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The PAMPA NEWS

Thursday, September 16, 2010

Volume 105 • No. 411

75¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

County balks at appraisal district budget

DAVID BOWSER
dbowser@thepampanews.com

The Gray County Commission approved contracts with the state, paid a homeowner for damage to his property caused by a deputy and went out for bids for insurance, but they balked at approving the Gray County Appraisal District budget for 2011.

The appraisal district's budget has to be approved by various governmental entities that the district serves, so Gray County Commissioner's Court is one vote of many. County Judge Richard Peet indicated that the



Peet

district's budget will likely be approved, but the Gray County Commissioners Court objected to pay raises in the appraisal office and to the way in which the appraisal district presents the numbers in their budget to the county.

In other business:

• The Commission also voted to pay \$5,000.36 to Jim Roysse for damage to a house and property that a sheriff's deputy's car caused when the

deputy passed out and his car jumped the curb and took out a red bud tree, telephone equipment and about 50 feet of fencing. The county's insurance carrier said the damage wasn't covered under the county's policy because the deputy's medical condition hadn't been diagnosed.

• The commission also approved bids on property in Lefors.

Crystal Keiser bought five lots in Lefors for \$515 and two lots for \$103.

Tanner Ray bought one lot for \$200.

• The commissioners court approved the Gray County Tax Office's contract with the **COUNTY** cont. on page 3

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THE HOLE NINE YARDS



staff photo by David Bowser

It's a long day's night as Mark Wood digs into the street to repair water main breaks at Foster and Frost this morning. Vince Roybal, Lee Bolton, Daniel Welsh and Anthony Ruiz work to remove bricks in an effort to look for more leaks. The city crew was called out at 2 a.m. today on a water main break that turned out to be a series of breaks. Another crew was finishing up repairs on a water main a block away on Kingsmill this morning. City officials worry the number of breaks this summer could portend a tough winter for water mains when the weather turns cold..

SEVERE WEATHER LIGHT SHOW



photo courtesy of Rick Blain

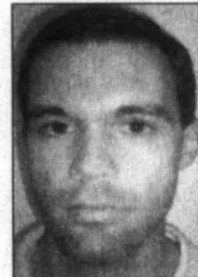
Last night's lightning storm lit up the Panhandle sky.

Colo. hostage taker from Pampa

DAVID BOWSER
dbowser@thepampanews.com

A Pampa High School graduate was identified by Colorado authorities as the man who killed himself following a hostage situation west of Rocky Ford, Colo.

David Truitt Johnson, 36, of Spearman, entered the back door of a home on Otero County Road 18 on Monday, and held the woman there before taking his own life.



Johnson

HOSTAGE cont. on page 3

The Otero County Sheriff's Office said two children, ages seven and three, fled to a neighbor's home where the neighbor called officers about 4:45 p.m. Monday.

Johnson left the home about 5:30 p.m. Monday, drove his pickup to where

Campbell takes Guard to ballpark

DAVID BOWSER
dbowser@thepampanews.com

Don Campbell, owner of the nearby Campbell's Ranch, is a big Texas Rangers baseball fan.

When he wanted to say thank you to a group of men who help protect our freedom on a daily basis, he couldn't think of a better way to do it than to share his passion with them.

On September 12, Campbell took 400 Arlington National Guard members to the Texas Rangers game.

Campbell said it was a great time. "We got to sit and watch a baseball game together and see the Rangers beat

the Yankees," Campbell said.

At the game, a camera showed the group on a video screen and the song "American Soldier" played. Campbell said he was amazed at the impact this had.

"After the game I shook hands with 300-400 people thanking me," Campbell said. "Even ones who weren't in the group were thanking me."

Campbell got involved with this National Guard group last December when they returned from Iraq.

"This group had a meal for them when they returned and called me and said they needed another \$250," Campbell said. **CAMPBELL** cont. on page 3

Chamber Luncheon
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Byron Lanham - Product Manager of Data Services
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For the record

Obituaries

PAMPA FORECAST

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
High 90 Low 63	High 90 Low 64	High 90 Low 62

Tonight: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly before 1 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 65. South southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 90. South southwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 63. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 90. South southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 64. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 90. South southwest wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 62. South wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

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EMERGENCY SERVICES

Police Department

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents during the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. today.

Officers reported 14 traffic-related calls and two accidents.

Animal control officers reported 13 animal-related calls.

Pampa EMS reported four medical calls, one accident and on domestic disturbance.

The Pampa Fire Department responded to one medical call and one service call.

Wednesday, Sept. 15

An alarm was reported in the 1000 block of N. Sumner.

A civil matter was reported in the 200 block of N. Houston.

Officers conducted a follow-up investigation in the 4000 block of N. Bad Cattle Company Ln.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1400 block of N. Russell.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 400 block of W. Francis.

Officers conducted a follow-up investigation in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill.

Officers conducted a follow-up investigation in the 2300 block N. Primrose Ln.

An assault was reported in the 300 block of E. Brown.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill.

Harassment was reported in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill.

Officers conducted a follow-up investigation in the 111 block of E. Harvester.

An escort was provided at the High School.

Officers conducted a follow-up investigation in the 1700 block of N. Hobart.

An information call was received in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill.

Harassment was reported in the 900 block of N.

Terry Rd.

Theft was reported in the 700 block of W. Browning.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 100 block of E. Harvester.

Harassment was reported in the 400 block of N. Yeager.

Theft was reported in the 700 block of N. Dwight.

Officers completed a special assignment in the 800 block of W. 23rd.

An information call was received in the 300 block of N. Tignor.

Public intoxication was reported in the 900 block of W. Alcock.

Two information calls was received in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1000 block of E. Fisher.

A suspicious person was reported in the 1000 block of E. Scott.

An alarm was reported in the 2100 block of N. Wells.

A suspicious person was reported in the 700 block of E. Kentucky.

A prowler was reported in the 700 block of N. Sloan.

A prowler was reported in the 700 block of E. Sloan.

A suspicious person was reported in the 300 block N. Christy.

An information call was received in the 700 block of N. Dwight.

Thursday, Sept. 16

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 400 block of N. Nelson.

A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 1600 block of E. Hwy. 60.

An information call was received in the 100 block of W. Foster.

A suspicious person was reported in the 700 block of N. Sloan.

A suspicious person was reported in the 900 block of S. Faulkner.

Officers provided an agency assist at Hwy. 60 West.

A suspicious person was reported at Kingsmill and Magnolia.

Melba Lesher, 91

Melba Lesher, 91, died September 14, 2010, in Pampa.

Services will be at 4 p.m. Friday, September 17, 2010, at First Assembly of God, with Rev. Leland Lewis, officiating.

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

Mrs. Lesher was born September 19, 1918, in Scipio, Okla. She moved to Borger in 1936, and then moved to Pampa in 1952. She married Earnest Ethan Hutchinson, Jr., in 1939. He preceded her in death in 1947. She later married Jack Lesher on August 26, 1950. He preceded her in death on March 3, 1985. Melba was a homemaker. She was a member of First Assembly of God. She was a member of the VFW as the spouse of two World War II veterans. Melba loved to sing, traveling all around the country with the Bethel Gospel Singers. When she was 18 years old, she traveled to California to try and enter show business. She wrote over 250 poems and songs. She loved spending time with her seven children and numerous grandchildren. Her love extended beyond family to anyone she met.

Survivors include her three sons, Dewey Hutchinson and wife Shirley, David Lesher, and Tim Lesher and wife Vickie, all of Pampa; three daughters, Elaine Tristan and Patricia Lesher, both of Pampa, and Linda Caldwell of Lubbock; 16 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild. Melba was preceded in death by a son, James Steven Lesher on February 3, 2000; her parents; nine sisters and four brothers.

Memorials may be made to Interim Hospice, 2217 Perryton Pkwy., Pampa, TX 79065.

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



Lesher

Ola Mae Meeks, 101

Ola Mae Meeks, 101, died September 14, 2010, in Pampa.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, September 17, 2010, at Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel, with Minister Steve Cox of St. Paul United Methodist Church, and Rev. Loren Gardner, retired Methodist minister, officiating.

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

Mrs. Meeks was born May 25, 1909, in Comanche County. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1957. She married David Smith, Sr. He preceded her in death on September 11, 1928. She later married Malcom Meeks on March 14, 1935, in Green Hill. He preceded her in death on December 17, 1978. Ola Mae was a member of St. Paul United Methodist Church.

Survivors include her two daughters, Carolyn Gilbert of Pampa and Margaret Bain and husband Bill of Irving; two sons, Dr. David L. Smith and wife Gail of DeKalb, and Johnnie Meeks and wife Molly of Hereford; two sisters-in-law, Doris Meeks of New Boston, and Martha Stewart of Hobbs, N.M.; nine grandchildren 17 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by two grandsons, Walter Smith and Buster Smith; one sister and five brothers.

Memorials may be made to St. Paul United Methodist Church, 511 N. Hobart, Pampa, TX 79065, or Cal Farley's Boy's Ranch & Affiliates, 600 SW 11th Ave., Amarillo, TX 79101.

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



Meeks

Ja' Quan Deon Dewayne Nickleberry, 7 months

Ja' Quan Deon Dewayne Nickleberry, 7 months, died Sept 10, 2010 in Amarillo.

Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, September 18, 2010, at Macedonia Baptist Church in Pampa, with Rev. Darrell Willis officiating.

Ja' Quan was born Feb 16, 2010, in Pampa to Keonti Nickleberry and Keldon Bennett. He enjoyed listening to music, cuddling with soft toys, and being held close by his mother... A beautiful baby boy who touched so many lives in such a brief time. He was loved by all who met him, and will be greatly missed. Ja' Quan will be remembered by the joy and happiness he brought into this world.

Survivors include his mother, Keonti Nickleberry of Pampa; his father, Keldon Bennett of Iraq; his maternal grandparents, Jamie Jackson of Dallas and Dwight Nickleberry of Pampa; great grandparents, Chantay and Keyvn Coleman of Fort Worth; great grandmother, Patricia Hunnicutt of Pampa; great great grandmother Doria Hunnicutt of Pampa; a host of aunts, uncles and cousins and a very special friend Michael Gonzales of Pampa.



