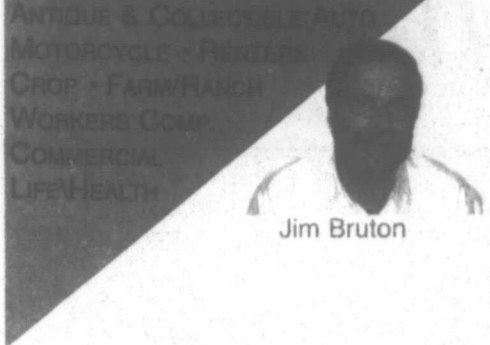


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Jim Bruton

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OIL PATCH SLOWING Seasonal Lull, Economy Crunch or Both

By David Bowser
 dbowser@thepampanews.com

The oil patch is slowing down as the nation, indeed the world, faces mounting financial woes and tightening credit.

There is some exploration proceeding in Briscoe County, south of Gray County, but the panhandle rig count is expected to drop within the next few weeks.

A company out of Wichita Falls has a three-location package and is drilling their second well about five miles west of Turkey, according to Wayne Hughes, executive vice president of the Panhandle Producers and

Royalty Owners Association. The first location was dry.

"They're looking for both crude oil and natural gas at about 7,800 feet," said Hughes, a White Deer native, "in a formation called the Mississippian."

If they hit oil or gas, he said it would be the first time in 50 years that there's been a successful commercial location in Briscoe County.

Hughes said that the slowing in the rest of the panhandle is for the most part seasonal although the world financial crisis could start to be felt in the region in a few weeks.

The current financial cri-

sis has not directly affected the businesses of most of the members of his organization, Hughes said. They tend to be fiscally conservative, but there are parts of the oil patch that are seeing some changes.

"We're starting to see some problems now with service companies," Hughes said. "That's going to translate into a problem for us eventually unless credit loosens up again, and they get to where they can meet their payroll and stay alive. We feel that coming."

This time of year, Hughes said, activity in the oil business usually slows down anyway.

"If we've been turning to the right all year long," Hughes said of the drilling activity, "a rig is like a human being. It's going to get old and fatigued."

Service companies normally take advantage of the lull this time of year to repair and renovate their equipment.

The lull occurs because most people have finished their drilling programs and qualify for tax breaks for the year.

Or they are not leasing anymore toward the end of the year and waiting for the New Year and a new set of books to open.

"There are a variety of

reasons to do that," Hughes said. "That's in the background."

At the same time, refineries are shutting down some of their lines to convert their processes from gasoline for the driving season of the summer to making heating oil and the winter season. During this time there is a normal seasonal drop in crude oil prices.

As crude oil prices lag, Hughes said, people in the business are going to have second thoughts.

If a producer has a year and a half left on a three years lease, Hughes said, he

See Patch, Page 3

Pampa Prepares for Holiday Season



staff photo by Randy Pribble

Among the volunteers who gathered on a cold windy Saturday to continue erecting the "Celebration of Lights" displays were (from left) Roy Sparkman, Carroll Clark, Rae Bagley and Tiffani Martinez. The annual display in Recreation Park will open on Saturday, Nov. 22 and continue through Dec. 31. Admission is free, but donations are accepted at the end of the tour.

Jingle Bell Rockin' Our Annual Parade

By Rachel Stennett
 rstennett@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Chamber of Commerce will be hosting the annual christmas parade on Dec. 6 which will include a variety of floats, specialized motor vehicles, and horses to help activate the christmas spirit in Pampa.

The parade has a history of success, according to Keith Pitner, executive director of the Chamber.

"It's much larger than you would expect," Pitner explained, "this is a big event with a huge turnout."

This year, the parade will be at 2 p.m. and will start at M.K. Brown, and go down Somerville to Francis and will end at Cuyler. The parade will have a theme of "Jingle Bell Rock" and many parade participants will decorate their entries with the theme. Awards are given in different categories; commerial, classic cars, antique cars, motorcycles and four wheelers, horses, religious, and non-commercial. Clubs and organizations like Guardian EMS, Jr. CASA, and Girl Scouts of America have been apart of the non-commercial category in the past. Other parade participants last year included oil well rigs, and even military vehicles from the Freedom Museum.

Pitner said that the main attraction for the parade is Santa who rides on the old fire truck from the Pampa Fire Department and is last in line at the parade throwing out candy for all viewers.

The Retail Committee out of the Pampa Chamber of Commerce is mainly responsible for organizing the parade as an effort to promote retail business. "We hope it creates excite-

County funds at Low Point for Year

The county coffers are probably at a low point for the year, according to Gray County Treasurer Scott Hahn.

He said that as tax revenue begins to come in, the county's financial sheet should improve.

Hahn said that the amounts in the county's accounts will rise as residents begin to pay their taxes. He said the bulk of the revenue would come in during January and February.

The county has total current assets of \$3,579,331.96.

Gray County finished October with almost \$49,000 in cash in the general fund. There was a deficit in the election equipment reserve fund, but that is just on paper due to the elections.

Hahn said the county will reimburse the fund by the end of the month, so the deficit will disappear.

The ending cash balance for the county was \$93,75.19 or about 2.6 percent of the money the county's assets.

Some 55 percent of the county's assets are invested in certificates of deposits. About 42 percent are in Texpool, the state's investment pool.

Hahn said Texpool is presently paying about 1.9 percent. The last CD that the county bought, a 180 day CD, is paying

See County, Page 3

Clerk Certifies Election Results

Gray County Judge Richard Peet said election day came and went with no major controversies.

"Early voting went smoothly," he said as the Gray County Commission canvassed the votes in their mid-month meeting Friday morning.

"I think it went really well," said Gray County Clerk Susan Winbourne.

She said a few people had to wait, but that was a function of the number of people who turned out to vote rather than any problems with the process.

"It was a big election," said Linda Lewis, the election coordinator.

