shop has been selected as the Business of the Year, 2009 by the Pampa Chamber of Commerce.

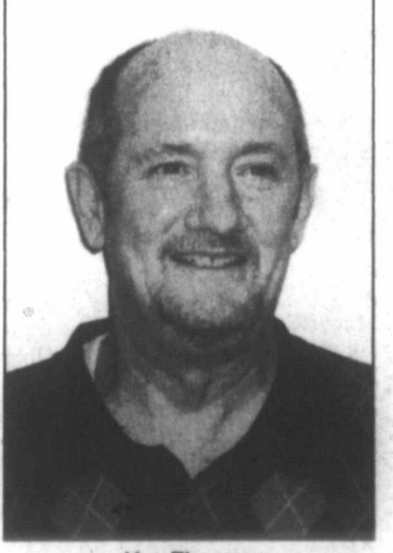
The award was instituted in celebration of the 85th Anniversary of the founding of the organization, and in keeping with its purpose of promoting the business community of Pampa, said Joe Weaver, chamber executive director.

Businesses were nominated by the general public, and a committee made the selection, based on the qualifications of each candidate.

"Ken Rheams, founder and owner of Rheams Diamond Shop has long been active in community affairs and the store is recognized for its support of the community and outstanding customer service," Weaver said.

The business will be officially recognized at the Annual Chamber Banquet on Thursday, February

RHEAMS cont. on page 3



Ken Rheams

Obama, GOP sparring over job creation proposals

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans sparred with President Barack Obama in their Saturday media addresses over proposals to create jobs, further evidence of the difficulty of bipartisan solutions to the nation's pressing problems.

Obama pushed Congress to use \$30 billion that had been set aside to bail out Wall Street to start a new program that provides loans to small businesses, which the White House calls the engine for job growth. Republicans, meanwhile, taunted Obama with a familiar refrain: Where are the jobs the president promised in exchange for the billions of dollars already spent?

The barb came a day after the government reported an unexpected decline in the unemployment rate, from 10 percent to 9.7 percent. It was the first drop in seven months but offered little

JOBS cont. on page 3

HOUSE HUNTERS- REALTOR

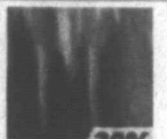


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Lamar Hot Shot Contest
 February 13, 2010 - MPAC Building at PHS
 For Grades 2-5 • \$5 Entry Fee
 Open to public, walk in registry welcomed.
 For more information contact (806) 669-4880



For the record

PAMPA FORECAST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
		
30%	50%	
High 39 Low 26	High 31 Low 17	High 36 Low 20

Saturday Night: A chance of drizzle or freezing drizzle after midnight. Areas of fog after midnight. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 31. Wind chill values between 23 and 28. South southeast wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Sunday: A slight chance of rain or freezing rain before noon, then a chance of rain. Areas of fog before noon. Otherwise, cloudy, with a high near 39. Wind chill values between 21 and 31. South southeast wind between 5 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

Sunday Night: A chance of rain before midnight, then rain and snow likely between midnight and 3 am, then snow likely after 3 am. Cloudy, with a low around 26. East wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

Monday: A 50 percent chance of snow. Cloudy, with a high near 31. Windy, with a north northwest wind 15 to 20 mph increasing to between 25 and 30 mph. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph.

Monday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 17. North northwest wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

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EMERGENCY SERVICES

SHERIFF

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests.

Thursday, Feb. 4.
Daniel Craig Baker, 29, Lefors, was arrested by deputies on charges of driving with an expired registration, expired vehicle insurance, failure to maintain insurance coverage and incorrect on his driver's license.

Friday, Feb. 5.
John Fitzgerald Cook, 44, was arrested by police on a bond surrender in connection with possession of marijuana, unlawfully carrying a weapon, failure to appear, failure to maintain financial responsibility, failure to control speed, not having liability insurance, failure to change the address on his driver's license and making an unsafe turn.

PAMPA PD

The Pampa Police Department reported the following calls.

Police reported five traffic-related calls and one accident.

Animal control officials reported nine animal-related calls.

Pampa EMS reported six medical calls.

Thursday, Feb. 4.
Officers performed a welfare check in the 200 block of West Craven.

A criminal trespass was reported in the 800 block of West Kingsmill.

A burglary was reported in the 600 block of North Yeager.

A theft was reported to police.

Officers performed a welfare check in the 500 block of South Barnes.

Violation of a protective

order was reported in the 1100 block of Prairie.

A structure fire was reported at the intersection of Williston and Kentucky.

A fire alarm was reported in the 100 block of West 30th Ave.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 600 block of North Gray.

Officers attempted to serve papers in the 1200 block of East Browning.

Disorderly conduct was

reported in the 1800 block of North Hobart.

Harassment was reported to police.

A suspicious person was reported in the 100 block of East Foster.

Friday, Feb. 5.
A suspicious person was reported in the 600 block of East Francis.

Officers assisted a motorist at Starkweather and Atchison.

Obituaries

Kevin Reece, 50

Pampa— Kevin Reece, 50, died February 4, 2010, in Pampa, Texas.

Services will be held at 4 p.m. Monday, February 8, 2010 at First Baptist Church, with Dr. Johnny Funderburg, pastor, officiating.

Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Reece was born November 4, 1959 in Pampa where he had been a lifelong resident. He married Wauneta Diaz

Knott on October 30, 2003 in Pampa. He worked for Pizza Hut for 2 1/2 years, sold papers for the Pampa News for over 20 years, and worked for Coca Cola Bottling Company. Kevin was involved in the Pampa Sheltered Workshop and Pampa Special Olympics where he participated in basketball, bowling, track and golf. He was selected as Athlete of the Month.

He was a member of the First Baptist Church. He never met a stranger and loved his family.

Survivors include his wife: Wauneta Reece of the home; a brother, Jim Corley and wife Becky of Pampa; two sisters, Teresa Leasure of Amarillo and Anna Young and husband Mike of Lefors; stepson: Eric Knott of Pampa; a stepdaughter, Stacy Knott, of Pampa; special cousin, Ernie Frazier and wife Vanita of Pampa; and several nieces and nephews.

MEMORIALS: Pampa Special Olympics, P.O. Box 375, Pampa, Texas 79066-0375.



Reece

Sign the on-line register at www.carmichael-whatley.com

John H. Gattis, 90

Pampa— John H. Gattis, 90, died February 4, 2010, in Amarillo, Texas.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, February 8, 2010, at First United Methodist Church, with John Curry, officiating.

Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery with military honors courtesy of U. S. Air Force, Altus, Oklahoma. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

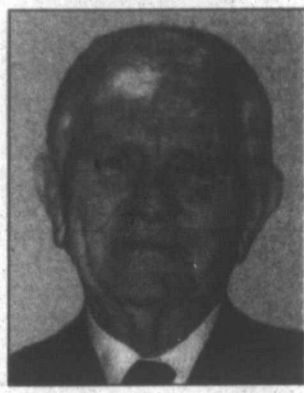
Mr. Gattis was born October 3, 1919 in Paducah, and was a graduate of Paducah High School. He attended North Texas State University in Denton before entering the U. S. Army Air Corps in 1941. He served in the European Theatre during

World War II. John married Jane Kelley on August 1, 1941 in Brownwood.

She preceded him in death on July 17, 1994. John and his wife came to Pampa in 1968 from Amarillo and he owned and operated John Gattis Shoe Store until his retirement in 1984. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church. He was a member and past president of the Downtown Kiwanis Club and was past district governor. He was a member of the Pampa Chamber of Commerce, the Downtown Business Association, and was a volunteer for the American Red Cross.

Survivors include his daughter, Jana Gregory of Pampa; two sons, Mike Gattis and wife Sally of

Montgomery and Gary Gattis of Pampa; 11 grandchildren, Taylen Gregory of Pampa, Andrea Long and husband Matt of Mobeetie, Kelley Jo Wells and husband Dan of Grand Prairie, Meranda Dawkins of Mesquite, Stephanie Knabe and husband Cory of Frisco, Hollie Koehn and husband Brian of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Rickey Gattis of Amarillo, Jennifer Garber and husband Mike of Prescott, Arizona, Shantay Gattis and husband Jason of Phoenix, Arizona, Jeff Gattis and wife Mary Beth of Lubbock, and Christopher Gattis of Tahoka; 13 great-grandchildren, Weston, Dre, Rylan, Braley, Keighly Jane, Sadie Jane, Jordan, McKenna, Riley,



Gattis

Nicholas, Lucas, Matthew and Zachary. John was preceded in death by a son, Rodger Gattis in 2000, and by a son-in-law: Rick Whaley in 1983.

MEMORIALS: Eastern Texas Panhandle Red Cross, 108 N. Russell, Pampa, Texas 79065.

Sign the on-line register at www.carmichael-whatley.com

Superbowl Mania winner will be chosen Monday!

CHICKEN
FRIED STEAK



Just like
Mama's!

(Maybe Better!)

Hand cut, Hand breaded,
& Deep Fried
Chicken Fried
Steak

Served with French Fries,
Cole Slaw or Salad,
Texas Toast
and Cream Gravy.

\$9.99

Served Monday - Saturday

LAST MINUTE ADS

The Pampa News is not responsible for the content of paid advertisement

ALPINE CAR DVD Player, like new, for sale. 806-663-0407

CERAMIC TILE. Keith Taylor, 874-1779 lv. msg.

DONATE USED Eyeglasses to the Lion's Club!! Boxes located at The Pampa News-403 W. Atchison, Drs. Simmons & Simmons-1324 N. Banks and Broome Optical-1916 N. Hobart.

FIREWOOD FOR Sale. \$265 cord. 806-663-3124

MESSAGE THERAPY Valentine Special- Gift Certificates! Call Cathy Potter, Holly Albert or Brittany Shuman, 669-0013

AVAILABLE MAR. 1, 110 N. Cuyler. Good location, attractive building. 669-3333, 669-3684.

NEW ROOMS! Clothing Room at Mary Ellen & Harvester Church of Christ open Tues. Feb. 9, 9-11 a.m. Enter the South double doors on West side of church bldg. on Mary Ellen St.

SEIKO HAS lowered the prices on the Melodies in Motion Clocks. Check out the new prices at Rheams Diamond Shop, 111 N. Cuyler in Downtown Pampa.

VALENTINE BALLOON Bouquets. 109 W. Francis. Call 662-1801 to order yours.

Helping People Live

"The Hospice Approach to Living with Dying" Volunteer Training/Education Class

A class for anyone interested in becoming a hospice volunteer or learning more about hospice care.

5 Class Sessions beginning
Tuesday, February 16 - March 2, 2010
Tuesdays & Thursdays
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

BSA Hospice Den
600 N. Tyler Street
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Must have a registration of 5 or more participants at each class.



The
Pampa
News
669-
2525

Baptists concerned Haiti arrests may hurt image

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Officials at the Southern Baptist Convention are concerned the arrest of 10 Baptists in Haiti could make it harder to find volunteers for its missionary and disaster relief work.

The Christians, most of them Southern Baptists, weren't acting under the auspices of the Nashville-based Southern Baptist Convention, when they were arrested Jan. 29 while trying to take 33 children out of Haiti.

Even so, Vice President of Convention Relations Roger Oldham said, "Clearly there is a concern that, because of the acts of this one team, our tremendous history of relief over the years would be tainted in some people's minds."

The Southern Baptists' Disaster Relief ministry is the third-largest relief organization in North America, according to

the convention. Oldham said Friday that more than 90,000 trained disaster relief volunteers are ready to assist Haiti with earthquake recovery as soon as they are invited in by the Haitian government.

The 10 Baptists from Idaho, Kansas and Texas were charged Thursday with kidnapping and remain jailed pending trial. Their attorney, Edwin Coq, has said the group's leader, Laura Silsby, knew she couldn't take the children into the Dominican Republic without proper paperwork, but he has characterized the other nine volunteers as "naive."

A statement from the detainees' family members released late Thursday said, "We are absolutely convinced that those who were recruited to join this mission traveled to Haiti to help, not hurt, these children."

The Baptist group had

said they were rescuing abandoned children and orphans, but at least two-thirds of the children involved in the case have parents. However, several of the parents told The Associated Press they gave their children up willingly because the group promised the children a better life.

Oldham said individual Southern Baptists are working to minister to the jailed volunteers and advocate for them, but he declined to say whether the convention itself was helping the group in any way.

According to the group's Web site, Southern Baptist Convention leaders, including President Johnny Hunt and Executive Committee President Morris Chapman, have urged Southern Baptists to pray for the group.

Jobs

cont. from page 1

consolation for the 8.4 million jobs that have vanished since the recession began.

