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County Commission addresses taxes, computers and victim's rights issues

by David Bowser
staff reporter

Tax problems, computer problems and a demand by the Texas Attorney General highlighted this week's Gray County Commissioners Court. Gray County Sheriff Don Copeland complained that his deputies were being penalized by the Internal Revenue Service for doing their jobs. When a deputy is sent to pick up a prisoner somewhere, his travel expenses are taxed. Chief Deputy Kelly Rushing argued that money is withheld as

a fringe benefit rather than being paid as a business expense, which would be deductible. "Do you tell your people you have to go on a trip," Rushing asked commissioners, "but you have to pay taxes on expenses?" Gray County Auditor Elaine Morris and Gray County Treasurer both agreed they didn't like the policy but said that was what they were told during a recent IRS seminar. Wheeler County was fined \$17,000 for not paying taxes in such situations.

The commission in an effort to get more opinions postponed action on the matter until their Dec. 15 meeting. In another bizarre twist during Monday's commissioners meeting, 31st District Attorney Lynn Switzer told commissioners that her office would receive no funding from two grants for victim's assistance offered through the Texas Attorney General's Office; however, in acknowledging the lack of funding, the Texas Attorney General's Office wants a letter from the county with a

statement saying that if the AG had funded the grant request and then for some reason ended the funding that the county would cover the costs of a victim's assistance program. "It makes no sense," Switzer told the commissioners, "because we weren't funded." Switzer said that the paragraph to be included in the letter to the attorney general's office does not commit the county to paying for a victim's assistance program. It would only commit the county to

See County, Page 3

City Commission meets today

The Pampa City Commission today will go into executive session to discuss the appointment of a new city attorney, a new city manager and a loan made by the former Pampa Economic Development Corporation. Pampa City Manager Trevlyn Pitner will formally tender his resignation today at the special meeting of the city commission. Pitner, who notified the mayor and commissioners a week ago that he would be leaving to take a job in the private sector, was named interim city manager in April and city manager in July. He was formerly the Pampa Police Chief. Pitner's last day as city manager will be Dec. 12. He will go to work for Motorola in Dallas. City Attorney Franklin McDonough tendered his resignation last week, and the Pampa City Commission named Don Lane, the former city attorney, to the post on an interim basis. McDonough, a former Assistant District Attorney in Pampa, is taking a position as Assistant District Attorney in Hutchinson County. The city commission will also meet with legal counsel today in closed session to discuss the status of a loan made by the former Pampa Economic Development Corporation. The Pampa City Commission will meet at 4 p.m. Tuesday in the Commission Chambers at City Hall.

Lefors man killed in crash

by Rachel Stennett
rstennett@thepampapnews.com

A semi-truck versus motor vehicle accident occurred yesterday, which resulted in one fatality and one person being transported to Pampa Regional Medical Center. The accident happened just after 4:30 p.m. Clayton Lock, of Lefors was driving a 1990 Mac truck westbound on State Highway 273. Gene Music, of Lefors was eastbound on 273, when Lock turned left on intersecting Farm to Market Road 749 and struck Music's 2005 Ford pickup on the driver's side door. "Both vehicles came to a rest in the southern portion of the intersection," explained Chris Smith, secretary of the Department of Public Safety. An additional vehi-

cle driven by Neva Davis, of Pampa was involved in the accident. David was stopped at a stop sign on 749 facing north. An ice chest flew out of Music's vehicle and struck Davis' vehicle, but did not result in any injuries. Two units and six personnel from Pampa Fire Department responded to the accident, where they used the Jaws of Life to extricate Music from his vehicle, according to Fire Chief Kim Powell. Music was pronounced dead at the scene by Judge Joe Martinez. Lock was transported to the Pampa Regional Medical Center after the accident. Any charges associated with the accident were pending as of press time.



photo by Rachel Stennett

Braden Russell enthusiastically announces the next act during the practice for The Variety Show with Rikki Earnest, presented by Pampa High School's Drama Department. The live show will be tonight at 7 p.m., admission is \$2. The show features singing, skits and music by PHS students.

County seeks IT person

by David Bowser
staff reporter

Gray County is looking for a computer expert. Elaine Morris, the county auditor has become the defacto Information Technology administrator, but told the Gray County Commissioners Court this week that she does not want that job. "I no longer want to function as an IT administrator," Morris told the commission Monday. Recently, someone unplugged one of the computer connections in the county's computer room atop the courthouse. The room is locked with only the County Judge's Office and the 31st District Attorney's Office having keys. Gray County Judge Richard Peet said that the room is used for the county's computer system and by the district

attorney's office for storage. The county contracts with Daniel Silva for external services such as the internet. "That has worked well," Morris said. But there have apparently been problems between Silva and the sheriff's office, the district attorney's office and the county attorney's office. The district attorney's office has their own computer administrator, Morris said. "We've had problems," Sheriff Don Copeland said. Peet said that when Silva needs access to the computer room, he comes to the judge's office and gets the key. When he leaves, he returns the key. The judge indicated that he was aware of people calling Silva for such tasks as

See IT, Page 3

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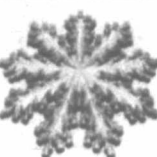
NEXT DAY FORECAST

Wednesday



Cloudy

Thursday



Cloudy

Friday



Mostly sunny

Wednesday: A 20 percent chance of snow showers before 2 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 38. Winds could gust as high as 45 mph.

Wednesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 23. East wind around 10 mph becoming south.

Thursday: Periods of flurries before 2 p.m., then periods of flurries after 4 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 37. South-southeast wind between 9 and 15 mph.

Thursday Night: Periods of flurries before 7 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 19.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 48.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 26.

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The following grain quotations are provided by Attebury Grain of White Deer for the close of the last open market day.

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Milo.....	4.25
Corn.....	5.94
Soybeans.....	6.56

Second man in toddler video case pleads

FORT WORTH (AP) — A man shown on videotape coaxing two toddlers into smoking marijuana has pleaded guilty.

Vanswan Polty was sentenced to seven years in prison in a plea deal Tuesday, after pleading guilty to two charges of injury to a child and other unrelated charges. Polty's trial was set to start this week, and he had faced up to life in prison if convicted of a felony charge of engaging in organized criminal activity.

Polty, 20, and a teenage uncle of the 2-year-old and 4-year-old were seen in the video found by police last year in the Fort Worth suburb of Watauga. Drug tests performed on the children revealed they had marijuana and cocaine in their system. The children have since been placed in foster care.

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Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents between 7 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 27 and 12 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 29.

Thursday, Nov. 27
 Officers conducted five traffic stops.

Calls and stops concerning animals were made in the 1500 block of North Coffee, Crawford and Clark streets, the 500 block of Yeager.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 600 block of North Powell; and at Mc's Car Wash, 1901 N. Hobart, where an unknown individual or individuals reportedly attempted to break into the office with a vehicle and left a bumper impression on the door.

Alarms were reported in the 700 block of West Foster and the 700 block of North Hobart.

Accidents were reported in the 100 block of North Sumner and the 400 block of Crest.

A stolen vehicle report was taken from the 900 block of East Francis.

Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 800 block of East

Brunow, the 1000 block of Sirroco, and at North Crest and Sirroco.

Theft was reported in the 1900 block of Hobart.

A suspicious person was reported at 25th and Hobart streets.

Friday, Nov. 28
 Officers conducted 20 traffic stops. Stops at Barnes and Campbell, the 400 block of West Worrell and the 500 block of Osborne resulted in at least one arrest.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1000 block of West Wilks and the 300 block of South Tignor.

Calls and stops concerning animals were made in the 300 block of North Dwight, the 700 block of North Lefors, the 2000 block of Hamilton, the 400 block of North Magnolia, the 1600 block of North Sumner and the 500 block of North Magnolia.

A silent/abusive 911 call was reported in the 1800 block of North Fir.

A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 1400 block of Dogwood.

Warrant service was conducted in the 2800 block of North Charles.