Nickleberry

David G. Monk, 72

David G. Monk, 72, died September 16, 2010, in Pampa.

There are no services scheduled at this time. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Monk was born April 21, 1938, in Quitman, Ga. He attended schools and farmed in Georgia until 1967 when he moved to Pampa. After moving to Pampa, he worked in the oilfields and attended the Pentecostal Church. In his spare time, David liked to fish.

Survivors include his brother, Oneal Monk and wife Jean of Pampa; sister, Diane Lackey and husband Gordon of Lockhart; five nephews, David Boaz and wife Mary, Danny Boaz and Ricky Boaz, all of Lubbock, Ronnie Boaz and Asa Boaz and wife Cynthia, all of Pampa; niece, Linda Davis and husband Charlie of Pampa. David was preceded in death by his parents and three brothers.

Memorials may be made to American Diabetes Association, 8008 Slide Road, Suite 12-A, Lubbock, TX 79424.

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

Barbara Joanne Bird Brandt, 79

Barbara Joanne Bird Brandt, 79, passed away September 7, 2010, in Terrell. Her funeral service took place September 9, 2010, at Grace Episcopal Church in Vernon.

Barbara Joanne was born January 23, 1931, in Pampa, to Milo and Barbara Irene Bird. She was a graduate of Pampa High School in 1950. She married Philip Brandt on May 16, 1953, in Clovis, N.M.

She was preceded in death by her parents, a sister, Margaret Frances Bird, a brother, Milo William (Bill) Bird, her husband, Philip Brandt and a son, Walker Dwayne (Buster) Brandt.

She is survived by a son, Rodney Brandt and wife Dana, of Venon; two daughters, Holly Armer and husband Richard, of Kaufman, and Dianne Oliver and husband Tome, of Lindale; six grandsons and three granddaughters; two brothers, Robert (Bob) Bird and wife Carol, of Yukon, Okla. and Walker Bird and wife Dorothy, of Pampa; two sisters, Sarah Thompson, of Bloomington, and Mary Ellen Evans and husband Cayson (Casey) Evans, of Pampa.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests over the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. today.

Wednesday, Sept. 15
Benny B. Maldonado, 32, of Borger, was arrested by officers on motion to revoke parole on charges of driving with invalid license out of Gaines, Co.

Omar Saldierna, 17, was arrested by deputies on two capias pro fine warrants.

Amy Diane Coil, 20, was arrested by officers on charges of disorderly conduct, language.

Thursday, Sept. 16
Keelan Scott Patton, 19, was arrested by officers on charges of driving while intoxicated and unlawfully carrying a weapon.

LAST MINUTE ADS

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

EFFECTIVE 10/01/2010, Outreach Health Services WIC will no longer provide immunizations. Contact us for provider list.

PAMPA WOMEN'S Expo, Sat. Sept. 18, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Knights of Columbus, 318 N. Cuyler.

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AFTERNOONRUSH Obama makes plea for Hispanic support

Karl forms in Gulf

MIAMI (AP) — Karl has become a hurricane in the Gulf of Mexico after dumping heavy rains on the Yucatan Peninsula as a tropical storm.

A hurricane warning was issued Thursday for Mexico's coast from Palma Sola to Cabo Rojo. Also, a tropical storm warning has been issued for the coast for north of Cabo Rojo to La Cruz and for the area south of Palma Sola to Veracruz.

Karl's maximum sustained winds are near 75 mph (120 kph). The National Hurricane Center in Miami says additional strengthening is possible and Karl could approach major hurricane strength before reaching Mexico's coast.

Karl is located about 310 miles (500 kilometers) east-southeast of Tuxpan, Mexico, and is moving west near 12 mph (19 kph).

20 new orders for Boeing

CHICAGO (AP) — Boeing Co. says it booked orders for 20 new aircraft in the last week, although it lost a few, too.

The new orders include 15 new 737s. That jet is a workhorse and it dominates Boeing's order book. Customers also ordered five new 777s, a larger plane often used on longer flights. None of the customers were identified.

Customers also canceled orders for a 737 and two 777s. Besides the new orders, Boeing identified Houston-based Continental Airlines Inc. as the customer for seven of its 737s. The airline was previously listed as an unidentified customer.

So far this year, Boeing has added orders for 278 planes, including 250 of the 737s.

Ft. Hood hearing won't close yet

FORT HOOD (AP) — A military officer has rejected a defense attorney's request to close next month's hearing of the Fort Hood shooting suspect.

The officer ruled Thursday that the media and others can hear testimony from those who survived last year's shooting rampage at Fort Hood. He said keeping the hearing open would preserve the integrity of the military justice system.

Defense attorney John Galligan asked that next month's Article 32 hearing, similar to a civilian grand jury proceeding, be closed to the public.

Maj. Nidal Hasan, an Army psychiatrist, is charged with 13 counts of premeditated murder and 32 counts of attempted premeditated murder in the Nov. 5 shootings at the Texas Army post.

Galligan said testimony from nearly three dozen witnesses would create so much pretrial publicity that Hasan could not get a fair trial.

Bedridden woman found slain

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston police are seeking suspects after a disabled woman was found slain at her apartment.

A police statement Thursday indicated robbery was the motive for the apparent strangling.

The body of the 60-year-old woman, whose name was not immediately released, was discovered Wednesday afternoon by a caregiver. Autopsy results are pending.

Police are checking surveillance video and other security measures at the complex that caters to the elderly and disabled.

Police say the woman had lived in the complex for some time and required help getting in and out of her bed.

Online auction for drug mansion

ARLINGTON (AP) — A convicted Internet drug dealer's 22,000 square-foot mansion up for sale next month features an indoor pool, a home theater and heated marble tile throughout the sprawling structure.

The bidding starts at \$1.5 million for the seven-bedroom, eight-bathroom and four half-bathroom home owned by Rakish Saran, The Dallas Morning News reported Thursday.

The lavish four-story residence, in a gated community, was seized after Saran's 2005 arrest in an investigation of more than 20 illegal Internet pharmacies.

Saran in 2006 pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit health care fraud, two counts of mail fraud, one count of conspiracy to distribute controlled substances. He was sentenced to 12 years in prison and ordered to pay \$68 million in restitution.

The residence in 2008 was sold by the federal government to Austin investor HS Panorama, LP for \$1.2 million.

Woman sentenced for Ike fraud

BEAUMONT (AP) — A Bridge City woman who received Hurricane Ike disaster assistance money on a house she no longer owned has been ordered to repay the government nearly \$20,000.

U.S. Attorney John Bales on Thursday announced the sentence for 44-year-old Jeanette McKinley. McKinley on March 5 pleaded guilty to making a false claim. She must serve five years of probation and make restitution.

Investigators say the woman, the day after Ike struck southeast Texas on Sept. 13, 2008, submitted a disaster relief application. McKinley told the Federal Emergency Management Agency that she owned the hurricane-damaged property in Bridge City.

An investigation revealed McKinley's house was foreclosed on more than a month before Ike hit and the house was owned by a bank.

Cops indicted for drug smuggling

ROMA, Texas (AP) — Two South Texas police officers are charged with pot smuggling as part of a federal investigation targeting Mexican drug cartels.

Roma police officers Jose Omar Garcia and his brother, Roel Roberto Garcia, are under indictment for allegedly conspiring to smuggle more than 100 pounds of marijuana since 2006. Five others were also charged, including the father of the two officers.

Roma police chief Jose Garcia said he had no information on the charges and that the two brothers were on unpaid leave.

It was not immediately clear if the officers had attorneys.

Federal prosecutors in Houston partially unsealed the indictment this week. If convicted, the officers could be sentenced up to 20 years in prison.

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama appealed to Hispanics on Wednesday to support Democrats in the November elections despite his failed promise to pass an immigration overhaul.

"Don't forget who is standing with you," the president said as he blamed Republicans for standing in the way of progress.

Less than two months before midterm elections that could prove disastrous for Democrats who run Congress, Obama acknowledged the disappointment among Latinos over the immigration issue and pledged to keep pushing for a comprehensive overhaul of the nation's immigration laws to deal with border security and provide an eventual route to legal status for the estimated 11 million illegal immigrants in the United States.

"You have every right to keep the heat on me and the Democrats, and I hope you do. That's how our political process works," Obama said the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute's awards dinner. "But don't forget who is standing with you, and who is standing against you. Don't ever believe that this election coming up doesn't matter."

Obama also promised to help win passage of a bill, known as the DREAM Act, that would allow young people who attend college or join the military to become legal residents.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Ne., said this week that he wants to attach the measure to an upcoming defense policy bill that the Senate could begin considering as soon as

next week.

Obama cast Republicans as the bad guys in the tussle over immigration, saying some GOP senators who in the past had supported a comprehensive approach now oppose moving forward just to thwart his agenda.

"Now I know that many of you campaigned hard for me, and understandably you're frustrated that we have not been able to move this over the finish line yet. I am too," he said. "But let me be clear: I will not walk away from this fight. My commitment is to getting this done as soon as we can."

Some in the audience shouted "when?"

Obama urged Hispanics to remember who extended health care to millions of children, provided Pell Grants for Latino students and enacted credit card reform and created a new agency to protect consumers from predatory lending, including millions of immigrants who send money to relatives in their native countries.

"Don't forget who your friends are," he said. "No se olviden" — Spanish for "Don't forget."

Obama was revisiting the immigration issue again on Thursday. He has scheduled a White House meeting with Sen. Robert Menendez, D-N.J., and Reps. Luis Guterrez, D-Ill., and Nydia Velazquez, D-N.Y., to talk about the DREAM Act, as well as an immigration bill Menendez plans to introduce and repealing regulations that give local police authority to make immigration arrests.

County

cont. from page 1

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for handling certain fees and approved a resolution authorizing a \$1,500 grant to the Meals on Wheels Program, so the program can access additional funding.

- The commission approved a road crossing by AT&T at Gray K and County Road 8.