More than 50 percent of the voters came out in each of seven voting precincts except one, Precinct 7, which had a 49.32 percent turnout.


Gray County went strongly for the Republicans with 4,037 voting a straight Republican ticket and 655 voting a straight Democratic Party ticket. The Libertarian Party garnered 37 votes.

See Election, Page 3

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Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
		
Sunny	Sunny	Sunny

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 72. Wind chill values between 28 and 38 early. South-southwest wind 5 to 10 mph increasing to between 15 and 20 mph. Winds could gust as high as 25 mph.

Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 43. Southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 70. West-southwest wind 10 to 15 mph becoming southeast.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 37.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 53.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 28.

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Chamber planning next luncheon Tuesday

Pampa Nursing Center will sponsor the next Pampa Chamber of Commerce Luncheon at 11:45 a.m. Tuesday at the Chamber Building (Pampa Community Building), 200

N. Ballard. The luncheon will be catered by Dyer's Bar-B-Que.

Cost of the luncheon will be \$8.50. The deadline to RSVP is this afternoon.

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Obituaries

Services tomorrow

MILLER, Lena Jean — Memorial services, 1:30 p.m., Waldenbrook Estates, Bryan.

Jacob Orlando Heinrich, 67

Jacob Orlando Heinrich, 67, of Pampa, died Nov. 14, 2008, at Pampa. No services are scheduled. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Heinrich was born Nov. 17, 1940, in Hammond, Ind. He had been a resident of Pampa since 2005. He was a member of the Elks Lodge of Pampa. He was preceded in death by 2 brothers, Charles

Heinrich and Sherman Heinrich. Survivors include one daughter, Nancy Heinrich; a sister, Loretta Franiak; and three brothers, William Heinrich, Max Heinrich and Noel Heinrich.

MEMORIALS: American Heart Association, 2514 82nd St., Suite B, Lubbock, TX 79423.
 —Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

Lena Jean Miller

Dec. 26, 1932 - Nov. 14, 2008



Miller

Lena Jean Miller, 75, of Bryan passed away on Friday, Nov. 14, 2008. Memorial services are set for 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 18 at Waldenbrook Estates, located at 2410 Memorial Drive in Bryan.

Lena Jean was born on Dec. 26, 1932, to William Eugene and Nathalie Claxton Smith in Pampa.

She graduated from Pampa High School in 1951 and spent much of her adult life in Pampa.

Throughout her life, Lena Jean worked as a bookkeeper, rancher and raised Appaloosas with

her husband, Nathan Miller.

She was preceded in death by her husband.

Survivors include her sister, Johnnie L. Griffin of Bryan; sons, Steven R. Morgan of New Braunfels and Timothy L.

Morgan of Phoenix, Ariz.; and three grandchildren, Ryan of Denver, Colo., Jennifer of Phoenix and Courtney of New Braunfels.

The family asks that memorials be made in Lena Jean's name to a veteran's organization of choice.

Please view and sign the guestbook at www.hillierfuneralhome.com.

Copy of famed Lincoln letter turns up in Dallas

DALLAS (AP) — A Texas museum hopes a document found in its archives turns out to be an authentic government copy of Abraham Lincoln's eloquent letter consoling a mother thought to have lost five sons in the Civil War.

The famed Bixby Letter, which the Dallas Historical Society is getting appraised as it prays for a potential windfall, has a fascinating history.

The original has never been found. Historians debate whether Lincoln wrote it. Its recipient, Lydia Bixby, was no fan of the president. And not all her sons died in the war.

The letter, written with "the best of intentions" 144 years ago next week, is "considered one of the finest pieces of American presidential prose," said Alan Olson, curator for the Dallas group. "It's still a great piece of writing, regardless of the truth in the back story."

Historians say Lincoln wrote the letter at the request

of a Massachusetts official, who passed along news of a Boston woman grieving the loss of her five sons. The letter is addressed to "Mrs. Bixby, Boston, Mass." and begins with an acknowledgment that nothing written could possibly make a grief-stricken mother feel better about such a horrific loss.

"I feel how weak and fruitless must be any word of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming," Lincoln wrote.

After thanking Bixby on behalf of a grateful nation, Lincoln wrote that he would pray that God relieve her anguish and leave her with only the "cherished memory of the loved" along with "the

solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom."

The letter, as was the president's custom in his personal correspondence, is signed "A Lincoln."

"It is so beautifully written," said James Cornelius, curator of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Ill. "It is an extraordinarily sensitive expression of condolence."

There was renewed interest in the letter after it was read in the 1998 film "Saving Private Ryan." It also sparked a new round of debate centering on Lincoln's authorship and the fate of Bixby's sons.

Evidence indicates two of

Bixby's sons died, a third was a deserter and a fourth ended up in a prisoner-of-war camp, Cornelius said. A fifth is believed to have received a discharge, but his fate is unknown.

Historians have also argued that John Hay, one of Lincoln's secretaries, wrote the letter. Hay was an accomplished writer who wrote a biography of Lincoln and later became ambassador to the United Kingdom.

"Lincoln probably wrote it," Cornelius said. "Hay did on some occasions write letters in Lincoln's name and sign them — or have Lincoln sign them — but probably not something like this that purports to be so personal and individual and heartfelt."

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Emergency Services

Fire
 Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls between 7 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today.
Saturday, Nov. 15
 10:45 a.m. — Two units and seven personnel responded to a false alarm at 1 Medical Plaza.
 5:47 p.m. — One unit and four personnel responded to the 1200 block of East Frederic on a medical call.
Ambulance
 Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls between 7 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today.
Sunday, Nov. 16
 11:12 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1400 block of West Somerville and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.
 1:46 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred a patient to BSA Hospital in Amarillo.
 5:48 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1900 block of North Hobart. No transport.
 7:02 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of West 25th and transported a patient to PRMC.