"Even though our economy is growing again, these are still tough times for America," Obama said. "Too many businesses are still shuttered. Too many families can't make ends meet. And while yesterday, we learned that the unemployment rate has dropped below 10 percent for the first time since summer, it is still unacceptably high — and too many Americans still can't find work."

To help the recovery, Obama asked Congress to use leftover money from the Troubled Asset Relief Program, or TARP, to provide to small banks so they can make more loans to small businesses. Republicans have criticized the move, arguing any money leftover from the bailout should be used to reduce the budget deficit.

In the weekly GOP address, Rep. Jeb Hensarling of Texas chided Obama for proposing a 2011 budget last week that would increase spending,

taxes and the national debt.

"Americans are still asking, 'where are the jobs?' but all they are getting from Washington is more spending, more taxes, more debt and more bailouts," Hensarling said.

The Republican attack came even as key Democrats and Republicans in the Senate are working on a bipartisan jobs bill. The senators hope to unveil legislation as early as Monday that would provide tax breaks to businesses that hire unemployed workers, extend unemployment payments for those whose benefits have run out, and renew a program that offers the jobless a subsidy for health insurance premiums.

Senate passage of a bipartisan jobs bill would mark an important political victory for Obama.

Rheams

cont. from page 1

25, and a more detailed account of the business's accomplishments will be announced.

The Chamber's "Citizen of the Year" will also be announced at the banquet.

Supper

cont. from page 1

and up. During the morning other learning experiences include daily chapel, music and gym, computer, and Good Shepherd class. In the afternoon Pre-K classes have Reading Rocks and Discovery Club. Some children participate in the Kindertots program.

The Day School Support Group will be having a Bake Sale and Scholastic Book Fair during the Supper.

US swine flu epidemic shows signs of being over

ATLANTA (AP) — Is the U.S. swine flu epidemic over? Federal health officials won't go so far as to say that, but on Friday they reported for the fourth week in a row that no states had widespread flu activity.

U.S. cases have been declining since October. An official with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says swine flu cases are still occurring and are likely to continue a while longer at some level.

But another expert said a future large wave of cases now seems very unlikely. The expert, Vanderbilt University's Dr. William Schaffner, said the epidemic has

"one foot in the grave."

An estimated 70 million Americans have been vaccinated against swine flu through a government vaccination campaign that started in October. Meanwhile, an estimated 55 million or more got sick from swine flu and recovered, meaning they developed some level of natural immunity from the experience.

Combined, that means that 40 percent or more of the public has immunity to the virus. Such numbers will make it difficult for swine flu in its current form to reappear in a new wave, Schaffner noted.

Primary

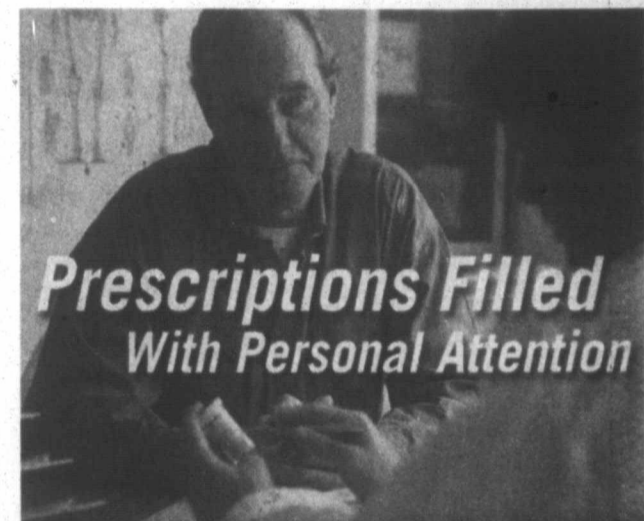
cont. from page 1

Lewis said there are 13,399 registered voters in Gray County, a county of about 22,000 residents.

When voter registration cards were mailed out late last year, she said she received about 2,000 of them back undelivered.

Lewis explained that the Post Office cannot by law forward them. They must be returned.

She said that anyone not receiving their voter registration card can call her at 669-4003 or email her at linda.lewis@graych.com.



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2010 Roberts County Junior Livestock Show

The Roberts County 4-H and Miami FFA along with the Roberts County Junior Livestock Show Board would like to thank the following contributors for their support of the 2010 Roberts County Junior Livestock Show and Sale. Your support of our youth makes this event a huge success year after year.

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Canadian Animal Health & Nutrition Four K Service Fenton Motors Pampa Butch's Backhoe Service Martin Farms Locke Cattle Co. Brad & Theresa Guthrie	Kelly & Charlotte Flowers Rick & Marsha Tennant Joe & Billie Lunsford John Locke Tom & Cynthia Grantham Ben & Cindy Wheeler Cordillera Energy Partners Capitol Farm Credit	Tejas Feeders Canadian Supply & Redi Mix Car Care, Inc. Janie Gill Ken & Mary Ann Gill Steve & Karen Hale Hi-Pro Feeds Gray / Roberts Farm Bureau
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Boosters

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Pampa ISD Events for the Week of February 8 - February 13

Watch this space every Sunday for a weekly listing of non-athletic events from every campus in our school district.

Pampa High School

February 8 & 9 • Rose Sales
February 8 • Student Council Meeting 7:30 Commons
February 9 • 9th, 10th, & 11th Parent Meeting 7:00pm
February 10 • Roses Delivered
February 11 • 8th Grade Parent Meeting
February 11-14 • TMEA All State Band San Antonio
February 12 & 13 • Speech Tournament Dallas
February 13 • Valentine Dance 7:00pm

Pampa Jr. High

February 8-12 • Book Fair Library
February 8 • Booster Club Meeting 6:00pm Library
February 9 • Love Notes 6:00pm at Travis Elementary
February 12 • Cheerleader Fundraiser Valentine Dance 7:00pm PJH Boys Gym

Austin Elementary

February 9 • Family Night - Scholastic Book Fair 5:30pm Library
February 10 • Donuts with Dad 6:30am
February 11 • Lunch with Grandparents
February 11 • Munchies with Mom 2:30pm Library
February 12 • Last Day of Book Fair (ends at noon)
February 12 • Valentine Parties

Lamar Elementary

February 9 • Group Pictures
February 12 • Valentine Parties
February 13 • Hot Shot Contest - North MPAC at PHS 8:30am-3:00pm

Travis Elementary

February 9 • Love Notes 6:00pm Library

Wilson Elementary

February 12 • Crazy Day - Hat Day

For the most up-to-date Pampa ISD information, go to the school website at HYPLER-LINK "http://www.pampaisd.net". From the parent connection drop-down menu, click on the District Event Calendar.



Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Saturday, Feb. 6, the 37th day of 2010. There are 328 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

- 1643 - Dutch mariner Abel Tasman discovers Fiji Islands in the Pacific.
- 1701 - War of Spanish Succession begins.
- 1715 - Peace of Utrecht ends war between Spain and Portugal.
- 1778 - Britain declares war on France.
- 1819 - British East India Company, represented by Stamford Raffles, establishes settlement at Singapore.
- 1840 - Treaty of Waitangi is signed, guaranteeing Maori tribal chiefs their lands and certain other rights in return for British sovereignty over New Zealand.
- 1869 - Greece agrees to leave Crete following Turkish ultimatum.

'If you can talk brilliantly about a problem it can create the consoling illusion that it has been mastered.'

— Stanley Kubrick, American movie director

- 1897 - Crete proclaims union with Greece.
- 1899 - Treaty of Paris is ratified, whereby Spain cedes Cuba, Puerto Rico, Guam and the Philippines to the United States for \$20 million.
- 1902 - French agreement with Ethiopia to finance railway construction provokes protests from Britain and Italy.
- 1952 - Britain's King George VI dies and is succeeded by his daughter, Elizabeth II.

- 1959 - The United States successfully test-fires a Titan intercontinental ballistic missile.
- 1964 - England and France agree on constructing English Channel rail tunnel.
- 1971 - U.S. Apollo 14 astronauts prepare to head back to earth after spending 33 hours on the moon.
- 1975 - Three paintings — one by Raphael and two by Piero della Francesca — are stolen from National Gallery in Urbino, Italy.
- 1983 - U.S. Chief Justice Warren Burger asks Congress to ease the Supreme Court's load by creating a court of federal judges.
- 1990 - West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl says he favors immediate talks with East Germany on introducing the Deutsche mark there.
- 1991 - Colombian President Cesar Gaviria pleads for peace after a two-day rebel offensive that leaves at least 47 people dead.
- 1992 - Three days of clashes between Islamist protesters and security forces kill 12 and injure dozens in Batna, Algeria.
- 1993 - Armenian forces capture 12 settlements in a major offensive in the Nagorno-Karabakh enclave in Azerbaijan.
- 1995 - Two 100-ton spaceships — the biggest ever to converge in space — fly in formation in the first U.S.-Russian rendezvous in 20 years.
- 1996 - More than 1,000 Palestinians challenge Israeli sovereignty over Jerusalem by filing claims for property they once owned in the Jewish part of the disputed city.
- 1997 - Marking his first year as president of Haiti, Rene Preval distributes land to peasants.
- 1998 - A Tamil separatist rebel suicide bombing kills nine people at a military checkpoint in Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- 1999 - The first peace talks between Kosovo Albanians and Yugoslavia open in Rambouillet, France.
- 2000 - Hillary Rodham Clinton announces her candidacy for U.S. Senate in New York. She later defeats the Republican candidate in November, becoming the only U.S. first lady ever elected to public office.
- 2001 - Ariel Sharon is elected Israeli prime minister in a landslide win over Ehud Barak.
- 2002 - Athanase Seromba, a Roman Catholic priest accused of participating in the 1994 slaughter of Tutsis by ethnic Hutus in Rwanda, surrenders to the U.N. tribunal in Arusha, Tanzania.
- 2005 - The African Union says the military in Togo has conducted a virtual coup by ignoring the constitution and appointing the son of Africa's longest ruling leader, Gnassingbe Eyadema, to take over as the country's new leader just hours after his father died of a heart attack.
- 2006 - Anger over the caricatures of the Prophet Muhammed spills violently onto the streets of Afghanistan, where protesters direct their anger against the U.S. Police gun down at least four people, some as they try to break into a U.S. military base.
- 2007 - African, Asian and South American nations where child fighters have been used in war are among 60 countries worldwide to endorse the Paris Commitments, an agreement that commits them to stopping the practice and punishing those who recruit youngsters as combatants.
- 2008 - Seven doctors and pharmacists go on trial in Paris for the deaths of more than 100 young people who contracted a brain-destroying disease, Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, after being treated with tainted human growth hormones. The trial follows a more than 16-year investigation.

Today's Birthdays:

- Christopher Marlowe, English poet-dramatist (1564-1593); Queen Anne of England (1665-1714); Anton Hermann Fokker, Dutch aviation pioneer (1890-1939); Babe Ruth, U.S. baseball star (1895-1948); Ronald Reagan, U.S. president (1911-2004); Zsa Zsa Gabor, Hungarian actress (1917-); Francois Truffaut, French film director (1932-1984); Bob Marley, Jamaican musician (1945-1981); Natalie Cole, U.S. singer (1950-); Rick Astley, British singer (1966-);



President Obama's budget is fiscally irresponsible

BY U.S. SENATOR KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

In his State of the Union speech, the President promised that the Administration would begin leading the way toward restoring fiscal discipline and reducing the size of the mounting and unsustainable debt we are accumulating. But unfortunately when he released his first budget earlier this month, the \$3.83 trillion price tag did not deliver on that pledge. Instead, his budget includes massive deficit spending and substantial tax increases, which will only make it even more difficult for businesses, large and small, to create the jobs that will fuel our economic recovery.

The fiscal situation in Washington is untenable. More than 40 percent of the President's proposed budget is deficit spending and at that rate the debt will double in just five years. The Democratic-led Congress just voted to raise our national debt ceiling by nearly \$2 trillion to \$14 trillion! With a significant portion of our national debt already owned by foreign nations, including China and the wealthy Arab oil states, the President's proposal simply adds still more debt to the American people's tab. More debt, more spending, and more taxes make this budget a true jobs killer.

Although this is the President's first official full-year budget, for the past year, his administration has already been on a record-breaking spending spree. In less than one year, the Administration has promoted such programs as the \$787 billion stimulus fund and the \$2 trillion health care reform bill (and with a Democratic-controlled

House and Senate this plan could reemerge), all off-line spending measures adding to our national debt.

His proposed budget for the next fiscal year is more of the same. While the President has called for a freeze in discretionary spending the reality is that in his first year of office he has already pushed through an 80 percent increase in these areas!