Alarms were reported

in the 2500 block of North Chestnut, the 400 block of North Somerville and the 1300 block of North Hobart.

Lost property was reported two times in the police department lobby and once from the 1400 block of North Wells. The caller from Wells reported a purse with contents.

A gas drive off in the amount of \$50 was reported at Allsup's, 140 S. Starkweather.

A suspicious person was reported in the 1200 block of North Christine.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1000 block of South Hobart.

Civil matters were reported in the police department lobby and from the 500 block of North Magnolia and the 1000 block of Darby.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 1500 block of West Kentucky.

A runaway was reported in the 300 block of North Banks.

Criminal mischief was reported at AmericInn Lodge & Suites, 1101 N. Hobart. A window in a bus was reported shot with a BB gun.

Welfare checks were conducted in the 400 block of North Hill and at 18th and Nelson streets.

Saturday, Nov. 29

Officers conducted 31 traffic stops. Stops in the 1000 block of South Neel Road, the 700 block of West Brown, the 1200 block of West Crawford, the 1000 block of Brunow and the 800 block of North Frost resulted in arrests.

Calls and stops concerning animals were made in the 1100 block of Willow Road, the 2100 block of North Lynn, the 900 block of South Finley, the 1000 block of Darby, the 100 block of Warren, the 500 block of North Perry, the 1800 block of North Hobart and the 1900 block of Sumner.

An assault with minor injuries was reported from the 2100 block of North Zimmers.

Suspicious persons were reported in the 1800 block

of North Coffee, the 900 block of North Duncan and from the 900 block of North Somerville.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported from the 400 block of Magnolia, where a Subwoofer box, worth an estimated \$1,000, was reported stolen.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 1200 block of East Frederic.

Traffic complaints were reported in the 800 block of North Dwight, the 900 block of East Murphy, the 1400 block of North Hobart and the 1100 block of North Duncan.

One funeral escort was provided.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 800 block of North Nelson, where window screens were reported ripped and an apartment ransacked.

Criminal trespass was reported from the 1300 block of North Banks.

A silent/abusive 911 call was reported in the 1100 block of Willow Road.

An attempt to serve papers or a warrant was reported in the 1100 block of South Huff.

Theft of a pistol was reported in the police department lobby.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 2400 block of Dogwood Lane, where two blow-up Christmas decorations, valued at an estimated \$145, were reported slashed.

An alarm was reported in the 100 block of West Georgia Avenue.

A prowler was reported from the 500 block of North Christy.

Disorderly conduct was reported from the 2500 block of Beech Lane.

A suspicious vehicle — a jet ski trailer and two jet skis pushed into street — was reported in the 1400 block of North Dwight.

Sheriff

Gray County Sheriff's Office recorded the following arrests today.

Monday, Dec. 1

Leslie Glenn Tibbets, 66, of Lefors was arrested by Texas Department of Public Safety for DWI, second offense.

Gage Dane Zeek, 17, of Lefors was arrested by GCSO on a directive to apprehend.

Tuesday, Dec. 2

Jarrett Shane Towles, 18, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa Police Department on warrants for no valid driver's license and failure to maintain financial responsibility.

Gallardo Jose Antonio Mejia, 33, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa PD for failure to identify fugitive, resisting arrest, no valid driver's license, failure to maintain financial responsibility, public intoxication and disorderly conduct-fighting.

Clarence Reed Jr., 32, of Amarillo was arrested by GCSO for possession of drug paraphernalia, failure to appear and expired motor vehicle inspection; on warrants for aggravated robbery and credit card abuse; and on a bond surrender for possession of less than 1-gram of a controlled substance.

Ashli Diane Harris, 21, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa PD for no valid driver's license.

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BABY'S 1ST Christmas (in the Christmas Eve edition of the Pampa News), deadline is Dec. 15th, 5pm. \$25. Photos should be of baby only, please. No emailed photos will be accepted.

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SANTA LETTERS to go in Pampa News Santa Letter Special Edition on Dec. 18th, deadline is Fri. Dec. 12th, at noon.

SIGN UP your pet to ride on the Animal Shelter float for the Christmas parade on Dec. 6th. This is a tribute to all the lives saved through the animal shelter. For those who can not walk in the parade, a float will be provided. Call 669-5775 to sign up.

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County

Continued from Page 1

such an expense if the grant had been funded and the funding subsequently withdrawn.

"We don't have to fund it," Switzer said, "because they didn't fund it."

She said that in talking to the attorney general's office, she was told that they needed a letter with the wording concerning the funding in order to close out the grant application process.

Not doing so, Switzer said, could cause difficulties getting future grants.

Gray County has a victim's assistance coordinator funded through a grant from the Texas Governor's office, but that is only for 20 hours a week through September, 2009, Switzer said.

"By law," she said, "we have to have a victim coordinator."

Gray County Judge Richard Peet asked Switzer the contact the attorney general's office and get their reasoning in writing, indicating that the subject will be on the commission's Dec. 15 agenda.

The commission is also expected to take up the

question of appointing a new Information Technology (IT) administrator at their Dec. 15 meeting.

Morris, who has become the defacto IT administrator, said she no longer wishes to be involved and asked that the county commission hire or appoint a full time IT administrator.

Judge Peet agreed that it was not a part of her job description and said he would put together a committee to try to find a solution by the mid-December meeting.

In other business, the commissioners court did some end-of-the-year financial housekeeping with minor budget amendments and line item transfers in preparation for an audit.

They approved a crossing of Gray County Road 8 in connection with the new Junior High School northwest of Pampa.

The commission went out for bids for a new vehicle for the Sheriff's Department. Bids will be opened Jan. 15.

They approved replacement of the west exterior doors to the Sheriff's Office by Pampa Glass and Supply, but they deferred action to replace the west doors at the Lovett Building.

funded through the general fund.

Morris said that Silva, an electrical engineer and computer scientist, is essentially a one-man operation. She indicated that he may not have returned calls as quickly as some in the courthouse have wanted or there may have been some personal conflicts.

Judge Peet said he would form a committee to study the problem and try to have a solution by the commission's Dec. 15 meeting.



submitted photo

Kindergartners Carlos Soliz, Cameron Littlefield and Xstavian Williams participated in a special Thanksgiving celebration at Lamar Elementary School recently.

ADOPT A FRIEND

Once again Meals On Wheels is sponsoring a program for the Holidays that allows individuals to pay for patrons that are presently receiving meals, but do not have the ability to pay, or can only pay the minimum of .25 cents per meal. This is approximately 60% of our patrons. Our patrons have the need of a warm, nutritious meal which has to be addressed daily. The cost of each meal is averaging \$4.00. This leaves us with quite a large deficit for each meal. If you would like to pay for the meals of a patron for one week (\$20.00); one month (\$80.00); or one year (\$960.00), please fill out the form below and return with your check to: Pampa Meals on Wheels, P. O. Box 939, Pampa, Texas 79065, or bring to our office located at 302 E. Foster. Any donation is appreciated.

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IT

Continued from Page 1

plugging in their printers.

"Sometimes," Peet said, "we've called him for jobs that are not a part of his contract."

"From my standpoint," said Gray County Commissioner Scott Hahn, "Daniel is good."

"We need to have someone dedicated to IT," Morris said.

She asked the commission to employ someone full time in the job. She said that the commission needs to give one person the authority to oversee the county's computer operations, which are

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Entry Deadline: Wednesday • December 3

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Viewpoints

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Dec. 2, the 337th day of 2008. There are 29 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 2, 1942, an artificially created, self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction was demonstrated for the first time, at the University of Chicago.

On this date:

'Truth is most beautiful undraped, and the expression it makes is deep in proportion as its expression has been simple.'

—Arthur Schopenhauer
German philosopher

In 1804, Napoleon crowned himself Emperor of the French.

In 1823, President James Monroe outlined his doctrine opposing European expansion in the Western Hemisphere.

In 1859, militant abolitionist John Brown was hanged for his

raid on Harpers Ferry, Va., the previous October.

