

Tomorrow's Weather

HIGH 67
LOW 39

See expanded weather on Page 2


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Bowl game to air on NFL Network. SEE PAGE 11



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Burn ban to be considered as fireworks deadline nears

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

A possible burn ban and ban of aerial fireworks for the New Year's holiday are on the county commission's agenda for its 9 a.m. meeting Friday in the second-floor courtroom at Gray County Courthouse, 205 N. Russell.

Friday is the deadline for banning aerial fireworks sales during the New Year's holiday. Fireworks may be sold in the State of Texas from Dec. 20 through Jan. 1.

The possibility of implementing a burn ban was raised at commissioners' Dec. 1 meeting but was deferred

until Friday's session. A ban is being considered because the Texas Forest Service has indicated there is a high risk of fire in the area, said County Judge Richard Peet at the Dec. 1 meeting.

The last burn ban was implemented by county commissioners on Jan. 3 and was not lifted until July 14. Drought conditions during the first half of the year resulted in wildfires which burned portions of the county on several occasions and prompted the ban, which included prohibition of all outdoor burning, including rural residents' household refuse. That ban included sales of aerial

fireworks for the Fourth of July celebrations, although the City of Pampa's display at Recreation Park was allowed.

Roberts County implemented a burn ban Tuesday along with a declaration of disaster due to the threat of wildfires. Other Panhandle counties with burn bans currently in effect are Armstrong, Childress, Hemphill and Wheeler, according to the Texas Forest Service. Of those counties, the only one with a fireworks restriction, according to the TFS, is Childress County.

The TFS's web site shows the entire state is currently at moderate

risk of wildfires. Possible risk levels range from low through moderate, high, very high, and extreme.

Commissioners will also consider several contracts and agreements. They include renewing an agreement with the Texas Building and Procurement Commission, renewing a five-year office lease agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture concerning Gray County Annex, continuing a cooperative agreement with the attorney general's office concerning child support, and a cell phone contract for the

See COUNTY, Page 6

Girl, 4, credited with saving sister's life

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

The quick actions of an observant little girl may have saved her baby sister's life Wednesday morning.

Cidnie Goodson, 4, of Pampa woke earlier than usual and went into her parents' bedroom to check on her 1-week-old sister, Emeri, who sleeps in a cradle in the room. Sister Jaiden, 2, was still asleep in the bedroom she shares with Cidnie.

Cidnie quickly realized something was wrong with the newborn, according to her great-grandmother, Lina Bolin of Pampa.

"I came in there and looked at her," Cidnie said of Emeri. "She threw up and wasn't the right color. I told Mom."

"She looked at the baby and noticed it was making a funny noise and turning

See SISTER, Page 6



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS
Youthful heroine Cidnie Goodson, 4, noticed her 1-week-old sister was having difficulty breathing Wednesday morning and alerted their mother.

Roberts County issues burn ban

By KERRI SMITH
Staff Writer

A Declaration of Disaster - Threat of Wildfires has been issued for Roberts County and signed by County Judge Vernon Cook.

According to the declaration passed Tuesday, "These hot, dry conditions pose the threat of large, dangerous and fast-moving wildfires."

During the holiday season, fireworks stands in Gray County should be open from Dec. 20 through New Year's Day. Cook said there are currently no fireworks stands in Roberts County, but he is concerned that holiday revelers in Gray County might accidentally start a grass fire that could spread north into his county.

"Some people like to drive out to county roads to shoot off fireworks and we are just concerned about endangering lives as well as

damaging property," Cook said. "I'm sure that everyone remembers the large wildfires that the Panhandle had in March and we do not want to repeat that horrible event."

The declaration also lists any outdoor burning as a potential hazard. The Panhandle has had limited rainfall and weather forecasters offer little promise of change in the dry conditions in the near future.

"We will make every attempt to prosecute anyone who violates this order and they can be charged with a misdemeanor if found guilty," Cook said.

He said the reason for issuing this disaster declaration is to remind people that they need to take precautions and be very careful when doing anything outside with regard to fire or sparks.

DPS troopers arrest 4, bag 704 lbs. of pot

Department of Public Safety troopers continued their vigilance against drug traffickers by seizing 704 pounds of marijuana and arresting four persons in two separate traffic stops Wednesday.

The first stop was made on an eastbound 1998 U-Haul at 1:40 p.m. Wednesday four miles west of Groom on Interstate 40 for a traffic violation.

A DPS drug dog alerted troopers to the rear of the truck. Upon inspection, troopers discovered 11 trash bags and one box containing 404 pounds of marijuana with an estimated value of \$191,900.

Arrested and booked into Carson County Jail in Panhandle were Timothy A. Winters, 41, of Geneva, Ohio, Charles P. Walters of

Austinburg, Ohio, and Melvin D. Pack, 38, of Ashtabula, Ohio.

Investigators believe this load originated in Los Angeles, Calif., and was bound for Austinburg, Ohio.

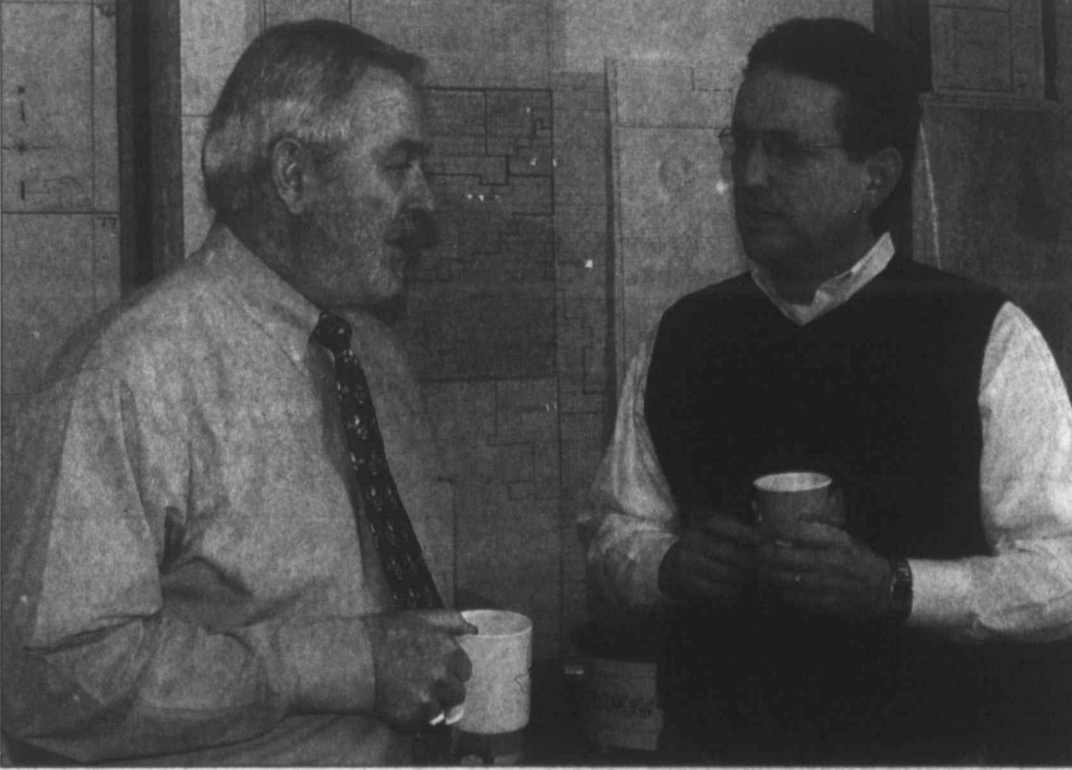
The next stop occurred at 4 p.m. with troopers stopped a 2002 GMC pickup traveling eastbound on I-40, five miles east of McLean.

Troopers found an external fuel call in the bed of the pickup which contained 300 pounds of marijuana with an estimated value of \$142,500.

Arrested on drug related charges was Tim T. Lewis, 38, of Plainfield, Ill. He was booked into Gray County Jail in Pampa.

This load of pot was believed to have originated in Phoenix, Ariz., and was headed for Chicago, Ill.

Yule reception





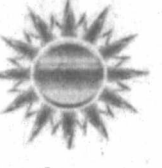
Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS
Assistant Chief Appraiser Jim Honderich, left, visits with Pampa Mayor Lonny Robbins at Gray County Appraisal District's Christmas reception, held from 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesday at the appraisal district office, 815 N. Sumner. Christmas decorations and refreshments helped make spirits bright for the steady stream of guests attending the event.

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ANY BUSINESS OR RESIDENCE IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE. ENTRY FEE IS \$10 AND THE WINNER RECEIVE \$100 IN PAMPA BUCKS. DEADLINE TO ENTER IS FRIDAY, DEC. 15. THE WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED TUESDAY, DEC. 19 AT THE CHAMBER LUNCHEON. TO ENTER VISIT THE CHAMBER OFFICE OR CALL 669-3241.

NEXT DAY FORECAST

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny
Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 67. Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 40.	Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 70. Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 40.	Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 63. Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 31.

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FLU VACCINE Clinic at Dean's Pharmacy, 2217 Perryton Parkway, Friday, Dec. 15, 12-4. \$20 or Medicare

BABY'S FIRST Christmas! Will be published Dec. 24th in the Pampa News. Deadline for photos & info. is 5pm. Dec. 18. No e-mailed photos will be accepted. \$25. Merry Christmas! 669-2525.

COME BY Prestige Auto Body to enter your name for a chance to win a Freedom Grill to be given away on Dec. 22, 101 S. Hobart www.prestigeofpampa.com

EXPERIENCED MORN-ING cook needed. Apply at Granny's Home Cookin', 328 E Frederic. No phone calls!

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MASSAGE THERAPY Special. Christmas gift certificates available. Call Cathy Potter or Holly Coutts, 669-0013 or 1224 N. Hobart, Ste#9

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Obituaries

Thomas Edwin 'Ed' Langford, 73

Thomas Edwin "Ed" Langford, 73, of Pampa, Texas, died Dec. 12, 2006, at Amarillo, Texas. Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 15, 2006, at First Baptist Church with Dr. Johnny Funderburg, pastor, and the Rev. Carl Novian, associate pastor, officiating. Private burial will be at Fairview Cemetery.

Mr. Langford was born Jan. 31, 1933, in Martin County, Texas. He was a 1951 graduate of Pampa High School where he was senior class president and

played football for the Harvesters. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during the Korean Conflict.

He married Jane Brown on April 15, 1960, in Pampa. He was employed by Celanese as an operations specialist for 32 years. He was a member and deacon of the First Baptist Church and was a member of the Everyman's Bible Class.



Langford

Survivors include his wife, Jane Langford, of the home; two sons, Kyle Langford and wife Zoy of Amarillo, and Pat Langford and wife Tammy of Elk City, Okla.; one sister, Wanda Shough of Graham; two brothers, John Langford of Graham and Robert Langford of Granbury; and four grandsons, Bryce Langford and Shane

Langford, both of Amarillo, Zack Langford and Seth Langford, both of Elk City, Okla.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Minor and Sadie Langford; and a brother, Scott Langford.

MEMORIALS: First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 621, Pampa, TX 79066-0621.

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

Christine Riley, 89

Christine Riley, 89, of Pampa, died Dec. 13, 2006, at Corsicana.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday in Memory Gardens Cemetery with the Rev. Floyd Gray, of the Calvary Worship Center in Corsicana, officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

A Pampa resident most of her life, Mrs. Riley was born Dec. 9, 1917, at Colgate, Okla.

Elmer Floyd Pritchard,

her husband of 32 years, preceded her in death on March 1, 1970.

She later married G. I. Riley on May 6, 1978, and he died March 15, 2006.

Mrs. Riley belonged to Priest Park Church of God.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Linnie Bird; a brother, Leon Bird; a daughter, Winona Pritchard; and a



Riley

stepdaughter, Ruby Harris.

Survivors include two daughters, Patsy Gray of Corsicana and Pamela Hopson of Pampa; two sons, Jerry Pritchard of Tulsa, Okla., and Gary Pritchard of Midland; three stepdaughters, Ada Marie Ince of Harrah, Okla., Joyce Peltier of Lexington, Okla., and Judie Wilhoit of Krum; two sisters, Beatrice

Lunsford of Texas and Gladys Patterson of California; 12 grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

The family will be at 1309 Williston in Pampa and requests memorials be to Priest Park Church of God, 1123 Gwendolen St., Pampa, TX 79065.

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

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Tuesday, Dec. 12

Nine traffic stops were made resulting in four arrests.

Two accidents were reported in the police department lobby.

Traffic complaints were reported in the 1000 block of North Hobart, the 1100 block of North Hobart and in the 100 block of Purviance.

A DWI was reported in the 800 block of Gray.

Calls concerning animals were reported from the 1200 block of South Nelson, the corner of Browning and Warren, the 2200 block of North Sumner, the 1100 block of Huff, the 1200 block of East Browning, the 600 block of Sloan, the 900 block of Reid, the 400 block of Magnolia, the 1200 block of Hamilton, the 1000 block of Sierra, the 700 block of Somerville, the 1700 block of West Harvester, the 1200 block of Russell and in the 500 block of Powell.

Crossing guard services were provided in the 2300 block of Primrose.

Two reports of civil matters were made in the police department lobby.

Welfare checks were made in the 800 block of Jordan and in the 1300 block of Duncan.

Agency assistance was provided at the intersection of Cook and Russell.

Three alarms were reported.

A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 300 block of West Albert.

A suspicious person was reported in the 900 block of Denver.

Harassment was reported in the 1200 block of Williston.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1300 block of Mary Ellen.

Domestic disturbances were reported in the 800 block of Deane and in the 1300 block of Duncan where a person had bruises on cheek.

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Duncan, the 2200 block of Perryton Parkway and the 600 block of Somerville.

A domestic disturbance was reported at the police department lobby.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1400 block of North Hobart, the 900 block of Duncan, the 700 block of Bradley and in the 1200 block of Williston where a lock on the back door of a residence was broken.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 2100 block of North Wells.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 2800 block of Charles and in the 1300 block of Mary Ellen where a window was broken, a hole was kicked in the back of the building and two vents were kicked in with a value estimated at \$800.

Suspicious vehicles were reported in the 1900 block of Zimmers, the 800 block of South Cuyler, the 1000 block of South Sumner and in the 2500 block of Perryton Parkway.

A stolen vehicle/unauthorized use of a vehicle was reported in the 1200 block of Darby where a 1999 GMC Sonoma was taken worth an estimated \$5,000. Another stolen vehicle was reported on Highway 60 East.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported. A leather handbag was taken. Estimated value of loss was \$30.

Identity theft was reported at the police department lobby.

Credit card abuse was reported in the 1500 block of West Kentucky when two sets of nursing uniforms and a white scrub jacket, valued at \$55, were taken.

A theft was reported in the police department lobby. A drill, saw and grinder valued at \$299 were stolen.

Theft of city property was reported at the intersection of 23rd and Fir where an orange traffic cone valued at \$28 was taken.

A gas drive off was reported in the 1400 block of Hobart where 31 gallons of gas valued at \$70 was taken.

A burglary was reported in the 1000 block of Love.

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Theft of city property was reported at the intersection of 23rd and Fir where an orange traffic cone valued at \$28 was taken.

A gas drive off was reported in the 1400 block of Hobart where 31 gallons of gas valued at \$70 was taken.

A burglary was reported in the 1000 block of Love.

Duncan, the 2200 block of Perryton Parkway and the 600 block of Somerville.

A domestic disturbance was reported at the police department lobby.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1400 block of North Hobart, the 900 block of Duncan, the 700 block of Bradley and in the 1200 block of Williston where a lock on the back door of a residence was broken.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 2100 block of North Wells.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 2800 block of Charles and in the 1300 block of Mary Ellen where a window was broken, a hole was kicked in the back of the building and two vents were kicked in with a value estimated at \$800.

Suspicious vehicles were reported in the 1900 block of Zimmers, the 800 block of South Cuyler, the 1000 block of South Sumner and in the 2500 block of Perryton Parkway.

A stolen vehicle/unauthorized use of a vehicle was reported in the 1200 block of Darby where a 1999 GMC Sonoma was taken worth an estimated \$5,000. Another stolen vehicle was reported on Highway 60 East.

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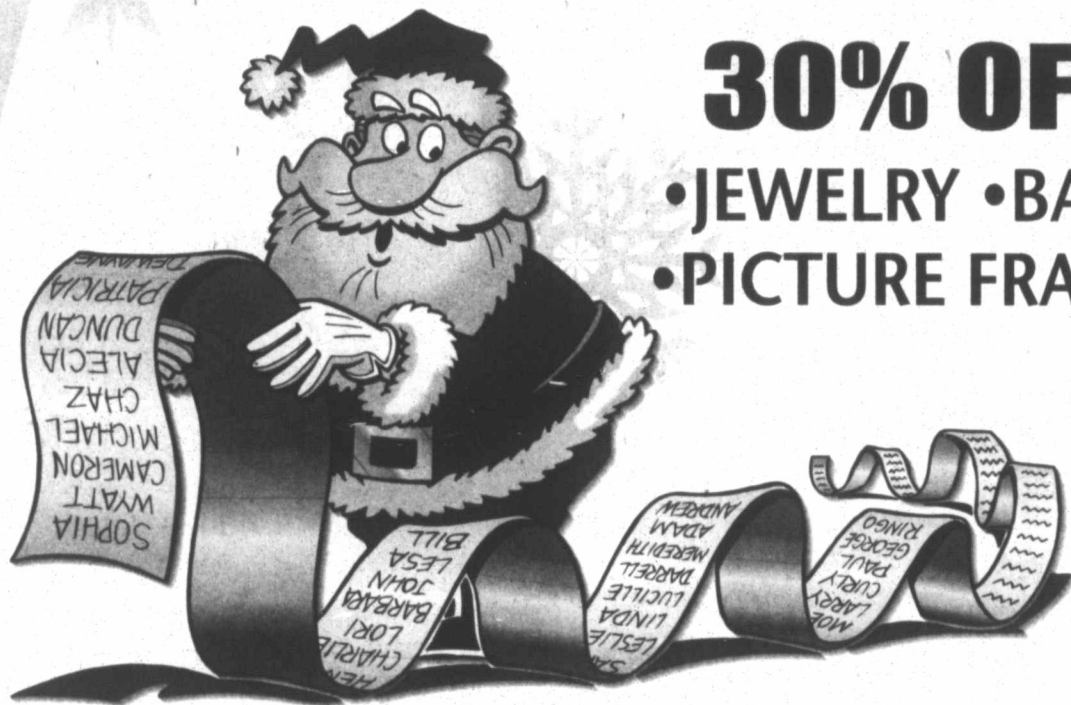
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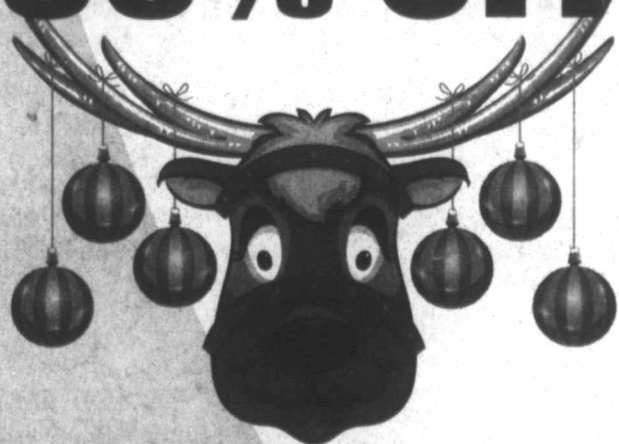
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Viewpoints

A question that begs asking ...

Traveling for the holidays? Are your bags packed, your gifts wrapped, your airline tickets purchased? Such easy questions, I know, but here's one the folks at Teacher's Insurance Plan in Connecticut are asking that is altogether different; a question, moreover, that could save you from coming home to a disaster after Christmas.

Q: Is your home an easy mark for burglars?

According to Teacher's Insurance, people often get so caught up in the December/November whirl cycle that they forget to pay proper attention to securing

their homes before traveling to Grandma's house.

"It's a very vulnerable time for homeowners," said Ray Palermo, director of public information for Teacher's Insurance. "People are busy, distracted, and not always focusing on the more mundane things of life, like making sure your home is secure."

To help you ward against home invaders while out-of-town, the insurance group offers several suggestions. The following tips were lifted verbatim from a fax provided by Teacher's Insurance:

— Start by making a full exterior examination of your

house. Make sure all locked doors and window have a tight fit when closed.

Skyla Bryant

News Editor

TVs away from prying eyes. Never leave an "emergency key" hidden outside your house.



— Always leave your home in a secure state, regardless of the time you expect to be away. A burglar watching your house is capable of taking what he wants in a few carefully planned moments.

— When you are away from the house, particularly for an extended period, be sure to make it look lived-in. Put timers on a few lights at var-

ied times; put a timer on a radio set to a talk-radio station; install a dusk/dawn outside light or motion detector; ask a neighbor to pick up any circulars that might pile up on your doorstep; and stop delivery of newspapers and mail.

— In many instances installing a home alarm system will give you protection, a sense of calm and even a discount on your homeowner's insurance.

— Walk around the interior of your home and inventory your major possessions. An easy way is to place valuables out on tables and videotape your house, room-to-room of

all furniture, paintings and other possessions. Make a list and place it, any photos/video you took, and perhaps the valuables themselves, in a safe deposit box.

— Tell a trusted neighbor on your block that you will be away. Activity or noise that might otherwise seem normal to them could be alarming if they know you are away from home.

— The only thing worse than losing your possessions is not being sufficiently covered to recoup your losses, so check to see if your homeowner's insurance coverage is up to date.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Dec. 14, the 348th day of 2006. There are 17 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 14, 1799, the first president of the United States, George Washington, died at his Mount Vernon home at age 67.

On this date:

In 1819, Alabama joined the Union as the 22nd state.

In 1861, Prince Albert, husband of Queen Victoria, died in London.

In 1911, Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen and his group became the first men to reach the South Pole, beating out an expedition led by Robert F. Scott.

In 1939, the Soviet Union was dropped from the League of Nations.

In 1946, the United Nations General Assembly voted to establish U.N. headquarters in New York.

In 1962, the U.S. space probe Mariner 2 approached Venus, transmitting information about the planet.

'How the 'I' pervades all things!'

— William Ellery Channing
American clergyman
(1780-1842)

In 1975, six South Moluccan extremists surrendered after holding 23 hostages for 12 days on a train near the Dutch town of Beilen.

