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The PAMPA NEWS

September 11, 2009 Volume 105 • No. 114 50¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

King pleads guilty



Levi King, pleaded guilty today to a triple homicide in 2005 just outside Pampa.

Levi King, convicted murderer and accused killer of three people in a 2005 triple homicide just outside Pampa, pleaded guilty this morning, just as his trial was about to begin in Lubbock.

Prosecutors then began the punishment phase. The state is seeking the death penalty. A jury of 11 women and two men will decide whether King is sentenced to a prison term or is executed.

Details on the plea agreement were not available at press time. Levi A. King, 26, was con-

victed and sentenced in Missouri to life in prison and now faces the death penalty in Texas. If sentenced to death, the Texas punishment would take precedence under an agreement with Missouri.

King is accused of fatally shooting farmer Brian Conrad, 31; his pregnant wife, Michell Conrad, 35; and her 14-year-old son, Zach Doan. They were found dead in their remote, one-story frame farmhouse in September 2005.

Gray County District Judge

Stephen Emmert later moved the trial to Lubbock.

Emmert issued a gag order in March.

King pleaded guilty last year in the shooting deaths of Orlie McCool, 70, and his 47-year-old daughter-in-law, Dawn McCool, in a rural Pineville, Mo., home on Sept. 30, 2005 — the same day authorities in the Texas panhandle discovered the bodies in the Conrads' home.

Five killed in crash on TX 70 near Pampa

Roberts County — A 14 year old girl driving a 1999 Pontiac mini van crossed the center stripe and struck a 2007 Peterbuilt truck tractor/semi-trailer on Texas 70, 10 miles north of Pampa, just after 1 p.m. Thursday, September 2.

Five people died in the wreck.

Roberts County Deputies, a Gray County Deputy, DPS Troopers, Guardian Ambulance personnel and the Hoover Volunteer Fire Department responded to the scene at about 1:11 p.m.

Fourteen year old Aime Banvelos of Booker, TX was driving the mini-van as it traveled south on TX-70. A Peterbuilt truck tractor semi-trailer pulling an oversized load with an escort vehicle in front of it, was meeting Banvelos traveling north.

Banvelos was distracted

inside the vehicle and her mini-van traveled over the center stripe into the trucks path. The truck driver David Arnold of Casper, WY took emergency evasive action and turned his truck towards the ditch to the right. The mini-van struck the left front of the trucks trailer.

Banvelos was pronounced dead at the scene by Justice of the Peace Judge Seuhls. Passengers 15 year old Juan Banvelos of Booker, 46 year old Teresa Martinez of Booker, 16 year old Jeff Pace of Booker, and 74 year old Estafana Cortez-Rosales of Perryton all were pronounced dead at the scene.

Five year old Celeste Espitia of Booker was Taken to NWT hospital in Amarillo and is in Stable condition.



Five people were killed Wednesday afternoon, September 2, when the mini-van at left crossed the center line and struck a semi tractor/trailer on Texas 70 about 10 miles north of Pampa. The only survivor is a five year old girl, who is in stable condition in an Amarillo hospital.

staff photo by David Bowser

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Lights out on Pampa's holiday light celebration

BY ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Celebration of Lights in Pampa, Texas, is suspended for 2009. Pat Bagley, president of the Celebration of Lights board said the display is not occurring because they do not have enough volunteers or interest.

"Some of us (board members) have conflicts and aren't able to do it this year," Bagley said. "Support has dwindled to four of us with help. We lose three to four months of the year to put this on. We got other things to do."

The celebration started in 1996. Bagley said they put out Christmas light decorations in the recreation park. The display was open the week before Thanksgiving until December 31.

The board does give out scholarships to high school seniors and those who are continuing their education. Bagley said they have sufficient funds and that will continue.

"We have placed three more years to do that," Bagley said. "We will give out the ones we have promised as long as they stay in school."

Bagley said about 50 percent of their donations come from the community.

"People with oil companies, businesses in town and downtown donate," Bagley said. The board president said they do not want people to donate.

"It makes no sense to donate to something that won't succeed in the future," Bagley said. "It's a project that I would hate to see die or disappear."

Bagley said if someone wants to volunteer they can contact him at (806) 665-0791.