In 1927, Ford Motor Co. formally unveiled its Model A automobile, the successor to its Model T.

In 1954, the Senate voted to condemn Wisconsin Republican Joseph R. McCarthy for conduct that "tends to bring the Senate into disrepute."

In 1970, the Environmental Protection Agency began operating under director William Ruckelshaus.

In 1982, in the first operation of its kind, doctors at the University of Utah Medical Center implanted a permanent artificial heart in the chest of retired dentist Dr. Barney Clark, who lived 112 days with the device.

In 1988, Benazir Bhutto was sworn in as prime minister of Pakistan.

Ten years ago: Former Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy was acquitted of all counts in a corruption case involving sports tickets and travel that he'd accepted from companies that did business with his department.

Five years ago: The Supreme Court ruled unanimously that after knocking, police don't have to wait longer than 20 seconds before breaking into the home of a drug suspect. Authorities in Ohio announced that they had linked 12 shootings along a five-mile stretch of interstate around Columbus, including one that killed a woman and another that broke a window at an elementary school.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Julie Harris is 83. Former Attorney General Edwin Meese III is 77. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., is 69. Actress Cathy Lee Crosby is 64. Movie director Penelope Spheeris is 63. Actor Dan Butler is 54. Broadcast journalist Stone Phillips is 54. Actor Dennis Christopher is 53. Actor Steven Bauer is 52. Country singer Joe Henry is 48.



Time for Texas to face its transportation woes

By Texas State Senators John Carona (R), Dallas and Kirk Watson (D), Austin.

Texas highways were once the pride of the state — and justifiably so. Our extensive infrastructure allowed generations of farmers and ranchers to feed the state and the world, and it turned our cities into economic powerhouses. Our transportation networks allowed generations of Texans to charge into a prosperous future without having to catch up with the present.

But for a generation, the state has approached old and new transportation challenges in a very different way. We have struggled simply to keep up with our needs. This has left Texas at a critical intersection, and the choices that the Legislature makes over the next several months will determine both how we live in the short term and what opportunities our children will inherit.

Texas now faces a transportation crisis. We spend more and more of our lives in traffic instead of with our families. We seldom, if ever, see major roads built without toll booths. And the rail lines and highway lane miles we know we need are being scaled back or scrapped in the face of a hopeless inability to pay

for them.

It is only becoming harder to address these needs. The costs of concrete, steel and other basic road building materials have risen by 60 percent over the last five years. However, the state motor fuels tax — our primary source of transportation funding — has been frozen at 20 cents per gallon since 1991. The disparity has left the state facing

Use Bond Funding Transparently: A year ago, Texans voted to dedicate \$5 billion in tax-supported bonds to transportation projects. The Legislature should appropriate this money for its intended purpose and commit to using it with complete transparency and accountability.

Support Regional Financing Tools: Other than toll roads and privati-

ate a truly comprehensive state-wide system for moving people and freight. This should begin by funding the Rail Relocation Fund that voters overwhelmingly approved in 2005.

Reform the Texas Department of Transportation: With its overt advocacy of privatization and occasional disregard for the Legislature, the department has rightly incurred the wrath of Texans and their representatives. While we applaud the department's recent efforts to be more transparent and accountable, the Legislature must fundamentally reform the agency so that Texans are fully aware of its activities and never question its objectives.

These changes will not be easy, and they will confound the frequent promises of something-for-nothing. But they are necessary if we are to address the needs we see every day at rush hour — challenges that will only become greater. Our children must not be the first generation of Texans to inherit an inadequate transportation infrastructure with nowhere to grow.

—Sens. Carona and Watson serve respectively as chair and vice chair of the Senate Transportation and Homeland Security Committee.

Legislature should address funding disparity

21st Century challenges with a 20th Century tool.

The Texas Lyceum, a group of the state's top thinkers and policy makers, will focus on this issue at its annual public conference in Houston on Dec. 3 (for more information, see http://www.texaslyceum.org/events_list_con.aspx). And in January, the 81st Texas Legislature will begin weighing opportunities to make a meaningful investment in transportation. Here are alternatives which we believe the state must explore:

End Transportation Funding Diversions: The State Highway Fund has long provided money for the Department of Public Safety and other priorities. We must focus this money on roads and other transportation projects.

zation schemes, the state has provided few options for cities, counties and other local jurisdictions to fund transportation. The Legislature should offer new voter-approved funding mechanisms for regions to plan and pay for roads, rail lines and other projects.

Re-Write the Gas Tax: Texas' primary source of transportation funding cannot provide for the state's transportation needs. The Legislature must have a serious debate about restructuring the motor fuels tax to reflect the enormity of our tasks by indexing it to inflation.

Explore New Alternatives: Texas must move past a 20th Century model that relies so heavily on single-occupancy vehicles and work to cre-

Associated Press news briefs from around the state

Indictments dismissed

RAYMONDVILLE, Texas (AP) — A judge dismissed eight indictments Monday brought by a South Texas prosecutor against high-profile figures including Vice President Dick Cheney, former Attorney General Alberto Gonzales and a state senator. The order by Administrative Judge Manuel Banales ended two weeks of proceedings that some courtroom veterans declared the most bizarre they had ever witnessed.

It also began to dim the lights on the rocky tenure of outgoing Willacy County District Attorney Juan Angel Guerra, who even in thorough defeat saw the outcome as confirmation of the very conspiracy he had pursued.

"I expected it," Guerra said immediately after the hearing. "The system is going to protect itself."

On Nov. 17 a Willacy County

grand jury returned eight indictments. Three of those targeting private prison operator The GEO Group, state Sen. Eddie Lucio Jr. and lastly Cheney and Gonzales, focused on the nexus of privately run prisons and politicians.

Woman found barely alive in Texas City house

TEXAS CITY, Texas (AP) — A 62-year-old woman has been hospitalized after authorities found her barely alive with maggots eating her flesh, Texas City police said.

Police found the woman after someone called 911 late Friday night claiming to be her son and said his mother had bedsores and needed an ambulance, police Capt. Brian Goetschius said. The caller, who police are searching for, said the back door of the house would be open and hung up. Goetschius said. The officer who entered the house

said it was in deplorable condition and there were several cats running around inside. He said he was overcome by a smell similar to that of a decaying body. The person who made the 911 call was not there.

The officer then saw what he first thought was a dead woman on the living room floor. Goetschius said that the officer then saw the woman blink.

"She was teetering on the brink of death," Goetschius told The Daily News in Galveston.

He said the woman is Linda Sue Sainz, a retired Galveston County Sheriff's Office dispatcher.

Sainz was taken to Mainland Medical Center in Texas City.

Police said that the 911 call came from a phone in the house.

"The circumstances with the 911 call were unusual. I think this whole case is unusual," Goetschius told Houston television station KHOU.