- They also reappointed Sharon Braddock to the Texas Panhandle Mental Health and Mental Retardation Board of Trustees and set commission court dates for the next fiscal year.

- The commissioners also went out with a request for proposals for liability insurance, property insurance and workers compensation. Those proposals are to be submitted by 10 a.m., Nov. 11, to the county auditor's office.

- The commission voted to allow all full time county employees not yet covered by the county's health insurance program to be eligible for flu shots.

Judge Peet said that county officials have a tentative meeting with the state jail commission at the end of the month concerning their requirement that Gray County hire more jailers.

Campbell

cont. from page 1

After Campbell gave the donation, he got a call from the Dallas Cowboys and they said they were going to be honoring veterans at one of their games.

"I told them I would supply the veterans," Campbell said. "I sent them and their families to the game. They had to stand up the whole time. I wanted to take them to a Rangers game so they could sit down and relax."

Campbell said that he and his family is very blessed and wished to use his blessings to do things like this. The ranch owner said that everyone should thank their veterans.

"If everyone would do a little it would make such an impact," Campbell said.

Johnson

cont. from page 1

law enforcement officers had the road blocked, got out, knelt in road and shot himself in the head.

According to Otero County Sheriff Chris Johnson, an autopsy is being performed.

The sheriff said Johnson pled guilty in 2004 to violating a protective order in Otero County.

Johnson graduated from Pampa High School in 1993.

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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Thursday, Sept. 16, the 259th day of 2010. There are 106 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 16, 1810, Mexicans were inspired to begin their ultimately successful revolt against Spanish rule by Father Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla and his "Grito de Dolores (Cry of Dolores)." (Mexico's independence was finally achieved in 1821.)

On this date:

In 1893, more than 100,000 settlers swarmed onto a section of land in Oklahoma known as the "Cherokee Strip."

In 1908, General Motors was founded in Flint, Mich., by William C. Durant.

In 1919, the American Legion received a national charter from Congress.

In 1940, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed into law the Selective Training and Service Act, which set up the first peacetime military draft in U.S. history. Samuel T. Rayburn of Texas was elected Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives.

In 1966, the Metropolitan Opera officially opened its new opera house at New York's Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts with the world premiere of Samuel Barber's "Antony and Cleopatra."

In 1982, the massacre of hundreds of Palestinian men, women and children by Israeli-allied Lebanese militiamen began in west Beirut's Sabra and Chatilla refugee camps.

In 1988, Hurricane Gilbert slammed into the Mexico coast for the second time in three days.

Ten years ago: Campaign aides for Democrat Al Gore and Republican George W. Bush agreed on a series of three debates.

Five years ago: President George W. Bush ruled out raising taxes to pay the massive costs of Gulf Coast reconstruction in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, saying other government spending had to be cut to pay for the recovery effort.

One year ago: Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mt., chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, unveiled sweeping legislation to remake the nation's costly health care system.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Janis Paige is 88. Actress Lauren Bacall is 86. Blues singer B.B. King is 85. Clergyman-author Rev. Robert H. Schuller is 84. Actor Peter Falk is 83. Actress Anne Francis is 80. Musician Kenney Jones (Small Faces; Faces; The Who) is 62. Actress Susan Ruttan is 62. Rock musician Ron Blair (Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers; Mudcrutch) is 62. Actor Ed Begley Jr. is 61. Actor Kurt Fuller is 57. Jazz musician Earl Klugh is 57. Actor Christopher Rich is 57. Baseball Hall of Famer Robin Yount is 55. Actor Mickey Rourke is 54. Magician David Copperfield is 54. Actress Jennifer Tilly is 52. Retired MLB All-Star Orel Hershiser is 52. Retired MLB All-Star Tim Lincecum is 51. Singer Richard Marx is 47. Comedian Molly Shannon is 46. Singer Marc Anthony is 42. Comedian-actress Amy Poehler is 39. Singer Musiq is 33. Actress Alexis Bledel is 29. Actress Sabrina Bryan is 26. Actress Madeline Zima is 25. Rock singer Teddy Geiger is 22.

Thought for Today: "You can love a person deeply and sincerely whom you do not like. You can like a person passionately whom you do not love." — Robert Hugh Benson, English author (1871-1914)



Enthusiasm from Dems' 2008 on wane

Two sets of numbers tell you a lot about an important difference between election year 2008 and election year 2010.

In 2008, 37 million Americans voted in Democratic presidential primaries and just under 21 million voted in Republican presidential primaries. One reason for the difference was that the Republican nomination was decided earlier. But even counting only the early contests, Democratic turnout was 26 million and Republican turnout was 17 million.

This year, it's different. Only 13 million Americans have voted in Democratic primaries held before Sept. 1, according to Curtis Gans of the Center for the Study of the American Electorate. During the same period, 17 million voted in Republican primaries.

As Gans points out, that's historic. Democratic primary turnout has been higher than Republican primary turnout in every off-year election since 1930.

That Republican margin may narrow a little as the returns from this week's primaries come in from states like New York, Massachusetts and Maryland, which have a lot more registered Democrats than registered Republicans. Yet in California, where Democrats have a similar registration edge, almost as many Republicans showed up as Democrats.

What we're seeing here is a change — a sea change — in the balance of enthusiasm. That's been critical in a decade in which turnout in presidential years increased from 105 million to 122 million to 131 million. Republicans had a narrow advantage in the balance of enthusiasm in 2002 and 2004. Democrats had a wider advantage in 2006 and 2008. Now Republicans clearly have a wide advantage and have a good chance to sweep the elections six weeks



MICHAEL BARONE

and six days from now. Democratic strategists hope that Barack Obama can rekindle some of the enthusiasm that was so apparent two years ago. Liberal columnists have cheered

his slashing attack on House Minority Leader John Boehner and his denunciation of proposals to maintain the tax cuts on those earning more than \$250,000. I doubt that it will be that easy. Enthusiasm is not aroused simply by a stirring speech. It's aroused by seeing your ideas and policies work out the way you expected. Or, perhaps even more, it's aroused by seeing your political adversaries' ideas and policies fail to work out the way they expected.

In that case, you're usually pretty sure your alternatives will work out better — and you're enthusiastic about trying them.

Consider Republicans during the second term of George W. Bush. Rescue efforts in New Orleans and military efforts in Iraq didn't produce anything like the positive results Republican-leaning voters expected. Republican congressional majorities seemed to be producing nothing but big spending (the bridge to nowhere) and scandals.

When the world isn't responding as you hoped and expected, you tend to stop paying attention. You stop watching the news and maybe even get a life.

Democrats in the past 20 months have seen Barack Obama fail to produce the hope and change they expected. It seemed so easy to call for withdrawal from Iraq and Afghanistan, for shuttering

Guantanamo, for trying al-Qaida terrorists in civilian courts. But none of those things has happened.

Neither has Obama ended the ban on openly gay men and women serving in the military. He continues to oppose same-sex marriage, while Dick Cheney backs it.

Meanwhile, the vast increases in government spending in the stimulus package and Obama budgets have done little to produce a robust economic recovery, and the health care bill jammed through a reluctant Congress has failed to produce the widespread gratitude that Obama said we should expect.

For upscale Obama supporters, these economic policies were believed to be, in Pat Moynihan's elegant phrase, boob bait for the bubbas. But the bubbas didn't take the bait.

So just as the world stopped working as Republicans expected in 2005, the world stopped working as Democrats expected in 2009.

You can see this in last week's report from the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press. It found that in 2008, 67 percent of liberal Democrats said they enjoyed the news a lot, while just 45 percent say so today. In contrast, 57 percent of conservative Republicans say they enjoy the news a lot today. The interesting question is whether they will continue to do so if and when Republicans win majorities and take responsibility for governing the nation.

Michael Barone, senior political analyst for The Washington Examiner (www.washingtonexaminer.com), is a resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, a Fox News Channel contributor and a co-author of *The Almanac of American Politics*.

THE PAMPA NEWS

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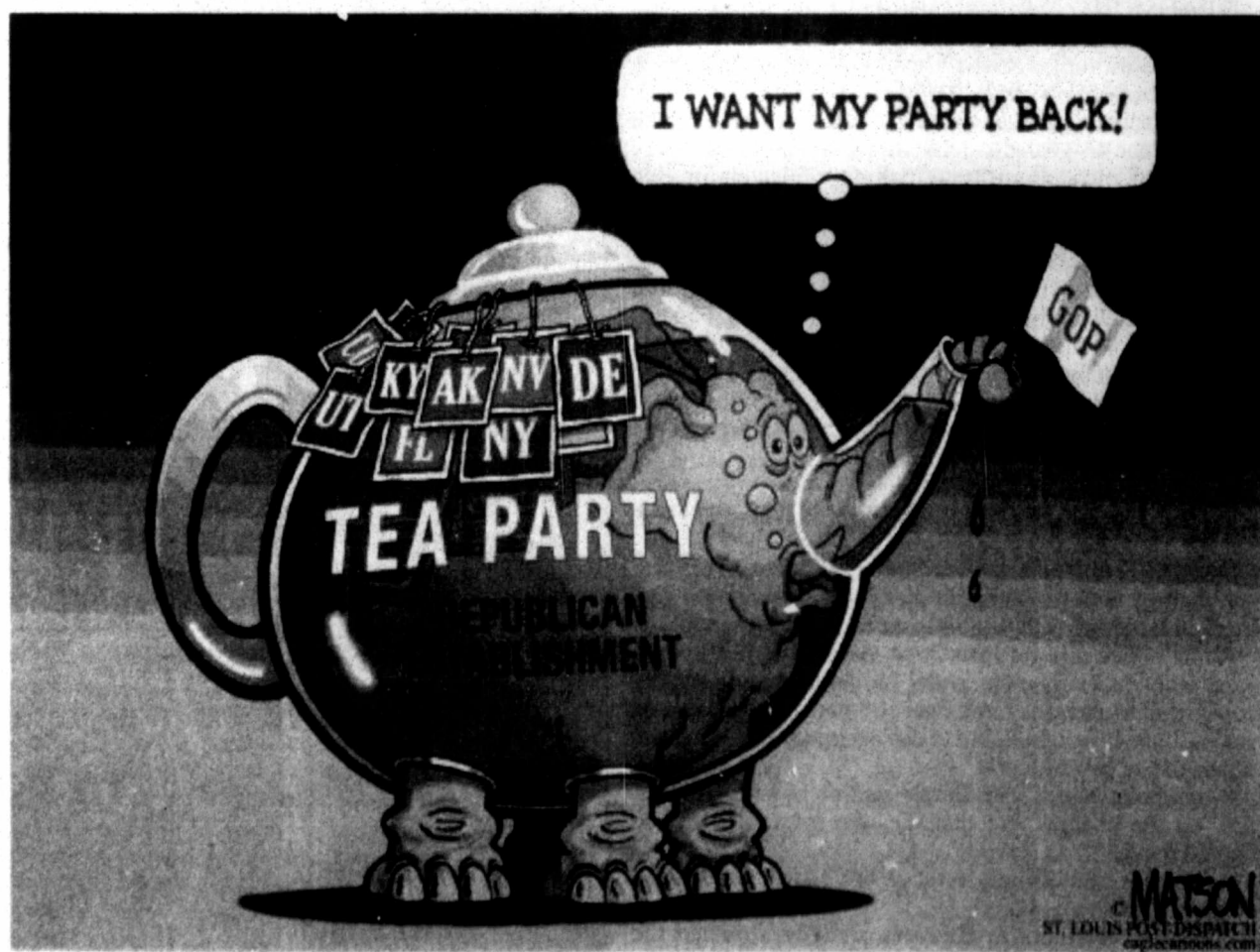
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MEMBER
2010





Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My husband, son and I live next door to my in-laws. My mother-in-law, "Hazel," has a set of keys to our house for emergency purposes. For some time she has been using the key to come and go as she pleases, "borrowing" food, dishes and toiletries when we're not home. When we discover the items missing, she usually confesses.

I am really irritated about it and have frequent fights with my husband over this and other privacy issues. How can I talk to Hazel in a way that won't hurt her feelings? She is very sensitive, and I don't know how to confront her since my husband refuses to do so. — MISSING MY PRIVACY IN SAN JOSE, CALIF.

DEAR MISSING: Try this: Take your mother-in-law to lunch and over a nice, leisurely meal say (SLOWLY AND QUIETLY), "Hazel, honey, I have a problem I need your help with. (Breathe.) When you come into the house and take things without asking, it makes me feel violated. (Pause.) Do you think you could please refrain from doing that anymore? (Smile.) I'd really appreciate it."

And if any more items turn up missing, quietly change the locks.

DEAR ABBY: I am

being married soon and my father will be providing the alcohol for our reception. We plan to serve beer, wine and champagne for the toast. Because I will be wearing an ivory gown, I am opting to drink only champagne. I have a favorite brand, but because of our modest budget, Dad cannot provide it for everyone to drink.

I was going to buy a couple of bottles to have at our table for my wedding party, but Dad feels it would be in poor taste and thinks our guests may feel slighted in some way. My feeling is that it's our special day and people will understand. Am I wrong for wanting a nicer champagne than we can provide for our guests? — BUBBLY BRIDE IN PISMO BEACH, CALIF.

DEAR BUBBLY: Let me put it this way — if there is a chance that your guests would feel slighted if you get caught, then drink what they're drinking at the reception. Afterward, have a bottle of your preferred brand waiting in an ice bucket by your "wedding bed" so you can enjoy a special toast with your new husband.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a high school freshman with a dilemma. I'm a good student and get A's in all my classes. I'm also an athlete. I play year-round softball and have

started playing soccer for the high school team.

My problem is I took a debate class over the summer and really liked it. I want to join the debate team, but I am unsure if it would be piling too much on my plate for my first year.

I'll be carrying one honors class in addition to two above-grade-level classes. Debate practices are held after sports practices two days a week for one to two hours, so they wouldn't directly conflict with anything except homework time.

Do you think I'm overestimating how much I can handle in extracurricular activities this year? — TOO AMBITIOUS? IN OREGON

DEAR TOO AMBITIOUS: The fact that this is causing you concern could be an indicator that it IS too much. That's why before making up your mind you should discuss this with your parents as well as your guidance counselor or at school.

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The Community Christian School of Pampa, Inc. admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in administration of its education policies, admissions, policies, scholarship, and loan programs.

F-81 Sept. 16, 2010

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Fajitas

Cheese on a Stick

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Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

9	7						4	
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			5				7	
7			3		8	5		
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			1					

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Comisión de Calidad Ambiental del Estado de
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AVISO DE RECIBO DE LA SOLICITUD Y
EL INTENTO DE OBTENER PERMISO PARA LA CALIDAD DEL AGUA
RENOVACION

PERMISO NO. WQ00 10358002

SOLICITUD. Ciudad de Pampa, PO Box 2499, Pampa, Texas 79066-2499 ha solicitado a la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental del Estado de Texas (TCEQ) para renovar el Permiso No. WQ00 10358002 (EPA I.D. No. TX 0027618) del Sistema de Eliminación de Descargas de Contaminantes de Texas (TPDES) para autorizar la descarga de aguas residuales tratadas en un volumen que no sobrepasa un flujo promedio diario de 3,000,000 galones por día. La planta de tratamiento, de aguas residuales domésticos está ubicada en la orilla norte del Red Deer Creek, en un punto 3,400 pies al noreste de la Carretera Loop Estatal 171, aproximadamente 3.5 millas al noreste de la intersección de la Carretera Estadounidense 60 y la Carretera Estatal 273 en el Condado de Gray, Texas. La ruta de descarga es del sitio de la planta a Red Deer Creek; de allí a el Canadian River a bajo de Lake Meredith. La TCEQ recibió esta solicitud el 18 de Junio del 2010. La solicitud para el permiso está disponible para leerla y copiarla en Pampa City Hall, 201 W. Foster Street, Pampa Texas.

AVISO ADICIONAL. El Director Ejecutivo de la TCEQ ha determinado que la solicitud es administrativamente completa y conducirá una revisión técnica de la solicitud. Después de completar la revisión técnica, el Director Ejecutivo puede preparar un borrador del permiso y emitirá una Decisión Preliminar sobre la solicitud. **El aviso de la solicitud y la decisión preliminar serán publicados y enviado a los que están en la lista de correo de las personas a lo largo del condado que desean recibir los avisos y los que están en la lista de correo que desean recibir avisos de esta solicitud. El aviso dará la fecha límite para someter comentarios públicos.**

COMENTARIO PUBLICO / REUNION PUBLICA. Usted puede presentar comentarios públicos o pedir una reunión pública sobre esta solicitud. El propósito de una reunión pública es dar la oportunidad de presentar comentarios o hacer preguntas acerca de la solicitud. La TCEQ realiza una reunión pública si el Director Ejecutivo determina que hay un grado de interés público suficiente en la solicitud o si un legislador local lo pide. Una reunión pública no es una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.

OPORTUNIDAD DE UNA AUDIENCIA ADMINISTRATIVA DE LO CONTENCIOSO. Después del plazo para presentar comentarios públicos, el Director Ejecutivo considerará todos los comentarios apropiados y preparará una respuesta a todo los comentarios públicos esenciales, pertinentes, o significativos. **A menos que la solicitud haya sido referida directamente a una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso, la respuesta a los comentarios y la decisión del Director Ejecutivo sobre la solicitud serán enviados por correo a todos los que presentaron un comentario público y a las personas que están en la lista para recibir avisos sobre esta solicitud. Si se reciben comentarios, el aviso también proveerá instrucciones para pedir una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo y para pedir una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.** Una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso es un procedimiento legal similar a un procedimiento legal civil en un tribunal de distrito del estado.

PARA PEDIR UNA AUDIENCIA ADMINISTRATIVA DE LO CONTENCIOSO, USTED DEBE INCLUIR EN SU PEDIDO LOS SIGUIENTES DATOS: su nombre; dirección; teléfono; nombre del solicitante y número del permiso; la ubicación y la distancia de su propiedad/actividad con respecto a la instalación; una descripción específica de la forma cómo usted sería afectado adversamente por el sitio de una manera no común al público en general; y la declaración "[Yo/nosotros] solicito/solicitamos un/a audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso". Si presenta por parte de un grupo o asociación el pedido para una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso, debe identificar el nombre y la dirección de una persona que representa al grupo para recibir correspondencia en el futuro; debe identificar un miembro del grupo que sería afectado adversamente por la planta o la actividad propuesta; debe proveer la información ya indicada anteriormente con respecto a la ubicación del miembro afectado y la distancia de la planta o actividad propuesta; debe explicar como y porqué el miembro sería afectado y como los intereses que el grupo desea proteger son pertinentes al propósito del grupo.

Después del cierre de los períodos para los pedidos y comentarios, el Director Ejecutivo enviará la solicitud y los pedidos para reconsideración o por una audiencia administrativa de lo contenciosos a los Comisionados de la TCEQ para su consideración en una reunión programada de la Comisión.