The display had animated displays and non-animated displays. Displays featured various ones of Santa and reindeer, some that weren't Christmas like the Wizard of Oz characters and circus animals. The display also featured a nativity scene which was the work of an inmate from the Jordan/Baten Unit.

Wreck near Borger kills two

Hutchinson County — Irene Beckham 48, of Borger and Eric Snyder 32, of Fritch were killed as a result of a crash located on SH 136 1.6 miles North of Borger, just after 6 p.m. Wednesday.

Beckham was the driver of a 1996 Nissan Pathfinder

traveling Northbound on SH 136. Snyder was the driver of a 2006 Nissan Titan traveling Southbound on SH136.

The vehicle Snyder was driving hydroplaned due to wet road condi-

BORGER cont. on page 3

Prepaid tuition plan to limit bonus refunds

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The program that let Texas parents with young children prepay for their college tuition is going to start limiting additional refunds when the contracts with the Texas Guaranteed Tuition Plan are canceled.

Previously parents who

got refunds through the program — when it was called the Texas Tomorrow Fund — received as much as 200 percent when they canceled tuition contracts.

The fund that covers tuition and fees for about 119,000 children is going PLAN cont. on page 3

Local band and artist performing at Chautauqua

BY ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

Local Band and Artist performing at Chautauqua

One band and artist have members from Pampa are performing at Chautauqua, on September 7. Unspoken Rage performs at 2:40 p.m. on the stage. Band promoter and manager, Luis Martinez and his two brothers Ramon and James all graduated from Pampa High School. Ramon who

is lead vocals, graduated in 2000, Luis graduated in 1996 and James who is the drummer graduated in 1993. Luis said this is the first time they've gotten to perform at Chautauqua.

"It's a good venue for people to hear what we got," Luis Martinez said. The Unspoken Rage band promoter said the best thing for his band is getting to play in their hometown. "We have several relatives, lots of friends and

teachers we've known," Martinez said. "It's the best opportunity for us to perform live in the big event the city hosts. It means a tremendous amount to us."

Martinez said they have wanted to play at Chautauqua since the group started.

"This year was the best year for us," Martinez said. "In the past we had poor timing and poor communication. This year we

planned with time and acted with responsibility. We're excited to play for the crowd and the Pampa community."

Anyone interested in booking the Unspoken Rage can contact Luis Martinez at (806) 440-4479.

Also performing is Chris Crow, who graduated from Pampa in 2001. Crow performs at 1 p.m. According to the artist's web site, Crow started playing music

at 13 and performing when he was 14. Crow's music is inspired by Buddy Holly, Hank Williams, Jars of Clay, U2, John Scofield, Jackson Browne, Rob Thomas and Al Green. Crow's his first solo EP "Rolling with the Punches" is out and will be sold at Chautauqua at booth 70. Crow currently lives in Lubbock.

There are no pets allowed at Chautauqua.

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at the Chamber Building. \$6.50 per person.
Please RSVP to Holly at
669-3241 or holly@pampachamber.com
Rustlers Too will be serving scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, hash browns with biscuits & gravy



For the record

PAMPA FORECAST

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
High 86 Low 57	High 82 Low 62	High 86 Low 62

Friday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Partly cloudy, with a high near 82. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming east northeast.

Friday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 59. East southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Saturday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 82. East wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Saturday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 61. Southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Sunday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 81. South wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Sunday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 60. South wind around 10 mph.

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EMERGENCY SERVICES

SHERIFF

According to Gray County Sheriff Officials, the following people were booked into Gray County Jail during the period between 7 a.m. Wednesday, September 2 and 7 a.m. Thursday, September 3.

Tony Medina, 22, of Pampa, was booked Wednesday, on a charge of violation of probation, possession of a controlled substance.

Martha Towles, 48, of Pampa was booked Wednesday on a charge of theft by check.

Jennifer Marie Brown, 26, of Pampa was booked Wednesday on a charge of possession of marijuana.

Helen Charmaine Hudson, 40, of Pampa was booked Wednesday on a charge of violation of probation, interfering with public duties.

Neysha Renee Rodgers, 23, of Pampa was booked Wednesday on a charge of possession of marijuana.

Granville Clement Smith II, 36, of Pampa was booked Wednesday on a charge of insufficient bonds for credit card abuse and burglary of a habitation enhanced. Smith was also charged with no valid driver license and failure to appear.