9:13 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred a patient to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

CITY BRIEFS

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JOIN MEALS on Wheels, for this year's last music & a meal, Nov. 18, 11:30-1, 302 E. Foster. PHS jazz band, Bake Sale & chili, brown beans, cornbread, banana pudding.

LEFORS FCU is accepting Sealed Bids on a 2003 Dodge Durango. Call 835-2773 for more info. Lefors FCU reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Grain prices

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

Wheat.	Not available (NA)
Milo.	NA
Corn.	NA
Soybeans.	NA



TODAY'S CLUE
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Patch

Continued from Page 1

might not decide to drill until he gets a clear idea of what the new Obama Administration is going to do with regard to taxes.

"He's gotten all the advantages he's going to get this year," Hughes said. "It's probably too late to get a rig this year anyway. So he's got to wait."

The other concern is the market.

"If the market is going to turn soft and we're going to get down in the lower \$50 a barrel range and stay in the lower \$50 range," Hughes said, "then people in the industry are going to get very conservative and start pulling back."

Hughes expects that to begin to be reflected in the rig numbers in the region soon.

"It's not there now," he said. "We're staying pretty even with where we've been so far."

At the end of the week last week, there were 94 active rigs in the Texas Panhandle.

"That's been a pretty constant number for us for about the last 18 months," Hughes said. "A week from now, who knows?"

By the first of December, he said, the picture should be clearer, he said.

Scout Troup Helps Kick Off the Season



Members and friends of Boy Scout Troop 143 assisted in raising Christmas decorations last weekend including Ryan Stoffle, Juan Rocha, Jeff Boyd, Olin Boyd, Cole Guyer, Pat Bagley, Trevor McVay, Kade Morse, Tim Morse, Mark McVoy and Lacy Ransom.

submitted photo

Election

Continued from Page 1

The McCain-Palin ticket received 6,924 votes. The Obama-Biden ticket got 1,153.

Incumbent John Cornyn received 6,777 votes while his opponent, Richard Noriega got 1,085 in the U.S. Senate race.

Incumbent Mac Thornberry got 6,869 votes to Roger Waun's 1,172 in the U.S. House of Representative race.

Railroad Commissioner Michael Williams, the incumbent, got 6,280 votes while his Democratic opponent Mark Thompson got 1,368 and Libertarian David Floyd got 238.

Incumbent Robert Duncan got 6,732 votes while his opponent M.J. "Smitty" Smith got 538 in the State Senate race.

Running unopposed, State Representative Warren Chisum got 6,981 out of 8,305 total votes cast.

Candidates in the local elections were unopposed.

District Attorney for the 31st Judicial District Lynn Switzer got 6,958 votes out of 8,305.

Gray County Attorney Josh Seabourn got 6,901 votes out of 8,305.

Sheriff Don Copeland garnered 7,154 votes out of 8,305.

Tax Assessor-Collector Gaye Whitehead got 7,214 out of 8,305 ballots cast.

Gray County Commissioner Joe Wheeley got 2,230 votes in Precinct 1 out of 2,612 total votes cast.

John Mark Baggerman got 1,253 votes for County Commissioner in Precinct 3 out of 1,571 total votes cast.

Constable James Lewis was reelected in Precincts 1 and 3 with 3,482 out of 4,183 total votes cast.

Constable Chris Lockridge was reelected in Precinct 2 with 1,286 out of a total of 1,571 votes cast.

Constable Don Fletcher was reelected in Precinct 4 with 2,190 out of 2,550 total votes.

County

Continued from Page 1

Hahn said Texpool is presently paying about 1.9 percent. The last CD that the county bought, a 180 day CD, is paying 2.467 percent. The 90 day rate on CDs as of Oct. 31, he said, was 0.73 percent.

"That's the lowest interest rate since I've been here," Hahn said.

Hahn reported that this past year has not been a good one with regard to health issues.

He said the county's health insurance has paid for the claims that have been made, but he fears that premiums may go up next year.

United Way Campaign Reaches 64 Percent of Goal

The current campaign total is \$196,389.74, which is 63.7% of our \$307,364 goal. We still need \$110,974.26 to reach our goal.

At this point the following amounts have come in

	Total	Goal
Agencies	\$ 4,162.88	4,500
Churches	200.00	1,000
Commercial	8,285.00	6,000
Individuals	18,498.05	24,000
Major Firms	101,701.12	198,000
Oil & Gas	16,895.00	16,000
Professional	12,800.00	13,500
Special Gifts	32,770.00	44,364
Unsolicited	1,077.69	
Total	\$196,389.74	\$307,364

Our largest deficit is in the Major Firms division. We still have quite a few cards out in this division.

The Loaned Executives need to finalize their campaigns in the businesses they were assigned and turn in the results to the United Way office soon.

If anyone needs help with their cards, they need to call the United Way office at 669-1001.

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79066-2076, or you can drop it off at the United Way office at 200 N. Ballard, Suite 105.



Man set to die in Houston woman's 1995 death

By MICHAEL GRACZYK Associated Press Writer LIVINGSTON, Texas (AP) — Eric Dewayne Cathey acknowledges dealing illegal drugs but insists he's no killer.

"It's very frustrating," Cathey, 37, said recently from a tiny cage outside Texas death row. "Nobody believes you."

Cathey would be the 18th Texas inmate executed this year and the first of three scheduled for lethal injection on consecutive nights this week.

Cathey was condemned for the September 1995 slaying of Christina Castillo. The body of the 20-year-old woman, blindfolded with duct tape and bound hand and foot, was found in a Houston field a week after she was reported missing from her southeast Houston apartment complex.

Cathey was among six men involved in the abduction in which Castillo was ordered to divulge where her boyfriend hid drugs and money so they could rob him.

She'd been shot three times in the head.

Parade

Continued from Page 1

ment for Christmas shopping and gets people in the mood for Christmas," Pitner said.