In 1981, Israel annexed the Golan Heights, which it had seized from Syria in 1967.

In 1986, the experimental aircraft Voyager, piloted by Dick Rutan and Jeana Yeager, took off from Edwards Air Force Base in California on the first nonstop, non-refueled flight around the world.

In 1995, Presidents Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia, Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia and Franjo Tudjman of Croatia signed the Bosnian peace treaty in Paris.

Ten years ago: A freighter lost power on the Mississippi River and barreled into the Riverwalk complex in New Orleans; miraculously, no one was killed. Teamsters President Ron Carey won election to a second term (however, the results were later overturned and Carey barred from a rerun vote by a court-appointed monitor who ruled that Carey had used union money for his campaign).

Five years ago: Hundreds of U.S. Marines occupied the Kandahar airport, carefully picking through unexploded weaponry and debris left by the Taliban as the U.S. military relocated its main base in southern Afghanistan. George O'Leary resigned as Notre Dame football coach five days after being hired, admitting he'd lied about his academic and athletic background.

One year ago: President Bush defended his decision to wage the Iraq war, even as he acknowledged that "much of the intelligence turned out to be wrong." The House voted 251-174 to renew the USA Patriot Act.



Safe, fun games for kids available on Net

When the weather turns sour outside, many kids immediately jump in front of the television and turn into vegetables. With a few Internet bookmarks you can change that wasted time into something more "brain-filling."

Many people feel that Web sites are designed for adults. Not so! Quite a few sites are designed with the younger set in mind. Before you gather the kiddies around the computer, though, make sure your PC is up to the challenge. Kids demand interaction and multimedia.

Before going to any of these sites, make sure you have a high-end AMD computer, Pentium-based computer, or newer Macintosh. The majority of these sites rely heavily on something called "Flash" or "Shockwave." These techy sounding words represent programming languages for

the Internet and allow people to play games, watch movies, and interact with Web sites. If you need them, your system will give you instructions on downloading and installing these free programs. Now, on to the sites!

For the youngest kids, check out Crayola (<http://crayola.com>). Offering hundreds of activities, parents will tire out before kids do. One of my favorites is the "Coloring and Activities." Here, you can find hundreds of pictures, ready to print, and then color. If interactivity is more their style, have them head to the "Game Room." I found an addictive game called "Rainbow, the Spouting Trout." Think of it as "Space Invaders" for the younger set.

Another game, Monster Mixer, allows your budding mad scientist to create their own unique "creature." By picking various tops and bottoms, they can design, print, and then color their own creepy creation.

Finally, under the "Craft Idea of the Day" section (a yellow lightbulb), kids will receive step-by-step instructions on creating their own Crayola projects. Cowboy outfits, headbands, and paper ponies are just a few of the options. Numerous illustrations make these projects extremely easy to follow.

Another great site is Nick Jr. (<http://nickjr.com>). Based on the cable television channels of Nickelodeon, this site is perfect for the youngest of Web surfers. Online games

are available with the characters from "Blue's Clues," "Lazy Town," "Franklin," "Dora" and "Oswald." For example, in the "Blue's Clues" game, kids are asked to determine whether certain items float or sink when placed in water. Using the mouse, kids can drop the items in one by one, performing their own science experiment of sorts.

To play the games, you will need the "Flash" plug-in. If you have the newest versions of Netscape or Internet Explorer, don't worry. But if you need to download it, go to <http://macromedia.com>. The plug-in facilitates many of the interactive sections of the games and also adds some great audio.

The Children's Television Workshop (creators of Sesame Street) also have a great Web site (<http://www.ctw.org>). Your

Eric Spellmann
Columnist



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Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:
Dec. 3

San Antonio Express-News on ending border chaos:

In some Mexican towns, the worst thing that can happen to a police officer is a promotion.

That's because the jubilation is often followed by mourning.

In Santa Catarina, a suburb of Monterrey, gunmen recently killed the police chief less than a month after he had taken the position.

The law enforcement official was at least the fifth high-ranking law enforcement officer killed in the state

of Nuevo León in 2006, according to the Express-News.

The slayings reflect a border in chaos, with Monterrey representing just one of several areas where criminal elements have struck fear in the very agencies sworn to hunt them down.

The violence continued last week, with the kidnappings of four U.S. citizens and one Mexican in the Nuevo Laredo area, two of whom have been released.

In Nuevo Laredo, the Police Department has 300 openings on a 600-member force, according to the Los Angeles Times, and few recruits are scurrying to fill the positions in a town where the police chief was murdered last year.

The killings along with the other nefarious activities of the drug gangs must be one of the top priorities of Felipe Calderón, who was inaugurated as president of Mexico on Friday.

When reforms are enacted, the new president must have the courage to follow through; legislation is irrelevant without the political will to carry it out.

A good start would be to ferret out the corrupt officials in law enforcement agencies throughout the country, an act that would help establish a clear delineation between the good guys and the bad buys.

In Mexico, that line has been blurred for too long.

Kids

Cont. from Page 4

kids can play with Big Bird, Elmo, and the Cookie Monster in a variety of games.

Warner Brothers, not to be outdone by its rivals, has also created an interactive site (<http://wb.com>). From the homepage, click on "Kids" in the blue bar. Show schedules, message boards and games are available. My favorite activity, of course, is the games. The Scooby Doo "Look and Find," akin to "Where's Waldo," is very addictive and great for strengthening pattern-matching skills.

Speaking of Warner Brothers, their dedicated site, Looney Tunes (<http://www.looneytunes.com>) is packed with games and activities. However, the one offering that sets them apart from the rest is their free cartoons. Yes, that's right: Actual Looney Tunes cartoons you can watch on your PC. You'll find a collection of old favorites as well as some Internet-only features. (Attention adults: While these may be a blast to watch at work, make sure your speakers are turned down ...)

Each of the previous sites gives links to many more, great kids' areas, so don't worry about this activity getting "old." Remember, a computer is not a babysitter. Enjoy these activities WITH your children. You never know. In all of that fun, they may just learn something. I'll see you in Cyberspace!

Gaza: Gun battle ensues as police try to arrest militant

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Palestinian officers arrested a Hamas-linked militant today in the killing of a security chief's young children, and the militant's allies retaliated by kidnapping a security officer, escalating tensions between rival groups.

In an effort to end the new wave of violence, Palestinian Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh of Hamas rushed home from a trip abroad.

Hundreds of Hamas supporters gathered at the Rafah crossing from Egypt to welcome him back, and Hamas militiamen lined the nearby streets and set up security roadblocks in the area.

Israeli soldiers killed two Palestinians in clashes in the West Bank, Palestinian security officials said.

On Thursday morning, intelligence officers entered a Hamas-dominated neighborhood of Gaza

City to arrest Hisham Mukhmir of the Popular Resistance Committees,

a militant group closely linked to Hamas, witnesses said.

The security services said they were pursuing a suspect in the killings of the three young sons of a Fatah-linked security official when their officers came under fire. Three of the officers were wounded, including one who was in serious condition, security officials said in a statement. The officials said they arrested the suspect, but declined to confirm that it was Mukhmir.

Abu Mujahid, a spokesman for the Popular Resistance Committees, said he supported efforts to arrest

anyone responsible for the killing.

"Any person found guilty of killing children deserves to be killed

'Any person found guilty of killing children deserves to be killed in front of the people, even if he belongs to the PRC.'

— Abu Mujahid
Spokesman for the
Popular Resistance
Committees

in front of the people, even if he belongs to the PRC," he said. "His factional immunity is lifted, and the PRC is ready to help with any investigation."

Other PRC militants were furious at the arrest, and several hours later they kidnapped an intelligence officer, Maj. Mohamed Abu Siyam, as he waited for a taxi in

Gaza City, intelligence officials said. Abu Abir, a PRC spokesman, said Abu Siyam would not be released until Mukhmir was freed, and he

threatened the kidnapping of more intelligence officers.

This kidnapping "will not be the last. Every intelligence officer should stay at home," he said.

The new tension came a day after the brazen daylight shooting of a Hamas activist outside a courthouse in the southern Gaza town of Khan Younis. Hamas blamed Fatah for that killing, an accusation that Fatah denied.

After nightfall Wednesday, gunmen fired shots at a Hamas rally at the Nusseirat refugee camp in central Gaza, witnesses said. One demonstrator was hurt.

Activists from both sides blamed President Mahmoud Abbas, of Fatah, for not stopping the violence. Hamas lawmaker Salah Bardawil said Abbas was to blame for failing to stop the security agencies from carrying out killings.

"We ask the president to live up to his responsibilities before God and the law," he said.

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Judge refuses to block sales of inhalable insulin product

NEW YORK (AP) — A judge refused to immediately block sales of Pfizer's inhalable insulin product Exubera today, saying the public's need for a "new and less invasive treatment for diabetes" outweighed Danish drugmaker Novo Nordisk's claims that Pfizer is infringing on its patents.

U.S. District Judge Leonard Sand said Novo's attempts to show irreparable harm for both its current market standing and for future sales of its own inhalable insulin were speculative.

Sand wrote that stopping "the release of a new and less invasive treatment for diabetes would quite obviously be contrary to the public interest, particularly in the interval between now and trial."

Novo Nordisk sued Pfizer earlier this year, saying Exubera infringes on its inventions and would do irreparable harm to its reputation and its sales.

At a recent hearing, Stephanie Wheeler, a lawyer for Novo Nordisk, told Sand that Exubera violates Novo Nordisk's patents

covering insulin delivery to the lungs. Novo Nordisk expects to produce its own inhalable insulin product by 2011.

After Sand ruled, Wheeler said she had no immediate comment. A message left with a company spokesman was not immediately returned.

When she argued before Sand, Wheeler said Pfizer planned in the future to market Exubera to diabetes patients who require insulin injections despite its claims that it will only initially market the prod-

uct to those who take drugs orally to fight the disease.

Pfizer began marketing the drug through some diabetes specialists in July and plans a wider launch of the product through more general practitioners early next year. Approximately 21 million Americans suffer from diabetes.

Vanessa Aristide, a Pfizer spokeswoman, said Thursday that patients who take insulin injections can take Exubera.

"If they choose to change from injections to Exubera, it's as effective," Aristide said.

She said Exubera was being rolled out slowly to ensure that physicians, nurses, educators and patients benefit from a comprehensive education program designed to ensure they were properly instructed on how to use it.

Bryant Haskins, a Pfizer spokesman, said the company welcomed the ruling but was aware that a trial on the claims by Novo Nordisk remained ahead.



A late afternoon sun plays hide and seek behind high flying clouds over the Pampa skyline. Pampa News photo by DAVID BOWSER

Fund set up for cancer patient

A fund has been set up at First State Bank of Miami for Shirley Hoskins to help pay medical expenses incurred by cancer treatment.

Hoskins had surgery on Nov. 2 to remove a tumor and doctors had to remove most of her stomach.

Her husband is on disability and Hoskins is currently

unable to work as manager of the Allsup's in White Deer. She does plan to return to work as soon as possible.

To contribute to the fund, send payments to Shirley Hoskins Medical Fund, First State Bank of Miami, 120 W. Kingsmill, Pampa, TX 79065, to the attention of Judy.

A&M Ag program gets \$1M

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Several agricultural research projects run by Texas A&M University will receive nearly \$1 million from the state's Permanent University Fund, school officials announced today.

The largest grant went to a newly established nutrition and food sciences laboratory, which received \$100,000 for lab equipment.

The next largest allocations went to the horticultural sciences department, which received \$36,000 for growth rooms, and the fisheries science department, which received \$35,000 for the renovation of ponds.

The funding will also support programs in tissue culture and wheat genomics and go toward the purchase of gel documentation systems, an ultrasound console and a silage chopper, officials said.

Dr. Elsa Murano, the vice chancellor and dean of agriculture and life sciences at Texas A&M, said the Permanent University Fund helps keep university scientists competitive in their research programs.

The money in the permanent fund comes from the sale of oil and gas pumped from more than 2 million acres of state land.

Lake Meredith's Brown to retire

FRITCH — After a successful career spanning 27 years with the National Park Service, Superintendent Karren Brown will retire effective Jan. 2, 2007.

Brown began her career with the park service in 1979 as a clerk typist with the Land Acquisition Office in the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area in Ohio.

"From the very beginning, it was love at first sight with the NPS and I was regaled with stories about the many parks throughout the Service," Brown said. "I was intrigued with the opportunity to relocate around the country and move up the career ladder to pursue what has turned out to be a wonderful and fulfilling career."

In 1995, Brown was selected by the Appalachian Cluster Leadership Council to her first superintendency position at Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic



Brown

Site. In 1998 she was named superintendent of Cape Lookout National Seashore, and in 2002, she accepted her current position as superintendent of Lake Meredith National Recreation Area and Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument in the Texas Panhandle.

Other positions held by Brown during her tenure with the NPS include secretary to the superintendent, followed by purchasing agent at Big Bend National

Park, contracting officer at North Cascades National Park, administrative officer at Saguaro and Mammoth Cave National Parks.

For a number of years Brown served as an NPS trainer for procurement and property for the Facility Managers Development Program and other leadership classes at Mather and Albright Employee Development Centers. She also served as Federal Women's Program Manager and EEO Counselor at the North Cascades, and was a team member of Operations Future during the NPS's reorganization in the mid-1990s.

"Over the past 27 years, I have had the privilege of working with incredible people throughout the Service," Brown said.

Brown plans to return to south-central Kentucky, where her life will revolve around her four children and eight grandchildren.

County

Continued from Page 1

courthouse's facility coordinator.

Jury reimbursement for 2007 will be discussed. Current reimbursement is \$6 if called to appear for duty and \$15 per day if the person serves on a jury.

Other items on Friday's agenda include District Clerk Gaye Honderich's request to replace an employee in her office, recognition of continuing education of Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace Kurt Curfman, clarification concerning Keller Estates to change the word "Road" to "Drive" on street names, the county treasurer's report,

and authorization of treasurer-elect Scott Hahn to transact online business with Gray County's depository, currently Bank of America, and to transact business with Tex Pool as the county's representative.

Hahn will be sworn in Jan. 1 along with others elected in the Nov. 7 general elections.

Sister

Continued from Page 1

blue," Bolin said. "She woke up her mother and told her about it, and the mother discovered the baby had thrown up and aspirated the vomit."

Johnny Goodson, the girls' father, had already left for work when the baby's plight was discovered.

Emeri was still breathing when Michelle Goodson, the children's mother, got up and checked the baby, but Emeri stopped breathing soon afterward, Bolin said.

Michelle called for help, and Johnny quickly returned home after she

called him to tell him about the baby, Bolin said. An ambulance was not immediately available because the unit on call was already occupied with another emergency, Bolin said, so the Goodsons drove themselves and Emeri to the hospital emergency room.

Emeri was admitted to Pampa Regional Medical Center, where she remained in the intensive care unit as of Wednesday afternoon. She had had further episodes of interrupted breathing at the hospital, Bolin said, and the results of tests on the baby are expected sometime Friday.

"At first this morning, every time she started to go to sleep, she would stop breathing," Bolin said. "They're not sure what's

wrong yet. They're waiting on test results."

"She's doing good right now," said Johnny, Emeri's father, Wednesday afternoon.

"She's tiny. I like to hold her all the time," Cidnie said of her baby sister.

All that attention paid off for Emeri by enabling Cidnie to know what was normal and what was not concerning her sister's appearance.

Cidnie and the rest of the family are waiting for Emeri to return home her usual, rosy-pink self. That would be one of the best Christmas presents they could have.

Of course, Cidnie wouldn't mind having a Wishing Dora doll and a computer, too.

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Official report: Diana's death 'tragic accident'

By D'ARCY DORAN
Associated Press Writer

LONDON (AP) — A British police inquiry released today concluded that the deaths of Princess Diana and her boyfriend in a 1997 Paris car crash were a "tragic accident" and that allegations of murder are unfounded.

"Our conclusion is that, on all the evidence available at this time, there was no conspiracy to murder any of the occupants of the car. This was a tragic accident," said Lord John Stevens, former chief of the Metropolitan Police, who led the investigation of the deaths of Diana, 36, and Dodi Fayed, 42.

The couple was killed along with chauffeur Henri Paul when their Mercedes crashed in the Pont d'Alma tunnel in Paris on Aug. 31, 1997, while being chased by media photographers. Bodyguard Trevor Rees-Jones was seriously injured.

Paul was drunk, with a blood-alcohol level twice the British legal limit, and driving at twice the local speed limit before the crash, Stevens said.

"From the evidence of her close friends and associates, she was not engaged and not about to get engaged."

"I have seen nothing that would justify further inquiries with any member of the royal family."

— Lord John Stevens
Former chief of the Metropolitan Police

"We can say with certainty that the car hit the curb just before the 13th pillar of the central reservation in the Alma underpass, at a speed of 61 to 63 miles per hour," Stevens said. "Nothing in the very rapid sequence of events we have reconstructed supports the allegation of conspiracy to murder."

Fayed's father, Mohammed al Fayed, has alleged that the couple was killed as a result of a plot by the establishment, including British intelligence agencies and Prince Philip, her former father-in-law.

Stevens said that photographers had prompted Diana and Fayed to change travel plans before their death. Contradicting long-standing rumors, family and friends denied in interviews that Diana was about to marry Fayed, and Diana was not pregnant, Stevens said.

"From the evidence of her close friends and associates, she was not engaged and not about to get engaged," Stevens said.

Stevens said he had interviewed Prince Charles, Diana's former husband, and had communicated with Philip and her elder

son, Prince William.

"I have seen nothing that would justify further inquiries with any member of the royal family," he said.

He said William had said that there had been no indication that Diana was about to get married again.

Rumors and conspiracy theories continue to swirl around Diana's death, despite a French judge's 1999 ruling that the crash was an accident.

A poll commissioned by the BBC, released earlier this month, found that 31 percent of the sample believed the deaths were not an accident, while 43 percent believed they were. The poll of 1,000 adults had a margin of error of 3 percentage points.

The British inquiry, which involved 15 police personnel and is estimated to have cost millions of dollars, used cutting-edge computer technology to reconstruct the crash scene in three dimensions, and examined the wrecked Mercedes in painstaking detail. Stevens looked at hundreds of witness statements and traveled to Paris to see the site of the crash.

Mount Hood weather holds veritable 'army of rescue crews' at bay

COOPER SPUR, Ore. (AP) — Despite an army of rescue crews and plenty of high-tech equipment, the search for three men missing on Mount Hood has come down to the whims of Mother Nature.

Brutal wintry weather has stymied efforts, and winds up to 100 mph were expected as a new storm settles in today, a week after the men set out with light gear on

what was to have been a two-day trip.

Rescuers have marshaled helicopters, airplanes, unmanned drones, heat sensors and cell phone tracking devices — but none of it does any good unless rescue climbers can get high enough on the 11,239-foot volcano.

"Man and machine are at their limits there," said Capt. Christopher

Bernard of the Air Force Reserve's 304th Rescue Squadron.

Plans called for staging camps Thursday on the north and south sides of the mountain so teams could head to the summit quickly if the weather breaks.

"We have hit a brick wall at 8,500 feet," Hood River County Sheriff Joe Wampler said at the end of Wednesday's search.

The three seasoned climbers — a pair of Texans and a New Yorker — carried a cell phone they used to let their families know they were in trouble. One of the three was last reported to be in a snow cave near the summit and there has been no sign of the other two, who left the cave Saturday, apparently to go for help.

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Smart business owners throughout West Texas are finding that Smart Money, one of the many services available from Diversified Lenders, Inc., enables them to convert their accounts receivable into immediate cash through a process known as "factoring".

"Many people don't know what factoring is," says Don Roberts, President, in the company's Lubbock offices at 6625 W. 19th St., Suite 114. "Companies simply don't realize that they can sell us their accounts receivable on a monthly basis and get immediate working capital."

Just as important, Smart Money gives businesses access to complete "backroom" services. Backroom services include:

- Billing
- Collections
- eFactor Technology
- Accounts receivable management
- Management reports
- Customer credit evaluations
- Next day funding

"Selling us their accounts receivable enables companies to grow their businesses not only by making capital readily available, but by solving the cash flow problems created by customers who don't always pay immediately," says Account Manager Cole Roberts. "They can now afford to go after that potential new customer who's delayed payment history had before made them unavailable."

Often, Cole adds, the increased availability of capital enables Diversified's clients to make even more money by taking advantage of substantial "early-pay" discounts available from their vendors.

Funds can be directly deposited to customers' designated bank accounts. Smart Money clients can also take advantage of eFactor, an online service that gives clients access to their accounts, view transaction status, submit invoices, manage reports and much more.

"eFactor allows our clients to bring our 'backroom' into their office," says Operations Manager Glendon Paulk. "Clients can log on and access their accounts anytime, anywhere."

Diversified Lenders also receives client referrals from many banks throughout the West Texas area.

"We work hand-in-hand with the banks," Don explains. "Our factoring services enable us to consider a company's accounts receivable and fund based on that."

If you've been turned down by a bank, Diversified Lenders encourages you to call them for more information.

"We get a lot of referrals from banks when additional funding is needed, or they are not able to service a client," he explains.

Smart Money from Diversified Lenders, Inc. is obviously much more than just another business loan program. It's a way to grow the business in ways previously unavailable to many businesses. When coupled with the factoring division's complete "backroom" services menu, Diversified Lenders, Inc. provides complete cash flow management.

"We provide people with peace-of-mind," Don says. "Many small business owners find that with us, they can eliminate the need to work the business by day and handle invoicing, billing, collections, etc. at night."

In its 19th year in business, Diversified Lenders has the management skill, financial resources, industry expertise and product knowledge to serve the needs of their clients. Whether a business, municipality, or bank, you will find that Diversified Lenders has a product to fit your needs.

For more information, please contact Cole Roberts or any of the professionals at Diversified Lenders, Inc at (806) 795-7782 or toll free (800) 288-3024, or visit their Web site at www.diversifiedlenders.com. You can also e-mail Cole at croberts@diversifiedlenders.com.

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GOLDEN GLOBES

'Babel' leads award field with seven nominations

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — Helen Mirren, Leonardo DiCaprio and Clint Eastwood were among the multiple Golden Globe nominees Thursday, while the multinational ensemble drama "Babel" led all contenders with seven nominations, including best dramatic picture.

Also nominated for best dramatic picture: the Robert Kennedy story "Bobby," the mob tale "The Departed," the suburban drama "Little Children" and the royalty-in-crisis "The Queen."