La Comisión otorgará solamente una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso sobre los hechos reales disputados del caso que son pertinentes y esenciales para la decisión de la Comisión sobre la solicitud. Además, la Comisión sólo otorgará una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso sobre los asuntos que fueron presentados antes del plazo de ve cimiento y que no fueron retirados posteriormente. **Si ciertos criterios se cumplen, la TCEQ puede actuar sobre una solicitud para renovar un permiso para descargar aguas residuales sin proveer una oportunidad de una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.**

LISTA DE CORREO. Si somete comentarios públicos, un pedido para una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso o una reconsideración de la decisión

THE PAMPA NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

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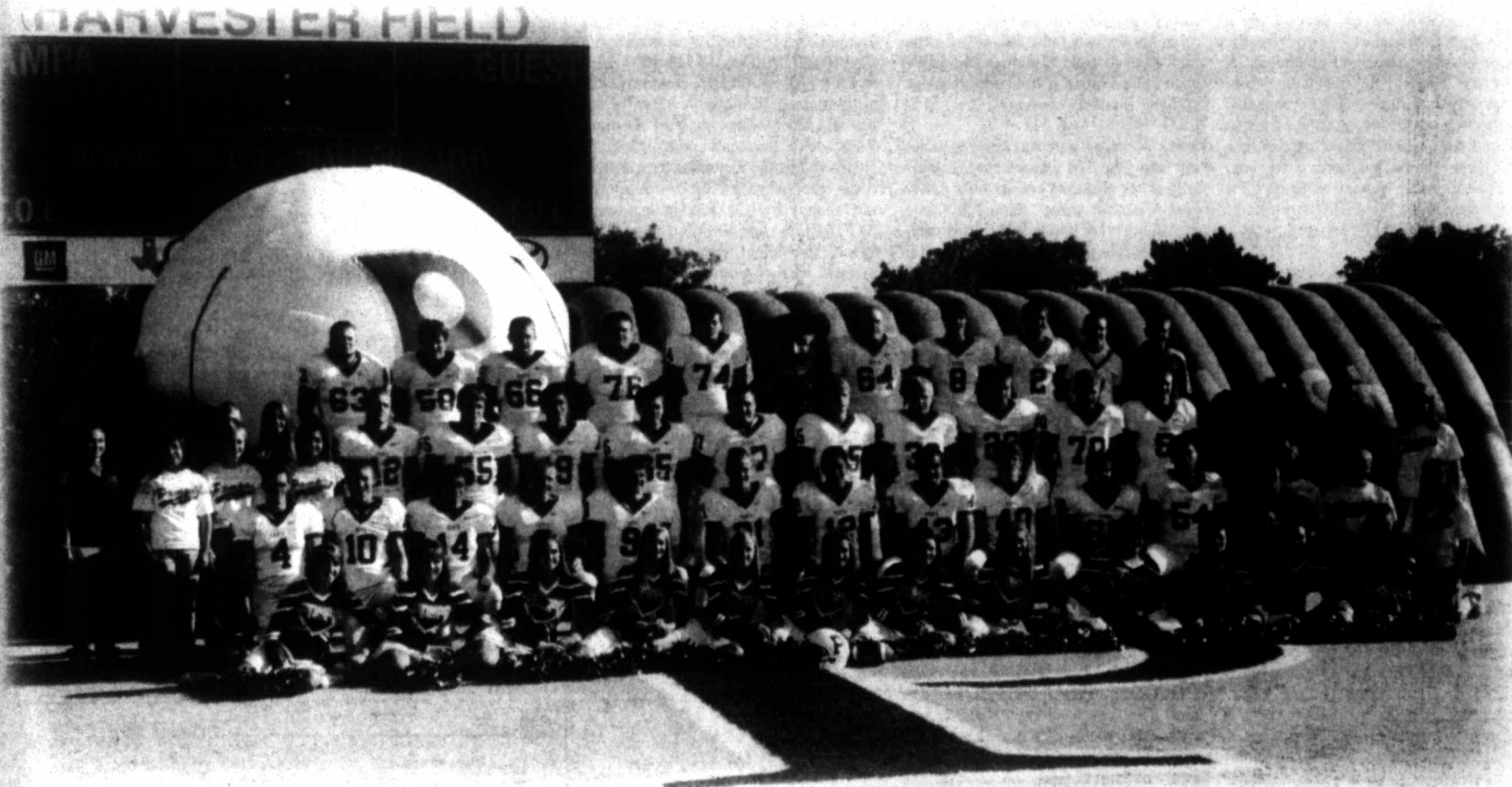
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THURSDAY

GRIDIRON PREVIEW



HIRSCHI
Huskies

Harvesters still seek first win in Homecoming battle

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Harvesters (0-3) might have just the opponent they need to crack the win column when they face the Wichita Falls Hirschi Huskies 7:30 p.m. Friday at Harvester Field for Homecoming.

The Harvesters' first three opponents (Iowa Park, Lubbock Estacado and Randall) have a combined record of 8-1. The Huskies, however, enter the game with a 1-2 record and are coming off a loss last week to Decatur, 35-19.

Wide receivers and cornerbacks coach Del Smith said both teams will be looking for a win Friday.

"Every game is the most important game," Smith said. "This is our next game and we want to win it. After Hirschi we will put this game behind us and focus on the next one."

This is the first official game between the two schools. Pampa scrimmaged Hirschi in 2006. Hirschi Head Coach Neil Searcy said he is excited about the matchup.

"We think it's a good matchup for us and a

game to get us ready to play against teams in our district," Searcy said.

Junior quarterback Reid Miller said they picked up the intensity in practice.

"We are working hard to get things done," Miller said. "Get better at the stuff we needed to work on last week."

Senior defensive end Juan Martinez said they will have to contain the running game.

"We're starting a new defense this week," Martinez said. "We just have to stay in assignment."

Smith said they will have to work on tackling on defense to stop the Huskies offense.

"We have to have really good tacklers in space," Smith said. "Be able to

break down and make tackles."

In the first three games of the season, Pampa hasn't been able to start fast. All three opening offensive possessions ended in three and outs and Pampa's opponents have scored at least the first 14 points. Miller and Martinez said they will have to get off to a good start.

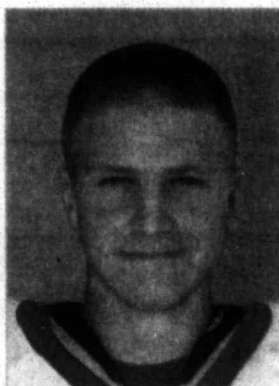
"We haven't gotten off to a good start in any of our games," Miller said. "Our scrimmages we got off to a good start. We need to get off to a good start because it's easier than playing from behind."

"We just have to play to our potential," Martinez said. "Hopefully, Friday night we can show how good we can be."

Keep an eye on:

Latigo Collins Jr. RB

Junior quarterback Reid Miller said one of the keys for the offense is getting the screen and running game going. Watch for junior running back Latigo Collins out of the backfield Friday night to make catches or run through holes.



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Reid Miller attempts a pass in the first quarter against Randall Sept. 10 in Canyon. The Harvesters host Wichita Falls Hirschi for homecoming 7:30 p.m. Friday.

Pampa Rodeo Club competes in Fall Tri-State Rodeo

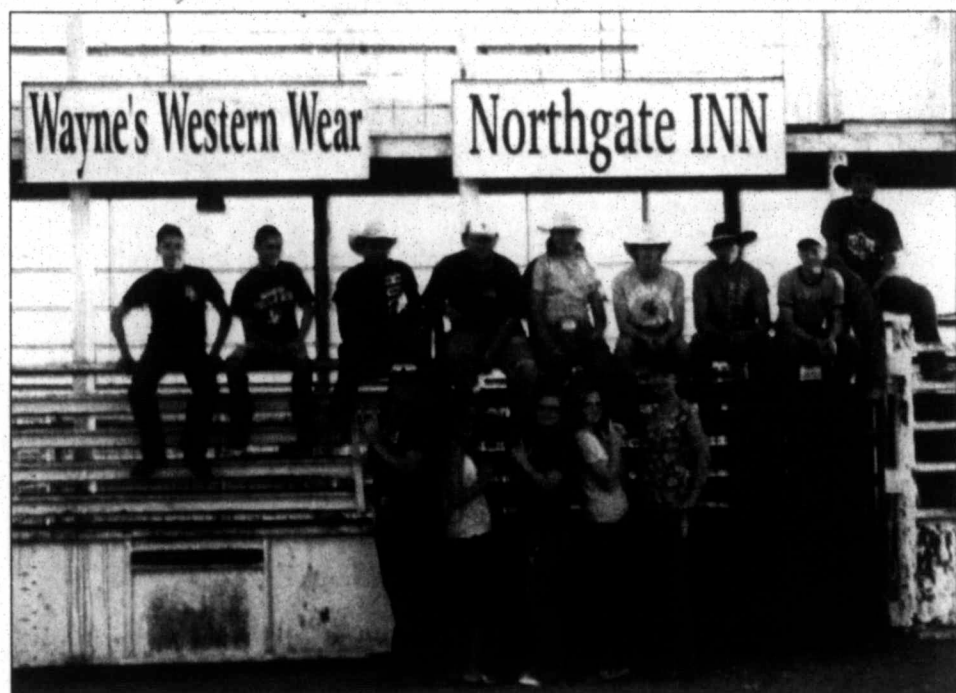


photo courtesy of Jennifer Snapp

Pampa Rodeo Club Team members pose at the Top O' Texas Rodeo grounds. **TOP:** Keenan Hughes, Santana San Miguel, Noah Cotton, Chris Harris, Corey McCarn, Aaron McKee, Montana Medrano, Cordale Martin and Dallyn Clements. **FRONT:** Shawnee Martin, Taylin Neff, Lacie Oxley, Bailey Wingert and Cameron McDonald.

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Rodeo Club will compete in the 2010 Fall Tri-State Rodeo, 10 a.m. Saturday and Sunday at the Top O' Texas Rodeo grounds.

Pampa will compete against other area clubs.

For Pampa, President Lacie Oxley will compete in team and breakaway roping.

Vice President Aaron McKee is competing in ribbon roping and bull riding. Treasurer Cordale Martin is competing in bull riding. Secretary Shawnee Martin is competing in goat tying.

Bailey Wichert is competing in poles, barrels, breakaway roping and goat tying.

Cameron McDonald is competing in poles and barrels.

Chris Harris is compet-

ing in team roping.

Corey McCarn is competing in bull riding.

Dallyn Clements is competing in steer wrestling.

Keenan Hughes is competing in bull riding.

Lisa Bryan, from Shamrock, is competing in barrels.

Macey Cochran is competing in barrels and breakaway roping.

Matt Bowen is competing in bareback riding.

Montana Medrano, from Arnett, is competing in saddle bronc riding.

Santana San Miguel is competing in bareback riding.

Taylin Neff is competing in barrels and goat tying.

Allen Haney and Marty McFall will be the judges.

