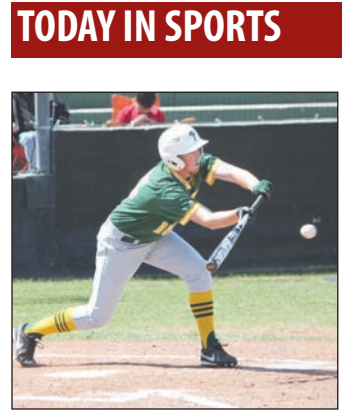


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The PAMPA NEWS



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 \$1.50 weekend 38¢ subscription
 Harvesters go for first district title in 6 years Baseball action photos from the season | p10

Getting the power back on



Photo by Timothy P. Howsare and Photo by Garrett Morton, Xcel Energy
 Above, several of the Xcel linemen and foremen who worked Tuesday and Wednesday to get power back on after outages in Pampa and surrounding areas. Standing from left, Kurt Buckner, lineman; Cody Cramer, lineman; Al Ferguson, service foreman; Bob Cook, line foreman; and Alberto Portalatin, apprentice lineman. On truck from left, Jack Loggins, lineman; Jacob Wichert, third-year apprentice; Garrett Morton, fourth-year apprentice. Below, power line damage near Pampa early Tuesday.

Tuesday's storm was one of the worst for Xcel Energy linemen.

By TIMOTHY P. HOWSARE
 thowsare@thepampanews.com
 Galloping might be fun if you're practicing for the rodeo. But if you're a lineman for the electric company, "galloping" — the up and down motion of power lines during strong winds — can be your worst nightmare. That was what crews from Xcel Energy were faced with Tuesday as they tried to repair lines and get the power back on for customers in Pampa and surrounding areas.

The storm that began brewing after Monday's pleasant, sunny weather was in full force by the wee hours Tuesday morning. The convergence of rapidly falling temperatures, a brisk north wind and moisture freezing on the lines caused the lines to flap up and down in a rolling motion, which in turn caused breakage in cross arms and conductors. "It is unbelievable how violent it gets," said Al Ferguson, an Xcel service foreman at the Pampa Service Center on South Marie Street. Ferguson added the violent winds also caused the lines to bump together, making them short and trip breakers. "In the 35 years I've been work-



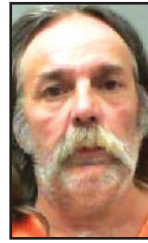
XCEL cont. on page 3

Oil equipment thief booked Wednesday

Horton being held in Gray County Jail on \$15,000 bond.

By SASHA HELLER
 sheller@thepampanews.com

Michael Eugene Horton, 51, of Pampa, was arrested Wednesday night by the Gray County Sheriff's Office on two counts of theft of property — greater than \$1,500 and less than \$20,000 and one count of possession of a controlled substance — less than 1 gram.



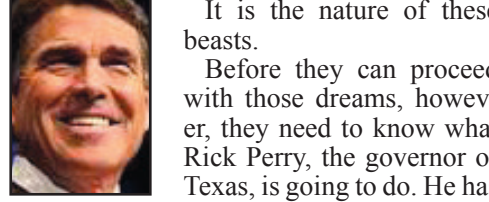
Michael Eugene Horton
 According to the police report, Horton stole oil equipment from an oil field located near Pampa with the intent to resell the equipment for profit. GCSO Lt. Terry Cox said the mainstream market for steel is very high right now so there is a demand on the black market for used oil equipment like the kind Horton is accused of stealing. Black market buyers will then melt the equipment down to make the steel malleable again and able to be reused.

Cox compared the situation to thieves who break into vacant homes and steal the copper wire out of the walls to be resold for cash. "All of the reported missing items have been recovered by the Gray County Sheriff's Office," Cox said. "In this case the items that were recovered could be identified by the owner, unlike so many other cases." Cox then shared a tip for owners on how they can protect their oil equipment. "If at all practical, place some type of identifiers on tools, equipment and other easily stolen or pawn-able items," Cox said. Horton is currently being held in the Gray County Jail on \$15,000 bond.

Perry: Will he stay or will he go?

By ROSS RAMSEY
 The Texas Tribune

Every morning, people in Texas politics stand in front of their sinks, brushing their teeth, staring at someone they think could someday be the president of the United States.



Gov. Rick Perry
 It is the nature of these beasts. Before they can proceed with those dreams, however, they need to know what Rick Perry, the governor of Texas, is going to do. He has said he will lay out his political plans in June. He has made the noises you might make if you were a governor who didn't want to become a lame duck while the Legislature is in town, saying he's thinking about another run for the job he has held since late 2000, and would be open to another run for the Republican nomination for president in 2016. Most of the statewide officials in Texas have their hearts set on promotion, and most of those opportunities depend on the governor opening a spot and triggering a civic

PERRY cont. on page 3

HAVING LUNCH FOR THE CAUSE

The Pampa United Way kicked off its 2013 campaign at the Dixie Cafe Thursday with 20 percent of the proceeds from every meal being donated to the agency. "The turn out was very good," said Rodney Kelley after the lunch rush. Kelley owns the restaurant on Perryton Parkway with his mother, Brenda Donaldson. Supporting the cause by having lunch at the Dixie were, from left, Teresa Conner, Donna Miller, Becky Watson and Olivia Luna. All four work at Pampa Meals on Wheels, a United Way agency.



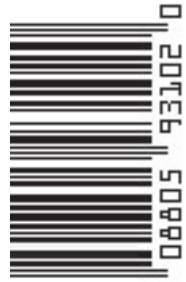
Photo by Timothy P. Howsare

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PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Saturday	Sunday
		
High 73 Low 43	High 74 Low 47	High 83 Low 52

Today: Partly cloudy with a high of 73. Twenty percent chance of rain. Wind west at 13 mph. Sunrise at 6:57 a.m.

Tonight: Partly cloudy with a low of 43. Ten percent chance of rain. Wind east at 12 mph. Sunset at 8:26 p.m.

Saturday: Partly cloudy with a high of 74. No chance of rain. Wind east at 8 mph. Sunset at 6:56 a.m.

Saturday night: Clear skies with a low of 47. No chance of rain. Wind south at 10 mph. Sunset at 8:27 p.m.

Sunday: Partly cloudy with a high of 83. No chance of rain. Wind south at 15 mph. Sunrise at 6:55 a.m.

Sunday night: Partly cloudy with a high of 52. No chance of rain. Wind south at 15 mph. Sunset at 8:28 p.m.

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Obituaries

Berlener Randon



Berlener Randon

Berlener Randon, 99, died April 20, 2013, in Amarillo.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 27, 2013, in Carmichael-Whately Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Bob Davis, pastor of Progressive Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will follow at Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Randon was born on March 4, 1914 in Beckville to the proud parents of James Garfield and Parlee Hicks. She attended schools in Beckville. Mrs. Randon accepted the Lord as her personal

savior at an early age. She moved to Pampa in 1940 and married Ted Randon in 1952 in Midland. She worked at the Modern Beauty Salon for several years. Mrs. Randon was a charter member of Progressive Baptist Church. She will be remembered as a loving mother and a lifelong devoted servant to the Lord. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ted Randon, her parents, two brothers, Othel Hicks and Vernon Hicks; and a sister, Odessa Witherspoon.

Survivors include her son, James Marcus Randon, and wife Bobbie of Amarillo; a grandson, Christopher Cash, of Lubbock; sister-in-law, Evora Hicks of Midland; and a host of nieces and nephews.

Memorials will be made to the Southside Senior Citizens Center, 438 W. Crawford, Pampa, TX 79065.

Sign the online register at Carmichael-whatley.com.

Correction

Thursday's edition reported that the National Day of Prayer on May 2 will include a prayer service at the Jordan Prison Unit. An update emailed today from the Pampa Ministerial Alliance states the prayer service at the prison is canceled. There will be no changes to the noon service at M.K. Brown Memorial Auditorium or the motorcycle ride that begins at 5:30 p.m. with a prayer service following.