Pitner expects for this year to turn out a large crowd like last year did that included many visitors from surrounding areas. "Because of the turn out, I think (the parade) really kicks off the spirit of Christmas, which is what we are trying to do."

Is your group preparing for the holidays?

Send us your photos!

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Viewpoints

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Nov. 17, the 322nd day of 2008. There are 44 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 17, 1968, the NBC television network outraged football fans by cutting away from the closing minutes of a New York Jets-Oakland Raiders game to begin a special presentation of "Heidi" on schedule. (Home viewers were prevented from seeing the Raiders come from behind to beat the Jets, 43-32.)

On this date:

In 1558, Elizabeth I acceded to the English throne upon the death of Queen Mary.

In 1800, Congress held its first session in Washington in the partially completed Capitol building.

In 1869, the Suez Canal opened in Egypt.

In 1917, sculptor Auguste Rodin died in Meudon, France, at age 77.

In 1934, Lyndon Baines Johnson married Claudia Alta Taylor, better known as "Lady Bird," in San Antonio, Texas.

In 1962, Washington's Dulles International Airport was dedicated by President Kennedy.

In 1970, the Soviet Union landed an unmanned, remote-controlled vehicle on the

'There's one thing that keeps surprising you about stormy old friends after they die — their silence.'

— Ben Hecht
American author and screenwriter (1893-1964)

moon, the Lunokhod 1.

In 1973, President Nixon told Associated Press managing editors meeting in Orlando, Fla.: "People have got to know whether or not their president is a crook. Well, I'm not a crook."

In 1987, a federal jury in Denver convicted two neo-Nazis and acquitted two others of civil rights violations in the 1984 slaying of radio talk show host Alan Berg.

In 1997, 62 people, most of them foreign tourists, were killed when six militants opened fire at the Temple of Hatshepsut in Luxor, Egypt; the attackers were killed by police.

Ten years ago: The public got to hear Monica Lewinsky's voice for the first time as the House Judiciary Committee released 22 hours of tape recordings secretly made by Linda Tripp. Israel's parliament overwhelmingly approved the Wye River land-for-peace accord with the Palestinians. Actress Esther Rolle died in Culver City, Calif., at age 78.

Five years ago: John Allen Muhammad was convicted of two counts of capital murder in the Washington-area sniper shootings. Arnold Schwarzenegger was sworn in as the 38th governor of California. Rush Limbaugh returned to radio after five weeks of rehabilitation for a painkiller addiction. Texas Rangers shortstop Alex Rodriguez won the American League Most Valuable Player award.

Breaking up is hard to do

I got a text message this week from an ex-boyfriend confirming the worst: I suck at break ups.

After an already challenging week, I wasn't feeling up to my peppy self. Then, I had an unexpected blowout with a good friend. I was feeling somewhat deflated, like I was running on my emotional reserve tank, when the text message appeared on my phone.

It was him... the ex that I had been speaking on and off with for the past three months of what has been a fairly horrendous break up. My stomach turned a bit when I realized the message was from him, but when I opened the message my stomach suddenly felt like it was on top of the Stratosphere at Vegas and I had just plunged the 1,149 feet from the top to the bottom.

He was asking for his stuff back.

Since I hadn't spoken to him in a few weeks since our last major fight that didn't end well, I couldn't believe that he was talking to me. Even further, I couldn't believe he was asking for his stuff back. We dated for a long enough time that we had both given

each other meaningful/sentimental things, but I had no idea the accumulation of things was valuable enough to send a package to Colorado with the items.

I wondered if this request

to have his stuff back was normal in relationships (beyond the age of 16.) From what I can

gather, in the teen years we ask for items back even though they really don't have a significance to either person. The request is not so much due to the value of the items, but it is the pain that it causes the other person to give them back. It seems like in adulthood it isn't right to ask for things back because we all should know how to give without the intention of ever wanting an item back. With the exception of a broken up engagement and an expensive engagement ring, I began to wonder what the proper etiquette is for a break up.

Is it right to ask for things back?

I previously had a long-term boyfriend who, months after the break up,

requested to meet so we could discuss some issues. He had been my best friend, boyfriend, and a valued part of my life for a long time. Even though we were done romantically, I still cared



Rachel Stennett
Staff Writer

enough about him as a person to want to see how he was doing. We shared a neutral, pleasant meal but afterward I found myself in his truck in a random parking lot because he said he had something to give me. I sat nervously as he pulled out a massive suitcase with everything that I had given to him in the span of our relationship. Some items included an ipod, books, pictures, and even mementos from the missions trip we had taken to New Caledonia together.

The worst was yet to come when he explained his motivation: erasing me from his memory. Ouch.

After dealing with round two of horrible break ups and the text message request that evolved into one of the more venomous conversations I have ever been apart of, I really began to wonder if it was me that

sucked that bad at breaking up, or if breaking up just was that hard in itself.

A friend simply told me once, "it's a break up, it shouldn't feel good." But how do we keep it from evolving into deeply seeded angry conversations and disgust for one another? These experiences have led me to wonder if the idea of an "amicable split" is pure myth. Maybe I'll ask the show "Mythbusters" and see if they can help me.

Various philosophies are floating around that suggest to throw out dating all together, which effectively eliminates break ups. When my friend turned 16, typically an appropriate age to begin dating, her mom made her read the book, "I Kissed Dating Goodbye." Something about that experience made me turned off to the idea of courting and in turn I said hello to dating. Even after being burned twice, I'm still holding out for something better. Maybe in my next relationship I just won't give any gifts so there is nothing to be used as an emotionally weapon in the future. Or maybe even better, the next one just won't end at all.



Editorial Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around the nation:

■ Nov. 7
The Dallas Morning News on President-elect Barack Obama's next moves:

In hiring Rahm Emanuel and John Podesta to his staff last week, President-elect Barack Obama selected two hardball politicians from Bill Clinton's administration. At least the new Democrat in charge will have veterans who can tell him what not to do.