Mirren received nominations for playing both Queen Elizabeth I and II. She was nominated for dramatic movie actress for playing the current monarch in "The Queen," and for the title role in the TV miniseries "Elizabeth I." She also had a nomination for best actress in a TV miniseries or movie for "Prime Suspect: The Final Act."

Other multiple nominees included DiCaprio, who had two nominations for best dramatic film actor in "Blood Diamond" and "The Departed"; Eastwood, who had two directing nominations for his World War II companion films "Flags of Our Fathers" and "Letters from Iwo Jima"; and Toni Collette, nominated for best actress in a movie comedy or musical for the road-trip romp "Little Miss Sunshine" and TV supporting actress for "Tsunami: The Aftermath."

Told in Japanese, "Letters From Iwo Jima" also was nominated for foreign language film, along with Mel Gibson's bloody Mayan epic "Apocalypto." Under Globe rules the two films were eligible only in the foreign language category, not the best picture category.

"Babel," a story of families around the globe connected by a tragic shooting in the North African desert, also had nominations for performers Brad Pitt, Rinko

Kikuchi and Adriana Barraza, director Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu, and best screenplay and musical score.

"The Departed" trailed "Babel" with six nominations — including one for director Martin Scorsese.

The Globes also include a category for best comedy or musical film, the nominees for which included the American culture satire "Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan." The movie's star, Sacha Baron Cohen, also was nominated for best actor in a movie comedy or musical.

The other best comedy or musical nominees were the fashion industry satire "The Devil Wears Prada," the Motown musical "Dreamgirls," "Little Miss Sunshine" and the tobacco tale "Thank You for Smoking."

Along with DiCaprio, best dramatic film actor nominees were Peter O'Toole for the would-be romance "Venus," Will Smith in the father-son story "The Pursuit of Happyness" and Forest Whitaker for the Idi Amin saga "The Last King of Scotland."

Joining Mirren for "The Queen" in best dramatic film actress category were Penelope Cruz for the Spanish-language tale "Volver," Judi Dench for the school drama "Notes on a Scandal," Maggie Gyllenhaal for the drug-addiction story "Sherrybaby," and Kate Winslet for "Little Children."

Besides Collette, the best musical or comedy film actress nominees were Annette Bening for the dysfunctional childhood tale "Running With Scissors," Beyonce Knowles for "Dreamgirls," Meryl Streep for "The Devil Wears Prada," and Renee Zellweger for "Miss Potter," a tale of children's author Beatrix Potter.

Told in Japanese, "Letters From Iwo Jima" also was nominated for foreign language film, along with Mel Gibson's bloody Mayan epic "Apocalypto." Under Globe rules the two films were eligible only in the foreign language category, not the best picture category.

Odds and ends ...

FOND DU LAC, Wis. (AP) — Rick Lisko hunts deer with a bow but found his most unusual one driving his truck.

One day last month, Lisko found a young buck with nub antlers — and seven legs. Lisko said it also had both male and female reproductive organs.

"It was definitely a freak of nature," Lisko said. "I guess it's a real rarity."

He said he slowed down as the buck and two does ran across his driveway Nov. 22, but the buck ran under the truck and was hit.

When he looked at the animal, he noticed 3- to 4-inch appendages growing from the rear legs. Later, he found a smaller appendage growing from one of the front legs.

"It's a pretty weird deer," he said, describing the extra legs as resembling "crab pinchers."

"It kind of gives you the creeps when you look at it," he said.

Doug Bilgo of the state Department of Natural Resources came to Lisko's property near Mud Lake in the town of Osceola to tag the deer.

"I have never seen anything like that in all the years that I've been working as a game warden and being a hunter myself," Bilgo said.

No matter how freaky, the deer was skinned and consumed.

"And by the way, I did eat it," Lisko said. "It was tasty."

GREENWOOD, Ind. (AP) — Faced with a shortage of bell-ringers, the Salvation Army has turned to an unlikely source — parolees — to help bring in cash this holiday.

Major Richard Hartman

said about half of the Salvation Army's Red Kettle campaign bell-ringers in Johnson County are nonviolent offenders finishing up community service sentences.

"When you're out there ringing the bell and wishing people a Merry Christmas you're giving back to the community," Hartman said.

Greenwood City Court

Judge Lewis Gregory had to approve the program because using individuals with misdemeanors like public intoxication or marijuana possession raised concerns about safety.

"We did want to be sure that the donations went to the Salvation Army and that there wasn't much of an opportunity for any of the money to disappear," Gregory said.



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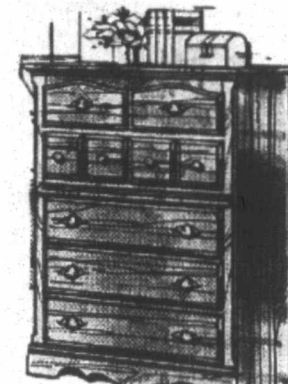
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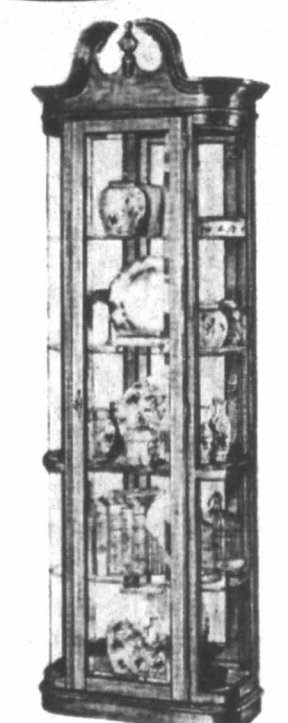
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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: Not long ago you wrote a column that mentioned funny names that match people's occupations. I am submitting two more: Prior to our wedding, my husband and I had the state-required blood tests. They were administered by a Dr. Fix. (We later read that Dr. Fix was caught giving himself one, and was arrested on drug charges.) The minister who married us was aptly named Dr. Comfort. — **ANN B., ARCHER, FLA.**

DEAR ANN: Thanks for a "Fixer"-upper of a letter. It arrived with a bushel of mail from other readers offering names that match occupations. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: One of my dearest friends is a professional landscaper of golf courses, highways and schools. His name? Ross Weed! — **BONNIE G. CHAPIN, S.C.**

DEAR ABBY: My husband, last name Graves, is a funeral director. — **DIANNE G., RIPLEY, MISS.**

DEAR ABBY: The first time I took my grandchildren to their doctor, their regular physician was on vacation. The doctor who was filling in for him was named Dr. Needle. I kid you not. — **THERESA S., SPARROW BUSH, N.Y.**

DEAR ABBY: When I was in college, the disciplinary dean's name was Dick Justice. — **BRIAN S., NAPERVILLE, ILL.**

DEAR ABBY: I have a couple of names that take the cake. I am a nurse in a large hospital in central Wisconsin. We had a plastic surgeon named Dr. Hacker, and if that wasn't enough, his resident was Dr. Wacker. Not surprisingly, their patients required a lot of reassurance. Wouldn't you? — **LORI FROM THE DAIRY STATE**

DEAR ABBY: While I was serving at the Marine Corps Schools in Quantico, Va., my best friend took me with him when he had his vasectomy. His physician's name was Dr. D. Nutter. — **PAT M., DALLAS**

DEAR ABBY: There is a dentist here in my city whose hygienist's last name is Toothacher. — **GLEN IN TEXAS**

DEAR ABBY: In Portland, Ore., where I reside, there are three orthodontists: Dr. Payne, Dr. Fear and Dr. Rensch (pronounced "Wrench")! — **AMELIA S.**

DEAR ABBY: I swear this is true: When I visited my first gynecologist when I was in college (the University of Massachusetts at Amherst), his name was Dr. Clapp. — **V. COOK, BLUE HILL, MAINE**

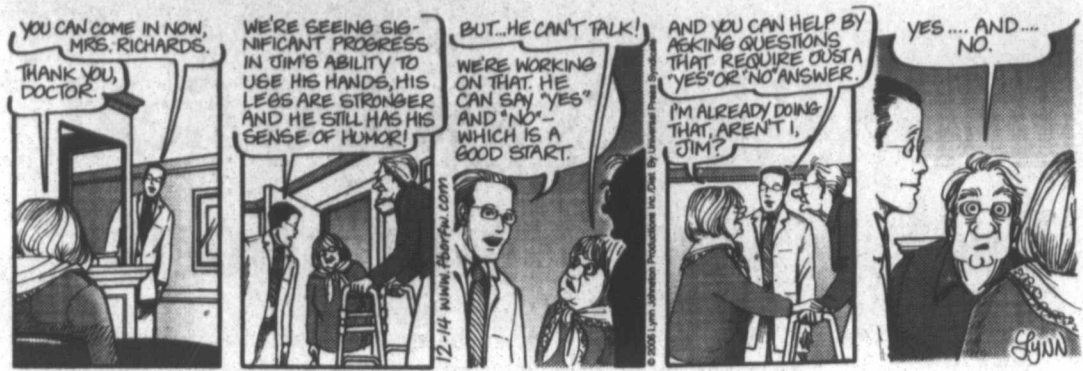
DEAR ABBY: When I worked at a major hospital, from time to time I would see trauma victims with the attending doctor's name being "Dr. Kill." Initially I thought it was a hospital code for victims who might still be at risk. As it turned out, Dr. Kill is a practicing physician. — **SABRINA IN SAN DIEGO**

DEAR ABBY: My greatest nightmare of a college textbook was for a class called "History and Systems of Psychology." It was better than a sleeping pill. It put students to sleep in 10 seconds flat. The author? Edwin G. Boring. — **KAY IN MILLFORD, DEL.**

DEAR ABBY: My father, mother and sister all see the same psychiatrist, and have for more than 15 years. His name is Dr. Looney. Seriously. — **READER IN HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS**

DEAR READER: I'd say Dr. Looney is running a family practice.

For Better Or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

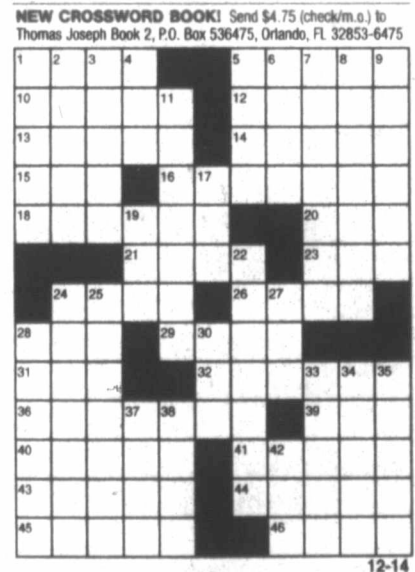
ACROSS 44 2006

- 1 Moon-eye's cousin
- 5 Half of a 1960s rock group
- 10 Writer Carr
- 12 Be penitent
- 13 Held in reserve
- 14 Arrived
- 15 Mauna — 16 "What's up?" in Juarez
- 18 Olympic projectile
- 20 Hazard
- 21 Multicolored
- 23 Golf's Trevino
- 24 Links cry
- 26 Looked over
- 28 Loquacity
- 29 Stationery buy
- 31 Crunch targets
- 32 Leave the band, perhaps
- 36 Cook's collection
- 39 Chop up
- 40 Rough fellow
- 41 Impressed
- 43 Ibis' cousin

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 VOID OTTAWA
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Yesterday's answer

- 11 "Hush!"
- 17 Take advantage of
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- 28 Clad
- 30 Candle count
- 33 "Pal Joey" writer
- 34 Namia's creator
- 35 Track great Jesse
- 37 Gossip bit
- 38 Fido and Tabby
- 42 Gist



Marmaduke



The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



B.C.



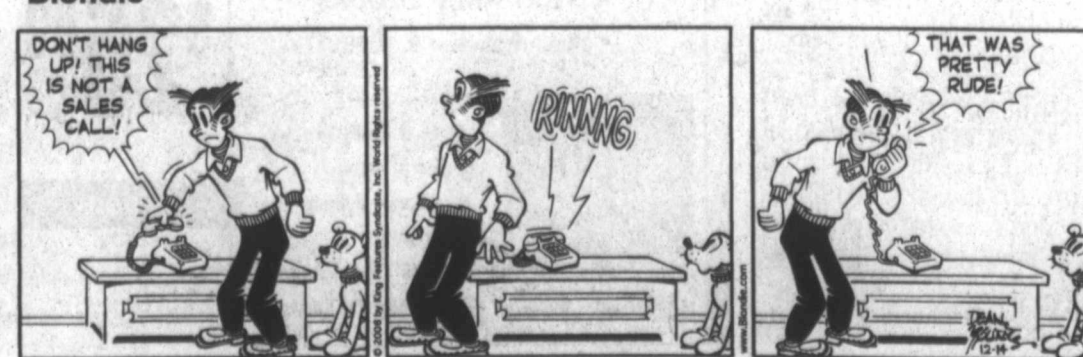
Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Sports Day

Green Team brings *We Run This* game to Dumas

Once again the adage held true, defense creates offense. That was the case as the 8th grade Green Team defeated the Dumas Demons 53 to 32 in Dumas Monday night.

The Green Team started fast and never let up. The scoring began with 15 points in the first quarter, 13 in the second, 11 in the third and 14 in the fourth quarter while the defense held Dumas to 7 in the first, 8 in the second, 5 in the third and 12 in the fourth.

The defense controlled the game with 10 steals and 3 blocked shots resulting in a 50 percent shooting performance by the Green Team offense making 24 of 48 attempts.

All players on the Green Team played several quality minutes contributing to the win.

Rebounding and assists played a key role in the victory with Reid Bradley and Garrett Ericson leading the team in rebounds with 6 each, Chase Ferguson and Mitch Simon pulled down 3 each while Jonathan Polasek, Tyler Malone, Hudson Bentley and Brendan Rice contributed 2 rebounds.

Scoring production included Garrett Ericson with 16 points, Joseph Mechelay with 10, Jonathan Polasek had 9, Reid Bradley and Chase Ferguson pumped in 6 each, Hudson Bentley added 4 and Tyler Malone put in 2.

The Green Team will take advantage of the Christmas break and be back in action January 8th against Borger here in Pampa.



Photo by Janice Miner

Junior Trisha Moore runs with the ball, bringing it back to her side of the court during Tuesday night's JV game against Borger. The Lady Harvesters defeated Borger, winning 43-30. Sophomores Destiney Fitzer and Jessica Miner led the team in both points scored and defense work. Fitzer scored 18 points and brought back 4 steals, while Miner sank 12 points and pulled down 7 rebounds.

Allow me to introduce myself

First off, I'd like to say how happy I am to be a member of the staff here at The Pampa News. From what I can tell so far, I'm running with a pretty charismatic bunch, and I feel very fortunate to have been given the opportunity to be a part of this.

Not only am I the new guy at The Pampa News, but also in this community. I'm willing to bet that not many of you have any earthly idea who this Jordan Reagan fellow is that's been writing sports articles for the paper lately. That's understandable though, being as I haven't lived in Pampa since 1992. Both of my parents, Dannie Reagan and Nancy King, were born and raised here, and this is where I spent my first five years. I suppose it's safe to say I grew up in Andrews, Texas, home of the Mighty Mustangs, having spent the last 10 years of my life there.

During the 14 or so years since moving from Pampa, I've grown up quite a bit, and have developed a deep passion for writing, specifically from a journalistic point of view. This passion has led to my need to pursue a career in journalism, though I'm still undecided about which field to really go after. I've always wanted to deliver the news on CNN, and I've always been told that I have a face for radio. All the while, I've done a lot of work more in the direction of print.

My journalism teacher from my freshman year in high school was the one that really introduced me to journalism. One day, he pulled me aside and told me that he thought I had a gift, that I was clearly a step ahead of the Intro to Journalism class I was taking, which I ended up in by an accidental scheduling mishap. Back then, as a prospective debate superstar, Journalism was third on my list of electives.

A sports writer himself before becoming a

Jordan Reagan
Sports Editor



Journalism teacher, Joe Toland showed me the ropes as far as journalistic writing went. My junior year, I became editor of the school newspaper, The Round Up. Shortly after, Mr. Toland passed away, ending many years of relentlessly battling with heart trouble.

The next two years, I taught myself whatever Mr. Toland hadn't already taught me and did all I could to keep The Round Up going. I lived and breathed Journalism until I graduated in May 2006.

Moving back to Pampa just two weeks ago, I was quickly reminded of what a rich tradition this community has for its local sports. Walking into McNeely Field

House for the first time since I moved away brought back a lot of memories of attending basketball games with my parents as a toddler. At one point in my young childhood, I knew all the words to the fight song. I can even remember a time that I directed the band at a football game. Not sure how my parents pulled that one off.

A lot of things have changed over the years, but I can tell that this community still has a deep commitment to their local sports, and I don't see that changing anytime soon. As the new Sports Editor, I hope to serve this community and their sincere commitment to local sports to my fullest potential. I can also be content in the fact that I know somewhere up there, Joe Toland is proud of me. I've met many of the coaches, players, and other members of the community, but I hope to get in touch with everyone here in the future.

I also hope that my age does not play a factor in your deciding whether or not I have any credibility. I truly believe that my passion for writing and sports, as well as my knowledge is what will bring out the best that I can do. If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions for me, please don't hesitate to email me at sports@thepampanews.com. I would love to hear from you, and get to know you better.

NFL Network, anyone?

By **JORDAN REAGAN**
Sports Editor

As Christmas is rapidly approaching, football fans across the nation are anticipating their favorite teams' bowl games and playoff games.

This year, however, less than 40 percent of American households are going to pick up some of these exclusive games.

If you're a Texas Tech fan, you may already know that their final game of the season, the Insight Bowl, going

up against the University of Minnesota, is only airing exclusively on NFL Network, provided by DISH Network.

Time Warner, for some reason or another, does not carry NFL Network, thus planning to leave most fans in the dark when the game airs on Dec. 29.

The networks are currently trying to work out a compromise, but NFL Network is reportedly asking too much for Time Warner to air the game.

Perhaps all of the Pampa residents could come together and work out some kind of a method of delivering the game to all fans. Maybe in exchange for a 3 liter bottle of Dr. Pepper or an order of buffalo wings, non-NFL Network subscribing fans can join those that have it available in their homes.

There are four more upcoming NFL games set to air exclusively on NFL Network, as well as the "Texas Bowl," on Dec. 28.

Los Angeles Lakers lose for the second time this week

DALLAS (AP) — Josh Howard scored 29 points and Dirk Nowitzki just missed his first career triple-double, carrying the Dallas Mavericks past the Los Angeles Lakers 110-101 on Wednesday night.

With the Lakers playing their first game since losing Lamar Odom to a knee injury, Kobe Bryant sat back early — scoring only five points on 2-of-6 shooting — to see if any of his teammates would step up. No one did, so he took over in the third quarter, scoring 17 points in the period and tying the game at 74 with a 3-pointer over former teammate Devean George.

Los Angeles tied it again at 83 on the first basket of the fourth quarter, but Dallas answered with a 12-2 run. Bryant scored 11 points in the fourth to finish with 33. The next-highest scorer was Luke Walton with 13.

Nowitzki finished with 23 points, a season-high 14 rebounds and tied his career high with eight assists. He had five rebounds and five assists in the first quarter, but wasn't able to make it to double digits in assists.

Howard fell one point shy of the career high he matched two games ago. He scored 12 points in the first quarter and had five more during the game-sealing run in the

fourth quarter. Jason Terry had 26 points and nine assists 26 points and Devin Harris scored 14 points as Dallas shot a season-high 60 percent (39-of-65).

The Lakers had won three straight and six of seven, but they were starting over in a sense because of the loss of Odom, their top rebounder and next-best scorer after Bryant. Odom sprained his right knee Tuesday night and was ruled out for at least a month after visiting with the team orthopedist in California on Wednesday.

The loss dropped the Lakers a half-game behind Phoenix for the lead in the Pacific Division.

The Mavericks were coming off a 22-point loss in Utah, their third defeat in five games since winning 12 straight.

They got back to the strong start that powered their streak, hitting nine of their first 11 shots. Nowitzki was 5-for-5 in the quarter and made his first shot in the second quarter, too. Yet he didn't make another field goal until the fourth quarter.

Bryant scored 62 and 43 points against Dallas last season, but was more interested in getting others involved the first two quarters on Wednesday.



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Chiefs owner Lamar Hunt dies

DALLAS (AP) — Lamar Hunt, the Kansas City Chiefs' owner who was a founder of the American Football League and one of the leaders of the AFL-NFL merger, has died.

Remembered as a humble and inventive entrepreneur, Hunt also came up with the term "Super Bowl." He died Wednesday night at Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas due to complications from prostate cancer, Chiefs spokesman Bob Moore said. Hunt was 74.

"He wanted people to love the sports like he did," his wife Norma said. "He loved sports so much, he was so passionate about them and he wanted others to share the joy."

Hunt battled cancer for several years and was hospitalized the day before Thanksgiving with a partially collapsed lung. Doctors discovered that the cancer had spread, and Hunt had been under heavy sedation since last week.

"His vision transformed pro football and helped turn a regional sport into a national passion," NFL commissioner Roger Goodell said. "Lamar created a model franchise in the Kansas City Chiefs, but he was always equally devoted to the best interests of the league and the game."

Said former NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue: "Lamar Hunt was a founding father of modern professional sports and a tremendous sports visionary and leader. He always led with vision, tenacity and humility. He played football at Southern Methodist University and was passionate about the game and a perfectionist as well. Above all else, he was intensely focused on the best interests of the fans — especially his beloved Chiefs fans — and on the collective interests of the league and of his fellow owners, no matter the sport."

Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones was Hunt's neighbor.

"He was a founder. He was the energy, really, that put together half of the league, and then he was the key person in merging the two leagues together," Jones said. "You'd be hard-pressed to find anybody that's made a bigger contribution (to the NFL) than Lamar Hunt."

Carl Peterson, the Chiefs' president and general manager, called Hunt "arguably the greatest sportsman of this last half-century, although he never sought fame or recognition for the improvements and changes he brought to the world's sports institutions."

"His was a creative, constructive and loving life not nearly long enough and we will likely never see one like it again," Peterson said.

The son of Texas oilman H.L. Hunt, Lamar Hunt grew up in Dallas and attended a private boys' prep school in Pennsylvania, serving as captain of the football team in his senior year. His love of sports led to his nickname, "Games."

Hunt played football at SMU, but never rose above third string. His modest achievements on the field were dwarfed by his accomplishments as an owner and promoter of teams in professional football, basketball, baseball, tennis, soccer and bowling.