Donations were from Culligans (ice), Robert Douglas (hay), Hampton Inn (rooms for judges), Sonic (cups), Hamburger Station (hamburger stuff) Harvester Donuts and Fiesta Foods (vegetables). Kerri Harris and Shelly McKee are the sponsors.

City League Fall softball results and standings

Sinister - 19

Dominos/Top of Texas - 16

Specialty Welding & Machine - 12

Panhandle Meter - 16

Hoggatt Transmission & Tire - 19

Panhandle Meter - 23

Specialty Welding & Machine - 10

B&G Performance Diesel - 12

B&G Performance Diesel - 4

Hoggatt Transmission & Tire - 14

UPS - 10

Enbridge - 1

Sinister - 4

UPS - 7

Dominos/Top of Texas - 9

Enbridge - 11

Team	Conf. W-L	Overall W-L
Panhandle Meter	1-0	6-0
Specialty Welding & Machine	1-0	4-2
Hoggatt Transmission & Tire	1-0	4-2
B&G Performance Diesel	1-0	1-5
Domino's/Top of Texas	0-1	4-2
UPS	0-1	3-3
Sinister	0-1	2-4
Enbridge	0-1	0-6

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Sports

THURSDAY

AMARILLO
HOLY CROSS
 Mustangs

EDINBORO
 Eagles

LEFORS
 Pirates

3-0 Pirates, Mustangs look to remain undefeated

 ANDREW GLOVER
 aglover@thepampanews.com

Last season, the Amarillo Holy Cross Catholic Mustangs held a lead over the Lefors Pirates before falling by 39. This season both teams enter with undefeated records when they play 1 p.m. Saturday at Amarillo.

Lefors beat Lazbuddie 51-6 last week and is seeking their second consecutive 4-0 start. Head coach Joey Czubinski said the roles are reversed this season.

"They have guys on this team that have played 3-4 years," Czubinski said. "They have a good quarterback and running back. They are coming in as the more experienced team."

The Mustangs opened the season with a last second victory over the McLean Tigers (42-40) and followed that up

with wins over Happy's junior varsity (44-30) and Lubbock Christ the King (30-6). Czubinski said they will be playing with confidence.

"I don't think they have been 3-0 before," Czubinski said. "They definitely think they have the team to beat us."

Czubinski said his team spent a lot of time working on defense.

"We worked on adjusting to different sets," Czubinski said. "Hopefully it will pay dividends."

The Pirates head coach said the key will be stopping the Mustangs offense.

"They're averaging 37 points per game," Czubinski said. "They're consistent. We have to break them down and disrupt their timing. That's what we did last week."



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Spencer Nicholson throws a pass before a defender gets to him Sept. 2 against Fort Elliott. The Pirates visit Amarillo Holy Cross Catholic 1 p.m. Saturday.

AREA ROUNDUP

White Deer Bucks (3-0) vs. Fort Worth Trinity Christian Eagles (0-3), 2 p.m., Saturday, Vernon

The White Deer Bucks will face their biggest challenge of the season when they face Fort Worth Trinity Christian Eagles 2 p.m. Saturday in Vernon.

Head coach Wade Wilson said this is the strongest opponent they have played to date.

"This team is either playing in the TAPPS state championship or they have a deep playoff run," Wilson said. "They are 0-3 but they lost by six to Fort Worth

Nolan Catholic, who is one of the top teams in TAPPS."

Wilson said win or lose, this game will help his team in the long run.

"We're trying to get better every single week," Wilson said.

Unlike their opponent last week, the Eagles are a throwing team and Wilson said it will be key to win the time of possession battle.

"They throw the ball 50 or more times a game," Wilson said. "They can put up a lot of points in a hurry. We are going to have to control the clock offensively."

McLean Tigers (2-1) vs. Samnorwood Eagles (3-0), 7:30 p.m., Friday, Samnorwood

The Tigers face another strong opponent when they visit the undefeated Samnorwood Eagles 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The Eagles have won all three games by at least 46 points and have only allowed their opponents 36 points, an average of 12 per game. McLean Head Coach David Jurado said it will be a good matchup for his team.

"They have good running back and a quarterback that throws the ball well,"

Jurado said. "They are big and look strong."

Jurado said he hopes his team will be faster than Samnorwood.

"Hopefully, our running backs can get to the outside and we can get good blocks from the line," McLean Head coach said.

Jurado said containing the Eagles defensively will be key to winning the game.

"We need to contain them," Jurado said. "Our defense needs to get some good stops and hopefully we will outscore them."

8th grade volleyball sweeps and 7th grade splits vs. Perryton

 KRISTY PETTY & DEANNA POLASEK
 Special to The Pampa News

The eighth grade volleyball teams sweep and the seventh grade teams split at Perryton Monday.

The eighth grade A team won 25-22 and 25-12. Leading servers for Pampa A were Caragan Niccum with 13, Bennett Cambern with 10 and Genevieve Zavala with nine. The best passer was Kirsten Hood with eight receives and leading setters were Brittney Green and Taylor Eubank with six assists each. Pampa had 28 hitting attempts with 22 successful hits. The hitters were Taylor Eubank with seven, Tristen Morgan with five, Caragan Niccum with four, Brittney Green with

three and Cheyenne Williams with two.

The eighth grade B team won in two games 25-11 and 25-20. The team was led by Kelsey Henry with 12 serves, six setting assists and one dig. Other leading serves were Aubrey Grubitz with nine, Kindle Hunt with seven and Jaycee Devoll with five. The entire team passed the ball well with Madison Brown leading with four receives and Yesenia Soria with three. Top hitters for Pampa were Allison Noble with four hits and Madison Brown with three. Jaycee Devoll set well with four assists and Tori Robles had three.

The seventh grade A team won 16-25, 25-17 and 25-16. Top servers were

Shiann Regalado with 14, Erin Rankin with 12, Reata Collins with nine, Brittney Gonzalez with six, Jacie Studebaker with five and Bailee Budd with three. Everyone contributed on serve receives, but our top receivers were Reata Collins with eight, Shiann Regalado and Bailee Budd each with seven, Erin Rankin with six, Jacie Studebaker with three, and Megan Brock and Brittney Gonzalez each with two. As a team, we had 13 hits out of 16 attempts.

"They played well and are improving every game," Coach Deanna Polasek said.

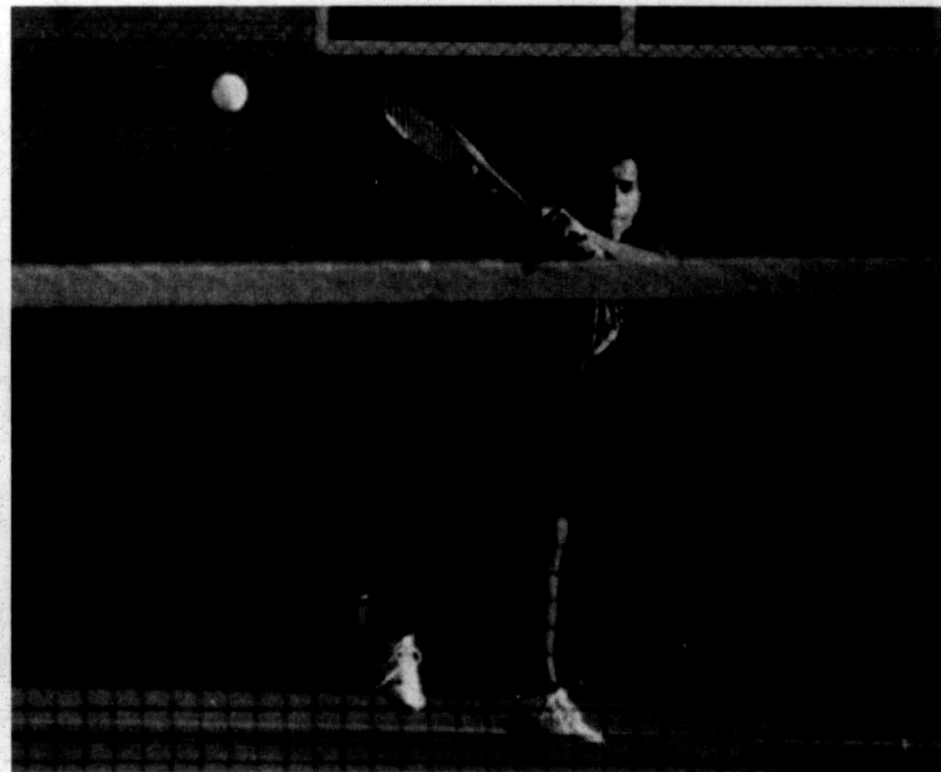
The seventh grade B team lost 14-25, 25-23, 24-26. Polasek said the last two

games could have gone either way.

"They were so close," Polasek said. "They played well. It was hard coming up a little short, but we will continue working hard and get them next time."

Our top servers were Baile' Johnson with 10, Hope Posey with nine, Kyler Ramming with seven, Raeli Walker with four, Cherub Whittington with three, Ally Robinson with two and Dea Vukatana with one. Out of top serve receivers were Shelby Langley with four, Baile' Johnson with three, Raeli Walker Dea Vukatana, Jessica Eddleman and Kyler Ramming each had two, Cherub Whittington, Rilee Didway and Kendra McIntyre each had one.

HITTING THEIR STROKE



photos courtesy of Cody Moore

LEFT: David Moore throws up the ball for a serve Tuesday against Plainview. **RIGHT:** Aaron Silva resorts to the backhand to return a ball Tuesday.

SPORTS

We want your photos!

Send your unedited photos to Andrew Glover at aglover@thepampanews.com the night of the game or the next morning. Include identifications of all players in the photos.

The Pampa News does not guarantee publication.