The Clinton White House famously steered off course by picking a fight over gays in the military, which really wasn't one of candidate Clinton's top agenda items. By the time the untested Clinton team settled that one, the administration had lost a good bit of political capital before its first term was barely in motion. The clumsy handling of that self-inflicted situation was like watching a football team fall seven points behind after fumbling the opening kickoff.

Unlike Mr. Clinton, Mr. Obama will not have the luxury of time. A floundering economy and two foreign wars will

challenge him immediately. As a result, the product of Chicago's rough-and-tumble politics should pick his battles wisely. No sense bleeding political capital on less pressing fronts.

Instead, he should engage moderates in both parties on economic and security issues. Senators like Democrat Evan Bayh of Indiana and Republican Susan Collins of Maine could help him stitch together the common goals he promised.

Interestingly enough, so could his vanquished election opponent. John McCain, back in the Senate, has made it clear that he intends to work with the incoming administration.

The obvious place is on immigration reform, where both leaders want to do more than secure the borders. But there's speculation they also could work together on Iraq, reminding Americans that partisanship does and should stop at the water's edge.

Mr. Obama will start strong if he can secure early bipartisan victories. Those will help change the bitter tenor in Washington and give him a boost toward sustainable policies.

Of course, there's no guarantee the Democrats running both houses of

Congress will have similar aspirations.

A congressional hardballer like Rep. John Dingell of Michigan has been in Congress longer than Mr. Obama has been alive. Senior committee chairs like Rep. Henry Waxman of California play a partisan game. They won't suddenly buy into the young president's way of working together. In fact, they could prove his greatest obstacle, as President Bush learned when he first tried to work with leaders in his own party.

Mr. Bush started out by making good on a campaign promise to build bridges. He hosted Democrats in his first week. Later, he secured several bipartisan triumphs. But partisan pressures carried him away from his goal, particularly when Republicans recaptured Congress.

As with Mr. Clinton's early mistake, Mr. Obama should learn from the way Mr. Bush overplayed his hand. For his sake, and the nation's, Mr. Obama will need extreme discipline and good judgment to avoid two things: overreaching and the partisans waiting for him from his own party.

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips



COUPLE ARGUES THE LONG AND SHORT OF WIFE'S HAIR

DEAR ABBY: How do I make my husband understand that how I cut my hair has nothing to do with him? I am 30 years old, and I have a full-time job and three kids who are involved in everything. Because I am always on the go, I need a hairdo that is easy to manage and cute, so I ended up getting my hair cut short. I love it. It makes me feel younger, cuter and trendy. When my husband and I started dating, I used to have long, thick hair -- but I was not aware that keeping my hair long was "part of the deal." He feels I cut my hair purposely to go against what he wants. That sounds selfish to me. Isn't it MY hair? -- **SHORT AND TRENDY IN WEST TEXAS**

DEAR SHORT AND TRENDY: You cut your hair "purposely to go against what he wants"? I wouldn't call your husband selfish. I would call him controlling. Long hair can be lovely, but it does require time and care -- not unlike a pet or a garden. If he can't understand that your busy schedule no longer allows you that kind of time to devote to yourself, that's his problem. Do not make it yours. You are no longer the carefree girl you were when you were dating. You are a woman with real responsibilities. And it's time for your husband to grow up, too. P.S. If long hair is some kind of "fetish" for him, offer to buy a long wig and wear it on special occasions.

DEAR ABBY: I am a sophomore in high school, and I need help with something. I am a die-hard Christian who strongly believes in the whole "no sex before marriage" deal. All my old boyfriends have tried to take advantage of me. When I say I am saving myself for true love, they always dump me. So here's the question: Do I tell

the guy straight out that he's not getting any, or do I just wait until the subject comes up and casually mention it? -- **DEE IN SAN DIEGO**

DEAR DEE: I see no reason to announce upon meeting someone that he "won't be getting any." Give the person a chance to know you, and while that is happening, avoid situations where you are alone and tempted. When the subject of sex comes up, explain that you are saving yourself for MARRIAGE. It sends a clear message and is less of a put-down than saying you're saving yourself for "true love," which makes it appear he somehow doesn't measure up.

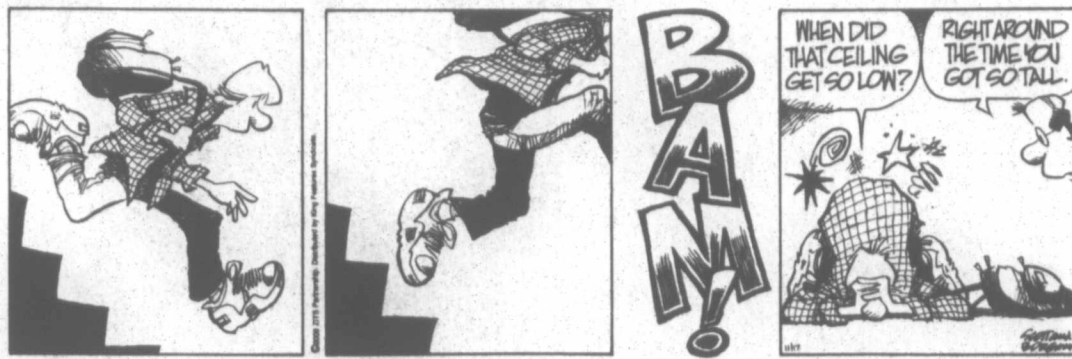
DEAR ABBY: My 8-year-old daughter, "Romy," writes in a little journal that I bought her. She writes things like, "I love Blake," and "Me and Blake forever," and more. Can an 8-year-old really feel love for this boy? I always thought that girls her age didn't really care too much for boys. Am I making too much of this? -- **CONCERNED MOM IN OXNARD, CALIF.**

DEAR CONCERNED MOM: Little girls don't fall in love like adult women do, but they certainly can develop crushes on boys. I remember one I had on a boy named Jimmy when I was in kindergarten. I "fell in love" with him because he could swing around a pole straight-armed, and I thought he was a brilliant athlete. It was the first of many crushes. So please stop obsessing. You have nothing to worry about.