Hunt's business dealings were also the stuff of headlines. Hunt didn't need to make money — his father was an oil wildcatter who was often referred to as the richest man in the world. But he tried to 'build on his

father's wealth.

Along with two brothers, Hunt tried to corner the silver market in 1979 and 1980. Their oil investments also soured in the 1980s. Some estimated the family's losses in the billions.

Hunt also suffered setbacks in the world of pro sports, but overcame them.

When NFL owners rebuffed Hunt's attempt to buy a franchise and move it to Dallas, Hunt — ignoring his father's advice — founded the AFL. He owned one of the AFL's eight original teams from the inaugural 1960 season, the Dallas Texans.

The Texans, however, struggled in head-to-head competition with the expansion Dallas Cowboys of the NFL. Convinced that both franchises would suffer as long as Dallas remained a two-team city, Hunt moved the Texans to Kansas City in 1963.

"I looked around and figured Kansas City could be a success," he told The Associated Press. "By our fourth or fifth year, we started to succeed. The Cowboys of course did very well too."

Hunt realized his dream of becoming an NFL owner after the two leagues reached a merger deal in 1966.

In 1967, the Chiefs lost the first AFL-NFL championship — it was then called the World Championship Game. Three years later, the Chiefs beat the Minnesota Vikings for the title.

By then, the championship game had been christened the Super Bowl. Hunt came up with the name while watching his children play with a SuperBall.

In 1972, Hunt became the first AFL figure to be inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame, and each year the Lamar Hunt Trophy goes to the winner of the NFL's American conference.

Hunt long campaigned to let teams other than Dallas and Detroit play at home on Thanksgiving Day. To honor his effort, the NFL scheduled a third game on the holiday this year — in Kansas City. Hunt missed it, though, because he was in the hospital and couldn't get the game on TV.

Hunt remained interested in the day-to-day operations of the Chiefs but was never known as a meddling owner.

"On Sunday nights after a game, he would always call," Chiefs coach Herm Edwards said. "It would be about 9:30 or 10 o'clock and the phone would ring and I knew it was Lamar. He always said, 'Am I bothering you?'"

"Is he bothering me? What a great man, as humble a man as you will ever meet."

For several years, Hunt also owned the minor-league baseball Dallas-Fort Worth Spurs, but his 1964 effort to bring major league baseball to the Dallas-area failed. Eight years later, the Washington franchise moved to suburban Arlington and became the Texas Rangers.

In 1967, Hunt was one of 10 original founding partners in the Chicago Bulls basketball franchise. He was the last remaining original owner.

Also in 1967, Hunt started the first organized effort at a pro tennis tour with World Championship Tennis, and in 1968 he helped bring pro soccer to the United States with his Dallas Tornado of the old North American Soccer League.

More recently, Hunt and his sons owned Hunt Sports Group, which manages Major League Soccer franchises in Dallas, Kansas City and Columbus, Ohio.

Rainbow Trout for Uvalde County

Ken Can, Interim Executive Director of the Texas Hill Country River Region (THCRR) announces the second phase of this year's f4 fishing program. The THCRR and Texas Parks & Wildlife Department are teaming up to provide expanded fishing opportunities in these crystal clear spring fed hill country streams. Rainbow trout will be stocked into various locations the Nueces, Frio and Sabinal Rivers in Uvalde County

including Wes Cooksey Park, Utopia Park and Garner State Park.

Any one who has fished these streams in Uvalde County can attest to the pure enjoyment experienced by wading or kayaking the cool clear waters that flow through the beautiful rugged countryside in search of black bass, bluegills and the feisty Guadalupe Bass. Now rainbow trout fishing these waters will provide fishermen the

chance to test their skills in the winter season when as a bonus the cost of lodgings and other expenses are the lowest.

You can find more about stocked stream sections, river access sites and lodgings on www.thcrr.com. Call 800-210-0380 for an informative brochure about the Texas Hill Country River Region, places to stay and other things to do.

Matsuzaka arrives in Boston

BOSTON (AP) — Japanese ace Daisuke Matsuzaka is in Boston, and it looks like he'll be staying a while.

The Red Sox reached a preliminary agreement with the 26-year-old right-hander on a six-year contract that would guarantee him a minimum of \$52 million — enough to get him to fly cross-country well before Thursday night's deadline to seal the deal.

"Theo and I were still negotiating terms when we arrived," agent Scott Boras said after a long day of talks with Red Sox general manager Theo Epstein. "We finalized the deal when he arrived in Boston."

The Red Sox planned a 5 p.m. news conference Thursday to announce the agreement, a person familiar with the talks said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Red Sox owner Henry declined comment late Wednesday night.

"Tomorrow at Fenway," he said in an e-mail to The Associated Press.

Matsuzaka gets a \$2 million signing bonus, \$6 million next year, \$8 million in each of the following three seasons and \$10 million in each of the final two years. The agreement includes \$8 million in escalators based on awards that could bring the total to \$60 million over six years.

Boras said the final negotiating session began at about 5:30 a.m. in California on Wednesday, and within 90 minutes he was confident there would be an agreement.

"Daisuke really had three choices," Boras said. "He could sign now. He could wait another year or he could wait

two years and become a free agent. He had to determine how much money he was willing to give up now."

The Red Sox won the bidding for Matsuzaka's rights last month, promising to pay Seibu \$51.11 million if it let him leave for the major leagues. But they had just 30 days — until midnight EST Thursday — to negotiate a contract with Boras or the right-hander would return to Japan and Boston would keep its money.

When talks stalled, the Red Sox brass flew uninvited to Boras' turf in Southern California on Monday to meet with him in person. They said they had to leave Wednesday morning, with or without an agreement; Boras had said he would not let his client make the cross-country trip unless the sides have the makings of a deal.

In the end, Matsuzaka got on board Henry's plane at John Wayne Airport in Orange County, Calif., and Boston radio stations and Web sites tracked its path as religiously as they had been counting down the minutes to the deadline. After a 4-hour, 43-minute flight, the Dassault Mystere 900 tri-jet with a Red Sox logo on the tail landed in a light rain at Hanscom Field in Bedford at 5:16 p.m.

Red Sox chairman Tom Werner, president Larry Lucchino and Epstein disembarked with Matsuzaka and Boras. Matsuzaka exchanged handshakes and bows with members of the Red Sox welcoming party before getting into an SUV.

There were several dozen fans to greet him and about the same number of reporters, many of them Japanese. A

radio station distributed signs that pictured two dice and a "K"; Matsuzaka's first name is pronounced "Dice-K."

As he left the airport for Mass General, Matsuzaka rolled down his window and appeared surprised by the gathering. He waved and smiled when he stopped briefly alongside Kim Miner and Rebecca Powell, 17-year-olds from nearby Concord who were holding a sign that said, "WELCOME HOME DAISUKE."

"I was so psyched," Miner said. "Because there was a small crowd, we got to see him close."

Matsuzaka has a 108-60 record in Japan with a 2.95 ERA and 1,355 strikeouts in 204 games. He was MVP of the inaugural World Baseball Classic last March, won by Japan.

Negotiations had slowed because the Red Sox looked at the posting fee and the eventual contract as a \$103 million payout for one pitcher. "That magnitude is certainly the right ballpark for the commitment of the ballclub," Epstein had said.

Boras focused just on the money going to his client, saying: "Free agent pitchers who are 26 and have Matsuzaka-like ability receive salaries in excess of \$100 million over five or six years in free agency."

Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said Thursday that he was "so impressed" by Matsuzaka after reports of the six-year, \$52 million deal.

"(Matsuzaka) is Japan's best pitcher, and his ability was fully evaluated," he said.

End of the year, getting ready for a new start

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP) — The Target World Challenge marks the end of the silly season, a time for 16 world-class players to pay tribute to tournament host Tiger Woods and play for an obscene amount of money.

For the most part, winning is meaningless.

But don't tell that to Luke Donald or Davis Love III.

Donald had gone three years without a PGA Tour victory, and even that wasn't much of a trophy. It came at the Southern Farm Bureau Classic, held opposite the Tour Championship, and he didn't have to hit a shot in the final round because it was rained out.

But last year at the Target World Challenge, he closed with a 64 for a two-shot victory. And he doesn't think it was a coincidence that he went on to have his best season in 2006.

Donald won the Honda Classic, shared the 54-hole lead with Woods at the PGA Championship before tying for third, and now is the highest-ranked British player at No. 9.

"I felt 2006 was a very positive year for me, certainly helped by me win last year," Donald said Wednesday. "It got me off to a good start, gave me some confidence going into this year. And any time you win, it's always a good feeling, gives you even more confidence."

Love can relate.

He had gone 2 1/2 years without winning on the PGA Tour when he showed up at Sherwood Country Club, closed with a 64 and blew past Woods and Sergio Garcia to win by two shots. Two months later, he was holding the crystal trophy from winning at Pebble Beach.

"It certainly gets you going when it's right around the corner to the start of

the year," Love said. "Any time you win against a good field like this and on a hard golf course, you certainly feel like you're playing well, and it gives you a boost."

There's a long list of players who got a shot in the arm at Sherwood.

Tom Lehman had gone three years without a PGA Tour victory, captured the first edition of this silly-season event, and won a month later in Phoenix. Padraig Harrington won twice in Europe after his victory at Target.

It even applies to Woods. His worst year on the PGA Tour was in 2004, when his only victory was the Accenture Match Play Championship. He finished his year out by winning the Target World Challenge — it was the last tournament his father saw him win in person — then broke out of his major drought the next year by winning the Masters and British Open.

There's plenty of guys this year who could use that karma.

All but two players in the 16-man field are ranked in the top 25; John Daly and Fred Couples received special invitations. Daly is coming off his worst season ever, finishing No. 193 on the money list and having to rely on sponsor's exemptions next year. Couples was 110th on the money list, his lowest in five years, and that was with a third-place finish at the Masters.

Then there's Chris DiMarco, whose only good week on the PGA Tour was a runner-up finish at the British Open. He hasn't won since Phoenix four years ago. And Colin Montgomerie could always use a boost in just about any tournament but the Ryder Cup.

Then again, next year is already this year on the European Tour — its '07 season technically began Nov. 9 in

China. For the PGA Tour, opening day is three weeks away in the Mercedes-Benz Championship at Kapalua, a winners-only tournament that Love is thrilled to be playing for obvious reasons.

His victory in October at Greensboro was his first in three years, and it rejuvenated his game and his goals.

"I would have come here trying to get something going for next year, rather than being in Mercedes and Hawaii," Love said. "It was a long time coming. Certainly, getting healthy helped and getting the Ryder Cup behind us helped, and I learned a big lesson from that."

The Ryder Cup is still a sore subject with Love — not because the U.S. lost, which no longer is a surprise, and not necessarily because he wasn't a captain's pick. Despite 20 years on tour, Love fell into the trap of gearing every shot toward making the team, and getting away from thinking only about hitting good shots.

"I'm excited about the way I finished the year, and now excited about starting the year in Hawaii," Love said.

Donald will join him there, courtesy of his victory at the Honda Classic. He is only 28, his best years still to come, and the Englishman is eager to take the next step. He feels he got caught the last few years being too satisfied with being on the leaderboard.

"There was definitely a period where I was racking up top 10s and I felt good about my game," Donald said. "But when I really sat down and thought about it, it was really that satisfying. When you get the taste of winning, that's what you really want to do."

UTPB Falcons lose out at San Marcos

SAN MARCOS, Texas (AP) — Brandon Bush scored 21 points, including 11 free throws, to help lead Texas State to a 102-92 win over Texas-Permian Basin on Wednesday night.

Matt Fullenwider came off the bench to add 15 points, including three 3-pointers. Chris Agwumaro had 11 points and Brandon Thomas scored 10 for the Bobcats (4-5).

The Falcons (2-5) turned

the ball over 21 times, leading to 31 Texas State points. They trailed 49-34 at the half.

Mbye Mansour came off the bench to lead the Falcons with 23 points and 13 rebounds. He hit 10-of-15 from the free-throw line. Nedrie Simmons added 18 points, including three 3-pointers. Jerrod Dastруп added 17 points, 12 from 3-point range.

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2006:

You have a personal style that can open
up possibilities if you let friends and
ideas flow. You will flourish as a result.
You might need substantial downtime to
recycle and handle what could be tossed
on your plate. Don't feel guilty about
pulling in and taking precious time alone.
Often, you will have many demands. You
are entering a new luck cycle in which
achievement becomes your middle
name. If you are single, check out some-
one carefully before you get involved.
This person might not be all he or she
seems to be. If you are attached, you
might be delighted by what happens if
the two of you take enough downtime
together. In some way, you rekindle the
fires. SCORPIO understands you better
than you realize.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll
Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive;
3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Sometimes you expect way too
much from yourself. With certain events
and opportunities, you might feel like
you are on overload. Directly express
what is on your mind. Others need to
understand your perspective. Tonight:
With a favorite person.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Knowing that you will be free
once you accomplish what you must
drives you. A partner or social occasion
will be far more pleasant if you can relax
and enjoy it. A friend might startle a part-
ner, as well as you. Tonight: Where the
fun is.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Your creativity flows during the

daylight hours. You see life from a dif-
ferent perspective. Listen to what is
being shared and put in your two cents.
With as much as you have been giving
this week, fatigue arises at the close of
the day. Tonight: Easy does it.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Come from a centered and
direct point of view. You might want to
try something differently or approach it
with more zest. Realize your options.
Add your unusual resourcefulness, and
you'll come up with a nearly foolproof
idea. Tonight: Into the whirlwind of life
and living.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Your communications need to
be as direct and concise as possible if
others are to hear you. Much confusion
surrounds a key associate who might be
in such a whirlwind that he or she cannot
get it. Tonight: Anchor in.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Evaluate your budget from a
different perspective. Know what
expenses you can cut and what you must
go for. Communicate with a bright part-
ner who sees life far differently from
you. Tonight: Talk up a storm.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You'll have more impact in the
daylight hours than in the evening. Know
when you need to walk away from a
problem. How you express yourself and
your choices will impact the response.
Don't kid yourself. Tonight: Treat your-
self.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Take time to listen to someone
who might have a lot on his or her chest.
Though you might be emotionally for-
lorn by what you hear, know that it isn't
the final decision or response. Begin
talks when others can relax. Tonight: As

you like.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Zero in on what you want to do
in the daylight hours. If you feel like you
have to get it all done at once, you might
not be far from wrong. You will need
some downtime. Listen to suggestions.
Tonight: Where your friends are.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Take charge if you need to, but
also be willing to delegate jobs left and
right. Sometimes you take on too much
and feel overburdened. Dig into plans;
talk through problems. Don't let some-
one's criticism get the best of you.
Tonight: Enjoy your friends.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Your vision could lighten up a
tough situation. Money surprises might
not be comfortable, but you will deal
with them. Aim for more of what you
want. Listen to strong feedback, whether
you like it or not. Tonight: A force to be
dealt with.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You might not see the big pic-
ture, but events will force you to take
another gander. A partner gives you
meaningful feedback, whether you want
to hear it or not. Listen to someone's
opinions without judging him or her to
be wrong. Tonight: New vistas.

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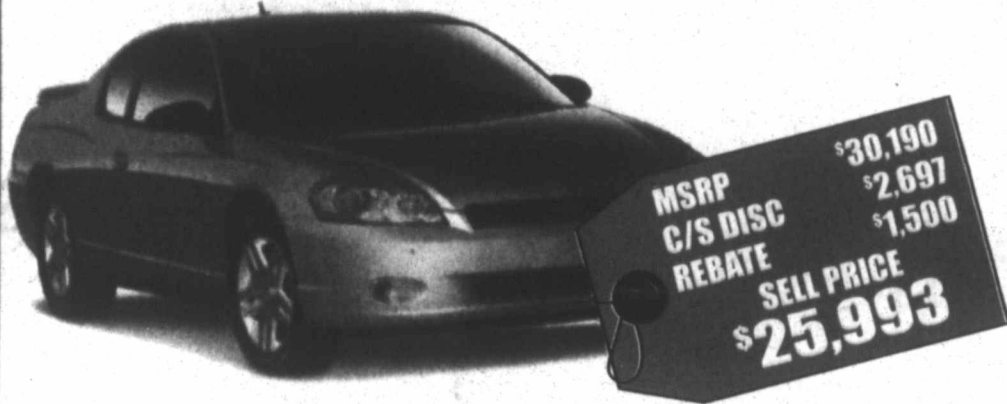
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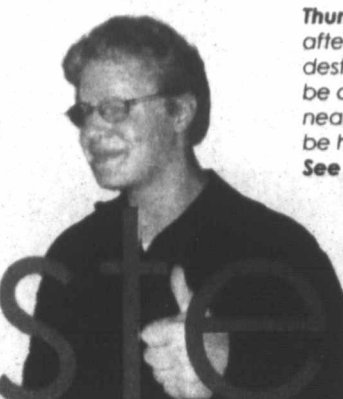


"An American Revolution"





Arms up: Britteni Rice awaits a pass during the Tuesday's Dec. 5 game against Tascosa. She was told that she had earned the record for highest number of career points in PHS girl's basketball history. The record breaking came under question after checking record books. See Page 10.



Thumbs up: Adam Hagerman after explaining that, "Pictures destroy people's soul." Adam will be competing for All State in the near future. If he makes it, this will be his fourth consecutive year. See page 8.

littleharvester. VOL 58

ISSUE THREE 12-14-06

Reffing the students

State policy enacts all in-school rules for out of school events

courtney.linn
entertainment.editor

This year, a new policy is being enforced, pertaining to all sporting events. Students are no longer allowed to meander outside of the stands or designated spectating area at any extracurricular event.

"Aside from enjoying myself in the student section, I'm there to watch the kids," disciplinary principal Bill Jenkins said. "I'm there to watch them and make sure they're showing good sportsmanship and not making derogatory comments toward the other team. It's part of my job."

Aside from observing the students, the administrators also want the student body to realize what they're at the game for.

"The purpose of an athletic event is to observe. It is not intended to stand outside the bleachers, by the concession stand or elsewhere," athletic director Stuart Smith said. "Athletic events are intended for students to go out and cheer to support whatever sport it is that they are present to see."

There are up to five police officers at a football game, two at a basketball game and usually one at a baseball, softball or soccer game. Their purpose is to keep all attendees out of the way, as a preventative measure against uncomfortable crowd congestion.

"I don't want to have to put up with fighting my way through a crowd," Smith said.

All campus policies are valid and enforced at any extracurricular event.

"It's a state law that all school rules are applicable at school functions, on or off campus," Jenkins said.

Even though it's law, some students disagree with its principle.

"I think it's very unfair," junior Alicia Staab said. "The students go voluntarily. If the school isn't forcing them to be there, they shouldn't have rules forced upon them."

In the past, there have been numerous fights at these athletic events and Smith is determined to keep this from happening.

"We're supposed to be supporting our team," Smith said. "I understand it's also a social time, but we need to keep it in the stands, for everyone's sake."



Contained Enthusiasm: Students cheer for basketball team during the Dec. 5 game against Tascosa in Pampa. The team went on to win the game against the rebels 64-61.

FAST FACTS ABOUT POLICY

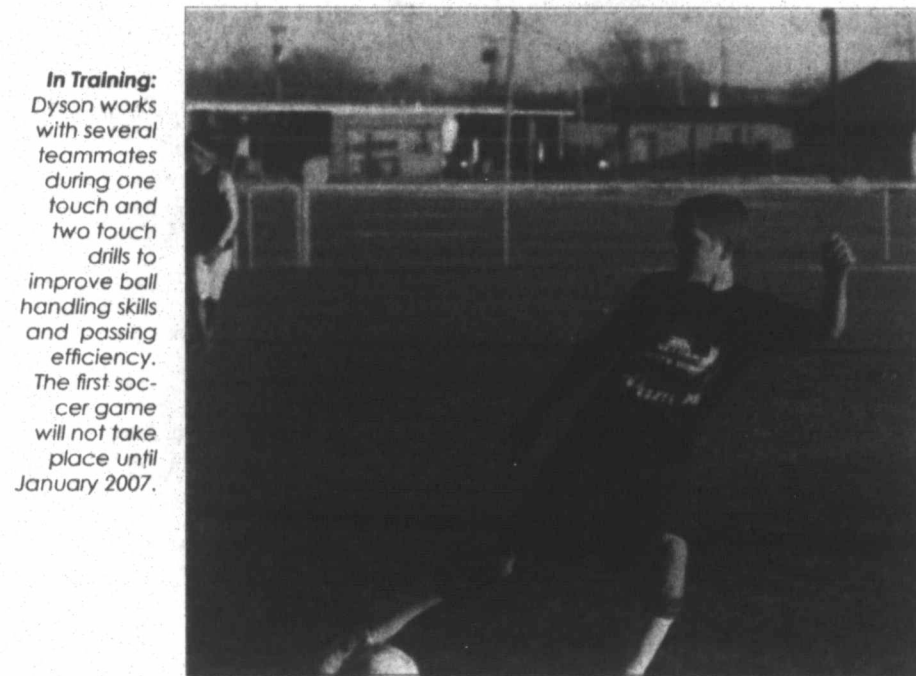
New Policy: Students are not allowed to loiter at any extracurricular events; all school rules are applicable at all extracurricular events.

Enforcement: Up to five police officers will be at football games, two at a basketball game and at least one at baseball, softball and soccer games to enforce the new said policy.

Administrators' Explanation: Students are present at extracurricular events to support school. Although seen as a social event, crowds of students create multiple dangers for all attending the said event.

Students' Counterpoint: Students go to extracurricular events voluntarily and don't feel they should be regulated at an event outside of school.

Still Kicking: Soccer player battles cancer relapse



In Training: Dyson works with several teammates during one touch and two touch drills to improve ball handling skills and passing efficiency. The first soccer game will not take place until January 2007.

In spite of setback, Tanner Dyson leads soccer team in new season

urvish.trivedi
staff.writer

Junior Tanner Dyson may seem to be living the average life of a student, but his battle with cancer and how he has overcome many obstacles is publicized very little.

In the year 2000 Dyson was diagnosed with a case of Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma.

"I've know Tanner since kindergarten. We met each other through our

mom's. I was very shocked when I first heard that he was diagnosed with cancer," junior Rusty Snider said. I just couldn't believe it could happen to one of my friends."

Tanner has been through chemotherapy twice and has had several surgeries.