Brittany Nichole Jones, 19, of Pampa was booked Thursday on a charge of Bond surrendered manufacturing and delivering a controlled substance.

Tyler Charles Terry, 24, of White Deer, TX was booked Thursday on a charge of DWI.

Obituaries

Carl LaDon Bradford, 87

Pampa - Carl LaDon Bradford, 87, died August 31, 2009 in Pampa, Texas.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 3, 2009 at First United Methodist Church with John Curry and Tyson Alexander, grandson and assistant Methodist chaplain at McMurry University in Abilene, officiating.

Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Bradford was born November 30, 1921 in Watonga, Oklahoma. He married Emma Lee Cole on September 25, 1942 in Watonga. She preceded him in death on May 19, 2001. He farmed at Eagle City, Oklahoma before moving to Pampa in 1948 where he worked for Maurer Machinery Company for

10 years. LaDon later worked for Celanese Chemical Company, retiring in 1982 after 23 years of service. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church and the WinSome Sunday School Class. He was a member of the Panhandlers Camping Club. He spent 17 winters in Mesa, Arizona and loved to travel.

Survivors include a daughter, Beverly Alexander and husband Don of Pampa; 2 sons, Steve Bradford and wife Katrina of Frisco, and Jim Bradford and wife Cheryl of Mundelein, Illinois; daughter-in-law: Sharyel Bradford of San Antonio; 5 brothers, Calvin Bradford of Ft. Smith, Arkansas, Keith Bradford and wife Thelma of Katy, Jay Bradford and wife Shirley

of Caldwell, Idaho, Richard Bradford and wife Jan of Loudon, Tennessee, and Raymond Bradford and wife Carol of Port Orange, Florida; 9 grandchildren, Erin Waters and husband Colby of Canadian, Tyson Alexander and wife Lisa of Abilene, Krissie Alexander of Pampa, Matt Bradford of Dallas, Chelsea Bradford of Lubbock, Greg Bradford and wife Lisa of San Antonio, Jason Bradford and wife Lynette of Hawaii, Kimberly Brown and husband Larry of Chicago, Illinois, and Lyndsey Gilich and husband Kevin of Ingleside, Illinois; 12 great-grandchildren; special companion, Jean Norton of Amarillo; and all of his special friends at Coronado Healthcare Center. LaDon was preceded in death by



Bradford

2 sons, Mike Bradford and Ralph Bradford; a grandson, David Bradford; and a great-granddaughter, Anna Mae Alexander.

MEMORIALS: First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 1981, Pampa, Texas 79066-2895

Sign the on-line register at www.carmichael-whitley.com

EMERGENCY SERVICES

PAMPA PD

The Pampa Police Department responded to the following calls during the period between 7 a.m. Wednesday, September 2, to 7 a.m. Thursday, September 3.

Animal Control Officers responded to nine calls or stops.

Pampa Police Officers made 19 traffic stops, had four ongoing investigations, and responded to one request for information.

A welfare check was made in the 1200 block of N. Wells St.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1400 block of W. Somerville. An apartment window was broken costing an estimated \$200.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 700 block of N. Hobart Street. A front glass door was broken costing an estimated \$500.

Theft was reported in the 2100 block of N. Perryton Parkway. A cell phone was stolen estimating \$600 in value.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1400 block of N. Dwight. An Ipod, purse with contents were stolen estimating \$215 in value.

An accident was reported on Highway 70 North.

A traffic stop in the 1900 block of N. Hobart Street. resulted in the arrests of Jennifer Brown and

Neysha Rodgers. Brown was arrested on a Gray County warrant. Rodgers was arrested for possession of marijuana.

Theft was reported in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill Avenue. Tools were stolen out of a building. Estimating \$1,700 in value.

An assault by threat was reported in the 100 block of E. Harvester Avenue.

A traffic complaint was taken in the 2400 block of N. Charles Street.

An accident was reported in the 100 block of E. Randy Matson Avenue.

An accident was reported in the intersection of Kentucky and Coffee.

A threat call that turned into burglary was reported

in the 1800 block of N. Hamilton Street. Jewelry, guitars, knives, brief cases, and lawn equipment were stolen.