Coast Guard: Spark from cleaning caused explosion

MOBILE, Ala. (AP) — Firefighters on Thursday extinguished a huge blaze that erupted hours earlier when two fuel barges exploded, leaving three people with critical burns and forcing the evacuation of crew from a nearby cruise ship.

The cause of the explosions remained under investigation, but investigators believe it was likely from a spark caused by a crew cleaning the barges, Coast Guard Lt. Mike Clausen said.

Firefighters from Mobile and Coast Guard officials responded to the pair of Wednesday night explosions involving the gas barges in the Mobile River east of downtown. More explosions followed over the next few hours.

Authorities say three people were brought to the University of South Alabama Medical Center for burn-related injuries. The three remained in critical condition Thursday morning, hospital spokesman Bob Lowry said.

Across the river, workers were evacuated from the Carnival Triumph, the cruise ship that became disabled in the Gulf of Mexico in February before it was towed to Mobile's port for repairs.

Alan Waugh, who lives at the Fort Conde Inn across the river from the scene, saw the blasts and said throngs of Carnival employees and others were clustered on streets leading toward the river as authorities evacuated the shipyard.

"It literally sounded like bombs going off around. The sky just lit up in orange and red," he said, "We could smell something in the air, we didn't know if it was gas or smoke." Waugh said he could feel the heat from the explosion and when he came back inside, his partner noticed he had what appeared to be black soot on his face.

Carnival didn't immediately respond to an emailed request for comment late Wednesday.

Video from WALA-TV showed flames engulfing a large section of the barge, and a video that a bystander sent to AL.com showed the fiery explosions and billowing smoke over the river.

Trevell Taylor was at work at Delta Bonds when he heard the blast.

"It was so loud, I just about jumped up under this desk," he said.

Trevell said he next heard sirens from

emergency vehicles and then a second, louder explosion. He turned on the local news and learned of the barge fire.

"It is a scary think anytime you are talking about gasoline and fuel fires. They are lucky more people weren't hurt."

The initial blast took place in a ship channel near the George C. Wallace Tunnel — which carries traffic from Interstate 10 under the Mobile River.

The river runs south past Mobile and into Mobile Bay, which in turn flows into the Gulf of Mexico. The tunnels were still open and operating.

As daybreak approached, the Mobile Fire-Rescue Department's fireboat Phoenix was moved toward the barges, checking to make sure their mooring lines were secured.

Mobile Fire Chief Steve Dean told AL.com he was confident the fire wouldn't spread to nearby industrial properties, including the shipyard where the Carnival cruise ship is docked.

Huffman said the ship is directly across the river from the incident — about two football fields in length.

The barges are owned by Houston-based Kirby Inland Marine, company spokesman Greg Beuerman said.

They were empty and being cleaned at the Oil Recovery Co. facility.

The barges had been carrying a liquid called natural gasoline, meaning there were no additives in the fuel.

By mid-morning Thursday, a hazardous materials team sent to inspect the barges determined that no further hazards exist, the Mobile Fire-Rescue reported.

The explosion comes two months after the 900-foot-long Carnival Triumph was towed to Mobile after becoming disabled on the Gulf during a cruise by an engine room fire, leaving thousands of passengers to endure cold food, unsanitary conditions and power outages for several days. The ship is still undergoing repairs there, with many workers living on board.

Earlier this month, the cruise ship was dislodged from its mooring by a windstorm that also caused, in a separate incident, two shipyard workers to fall into Mobile Bay. While one worker was rescued, the other's body was pulled from the water more than a week later.

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Xcel

Continued From Page 1

ing here I've only seen this happen four or five other times," he said.

Steve Pirtle, supervisor at the Pampa office, said the galloping was occurring on the east-west lines, which were perpendicular to the gusting north wind. As moisture accumulated as ice on the power lines, it created "wings," and the effect of the wind blowing across ice-coated lines was much like when you hold your hand outside your car window while driving and tilt it back and forth.

Since the weather was windy and cold all day Tuesday, it was a challenge for the crews to make much progress. Pirtle said sometimes after a crew repaired damage caused by galloping, they'd go back a half-hour later to check on it and the lines would be down again.

Though the power is always shut off when linemen are working on poles and lines, it was still pretty scary working in Tuesday's weather conditions, Ferguson said.

On Wednesday, as the temperatures warmed and winds calmed down, outage restoration was wrapped up in the eastern and northeastern Texas Panhandle around 6 p.m.

"Our goal was 5 p.m. Wednesday and we nearly met it except for a few stragglers," he said.

Pirtle said the first priority during an outage is to get power back to the main feeders out of the substations, then they move onto the tap lines, which are closer to individual customers.

That's not easy to do in the Panhandle, Pirtle said.

"The logistics of getting power back on here are difficult because we are so open and spread out," he said.

The phones start ringing

Pirtle was in Denver on company business when

he started getting outage calls around 3 a.m.

Xcel's dispatch office in Lubbock also was monitoring the call volume, he said.

As the calls increased, Pirtle said he contacted Wallace Hall, service director for Southwestern Public Service's Panhandle district.

"I called him and said, 'We need some help,'" Pirtle said.

Southwestern Public Service is Xcel's subsidiary for the Panhandle.

Another supervisor was called in for Pampa until Pirtle got back from Denver, where he said it was "snowing like crazy."

Pirtle oversees 16 workers, and an additional 42 were brought in from other Xcel sites to assist with power restoration.

Many came from Amarillo, but there also were linemen from Plainview, Lubbock, Hobbs, N.M. and Carlsbad, N.M. working out of the Pampa office on South Marie Street Tuesday and Wednesday, he said.

The crews started working around 4 a.m., Tuesday and most put in a 16-hour day.

Then many were back to work at 8 a.m., Wednesday.

Typically, Pirtle said, his linemen work from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday with someone always on call during the off hours.

Power comes back

At 8:45 p.m., Tuesday, about 1,350 Pampa customers were still without power. Outages in nearby cities totaled 850 in Perryton, 250 in Borger and eight in Dumas.

Twenty four hours later, Ferguson was checking the computer screen in his office.

"There wasn't a single outage on the screen, so I went home at 9:30," he said.

Pirtle said it's days like Tuesday that truly test the mettle of a lineman.

"This is the time when your job skills really come out," he said. "You are put in situations where you really have to be on your game."

Perry

Continued From Page 1

version of the fracking boom.

If he stays, the calculations are different, with those ambitious — and in several cases, aging — politicians considering challenges to incumbents instead of races for open seats.

The governor himself could be ripe for a challenge. Change has been known to work as a political slogan. Other Republicans — Attorney General Greg Abbott and Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst — have the money to run if they so choose. Speculation about Perry's plans has made it clear that while he might leave, he will probably not be forced out by political circumstances. It's up to him.

The arguments?

He is running

He says he might. That's been the early sign every year since 1997, when Perry was the agriculture commissioner and initiating a run for lieutenant governor. Maybe he won't this time, but it would be a first.

He remains popular among Republicans. The governor can raise money and has not given his voters a reason to turn him out. As he told WFAA-TV recently, "Why would you want to change?"

He needs a victory. This is the idea that a governor coming off a failed presidential run needs to show national Republicans that he is politically viable, popular at home and capable of raising the money it takes to run a state race, much less a national one.

It's better to run for president from the Governor's Mansion. It worked for George W. Bush, didn't it? Important people return calls from governors that they might not return from former governors.

He's not running

It would be an election with an asterisk. Texans might ask why they are electing a governor to a term that he wants to end in two years with another presidential run. In the alternative, they might wonder why anyone in his right mind would want to be governor for 18 years, which is the mark Perry would hit at the end of another term. Maybe he will call for a change before the voters do.

Losing an election in 2014 would pop the balloon. The governor, if he wants to run for president again, starts at a disadvantage because of his previous showing. A loss in his home state after 24 years as a statewide official would be a hard sell, especially if the other Republican candidates mention it every five minutes or so.

It is better to run for president without the burden of a job. Leaving office at the beginning of 2015, when this term is over, would free the governor to go on the paid speaking circuit, putting money in his own bank account while mingling with people who might consider supporting his next campaign for the presidency. It would also remove any risks associated with a 2015 legislative session, from bad bills to political fights to budget problems.