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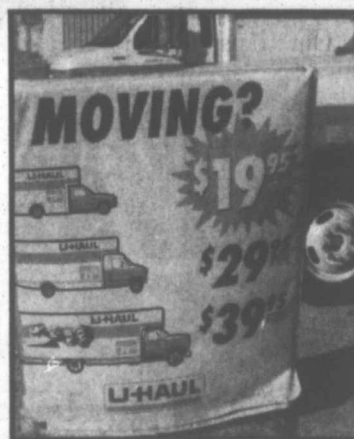
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By Bil Keane



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Daily Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

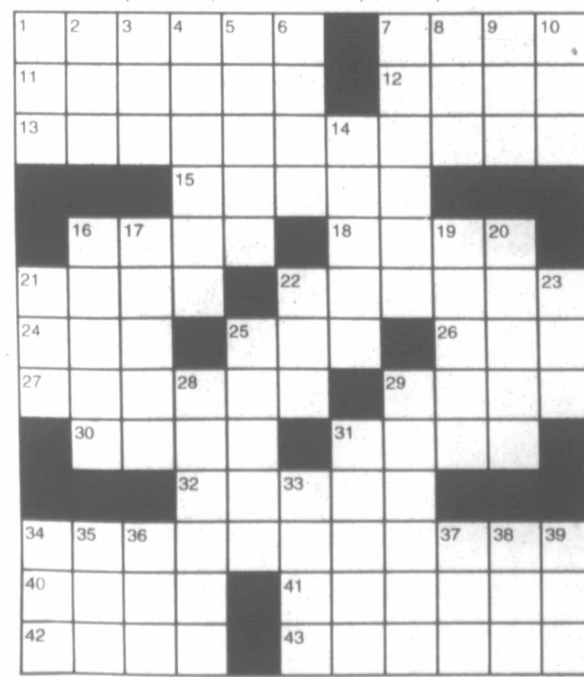
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7 Brewed drinks
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21 Dressable toy
22 Church officer
24 Suffering
25 Like go-go boots
26 Small bill
27 Posted
29 Frost, for one
30 Pants part
31 Not too spicy
32 Rube
34 Typecasts
40 Skunk's defense
41 Canada's capital
42 Periods
43 Squandered

DOWN

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5 Decorate
6 Hit the runway
7 Insect section
8 Snaky swimmer
9 Exist
10 Sinking signal
14 Had aspirations
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17 Skateboarding jump
19 Milking seat
20 In shape
21 Poorly lit
22 Turf
23 Bad-minton
25 Copycat's cry
28 Strata
29 Airline employees
31 Conductor Zubin
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Sports

Lefors' "Ski" named District Coach of the Year

**Lott, Johnson named MVPs
Forsyth, Hess on All-star team**

by Deborah Henson
special to The Pampa News

The Lefors Pirates lost a heart-wrenching game Friday night to the Silverton Owls 62 - 70. Lefors lead the majority of the game including a 34-19 half-time lead.

In the third quarter the weather changed dramatically which proved to be a big influence on the game. Fog rolled in causing poor visibility. You could not see across the football field which severely hampered Lefors passing game. The surface of the field was very slick and generally in poor condition. Another game was played on that field before the Lefors game.

"The game was exactly what we thought it would be, a hard fought match-up until the fourth quarter," Coach Joey "Ski" Czubinski stated. "It was a tough physical game with all our starters coming out at some point in the game due to injuries."

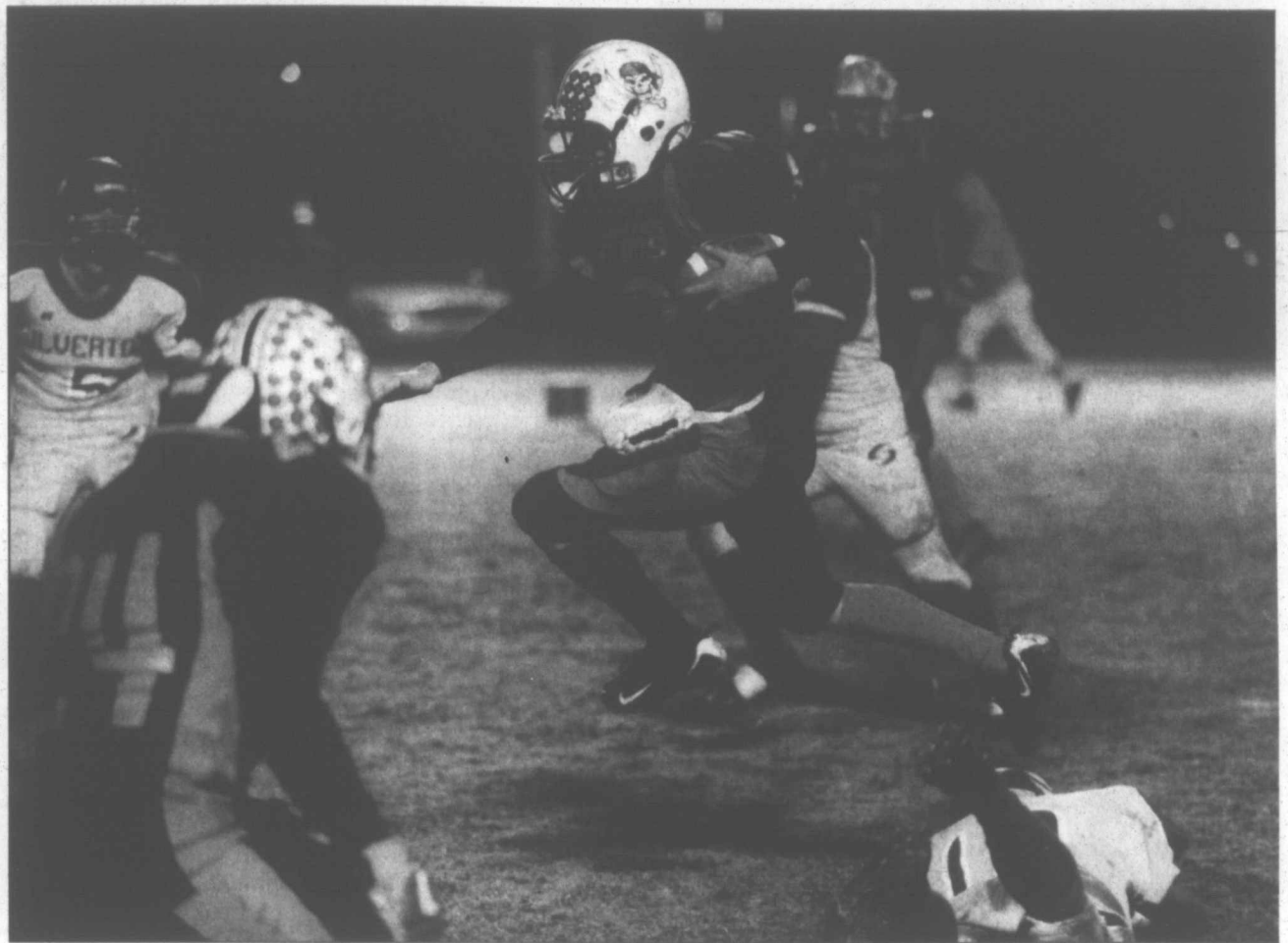
Wakely Pairsh received a concussion at the end of the second quarter and was unable to play the rest of the game. Kicker Brandon McBee was injured in the first quarter on a kick-off play. That injury hampered him the rest of the game.

The difference in the game was turnovers. Lefors turned the ball over five times to Silverton's one. Two of those turnovers were in Silverton's end zone, costing Lefors scores.

The Pirates had a very good game despite the loss. Trever Czubinski rushed for 105 yards with two rushing touchdowns. He caught 5 passes for 48 yards and two touchdowns. Keenan Lott was 21 for 39 for 290 total passing yards with three throws for touchdowns. He had 62 rushing yards. Payton Johnson had 6 receptions for 88 yards, three touchdowns and one blocked kick. Brandon McBee had two receptions for 53 yards and one touchdown. Nick Hess had 16 tackles and one blocked kick for the night. Dustin Forsyth had three receptions for 46 yards, nine tackles and one blocked kick. Before being injured Wakely Pairsh had three tackles.

The Pirates had to go deep into the sidelines due to injuries resulting from a very physical game. Seth Fry, Cody Hess and Joey Johnson played extended minutes for the Pirates.

After the game the all-district team was named.



staff photo by David Bowser
Lefors Pirate Nick Hess races past the line of scrimmage to pick up yardage during a first half drive against the Silverton Owls. Although the Pirates lead for the first three quarters of the game, the Owls eventually scuttled the Pirates ship, beating the Pirates 70-62.

Coach Ski was named district coach of the year and Lefors had the MVP for both offensive and defensive.

Keenan Lott was named offensive MVP and first team spread back and first team safety.

Payton Johnson was named defensive MVP of the district along with

being named first team running back and first team defensive end. He was also named as an alternate to the state All-star game.

Seniors Dustin Forsyth and Nick Hess were named to the state All-star game to represent there district that will be played in July in

Lubbock.