A gas drive off was reported in the Wilks/Faulkner intersection. An estimated \$31.00 was stolen.

Domestic disturbance was reported in the 900 block of E. Browning Avenue.

Pit bulls were reported in the 1900 block of N. Williston Street.

Theft was reported in the 2100 block of N. Lynn Street.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 400 block of N. Lefors Street.

Theft was reported in the 600 block of E. Frederic

Avenue. An estimated value of \$80 was stolen out of the cash register.

A welfare check was made in the 1300 block of E. Kingsmill Avenue.

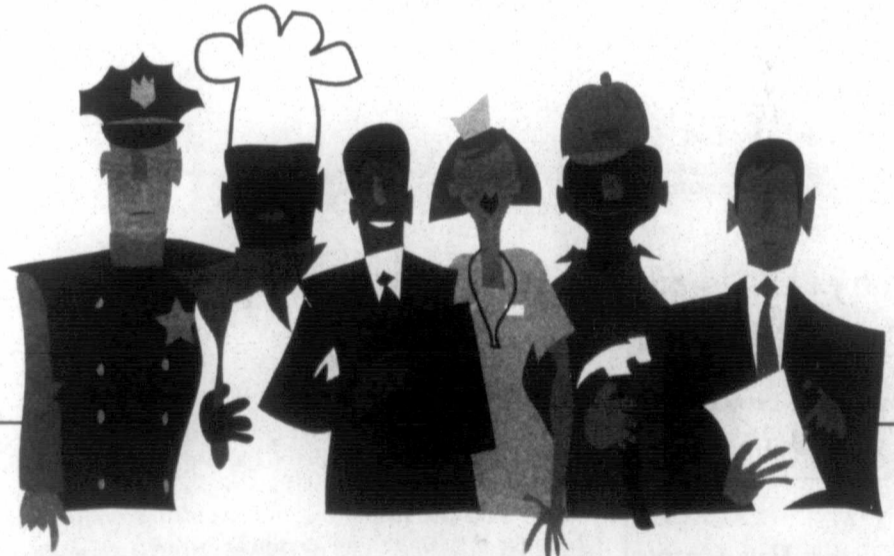
Disorderly conduct was reported in the 400 block of N. Lefors Street.

A traffic complaint was taken in the 2300 block of W. Alcock Street.

A traffic stop in the 800 block of E. Frederic Avenue resulted in the arrest of Tyler Terry. Terry was arrested for DWI.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 400 block of N. Lefors Street.

Theft was reported in the 1000 block of W. Wilks Street. Money and a sucker was stolen, estimated value was \$30.



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CHAUTAUQUA FUNRUN



Pictured sporting this year's Labor Day Chautauqua FunRun and 5K T-shirts are Bailey Dixon, Riley Coble, and Jessie Dixon. The event is sponsored annually by Pampa Regional Medical Center. "This is the 17th year I have administered the race and I know the race had been in place at least two year's prior," said Terry Barnes, Director of Marketing and Public Relations at Pampa Regional Medical Center. You may register the day of the race, September 7, beginning at 7 a.m. the race begins at 8 AM. The FunRun is \$5 and the 5K is \$10. All proceeds are donated to the Pampa United Way.

No floor in sight for natural gas; prices plunge

NEW YORK (AP) — Natural gas prices tumbled again Thursday, hitting new seven-year lows after the government reported more supplies were put into storage as the entire country pares down on energy usage.

That will mean huge savings for a lot of people this winter when the heating bill arrives.

On Monday, Spokane, Wash.-based utility Avista Corp. said it wants to reduce natural gas prices for its Oregon customers to the lowest levels in five years. And in the Midwest, Alliant Energy Corp. and Wisconsin Public Service Corp. both predicted heating bills would drop around 20 percent.

"Any savings we get, they get," Alliant spokesman Scott Drzycimski said. Natural gas for October delivery gave up 19 cents

to \$2.525 per 1,000 cubic feet on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Prices dropped as low as \$2.50 per 1,000 cubic feet — the lowest since March 2002 — after the government reported that U.S. natural gas supplies grew again last week and are now nearly 18 percent above the five-year average.

Natural gas, a key energy source for power plants, has plummeted to less than a third the price it fetched last summer, and its contract on the Nymex gave up nearly 23 percent in the past six trading days.