"The cancer treatment really takes it out of Tanner. It tries to interfere with his school and soccer, but Tanner doesn't let that stop him," Junior

See 'Dyson' Page 2

Career consultants persuade students' vocational choices

CAREER DAY



Above: Paxton Whatley performs in room eight of the vocational building for the 'musician instrumental' class that he and C.J. Frazier instructed. **Below:** Dapiel Hawthorne lectures the importance of his job as a state trooper. He is based out of Childress and works as a spokesperson for the department.

lorraine.garcia
news.editor

Although career day may seem like a last minute event, scheduled only to frustrate students with impromptu speakers, and a seemingly random, hectic schedule, the amount of planning and hardwork that goes into making it possible is completely unknown by the majority of the student body.

Working on the event since 1988, Donna Crow knows exactly what needs to be done, how long in advance she needs to start working on it, and who to talk to when

preparing for career day.

Crow has been working on this year's career day since early October, combining forces with the Altrusa and Rotary clubs of Pampa.

"It's not DECA who puts this together, it's just me, Mrs. Crow," Crow said.

The Altrusa and Rotary clubs of Pampa have been sponsoring career day since 1959. Career day occurs every other year, at around the same time. They have been planning this year's career day since early November. They are responsible for finding consultants who are comfort-

able talking about their profession and knowledgeable in their field.

This year there were 66 consultants. In the past there have been up to 100 consultants, many of them of the belief that career day is beneficial to the student body and the young minds of tomorrow, teaching them that in order to be successful, you must know what it is you want to be successful at.

"It's a good opportunity, it gives them the chance to experience a career they never would have thought of pursuing," journalism consultant Darlene Birkes said.

Destructive decisions defined New program SADD replaces D-FY-IT

andrew.roy
sports.editor

After two decades of existence, SADD, a constructive decisions group, has made its way to the school, replacing D-FY-IT and becoming the primary drug free organization on campus.

"SADD, Students Against Destructive Decisions, is an organization that was founded in the early 80's. It is a branch off of MADD," SADD group sponsor Suzanne Pingel said.

Pingel, who took over the position of drug and alcohol awareness educator this year, is responsible for initiating the program campus-wide.

MADD, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, was started in the

early 1980's to make the roads safe for traveling. SADD will undoubtedly have a similar purpose; only, instead of making the roads safe for travel, its aim will be to ensure that the students' decisions are safe for their future.

The advisory board has already been chosen, and the members will continue to meet once a week on the third Thursday of

every month.

The goal in this organization is not so much to keep everyone away from drugs, although that is one of their objectives, but to provide the information needed by students so that they may make smart and educated decisions.

"New members are always welcome," Pingel said.

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SMOKIN' JOE'S GRILL

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Tuesday- Friday-	11 a.m.- 2 p.m., 5 p.m.- 9 p.m.
Saturday-	11 a.m.- 5 p.m.
Sunday-	Closed

andrew.roy
sports.editor

When you rate things on a scale of one to 10, it is always necessary to be skeptical of anything that receives a 10. However, Smokin' Joe's is most assuredly a 10 when it comes to eating establishments, and on that matter many are in consent.

"Everything is made from scratch," cook and manager Joe Dooley said. It makes all the difference, too.

"It's really good food," junior Tyler Morris said. "It's amazing."

At Smokin' Joe's, there's a wide variety of foods that are available, and the general consensus from customers is that it is exceptional.

"The burgers we offer are really good," Dooley said. "We have a burger that's a pound and two ounces called the Fireman's Burger. Our smallest burger is six ounces."

Of course, for those that aren't always in the burger mood, the menu holds plenty of variety. Smokin' Joe's has all the different, usual American foods, only they are cooked in an extraordinary way.

"I enjoy cooking," Dooley said. Because of this enjoyment, patrons may choose between the biggest burger in town, fresh cut fries, chicken, steak, homemade chowder, or even the Double Dog Dare Ya Burger.

Forensics: Despite new members, team shows early signs of success

andrew.roy
sports.editor

"We have a third place sweepstakes already," Forensics coach Marty Field said.

This is impressive, not only because the team this year is comprised of mainly new members, but also because the team has yet to travel with all members present to the three tournaments they have competed in: Caprock, WTAMU and Amarillo High.

There are four tournaments scheduled during January and February. Currently there is a traveling squad of 14 members. Four of the 14 members are officers, and they, with the help of Field, decide who gets to travel to each tournament.

For the past three tournaments, individuals from the team have performed quite successfully, bringing home numerous awards and state points, earning the team a reputation known for hard work, dedication, determination and pure skill.



Photo by Andrew Roy
Object: Sophomore Chelsea Wallin practices speaking for upcoming tournaments.

Forensics is a skill-building organization, teaching members confidence, responsibility and tact. It is never too late to learn new speaking skills, the requirements are few and simple.

"They have to be able to write speeches and to think on their feet," Field said.

FORENSICS EVENTS

- Domestic Extemp
- Foreign Extemp
- Original Oratory
- Humorous Interp
- Dramatic Interp
- Impromptu*
- Prose*
- Public Forum*
- Duet Acting
- Duo Acting
- Policy Debate
- Congress
- Poetry*
- LD Debate

* indicates non-state qualifying events

Latin Club: Bread, circuses, T-shirts

andrew.roy
sports.editor

Latin Club, which has primarily concerned itself with juggling in the past, has made shirts for its members this year. The shirts flaunt their closely held Roman ties.

"I think it's cool," Latin student Angela Mechelay said. "I like the design she picked because it has a lot to do with Latin."

The shirts have "SPQR" on the front, which stands for "the senate and people of Rome," a com-

mon symbol in ancient Rome. The back bears the phrase "Odi et amo Latinam" which means "I hate and I love Latin."

The shirts caught many of the Latin club members by surprise, especially the ones who were disappointed by not receiving shirts last year. However, some reactions to the shirts have been mixed.

"I think they're kind of ugly," Mechelay said. Most negative reactions have been aesthetic ones, pertaining to the design or color of the shirts. But overall, there has been a strong, positive reaction to what many may call Latin club's greatest achievement.

Continued from Page 1 • DYSON • Continued from Page 1

Colby Copeland said. Tanner's battle against cancer has impressed many figures at Pampa High School.

"I feel that Tanner has the attitude that nothing is going to keep him from living a normal life, even

though he has to overcome certain obstacles," coach Byron May said.

Due to his contribution to the Pampa soccer team, Tanner is often compared to one of the most famous sport icons.

"The first professional athlete

that comes to mind is Lance Armstrong, not because of his battle with cancer, but because of his ability to perform well under pressure," May said. "Sometimes Tanner has a robotic work ethic that reminds me of Lance Armstrong."

Tanner is still battling cancer, but he is not alone in this struggle. His friends and family both state that they are available for any help at any time.

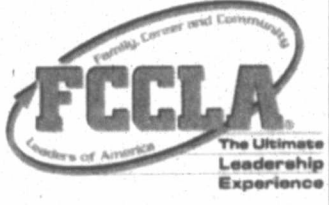
"Tanner is a really strong person. I have no idea how he deals with it.

I went to Houston with him for his last surgery and realized the strength and courage that is required for this kind of struggle," sophomore Calee Henley said. "Tanner is truly a role model."

¡Hola! The Spanish club greets the halls of the school with events related to the Spanish culture. Through a mixture of games, lunch meetings, and a plain good time, the Spanish club seeks to offer relief from the stressful workloads of each and every member and to give insight into the Spanish culture.

"We always do something correlating with holidays in the Mexican culture," Spanish club president Whitney Morris said. "We just kind of hang out, other than just playing games."

In December the Spanish club will have study groups for semester tests.



All stories by Andrew Roy

world.news

Archaeologists unearth St. Paul's tomb in Rome

Archaeologists working for the Vatican excavated St. Paul's tomb, which dated back to at least 390 A.D. After finding it in a crypt under a basilica in St. Paul's Outside the Walls cathedral in Rome, excavation began, taking four years, and was completed last month. St. Paul's Outside the Walls is the second largest cathedral in Rome, topped only by St. Peter's Basilica. For the first time in 1700 years, the sarcophagus of St. Paul is on public display.

www.bbc.co.uk

national.news

E. Coli outbreak believed to be linked to Taco Bell

Five Northeastern states have confirmed reports of at least 84 people having E. Coli. The outbreak is believed to be linked to Taco Bell Restaurants. However, state and federal agencies are still trying to pinpoint the source. The Food and Drug Administration says at least 35 people have been hospitalized with the same E. coli strain since the outbreak, some in serious condition. On Nov. 6, Taco Bell officials said they ordered the removal of green onions from all of their 5,800 outlets nationwide.

www.cnn.com

local.news

VFW will conduct annual children's shopping spree

Children of veterans and active service men and women are eligible to participate in the VFW's annual children's shopping spree. The children will get to spend \$100 on themselves and \$25 on their parents. The shopping spree will be conducted on Dec. 15.

"We do this every year to ensure that children of military personnel can enjoy Christmas even if the family is having financial difficulties," VFW Commander Danny Martin said.

www.thepampanews.com

campus.news

Campus renovations will be made due to bond

Campus renovations will be made due to a \$47 million bond passed on Nov. 7. The bond is to provide for a new junior high building and extensive renovations for the high school, including a new cafeteria, a larger science wing, a media center and a larger area for parking. However, renovations to the auditorium and music hall will not be constructed. The old junior high building, after renovations, will become the new administration office.

-Pampa High faculty

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DENIED:

Appeal on sub-par rating denied by TEA members

ryan.hansen
editor.in.chief

After the school received an unacceptable rating mid-summer, Superintendent Barry Haenish, principal Danny Seabourn and others appealed the rating and had a meeting with a board of TEA (Texas Education Agency) members early October in Austin. The appeal was denied.

The school had received the rating of 'academically unacceptable' not from scores, but from the overall completion rate. TEA standards state that there is an 85 day attendance policy per year that each student must complete in order to not be considered a dropout.

"When a student drops out, there is a PEIMS (Public Education Information Management System) code," Seabourn said. "PEIMS encompasses all data requested and received by TEA."

According to Seabourn, the dropout rate exceeded the limit by just one student, which launched the rating. Appealing this, several PISD members met with TEA representatives, but returned with a negative response.

"TEA will monitor some of the things we will be doing for school improvement," curriculum specialist Dale Ammons said. "Our main focus now will be offering new programs to keep kids in school."

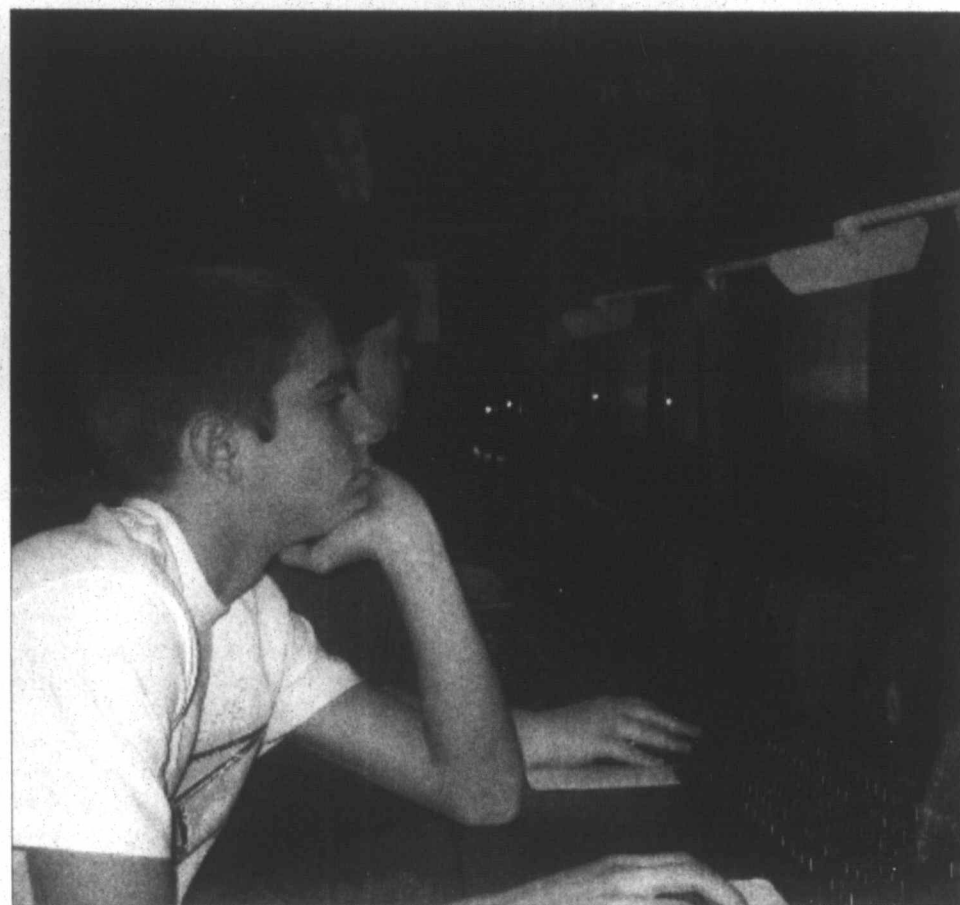
As a result of the academically unacceptable rating, the school is one of many qualifiers for a grant that would fund more flexible schedules.

In essence, there are no punishments for having an academically unacceptable rating. However, if the school is a repeat offender, conditions could be subject to change.

"We seek pro-development among staff members that is designed to improve the climate and culture of the school," Seabourn said.

A new science

WTAMU professor offers high school course for computer programming



(Left) H. Paul Haiduk teaches students JAVA, an object-oriented programming language developed by Sun Microsystems. (Right) Sophomore Jack Ware works on programming a robot in the JAVA class.

courtney.linn
entertainment.editor

JAVA programming, an object-oriented programming language developed by Sun Microsystems, is now being taught at Pampa High School by H. Paul Haiduk, the Computer Science Program Coordinator at West Texas A&M University using a curriculum completely invented by him.

JAVA is used in a wide variety of computing platforms spanning from embedded devices and cell phones on the low end to enterprise servers and super computers on the high end.

This year, WTAMU has been pushing its faculty to do more "outreaches," activities in which said faculty teach on different subjects voluntarily. H. Haiduk's JAVA curriculum is his outreach.

"This curriculum is JAVA with a novel twist," H. Haiduk said. "In 21 sessions, it teaches one JAVA programming through virtual robots. JAVA is essentially what computer science is."

JAVA, the dominate computer programming language, quickly attracted students to this ingenious program.

"I joined because it just sounded like fun," sophomore Jack Ware said. "We basically play with robots. I like it because it's more technical than all of the other things that I do."

If a student takes JAVA here, the said student can go to either WTAMU or Amarillo College and have a free computer science credit.

"The great thing about JAVA is the head start you get in college," teacher Amanda Haiduk, daughter of H. Paul Haiduk said.

"It's also really cool because, since JAVA

is one of the main computer programming languages, it will really take you far in life. The need for JAVA-literate people is very high and it will help you market yourself."

At Pampa High School, people are very eager to learn JAVA.

"I was excited to start learning it," freshman Ashlyn McNeely said. "I like it because it's very precise. We literally get to control the robots. We've done everything from running them into walls to making them plant flowers."

For many, JAVA is a fresh and interesting extracurricular idea.

"There's nothing I don't like about JAVA," junior Drew Williams said. "I want a degree in computer science. I've learned a lot. Haiduk's lectures are really good and make a lot of sense. I'm eager to see what JAVA can teach me."

DECA: Marketing, management, aptitude and entrepreneurship

jareth.fortenberry
staff.writer

Once you get out into the world, how you market yourself will play a major part in what jobs you get. The DECA program is helping students improve on that

skill.

"It helps you market yourself and teach program management and to be a business man," said senior Bryant Noble.

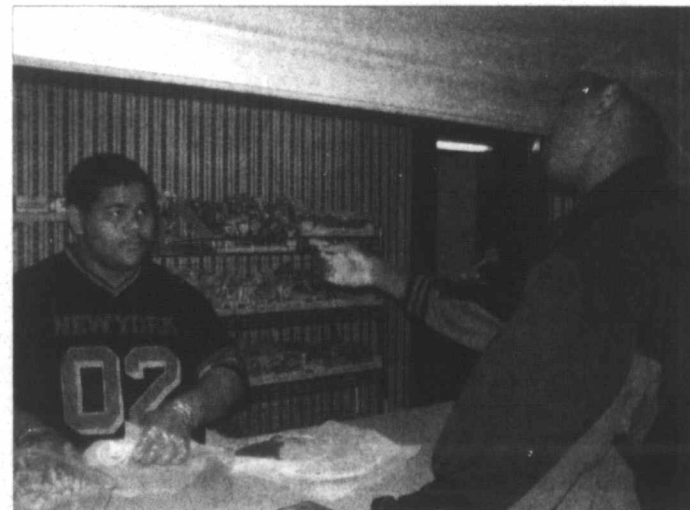
DECA is open to anyone, as long as they pay the 40 dollar fee. After that they are free

to learn and meet new people from around the world or just the town.

"You get to meet people from all over, like New York, Washington [and] Canada. You meet people from all over," said DECA Sergeant at Arms Marcus Pena.

Other DECA officers include, but are not limited to, Richard Leal, president and Michael Kane, Vice-president.

DECA will start competition in January with both sports and entertainment management.



Serving up success: Darrell Willis buys a lunch from the DECA mart. The mart is open every day of the week.

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Reffing the students

A new policy has taken affect at all sporting events: students are no longer allowed to leave the stands during any game they are attending and all school rules apply there. Police officers are attending all events to enforce this new policy. This means that unless a student is going to the bathroom or concession stand, they will be told to return to their seats if found away from the stands.

This policy is reasoned by administration, who says that too many students crowded in one area can cause danger to all of those attending the event. However, students are crowded in the stands in the first place, and confining them to one area at all times only worsens the situation.

One of the major disadvantages of this policy is the hindrance that it has on fan interaction during the game. While students are still allowed to cheer and be as loud as they please, being constantly looked over by either an administrator or police officer could certainly have a negative effect on fans.

Of course, this new policy is not written anywhere, but is simply said, hoping that students can grasp the concept without having it written for them. However, this, too, seems to be slighting the students at the school. While it is understood that all school rules now apply at events such as games, the school has a history of passing rules without letting the students know.

One of the key freedoms that high schoolers witness as they move into ninth grade is the ability to leave the cage. Students post-junior high are not confined to a cage, nor should they be. The policy would be more understandable if an incident had occurred as a result of students being out of their seats, but there has been no such incident.

The problem lies not only within the policy itself but the way in which it has been passed on to students. If such policies were passed at the beginning of the year and students were well informed of their existence, there would not be such a problem. But they are not, and as a result, there are many students who are not aware of the policy and will be punished when they break a rule that they never knew was passed.



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Do you have an opinion, complaint or just something you want to get off your chest? If so, tell the world, or at least your classmates. Do it with a letter to the editor, which can be dropped off in a special LH box in the library. The staff reserves the right to edit any letter submitted and all letters must be signed. Opinions expressed in columns and letters do not reflect the opinions of the LH staff, Pampa High School or Pampa ISD.

WRITE US!
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OR EMAIL: chelsea.goodwin@pampahs.net

opinion.editorials

Area Deficit Disorder

Temporary Remedy for life-long laziness

aaron.pepper
co-editor.in.chief



Imagine your favorite under-achiever saying, "So I was sitting and wondering what to write, right? But I started thinking about how hungry I was, then about music. I just got so side-tracked that I forgot I had homework. I swear I got A.D.D!"

No. Wrong. No. The world's supply of Ritalin would be under serious strain if every high school kid who claimed Attention Deficit Disorder actually had A.D.D. The real epidemic isn't a learning disability with serious consequences, it's an epidemic of today's high school kids savagely searching for an excuse for general laziness and procrastination. I should know, I've got it.

True A.D.D. does include symptoms of over-activity and being easily distracted. However, those are also the symptoms of being an extremely active high school student. Today's students keep pretty busy. Most students I know that are involved in any extracurriculars seem over-active. It's like a disease. One club leads to a bigger organization, and pretty soon, you are spending all of your time for the betterment of others instead of sitting around doing nothing. Someone that busy may not have time for homework. However, I wouldn't diagnose anyone with a learning disability because they fall asleep reading a boring history book. "Oh man, after two minutes reading this stuff, I just started watching TV. I need some Ritalin, dude." No, just a work ethic. Laziness plagues all teenagers. Don't run off to the doctor just yet.

Procrastination is a real talent in my book. Why is it viewed so negatively? Good procrastination is hard to come by. Too many students don't know their limits and end up turning things in late. Then they blame late work on nonexistent A.D.D. It's a vicious cycle, really. Next time that under-achiever speaks out about his ailments and mental disease, just think to yourself how much money you save by not giving in to the urge to stockpile Ritalin.



Pepper's Pharmaceutical Facts and Figures

Directions: Take three facts and apply thoroughly.

- 7% of parents with children aged 6-11 think their child has A.D.D.
- Over one half of the people with A.D.H.D. also have a learning disorder.
- 20-30% of people diagnosed with A.D.D. do not respond to any form of medication for it.

Multiple electives stand 'worth it' with proper effort



andrew.hatcher
opinion.editor

Although many may not believe it, we have a great deal of electives/extracurricular activities available to us. Yes, other schools may offer more, different or 'better' ones, but the fact cannot be overlooked that we do have many options when it comes to classes outside the core subjects. I was thinking about what all I was involved in when the question was aroused in my mind: is it really all worth it?

My schedule has not yet reached the "runneth-over" point, but I do know the stress of balancing a zero-hour class, band, jazz band, basketball band, newspaper, forensics and theatre arts, along with all possible honor classes available and learning a dead language. That may not seem like much, but so far this year I have yet to get home before 5:30 p.m. and half the time it is past seven or eight when I do arrive there, with homework still to do.

However, I like what I do and therefore have no real cause for complaint because I am made happier (in the end) by all of my accomplishments. It takes time, will and a strong work ethic, but the balancing act I perform daily is definitely well worth-while because of how much pride I can take in myself.

So, yes, it is all worth it, or at least it can be, if you put in enough effort to receive satisfaction and gratification out of what you have done. Otherwise, unless you are being forced against your will to do something you dread, you may want to rethink why you are taking something that is not required and serves you no purpose.