And how does the President plan to pay for all this spending? Through massive tax increases on working Americans! His plan includes raising taxes by \$2 trillion over the next 10 years. His intent is to allow the Bush tax cuts to expire for those in the top brackets and also to raise the top two income brackets for individuals from 33 and 35 percent currently, to 36 and 39.6 percent respectively. The proposal would also limit their tax deductions for charitable donations, mortgage interest, and state and local taxes. These tax hikes will hurt American families and businesses, stifling job creation and economic recovery.

In addition, many Texas interests and industries will be particularly affected. The Obama Administration targets the domestic oil and gas industry by proposing the elimination of tax benefits that currently support the production of our domestic resources. Not only will this hurt the Texas economy and job market, but by discouraging domestic oil and gas exploration and production, we will make ourselves more dependent on foreign energy. These rescissions are in addition to the call for implementing a job killing cap and trade system, which is esti-

mated to not only drive up energy costs but also lead to 400,000 Texans losing their jobs by 2030.

The President's budget is fiscally irresponsible. The record-setting debt makes us more beholden to foreign interests. The increased taxes make our economic recovery more difficult. In this environment, where the only certainty seems to be that the Administration and the Democratic Congress will spend, tax and regulate more, businesses large and small will be reluctant to hire new employees and make new investments. At this critical time, we need bold leadership and significant belt-tightening. The Obama budget deliv-



Kay Bailey Hutchison

ers neither. Kay Bailey Hutchison is the senior U.S. Senator from Texas and is the Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

THE PAMPA NEWS

403 W. Atchison • Pampa, TX 79065

806-669-2525 • 800-687-3348

Fax: 806-669-2520

Randall Pribble
Publisher

rpribble@thepampanews.com

ReDonn Woods
Advertising Manager

woods@thepampanews.com

Sue Pribble
Advertising Representative

spribble@thepampanews.com

Beverly Taylor
Classified Advertising

classified@thepampanews.com

Kera Kent
Circulation

circulation@thepampanews.com

Carrie Hair
Accounting

bookkeeper@thepampanews.com

Betsy Phillips
Editor

bphillips@thepampanews.com

David Bowser
Reporter

dbowser@thepampanews.com

Andrew Glover
Reporter

aglover@thepampanews.com

Marcus Elkins
Press Supervisor

press@thepampanews.com

Chico Ramirez
Circulation Supervisor

circulation@thepampanews.com

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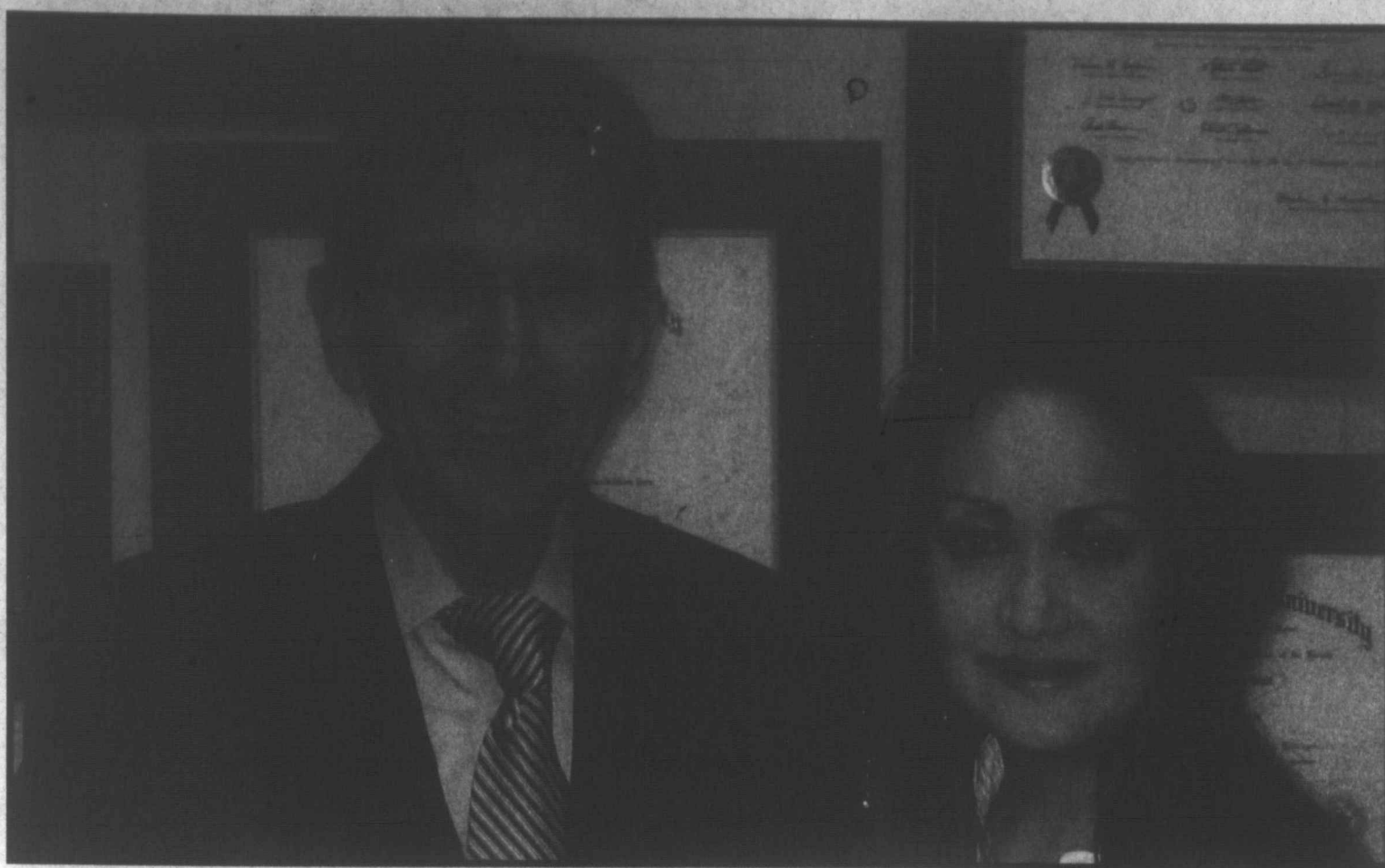
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We welcome your letters

To insure publication, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be edited for length and clarity.
- All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number with the letter for verification. Only your name and city will be published.
- Defamatory comments will not be published.
- E-mail submissions are welcome.
- The viewpoints page will be not used to rebut political campaign ads, those should be rebutted in kind.



Elect Steve Hall for Gray County Judge

- Did anyone address the 10% budget deficit at the Republican Women's Forum?
- The DA's office increased her budget from:
2006 - 196,280
2010 - 298,972
- The defendant offered to plea to 3 life sentences with no parole and waive appeals. The DA has final decision to prosecute -- Why did she not take the plea from the Defendant? Three life sentences without parole and no appeals is a guarantee - \$10,000 expense and closure! There are alternatives and in this case the choice was easy because Justice is for the entire community.
- The DA's job is so Justice will be Done -
http://www.amarillo.com/stories/020101/new_news3.shtml
- Switzer spent more than \$750,000 - that was about 10 percent of Gray County's annual budget - to bring King to trial. The cost of the trial was one reason county commissioners were forced to raise taxes and withhold employee raises last year. Does our DA pay property taxes?
- Our docket is further behind now. The 223rd and 31st District courts are behind as much as five years on criminal cases. The 69th District (Dumas) is behind about 1.5 years.

Total drug forfeiture for 2008 was **\$25,876.**

- Office expenses for DA are **\$34,760.00**
- Vehicle Fuel is **\$8,690.00**
- Postage & Box Rent is **\$8,690.00**
- Office supplies are **\$8,690.00**
- Telephone/Pager **\$8,960.00**

There is no miracle fund for the money spent on the Murder Trial.
The City of Pampa is **\$20 million** dollars in debt!
HOW ARE WE GOING TO PAY?

The Constitution allows one to tax and spend for General Welfare!

"Taxes should be proportioned to what may be annually spared by the individual."

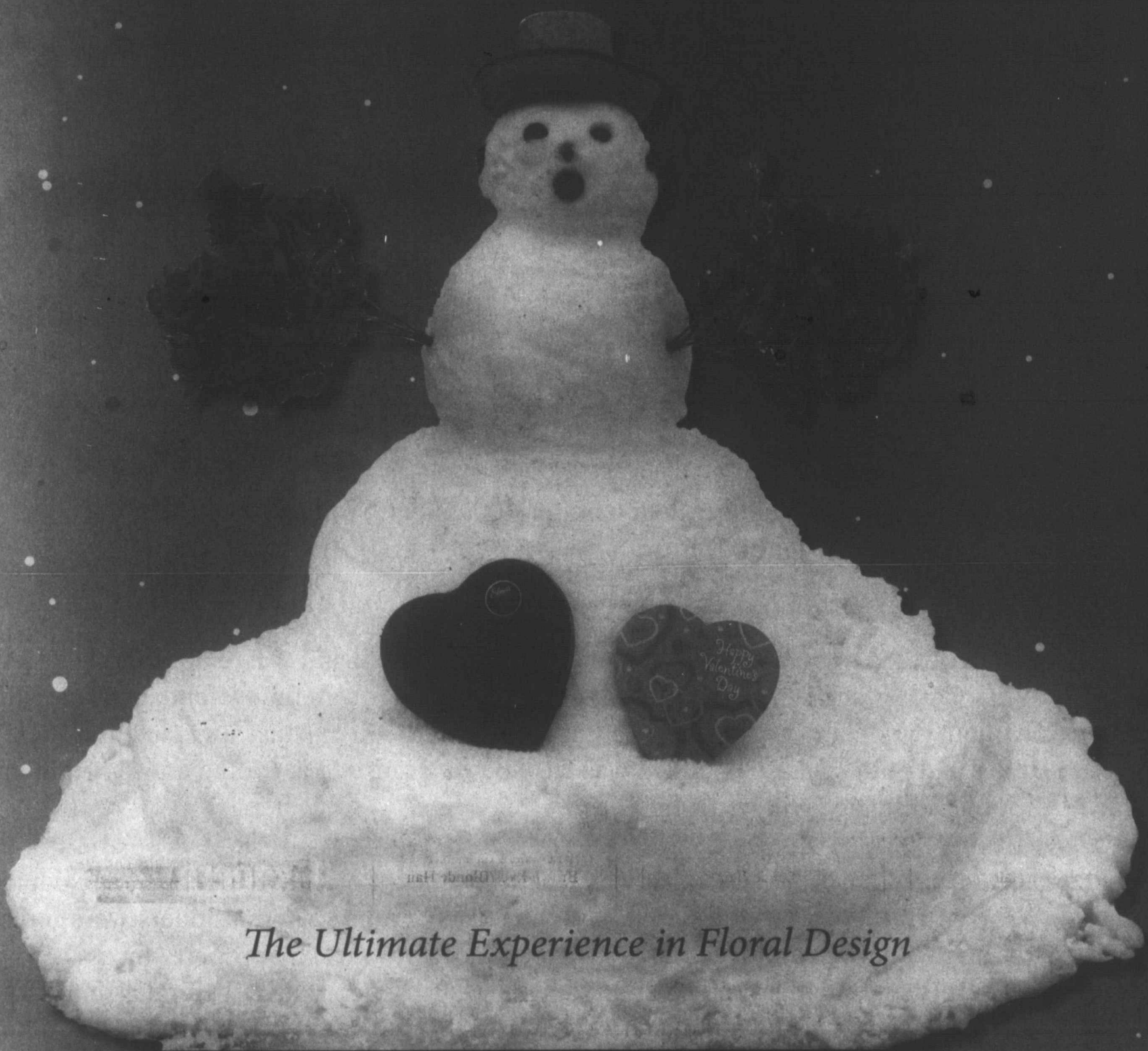
--Thomas Jefferson to James Madison, 1784

Let me help you stop the Wasteful Spending

Why is this important? The Gray County Judge sets the budget and is responsible for all Misdemeanor crimes. I am a licensed attorney. I can authorize blood search warrants for DWI arrest! The current Gray County Judge is not a licensed attorney. The Gray County Judge is responsible for hearing Misdemeanor Crimes. During a trial how does someone not trained in law know the rules of evidence?

The election will be decided in the March 2nd Primary

Don't get left out in the cold
like this guy did by forgetting
Valentine's Day!