Dustin was also first team center and first team nose tackle. Nick Hess was first team full back and first team linebacker. Senior Brandon McBee was named first team wide receiver and first team punter. He is also an alternate to the state All-star game. Junior Wakely

Pairsh was named first team cornerback and first team special teams. Junior Trever Czubinski was named first team tight-end and first team defensive-end. Junior Seth Fry was named second team offensive-end and Cody Hess was named second team special teams and safety.

State Sports

**COLLEGE
Tech's Harrell
recovering**

LUBBOCK — Texas Tech quarterback Graham Harrell was recovering Monday from surgery to repair nine breaks in two fingers of his non-throwing hand, but he won't miss any playing time. Texas Tech spokesman Chris Cook confirmed details of Harrell's injury and Sunday surgery. He didn't have specifics on whether Harrell's fingers got caught in a facemask or slammed against a helmet in Saturday's 35-28 win over Baylor.

**BASKETBALL:
WNBA
Comets
Disbanding**

The Houston Comets, a franchise that won the first four WNBA championships, is disbanding. The league-owned team will be shut down because new owners couldn't be found. By Sports Writer Oscar Dixon.

**CYCLING:
Armstrong will
do it again**

AUSTIN, Texas — Lance Armstrong will ride in the 2009 Tour de France, marking the first time he will compete in that race and the Giro d'Italia in the same year.

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submitted photo
Taylor Woods of Pampa harvested his first deer in Shamrock recently.

Williams, Slaton lead Texans past Jags 30-17

By KRISTIE RIEKEN
AP Sports Writer
HOUSTON (AP) — Steve Slaton wanted the ball more.

So the rookie marched up to Houston coach Gary Kubiak at halftime, grabbed him by the shirt and told him so.

Kubiak listened and Slaton responded with a pair of fourth-quarter touchdowns to lead the Texans to a 30-17 win over slumping Jacksonville in their Monday Night Football debut.

"I wanted to run the ball," Slaton said. "I wanted to let him know that if he needed someone to count on, it was me."

Mario Williams had a season-high three sacks and forced a fumble. Andre Johnson added a TD reception and Kris Brown kicked three field goals in the win, a highlight in Houston's disappointing season so far.

The top pick in the 2006 draft, Williams brought down quarterback

David Garrard in the second, third and fourth quarters. He forced a fumble by Garrard on his last sack and Houston recovered on the 7.

"Our defense was excellent throughout the game," Kubiak said. "Our defense played extremely well, gave us tremendous opportunities."

Williams' sack set up Slaton's 7-yard score that made it 23-3 with 4:35 to go. Slaton tacked on a 40-yard TD run and finished with 130 yards rushing on 21 carries. He also had two catches for 52 yards in front of a franchise-record crowd of 70,809.

"Nothing's too big for him," Kubiak said. "To watch him get stronger at the end of the game is impressive."

Slaton, Williams and the rest of the Texans were clad in their "Battle Red" uniforms for their first Monday night game. The city of Houston hosted a Monday nighter for the first time since Nov. 21, 1994, when the New

York Giants beat the Oilers 13-10 at the Astrodome.

Sage Rosenfels, making his fourth consecutive start in place of injured Texans quarterback Matt Schaub, threw for 200 yards and a score with an interception.

Williams, who has 11 sacks this season, thrived once again in the prime-time spotlight. In his only other night game, a Thursday night matchup against Denver last season, he finished with 3 1/2 sacks.

"The scene was set," Williams said. "There was a lot of intensity. People were saying that we weren't ready for the big stage, analysts or whatever. Come on, now. Anything can happen."

Houston (5-7) isn't where it hoped to be after finishing 8-8 last year, but is feeling good after two straight wins.

The Jaguars had three turnovers and missed a field goal.

POYC Girls Basketball

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Red Riot,	2-1	Pampa Concrete,	1-2
B&G Diesel,	0-2	Shutterbug,	0-2
Panhandle Perforators,	0-2		

Pheasant surveys reveal lower numbers

Todd Montandon

Regulatory Biologist, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
It's that special time of year again, so get out your shotgun and lace up your boots. However, a lot of walking may be required to have a successful hunt this season as pheasant numbers have declined since 2007 year.

TPWD's roadside pheasant surveys are conducted in the last two weeks of October. Established twenty-mile routes are driven shortly after daylight and the numbers of pheasants are recorded. Counties typically have two or three different lines.

Although pheasant numbers are down, waste grain in harvested fields is the main food source for pheasant in the Panhandle, so areas of good cover located near grain fields will still provide some hunting opportunity.

Nesting conditions were poor to average throughout the Panhandle for ground-nesting birds.

Dry playas, particularly those adjacent to grain fields, typically hold the most birds. However, Conservation Reserve Program Fields and grain stubble should also provide good hunting opportunities. TPWD leased lands throughout the Panhandle typically exhibit these type conditions, so check ahead to see where the nearest public lease may be to you.

This year's pheasant season runs from December 6, to January 4, 2009. The daily bag limit is 3 cock pheasants (possession limit 6 cocks). Please obey all game laws and hunt only on lands where you have permission to tread.

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VoiSelect - digital voice service provided over Internet by local company

Centramedia, Inc. a local provider of Broadband Internet Services for business and residential customers has announced the availability of VoiSelect Digital Voice, a Voice over Internet Protocol service available to customers residing in the Centramedia, Inc. service area.

VoiSelect service can replace the customer's traditional home phone service and includes advanced calling features at no additional charge. The Pampa company's new service offers digital quality telephone calls with unlimited local and long distance calling in the US. Selby

Philipose, the company's Director of Network Operations, said, "With VoiSelect Digital Voice, individuals will now have a feature-rich and low priced alternative for phone service."

VoiSelect Digital Voice service includes popular features such as caller ID, call waiting, three-way calling, anonymous call rejection, call return, call blocking, forwarding and voice mail, for which traditional phone services normally charge extra

fees.

According to Philipose, customers can easily manage their calling features online and can even check, save and forward voice messages over the Internet.

VoiSelect Digital Voice service will sell for \$35.99 per month, but subscribers who also have the company's residential Internet services will save over \$500.00 a year, and receive the benefit of a single bill for all services.

"There are significant savings when customers subscribe to more than one of our products," Philipose said, "and because of all calling features are included in the package, consumers can significantly reduce what they pay for monthly telephone service".

Current ATT/SBC and Cable One customers can switch to VoiSelect and keep their current phone number, or select a new phone number. VoiSelect fully complies with Enhanced 911 standards.

Centramedia Incorporated is a locally owned and operated technology solutions provider. It has been located in Pampa for more than ten

years and in the past year, considerable capital and time have been dedicated to upgrades in its system. Over \$250,000 spent on upgrades within the past 12 months to deliver better service to all Centramedia customers including:

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- Doubled capacity for entire network

- Total tower upgrades to entire network
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Centramedia employs professional Internet and networking technicians with more than 100 years of combined experience. "We own our own infrastructure and that enables us to provide higher quality service", said Chris Vainrib, RF Operations manager.

The company delivers High Speed Broadband Internet service to residents across the eastern Texas Panhandle, nationwide dial-up, and regional IT Support Services. Before the company's inception, there was no Broadband service in this part of Texas. Centramedia also specializes in network consultation, design, installation and support, computer services and PC repair, and Web hosting and development. All services are supported by locally-based 24-hour technical support available 365 days a year meaning you can talk to a real person who is not in a foreign country.