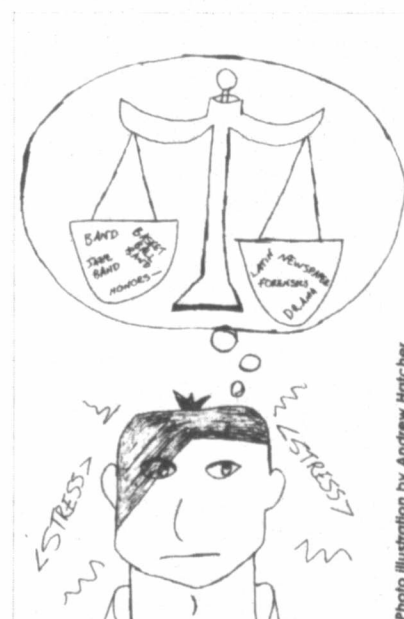


Photo illustration by Andrew Hatcher

Video games control students' actions? School violence falsely blamed on mature games



bart.bullard
staff.writer

The good old days when gaming was nothing but black and white, consisting of knights and rooks, are over. Present day gaming consists of blood, guts and gore, along with the occasional "hot coffee," modification. In recent times video games have become the target of school violence in America. Congress and most school officials are using the violent game play that involves car jacking, mass murder and drug abuse as a scape-goat for the real problem.

It's human nature to try and be superior, but it is also our nature to

be a slave. Bullies are what they are because what they do makes them have a feeling of absolute authority and power. This high causes them to become addicted to bullying and their craving for vilolent abuse becomes even greater. Thus it becomes like drug or alcohol abuse. The innocent victims are what the bullies prey on. The innocent stay the innocent because of the depression they get from being bullied and that is what keeps them the prey and not the predator.

Games have a rating system for a reason and usually will give a good outlook on why the game is rated as so. If a game is rated "M" that means it is for mature people over the age of 17.

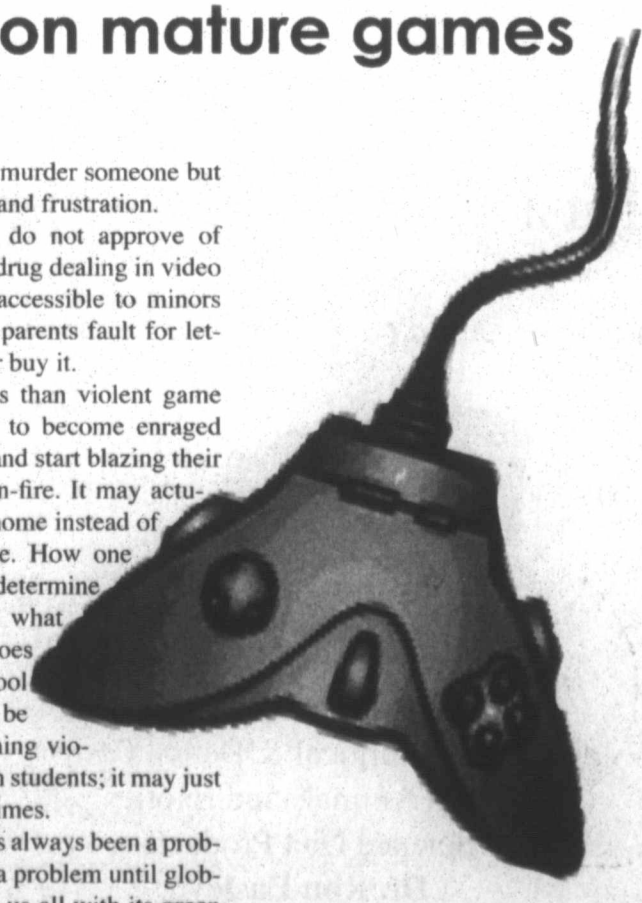
I enjoy a violent game every now and then and I don't see myself running around brandishing a weapon, killing or threatening people because I was beaten by some silly man-made computer. I play the games not to get

ideas on how to murder someone but to relieve stress and frustration.

Although I do not approve of car-jacking and drug dealing in video games that are accessible to minors but it's also the parents fault for letting them rent or buy it.

Other things than violent game play cause kids to become enraged with blood lust and start blazing their schools with gun-fire. It may actually start at the home instead of in a video game. How one is raised will determine a great deal on what that individual does and thinks. School violence can not be stopped by banning violent content from students; it may just increase such crimes.

Bullying has always been a problem and will be a problem until global warming kills us all with its green house gases or its heat and storms.



Junior sparks controversy, flame too small



jareth.fortenberry
staff.writer

There is something terribly wrong with the populace. You notice, but you go about your daily lives as if nothing happens. Now I, like any bloke, cherish the familiar, rejoice in the everyday and praise the set schedules of the unexpected, but the truth is we need to have a talk. I recently constructed an article concerning cheerleaders but, to my dismay, only a few people approached me about it. This has disturbed me greatly, comrades. It was not that I was looking for praise, for that came in abundance, but rather I was hoping people would stand behind their ideas and give reason as to why such a thing is called what it is. After two confrontations, I had hoped that maybe the idea of supporting ideas was not dead, but you let that fall.

The main point of today's article is not to raise controversy, which now that my readers have plummeted from a whopping ten to five I don't see that happening, but to strike thought. Several years ago on November the fifth a man named Guy Fawkes tried to blow up England's Parliament building. He was caught and executed for treason, for those who didn't know. Here we have a man who was willing to die for his beliefs. Now I'm not saying all ideas and beliefs are worth dying for, but you should at least defend them with the feeling and emotion that can only be rivaled by reverend Al Sharpton.

I'm sitting here in front of the computer and I grow more and more depressed as I write. The world is no longer as metal as it was. For those who are not down with lingo, metal is basically phat, dope, fresh, poppin', cool, da bomb, and off the heezy all combined into one and amplified a thousand fold. What has caused this drastic change you ask? I don't really know, but I'll tell you what I do know. I know that ideas are something you should stand behind, ideas are the life force of the world, without them the cavemen would never have invented the wheel, Einstein would have used hair gel.

Sadly I realize my back is against the wall in this case. With such a small fan base and such animosity towards me, I can't help but feel what George Washington felt when Napoleon beat him at Pearl Harbor. I'll leave you with a quote, a quote that will show you that though I will not give up hope in you finding that burning passion to stand up for your ideas, no matter how abstract, no matter how half-baked and no matter how off the wall, you must now play your part. "I'll wait for you 'till I turn blue, there's nothing more a man can do..."

Local stations stuck in a groove

Modern radio lacks variety it once had, recieves 3.8 / 10



ryan.hansen
co-editor.in.chief

Jeff Tweedy once sang in "The Late Greats," taken from *A Ghost is Born*. "The best band will never get signed. You will never hear them on the radio." Though it's a little silly to take such a negative approach to the matter, Tweedy really had something going there.

Once upon a time, radio stations emphasized not just key singles from key albums performed by key artists, but less popular tracks and b-sides. These radio stations still exist. They are called indie, though. And that's what they are: independent from mainstream stations, less popu-

lar than mainstream radio, and more importantly, fading from existence.

There's no real objective measurement for quality. All I have is a 10 scale measured in increments of tenths and sometimes hundredths. I think we would all agree that Puddle of Mudd's five minutes in all of our lives lasted far too long, but the most unfortunate thing about the band wasn't just how incredibly despicable they were as musicians, but that the consensus of anybody owning a TV or radio and above the age 13 has heard their trash. I refer to them in a past tense because we can only hope they are done defiling music.

The reason I reference radio, Puddle of Mudd, the quality of music, and 10 scales has probably been made evident by now. But if it hasn't this one's for you. In hindsight, radio and TV have never branched thoroughly beyond the spectrum of popular music and shined light on artists who could actually use the money a popular song and it's accompanying music video would provide, but in this decade's viewing and listening, one could only assess that this troublesome predicament has

further hindered the intake of quality music that is actually heard by more than a handful of people.

I say all of these things in vain, knowing that Wilco, the band I referenced at the top of this article and wrote a review on in the entertainment section will either be skipped over or just thought of as, "another one of those indie bands." Everyone is completely entitled to their own opinion of music, and I am not saying that everyone who reads this needs to go buy their CD or even acknowledge them as musicians. I am just pointing out the shame it is that nine out of 10 people don't realize that the new Matthew Friedberger, Futureheads, Bonnie "Prince" Billy, Sparklehorse, Tom Waits, Bob Dylan, Joanna Newsom, TV on the Radio, Sufjan Stevens and Rapture CD's deserve ratings close to nine out of 10.



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Teachers, students shouldn't be "friends forever"

I am writing in response to the editorial by Aaron Pepper entitled "The Buddy System" published in the October 25, 2006 edition of the Little Harvester.

When I was asked to take a picture with one of my students, Derek Lowrie, I was told the picture would be for an article about teacher relationships with students. I was NOT told it would be an opinion piece about how teachers should be friends with students. I was misrepresented, and I feel the Little Harvester should make the distinction clear. Derek is a great student, one of the most trustworthy I have, but he and I are not what you would consider "best friends." I consider him an asset to my department, and we share many things in common, but we are not, as Mr. Pepper described, "great buddies." I should also make it crystal clear that I did not give the quotation underneath the picture of Derek and myself. The wording of the caption is misleading and appears as though I had given that quote. I was never interviewed for this piece nor told what the content of the piece would be. I

was asked to do the paper a favor by posing for a picture, and I have been misrepresented. It is important that this is known.

The way I was portrayed in the photo and through the opinion piece is incorrect. While I certainly agree with Mr. Pepper's stance that teachers should build bonds with their students, I would like to point out that major issues can arise from being "too friendly" with your students.

For teachers, our goal is to make school a safe and engaging environment. We each do that in our own way. For myself, I find being close to my students is the most rewarding. I also have the privilege of teaching Theater Arts, which is a different environment than a math class would be. In order to be successful actors, students must feel safe and comfortable with their director.

It is important to recognize that a line must be drawn. While it's good to get along with students and have excellent rapport with them, it is not acceptable to be their "best friend." Teachers who grow close with their students have to be very careful. I

respect my students and I expect that same amount of respect in return. The relationship I share with them is more of a "mentor" relationship and less of a "best friends forever" relationship. My purpose here is not to be your buddy; I'm here to be your guide.

The consequences of crossing the "friend" line are immense. Once a teacher ceases being a teacher and becomes a "friend," problems begin. First, you lose the ability to control your classes. Secondly, you lose the ability to make a difference. I would argue that being a student's friend is, in fact, more problematic than being a so-called "militant." Once students feel you have no authority they will take advantage of it.

I cherish my time at Pampa High and I care for each of my students. But I think it is important students realize that teachers are teachers, no matter how you cut it. We are here to protect you, to guide you, to counsel you, and to prepare you. We cannot, and should not, be your best friends. You may not like it, but that is how it has to be.

-Rhianna Anglin

Constructive criticism

Dear Staff of PHS Little Harvester:

This morning I was reading the October 25, 2006, issue of the PHS Little Harvester, which I found very informative and well written.

However, I noticed the "What is your opinion of the upcoming Daylight Savings Time?" feature at the bottom of page 1. Actually, our country recently reverted back to Standard Time. Daylight Savings Time is from the first Sunday in April through the last Sunday in October. Daylight Savings Time gives us an extra hour of daylight. The question really should have been "what is your opinion of the upcoming switch back to Standard Time?" Then the answers make sense.

Hope you don't mind a little constructive criticism. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,
Frances May

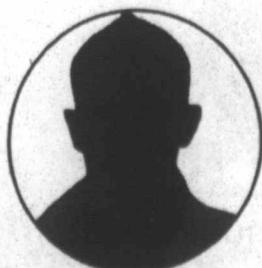
School is small in spirit

Dear Beloved Newspaper,

I love your Newspaper. I want to see more of it. I don't know how ya guys do it, especially the opinion columns. I recently checked the letter to the editor box and there was nothing in it! This school does not have enough school spirit. There is not enough support and communication between the beautiful youth.

So long,
Love,
Darrin Meyer

How do you feel about not being allowed out of the stands at extracurricular events and the fact that all school rules apply there?



"It's ridiculous. We can't get pumped up and yell for our team."

-Dustin Neef, 10



"I think you should be able to do whatever you want. You shouldn't voluntarily go and then have to follow certain rules. No one is making us go to the game."

-Brett Ferrel, 12



"Even though it's a school event, only some restrictions should apply. As far as students go, they shouldn't be treated different than adults."

-Devan Shults, 12



"I don't like it. I don't think it's their place to be telling us what we can and can't do."

-Shelby Needham, 10

thelittleharvester.12.14.06



The Bourbon Legend

Jason Boland and the Straggler's latest album introspective, diverse

aaron.pepper
co-editor.in.chief

Sustain Records has hit another great record in 2006. First was Wade Bowen's *Lost Hotel* followed by Ray Wylie Hubbard's *Snake Farm*. Jason Boland and the Stragglers have struck gold for the upstart label with their latest release *The Bourbon Legend*. Indeed, Sustain is an upstart label formed early in 2006. Three records on the rise in the Texas Music Charts shines well on a new label. Extremely well. Sustain is the best Texas label of 2006 in my book.

All that said, I was glad to see Jason Boland and the Stragglers take an upswing with their recent release *The Bourbon Legend*, which provided a pleasant rebound from 2004's *Some-where in the Middle*, their worst album to date. "The Bourbon Legend" takes their style back to their earlier showings. That is a very good thing.

The album kicks off with the upbeat "Last Country Song," a resounding statement for Texas music about the fall of "country." If that's still what they call it in Nashville. Lone Star singer/songwriters rarely associate themselves with the country genre. A fitting opener for this album, and a well played tune at that.

The second track is the album's title track. Unfortunately

ly this song is more of a disappointment than the surrounding tracks. Oh well, you can't win them all. JB&S do win several on this album, though, including the third and fourth tracks that aren't fantastic but definitely contribute.

Now, the middle section of this album seals "The Bourbon Legend's" case at being a good record. "Up and Gone," "Baby That's Just Me" (co-written by Mike McClure), "Can't Tell If I Drink," and "Rattlesnakes" all build to each other to keep the listener satisfied. I find the middle portion of an album to be crucial. First, it keeps the audience listening but sets up the ending for a contrast or thriller that excites everyone. Of the entire album, "Rattlesnakes" and "Time in Hell" gave me the thought that they would have made it on Boland's best record *Pearl Snaps*. That is a sheer compliment, if you've ever heard that album.

"Time in Hell," as I said, is a song worthy of this band's best. The following, and final track, "Everyday Life" slows the album way back, which I thought was great for the ending. A tribute and introspective look at a life of joy gone cold. "Everyday Life" joins the prior track as my favorites of this record.

The sound of the album goes back to the day's of "Outlaw Country." I dig it entirely. JB&S plays up the country side of the Texas scene, and they're great at it. I know the band is back with a vengeance with *The Bourbon Legend*, but baby that's just me.

Overall- 8.2

Clash of the Consoles

Playstation 3 and Wii: rivals of the gaming realm

bart.bullard
staff.writer

The revolution and the H-D king are here. The Nintendo Wii and the Sony Playstation 3 have crashed the X-box 360's party that has been going on for the last year. The Nintendo Wii has been said to be what revolutionizes the way games are made and played since the compact disc, while the PS3 promises to bring H-D into live gaming and not just the cinematic scenes.

The Wii features thousands of features that will keep players hooping for more. The Wii Channel is its basic feature that is the main screen and consists of eight portals: the Photo Channel, used to personalize photos of oneself; the Virtual Channel, where you can play games from the original Sega and Nintendo

systems; the Forecast Channel, where the local forecast give you updates hourly; the News Channel, where world news is given via Internet; the Mii Channel, an avatar creator; the Internet Channel, where one can surf the Internet; a Shop Channel, which allows one to buy games online and updates; and the Disc Channel, where one can play games that are all designed to give the average gamer, the pro or the challenger what they want: entertainment. The controller is what will bring players to the Nintendo Wii because of its Wi-Fi, which wirelessly communicates to the system, and functions that enable it do almost every function in the game from shooting, slashing and picking a character.

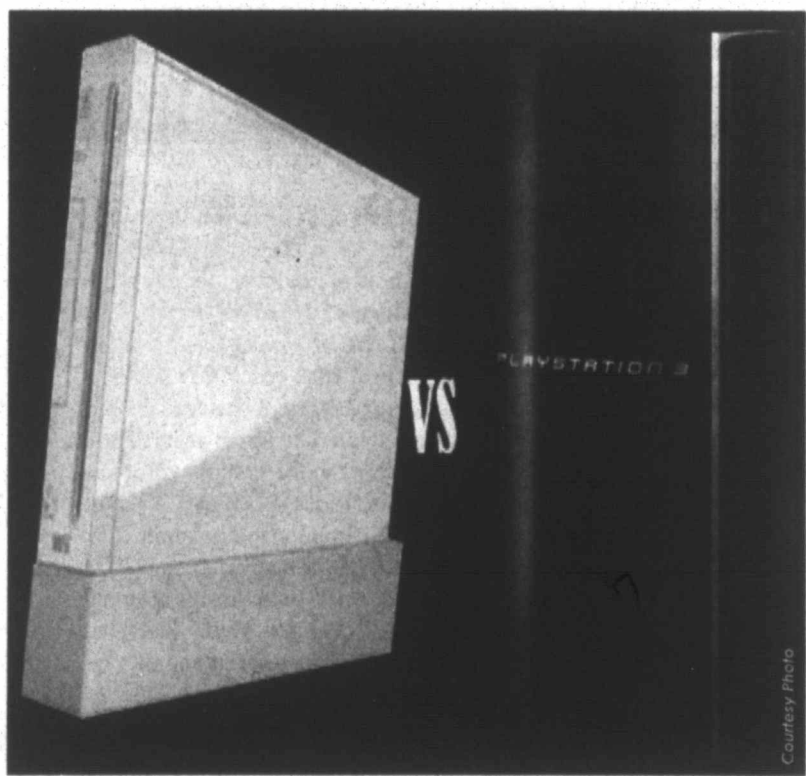
The price is what will also get gamers to buy the Wii; standing at \$249.99, with a free copy of Wii-

Sports, a game that involves about seven sports including boxing, baseball, track, tennis, volleyball and golf. This is not a bad deal.

"Playing Beyond" is what the Playstation 3 motto is and playing beyond is what the Playstation 3 does. With either a 20 GB or 60 GB hard-drive and a cell processor, the Playstation 3 is all that and a bag of chips. The style of the system is classy and sleek, coming in either silver or black.

The controllers are a let down for all that is new. This new "six-axis," system allows you to fully control what you are playing, but it has little new features and no vibration function. Resolution is what will bring the PS3 into the fight for gamers around the world; going from 480i to 1080p. PS3 is also HD compatible and brings true graphic realism to gaming. The optical drive uses a Blu Ray system and a 256MB GDR3. It also features free online play unlike the X-Box 360.

For the systems there are two things that divide the systems into different factions that will soon



clash. PS3 brings realistic graphics and about everything the PSX and the PS2 had with a few new features. The Wii brings an arsenal of new features that games only had with projector

years from when the Atari was born. Putting all flaws aside, the Wii and the PS3 are very good and well developed systems that will give any gamer something new to play.

Time for change

James and the Giant Peach well-represented, innovative, modernly refreshing

aaron.pepper
co-editor.in.chief

I would describe it as "peachy," but then I would have to kill myself. Nevertheless, the theater arts department's presentation of Roald Dahl's *James and the Giant Peach* was definitely entertaining. The cast and crew made use of what opportunities exist in the high school's tech-deficient auditorium. Overall, each section of the theater was well represented from acting to lighting to direction.

Foremost, director Rhiana Anglin altered the script, cutting some characters and re-interpreting one character to have an unusual method of delivering lines. Centipede, played by junior Darrell Willis became a rapping insect for this particular production. This worked wonderfully. A rapping centipede added a modern flair and sense of intensity to the story as a whole. Willis brought the comedy element along with his centipede boots. Unfortunately, the play died at times for those same boots. The idea was that a centipede would have about a hundred boots, and it would be funny if he insisted his boots be taken off/put on. A funny concept, except that the audience sat in a dark silence during the shoe changing. That was the only downfall of Willis' character. His ability to keep pace and improvise the occasional forgotten line developed Centipede into a character that went far beyond the pages of the script.

The entirety of the main cast showed great promise.

The two aunts played by sophomore Andrew Hatcher and freshman Haley Smith gave the play a solid base of villains. What story is complete without a couple of old women that you hate? Especially when one is played by a boy. As for the aspect of cross-gender acting, this is the first production of *James and the Giant Peach* that had a female playing James (sophomore Terri Frazier). And I should say that it in no way distracted from the play. A well played part overall.

As for the technical side of the show, I was happy to see some creativity used in the charming, technologically pure auditorium. The exterior of the peach in the early scenes was denoted by a large orange spotlight. This allowed the peach to "roll" across the stage and over the fictional cliffside. Occasionally, characters disappeared into the orange light though. Also, it was a challenge to hear dialogue when actors were behind the curtain or hiding behind the peach. Regardless, my favorite part of the play was a technical effect. At once, a sudden hail storm hits around James' house, so Anglin's crew threw dozens of paper wads over the railing of the balcony. Unfortunate for those being hit with "hail," but it caused a great looking storm for anyone sitting behind the balcony line.

All in all, cast and crew for *James and the Giant Peach* made the play more than I expected from a high school play. A Sunday afternoon well spent.

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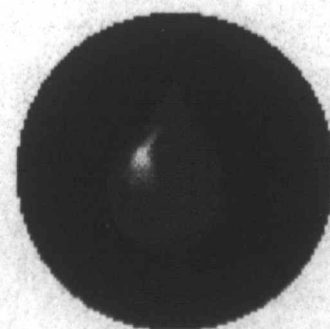
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Showing the guns: Bobby Sikes (Gaston) does his best to show off for the Silly Girls. Michael Fernuik (LeTou) does his best to divert their attention.

Bravo to Beauty and the Beast

Choir production proves exceptional

ryan.hansen
co-editor.in.chief

Traditionally a fairy tale from 425 AD, *Beauty and the Beast* has seen more renditions from the stage to the movie reel than almost any other story. Bearing in mind that it is on Broadway and has a plot known to nearly all, the musical seemed to be a very obvious selection for the choir's musical this year.

Since I can remember, the fall musical presented by the choir has always had the notoriety of success. With the exception of last year's less-stunning *Grease*, every performance I have attended has been near stellar. *Beauty and the Beast* was no exception.

Since last year's musical's main cast consisted mostly of seniors with just a few juniors, it's easy to forget how many strong individuals are in this year's graduating class. Out of the main cast for *Beauty and the Beast*, comes only one non-senior, leaving everybody else with their last high school performance.