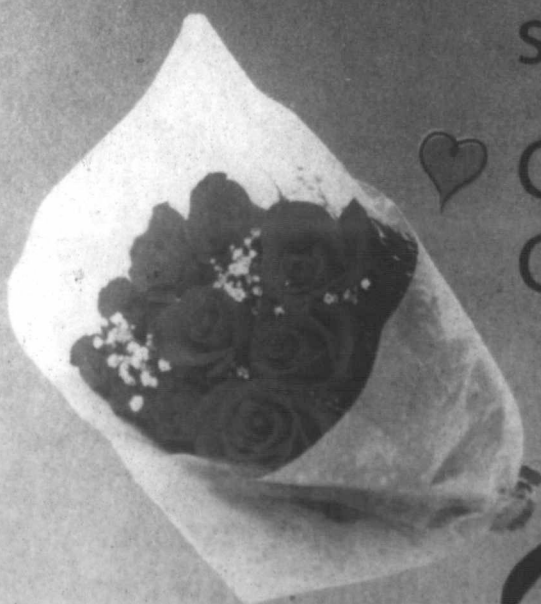


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Walling becomes realtor

Century 21 Pampa Realty Inc. is please to announce that Andrea Walling has completed all required examinations by the Texas Real Estate Commission. Andrea was sworn in to the National Association of Realtors, Texas Association of Realtors and the Pampa Board of Realtors on January 4, 2010.

Weekly menus

Pampa Senior Citizens Center

Monday
Chicken fried steak or chicken/broccoli noodles
Mashed potatoes
Spinach
Beets
Northern beans
Cole slaw, tossed salad,
Jell-O salad
Hot roll or cornbread
Devil's food cake or cherry cream pie

Tuesday
Talapia filet/rice or swiss steak
Scalloped potatoes
Cabbage
Carrots
Pinto beans
Cole slaw, tossed salad,
Jell-O salad
Hot roll or cornbread
Applesauce cake or chocolate pie

Wednesday
Roast beef brisket/brown gravy or cook's choice
Mashed potatoes
California blend
Peas
Beans
Cole slaw, tossed salad,
Jell-O salad
Hot roll or cornbread
Black forest cake or coconut cream pie

Thursday
Chicken strips or taco salad

Tater Tots
Cheese grits
Turnip greens
Pinto beans
Cole slaw, tossed salad,
Jell-O salad
Hot roll or cornbread
Cinnamon rolls or butterscotch pie

Friday
Catfish and hushpuppies or spaghetti and meatballs.
Potato wedges
Broccoli casserole
Pinto beans

Pampa Meals on Wheels

Monday
Steak Fingers/Gravy
Broccoli Casserole
Carrots
Pears

Tuesday
Turkey
Rice Pilaf
English Peas
Sweet Potatoes
Plum

Wednesday
Hamburger Patties
Mashed Potatoes
Pinto Beans
Cornbread
Peaches

Thursday
Oven-Fried Chicken
Corn
Baked Potatoes
Pudding

Friday
Baked Fish
Rice Pilaf
Garlic Bread
Green Beans
Apricots

Pampa ISD Menu

Monday
Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza
Pig in a Blanket or Chicken Nuggets
Whipped Potatoes
English Peas
Pineapple Tidbits
Pudding

Tuesday
Breakfast: Donut, Sausage
Patty
Popcorn Shrimp or Mini Twin Cheeseburgers
Blackeyed Peas
Spinach
Fresh Fruit

Wednesday
Breakfast: Cheese Omelet, Toast
Spaghetti or Steak Fingers
Green Beans
Tossed Salad
Mixed Fruit
Garlic Toast

Thursday
Breakfast: Biscuit, Sausage
Patty
Egg Rolls or Pizza
Corn
Broccoli Florets
Applesauce
Rice Pilaf

Friday
Breakfast: Cereal, Toast
Chicken Fajitas or Hamburgers
French Fries
Burger Salad
Bell Peppers & Onion
Pears

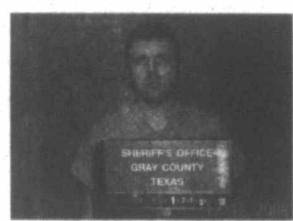
Briarwood Kids Cafe

Tuesday, Feb. 9th
Beef Tacos
Beans
Salad

Thursday, Feb. 11th
Beef Enchilada Casserole
Beans
Salad



Pampa/Gray County Crime Stoppers Most Wanted (806) 669-2222



Clifford Barcheers
29 years old/ White Male/
6'01"/210 lb/ Blue Eyes/
Brown Hair

WANTED
Theft by Check out of six Counties



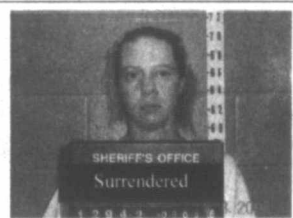
Joseph Ryan Gross
21 years old/ White Male/
5'08"/ 145lb/ Blue Eyes/
Blonde Hair

WANTED
Forgery Financial Instrument



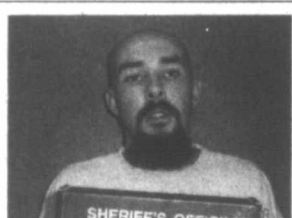
Julie Alonzo
22 years old/ White
Female/5'03"/130lb/
Brown Eyes/Blonde Hair

WANTED
Tamper with Government record



Janna Linn Sims
41 years old/ White Female/
5'10"/ 160lb/ Blue Eyes/
Blonde Hair

WANTED
Bond Surrender "Fraudulent use of Possession of Identifying information"



Gaspar Antonio Olivas
21 years old/ Hispanic
Male/5'08"/ 180lb/ Brown
Eyes/Brown Hair/ Tattoo on right calf

WANTED
Injury to a Child Causing Serious Bodily Injury
\$500 reward for the arrest of Olivas

Picture Not Available

Oscar Espinoza
30 years old/Hispanic Male/
5'06"/220lb/Brown Eyes/
Brown Hair

WANTED
Aggravated Sexual Assault/ Indecency with a child
\$500.00 reward for the arrest of Espinoza

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 \$1000.00 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 current by the time it is read.

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Wed. Service 7:00 pm

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2010 HARVESTER SPORTS SCHEDULE

BASKETBALL

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9
Lady Harvester JV VS Canyon • 6:00 pm at Canyon
Lady Harvesters VS Canyon • 7:30 pm at Canyon
Harvester JV VS Canyon • 6:00 pm at Canyon
Harvesters VS Canyon • 7:30 pm at Canyon

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12
Harvester JV VS Randall • 6:00 pm at Randall
Harvesters VS Randall • 7:30 pm at Randall

SOCCER

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8
Lady Harvesters VS Palo Duro • 5:00 pm at Dick Bivens
Harvesters VS Palo Duro • 7:00 pm at Dick Bivens

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9
Harvester JV VS Palo Duro • 4:30 pm at Palo Duro
Lady Harvester JV VS Palo Duro • 5:00 pm at Palo Duro

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12
Lady Harvesters JV VS Canyon • 4:30 pm at Pampa

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13
Lady Harvesters VS Canyon • noon at Pampa
Harvester JV VS at Canyon • noon at Pampa
Harvesters VS Canyon • 2:00 pm at Pampa

SWIMMING

FEBRUARY 12-13
Harvester Swim Team at Regionals at Andrews

TENNIS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9
Harvester JV Tennis Team at Amarillo

FEBRUARY 12-13
Harvester Tennis Team at Odessa

SOFTBALL

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9
Lady Harvesters VS Borger • 4:30 pm at Pampa

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13
Lady Harvesters VS Lubbock & Amarillo High • at Randall

BASEBALL

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9
Harvesters Scrimmage • 4:00 pm at Peryton

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Space shuttle Endeavour cleared for Sunday launch

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — With many still in shock over this week's space exploration shake-up, NASA managers insist the launch team is focused on safely launching Endeavour on Sunday.

Mission managers cleared the space shuttle for liftoff even as they used words like "angst," to

describe the mood of the work force at the launching site.

"Distractions are there. Shock is there. Uncertainty. But... I do not worry about the folks" while they're doing their job, launch director Mike Leinbach said Friday.

Leinbach said he has asked his team to approach Endeavour's upcoming launch — and the four missions that will follow to close out the shuttle program — as a professional sports team.

"We can be down in the fourth quarter. We can be many, many points behind. But we're going to play every down until the final whistle blows," Leinbach

told reporters.

On Monday, President Barack Obama ordered a new course for NASA, ditching the back-to-the-moon program of the previous administration. Instead, Obama is proposing more research that could have astronauts heading to the asteroids or Mars, sooner and cheaper than under the old plan. That's good news for the space station, which won an extension until 2020. But it could mean even more layoffs for the shuttle work force.

"It's the uncertainty right now that has people most concerned I'd say," Leinbach said.

Endeavour and its crew

of six will deliver a new room to the International Space Station, as well as a one-of-a-kind observation deck. The room, named Tranquility, and window-encircled dome were built in Italy at the behest of the European Space Agency. Tranquility cost more than \$380 million, while the dome tallied \$27 million.

More than 100 Europeans connected to the project traveled to Cape Canaveral for the launch.

"It's like a baby growing up, a child leaving the house," said Bernardo Patti, the European space station program manager.

With a 4:39 a.m. launch time, it's the last scheduled night liftoff for a shuttle

and should be visible, weather permitting, all the way up the East Coast. The odds of good weather for the launch now stand at 80 percent.

The two Americans aboard the space station offered encouragement Friday morning to the mission management team gathered at Kennedy Space Center. The astronauts said in a radio hookup that a successful shuttle flight will pave the way for a better future, no matter what it is.

"Keep your eye on the ball, keep your head down, and let's make sure we're doing our jobs," was the message from orbit, said

Mike Moses, chairman of

the management team.

The early morning launch leaves plenty of time for workers to get home and rest up for Sunday night's Super Bowl. If a problem crops up and liftoff is rescheduled for early Monday morning, that means the launch team will have to report to duty right around game time.

"We're not going to change our plan based on the Super Bowl, frankly," Leinbach said. "This is Super Bowl 48, is that right? I might be wrong on that. So there have been quite a few, and there will probably be more."

For the record, it's Super Bowl 44.

Truck's acid cargo spills, closes Dallas freeway

DALLAS (AP) — A traffic nightmare developed just ahead of rush hour on a Dallas freeway that's among the state's busiest.

Barrels of liquid hydrofluoric acid spilled inside the trailer of an 18-wheeler on Interstate 635 westbound at the Montford Road exit, near the Dallas North Tollway.

The spill happened about 3 p.m. Friday, prompting the Texas Department of Transportation to close the interstate in both directions from between Texas 289 and the tollway.

TexDOT spokeswoman Michelle Releford told KTVT-TV of Dallas and Fort Worth that the freeway would remain closed through the Friday afternoon rush and well into the evening while a hazardous-materials team cleans up the scene.

No injuries were reported, but no reason has been determined for the spill.

Officers kill man suspected of 2 deaths

HOUSTON (AP) — A chase in Houston led to deputies fatally shooting a man suspected of killing two people and wounding two others.

The Harris County Sheriff's Department says the motive for the quadruple shootings is sought.

Spokeswoman Christina Garza says two deputies who chased the suspect opened fire after he allegedly pointed a gun at them. Neither deputy was hurt.

The incident began late Thursday with a report of four people shot at a home. Investigators say two people were dead in the house. The two wounded people were transported to a hospital. Their conditions were not immediately available.


Investigators say one survivor gave deputies a description of an SUV used by the fleeing suspect. Garza says deputies chased the vehicle, which wrecked, and the suspect was shot when he emerged with a gun and threatened them.

Jackson death case to be filed Monday

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Michael Jackson's doctor wanted to seek his day in court Friday by surrendering before being charged in the singer's death, but prosecutors upstaged the plan by announcing that no case would be filed until next week.

District attorney's spokeswoman Sandi Gibbons released the plan less than two hours before Dr. Conrad Murray and his attorneys were going to show up at an airport-area courthouse in an effort to force the prosecution's hand while avoiding having the physician arrested and handcuffed.

The doctor maintains nothing he gave Jackson should have killed him.