The United States Natural Gas fund, an exchange-traded fund that tracks natural gas prices, has fallen steadily this year, giving up 76 percent of its value and it hit a 52-week low of \$8.94 a share on Thursday. Meanwhile, oil prices

were tugged higher by a rise in equities markets and a weak dollar.

Benchmark crude for October delivery added 12 cents to \$68.17 a barrel on the Nymex. In London, Brent crude gave up 30 cents at \$67.36 on the ICE Futures exchange.

Besides the weak dollar, energy prices may have gotten a boost from a report by the Institute for Supply Management. While the index showed that said the service sector shrank in August, hospitals, retailers, financial services companies and other industries covered by its index posted their best reading in 11 months.

For those who price oil and fuel into the future, there was a glimmer of increased demand for energy.

Plan

cont. from page 1

broke and it will require as much as \$2.1 billion in taxpayer money to stay solvent.

The Dallas Morning News reported Thursday that the program change, effective Nov. 1, is meant to trim its deficit.

The prepaid tuition plan has adopted a policy that will restrict future refunds to the actual amount paid by parents or others who purchased college slots, minus administrative fees. Currently, refunds include the initial amount paid and the difference between the original contract price and a current value based on average tuition rates for state colleges and universities.

For example, an \$11,000 contract is now worth nearly \$29,500, according to figures from the Texas Guaranteed Tuition Plan.

Comptroller Susan Combs, whose office administers the fund, said the state guarantees the plans.

R.J. DeSilva, a spokesman for the comptroller, said the decision will not affect future benefits for students who have prepaid tuition plans.

"There was some concern that the refund policy was too generous," DeSilva said. "Under the new policy, those who cancel contracts will get their original investment minus any fees that are due."

The managing board, chaired by Combs, sent a letter to contract holders this month.

"The board believes that the new refund policy is

in the best interests of the plan in order to maximize the financial resources of the plan," the letter stated.

Combs has told Gov. Rick Perry and legislative leaders that the will run out of money to pay benefits as early as 2015, requiring funding from the Legislature.

The tuition plan was offered between 1996 and 2003. The program was closed to newcomers when the Texas Legislature allowed universities to set their own tuition rates.

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I treated after dormitory fire at U-Houston

HOUSTON (AP) — A dormitory fire at the University of Houston left one student with minor injuries as smoke forced residents to evacuate.

Fire department officials say students were allowed back into Bates Hall early Thursday.

The fire, reported around 11:45 p.m. Wednesday, was linked to an electrical problem.

Sr. Captain Oscar Sanchez says an electrical outlet burned and sent smoke throughout the

building. Sanchez says ventilation fans were used to blow out the smoke, in what he described as a "pretty easy fire."

One student was treated at the scene for smoke inhalation.

KTRK-TV reports the injured student had attempted to use a fire extinguisher to put out the blaze.

Borger

cont. from page 1

tions. The vehicle traveled across SH136 into the path of Beckham's vehicle. Beckham's vehicle impacted Snyder's vehicle in the driver's door with the front

of her vehicle. Both drivers were pronounced dead at the scene. The drivers were wearing their safety belts at the time of the accident.

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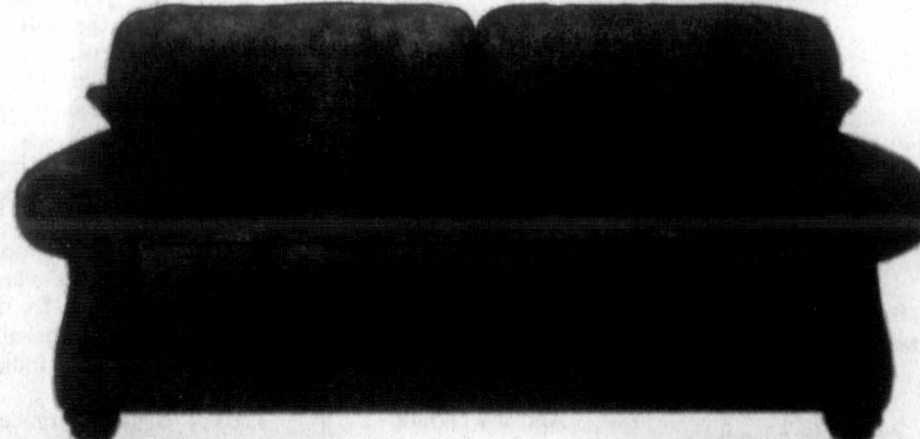
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Viewpoints

Our Opinion

We have to agree with Commissioner Robert Dixon and residents who spoke at Tuesday night's council meeting who feel the PEDC board has shoved the location of the aquatic park down the city's throat.