I have always had a problem with the old cliché saying, "treat every moment like it's your last," but it finally held true. Every one of the actors did an absolutely phenomenal job with, not only characterization and accents, but with interacting and playing off one another. The singing goes unspoken; it was superb. However, a musical requires more than just the main cast. It

includes smaller roles, dancers, chorus members and stage technicians. Just like the main cast, the actors playing smaller roles excelled greatly. From a viewer's standpoint, I didn't notice any missed or incorrect lines. The dancers were impressive, but, at times when both dancers and a large number of the main cast were together on stage, things seemed quite cluttered, which could have been solved easily with different blocking.

Unfortunately, the play was most vulnerable when it relied more heavily on chorus members and stage technicians. Though they sounded good, it was very obvious that many chorus members were either not singing, or not putting effort into singing. When the Beast was to reveal the library to Belle, a plate dropped on stage instead of the library, leaving an awkward moment for the actors on stage.

There is no such thing as a flawless performance, and the above points are so slight that they were hardly noticeable during the performance. Despite the fact that missing a cue for prop could be integral, having good actors who know how to recover from the errors compensates for the few faults. It is unfortunate that the worst thing about this play is that many of these actors may not step foot on stage again after high school.



Strummin' Guthrie: Tweedy during his performance of Woody Guthrie's 'Airline To Heaven.' Other than just covering his songs, Wilco and Billy Bragg's Mermaid Ave. I & II recreate some of his songs lyrics that were never recorded, giving music to words.

At the beginning of the century Tweedy and Wilco 'have you'

Band rounds off American tour with handful of dates in Texas, performing near-flawlessly in San Antonio and sampling new song from upcoming album

ryan.hansen
co-editor.in.chief

Notorious for his drug habit and recovery, Wilco founder/singer/songwriter Jeff Tweedy has always been a curious character fronting a band notorious for their awe inspiring live performances. With a catalogue of records behind them, ranging from the album that I dared deem a perfect 10.0, 2002's *Yankee Hotel Foxtrot*, to the forgettable *A.M.* to their most recent, *A Ghost is Born*, Wilco has a wide selection to choose from in concert. And they do so. And not very sparingly.

I was fortunate enough to catch them in a late October San Antonio performance as they were winding down their recent American tour, just two days before Jeff Tweedy

punched a deranged fan in the face on stage. I will get to that in a minute.

A Ghost is Born's "Hell is Chrome" was the opening track, which to me was a strange choice, given the song's slowness. But given the songs utter beauty, they pulled it off wonderfully, adding a new dimension to the guitar solo that was absent on *AGIB*. And that is how the rest of the concert continued.

Playing songs off of every album, even *A.M.*, Tweedy and company found a way to seduce the crowd in a way that I have never seen in any concert I have ever attended, adding ever-so much to the songs off of their latest offering. The songs that I considered boring when I listened to them on album became fan favorites

on stage. I even caught myself screaming every lyric at the top of my lungs and going along with every cheesy rock star chant that Tweedy started so shamelessly.

The interesting thing about the show was how he simply forgot to actually talk to the crowd. Midway through the show he asked everybody how they were doing, and realizing that it was their set was half completed, followed his own question with, "I guess it's a little too late to be asking that."

Things like forgetting to ever greet the crowd is an obvious sign of fatigue that the band has experienced due to unbearable amount of shows that they have subjected themselves to. Just two nights after I saw them, a fan at one of their

shows ran on stage with arms in air, embracing Tweedy with puckered lips, readying a kiss that he was never fortunate enough to give. The singer punched him in the face.

Despite such signs of exhaustion, there were no such signs in their performance. By the time a band usually plays an encore, I am ready to leave. However, after the second encore, I was still waiting for more, which is the sign of true musicianship. They only played one song off of their forthcoming album in January, but it was one of the most melodic in their catalogue. Though, personally, I would have rather heard more new songs, I was happy with just the one because they are doing what all good bands should do: keeping fans interested.

N **E** **W** **R** **E** **L** **E** **A** **S** **E** **S**

The Beatles
Love
There is no need to say something about the band that has already been said time and time again. The music, as always, is wonderful. *Love* is an essential purchase, though, for the stellar blends between songs and the unbelievable quality of these remasters.
-Ryan Hansen

Gwen Stefani
The Sweet Escape
The problem with Gwen's solo career is her inability to craft albums. She's mastered singles just as well, if not better than No Doubt, but *The Sweet Escape* suffers from bore in it's last half.
-Ryan Hansen

Tom Waits
Browlers, Bowlers & Bastards
A three-disc compilation of 30 new songs, along with many other unreleased material, all in casual Tom Waits style; not an uplifting moment.
-Ryan Hansen

Lindsey Buckingham
Under the Skin
His first solo album since 1992, *Under the Skin* picks up where the last left off with complete beauty in the guitar work. Stepping up from the last Fleetwood Mac album, this is worth a spin.
-Ryan Hansen

Mike McClure Band
Foam
McClure continues to surprise fans album by album. *Foam* is more rock-centered than any other MMB release. Unfortunately, it's short of mellow, soulful tunes featured on the duet album with the Burschi Bros. New and exciting is the word for MMB's *Foam*.
-Aaron Pepper

Pavement
Wowee Zowee (2006 reissue)
10 years after the release of their albums, Pavement have reissued them. Adding 35 more songs to the already bulky 18, *Wowee Zowee* is, by far, the most eclectic record the band ever released.
-Ryan Hansen

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ADAM.hagerman explains himself

It all began in fifth grade...

courtney.linn
entertainment editor



At first glance, senior Adam Hagerman seems like an average student. He's involved in band, UIL Academics and Latin Club. Although his appearance suggests normalcy, Hagerman's mindset is far from average.

"When I made All-State my freshman year, I freaked out," Hagerman said. "Sometimes I think people put it on a pedestal. It definitely took some work, but not as much as most people think it does. Something like making All-State takes a special person with a certain mindset and manifestation."

Hagerman's dream started in fifth grade band class, where he was last chair frequently.

"I'll never forget the kid I didn't beat," Hagerman said. "Him beating me made me want to win, so I practiced a lot."

That elementary competition sparked what will be Adam's career.

"I think a lot of people would be shocked to know that I could never play my instrument again and be completely content with it," Hagerman said. "My love is with music instead of making music."

Hagerman plans on going to college for a major in orchestral conducting and eventually to the Frankfurt Conservatory for his doctorate.

"Don't get the wrong impression," Hagerman said. "I do not want to be a band director. I don't believe you can be a true musician and a band director."

Another reason Hagerman does not want to be a band director is that he doesn't like "equal opportunity" in a setting such as band.

"I understand the concept of equal opportunity, but I don't like it," Hagerman said. "I want to be a professor and teach at a collegiate level. They're the people who don't suck."

His love, in the musical realm, is Tchaikovsky.

"Tchaikovsky was my first love," Hagerman said. "His music was him. It is so deep and intricate. Its depth is amazing and easy to listen to at the same time. All of the dead Russians are my favorites."

Hagerman is also very well-versed in the aspect of literature.

"My philosophy is this: I like to read as much as I can to make sound judgments about people," Hagerman said. "The book that gave me the most mental unrest was *The Jungle* by Upton Sinclair. It caused me to view poverty differently. I knew it existed but I didn't understand it. I enjoy provocative readings; books where you can't continue without truly thinking. I don't like science fiction, but I do enjoy H. G. Wells because of his insights into the human psyche."

Even more notable than his musical abilities is his academic efficiency.

"Adam is a true pleasure," biology AP teacher Lois Parker said. "He is brilliant. He can absorb all classroom information without writing notes. He is funny, if you can understand his sarcastic personality. He's extremely talented. Musically, more talented than anyone I've ever met."

Socially, Hagerman strays from the crowd.

"I'm sort of anti-social," Hagerman said. "Most of my relationships are long distance. On the actual aspect of society, though, I'm interested in social education. I hate the No Child Left Behind Act. Some people in my mind are just not created to be educated. I think God made only some of us to study advanced literature and philosophy. He [God] was a brilliant social planner, you know."

Photo by Ryan Hansen

All in a day's work: Drug advisor Pingel finds way to divide time between many tasks

ryan.hansen
co-editor.in.chief

With the departure of former drug counselor Lesley Gershmel, an opening for her former position came. Being informed about the position by Gershmel herself, Suzanne Pingel jumped at the opportunity.

Now, having had a semester to adapt to the new environment, Pingel has begun making the necessary changes to the many positions she fills daily. Despite being the mother of two children in elementary school, dealing with every homeless child in the district and many of the ISS and DAEP students from both junior high

and high school, Pingel has still found time to introduce a new program to the school and fill the very shoes left behind by Gershmel.

Pingel spent her youth in Perryton, living there until she graduated high school. From there, she moved to Amarillo, where she graduated college and lived until 1999.

"I was a social worker at hospice until my daughter was in an accident and I decided to be a stay home mom," Pingel said. "It [the wreck] was so huge. You think that your life is perfect, and then something like that can change it forever. Every single decision is focused on what's best for your children."

After taking a break from work in order to deal with her own life and her family's, Pingel felt the necessity to do something for herself.

"When I say that I am doing this for myself, I mean that I want to work with kids and young adults," Pingel said. "I had worked in hospice, my husband Brad is a funeral director at Car-

michael Whatley and I just wanted to get away from death and other sad things."

On a day-to-day basis, Pingel's general duties are quite extensive. She deals with homeless, ISS, DAEP and students who were involved in challenge day.

goal with challenge day is to keep it alive throughout the year," Pingel explained. "Hopefully we can make people remember the challenge day and relive it daily."

Amongst all other things on her slate, Pingel has made time to initiate the SADD program, which, unlike D-FY-IT, is a nation-wide program, lending more scholarships to students involved.

"It's more inclusive than D-FY-IT because it does not do drug tests," Pingel said. "Many people who really need a program like this could have been on drugs, which would have previously prevented them from joining."

Now it's more open for everyone."



Hard at work: Pingel checks her email as she comes in to work in the morning.

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One drummer with his own beat

From drumline's long-locked head banger to homecoming king, it's been an interesting ride with senior Ryan Olson

urvish.trivedi
staff writer

Of all the friendly and fun students at Pampa High School, Ryan Olson definitely stands out because of his personality and approach on life.

Olsen has been in band for eight years and he is currently the band president for the school.

"Ryan loves the high school band; he does a great job of leading the organization because he firmly believes in unity," sophomore Dustin Neef said.

Olsen's interest also include basketball, soccer, playing the guitar and skiing.

"Ryan loves to go skiing with me every year. I remember on one of our trips the weather was kind of warm so he decided to ski in short sleeves and ended up falling really hard. He was all scratched up from the ice crystals," senior Andrew Van Houten said.

Ryan loves to have variety in his life, in fact he is known for trying different delicacies.

"Ryan loves to eat and will eat almost anything," Kathy Olson, his mother, said. "In fact I remember when we went to a restaurant in Oklahoma, Ryan decided to eat alligator meat



The little drummer boy: Senior Ryan Olson works with a small jazz combo after school. Olson has been keeping the beat for jazz band throughout high school. His roles in band also include drumline captain and band President.

and frog legs for the first time, and he liked it."

Along with being the band president, Ryan also happens to be an excellent student with exceptional grades.

"Ryan is pretty smart for a person who just sits and chills in classes. It seems like school was his God-given talent," senior Lensey Mixon said.

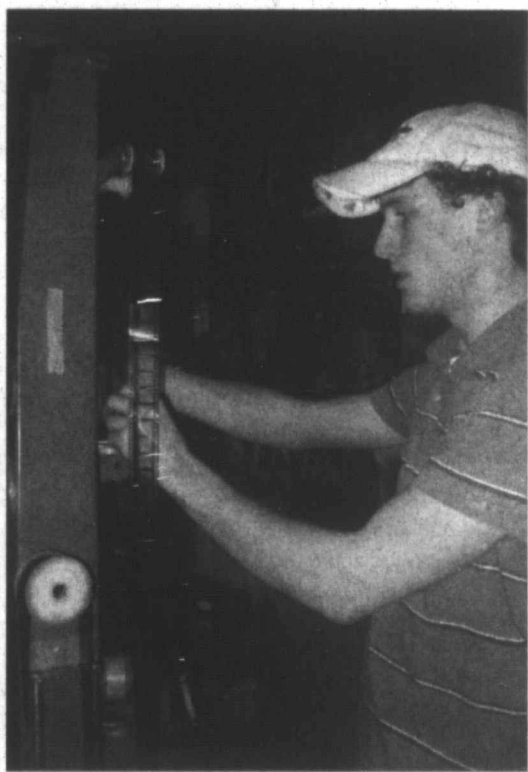
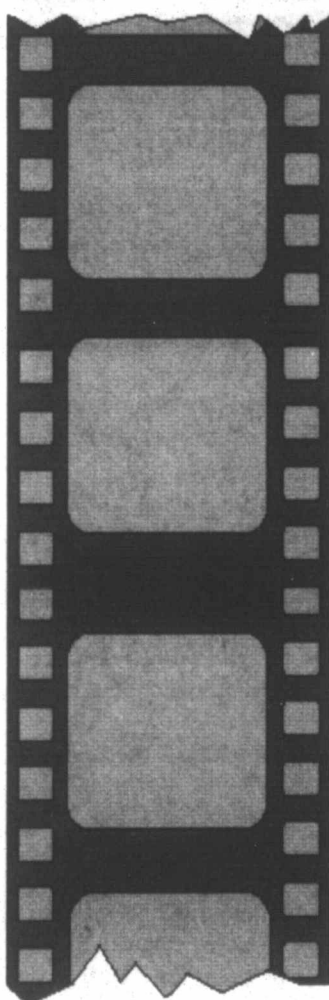
But perhaps it is his personality and attitude toward life that sets Olsen apart from other students.

"Ryan has always had a positive outlook on life," senior Ryan Braswell said. "He is a funny and loyal friend. If anyone of his friends is in need of help, Ryan is always the first one to show up. He is very protective of his friends."



Photos by Aaron Pepper

Theater re-opening means jobs for teens as well as entertainment



Frame work: Senior Garrett Jonas puts film in the reel preparing for a busy Friday night.

lorraine.garcia
news editor

Opening earlier this year, Cinema 4 offers more than just a great movie experience, it offers teenagers the chance to learn responsibility and a better work ethic.

"It's a great place to work, they learn how to run projectors, which helps in college," Cinema 4 co-owner Jason Scott said.

The teenage employees not only learn how to properly run a projector or how to properly sell tickets and run concession however, they learn valuable people skills and traits that will help with employment in the future.

"I think it helps them in a very well rounded way; they learn public relations, money, professionalism, responsibility and punctuality... the more they work, the harder they work," co-owner, Terra Scott said.

On top of learning reliability that will help with future jobs, the teenage employees are more comfortable

talking about current entertainment.

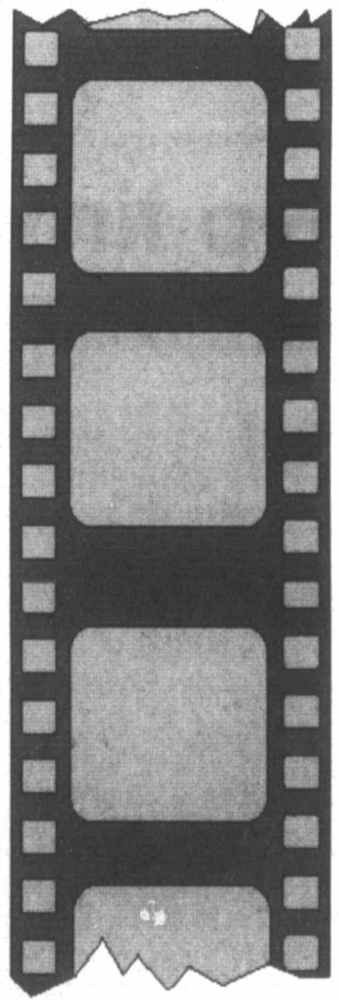
"I'm definitely more knowledgeable in the field of entertainment," Junior Mark Stone, and employee, said.

Although it may seem like the teenagers who work at Cinema 4 work tirelessly running the concession, checking the projectors, and endlessly cleaning the theatres, they have fun enjoying a free movie every once in a while with free popcorn and fountain drinks and hanging out with fellow staff members and the owners.

"We get free movies and a great learning experience with a tremendous staff and managers who are really easy to get along with," Senior Garrett Jonas, and employee, said.

Besides being fun for the teenage staff, the owners also enjoy the adolescent company.

"I enjoy it, I'd rather teach teenagers learn how to keep clean and be respectable than adults," Scott said.



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thelittleharvester.12.14.06

Girls' basketball fights tough schedule early; Rice's record hopes delayed

aaron.pepper
co-edfor.in.chief

As with the boys' team, the Lady Harvesters' hardcourt has seen a wave of new talent join the team. More than five members of the squad are new to the varsity level. Such a shift of personnel resulted in several changes in this year's team.

"The biggest difference is that we were an outside shooting team last year, but now we've added an inside game to that outside shooting with players like McKensie East, Hailie Kotara and Kelsie Wyatt," head coach Troy Fry said.

In fact, along with four-year varsity guard Britteni Rice, Fry named East, a senior, one of the team's most outstanding players.

"McKensie has made a big difference by giving us the scoring and defense inside," Fry said. "She was out all last year with an injury, but she has stepped up coming off that injury as a very valuable part of our team."

East's return to the hardwood has filled her with excitement.

"It's time for me to show off my talent after a long year of rehab," East said.

East is thrilled to include herself as a member of the team's core of seniors that share leadership responsibilities.

"Some seniors are very vocal while others play the role of encouragers," she said. "Others just show leadership with their play."

Senior Britteni Rice has become synonymous with leading her team through stellar performance. Rice has reached a couple of personal goals already in this young season. She has signed a letter-of-intent to play for the Sunbelt Conference's University of Denver, and continues to inch her way up the high school's career scoring record for girls' basketball. Rice's coaches praised her versatility, leadership and consistency.

"She makes other players better," Fry said.

"When she's on the floor, everyone seems to become a better player."

Improvement of the team is a goal Rice constantly works for. The first step to reaching that goal is establishing team unity, which Rice said has been great this season.

"We are better chemistry-wise than last year, but we struggle some fundamentally," Rice said. "We are two games up in the win column versus last year, though."

According to Fry, he is pleased with the team's 6-6 record as it has competed well against some tough opponents despite being relatively inexperienced. The team took consolation at the Amarillo tournament.

With a 10-foot jump shot, she broke Yolanda Brown's Lady Harvester career points record of 1644 points. Or so she thought.

Away from team play, Rice got a personal victory with 1:31 left in the third quarter of Dec. 5's victory over Tascosa. With a 10-foot jump shot, she broke Yolanda Brown's Lady Harvester career points record of 1644 points. Or so she thought.

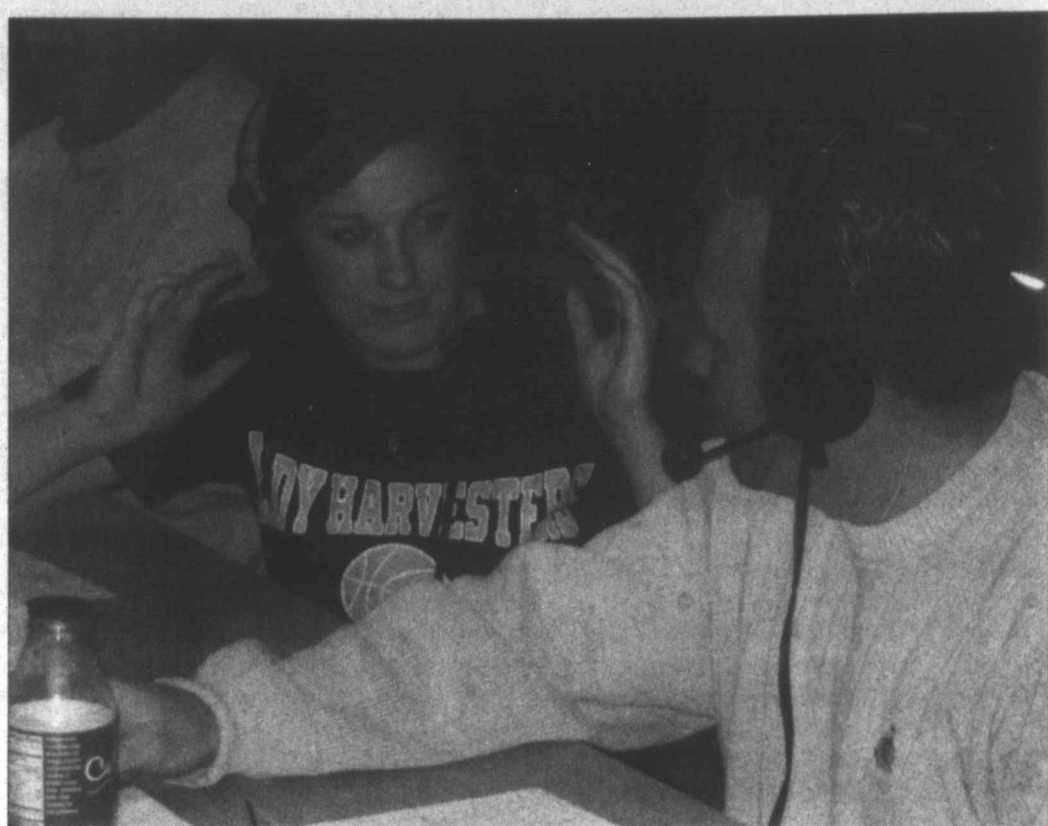
Rice did pass that mark, ending the game with 1654 career points. But upon further examination of record books and a 1992 "Pampa News" article, "The Little Harvester" discovered that Yolanda Brown stood at second in points totals. Just a few years after her record, Nikki Ryan, class of '92, broke the mark and established a career points total of 1889 points. Therefore, Rice sits in second after the Tascosa game, lacking 236 points for the record. Rice will likely break the record before the season's finish.

"It's a rare thing, and an opportunity to take," Rice said. "I'm glad it's mine."

Lady Harvester scoring leaders

1. Nikki Ryan 1889 pts.
2. Britteni Rice 1654* pts.
3. Yolanda Brown 1644 pts.

* - active total entering Dec. 8 game



Photos by Aaron Pepper



(Above) Britteni Rice talks with Danny Hooper, KGRO-KOMX, at halftime during the boys' basketball game Tuesday Dec. 5. Rice was thought to have earned the girls' career scoring record for the school until record books were overlooked and it was established that Nikki Ryan was still the leading scorer. Rice, however, did pass Yolanda Brown for second on the list. (Below) Guard Tyler Hall speeds past opponents and teammates alike for a layup during the fourth quarter of Tuesday's Dec. 5 game against Tascosa. The play drew a blocking call and was integral for their 64-61 comeback victory.