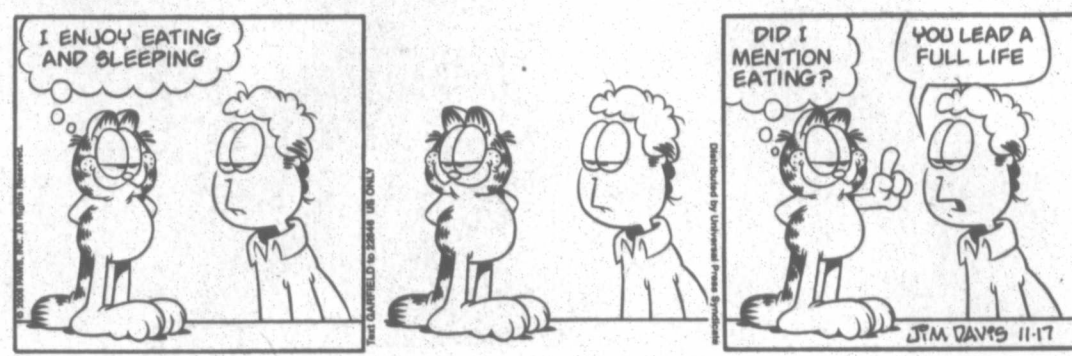
For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Less map
 - 6 Refrain unit
 - 10 Got to one's feet
 - 11 — garde
 - 13 Sorceress of myth
 - 14 Singer Brooks
 - 15 Snaky shape
 - 16 "— pasa?"
 - 18 Reverent wonder
 - 19 1960s Motown group
 - 22 That guy's 23 Former Italian money
 - 24 Crumple into a ball
 - 27 Dance moves
 - 28 Fix copy
 - 29 Greet the opposing team
 - 30 1960s Motown group
 - 35 Nap site
 - 36 Director Lee
 - 37 Informer
 - 38 Cheering loudly
 - 40 Throw with effort
 - 42 Get more out of
- DOWN**
- 1 Diamond side
 - 2 Dublin natives
 - 3 Like the Vikings
 - 4 PC key
 - 5 Supply with new gear
 - 6 Beer type
 - 7 Gardner of "Mogambo"
 - 8 Wyoming city
 - 9 Belgian port
 - 12 School papers
 - 17 Good times
 - 20 Closes
 - 21 Pop star John
 - 24 Hotel suite feature
 - 25 Sticks kite
 - 26 Became extinct
 - 27 Top Forty entry
 - 29 Storage spot
 - 31 Kitchen gadget
 - 32 Wipe clear
 - 33 Black bird
 - 34 Undoes a dele
 - 39 High —
 - 41 Compass pt.



Answers to Yesterdays Sudoku

ANSWER:

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

Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



Flo & Friends



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Sports

Pampa Special Olympics Bowling



Above: Pampa Special Olympic Bowling team members Liberty Bloxum (left) and Shawn King (right) sit on the bus on the way to the Amarillo tournament.



Below: PSO bowling team member Cody Dyer on the way to Amarillo. Dyer received a gold medal in the tournament.

Pampa Special Olympics Bowling team traveled to Western Bowl Saturday afternoon to bowl in the Amarillo Area tournament. PSO had 34 bowlers who competed in the tournament.

After a fun afternoon of bowling, bowlers and coaches went to Westover School for a dinner & dance. Dinner was catered by Rosais Café.

Amarillo Bowling Placements

Gold Medals

Michelle Blodgette
Cody Dyer
Debbie Ellis
Hector Estrada
Bobby Garcia
Dennise James
Tollie Jinks
Eddie Johnson
Kevin Reece
Wauneta Reece
Jennifer Roden
Kasey Smith
Kinsey Smith

Silver Medals

Liberty Bloxum
Mindy Hervy
Shawn King
Joann Morehart
Taisey Phillips

Linda Lou Pierce
Randy Swires
Tyneisha Wilson
Amy Hammer

Bronze Medals

Chris Bradley
Amanda Childress
Tina Hinson
Mark McMinn
Jeret Moore
Cole B. Nall
Jamie Roberson
Cordell Schneider
Ammee Street
Chase Cook

4th Place Ribbon

Eric Knott
Lisa Busby

Attn: Sports writers

If you attend Gray County high school sporting events and would like to make some extra money covering games for your local newspaper, give us a call.

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

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

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

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

NFL weekend

Romo returns to help Cowboys get back in the hunt

LANDOVER, Md. (AP) — Make no mistake, Tony Romo's return hardly transformed the Dallas Cowboys into an offensive juggernaut.

They still couldn't manage to score more than 14 points in a game. Romo passed for fewer than 200 yards and he threw two interceptions that thwarted long drives.

But all that really counts is this: With Romo starting at quarterback — splintered pinkie and all — and Terence Newman back at cornerback, Dallas pulled out a 14-10 victory over the Washington Redskins on Sunday night to renew its postseason hopes.

"We treated this as a playoff game in a lot of ways," said Romo, whose 25-yard touchdown pass to rookie Martellus Bennett with 10 1/2 minutes to play provided the go-ahead points.

"I told the guys, 'The time is now.' It's a 'Show Me' game. We had to go out there and show ourselves and show each other that we can play good football — or play good enough to win against a really good team on the road."

The Cowboys tied the Redskins for second place in the NFC East at 6-4, and Marion Barber played as pivotal a role as anyone. He gained 114 yards on 24 carries, including a 2-yard touchdown run a minute before halftime.