This location popped up rather suddenly and was approved after months of debate over other - and we think more suitable - proposed locations.

The future neighbors who came to the meeting were surprised, and so were we.

This location was virtually not discussed until the PEDC told the City Commission that it had to be the Inez Carter Park site or not at all.

Simply because the PEDC board insists on its way in this particular decision, must city officials acquiesce?

Suddenly, compared to the speed with which the city usually moves, we have location approval. Indeed, as one resident who came to Tuesday night's meeting to protest the location said, there had been only this meeting calling for site approval at which the Inez Carter Park site had been announced as final.

That public notification came (only if you knew where to look at City Hall) on Friday. We published it in the weekend issue of The Pampa News.

It is easy to see who should be making the call here - the board elected by the voters who pay the bill. The PEDC and the City Commission Boards are comprised of capable and caring individuals who are right to disagree on issues and attempt to arrive at a compromise, but within their realm of responsibility.

Hats off to Assistant City Manager Shane Stokes, who has worked long and hard and - with meticulous detail - to make this project happen. Stokes' talent, work ethic and dedication are not in question.

The aquatic park would be a great project for Pampa. It just makes more sense to expand the present city pool on land already owned by the community and at an established, central location relative to all the children who live in Pampa.

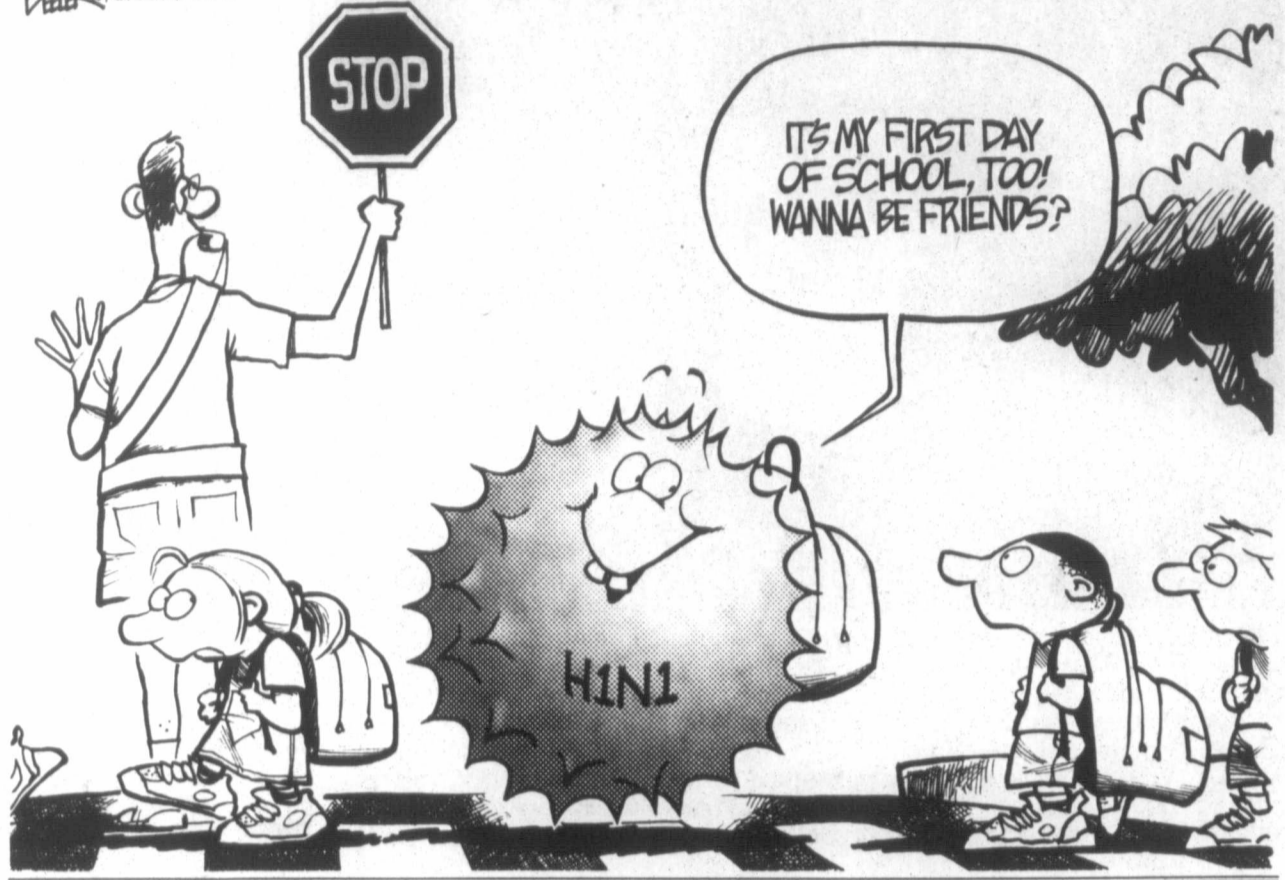
And, it would have been a wise move to give taxpayers a real say about the project and its location before the commission committed city resources to it.