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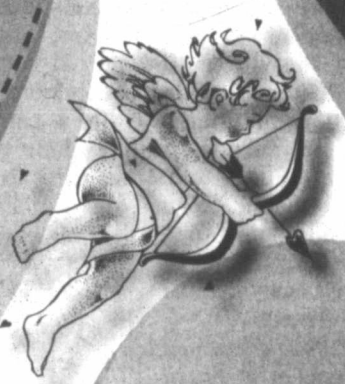


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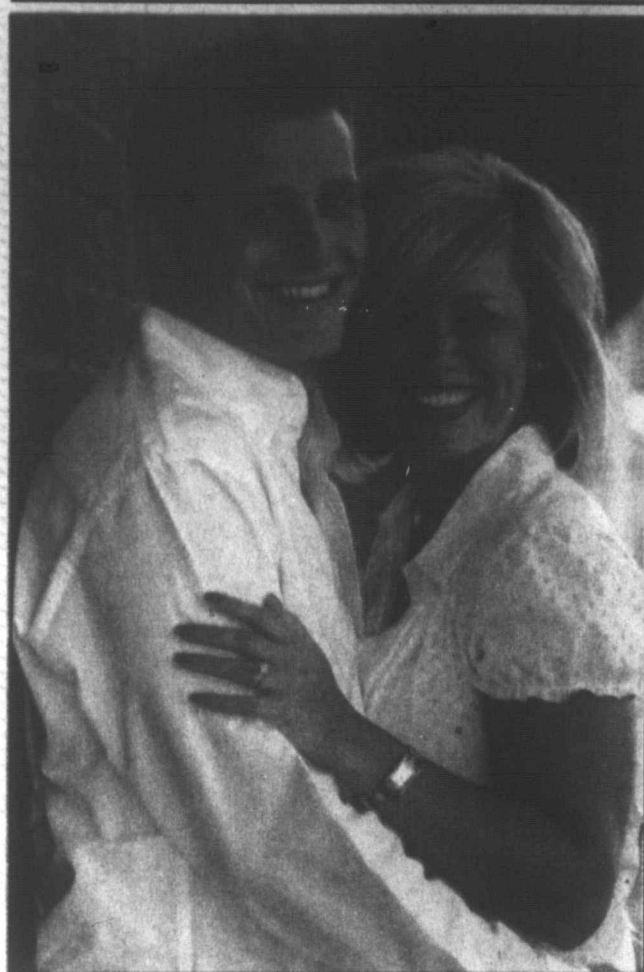
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Tanner B. Dyer and Amy M. Krittenbrink

Dyer-Krittenbrink To exchange vows

Mike and Juanita Krittenbrink of Okarche, OK are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Amy Michelle Krittenbrink, to Tanner Brennan Dyer. He is the son of Shane and Shelley Dyer of Pampa, TX.

The bride-elect is a 2003 graduate of Okarche High School and a December 2006 honors graduate of the University of Oklahoma, Price College of Business, where she earned degrees in Marketing and Finance. Tanner was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. He is the owner of Hoagie's Deli in Amarillo.

The wedding will be celebrated on Saturday, March 27, 2010 at 7:30 in the evening at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Okarche, OK.

Hunter shares passion with kids

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Driving the curvy roads amid wooded areas, rural farms and intermittent fields east of Lawrence, Terrence Elliot regaled his passengers with hunting tales. Among those listening were avid hunter Harry Ummel, 14, and his mother, Neysa Horyna-Ummel, both of Topeka.

One of Elliot's fondest stories was working with a boy who was paralyzed from the neck down but with enough finger control to toggle a switch. Elliot, the boy and his father arrived at a small clearing in noisy fashion thanks to the shakes and rattles of the boy's handicap-accessible van. They assumed they had scared off all wildlife, Elliot said, but no sooner had they mounted a gun on the boy's wheelchair when a deer wandered by.

The father aimed. The boy pushed the switch. Bam! He had harvested his first buck.

It was a proud moment for Elliot, one of many since he began teaching children about his love for the outdoors almost six years ago, soon after his world fell apart.

Elliot, 51, of Lawrence, has been hunting since he was 7 and killed his first buck at 8. He guides hunting excursions as a professional hunter and is a member of the BowTech Pro Staff. He has spent 26 years on pro hunting staffs. "To me, the outdoors is like church," Elliot said. "It's like a temple. You have to spend a lot of time to understand it. When I'm in this blind, me and the good Lord can talk."

In April 2004, a terminal cancer diagnosis shattered Elliot's life. He was given a year or less. In a time that Elliot describes as "down," friends encouraged him to take his hunting skills and do something meaningful. Elliot realized he could

train children who wanted to hunt but didn't have someone to take them or children who had physical or developmental disabilities.

"Terrence targets anybody who wants to go hunting," said Neysa Horyna-Ummel, Ummel's mother. "He sees kids for who they are, not for their disabilities."

His passion may lie in hunting, but children will bring tears to Elliot's eyes.

"It's all about being in the outdoors and learning the outdoors and taking that kid hunting," Elliot said. "That kid will always remember every time he's in the outdoors."

For Ummel, a typical teenager who likes to hang out at the mall and go to movies with his friends, hunting wouldn't have been an option if not for a chance meeting at the Country Stampede last summer. Ummel spotted the BowTech truck, nearly dragging his mom to get there, only to find they were closing shop.

As Ummel and his mom turned away, Elliot beckoned them back. He called Ummel to the front of the line and put him in touch with BowTech Pro Staff Hans Saunders, who began showing Ummel proper archery techniques.

Now, Elliot and Ummel are old buddies who share a common love.

In a camouflage blind, they hide out, waiting for wildlife to approach the sound of Elliot's deer and

turkey calls. They joke around, quietly so as to not scare off animals.

"We could be sitting here talking about girls and one comes up," Elliot said. "That's what I love about hunting you never know."

Horyna-Ummel said Ummel's love for archery and hunting became obvious on a 100-degree day in Nebraska when he was 9. He grew up wanting to be like the American Indians he saw in movies.

"I could see it in his pretend play," Horyna-Ummel said. "He's always been a hunter."

Ummel didn't have anyone to teach him, but with an old bow, Ummel would practice.

"My whole backyard fence is peppered with arrow holes," Horyna-Ummel said.

In October, days after his birthday, Ummel harvested his first deer on his first hunting trip. It took one

arrow. Over Thanksgiving weekend, Ummel harvested his first turkey, also on the first try.

"He is one deadly shot," Elliot said. "Harry ain't missed nothin'. He's pulled back twice and killed a deer and a turkey. I don't know anybody who can make a shot on a turkey like he did. It was perfect."

A variety of treatments had sent Elliot's cancer into remission a couple years ago. It returned six months ago. He is undergoing chemotherapy and must limit activities. The cancer has deteriorated the cartilage in his hip bones. A wrong move could keep him away from hunting and from making a difference in the lives of children.

"Basically, what I want to do before I die, is inspire parents to teach their kids something they can do," Elliot said.

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Sports

Lady Harvesters edge Hereford, win three straight

BY ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampa.com

The Pampa Lady Harvesters had a strong fourth quarter and won their third consecutive game 48-42 over the Hereford Lady Whitefaces Friday at McNeely Field House.

Head Coach Gene Valentine said his team played hard and credited Hereford for how hard they played.

"The only thing they (Hereford) had to gain was to beat us," Valentine said. "Knowing that we are in they playoffs they came out and played hard. I don't think we matched

their intensity until the second half."

Pampa took the lead early in the game and held a one to four point lead until the end of the first quarter. Trailing 8-4, the Lady Whitefaces scored the final six points of the quarter to lead 10-8 after one.

In the second quarter, Shelbie Watson scored the first five points and put Pampa back on top 13-10. Hereford would score the next seven points to regain the lead 17-13. The Lady Harvesters would finish the quarter strong as they went on a 9-4 run to close the half with a 22-21 lead.

The third quarter was a tightly contested battle. The lead would change hands seven times in the quarter. The Lady Harvesters had several one point leads in the quarter. The Lady Whitefaces led by as many as three, ending the third quarter with a 32-29 lead.

Hereford made two free throws at the beginning of the fourth to expand their lead to 34-29. Taryn Eubank scored the next five points for the Lady Harvesters and tied the game at 34. The teams would go back and forth over the next couple of minutes. After Hereford took a 39-37 lead, Pampa

would take control the last half of the fourth. Liz Hoelting made a two-pointer to tie the game at 39. Watson made two free throws to give Pampa the lead for good at 41-39. The Lady Harvesters ended the game with a 7-2 run.

Hoelting led the team in scoring with nine points. Emilie Troxell and Eubank each scored eight. Watson scored seven points and Delaney Clendening scored five. Troxell and Eubank led the team in rebounds with four each.

Clendening played in her third and Kailyn Troxell played in her second varsity game this season.

Valentine said they have played well at that level.

"Kailyn had a nice move in transition and got to the baseline, scored and got fouled," Valentine said. "Delaney came up big. She had some good rebounds. Made a couple shots for us. There towards they end she out hustled them and got to the foul line."

The Lady Harvesters (11-16, 6-5) won their sixth district game and ensured themselves a non-losing record in district-play. Valentine said his team started gaining confidence after Christmas break.

"In the Caprock tournament we played Lubbock Trinity pretty well," Valentine said. "The girls started gaining confidence. Obviously when we got back into district play we used that momentum and confidence to prove that we

can play with anybody."

The junior varsity lost 50-44 to Hereford. Lindsey Brown led the team in scoring with 17 points. Bailey Beck scored nine and Stephanie Allen scored six. Coach Forrest Harding said they had a change in their lineup with some players playing on the varsity.

"We just didn't shoot the ball really well," Harding said.

The junior varsity beat Caprock on Tuesday 38-20. Kailyn Troxell led the team in scoring with 11. Brown, Kaitlynn Ramirez and Allen each scored seven.

The game was the Lady Harvesters final home game. They visit the district leading Canyon Eagles Tuesday in their final game before the bidistrict playoffs.

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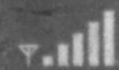
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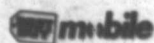