After Newman batted away a pass intended for Santana Moss on fourth-and-4 with a little more than 6 1/2 minutes left, the Cowboys kept the ball the rest of the game by handing off to Barber.

On the game-closing drive, Romo made six hand-offs in a row to Barber, followed by a pass over the middle on third down to Barber, then another four Barber runs. To recap: 11 plays, all to Barber.

Part of that was a fourth-and-1 at the Redskins' 17, when Romo pitched the ball to Barber, who earned 3 yards. After being tackled, he bounced up with a fist raised and jumped into the arms of tackle Marc Colombo.

"He's a tough back. He's always been a tough back," Redskins defensive end

Andre Carter said. "And we couldn't get him down, unfortunately."

The Redskins couldn't get to Romo, either, failing to sack him.

And while he didn't put up any more points than back-

"We treated this as a playoff game in a lot of ways."

— Tony Romo
Cowboys Quarterback

ups Brad Johnson or Brooks Bollinger managed — Dallas scored 14, 13 and 14 points in the three games Romo missed — he did lend flexibility.

"He's got a good feel for the pocket. He's got a good feel for pressure," Redskins defensive coordinator Greg Blache said. "He's a dimension within himself to that offense — he adds so much to it."

After having to learn a

new way to grip a football — with four fingers only, leaving his heavily bandaged right pinkie out of the equation — and a new way to celebrate — with his healthy left hand, not his injured right hand — Romo went 19-for-27 for 198 yards.

"I felt like the most awkward individual, when I'm like 'Yeah!'" said Romo, raising his right hand and then lowering it quickly. On the follow-through, his very valuable hurt hand hit a reporter's tape recorder.

No additional damage, though.

"See?" Romo said with a laugh. "There it is."

On the other side of the ball, Dallas harassed Jason Campbell into going 22-for-34 for only 162 yards, a touchdown and Newman's second-half interception. Plus, the Cowboys were able to slow tailback Clinton Portis, the NFL's second-leading rusher, whose status was in doubt right up until about 1 1/2 hours before kickoff because of a sprained left knee.

Portis began by gaining 29

yards on five carries during Washington's opening drive, which ended with Campbell's 2-yard TD pass to fullback Mike Sellers.

But the Redskins wouldn't reach the end zone again — and Portis finished with 68 yards on 15 carries. After five consecutive games with at least 120 yards, he now has failed to reach that total over the past two games combined — both losses.

Indeed, the Redskins have the first two-game losing streak of Jim Zorn's NFL head-coaching career — both at home, both at night, both on national TV — and have dropped three of five games following a 4-1 start.

"This is the time in the season where those teams that actually are going upward start making that climb, if you will," Zorn said, several minutes after opening his postgame news conference with a loud, extended sigh into the microphone.

"And we're not making — you know, we haven't made the climb."

Colts run for 154 yards in 33-27 win over Texans

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The Indianapolis Colts' running game hadn't dominated a game like this in over a year.

The Colts powered for a season-high 154 yards on the ground in a 33-27 win over the Houston Texans on Sunday. The last time the Colts ran for over 150 yards in a game, they piled up 226 against Denver on Sept. 30, 2007.

Indianapolis had just one game this season with more than 100 yards rushing before Joseph Addai ran 22 times for 105 yards and

Dominic Rhodes added 48 yards on 10 carries against the Texans.

"The offensive line is always going to take a lot of pride in that," quarterback Peyton Manning said. "Those guys have a lot of pride, and so do Dominic and Joe. It's caused a lot of attention around here, it's sort of been the topic of discussion. Those guys felt challenged, and they answered the challenge today."

Addai had established himself as one of the league's most productive

backs in the first half of last season but had gone 15 games without a 100-yard performance. He missed two games this season with a hamstring injury and hadn't looked like the same player until the second half against the Texans.

"It gets frustrating, but you have to stick with it," Addai said.

The Colts (6-4) ran for 114 yards in the second half. They avoided their famous stretch play after halftime, instead preferring to pound the middle of the Texans' defense.

Rhodes said the Colts felt comfortable with the straight-ahead style.

"The line, they proved that that's what we want to be," he said. "We don't want to be no finesse team, like everybody thinks. We ran up inside all day and they got tired and we imposed our will."

Manning passed for 320 yards and two touchdowns. Marvin Harrison caught nine passes for 77 yards and Reggie Wayne caught seven passes for 90 yards.

The Colts controlled the clock for more than 34 min-

utes to send the Texans (3-7) to their third straight loss.

"You want to make this team run the ball, obviously," Houston coach Gary Kubiak said. "They said if they want us to run it, we'll run it. We obviously didn't do a good enough job. We started getting into some eight-man fronts, and then when we did that, they started picking us apart."

The Colts gained a season-high 474 total yards. Texans defensive end Mario Williams said it was a disappointing effort.

Spurs Beat Kings

2nd straight

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Even without Manu Ginobili and Tony Parker, the San Antonio Spurs are still using the same formula to win games.

Michael Finley scored 21 points and Tim Duncan had 20, including two key baskets in the final minute, in the Spurs' 90-88 victory over Sacramento on Sunday night.

Defense and reliable clutch shooting from Duncan have been a staple for the Spurs over the past 11 years when they have won four NBA championships and posted the league's top overall record.

Offseason ankle surgery has prevented Ginobili from playing any games and Parker missed his fourth straight game because of an ankle injury.

Their absence has left the Spurs relying on Roger Mason, Matt Bonner and veteran backup point guard Jacque Vaughn.

Against the Kings, Mason had 18 points, Bonner added 11 and Vaughn had 10. Yet it was a tenacious fourth-quarter defense that limited the Kings to 5-of-18 shooting and gave the Spurs a 23-16 edge in the decisive final quarter.

"We did a real good defensive job in the fourth quarter, and for us that's necessary," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. "We're not exactly a juggernaut on offense. We gave up 88 points, that's about as much as we can allow and still win."