PRE-PARADE PREP

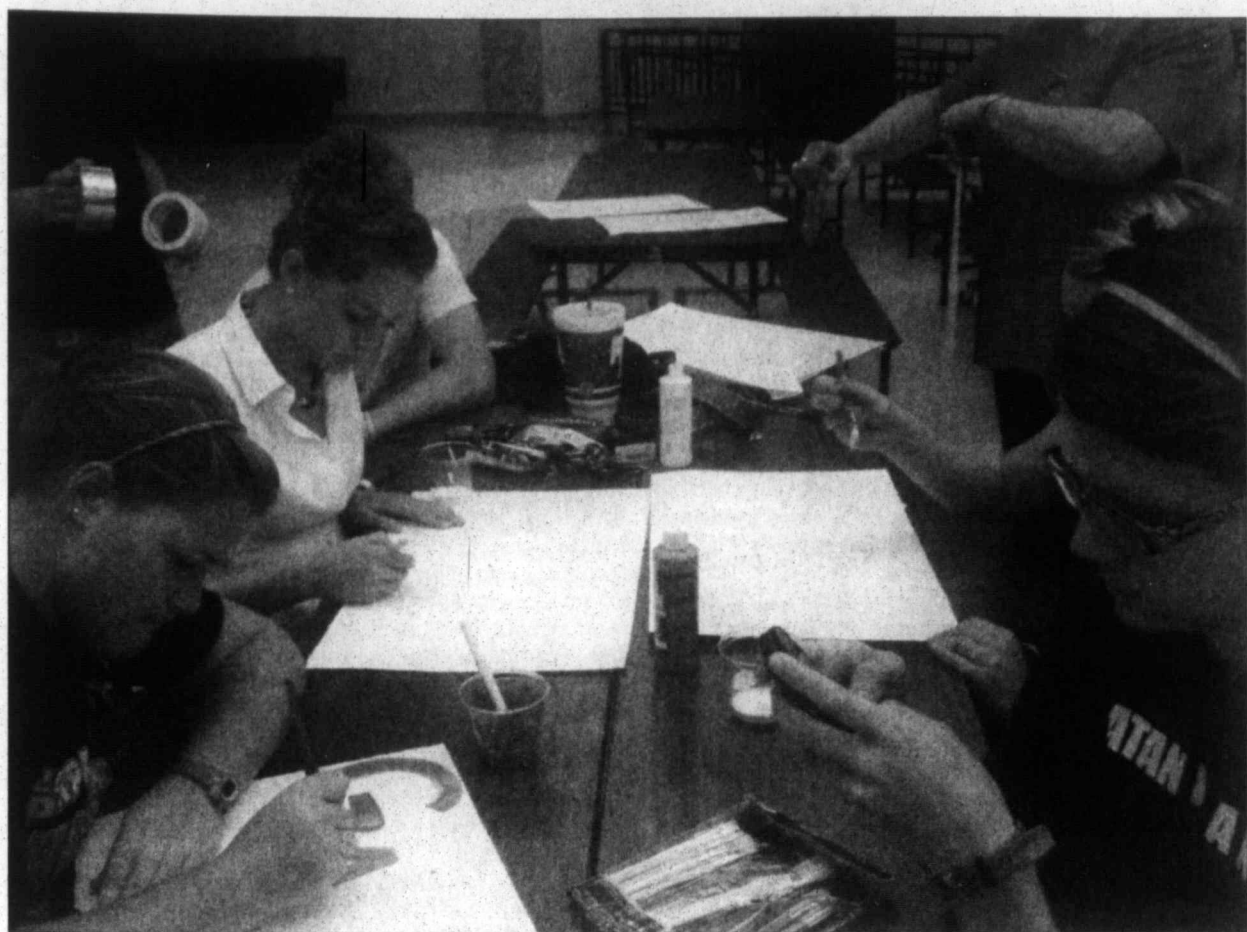


photo courtesy of Lisa Gibson

Elizabeth Terry (from left), Jordan Mayhew, and Cali Gibson of the Pampa High School Student Council prepare signs for floats for the Homecoming Parade. The parade is sponsored and organized by the PHS Student Council, with the Football Boosters working with the council to provide judges and a \$100 prize for the best float entry. The Grand Marshals for this year's parade will be Friday's Hall of Fame Inductees, Don Cain Jr. and Steve Martin.

PUC approves switch-hold for customers

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Regulators have given Texas utilities a payment-recovery option when electric users sign up with new providers and abandon their old power debts.

The Texas Public Utility Commission on Wednesday approved a so-called switch-hold rule, which takes effect June 1.

Customers who are behind on their payments cannot just refuse to set up payment plans and then switch to another provider.

The Dallas Morning News reported Thursday that utilities must provide electricity to low-income customers during very hot or cold weather and to people who rely on electronic medical devices to survive. Companies must also offer deferred payment plans in some circumstances.

In return, the companies asked for the ability to place a switch-hold on customers who do not pay.

"I think we've struck a great balance," said Donna Nelson, the PUC commissioner who worked on the rule.

"People who are trying to do the right thing aren't harmed or penalized."

PUC Chairman Barry Smitherman says all customers have to do is pay off the bill before they switch to another provider.

"The normal, average person understands that and doesn't have a problem with it," said Smitherman.

Ronnie Lowe, director of the Lancaster Outreach Center, praised the new rule.

Lowe deals with people who he says switch electricity providers often to avoid bills, then ask the charity for help. Another trick is putting the electricity bill in a child's name, which can create a blot on a child's credit report before he can even get his own credit card, according to Lowe.

"One of the things that we're trying to do is promote self-sufficiency," said Lowe. "We really want people to understand that the bill is their bill, and they're responsible for it."

Lawyers argue over Perry security detail

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A lawyer for news organizations argued before the Texas Supreme Court on Wednesday that the state should release travel vouchers for Gov. Rick Perry's protective detail — records a law enforcement agency claims would pose a security risk.

Those bills are important tools for news reporters and should be released under the Texas Public Information Act, said William Christian, representing the parent companies of the Austin American-Statesman, the Houston Chronicle and the San Antonio Express-News.

The documents contain travel expenses for the state troopers who accompany Perry and his family on trips, including out-of-state travel that is not official state business.

Attorney David Morales, arguing for the Texas Department of Public Safety, said the vouchers should be kept private and not reveal information that could endanger the governor or others traveling with him — details such as how many security officers travel with Perry, how far in advance officers might arrive at his travel destination and what types of vehicles they use.

DPS releases the total amount of money spent on officers' trips, Morales noted.

The attorney general's office ruled that state public records law doesn't require the vouchers to be disclosed.

Cox Texas Newspapers L.P. and Hearst Newspapers L.L.C. sued DPS for access to the documents, and lower courts sided with the news organizations. A ruling from the state's highest civil court could take months.

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Debate between Perry, White unlikely before November

HOUSTON (AP) — Texas voters are probably not going to see the two gubernatorial candidates debate each other before the Nov. 2 election.

Gov. Rick Perry said he was sticking to his Wednesday midnight deadline of having Democratic gubernatorial opponent Bill White release all of his tax returns for the years he's been in public service.

Without the release of White's financial documents, Perry said the two won't debate.

"I have clearly made my position on all of my tax records open. It brings us to the question, if there is nothing there, then pitch them out there and we get to go debate," Perry said at a campaign stop in Houston, hours before his self-imposed deadline. "Bill White is hiding something in his tax returns. If he was not, he would have laid them out months ago."

Perry has released income tax returns dating back to 1987, which covers all but two years of his 25 year career as an elected official. White has released tax returns from 2004 to 2009, when he was mayor of Houston.

But Perry has insisted that White also release tax returns for the years when he was deputy energy secretary and chairman of the Texas Democratic Party in the mid-1990s.

Candidates are not required to give out their tax returns under state ethics laws.

White said he has already provided "piles and piles" of financial statements that detail his assets and sources of income, while Perry has refused to reveal his sources of income and has not listed his debts.

White accused Perry of disrespecting Texas voters by not debating him and that his refusal has more to do with being afraid about answering tough questions about his job performance as governor, including a projected multibillion-dollar state budget shortfall.

"The more he can be scripted in 30-second TV ads to talk about (President Barack) Obama, the less people will think about how he's doing his job. That's his game," White said during a news conference earlier Wednesday at a campaign office in Houston.

Both candidates have been invited to a debate sponsored by the state's largest daily newspapers and public television station KLRU on Oct. 19. The sponsors of the debate, to be held at the University of Texas at Austin, have indicated it would take place even if only one candidate shows up.

White said he is not agreeing to Perry's request because it would be a bad precedent to let one candidate dictate the terms of a debate.

"It's the people of Texas that are entitled to a debate," White said. "We can have a debate on our

financial statements if he wants."

Perry said he is not afraid to debate White and compared his effort to get White to release more tax returns to a used car buyer wanting to get additional information about a vehicle he is interested in.

"I think it's important to know what you are buying before you buy. If he's a lemon, we don't want him. Carfax even gives you the information on a bad car before you buy it," Perry said. "We don't want to find out if we got a bad car in November."

Perry unleashes first negative campaign ads

AUSTIN (AP) — Republican Gov. Rick Perry launched his first negative TV ads against Bill White on Wednesday, claiming his Democratic opponent profited from Hurricane Rita and linking him to President Barack Obama.

The Perry campaign began running the spots quietly, without posting them online or announcing any new ads. They are running multiple times in Houston, Austin, Dallas and San Antonio, according to a campaign official familiar with the ad purchase who would speak only on the condition of anonymity.

One ad castigates White over the Hurricane Rita allegations. The other two seek to undermine the former Houston mayor's record at City Hall, saying he left the fourth-largest U.S. city in financial shambles.

"Obama and White. Washington-style spending," an announcer says in one ad. Another ad says, "It's a miracle that Houston survived Bill White."

The ads went on the air in Texas' major TV markets on the day Perry had set as a deadline for White, saying White must release his income tax returns from all his years in public office or Perry would not agree to a televised debate. White stood firm Wednesday, saying he already has released multiple financial statements, and accused Perry of disrespecting voters by not debating.

White is perhaps the Democrats' best chance in years to

win the governor's office, with polls showing the race tightening. But Perry, who crushed U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison in the Republican primary, is still considered a favorite to win in the heavily Republican state.