The team has disbanded. Most of the people who have helped Perry win that string of six statewide elections have dispersed. They run agencies, work as lobbyists or do political consulting. The tight teamwork that has marked successful Perry campaigns is in question, and that might be a sign that 2010 was the governor's last statewide run.

There's something for everybody else to think about, while they're brushing their teeth.

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Autism awareness community fundraiser Saturday

STAFF REPORT

The second annual Autism Awareness Fundraiser and Walk is set for Saturday at Central Park. Walk registration begins at 10 a.m. and the fee to walk is \$10.

The walk will begin at 11 a.m. There will be \$1 burgers and 50-cent hot dogs.

Live entertainment from the Mark Patterson Band will be provided. There is be local vendors, a bake sale, a bounce house, face

painting, a silent auction and the MAXX Mobile GameTheater.

The event is hosted by the FAPE for Kids, Corp. Proceeds go to FAPE, Amarillo Autism in Action and Southwest AM-BUCS.

For more information, visit Fapeforkids.vipweb.com or call Jami Rodriguez at 806-664-1188.

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Bush and Clinton families, on stage in Texas

By **KEN THOMAS**
Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — Together on stage, the two families who have dominated American politics for the past two decades joined Thursday to pay tribute to the opening of George W. Bush's presidential center. Whether the families will have another act — in 2016 — was the unspoken subtext.

President George H.W. Bush, frail and seated in a wheel chair, beamed with pride, thanking the audience for honoring "our son." President Bill Clinton, who defeated the elder Bush twenty years ago, joked that he had become the "black sheep son" of the Bush family.

George W. Bush, standing before his gleaming new center, observed that it was the "first time in American history that parents have seen their son's presidential library." Bush said his father taught him "how to be a president. Before that he showed me how to be a man."

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Viewpoints

The PAMPA NEWS

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806-669-2525 • Fax: 806-669-2520

ReDonn Woods

Publisher

rwoods@thepampanews.com

Timothy P. Howsare

Editor

thowsare@thepampanews.com

Zachary Green

Sports Editor

zgreen@thepampanews.com

Sasha Heller

Reporter

sheller@thepampanews.com

Dana Whinery

Advertising Representative

dwhinery@thepampanews.com

Callie Odell

Advertising Representative

codell@thepampanews.com

Carrie Hair

Bookkeeper

bookkeeper@thepampanews.com

The baby-faced bomber

Sometimes a picture speaks volumes. Sometimes it's outright deceptive. The picture of "Bomber No. 2" didn't look a bit like a mass murderer. A sweet-faced college kid, the former lifeguard, the nice young man described by classmates

and friends. It couldn't be. There must be some outside organization calling the shots. An international conspiracy, perhaps. Brain-washing.

Or maybe it was just a deceptive picture of a cold-blooded murderer.

He and his brother put bombs next to children.

One of those children was murdered.

In a court of law, innocence is presumed.

That is a rule of law, not a finding of fact. For those of us who watched, watched over and over, the proof appears to be nothing less than overwhelming. Others may have been involved. Further investigation is absolutely required.

But I for one have no doubt that the defendant is not a baby-faced college student, that he is no one's victim, that he is responsible for heinous crimes. Responsibility is not an exacting standard in criminal law. Did he know what he was doing? Did he understand that there was a bomb in that backpack, and that bombs kill people and terrorize cities? Whatever other pressures may have been at work, however influenced he was by religion or his brother or anyone else, if he knew what he was doing, if he understood the nature of his conduct, that is enough to make him responsible. But that does not make him an enemy combatant.

The calls by politicians to treat him as one, led by Sen. Lindsey Graham, a lawyer who should know better, demonstrate the triumph of politics over law. According to Graham, speaking on the Senate floor, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev's "ties to radical Islamic thought" and his Chechen heritage should justify holding him as an "enemy combatant" subject to trial by a military tribunal. Ties to "radical Islamic

thought" do not make a person an enemy combatant. Ties to thought are, in fact, at the core of the protection afforded by the First Amendment. Actions are another matter. But there is absolutely no evidence that this man was a member of al-Qaida or the Taliban, or that his acts were directed by foreign enemies. He is an American citizen who (allegedly) killed innocent people and would have (absent the brilliance of the Boston hospital trauma system) killed many more -- on American soil using devices made in America.

Indeed, even Graham acknowledges this. He just wants him to be treated as an enemy combatant until proved otherwise. Nothing in the law or the Constitution supports this. It is totally unnecessary. The evidence against Tsarnaev is overwhelming. He wouldn't need to say a word to government authorities to be convicted in an American court. The only consequence off not giving him Miranda rights is that his statements might not be admissible in a criminal trial, which, frankly, won't matter. Anyone who thinks a Boston jury will be unduly sympathetic (unlike military officers) is just plain wrong. Indeed, for my money, military officers -- who are more accustomed to seeing death on the fields of battle than the rest of us are to seeing destruction and devastation in Copley Square -- might have an easier time focusing solely on the evidence admitted at trial.

In our ridiculously polarized media and political culture, we have a tendency to see everything in extremes, which means that more often than not we're wrong. Dzhokhar Tsarnaev is not a baby-faced innocent, even if that is how he looks in the pictures that flashed on the screen every minute. He placed a bomb in the middle of hundreds of innocent people, children included. He is also not an enemy combatant by any definition, nor do we need to treat him as one in order to ensure that justice is done.

To find out more about Susan Estrich and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at Creators.com.

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Culture Code

It's Friday night, what's going on?

So, it's Friday night, and I'll likely be sitting at home as I have every single Friday since I moved to Pampa, save for the few times I've driven back to



SASHA HELLER

New Mexico to see friends. I can't say I'm particularly thrilled about that plan, but it's been a bit challenging finding things here in town that I'm interested in that I can get into.

I'm not a big drinker and have never felt at home in bars — nightclubs and dance clubs are more my style. I've never been a huge fan of Country/Western music. Actually, I've only liked one Country song in my life — Tim McGraw's "Don't Take the Girl." And that's because I used to hang out at Roswell Roller Rink (in Atlanta) when I was in junior high and I would skate slow singles and couples with a girl named Inja, and she loved that song. But other than that, even having spent my entire life living in Southern states (except for three months in New Mexico — which is in the Southwest but wouldn't be considered "Southern"), I've just never been a fan.

If I'm going to drink, I'd rather do it in the comfort of my own home, where there aren't any obnoxious, boisterous

drunks spilling drinks on me as they stumble back to their bar stools. I love movies but I just don't have it in my budget to pay first-run movie ticket prices. Especially not when I can go online and find a copy to watch for free that someone has uploaded. The Internet just makes it too easy these days.

I'm not a big gambler so the video poker houses here in town are not attractive to me. If I want to gamble, I'm going to drive the couple of hours to a legitimate casino. I understand why some of Pampa's residents frequent these video poker establishments. It's fun and yes, you can win money — real cash. But that's not for me.

I received one response, just one, to my column that ran last week about Pampa being ready for Dubstep. The one person who called me for more info? A lovely, sweet 84-year-old woman who just loves dancing. She said she attends the Monday Night Dance Club every week at the Senior Citizens Center. She inquired about what Dubstep was, as well as Drum 'n' Bass, and I explained that while I was very pleased she was interested, she probably falls outside the range of the target demographic. Dubstep and Drum 'n' Bass are fairly aggressive, loud styles of dance music — usually found blaring at ultrasonic volumes in day-

glo, glitzy dance clubs or dark, concrete basements. Man, I miss those basement parties.

This brings me to my sincere question — what is there to do for someone like me in Pampa? Or anyone for that matter? What do people do? Does everyone just plop themselves on the couch or the La-Z-Boy and stuff their eyeholes with game shows, dance contests, crime stories and news reports?

Where does everyone go at night? I've cruised the downtown streets at night — which takes about 7 minutes if you drive really, really slow — and it's like a ghost town. Where is everyone?