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submitted photo

The Drama Club at Pampa High School recently participated in Evelyn Rivers Christmas Workshop. "It's great that we can come together and work as a whole on stage, but it's even better that we can work as a group to help others," said Meghan Asencio, vice president of the PHS club. Above: (back row, from left) Ms. Eveline Rivers, Garrett Renner, Scotty Bolgrin, Dale Montgomery, Tanner Kimbell, Haley Smith, Mary Jo Collier; (fourth row) Lacie Oxley, Kortney Hawthorne, Curston Finney, Ty Linder, Devin Asencio, Yvonne Palacios, Danielle Savior, Dillion Beasley; (third row) Meghan Asencio, Chelsea Griffin, Jennifer Hedrick, Alexis Downen, Rorie Paulk; (second row) Skylar Estes, Rikki Earnest, Celby Snapp, Jazmin Eulloqui Phoenix Keeter, Calista Walton; (first row) Daniel Leal, Dakota Davis, Cecilia Alonzo, Angelica Gomez, Marisol Dominguez and Karl Phitzner.

VFW revamps annual Christmas shopping trip

by Rachel Stennett

rstennett@thepampanews.com

The Veteran of Foreign Wars Post 1657 is putting a new spin on their annual shopping trip for families in need this year.

In the past, the VFW sponsored a shopping trip for children who were given \$100 dollars to spend on themselves, and \$25 to spend on their parents. This year, the VFW will be giving \$600 to about ten families in need to do Christmas shopping for anything they need, explained VFW President Danny Martin.

Martin said that the reason for the change is that kids favorite part of the trip was buying a gift for their parents, so they expanded the project to help the whole family.

"There are just too many kids that needed help," Martin said on the new shopping arrangement. "The family bene-

fits this way."

Families will be selected by members of the VFW. Once the family is selected, they will be taken on a shopping trip by the host VFW member who submitted their information to buy "whatever they need and whatever they want," Martin said.

About \$10,000 has been awarded for the project, all funds coming directly from the VFW. The VFW will depend on their members to choose the families in need. "Everyone knows somebody that knows somebody that needs a little

help," Martin said. If the VFW cannot find enough families to help, they will turn to churches or other organizations that know families in need. As of now, one family is signed up for the shopping trip. Deadlines for submission are on Dec. 9.

The Christmas shopping trip has been going on for five years, and Martin explained the shopping trip is important to the VFW. "We love doing it, that is what we are here for," Martin said. "We honor our dead by helping the living. That is what we are doing."

We want to publish news from your club or organization. Submit your story or snapshots to Editor Betsy Phillips at bphillips@thepampanews.com or call us at 669-2525.

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I am a foreign exchange student studying in the U.S. Other exchange students and I have been debating two questions. The first: Is it OK to buy a movie ticket and watch two or three movies? Some say "yes" because theaters tolerate it in the hope that customers will buy snacks and drinks in the process. Others say it goes against the honor system. The second is: Is it wrong to return merchandise you never intended to buy in the first place? Example: to buy a novel and return it after reading it. My friends say bookstores expect a certain number of returns and build it into the cost of the books. As long as the book is kept in good condition, it's OK. Other friends stress, however, that this, again, is taking advantage of the honor system. What is your opinion? -- CURIOUS STUDENT IN HOUSTON

DEAR CURIOUS: Both of the examples you have given are forms of cheating and theft. I cannot think of a single country where this kind of behavior is sanctioned. If enough customers behaved that way, it could put the business owner out of business. And one more thing -- you and your fellow exchange students represent your countries, and what you do while you're here reflects not only on yourselves personally, but also the country that sent you.

DEAR ABBY: I have two grandchildren. My first is a girl named "Skylar," and my second is a boy, "Dante." I raised two sons as a single mother and always had a house full of boys. Since Skylar was born, she has become my world. I take her everywhere with me, but my nerves just can't handle Dante. I am being criticized for treating my grandchildren differently and accused of being prejudiced. It may be true. But Skylar is very sweet, while Dante -- whom I do love -- is "all boy" and hard to handle. Are my feelings due to the fact that Skylar is my first grandchild, or because she's the first girl in my life? Or am I just burned out on boys? I turn down dates to spend time with her. I'd rather spend the rest of my life with my granddaughter than any man on Earth. Do other grandparents feel this way, or am I obsessed? -- SKYLAR'S

NANA IN FLORIDA

DEAR NANA: They may feel similarly, but if they are intelligent, mature and caring, they conceal it better than you do. Whether you choose to spend time with your grandchildren or an eligible man is your choice. But to make it obvious that you favor one child over the other is cruel, and the less-loved little one will recognize it, be hurt and resent it.

DEAR

ABBY: I have developed a weird habit. I'll remember something that happened in the past, think of what I should have said and then burst out loud with a remark. Other times I'll chuckle or say something like, "Oh, no!" Sometimes my husband hears me and asks if something is wrong. How can I explain this without seeming like I'm totally losing it? Or am I? I'm only 50, and I'm afraid I'm turning into a dotty old lady. -- CRAZY? LADY IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR LADY: What you're doing isn't that unusual, so try to be less hard on yourself. You're not crazy, and you're no dottier than the rest of us. Explain to your husband that when you do this, it is an attempt to "repair" the past. P.S. If you train yourself to stay in the moment rather than dwelling on things in the past, you will find yourself talking to yourself less often.

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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1 Public Notice

PUBLIC AUCTION, 3 abandoned vehicles. Wed. 10am., 1432 S. Barnes, Pampa, TX

3 Personal

ADOPT A loving Dentist & Teacher yearn to be doing dad & fulltime mom. Expenses pd. Fred & Beth 1-800-563-7964

5 Special Notices

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

10 Lost/Found

LOST Yellow Lab. Female. 9 months old. Please call 432-638-6455 or 432-770-6229.

FOUND Dachshund in Priest Park area (behind Easy's Pop Shop). Call 669-6210.

13 Bus. Opp.

GREAT Investment opp. Pampa motel. Retired couple or individual. 665-1875, 806-383-1985.

14d Carpentry

Carpentry, Roofing, Replacement Windows, steel siding & trim. Continuous gutters. Jerry Nicholas 669-9991, 662-8169

CUSTOM Building & Remodeling. Replacement windows. Ref. avail. Shawn Deaver Const. 662-2977 or 665-0354.

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

14e Carpet Serv.

NU-WAY CLEANING SERVICE Bob Marx Owner-Operator. Call 665-3541.

14h Gen. Serv.

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

COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.

CERAMIC tile work. Remodeling floor, shower, kitchen. Texture, painting, dry wall. Free est. Call 665-3453 leave message, Jesus Barraza.

JH Concrete Work. Stamps, driveways, addition, fences, patios. Free Est. 806-382-5408.

HANDYMAN Interior / Exterior. Painting, yard clean up. Nothing to small. Do it all. Free estimates. 662-1776

HAUL off trash, clean-up, dirt work & driveways. Snow removal. 679-7985.

14n Painting

PAINTING Inside & Out Professional Job Guaranteed. Call Steve Porter 669-9347 Home 662-2574 Cell

14s Plumbing/Heat

BROWNING'S Heating & Air, a name you have trusted for over 44 yrs. Call Bill 665-1212

CIRCLE M Plumbing. Repair, Remodel. Resi., Comm. Over 30 yrs. as a Master Plumber. Mike J. McBride, M12260. Call 806-626-5204.

JACK'S Plumbing, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115.

19 Situations

CHILDCARE provided in my home, Mon. thru Sat., 24 hrs. Hot meals & snacks provided. I have references. Call 669-3549.

21 Help Wanted

NOTICE Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

THE Lipscomb Co. Sheriff's Dept. is taking applications for the position of **DEPUTY SHERIFF**. Must be licensed by the Texas Commission of Law Enforcement Officer and Education. Applications will be taken until position is filled. Contact Lipscomb County Sheriff's Dept. for appl. Lipscomb Co. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

THE Lipscomb Co. Sheriff's Office is taking applications for **Part-Time Jailer / Dispatcher**. Applications will be taken until position is filled. Call the Sheriff's Office, 806-862-2611 for appl. info. Lipscomb Co. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

21 Help Wanted

SIVALLS Inc. is looking for welder-fabricators. Welding and drug tests req. Benefits: health ins., profit sharing, 401K, 8 paid holidays and 10 days vacation per year. 806-665-7111, Pampa, TX.