Jim Henson, director of the Texas Politics Project at the University of Texas, said a tight race could be part of the reason Perry's campaign chose to air the ads now. But Henson pointed out that many voters are just beginning to tune into the race and said Perry has never been reluctant to go for the jugular.

"The Perry campaign has often been successful at defining their opponents early and often," Henson said. "Pattern-wise, nobody would ever accuse a Perry campaign about being shy over going negative."

White, who has already run one attack ad against Perry, says he's proud of his record as mayor and left the city in good shape. He denies any conflicts of interest. A Democratic group called Back to Basics, funded by Houston trial lawyer Steve Mostyn, has also run a series of negative ads against Perry.

The governor's campaign would not disclose how much Perry was spending on the ads. It costs about \$1 million a week to run an effective political advertising campaign on television in major statewide markets, according to Democratic media strategist Dean Rindy, who helped place the ads for Back to Basics.

Mexico wants quiet, peaceful anniversary

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Just one day without massacres, beheadings or shootouts.

On its 200th birthday Wednesday, Mexico wanted its citizens — and the world — to forget its vicious drug war and remember the country's epic history, music, whimsical folk art and continuing crusade for wider prosperity and democracy.

All were on display with a \$40 million fiesta, two years in the making. About 60,000 revelers — many wearing sombreros and face paint with the red, white and green of the Mexican flag — crowded along Reforma Avenue, the capital's main promenade, cheering and yelling "Bravo!" at the start of the 1.7-mile (2.7-kilometer) parade of floats and dances designed by the country's top artists.

Another 25,000 gathered early at the main Zocalo plaza, where President Felipe Calderon was later set to deliver the traditional "Grito" — three shouts of "Viva Mexico" — to celebrate the 1810 uprising that resulted a decade later in independence from Spain.

Some traveled to the capital from all over Mexico to celebrate on the streets, despite the country's escalating drug violence that increasingly has claimed innocent lives.

"This one is special," said Iris Mari Rodriguez Montiel, a small business owner who had traveled from the Gulf Coast state of Veracruz and waited since morning for the festivities to start. "It gives me chills just to think about it. I love Mexico. There's only one Mexico."

Little girls wearing ribbons of the Mexican flag watched from the shoulders of their fathers, and other children blew trumpets as the air filled with confetti. Marchers with green, red and white cacti sprouting from their heads formed a sea around an enormous newspaper boat sporting phrases from the independence era.

"It's like a Carnival of Rio, plus an Olympic ceremony, plus Woodstock all put together in the same day," said artistic director Marco Balich, who produced the opening and closing ceremonies of the 2006 Turin Winter Olympics. "For the cost of a warplane, you can celebrate the birthday of a country."

Several neighboring heads of state and U.S. Labor Secretary Hilda Solis were attending.

Still, anxiety hovered over the festivities with a heavy presence of law enforcement, some with police dogs.

In the back of many people's minds was the violence of the past year: The assassination of a gubernatorial candidate. The slaughter of 19 people at a drug rehabilitation center. The massacre of 72 migrants who refused to smuggle drugs for a brutal gang.

Military helicopters buzzed overhead, heavily armed federal agents and metal detectors greeted revelers. In some of Mexico's most violent cities, the festivities were canceled for fear of a drug cartel attack.

"We should be proud of all we've achieved," said Daniel Mendiola, a 64-year-old retiree who eyes were glued to a giant screen in front of the Angel of Independence monument on Reforma. But he said he would leave as soon as the parade, skipping a concert of big-name acts planned afterward.

"We have this doubt," he said. "The idea that there will be problems later on."

While drug violence during a grand festival would have been unheard of just a few years ago — even cartel capos celebrate religion and family in Mexico — that changed during independence celebrations in 2008. A grenade attack blamed on a cartel killed eight revelers, including a 14-year-old boy, in Calderon's home state of Michoacan.

Prosecutors in the Caribbean coast resort of Cancun said they were investigating whether six men detained Wednesday with assault rifles and hand grenades had planned an attack during the bicentennial festivities.

There was still hope, though, that the drug war would take a holiday.

"In Mexico, we all live in fear. And the worst part is that we are starting to get used to it," said Eric Limon, 33, a professional dancer who volunteered to wear a jaguar mask and swing a colorful Aztec club and spear for the parade.

"I want to be part of something important," said Limon, who was part of the parade. "I know this won't solve our problems, but this is my grain of sand to create a sense of unity. This is what Mexico needs."

MORE COMICS

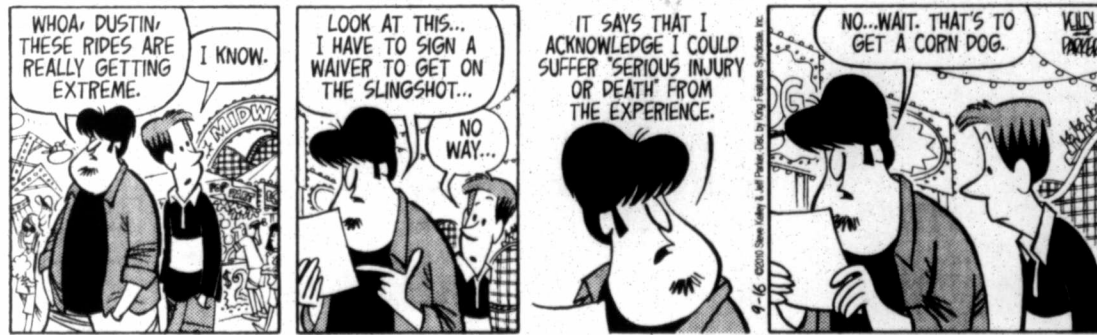
Baby Blues



Crank Shaft



Dustin



Mother Goose and Grim



Mutts



Shoe



COMICS

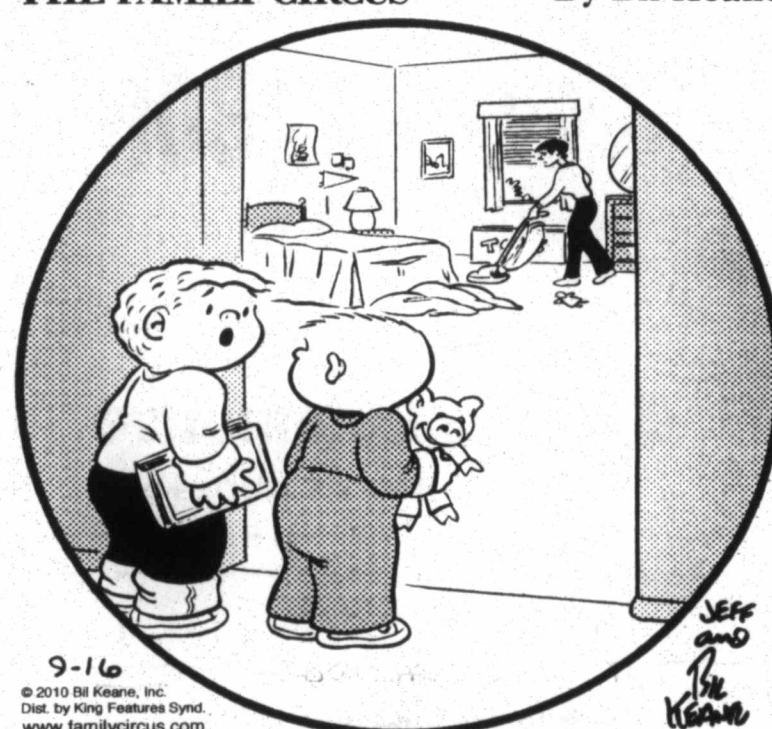
Marmaduke



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THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"Now I won't know if my things are missing or just put away."

Daily Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 39 See 36-

1 Window Across

5 Cardiff's excited

10 More ones

12 — -garde

13 Find Rhone

14 Singer charming

15 With 16- Across, "War and Peace" writer

16 See 15- Across

18 Evasive maneuver

20 Ram's mate

21 Vicinity

23 Sunburnt

24 Prom wear

26 Touch down

28 Spanish hero

29 Go across

31 Hack-neyed

32 "The Joy Luck Club" writer

36 With 39- Across, "The Name of the Rose" writer

Y	E	A	G	E	R	S	L	A	P
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R	E	L	I		N	I	T	R	O
A	L	I		P	I	T	C	R	E
D	U	G		E	V	E	A	G	E
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E	L	L	S		S	T	E	A	K

Yesterday's answer

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 7 Camper's light | 27 Some Tawny cat |
| 8 Supplied with funding | 30 Contrived of |
| 9 Didn't go | 34 Caustic |
| 11 Investor's income | 35 Plane parts |
| 17 Indivisible | 37 Dueling weapon |
| 19 Coarse | 38 Take it easy |
| 22 Stylish | 42 Pole worker |
| 24 TV's "Girls" | |
| 25 Eccentric | |

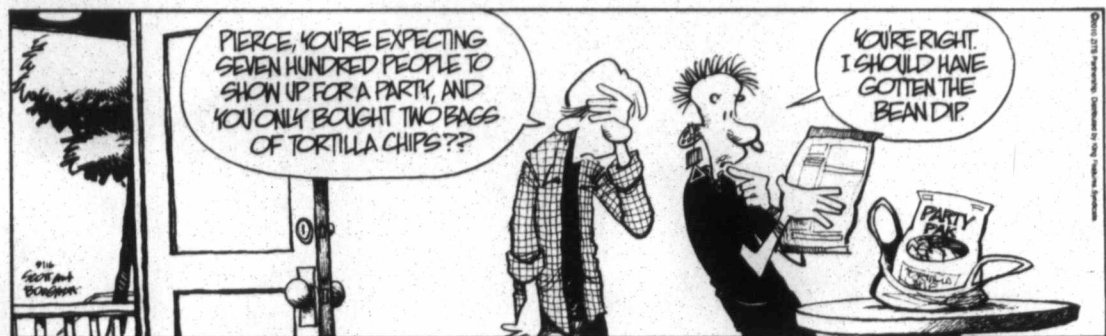
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36				37	38			39
40						41	42	
43						44		
45							46	

For Better Or Worse



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Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



green & gold

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