So that's where I'm at. I'll be at home Friday night, watching the NBA Playoffs because I love basketball. Always have, always will. Same with baseball and football. I am a rare breed — a jock/artist. Usually, someone is either one or the other. But I've always had a dual nature — chalk it up to being born a cusp kid (April 19 falls right on the edge of Aries/Taurus) or it could be my bi-polar disorder. Who knows? I just know what I am, not necessarily who, yet.

Life is a journey, not a destination and I'm loving the road I'm headed down.

Contact Sasha at Sheller@thepampanews.com.



How To Write Us

The Pampa News welcomes letters to the editor. When submitting a letter, please include the writer's name, address and signatures.

We reserve the right to edit letters or not to publish certain letters.

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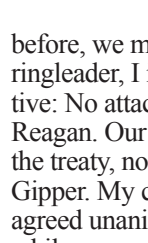
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403 W. Atchison
Pampa, Texas
79065

By E-mail:
thowsare@thepampanews.com

Remembering Howard Phillips

Howard ("Howie") Phillips was unique.

The year was 1987 and the Reagan administration had announced the INF Treaty to limit short-range nukes. Many conservatives were opposed. I elected to host a press conference to make that point publicly.



L. BRENT BOZELL

The night before, we met privately. As ringleader, I issued a directive: No attacks on Ronald Reagan. Our beef was with the treaty, not with the Gipper. My co-conspirators agreed unanimously. But while we were meeting President Reagan was sitting down for an interview with Tom Brokaw and said about conservative opposition, "Some conservatives just believe in the inevitability of

nuclear war."

Bad choice of words. The next morning conservatives were furious, none more than the late Senator Malcolm Wallop, who broadsided the president from the Senate floor.

As we assembled for our press conference, I withdrew my edict. Anyone who felt the need to respond to Reagan had the right to do so. It was decided that three of us would speak on behalf of everyone.

Now here's a little bit of inside baseball about press conferences. It matters not a whit what you say. Reporters cover events but transcribe only soundbites. For speakers vying for coverage, the rule is pretty solid as well: He with the best one-liner wins.

I led off, and my statement contained the sentence that I delivered with brio and knew was sure to stick. Very satisfied, I sat down, but not before introducing Richard Viguerie, the patriarch of

the "New Right" re-birth of the conservative movement. He didn't have a statement, just a little card containing one sentence. His attention-grabber line was twice as good as mine, which he delivered with double the brio. Advantage: Viguerie. We turned the podium over to Howie Phillips.

Within a minute he had delivered his sound bite. Viguerie and I, seated at the head table on either side of the lectern, leaned our chairs back, looked at each other and silently nodded. We knew Phillips had scored the knockout. "Reagan is a useful idiot."

Serious and worried, we told our friend it was time for serious damage control. The options: One, apologize. Whatever your intent, this is perceived as a personal insult and no one, most especially Ronald Reagan, should be insulted by us.

Two, clarify. We know what you *meant*. Lenin

called Soviet sympathizers overseas "useful idiots." What you meant was that Reagan unwittingly is doing the bidding of the Soviets now. Call it a bad choice of words. Re-phrase your point. We should have known better. Phillips met our worried disposition with a beaming, crooked smile and twinkling eyes. "Or three, stand by my words!" he said before erupting in laughter.

Most amazing, this merry band of brothers was just that -- a band. By today's standards, the New Right was never really a movement.

It was a dozen or so leaders, with a dozen or so organizations, with maybe two-dozen dollars to spend. What should have been a blip became a seismic explosion.

L. Brent Bozell III is the president of the Media Research Center.

Black Out Friday

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Come to Harvester Field today to support the baseball team in pursuit of their first district title in six years.
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Orders must be made by Friday, April 26.



Authorities: Pickens' grandson died of heroin use

ASSOCIATED PRESS

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Authorities say the grandson of billionaire T. Boone Pickens died of heroin intoxication after an evening of drug use at a friend's apartment.
The Tarrant County medical examiner's office announced Wednesday that the Jan. 29 death of Thomas "Ty" Boone Pickens IV was accidental.

Medical officials had to wait weeks to receive toxicology and other test results before announcing the cause of death for the 21-year-old, who was a junior at Texas Christian University.
The younger Pickens died at a hospital after being taken there by private vehicle.
Another TCU student was charged with tampering with evidence after police said he removed items from the apartment and hid them from authorities. Police say the evidence included heroin, drug paraphernalia and marijuana.

Police arrest protesters outside Bush library

DALLAS (AP) — Police have arrested at least three people during a protest march in Dallas near the dedication site of the George W. Bush Presidential Center.
The three people were placed in patrol cars Thursday as about 200 people marched and chanted near the campus of Southern Methodist University. Police Lt. A.W. Williams says the three were charged with being a pedestrian in a roadway, a misdemeanor. They were taken to the Dallas County jail.
Demonstrations were restricted to a zone cordoned off by barricades and separated from the center by a

highway.
Other protesters included ex-talk show host Phil Donahue, who was executive producer of the anti-war documentary "Body of War."
Dozens of others wore signs listing the names of those who died in wars launched by the Bush administration.

Charter school pledge bill clears House hurdle

AUSTIN (AP) — Charter schools in Texas would have to offer the pledge of allegiance or a moment of silence each day under a bill given preliminary approval by the House.
The measure overwhelming passed Thursday but not without friction. Republican state Rep. David Simpson wanted to soften the language from asking students to "recite" the pledge to doing so "freely without coercion."

Simpson is among the most prominent tea party members in the Legislature.
He told the House that although he supports students saying the pledge, the U.S. Constitution "requires that we not compel people."
Lawmakers quickly lined up to block Simpson's amendment. Republican Marsha Farney said her bill doesn't compel charter-school students to say the pledge but merely gives them the opportunity.

Senate wants new limits on Major Events Fund

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Senate has voted to place new restrictions on spending from the state's Major Events Trust Fund, which is typically used to help stage large sports events such as car races or Super Bowls.

The Senate bill would bar the state comptroller from pledging money from the fund before all program requirements are met. The bill also prevents money from being spent before the event is held.
It also limits how much could be spent on structural improvements to stadiums, such as a new roof or scoreboard.

Lawmakers have been scrutinizing the fund since Comptroller Susan Combs pledged to spend \$250 million to help stage the Formula One car race in Austin, which began in 2012.
The bill by Sen. Bob Deuell, R-Greenville, now goes to the House.

Singer found shot dead in South Texas

MISSION, Texas (AP) — Authorities say a South Texas singer well known for his ballads, including some about the exploits of Mexican drug cartels, has been found dead.

Hidalgo County Sheriff Lupe Trevino says irrigation workers found the body of Jesus "Chuy" Quintanilla early Thursday in a rural road north of Mission surrounded by citrus groves.
Trevino said Quintanilla appeared to have been shot at least twice in the head. His vehicle was left beside him. Quintanilla's family filed a missing person report Thursday morning after investigators were already on the scene. Quintanilla's family last had contact with him the previous night.

A man who would only give his name as Ramiro said he was friends with Quintanilla and said the singer was noted for his nortena music and ballads, known as corridos.

Mississippi courthouse has sneaky snake invasion

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — Non-venomous snakes are slithering into a Mississippi courthouse this spring, posing no threat but giving workers the creeps.
Five of the brown DeKay's snakes — sometimes called earth snakes — have been found in the Hinds County circuit clerk's basement office since April 8.

A deputy clerk, Kelly Phillips, said Thursday that the largest was a big around as her finger and a few inches long. She didn't stop to measure it. She said the smallest looked like an overgrown earthworm.

Former zookeeper Percy King, who does reptile shows at local schools, went to the courthouse to identify the serpents. He said DeKay's snakes, which eat lizards, worms, crickets and other small bugs, have soft teeth that probably couldn't even break a human's skin.

It's not unusual for DeKay's snakes to sneak into buildings during the springtime as they wake up from hibernation, he said: "A snake that size could squeeze through any little hole."

The Art Deco-style courthouse in downtown Jackson was built in 1930 and is topped by a statue of Moses with the Ten Commandments. The basement has windows, but Phillips said they're tightly sealed.