D Transports is looking for a full-time Book Keeper/Comptroller. 5 or 6 years of experience preferred. D Transports offers competitive wages, vacation time, health insurance, and retirement. Please send resumes to PO Box 887, Canadian, TX 79014, by Fax to 806-323-9893, or email dtransports@sbcglobal.net

EXPERIENCED sales person needed. A major background a major plus. Great benefits. Come enjoy a company that has been around for 50 years. 806-202-2860, Hansford Implementation Co.

AG Tech wanted. Diesel exp. req. Exc. pay & benefits. Apply in person 12098 E. Frederic, Pampa

Potter Trucking, Inc./Pampa Equal Opportunity Employer

Call 806-886-6038 or 806-935-6385 \$15 hr. or more depending on exp. Good Vacations Retirement Plan Health Ins., with partial paid on spouse and children Dental, Vision, Disability, Life, DOT Medical, CDL License Paid, Uniforms

HOME EVERY NIGHT 5 DAY SCHEDULES YOU MUST HAVE: CDL with HazMat & Tanker GOOD DRIVING AND PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT RECORD CLEAR DRUG & ALCOHOL RECORD DOT PHYSICAL

SEMGROUP Energy Partners has openings for a Full-Time Bottail and Transport Drivers in the Pampa and surrounding areas. Must have Class A CDL with the X endorsement and meet DOT qual. Exc. benefits pkg. incl. medical, dental, vision, life ins.; along with a 401K package and paid vacation, sick and holidays. Please call 806-934-7505, for application.

NEED Maintenance person, part-time. Call 665-0415.

PART-TIME Provider needed for Panhandle patients on Saturdays. Full & Part-time Providers for Pampa area for adult & pediatric patients. Above average pay & trip fee. Nurses By Prescription, 806-355-1899.

21 Help Wanted

\$300 SIGN-ON BONUS Wheeler Nursing & Rehabilitation has opening for full time LVN or RN. Nurse Aides positions open on all shifts. Competitive pay, shift differential. Apply in person, 1000 S. Kiowa. See Donna Cox, RN, DON or Angie Drake, LVN, ADON.

VIBRA Whirl Sports seeking Estimator. Full time position. Good benefits. Salary based on experience. For more information please call 806-537-3526.

Grandview-Hopkins ISD is accepting applications for Aide/Secretary Call (806) 669-3831

OUTREACH Health Services is HIRING FOR THE White Deer AREA. Must be 18+ yrs. or older. MORE INFO, PLEASE CALL MARY 806-373-0986, 1-800-800-0697. EOE.

Petroleum Bulk Drivers

Eastex Crude Co. is taking applications in Pampa, TX. For Day & Night Drivers Applicants must have a Class "A" CDL with Hazmat & Tanker Endorsements •Home Daily •Full Benefit Pkg. (903) 856-2401 x-137 (800) 443-8580 Clint

MECHANICS

Eastex Crude Co. is taking applications in Pampa, Tx. Applicants must have knowledge and exp. in servicing of diesel trucks, brakes and general repair • Full Benefit Pkg. (903) 856-2401 x 137 or (800) 443-8580 Clint

We are looking for some Part-Time High School Sports Reporters If you attend Gray County high school sporting events and would like to make some extra money covering games for your local newspaper, give us a call.

Just enjoy the game and write the highlights of the contest in easily understandable language.

Don't worry-we will help hone your writing skills.

If you take photographs, we'll pay you for those, too.

If you are interested, call Editor Betsy Phillips at 669-2525

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

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.

12-2**CRYPTOQUOTE**

CNG LEMBQBZ RFRGM QY TIYC

FY BGAGYYFMW CE FB

FLGMQAFB FY SGV QY CE CNG

ZMFYY. — TEYN KQUQBZY Yesterday's Cryptoquote: IN EVERY MAN'S HEART THERE IS A SECRET NERVE THAT ANSWERS TO THE VIBRATIONS OF BEAUTY. —CHRISTOPHER MORLEY

**WAUKESHA-PEARCE INDUSTRIES, INC.**

Waukesha-Pearce Industries, A Major Distributor of Industry Engines and Associated Equipment Has An Immediate Need For **Experienced Product Support Technician (Sales)**. Must be a High School Graduate and have a minimum of three years experience in industrial engines, Waukesha engine, Worthington and Ariel Compressor knowledge a plus. Must be computer literate, a Windows based environment preferred.

Our Company offers Competitive Pay and a Complete Benefits Package.

Please Apply Online at:
www.wpi.com
or come by
201 N. Price Rd.
Pampa, TX 79065

21 Help Wanted

CERTIFIED Pharmacy Tech needed •30-40 hrs. per week •No Sundays! •1/2 day every 3rd Sat. No Phone Calls Please! Mail Resume to **Keyes Pharmacy 928 N. Hobart Pampa Tx 79065** or fax to **806-669-0957**

FULL-TIME help needed. Apply in person Hoagies Deli, Coronado Shopping Center.

SUPER RENTALS. 1304 N. Banks, Pampa, Tx. Positions avail for full-time Manager and full-time secretary. Apply in person.

RN's & LVN's. Pediatric Home Health is seeking FT & PT. Prefer 1 yr. exp. Competitive Pay. 806-359-8512, 2801 Paramount Blvd. or email Lisa.t@householdcare.net

49 Pools/Hot Tubs

DEMO Spa Special. HALF OFF. Delivery. Call 806-358-9597.

50 Building Suppl.

White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

69 Misc.**ALERT:**

*Please be aware of scam artists that may respond to your ad through email.
*Be cautious of emails asking you to ship your animals to them or of the other person shipping animals to you.
*Watch out for fraudulent checks, cashier's checks or money orders.
*Deal with people you can meet in person or by a local or area phone number. This will help avoid scam artists that exploit the internet.
*Never give out financial information (bank acct. number, social security number, eBay / PayPal info., etc.)
*Be cautious of Relay Calls. Trust your instincts!

69 Misc.

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

CHRISTMAS Sale. Lights, gift bags, gift wrap, more! Red Barn, 1420 S. Barnes. Sat. 10 to 5. 665-2767.

CUSTOM Soy Candles. No soot! You choose size, fragrance & color. Jar & lid filled. Refills also. GO GREEN WITH SOY! Christi Coffee. 669-2158.

FINISHED 10x12 or 14x24 OFFICE. Quick Delivery. Call 806-358-4559.

PRO Bilts Golf Clubs. \$75. Dell Computer, 17 in. screen, \$100. Call 665-1957.

95 Furn. Apts.

PICK UP rental list, in Gray Box, at 125 S. Houston, Pampa.

3 bdr., 1 3/4 ba., cent. h/a, single car gar. Near Travis Sch. \$650 mo., \$500 dep. 662-7557

3 bdr., 2 ba., single car gar., \$800 mo., \$500 dep. 2220 Dogwood. 665-5473.

VERY nice, clean 2 & 3 bdr. homes. \$495 and up. Some appl. included. 584-1266.

99 Stor. Bldgs.

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

BEAUTIFUL, historic home FSBO. Corner of Somerville & Buckler. 4600 sq ft + basement, 5 bdr, 4 ba. Circ. drive, lrg. yard. 669-1412

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95 Furn. Apts.

EXPERIENCE the home away from home with our furnished rooms. Internet ready. Wkly & monthly rates. White Deer Motel. 883-2572 or 665-1875.

96 Unfurn. Apts. CLEAN 1 bdr., stove, refrig., completely renovated, new carpet. All bills paid. 669-3672, 665-5900.

LAKEVIEW Apt. 1 & 2 bdr. unfurn. apt. Call for availability. Ref. & deposit req. 669-4386

THE Schneider House, now leasing apts., 1 & 2 bdr., utilities incl. 120 S. Russell or call 665-0415.

98 Unfurn. Houses

PICK UP rental list, in Gray Box, at 125 S. Houston, Pampa.