No time to take a breath: "Hell week" prepares soccer athletes for challenges of upcoming season

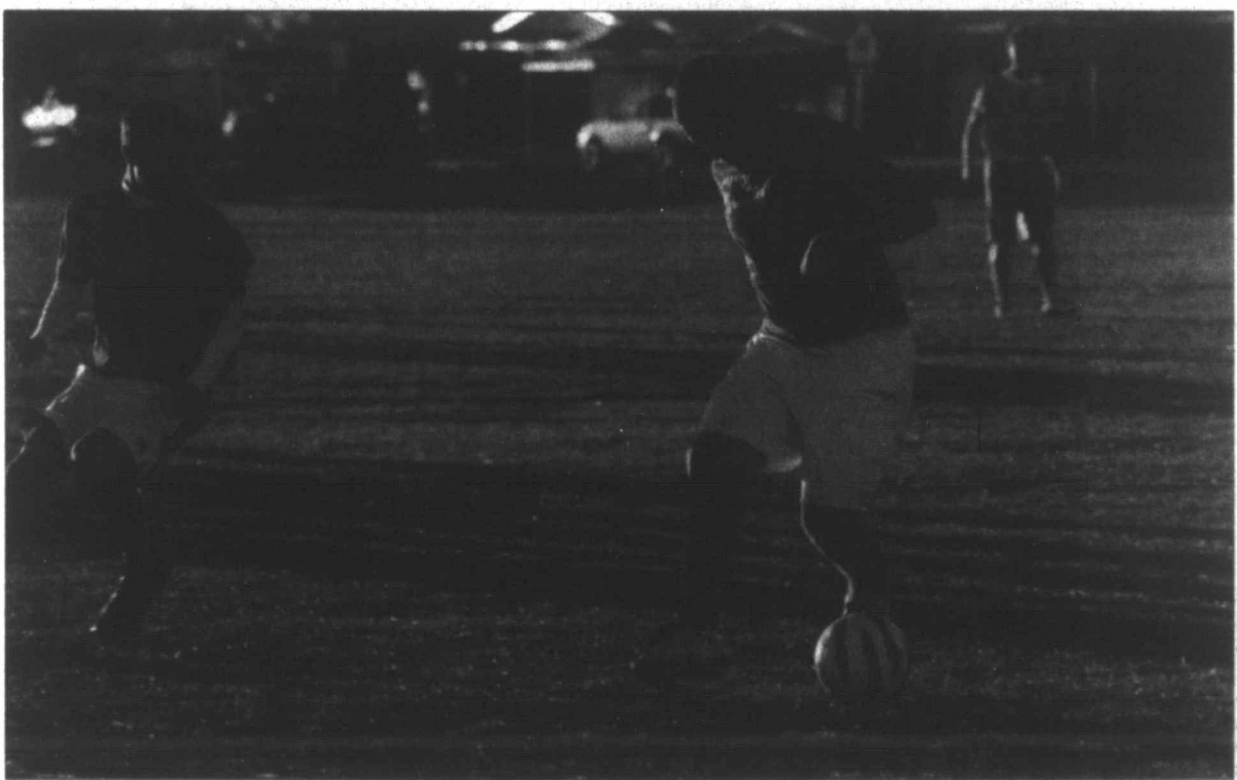


Photo by Aaron Pepper

Hell Week: Hell week was the first week after Thanksgiving. The week was established several years ago and was used as for extensive conditioning and to find out who some of the year's key players were going to be. Since coach John True took over the position, hell week has once again become an intense week of work for soccer players.

jareth.fortenberry
staff.writer

The Harvester soccer teams are well underway with preparations for the season.

These preparations take place in a period that is known as "Hell Week."

"We do lots of running, work on plays, team building [and] character building. Basically [we] try and get ourselves mentally and physically tough," coach John True said.

This may seem hard to the players at first, but many of them say that it is only as tough as you make it.

"It is tough, but it's tougher for those people who just goof around. It's how you make it though, yeah it's tough but if you just work and don't slack off you'll do better during the season," sophomore Alina Kuehne said.

"Hell Week" is not just an experience that the boys' soccer team has to go through. The girls team is

equally prepared for the upcoming season having gone through grueling training.

"The girls have numbers and they really want to work hard," True said.

Running six to eight miles for guys games and four to six miles for girls, it's easy to see why conditioning would be an important part of soccer.

Save for endurance while running, what benefit does "Hell Week" give to the soccer team?

"We have a lot of experience and speed," junior Cesar Marrufo said.


The soccer season begins Feb. 2 at Caprock for both the boys' and the girls' teams.

The guiding principle of the soccer team's "Hell Week" is that a perfect practice makes for a perfect performance, or at least that it provides plenty of experience.

"We're hopping for a good season and we're looking forward to a good start," True said.

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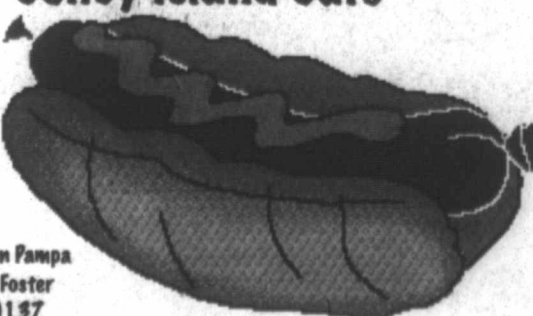
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Drop of a pin Wrestling team sets high standards pre-season

bart.bullard
staff writer

"With five freshmen, three seniors and six other returning and new members, this season looks promising for the wrestling team," wrestling coach Josh Cadenhead said.

The wrestling season blasted off on Nov. 6 and will continue until late April. The first meet occurred on Nov. 16 in a triangular against River Road and Bushland. The team defeated River Road and Bushland by default. The Harvester wrestling team took on the Take-Down Tournament in Dumas. Richard Leal placed 1st in the 112-pound weight division. John Burns achieved first in the 170-pound weight division and Jonathan Olsen scored third in the Heavyweight division.

"We just need to condition and go over technique," Richard Leal said. "We just need to get better for the meets and tournaments to come."

"We have a roster this year, consisting of 14 wrestlers and I hope it stays or even grows as the days grow shorter," Coach Cadenhead said. The team consists of three seniors, including Richard Leal, John Burns and Jimmy Logan. There are also two

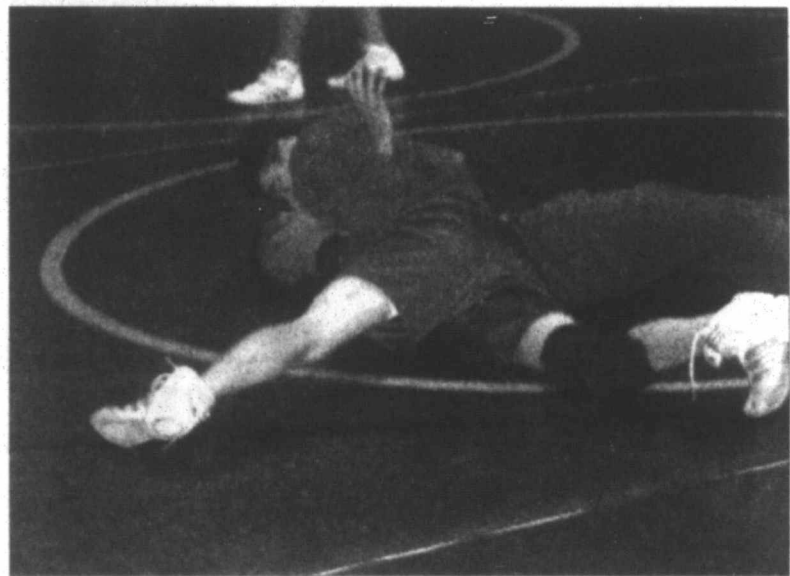
juniors including Jerret Towles, five sophomores including Jeremy Maxwell, Jonathan Olsen, Nick Riley, Jordan Eiken and Johnny Anguiano, as well as five freshmen including Steven Botello, Garrett Fatheree, Dillon Johnson, Rozvel Gonzalez and Robert Douglas.

"We wish to return to state with the whole team as a group," Cadenhead said. "The year will fly fast and the competition will be fierce, but with hard work we can do better than the year before."

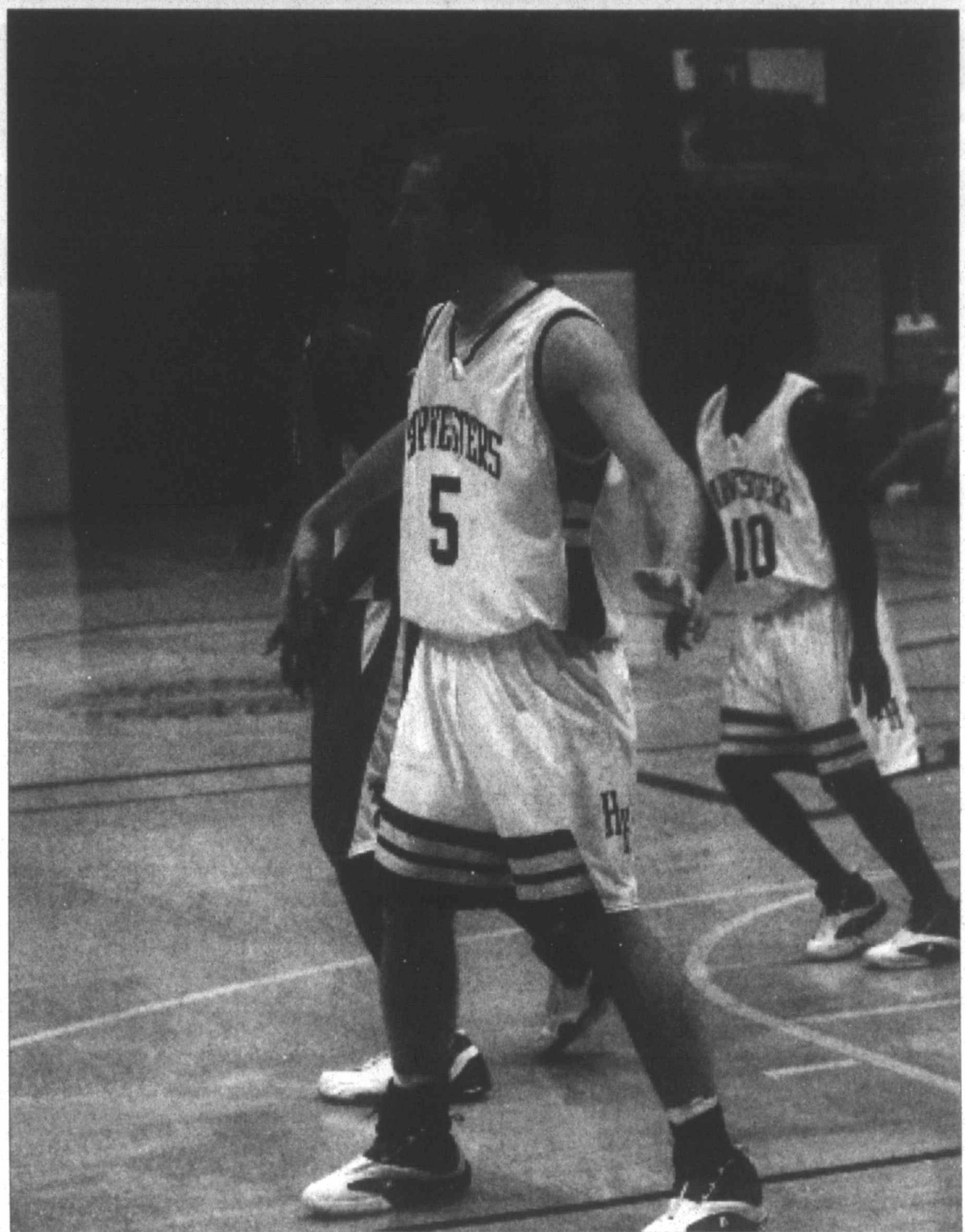
"[One of my main goals is] to go to state and take it all," Leal stated. "But to have a team at least 15 wrestlers sticking the season out and hopefully making state would be better." Richard competed last year in state and placed third in the 103-pound weight division.

"My expectations are high for the up coming year," Jordan Eiken said. "State is something I wish to accomplish this year."

"The main goal for the team this year is to make State and dominate all that we compete against," Coach said. "Our Motto this year is 'There is a lot of blood, sweat, and tears between failure and success.'"



Senior Richard Leal practices for a tournament by pinning freshman Steven Botello. The tournament was held Dec. 9, but when they arrived there, it was found that only three teams arrived, making it a meet. "We did pretty good," wrestling coach Josh Cadenhead said, "now we're just getting ready for the Boys' Ranch tournament next week."



Hey, pass it over here!: Sophomore Matt Smith posting-up for a pass at the varsity home game against Tascosa on Dec 5. The final score was a Harvester victory, 64 - 61.

No arguments here Sophomore demonstrates ability with basketball, debate teams

andrew.roy
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There are three qualities that are admired in any person: confidence, intelligence and physical fitness. Sophomore Matt Smith is the exquisite blend of these three qualities, and his self assuredness, brainpower and dazzling skills have been impressing the school since day one.

Matt Smith and Lorraine Gracia began to debate as a team in public forum, and they have impressed Field through their meticulous preparation as they aim for perfection.

"I'm excited, encouraged, and ready for a successful year," Smith's Forensics coach Marty Field said. "Yeah!"

Field is also excited by the prospect of having a Smith on the team for more than just one year.

"I'm looking forward to having Mat longer than I had Chris, because I only had Chris for his senior year," Field said.

According to Field, Smith and Garcia took second place at their first tournament. Both of them are new to debate, and their speech coach could hardly contain his excitement.

"It's a celebration," Field said, referring to his glee at seeing Smith and Garcia's achievements.

To go beyond recent endeavors, Matt's influence has already gained a foothold outside of debating. Matt was placed last year on the men's varsity basketball team last year, and being the humble character he is, he tried to make the feat seem trivial writing it off as something that had more to do with his height than his ability.

"He is tall," Field said.

However, it would be wrong to say that the only reason Smith is on the team is due to his height.

"He's really good; he started as a freshman last year, he'll be really good by his senior year," senior teammate Tyler Hall said.

With this new rising Smith star, is going to state in both debate and basketball possible?

"I hope to go that far in the years to come," Matt Smith said.

This may be a big possibility for him, for he has two more years of high school ahead of him. In these two years, Smith can only be expected to continue to improve and to continue in the path that he has already set before himself: a path that ends in high school stardom.

With Smith's mixture of talent, assuredness and a personal appearance that makes people speculate that he hit puberty in the womb, it will be interesting to see just how far Smith takes his abilities.

"He was the only kindergartner with a goatee," Field said.

2006 Volleyball year in review

- Most Valuable Player:** Jackye Barber
- Most Improved Player:** Kara Stephens
- Best Offensive Player:** Nicole Clark
- Best Defensive Player:** Logan Winkelman
- Best Hustler:** Cassy Tice
- Best Setter:** Stephanie McVay
- Fighting Heart Award:** Meagan Crawford

- Jackye Barber and Stephanie McVay were selected to play on the All Star West Team. Barber was also selected for the 2nd All-District team.
- The teams 4-10 record secured them 4th place in district.

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BEYOND THE LIGHTS

Not whether you win or lose but how you prepared for the game



All photos by Arnie Pascoe

8:30

Coach's "kick butt football" philosophy, this means being on the field and being ready to play. The players are in the locker room, but about giving a full effort to avoid injury. But an injury is a pain. There's a pain that fans can't see under the lights on Friday night. What is that pain? It's the pain of the field. It's "kick it out on the field," a team that prepares mentally and physically all of their collective energies in the locker room. The Harvester's pregame ritual is no different.

4:45 Nearly three hours before game time, players arrive at Vahlbala. Each player digs through his locker, searching for the uniform, green shorts and black Under Armour shirt they need for the weight room. While changing, the mood is light. Some players sit back with headphones and others watch a 2003 Pompey team highlight video, the music of which fills the room with the hard rock chorus of "Are you ready?" That seems to be the theme for the afternoon. Are the players ready for the last game of their season? Are seniors ready for their last game in high school or even? But the future is not the focus right now. Players mostly center on the evening battle with the Palo Verde Demos. When each player is dressed and has checked out his gear from long-time equipment manager Tom Luter, he heads through the large green metal door to the weight room.

5:00 The chatter stops at the door. The weight room is absolutely silent. Three players in each weight room, but none of them speak. This is "Lock & Load." These lifts are nothing to sneeze at, but only mostly to keep players loose. Everyone in the room is working for this win. The silence breaks with the shrill sound of a coach's whistle and the "CLANK, CLANK, CLANK" of the bars as the lifts are rotated. Fifteen minutes of varied lifts allows players to forget things beyond football. Coach Andy Cavalieri ends this session with the first of the night's several speeches.

Last chance this season to be the players we are, what we're about and how we play," Cavalieri said. "Last opportunity for many of you. Don't leave anything out on the field."

5:15 Players, dressed after "Lock & Load" and being dressed in green, yellow and black. The mood is determined, determined as the coach commands "Get in mind." Players are now beginning to talk about the

meaning behind the evening game.

It's time to start the team. But the Demos. Let's make some noise. Time.

Seniors know what is at hand. Cavalieri, in his first year as Harvester's head coach, knows what this game means to his team. The announcement of his firing, he has been compared to his father and former Pompey coach, the late Dennis Cavatini. It is a proud company for the younger Cavatini to be compared to his father, a man Andy Cavalieri loved as a father, respected as a coach and remembered everyday. While players dress in the adjacent locker room, Cavalieri stands alone in the ready room, reading newspaper and talking to his father pointed shortly after Dennis Cavatini's death in May 2003. A minute of silence and reverence help us returning to the game, energy growing among players.

5:40 Line coach Jeff Grossberry assembles 10 of his linemen to discuss tactics and their early game strategy. Vahlbala remains incredibly silent. The players listen to the explanations without question or comment. Even Grossberry, known for his booming voice and very present energy, keeps his speech at a near whisper.

The rest of the time until the all-team meeting is full of unique moments. Senior quarterback Brent Everett tapes his shoes and ankles while Cris Criswell takes to his shoes with a green marker. Some players look themselves in their iPads while senior Dustin Farber sits on a trainer's table using a cone to stretch out his legs. Each player stays silent in his locker with his own means of preparation. But 6:00 means team unity for the final speech before hitting the field for warm-ups.

6:00 Ever starts this meeting with words of encouragement for the boys. Then Cavalieri steps the night's challenges and defensive goals. But there's more to it.

"My mind's racing, but I hope you can give tonight. Cavalieri said. "The easiest way to die is to win on the scoreboard. Don't make a break up. But if you can't win, save the time and be proud. You are the first team of a new year, and it will be remembered."

The team already knows players are out of the situation. But the team's focus for the season is "Preparation and work."

With that, the team hits the

field for warm-ups in two shifts, remembering to stop a gold sign over the door that reads "Prepare Today."

The yellow field staff of the Harvester or changes the players. The silence and respect of Vahlbala are replaced by shouting and chants on the grass. "White on me, green!" How do you feel? How do you feel? How do you feel?

Respect is yet another key aspect of Harvester football. And it goes both ways. As the team stretches on the field, coaches walk around giving handclaps and inspiring words. This is tradition, and Pompey thrives on tradition.

7:14 After the traditional senior night ceremonies, seniors kneel with their underclassmen teammates for a final speech and a team prayer followed by the Lord's Prayer. Then it's back to the tunnel.

The hard rock blares from the inches-deep tunnel's speakers. The black undershirt is signed in silver Sharpie by each player, even to pass throughout. An incredible energy from pumping, screaming teenagers fills the tunnel where each senior walked out calmly with a white face minutes earlier. There is no calm now. No walking now. When the victory bell rings and the band strikes up "On, On Harvesters," the players come barreling out ready for action.

7:33 Kick off. The sideline is a frenzy, energized despite the first two downs going to the Demos. But thanks to a long run by senior running back Chris Harris, the Harvesters returned to the green field in their sanctuary at Vahlbala leading 14-7.

7:40 The ready room at halftime is a mix of sweat, grass and moist dirt. The mood is one of excitement. Players are pumped for the second half while coaches argue offense and defense to determine how to demolish Palo Verde.

As the team prepares to return to the field at Harvester Field, a great yell is heard up and down Pompey from each player, coach and senior. In that moment, there is a truth in the cliché of one final hell. Nothing exists beyond that final whistle. Who wants it more?

The second half belonged to the Harvesters. The 14-7 halftime lead would lead to the game's end. But it was about more than a victory in that final, final game.

One half, two quarters. Twenty-four minutes. The culmination of nearly a decade of play that led to an ultimate loss for football. Nothing left on the field.

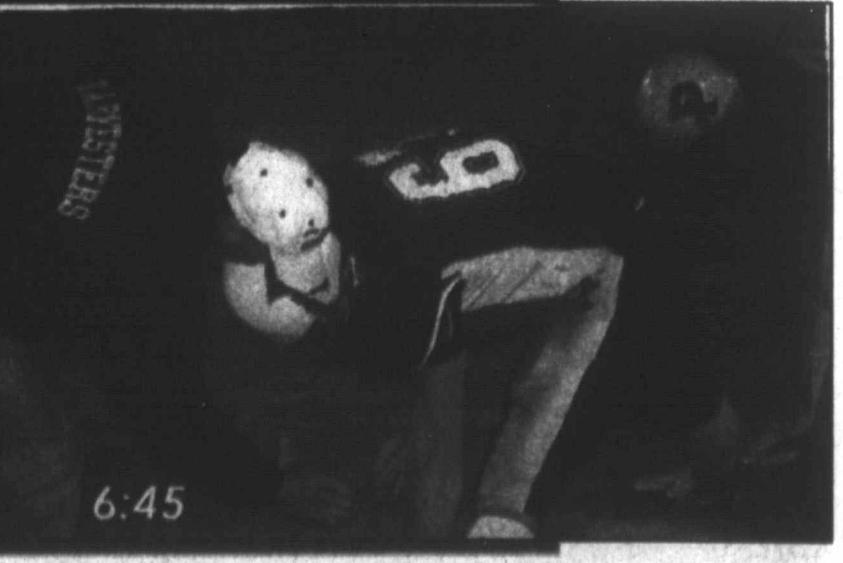
With that, the team hits the



5:10



5:25



6:45