Phillips said the first time she saw a snake in the office, her brain didn't immediately register what it was.

"It was trucking across the floor," she said, pointing in a diagonal toward rows of heavy rolling cabinets where paper files are stored.

She said she screamed "Snake!" and several co-workers scattered.



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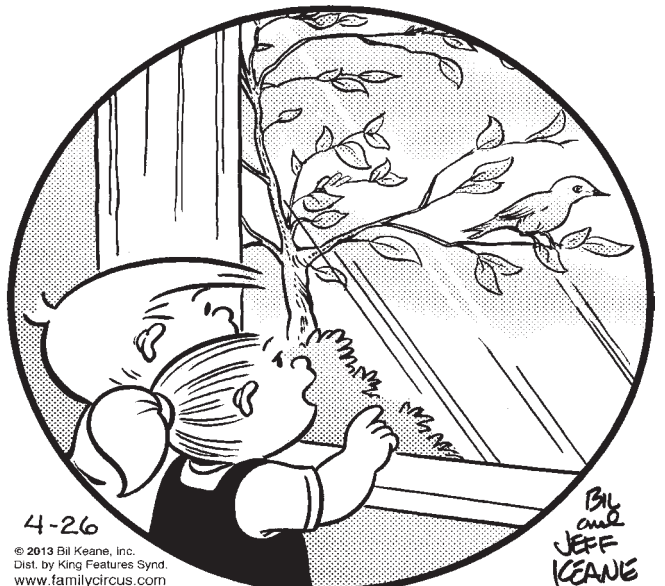
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comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



4-26

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“Whoever came up with the name ‘bluebird’ didn’t try very hard.”

Bil Keane
and
JEFF KEANE

Non Sequitur



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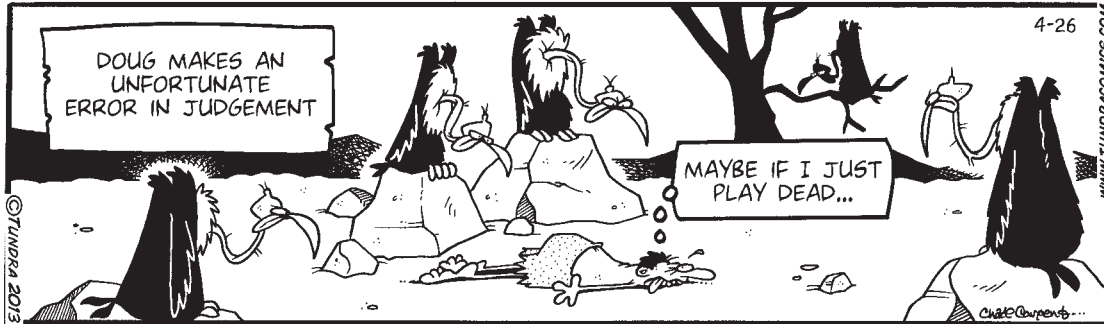
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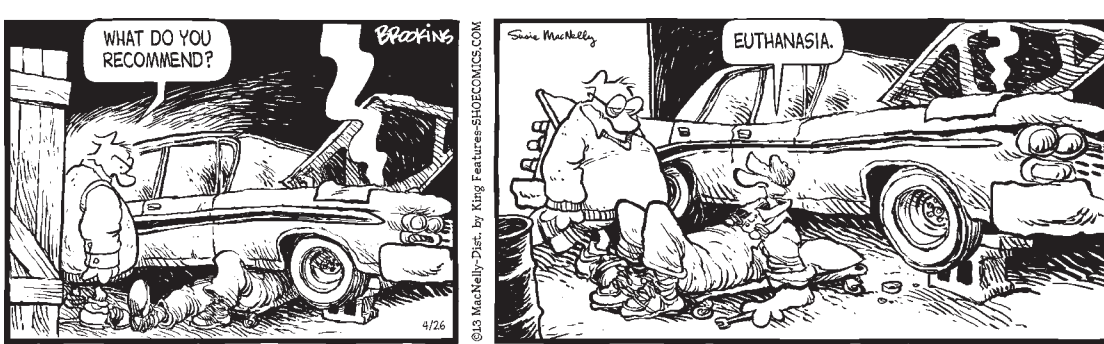
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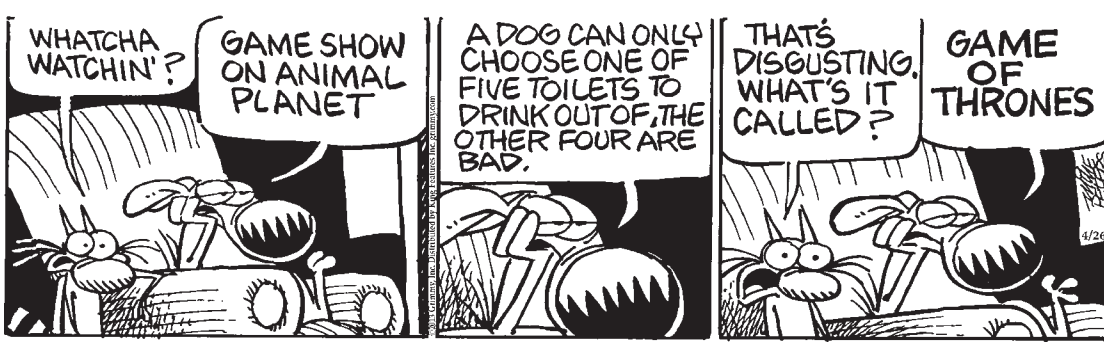