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3 bdr., 2 ba., single car gar., \$800 mo., \$500 dep. 2220 Dogwood. 665-5473.

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99 Stor. Bldgs.

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

BEAUTIFUL HOME**2525 BEECH**

3 bdr., 3 1/2 ba., 2 car gar. New carpet. Granite counter tops. Vaulted ceiling. Pool & hot-tub. Stor. bldg. 3100 sq. ft.

\$315,000 Call for appt. 663-0083

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\$315,000 Call for appt. 663-0083

102 Bus. Rental

OFFICE Space for rent, ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841.

DOWNTOWN office space for rent. Utilities & cleaning service provided. Ample parking. 669-6823

FOR lease: metal building, offices, shop, warehouse and yard. 806-669-5264.

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT NBC PLAZA 806-665-4100

A little planning and some valuable deductions could mean a bigger tax refund

From: Clay Sanford
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

DALLAS - With the 2009 income tax season just around the corner, taxpayers should be aware of recent law changes as well as some recently reinstated deductions.

"Some careful planning, recordkeeping, and a review of your current tax situation may result in a bigger refund or less taxes to be paid next year," said Clay Sanford, an IRS spokesman in Dallas. The Internal Revenue Service offers these tips for you to consider:

First-Time Homebuyers Tax Credit - First-time homebuyers should begin planning now to take advantage of a new tax credit available for a limited time. The credit applies to primary home purchases between April 9, 2008 and June 30, 2009. This tax credit must be paid back in equal payments over 15 years. The credit is 10 percent of the purchase price of the home, with a maximum available credit of \$7,500 for either a single taxpayer or a married couple filing jointly. First-time homebuyers are those who have not owned a home in the three years prior to a purchase.

Real Estate Tax Deduction - There is an additional standard deduction for those who don't qualify to itemize their tax deductions, but pay real estate taxes. The additional deduction amount is equal to the amount of real estate taxes paid up to \$500 for single filers or up to \$1,000 for joint filers. This deduction is available for the 2008 and 2009 tax years. This property tax deduction is in addition to the standard deduction used by filers.

Tuition and Fees Deduction - You may be able to deduct qualified tuition and required enrollment fees up to \$4,000 that you pay for yourself, your spouse, or a dependent. You do not have to itemize to take this deduction. However, a taxpayer cannot take both the tuition and fees deduction and education credits (Hope & Lifetime Learning Credits) for the same student in the same year. Income limits and other special rules apply to each of these provisions. To determine whether your expenses are qualified, refer to IRS Publication 970, Tax Benefits for Education. IRS Publication 970 also describes other education-related

tax benefits. This publication and others are electronically available at IRS.gov.

Educators' Out of Pocket Expense Deduction - The educator expense deduction allows teachers and other educators to deduct the cost of books, supplies, equipment and software used in the classroom. Eligible educators include those who work at least 900 hours during a school year as a teacher, instructor, counselor, principal or aide in a public or private elementary or secondary school. Worth up to \$250, the educator expense deduction is available whether or not the educator itemizes deductions on Schedule A.

Recovery Rebate Credit - If you did not qualify or did not receive the maximum amount for the 2008 Economic Stimulus Payment you may be entitled to a Recovery Rebate Credit when you file your 2008 tax return. Review the tax return filing instructions including the Recovery Rebate Credit worksheet.

Recordkeeping - Are your tax records organized? The IRS encourages taxpayers to take the time now to gather and organize their records to reduce stress at tax time.

IRS.gov Web site - Check out the latest tax changes on the IRS.gov Web site and remember to e-file your tax return which helps ensure you do not miss out on any tax deductions, credits and benefits.

Teen shows up bruised, chained at Calif. gym

By SUDHIN THANAWALA
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Police are questioning a couple after a bruised and half-naked 17-year-old boy showed up at a gym with a chain locked to his ankle, claiming he had just fled his captors, authorities said.

Matt Robinson, a spokesman for Tracy police, said authorities believe the teen was held against his will in Tracy — a city about 60 miles east of San Francisco — after he ran away from a Sacramento foster home in 2007.

Robinson said authorities are questioning a couple in their 30s, but that they have not been arrested or charged.

He said the emaciated boy was confused when first approached by detectives Monday, unsure where he had come from and how long had been held against his will. He has been taken to a hospital.

"The wounds he had and his physical condition as well as having a chain around his leg corroborated his basic statement that he was being held against

his will," Robinson said. Chuck Ellis, a manager of the In-Shape Sports Club, said the boy came into the fitness center Monday afternoon wearing only boxer briefs, covered with what appeared to be soot. Ellis says the teen was scared someone was going to come after him and asked to be hidden.

"He said, 'Don't let them get me, don't let them get me,'" Ellis said. "He was totally terrified."

Ellis said the teenager told him he was picked up after running away from the foster home to look for his family and that he was held for almost a year. Ellis said he looked like he was between 10 and 12 years old.

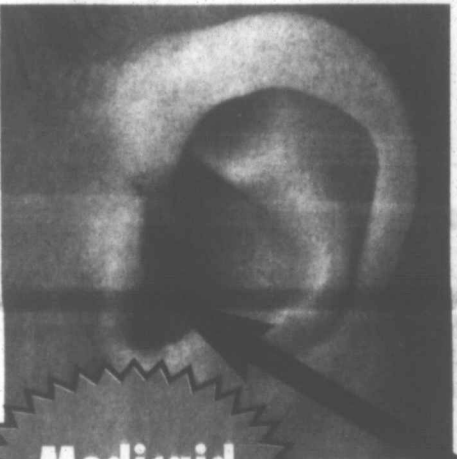
Robinson said the couple being questioned lives close to the fitness center. He said police are still investigating how the boy may have ended up in the couple's custody.

Robinson said detectives plan to interview the boy more Tuesday when he is a "little healthier."

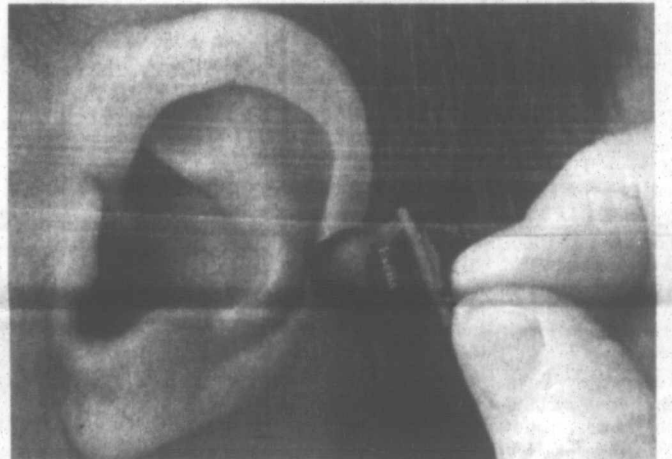


PAMPA HEARS

"Livingston Hearing Centers helped me hear better. I know they can help you." -- Len Slesick



Medicaid Accepted.



A Chip In Your Ear

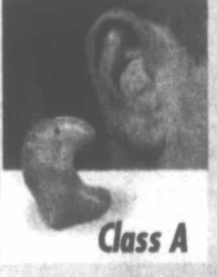
FREE HEARING SCREENINGS

FINANCING AVAILABLE

SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT TODAY!

Hear. Communicate. Embrace a Full Life Experience.

COMPARE BEFORE YOU BUY!



Class A

Custom Full Shell
Competitor's Advertised Price \$495
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Save \$500
on any new Nanotechnology

Free Repairs
Any brand - parts available.

Free 14-Day Trial
on any new Nanotechnology.
Fully refundable security deposit required.

Call today for an appointment!

SAVE 30-50% OFF LIST PRICE

REPAIRS SAME DAY (IN MOST CASES)

ALL HEARING AID BRANDS AND STYLES

ZERO INTEREST
With Approved Credit

ZERO DOWN
Six & Twelve Months



701 Hobart
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1-800-834-0831

On Sale Now...

30% Off

All trees and shrubs