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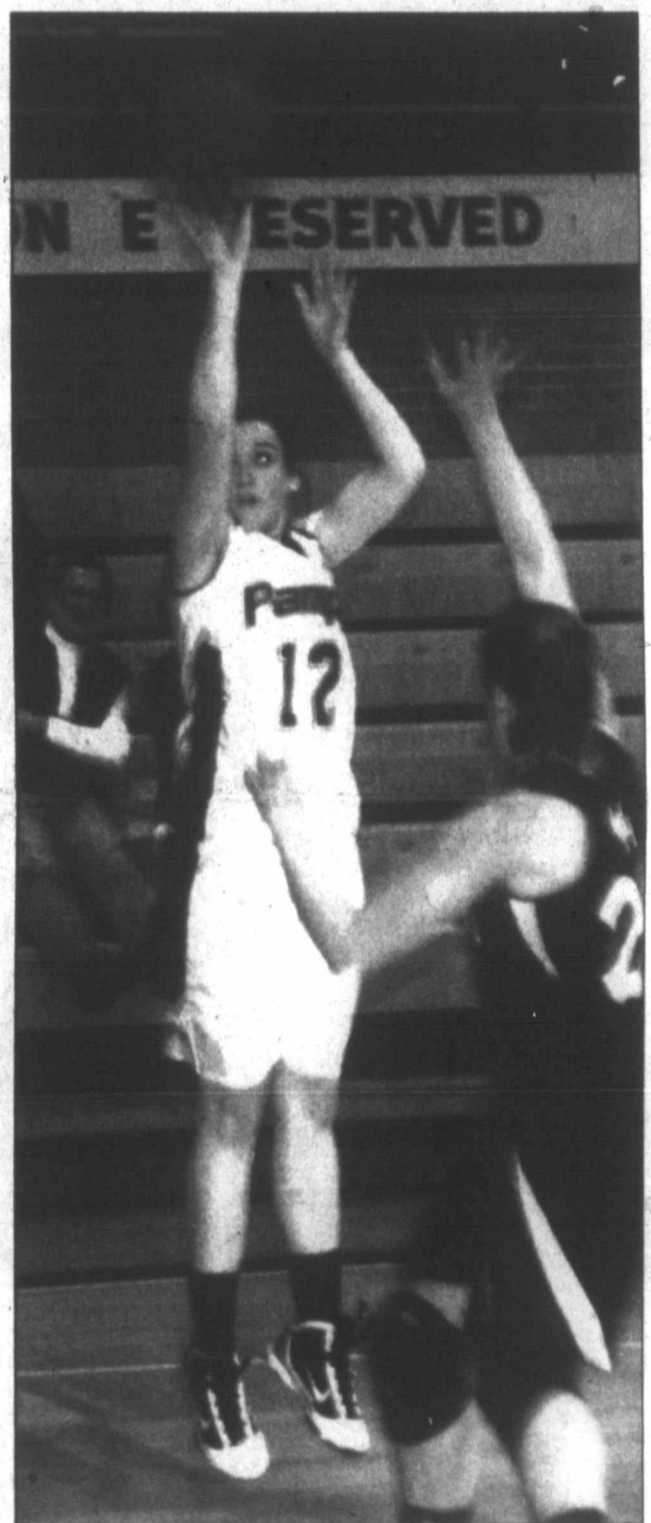
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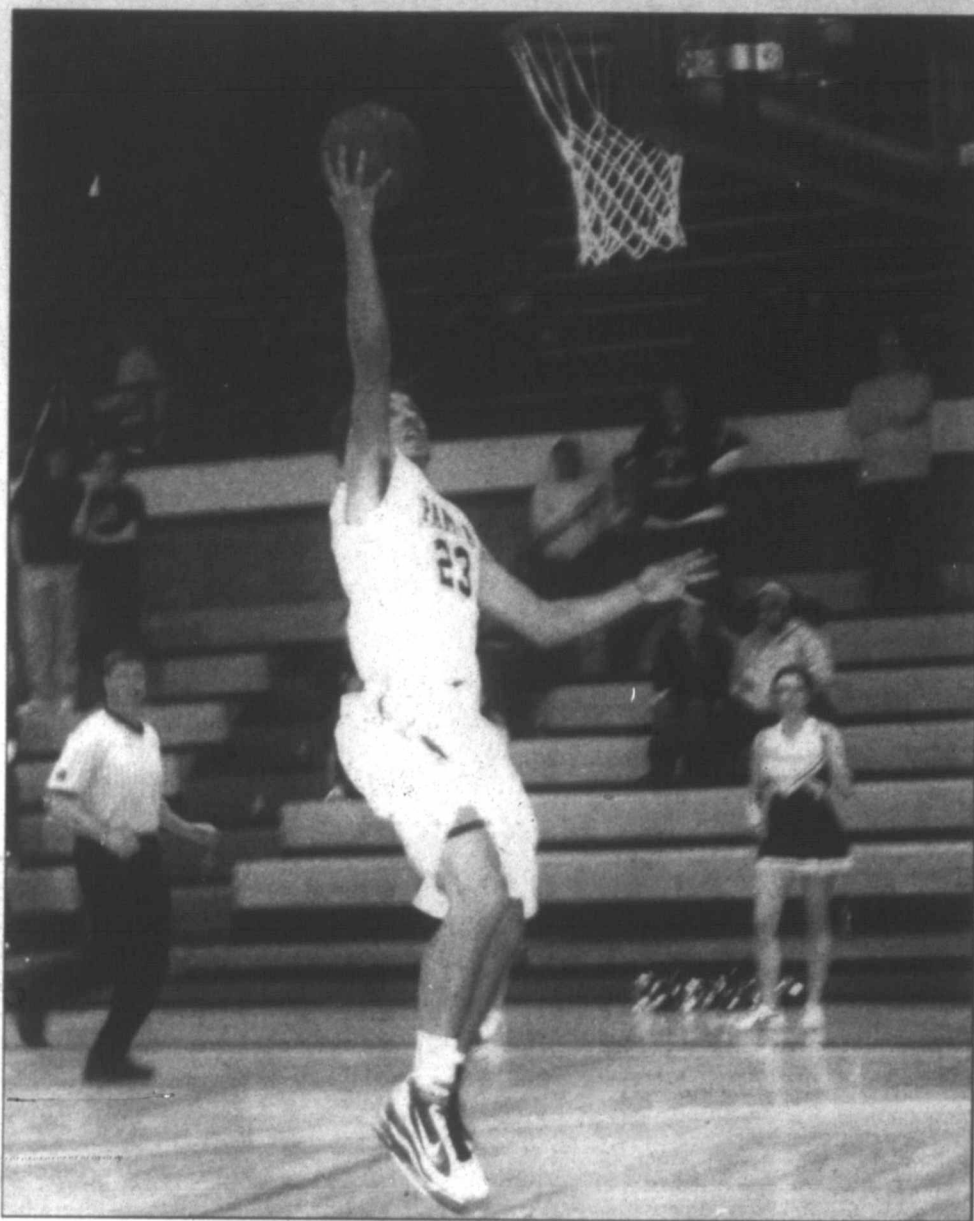


staff photo by Andrew Glover
Andi Hutto attempts a jumper against Hereford Friday in Pampa. The Lady Harvesters won 48-42. The game was Hutto, Emilie Troxell and Shelbie Watson's final home game.

Congrats to all the Harvester and Lady Harvester basketball seniors on a great season!!!

Sports

Hereford triumphs, Pampa eliminated from playoffs



Garrett Eticson attempts a layup in the second half against Hereford Friday at McNeely Field House. The Harvesters lost 61-53. Eticson led the team in scoring with 17.

BY ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Harvesters were eliminated from playoff contention as they lost their eighth straight game 61-53 to the Hereford Whitefaces, Friday at McNeely Field House.

Head Coach Dustin Miller said his team was in the game the whole time.

"They went on a little run in the third and we responded and took the lead in the fourth," Miller said. I told them this, the second we walked into the locker room you can ask any coach whose coached the game of basketball and all you can ask for is a chance to win in the fourth quarter."

In the first quarter, the Harvesters got off to a quick start, outscoring the Whitefaces 12-5 in the first minutes of the quarter. The Whitefaces scored the last five points of the first to cut Pampa's lead to 12-10.

Garrett Eticson opened the second quarter with a three-pointer to expand Pampa's lead to five. Hereford scored five of the next seven points and cut the Harvesters' lead to two. Eticson made another three-pointer to bring the lead back to five. The Harvesters led 24-19 at halftime. Eticson scored 11 of the Harvesters' 12 second quarter points.

At the beginning of the third quarter, Pampa mostly maintained their lead. Not allowing it to get smaller than two. The rest of the third quarter would be controlled by the Whitefaces. With the Harvesters leading 33-29, Hereford closed the quarter on a 13-4 run to lead 42-37.

In the fourth quarter,

both teams exchanged baskets on their first two possessions. Trailing 45-39, Pampa went on a 9-2 run to take the lead 48-47. Hereford would take control of the game from there. The Whitefaces went on a 12-0 run to lead 59-48 at towards the end of the quarter.


Eticson led the team in scoring with 17 points. Travis Hagerman scored 11 and Alex Clendening scored eight. Clendening led the team in rebounds with eight. Hagerman had six, Latigo Collins and Eticson each had three.

With the loss, the Harvesters (9-16, 1-8) are mathematically eliminated from the 4A playoffs. Miller said that won't change anything on how they play the last three

games of the season. "It's been a long shot (making playoffs) for awhile now," Miller said. "They haven't packed it in. We're still playing close basketball games with chances to win in the fourth quarter. Teams that pack it in don't have those chances."

The junior varsity lost 55-34. Derek Pollard led the team in scoring with 11. Brandon Chairez scored eight. Coach Matt Embry said the team was down by 18 at halftime and that's been the story of their season.


"We either have a bad first half and come out in the second half and maintain that deficit," Embry said. "Or we play even in the first half and get blown out in the second."




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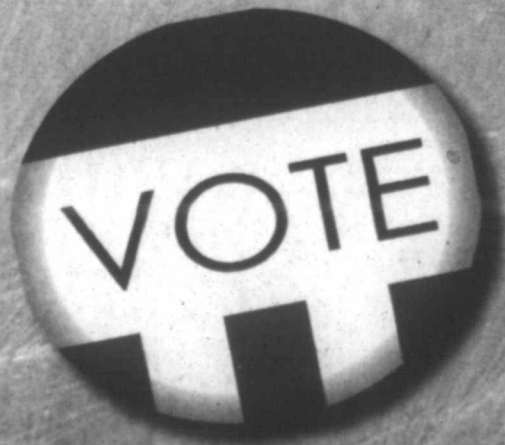
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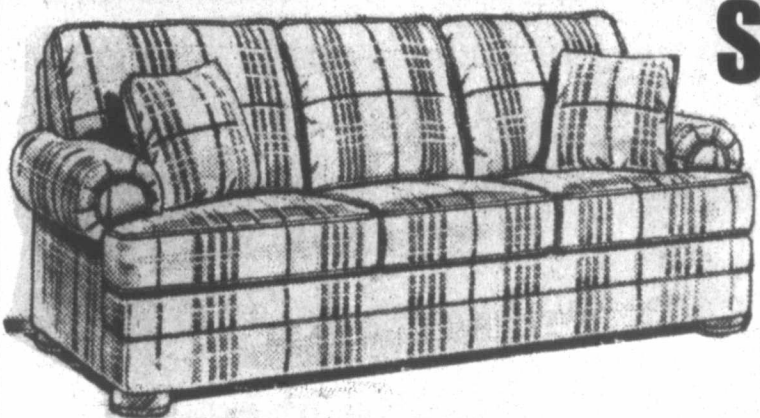
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Sports

Super Bowl coach's old teammates root for Colts

BELOIT, Wis. (AP) — When his Indianapolis Colts stormed past the New York Jets, 30-17, to win the AFC championship and punch their ticket to the Super Bowl, it was vindication for Jim Caldwell.

That victory effectively silenced critics of the head coach's decision to "take the foot off the gas" and rest some of his starters the final two weeks of the regular season. They had argued that a loss to the Jets ruined the Colts' chances for an undefeated season and a defeat in Buffalo put them into a mini-slump heading into the playoffs.

The person least worried about vindication was Jim Caldwell.

To Beloit's suddenly favorite son, those games meant little to a team whose goal was nothing short of winning the Super Bowl.

"Jim is extremely confident and he had already made up his mind that it was more important to protect those players from injuries in those games," said John Heineke, Caldwell's former Beloit Memorial High School head football coach. "There are always a lot of second guessers, but the Colts went into the playoffs 100 percent healthy. He made the right decision."

Besides, it's not like Caldwell has never experienced a perfect season. Football fans who were around in 1972 remember him playing defensive back for a Purple Knights team that posted just the third unbeaten season in school history.

Beloit's best record ever belongs to that 9-0 unit of 1972, which boasted

its own Beloit Sports Hall of Fame crew in Heineke, quarterback Sam Eddy, linebacker/fullback/kicker Vince Lamia, ends Gary Hubka and Tony Brizzolara and, course, Caldwell, who excelled at both running back and in the secondary. One of Heineke's assistants that year, Gene Van Galder, also is a Hall of Famer.

"We'll all be watching (the Super Bowl) and pulling for Jim," said Eddy, a 2003 inductee into the Hall. "He has done a tremendous job and it reflects really well on Beloit. It's also good for the NFL to have a guy like Jim coaching in the Super Bowl because of his character."

Eddy said he has thoroughly enjoyed following Caldwell's first season as head coach of the Colts.

"It was fun watching them win the title last Sunday," said Eddy, an assistant coach the past 16 years at Youngstown State. "Jim's all business. But last Sunday, after the game when he was holding the trophy, he finally did break into a smile. That was great to see."

"Hopefully, he'll do it again in the Super Bowl."

Team loyalty was something the 1972 Knights knew well.

"It was a special group," Eddy said. "Chemistry has to take place for a team to be truly great. Attitude plays just as big a factor as talent. We had a team that was willing to work hard and give of themselves. Individually, we didn't care who made the sack or the key block as long as someone did. We played together."

Teammate Doug

Olstead's first contact with Caldwell came in an eighth grade football game.

"I was playing for Aldrich and we had a 6-0 lead over Jimmy's team from Roosevelt," Olstead said. "I punted to him with 30 seconds to go and he ran it all the way back for a touchdown. Tie game. I decided right then that I always wanted to be on his team rather than playing against him."

He wasn't disappointed when they joined forces as Knights.

"Jim was the best football player I ever played with and the best teammate," Olstead said. "There was never a question whether he was going to get the job done. He'd make a spectacular play and you almost expected it. He was also the same quiet, low-key guy you see now as a coach. I don't think he had an enemy, except maybe on some opposing teams."

The Knights' greatest claim to fame was a thrilling 28-21 victory over then No. 1-ranked Madison La Follette before nearly 6,000 fans at Strong Stadium.

With no playoff system in place back then, Beloit finished No. 2 in Wisconsin in the final Associated Press poll while Antigo, also 9-0, finished No. 1. Antigo accumulated eight first-place votes in the poll and 130 points. Beloit had four first-place votes and 129 points.

Beloit led the league in scoring with 140 points and also led in defense, allowing just 49. The Knights intercepted 21 passes, including seven by safety Wynn Weaver and six by Caldwell.

"Jim played both ways

to start the season, but he got a hip pointer early on and then he strictly played defense," Eddy said. "He understood his position very well and he was one of our leaders on defense, along with Vince (Lamia). He was not a rah-rah kind of guy, but you always knew he was ready to play and you could count on him doing the job. He was a tremendous teammate."

Caldwell and linebacker Lamia both earned not only All-Big Eight First Team honors, but also Associated Press All-State. Both went on to play in the Big Ten, Caldwell at Iowa and Lamia at Wisconsin.

"Jim hasn't changed a bit," said Lamia, who lives

in Tallahassee, Fla. "He was always quiet, a thinker. He was as smart on the field as he was in the classroom."