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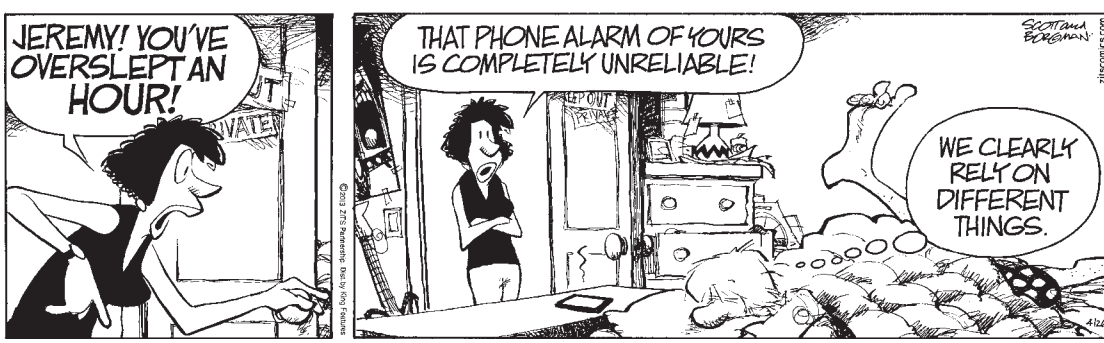
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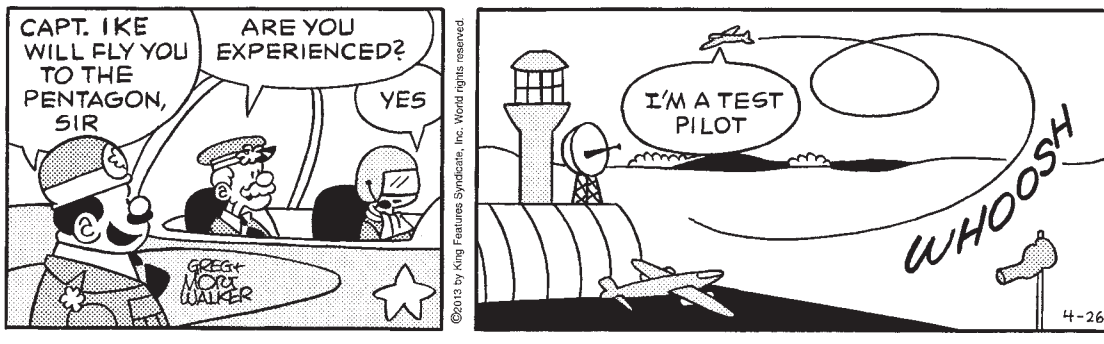
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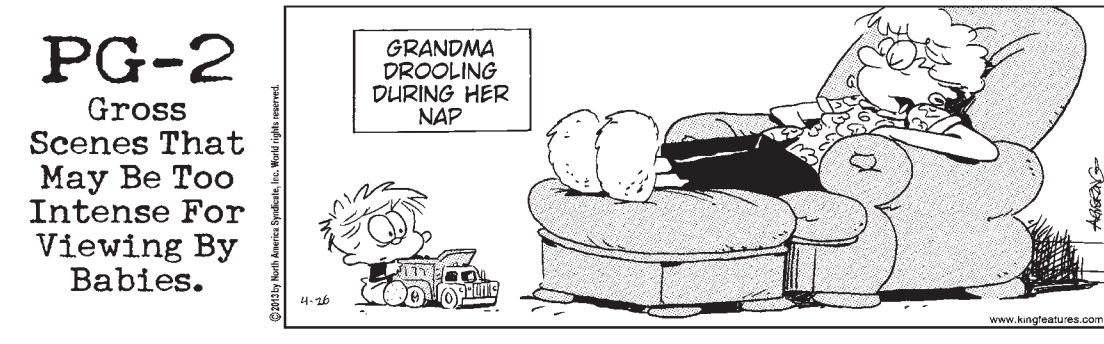
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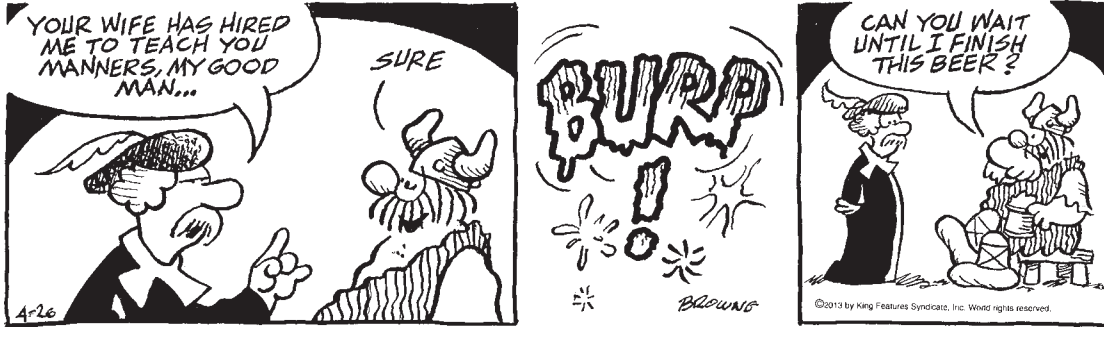
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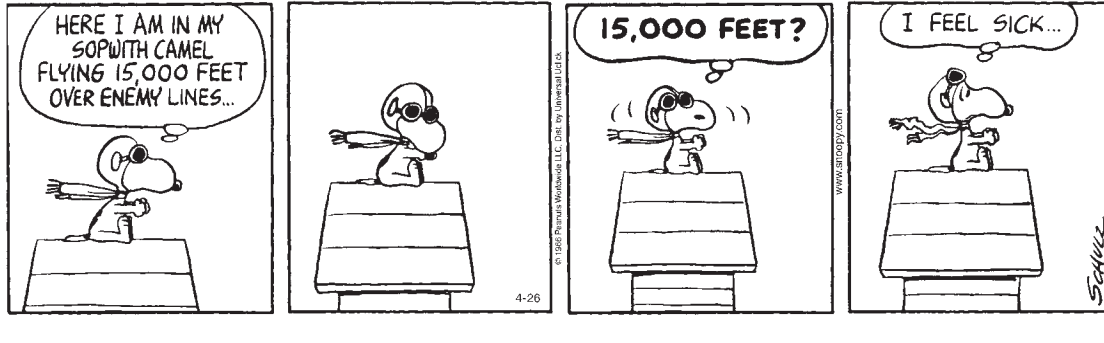
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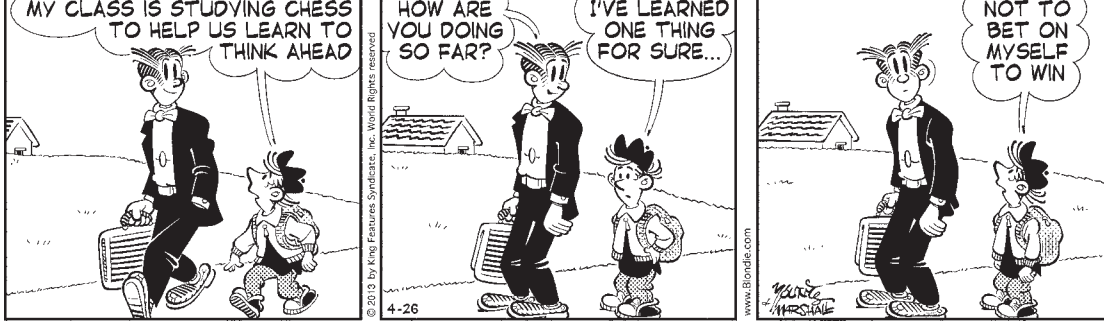
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Peanuts



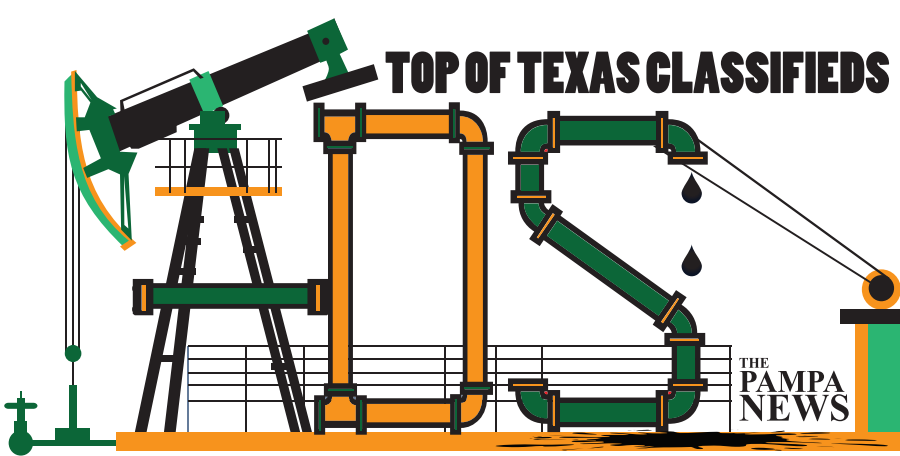
Blondie



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, April 27, 2013:
 This year you swing from one pole to the other. You'll open up to new ideas, but only after initially being uncompromising. Many people will be surprised at your rigidity, as you have been known to flex more in the past. Fear of the unknown could be a factor. If you are single, someone who enters your life is very serious, yet desirable. Ask yourself if you can live with this type of person. If you are attached, your sweetie often makes great suggestions that are well thought out. GO with the flow. SAGITTARIUS jumps in with ease!
 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)
 ★★★★★ A partner loves the extra attention, and he or she gives back accordingly. One-on-one exchanges are powerful right now. If you are single and you're interested in someone, make an advance. You will know what to say and do. Tonight: Try a change in routine.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 ★★★★★ Forget the thought that you'll have a quiet day where you can do what you want. If you are invited to go on a day drive or an excursion of some sort, accept. A change of scenery invigorates your energy and makes you more open to socializing. Tonight: The party goes on.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 ★★★★★ Complete projects rather than initiate them today. You could want to get some extra work done or finish some spring cleaning. Don't start any effort that could go past late afternoon, as that is when many options will open up to you. Make sure that you are free. Tonight: Not alone.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 ★★★★★ You have an unusually flirtatious attitude that others pick up on. You also have a way of handling a difficult loved one. This person listens to you, and he or she will shape up quickly. A long-distance call invigorates your imagination. Tonight: Paint the town any color you want.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
 ★★★★★ Deal with family and a domestic matter. You could have difficulty getting around a problem that involves finances and your sweetie. Give some thought to approaching your budget differently. Get