The offense was left up to Duncan in the final minute.

Duncan's short jumper tied it with 49 seconds left and his bank shot off a drive put San Antonio ahead for good at 90-88 with 15.5 seconds remaining.

"That's the play called by Pop," said Duncan, who knocked over defender Quincy Douby after releasing the shot. "I caught it, looked toward the basket and there was no one there. I turned the corner and went to the basket. I didn't even see it go in. I thought there was going to be a foul call."

Duncan, who also had 10 rebounds and three blocks, had a chance to seal the victory, but missed two free throws with 2.3 seconds left. That gave Douby a chance to win the game, but his airball on a 3-point attempt ended the game.

On the Kings' previous possession, Brad Miller shot an airball on a wide-open baseline jumper with 5 seconds left.

"The coach has a lot of confidence in me, he knows I can shoot lights out," said Douby, who missed a shot at the buzzer Friday night against Phoenix that could have won a game the Kings eventually lost in overtime.

John Salmons had a season-high 31 points for the Kings, who have dropped two straight. Beno Udrih added 16 points, Quincy Douby had 12 and Brad Miller finished with 10 points and eight rebounds.

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Chamber

Happy State Bank



submitted photo

Top O' Texas Goldcoats were out on Oct. 30, 2008, welcoming Happy State Bank and their new President Ryan Monroe (front center). If you are out and see Ryan, give him a Big Pampa Welcome.

Chamber Letter

Fall is no longer just around the corner, it is definitely here. Many fall and end of the year events have been happening or are in the planning stages. The Traveling Tribute to Veterans (The Wall) possibly attracted more people than ever before for a single attraction held in Pampa — at least in the past several years. The estimated

attendance total for the five-day event is from 27,000 to 30,000.

On Veteran's Day itself hundreds of cars were parked everywhere you looked. A big 'thank you' goes out to the Pampa VFW Post 1657 for making all of this possible — and thanks to the many, many individuals, our local schools and other VFW posts who

helped to make it such a success.

The Chamber Retail Committee, chaired by Bob Marx, is sponsoring a little different twist to the pre-Christmas activities with a "Hunt for the Leprechaun" contest. The leprechaun will be hidden in a



Keith Pitner

place and clues will appear in The Pampa News, beginning Nov. 17 and ending Nov. 21, and the lucky person who finds it will be awarded prizes.

With Christmas just around the corner, entry forms are

secret available now at the Chamber office to enter the annual Christmas Parade. The parade will take place at 2 p.m. Dec. 6, and, yes, Santa Claus (and possibly Mrs. Claus) will be here for the event.

Also, it is time to begin thinking about and nominating the Pampa Citizen of the Year. Each year we honor the individual who has served our community above and beyond our normal expectations. He or she will be announced at the annual Chamber banquet Feb. 19.

I might add that in the past we have had Co-Citizens of the Year, just in case of a tie for the honor — or, for example, a husband and wife are selected. The nomination forms are available at the Chamber office, and I strongly urge you to pick up a form and nominate someone you think deserves this award. The deadline for nominations is Dec. 31 — which is not that far away.

As we all know, every 10-year period the U.S. Census Bureau conducts its census, and each period the bureau hires census takers. If you are interested in hiring out, you may contact Bill Gardner at 940-395-4220 or Assistant Manger Gayle Hall at 903-714-5925. They may answer as "Denton Office of the U.S. Census Bureau" — since Pampa is in the Denton District. Positions range from short-term to long-term.

Happy Thanksgiving toall!
Keith Pitner
Executive director

2008 PAMPA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CHRISTMAS PARADE

We would like to invite everyone to join the Pampa Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 6th at 2:00 p.m.!

The parade theme this year is **Jingle Bell Rock!**

The parade will begin forming at 1:00 pm on Saturday, December 6th in the M. K. Brown Auditorium parking lot. Please enter the parking lot through the West entrance off of Sumner St. on the South side of the auditorium. If dropping someone off, please circle around and exit out the West exit on to Sumner St. on the North side of the auditorium. The parade will begin promptly at 2:00 p.m.

You are welcome to throw candy during this year's parade; however, please DO NOT have anyone on your float dressed as SANTA! The only Santa in the parade will be the "official" Santa at the end of the parade. We ask that you PLEASE be considerate of this rule.

Please fill out the form below and return it to the Chamber office no later than December 1, 2008. We look forward to your participation. ALL ENTRIES ARE FREE AND WE ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO BE PART OF THIS

Name of Organization: _____ Contact Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____ Phone: _____

Type of Entry: (i.e. float, dancers, pickup, etc.): _____

Please circle the appropriate category for your entry:

COMMERCIAL	NON-COMMERCIAL	RELIGIOUS
CLASSIC CARS	HORSES	BICYCLES
ANTIQUÉ CARS	MOTORCYCLE / 4-WHEELER	

You may return this form by mail to Pampa Chamber of Commerce, 200 N. Ballard or by fax to 806-669-3244.

ARE YOU READY FOR CHRISTMAS?

The Pampa Chamber of Commerce and Retail Committee have a fun way for you to get ready.

HUNT FOR THE LEPRECHAUN

The contest will run from November 17 - 21, 2008.

The clue locations will be found daily in the newspaper, with the first one starting on Monday the 17th. Gather the clues throughout the week and when you find the leprechaun please return him to the Chamber office at 200 N. Ballard.



- The prizes include:
- a \$50 gift certificate to Texas Rose,
 - 2 - Cinema 4 movie tickets,
 - a Beautiful Christmas arrangement from Roberta's Flowers,
 - & \$100 in Pampa Bucks!

The winners will also ride in the Christmas parade on December 6th.

If you have any questions please contact the Chamber office at 669-3241. The prizes will be awarded on December 6, 2008 after the Christmas Parade.

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