Caldwell didn't just excel in football. He was also a starter for the Purple Knights' seventh and final state championship team in 1973, as well as a sprinter for a top-notch track and field team.

"I remember the first state tournament game at the (University of Wisconsin) Field House," Van Galder said. "Jim's eyes were as big as saucers while we were warming up. But as soon as the game started, it was right back to business. He always had the ability to really focus."

That Caldwell has become a successful leader of men in the National Football League doesn't surprise his former teammates or coaches.

"He was always a student of the game," Van Galder said. "If you're going to be a coach, you have to understand more than just your area of the world. He was good at focusing on different aspects of the game."

"But coaching is more than just X's and O's. You also have to motivate and Jim's personality is such that he gets along with people very well. He's very honest and genuine and I think his players enjoy playing for him."

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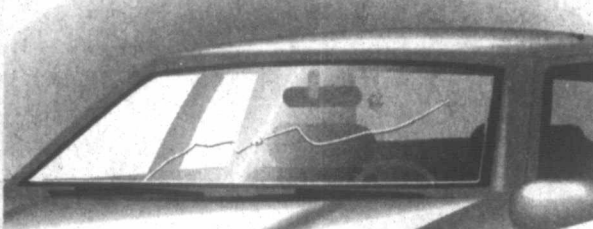
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For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



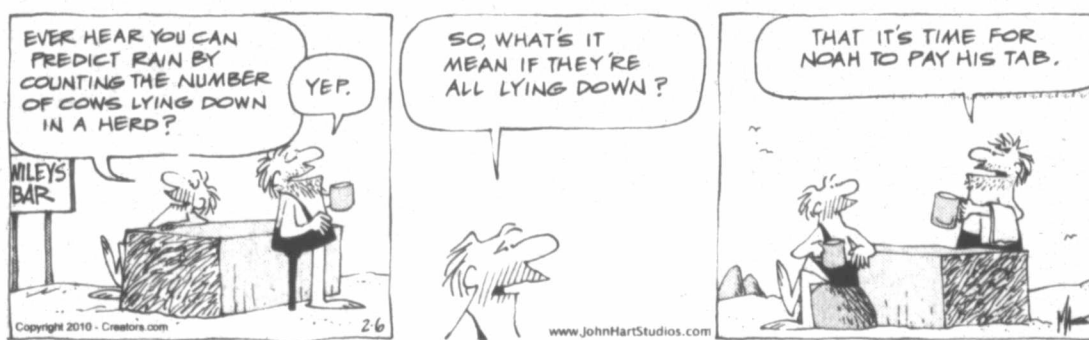
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



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Daily Horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Sunday, Feb. 7, 2010.

This year, you must not lose your focus. You are capable of creating new realities and making what you want occur. However, others will distract you. Your finances could be subject to wild swings up and down. If you manage your money well, you will come out on top. If you are single, you can meet Mr. or Ms. Right. However, don't jump into anything. If you are attached, work on making a mutual goal a reality. SAGITTARIUS points the way.

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)

***** An easy approach works, and understanding could redefine a relationship. Use your high energy to bring other people together. Whether planning a day trip or thinking about a visit or vacation, it makes no difference. Tonight: Read between the lines.

This Week: Avoid taking matters personally, if possible. Keep a high profile.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

***** A key partner has much to do with your plans. A must appearance becomes much more than you intended. Try to redefine what is happening around you in new terms. Sometimes you need to project less and listen more. Tonight: Go with another's suggestion.

This Week: A partner is set in his or her ways. Could this possibly be a reflection of you too?

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

***** Others run through your life, perhaps adding an element of confusion, whether you like it or not. You could be energetic, so much more so than those around you. Do be careful driving or handling machinery. You could be distracted. Tonight: Say "yes" to an offer. This Week: Work with others. You really don't have a choice.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

***** Taking on a project or completing some extra work could fit into your plans better than you realize. Your sense of humor will take you in a new direction if you relax a little more. Be careful to tame runaway spending. Tonight: Think "tomorrow."

This Week: Network midweek on. Check out someone new carefully.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

***** Your imagination seems to be a great source of ideas, especially when combined with friends, partners and/or a child. Those who are ready to let down their hair will find just the right situation. A child plays a significant role in plans. Tonight: Hang out.

This Week: Though you certainly are enticed by a key person, keep it business as usual.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

***** Happiness surrounds the home. You might be happiest playing it easy or taking a lazy day. Others are only too happy to pitch in. You cannot sit on your anger any longer. Learn new techniques to express your dissatisfaction. Tonight: Bring it all together.

This Week: Getting started could be tough on Monday. Don't worry; it will get easier.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

***** Return calls and be more available. You often hide behind others. You could see life from a different perspective if you open up talks. You have a tendency to overdo it. A friend could be most contentious. Avoid a hassle with this person. Tonight: Answer calls and e-mails.

This Week: Keep a conversation going. You will learn a lot.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

***** Clearly you have a very different pattern from many people. You also might be in the mood to go overboard and indulge a close loved one and/or yourself. The real question is, Why not? A parent or older friend could be itching for a fight. Tonight: Your treat.

This Week: Keep your sixth sense tuned

in. If you're uncomfortable with a situation, distance yourself.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

***** Knowing when you have had enough could make all the difference. Realize what is happening within a key bond. You might want to indulge a close family member, which might not involve finances but feelings. Tonight: Order in. This Week: Beam into the week a force difficult to stop. Stay focused.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

***** Recognize your limits right now. With some space and some R and R, you could be inclined to approach a situation differently. Take your time making a decision. Certainly today is the time to mull over alternatives. Tonight: Do your thing.

This Week: Tuesday on, you are a force to be dealt with. Watch out, world!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

***** Follow the group or put yourself in a situation where you can socialize to the max. You make new friends with ease. Don't feel as if you need to show off or pretend to be someone or something that you are not. Tonight: Where the action is.

This Week: Use Monday and Thursday to the max. Midweek, do research.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

***** Bring others together. Understandably, you cannot predict the end results of this happening and might even surprise yourself. An event or response forces you to look at your perspective. You could experience a real mind-opener. Tonight: Don't count on an early night.

This Week: Aim for what you want with the full intent of receiving it.

BORN TODAY

Social critic, writer Sinclair Lewis (1885), novelist Charles Dickens (1812), author Laura Ingalls Wilder (1867)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at www.jacquelinebigar.com.

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NOTICE TO PROPOSERS

The Pampa Independent School District will receive sealed proposals in the Business Office at 321 W. Albert, Pampa, Texas 79065, until 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 23, 2010 for Athletic Supplies and Equipment. For specifications or additional information please call Betty Meadows, Purchasing Director at (806)669-4700. E-31 Feb. 5, 7, 2010

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

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

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

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13 Bus. Opp.

GREAT Investment opportunity Howardwick Convenience store. 665-1875, 806-383-1985.

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21 Help Wanted

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

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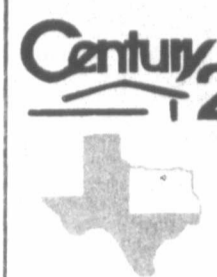
104 Lots 6 Lots for sale, 709 Jordan St., Pampa, TX. Call 806-559-9822.

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3 Cypress Point	\$519,900	4/2.5/3 - 3179 SF/GCAD
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2701 Beech Ln	\$177,500	4/3.5/2 - 3710 SF/GCAD
2518 Evergreen	\$172,900	3/2/2 - 2331 SF/GCAD
1301 Mary Ellen	\$162,500	4/2.75/2 - 2900 SF/GCAD
1221 N. Christine	\$160,000	5/2.5/2 - 3087 SF/GCAD
2706 Duncan	\$155,000	3/2.5/2 - 2204 SF/GCAD
2314 Fr	\$149,900	3/1.75/2 - 1895 SF/GCAD
1819 Evergreen	\$145,000	4/1.75.75/2 - 2315 SF/GCAD
2235 Christine	\$139,000	3/2.5/1 - 2326 SF/GCAD
1810 Beech Ln	\$133,500	3/2/2 - 2254 SF/GCAD
2720 Seminole	\$133,599	3/2/2 - 1416 SF/GCAD
2207 N Chestnut	\$125,000	3/1.75/1 - 1950 SF/Measured
1301 Charles	\$119,900	4/2/2 - 1732 SF/GCAD
2020 Christine	\$117,500	3/1/3 - 1607 SF/GCAD
1836 N Evergreen	\$103,900	3/1.75/2 - 1716 SF/GCAD
1826 Willston	\$103,000	4/2/2 - 2590 SF/GCAD
2139 N Dogwood	\$89,000	3/2/2 - 1680 SF/GCAD
2236 Dogwood	\$79,900	3/1.5/1 - 1264 SF/GCAD
1445 N Russell	\$65,000	3/1.75/2 - 1504 SF/GCAD
700 Somerville	\$65,000	3/1.75/0 - 1660 SF/GCAD
1715 Willston	\$58,000	3/1.5/1 - 1634 SF/GCAD
1325 Garland	\$49,900	2/1/cpt - 762 SF/GCAD
Chaumont	\$35,000	Lots 1 & 2 Block 2

LAMAR SCHOOL DISTRICT Southwest

1048 Neel	\$40,000	3/1.75/1 - 1277 SF/GCAD
411 Ward	\$25,000	2/1/0 - 723 SF/GCAD

TRAVIS SCHOOL DISTRICT West and Northwest

2132 Lynn	\$149,000	3/1.75/2 - 2484 SF/GCAD
2143 Sumner	\$115,000	4/3/2 - 1925 SF/GCAD
2120 Lynn	\$112,000	3/1.75/2 - 1872 SF/GCAD
1916 Lynn	\$97,000	4/2/2 - 2258 SF/GCAD
1801 N Zimmers	\$92,500	3/1.75/2 - 1426 SF/GCAD
1818 N Nelson	\$85,000	3/2/1 - 2941 SF/GCAD
1100 Willow	\$72,000	3/1.50/3 - 1146 SF/GCAD
1929 Zimmers	\$69,900	3/1.75/2 - 1258 SF/GCAD
2101 N Wells	\$69,900	3/1.75/2 - 1435 SF/GCAD
1801 N Banks	\$63,500	3/1.50/1 - 1196 SF/GCAD

WILSON SCHOOL DISTRICT Southeast

532 N Red Deer	\$92,000	3/1.75/2 - 1846 SF/GCAD
512 Red Deer	\$89,900	3/1.75/1 - 1536 SF/GCAD
1128 Terrace	\$45,000	2/1/1 - 1140 SF/GCAD

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14140 1/4 McLean	\$89,500	35.8 Acres 2 Miles East of McLean
614 Gardner, Borger	\$70,500	3/2/2 - 1350 SF/HCAD
14140 1/4 McLean	\$70,000	3/2/0 - 2176 SF/GCAD
1023 Hedgecok, Borger	\$59,900	3/2/2 - 1580 SF/HCAD
7917 Tumbleweed, Lefors	\$44,900	3/1.75/2 - 1678 SF/GCAD
1108 Emore, Borger	\$44,900	3/2/0 - 1769 SF/HCAD
403 Danube, Borger	\$35,000	1/2.5/2 - 1342 SF/HCAD
801 S Grimes WD	\$34,900	3/2/2 - 1400 SF/CCAD
412 S Grimes, WD	\$34,250	4/1/2 - 1333 SF/CCAD
502 E 4th, Clarendon	\$33,900	3/1.75/2 - 1845 SF/DCAD
1011 Keith, Borger	\$16,900	3/1/0 - 1215 SF/HCAD

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21 Help Wanted

SONIC Drive-In is now accepting applications for dependable, mature, enthusiastic, friendly crew members for all shifts, all positions. Apply in person at 1404 N. Hobart. EOE.