together with friends. Tonight: Ease the tension between you and your sweetie.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 ★★★★★ Return emails and make several calls that you have been putting off. Be more open to the different possibilities that head your way. Understand that you might not be able to relax as you would like, because you have so much to do. Tonight: Entertain at your place.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 ★★★★★ You have a tendency to go overboard. Make more of an effort to use some self-discipline. Listen to your inner voice more often, as it attempts to guide you. You could be particularly vulnerable with spending right now. Keep the tags and receipts! Tonight: Dinner out.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 ★★★★★ You can say that you need to work or be left alone, but your magnetism won't allow this to happen. You might want to adjust your schedule accordingly. You have a lot of energy, and you probably can do it all. Remember, others are not always so available. Tonight: Your treat.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 ★★★★★ Take today just for you. Run certain personal errands; perhaps even consider scheduling a massage or taking a trip to the salon. Others might choose to snooze or read. You'll enjoy the remainder of the weekend. Tonight: Someone shares his or her delight in visiting with you.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 ★★★★★ Use the daylight hours to the max. Many people are thrilled to have you around. Whether you're off at a ballgame or at some other happening, being surrounded by your friends makes you smile. You could want to go on and on. Tonight: Make it an early night.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 ★★★★★ You might need to check in on an older relative. As you see a situation change, you might want to direct its outcome. Let those involved make their own choices. Being responsible is different from pushing your will on others. Tonight: Hook up with a friend or two.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
 ★★★★★ Schedule a vacation, or at least pick up a pamphlet or two. Discuss your dream trip with others. Make a phone call to someone at a distance who might want to be involved in this adventure. Tonight: Wherever you are, know that others are following your lead.



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 TRUCK Driver needed, Class A, clean record. Call Red River Dairy, 806-665-5225 or come in to apply.
 SWEETWATER Frac now hiring experienced drivers class A CDL a must. Must pass DOT physical & mandatory drug test. If you can't, no need to apply. Located 6 miles S. of Sweetwater, Ok. 580-534-2622, email resume to sweetwaterfrac@yahoo.com

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HOUSE Cracking? In bricks or walls? Children's Brothers, Inc. 800-299-9563, 806-352-9563

CRYPTOQUOTE
 One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.
 4-26
 W J Y Q C Q J C S Q I L S E H X
 I G Q H P W S Q Q C . S Q Z I K P Q P W
 I L S E M G H S Q J I G Q P C Q J C S Q
 W S Q Q C . — L S A Q P I Z L Y K W
 Yesterday's Cryptoquote: A SWEETHEART IS A BOTTLE OF WINE; A WIFE IS A WINE BOTTLE. — CHARLES BAUDELAIRE

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****HIGHLIGHTS****
 JOHN DEERE RIDING MOWER (USED 2 SEASONS), VOLKSWAGON BEETLE, POWER & HAND TOOLS, LADDERS, HARDWARE, OLD WOOD STOVE, CAST IRON CLAWFOOT BATHTUB, SILVER COINS & MONEY, SAD IRONS, MARBLES, CROCKS, CLOCKS, CAST IRON, OLD TRUNKS, OLD NFR BELT BUCKLES, OTHER ASSORTED BUCKLES, LARGE SELECTION OF JEWELRY, SET OF COMMEMORATIVE PRESIDENTIAL SPOON SET, ESTATE SILVERWARE SETS, SEVERAL NAME BRAND FULL SERVICE DINING & CHINA SETS, FURNITURE, MAYTAG WASHER, NAME BRAND COOK & BAKE WARE, GENERAL HOUSEWARES & DECOR., LARGE COLLECTION OF HUMMEL GOEBEL, DREAMSICLE & JIM SHORE COLLECTIBLES, DOLLS, ASSORTED COLLECTIBLES. WONDERFUL VINTAGE TOYS WITH ACCESSORIES, BARBIE, SONNY & CHER & SO MUCH MORE, VINTAGE GAMES, CRAFTING SUPPLIES, MATERIAL, QUILTS, NEW LADIES LEATHER JACKETS, WAY TOO MUCH TO LIST, MORE BEING ADDED DAILY, DEFINITELY SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

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#C040 Granillo #B047 Guenther #A047 Martinez D.M.
#C015 Martinez, T. #C072 Parks, T. #A066 Smith, K.A.

69a Garage Sales

BARN / Gar Sale, Fri. & Sat. 8-5. 917 Jackson, White Deer. Antiques, tools, clothes, saddle / tack, NASCAR collection, 6 bale hay trailer, guns, lawnmowers.

3 Family Backyard Sale Fri. 11am-5pm, Sat. 9am-3pm, 856 Locust St., TV's, Wii console, games, frames and much more

GARAGE Sale Fri. 6pm-? 2306 Christine St.

89 Wanted To Buy

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96 Unfurn. Apts.

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LRG 1 bdr. apts. w/ app. are in walking distance to things you need. 665-4274, 663-2579, 881-8518

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97 Furn. Houses

907 Twiford, 2 bdr, 1 ba. house + additional living quarters in back yard. \$600 mo, \$250 dep. 662-6798

98 Unfurn. Houses

PICK up rental list, in the Black Box, at 125 S. Houston, Pampa.

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99 Stor. Bldgs.

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104 Lots

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106 Coml. Property

RETAILS and garage space. Centrally located. Great value. 665-1875 or 881-8518

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120 Autos

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122 Motorcycles

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122 Motorcycles

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125 Parts & Access.

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Public Notice

CAUSE NO. 10005 ESTATE OF WC VAN HOUTEN DECEASED IN THE COUNTY COURT IN AND FOR GRAY COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of WC VAN HOUTEN, Deceased, were issued on April 16, 2013, in Cause No. 10,005, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas, to: LINDA DARLENE VAN HOUTEN WHITLEY C/O Rick J. Harris, P.C. PO Box 776 Pampa, Texas 79066-0776

All persons having claims against this estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. All persons having claims should address them in care of the representative at the address stated above. SIGNED on the 17th day of April, 2013.

By: Rick J. Harris Attorney at Law PO Box 776 Pampa, Texas 79066-0776 (806)665-3788 (806)665-9548 Fax D-98 Apr. 26, 2013

CAUSE NO. 10011 ESTATE OF DOROTHY RAY VAN HOUTEN DECEASED IN THE COUNTY COURT IN AND FOR GRAY COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of DOROTHY RAY VAN HOUTEN, Deceased, were issued on April 16, 2013, in Cause No. 10,011, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas, to: LINDA DARLENE VAN HOUTEN WHITLEY C/O Rick J. Harris, P.C. PO Box 776 Pampa, Texas 79066-0776

All persons having claims against this estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. All persons having claims should address them in care of the representative at the address stated above. SIGNED on the 17th day of April, 2013.

By: Rick J. Harris Attorney at Law PO Box 776 Pampa, Texas 79066-0776 (806)665-3788 (806)665-9548 Fax D-99 Apr. 26, 2013

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of BILLIE DIXON GILES, Deceased, were issued on April 22, 2013, in Docket No. 10025 pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas, to: BILLIE DIXON GILES, JR.

Claims are required to be presented within the time and manner prescribed by law in care of Don R. Lane, attorney for the estate's representatives, P.O. Box 1781, Pampa, TX 79066-1781. DATED the 22nd day of April, 2013 Billie Dixon Giles, Jr. E-01 Apr. 26, 2013



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: "Jake" and I have been married more than 20 years. I married before I was 18, and I'm not even 40 yet. Jake is seven years my senior. We have had our ups and downs, and although the last five years have been fine, I want more out of life than sitting home watching TV or hanging out with him.

We have two children. One is away at college and the other starting high school. When I talk to my husband about wanting to do things, he says I should have done them when I was younger. But I married him before I was even an adult!

Is it wrong to want to go out and do things I never got to do when I was a teenager? It makes me question whether or not I want to be married to him anymore. I still love him, but I have changed.

Jake insists we don't need counseling and I just need to get over it and accept that this is my life. What if I don't want to regret what I have never had a chance to do? — WANTS MORE OUT WEST

DEAR WANTS MORE: I'm sorry, but you can't re-live your lost teenage years.