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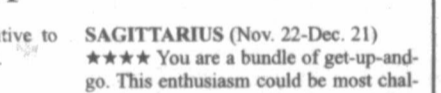
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Daily Horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, Feb. 8, 2010.
This year, you want to make a difference, yet you will have several hurdles to jump over. Friends surround you and support you in your actions and decisions. You'll come up with unique solutions, especially if you have several wise advisers or supporters. If you are single, you draw several new potential suitors. Think first about the type of relationship you want when sorting through your "options"! Then you will make the right decision. If you are attached, you are opening up to a new period in which you both need to stretch your wings. SAGITTARIUS is a friend indeed.
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)
***** Changes occur with a great deal of ease. The unexpected happens. Follow through on what needs to evolve, in your opinion. Your creativity emerges when connecting with someone in the know. Tonight: Get into the moment.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
*** How you deal with someone and the decisions you make could mark your relationship for the long-term. Someone could do the unexpected out of the blue, forcing you to reconsider that particular association. Tonight: Have a long-overdue discussion.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
*** Others run with the ball. Though you might not like what happens, know where you are heading in a critical conversation. If you want to know more or

grow past a limitation, be sensitive to feedback. Tonight: Out and about.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
*** Work directly with associates. Understanding evolves to a new level. Recognize what actions are needed in order to maintain a straight path and to avoid all distractions, for your sake. Realize what is going on behind the scenes. Tonight: Squeeze in some exercise.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
***** Your creativity emerges when dealing with someone you care about. Review a matter that needs more feedback. You feel as if you don't have the right answers. Open up to talks. Your sense of humor could stun someone.
Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
*** Stay centered, and know what is happening. Your sense of humor comes out when dealing with family. Understand that someone might not be sharing everything. This person could be in your family. Tonight: Happy at home.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
***** Feedback is always important. Take the lead in a dialogue, knowing full well where this conversation is going. Be willing to dialogue and move past a problem. Understanding will emerge as a result. Be on top of your game. Tonight: Out and about.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
*** Be aware of how much you have to offer and why you are at the point that you are. Money isn't the only way to measure self-worth. Do more thinking as you attempt to be more aware of what is being offered. Tonight: Treat yourself on the way home.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
***** You are a bundle of get-up-and-go. This enthusiasm could be most challenging to many people. Let your hair down, and worry less about others. Information heads in your direction. Listen and share more. Tonight: The world is your oyster.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
*** Take your time sorting through information. Observe the unexpected as it occurs. You could be taken aback by all the alternatives that surface. Think positively when dealing with a child or a long-term situation. Tonight: Take some long-needed personal time.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
***** Greet a meeting with a smile. Others clearly want your support and will listen. Know when you are on overload and can do no more. Review several suggestions. If need be, play devil's advocate. You'll come up with answers. Tonight: Where the action is.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
***** Take charge and handle a situation directly. Sometimes you act in an unexpected manner, which tosses others into a tizzy. Your instincts guide you in a new situation. You might be deceiving yourself. Tonight: A must appearance.
BORN TODAY
Novelist Jules Verne (1828), newscaster Ted Koppel (1940), composer John Williams (1932)
Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at www.jacquelinebigar.com
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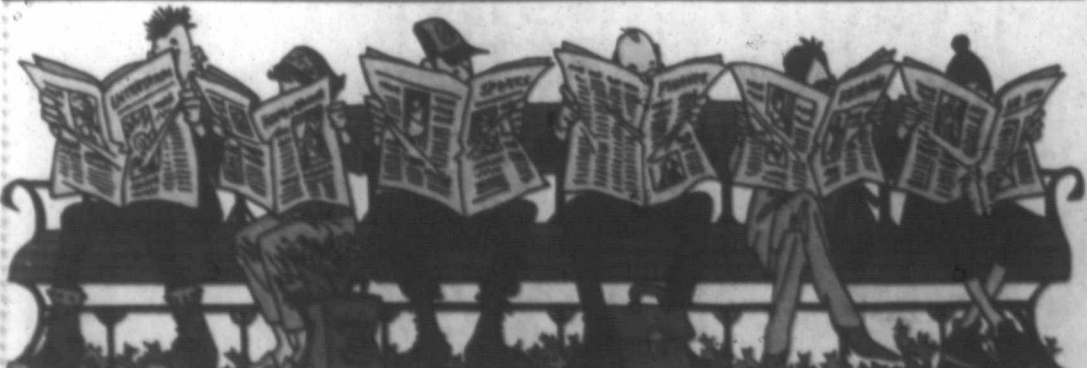
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2011 Mary Ellen	179,500	3/2.5	2730
2600 Dogwood	169,000	3/2	2300
2521 Dogwood	169,900	3/2	2167
2132 Mary Ellen	158,000	3/3	2728
1907 Evergreen	134,900	3/1.75	2075
1601 N. Christy	125,000	4/3/2	2000
1237 Christine	118,000	4/2.75	2872
1528 Dwight	120,500	3/2	1498
2140 Chestnut	115,000	3/1.75	1766
1129 Terry	102,000	4/2	2113
1100 Christine	98,000	3/2	1724
1806 N. Nelson	75,900	3/2	1130
600 W. 8th White Deer	74,900	3/1	1169
2214 Duncan	69,900	3/2	1092
1024 Christine	59,900	2/1	1887
2241 Hamilton	57,000	3/1	972
400 Doucette	55,000	3/1.75	1176
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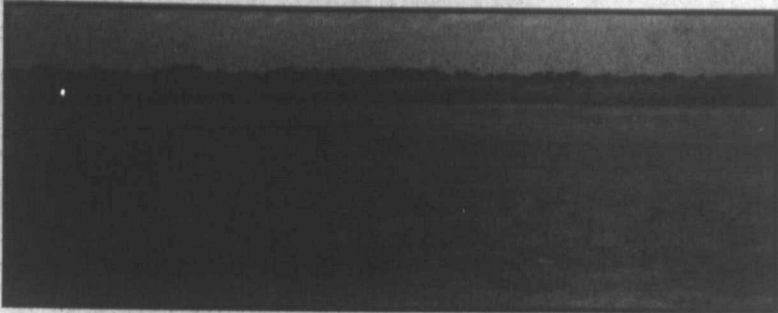
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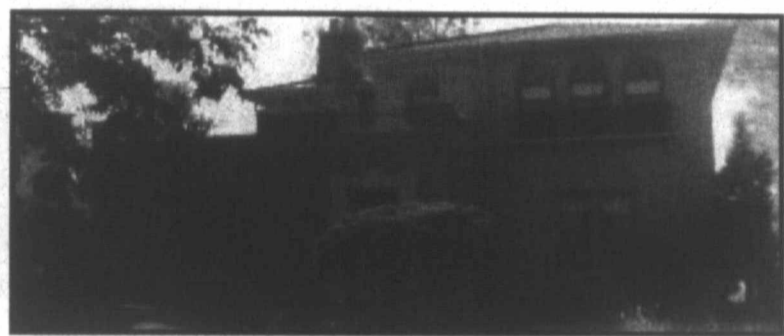
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MLS-098519



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201 N Wells St. - Lots
1525 Christy - 3 bed, 1.75 bath, great floor plan, isolated master
405 S Houston - 3 bed; 1 bath, 1 car garage, brick home

403 S Williston, White Deer - 3-4 bedrooms, 2 bath, 2 story
2101 N Lynn - 3 bed, 1.75 bath, corner lot, RV Parking, Storage Buildings
2100 N Russell - 3 bed, 2 bath, corner lot, storm cell, newer privacy fence
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Hutchison finds DC, Texas politics differ

HOUSTON (AP) — Rarely do Texas senators try to trade in their Capitol Hill clout to become governor of the Lone Star State.

Sam Houston made the switch in 1859. Sen. Price Daniel did it in 1957.

That's the entire list. Half a century later, Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison is hoping to follow in the footsteps of those two Texas legends. But she is learning that her skills in the capital's corridors of power have been a mixed blessing in the current Republican gubernatorial primary race against incumbent Rick Perry and conservative insurgent Debra Medina.

Perry is trying to turn Hutchison's 17 years of delivering billions of dollars in spending projects to Texas into a political albatross in a volatile election year that already has seen anti-Washington sentiment propel a Republican outsider to an upset Senate victory in Massachusetts.

"People are so angry and scared for our country's future that they're just saying Washington is bad and everybody there is bad," the former Houston state representative and state treasurer said recently. "People are not saying, 'She's gone to Washington to fight for us.'"

In past years, Hutchison's endorsements by prominent national Republicans, such as former President George H.W. Bush, former Vice President Dick Cheney, former Secretary of State James A. Baker III and former House Majority Leader Dick Army, all of whom boast deep Texas ties, would have been an unalloyed political plus. But this time around, Hutchison's backing by longtime Washington insiders only underscores her links to the nation's capital.

Fresh scrutiny of Hutchison's legislative priorities has thrown the 66-year-old lawmaker on the defensive as she courts the conservative Republican voters who will decide the outcome of the March 2 GOP primary.

"If you're explaining your record, you're losing and she's explaining," said Cal Jillson, a political scientist at Southern Methodist University.

Perry repeatedly has tweaked Hutchison for backing the \$700 billion

bailout for Wall Street firms in the fall of 2008. She said she did it as an act of loyalty to then-President George W. Bush, who asked her to help prevent a national economic meltdown. And her campaign is quick to point out that Perry co-authored a bipartisan letter backing Bush's call for a financial industry rescue.

But rather than simply playing defense on spending issues, Hutchison points with pride to the \$2.3 billion in Texas earmarks she has obtained over the last two years.

Among the projects delivered by the senator are highway construction, NASA funding and expansion of Fort Hood and other military installations.

Her inside-the-Beltway maneuvering has paid off for Houston, as well, said Hutchison. She ticks off a long list of area projects, including federal support for Houston Metro, the Port of Houston, the Academy of Medicine, Engineering and Science of Texas and Tier One medical centers.

But Hutchison's Texas track record a plus in her 2000 and 2006 re-election races suddenly has become a liability.

"Politicians usually benefit from claiming credit for federal spending in their states," said Rice University political scientist Robert Stein. "But federal spending does not help you with Republican primary voters who don't want you spending their money."

On most issues, Hutchison has been a conventional conservative, voting with the majority of Republican colleagues 89 percent of the time. She has been a fervent backer of Pentagon spending and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. She consistently has supported tax cuts and opposes government regulation and expansion of federal powers. Last year, she resisted President Barack Obama's economic stimulus package and the auto industry bailout.

Hutchison's anti-Obama push has led her to vote against some of her pet Texas causes, including NASA. Last year, she opposed a \$448 billion spending bill that included \$18.7 billion for the space agency.

It is Hutchison's detours from GOP orthodoxy,

mostly on social issues, that have earned her the "moderate" moniker a label she flatly rejects. Perry has blasted her support for the 1973 Supreme Court ruling upholding a woman's right to abortion, her support for some embryonic stem cell research, her vote to expand the State Children's Health Insurance Program and her support for a law giving sex-discrimination victims more time to file employment discrimination claims.

Asked why she wants to be governor, Hutchison sounds like a policy wonk. She said she wants to move to Austin to combat a 30 percent high school drop out rate that imperils Texas' ability to attract next-generation jobs. She promised to revamp the transportation department, clear urban traffic congestion and kill the Trans-Texas Corridor.

Before long, she turned toward the 10-year incumbent, promising to end alleged "cronyism and mismanagement" that Perry has used to "treat Texas like his personal kingdom."

Allies say Hutchison sees her long-planned race for governor postponed for four years to allow Perry to run unopposed in the 2006 primary as the culmination of a distinguished political career. Instead, amid a national anti-Washington frenzy, the senator so skilled at bringing home the bacon has become mired in a tit-for-tat among three conservative Republicans in a contentious primary.

"She thought she would come home to build coalitions of Republicans and Democrats to achieve big solutions for big problems," said one longtime supporter. "But she's had to throw away that game plan to run the race she has to run to win."



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El Nino drowning Texas wildfire threat

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — The threat of wildfires across Texas this winter is low and will remain so as long as the El Nino weather pattern persists.

Texas Forest Service spokesman Mark Stanford said rain and snow across the state the past several months will keep vegetation and grasses wet through winter.

El Nino is characterized by unusually warm temperatures in the equatorial

waters of the Pacific Ocean.

The weather pattern began last fall, after a nearly two-year drought that cost an estimated \$3.6 billion in crop and livestock losses in the nation's No. 2 agriculture state.

It's been declared the driest 24-month period in recorded history in parts of the state and the worst drought in history in a handful of counties.

Palin e-mails suggest husband's role in governing

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) — E-mails obtained by The Associated Press suggest Todd Palin was intimately involved in decisions related to state government when his wife was governor of Alaska.

The e-mails show Todd Palin was included in messages on a wide range of government and political issues. Aides to then-Gov. Sarah Palin regularly sought Todd Palin's advice on such things as state board appointments.

In one e-mail, Todd Palin advocates having an Alaska newspaper removed from a press release list after Sarah Palin complained about an editor's fairness.

The e-mails, released to AP after a public records request, were accompanied by a 19-page list detailing those withheld, citing executive privilege, privacy or other reasons.

Valentine Giveaway

Go to each participating downtown business and get their "special" stamp. Once your entry is complete with stamps fill in your name, address and phone number and drop it into one of the boxes located at each participating store. A winner will be drawn February 15th at Rheans Diamond Shop. Entries must be turned in by 9:00am, February 15.

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