I wish you had been more specific about what it is you want to do. If it's go out and have some fun, perhaps some of your girlfriends would like to go with you. Instead of sitting home, you and Jake could socialize with other couples. If you're into sports, why not join a women's sports team? If you're not, how about a book club? You don't have to sit around and vegetate.

You also didn't mention whether you completed high school. If you didn't receive a diploma, you would be well-served to work on earning your GED, which could widen your horizons and opportunities considerably.

DEAR ABBY: I have two

daughters, 11 and 14. They fight over many things, but what gets to me is the way they fight over what television shows to watch.

My younger daughter has nightmares if she watches even mildly dramatic cop/lawyer-type shows. However, my older daughter loves them.

At home, I'd have one kid watch TV in one room and the other in the other room. However, when they're at the sitter's house, which has only one TV, they call me at work and fight over the phone over who watches what. They both accuse me of favoring the other.

How do I deal with this fairly without upsetting them? And how do I keep my younger daughter from having nightmares? — DOING MY BEST IN KENTUCKY

DEAR DOING: Because your younger daughter has nightmares after viewing shows that create anxiety, she shouldn't be forced to do it. When they are at their sitter's, they should alternate days when each has control of the remote control. When your older girl has it, the younger one should be encouraged to read a book of her choosing and/or listen to music. When the younger one gets to do the choosing, the older one should do the same.

DEAR ABBY: Christmas and birthday gifts I will never use have accumulated around my house. I'd like to have a yard sale, but many of the items came from close friends and family. I feel guilty getting rid of them because the people who gave them to me obviously meant well. Would selling them be wrong?

One gift was from my mother. I live at home, so she will notice if I stick it in the garage sale. I can't let this extra stuff sit around. It's taking up space and I need the money for a very expensive college. But

SIZING IN NEW YORK
DEAR DOWNSIZING: Selling the items would not be wrong. Once a gift is given, it is yours to do with as you please. If you offer them for sale online, it will be less obvious and cause fewer hurt feelings.

BANANAGRAMS!

In each puzzle, use four of the tiles from the bunch to fill in the blanks and make a seven-letter word that connects the grid.

Yesterday's Answer: F I L Z E A L L D O G G Y A I S F A Z I G G E D O L L S A I L Y

SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

39 Annual visitor

1 Shop tools

5 "Dragnet" org.

9 Group of top players

11 African lilies

13 Nobel, for one

14 Washer cycle

15 Bunny move

16 Comfortable

18 Nevada neighbor

20 Hosp. sections

21 Shoelace problems

22 Arbor Day planting

23 Procured

24 Dove cry

25 Congress creations

27 — macabre

29 Quarter-back Manning

30 Pistol, e.g.

32 Past and present

34 Old hand

35 Antithetical

36 Ordeal

38 Took an oath

DOWN

1 Malia's sister

2 Busy

3 Deciduous 22-Down legend

4 Blue

5 Caterpillar, for one

6 "I cannot tell —"

7 Coniferous 22-Down

8 Longing

10 Giant

12 Intuit

17 Powerful bunch

19 Menageries

22 Musical sound

24 Academy attendees

25 Bounds

26 Permits

27 Slow-witted

28 Book blunders

30 Temptress

31 Back biter?

33 Scarlett's home

37 Cloth scrap

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	
9				10		11			12
13						14			
15					16	17			
18				19				20	
	21						22		
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25	26				27				28
29									31
32				30					34
35						36	37		
38							39		
	40								41

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PampaSports

Beyond the stat sheet

Harvesters go for first district title in six years

Ever since I found out I was going to be the sports editor for The Pampa News I sat eagerly awaiting time for baseball season to start. One of the first coaches I had the opportunity to meet was Kaleb Snelgrooves, the head baseball coach. His personality made me even more anxious for the baseball season to kick off as I knew he would be a blast to work with.

During basketball season, one could find me at the scorer's table while Charla Shults took photos for me to put in the paper. But during baseball season, many of you might not have seen me around. That is because coach Snelgrooves was kind enough to let me join the team in the dugout this season. This was great because I didn't have to worry about pictures having netting or fencing in the way and I can take clear shots of the game.

Before I knew it, baseball was right on the doorstep. The first games I attended were part of the Cavalier

Classic in February. I was headed back to Pampa after the Hustlin' Harvesters basketball game in Lubbock when I remembered the baseball team had a slate of two games that day in Bushland and at River Road.

Since I was not prepared, I watched as a fan and not as a sports writer. Myself, along with about 50 other fans braved the cold weather that Saturday but it was well worth it as the Harvesters picked up wins in both of the games that day.

I was still a little disappointed when looking at the schedule and I saw that only away, nondistrict games remained — save one home game against Childress — until district play. However, I was able to take a trip to Woodward, Okla., to cover a doubleheader. The Harvesters were going to play two tough teams that day in Piedmont, Okla., and Woodward, Okla. Coach Snelgrooves stressed to his team multiple times to not reflect too much on whether they lost or won the games as it was scheduled for preparation for district play. Pampa lost both games but fought hard that day and even though one might not have noticed then, I knew it would help

springboard Pampa the rest of the district season. While Pampa traveled to Oklahoma for two tough nondistrict games, the rest of the district stayed home for district games.

Boy, did it ever springboard the Harvesters. Save for the Perryton debacle, Pampa has won every single other game.

They are currently riding a four-game winning streak and are 4-1 since the Oklahoma trip. That has pushed the Harvesters into position for the district title — set to be decided tonight. The Harvesters play the Rangers to seek revenge from their lone loss since Oklahoma and to take the district title.

Should the Harvesters win, it will be their first district title in six years. The game has been designated as "Black Out Friday," and free T-shirts will be given away to the first 200 fans in attendance.

First pitch is at 4:30 p.m., come out and support your Harvesters in their quest for the school's fourth district title this school year. Girl's golf, girl's track and the softball team have already snagged district titles for Pampa this year.

Don't forget about the junior varsity baseball team, either. Their final game will be tonight immediately following the varsity game. These boys have put in just as much effort as any other athlete from Pampa.

It is unfortunate that due to the lack of lighting systems at fields in the district, teams canceling on them and weather interfering with the schedule, the JV team has only been able to play 11 games thus far this season. Most of those have been four innings or less.

4:30 p.m. Today. At Harvester Field. Come cheer on the Harvesters in their quest for the district championship!



ZACHARY GREEN

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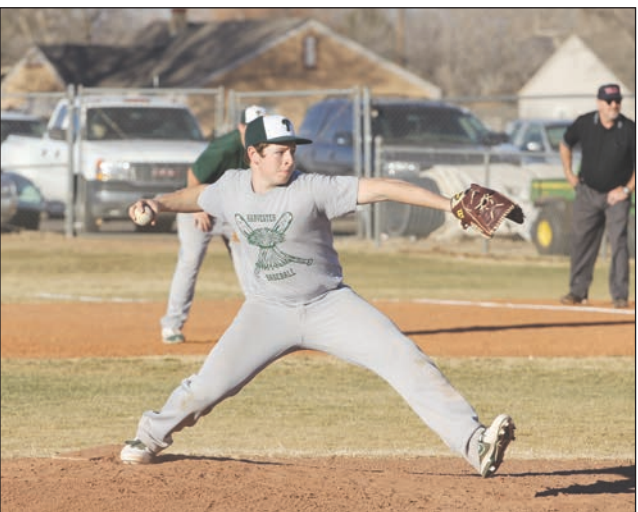


Photo by Charla Shults
Casey Martindale pitches for the Harvesters during a scrimmage this year. The regular season ends today for the Harvesters but playoffs will then commence. Come cheer them on this afternoon and you'll get a free T-shirt if you are among the first 200 in attendance.

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Photo by Zachary Green
Chris Howard makes a nice catch for the Harvesters in a game this season. The team plays for the district title this afternoon at 4:30 p.m. against Perryton at Harvester Field in Pampa. The JV will follow the varsity game at 7 p.m.

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