Commissioner Dixon has said all along this is not the time for the expenditure; that many people are out of work and the city shouldn't be committing tax dollars for such a project at a time when revenues are down.

We need and support such projects that improve the quality of life in Pampa to attract companies and their employees to our area and to give more opportunities to families who already call this community their home.

The vote Tuesday at City Hall illustrates the discontent in the final decision. It does not bode well for future projects.

By Bill ... The United Ways of Texas ...



Fix the dropout crisis now or face the economic consequences for decades to come

BY JASON SABO
United Ways of Texas

The start of school should bring a renewed sense of purpose and optimism. Who isn't hopeful about the future as our students start a new school year loaded with promise, potential and 40 pound backpacks? However, a new report from the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University should give all Texans a pause at the beginning of this school year.

The new Bush School report, entitled *The ABCD's of Texas Education: Assessing the Benefits and Costs of Reducing the Dropout Rate*, provides a politically balanced look at just how much the Texas dropout rate costs the state's economy. The Bush School's savvy researchers targeted the class of 2012 - this year's high school sophomores - for examination and found that the dropouts from just this one class of Texas students will cost our state up to \$9.6 billion in lost wages, increased welfare and jail expenses over their lifetime. That's almost \$10 billion year in and year out. With the student population continuing to increase alongside Texas' demographic shift,

that figure will only grow.

Texas can no longer afford the luxury of ignoring our dropout crisis. The report, commissioned by United Ways of Texas, must be a somber wake-up call for Texas parents, educators, clergy, and business people. Texas stands to waste upwards of \$100 billion in lost economic potential and unwarranted welfare and jail costs in just the next decade unless it grapples with the dropout crisis with genuine commitment and focus. If any other sector of our economy stood to lose so much money, Texans would be in justified uproar.

In case you are not disturbed enough by the costs of the high dropout rate, the report also examines the benefits of a high dropout rate, difficult as they might be to imagine or to discuss. A dirty and uncomfortable little secret of the high dropout rate is the savings generated by not having to educate thousands of students each year. The authors of the report estimate that all those dropouts actually save the state up to \$1.1 billion per year in teachers, facilities and other costs. Let's hope that our lawmakers take these figures into account as they gear up for another thrilling installment of the Capitol's least favorite and

most complex soap opera: public school finance reform.

The conspiratorially-minded might think that the annual brouhaha about which dropout numbers are accurate is a deliberate effort to prevent a deeper conversation about why so many students drop out in the first place and what we can do to stem the flood. Why bother worrying about the implications when it's so much more fun (and politically advantageous) to focus on assigning blame for one of the state's most glaringly obvious problems?

Now that we have the Bush School's important and objective findings, surely we can all get together to do something about our dismal dropout rate. The Texas dropout rate is itself a political hot potato with business and advocacy groups blasting the dropout calculations produced by the Texas Education Agency and politicians of all stripes pledging to combat the dropout epidemic without committing the energy and resources necessary to address both the academic and social needs of our students.

Reducing the dropout rate is not going to be easy and will require much more than a handful of govern-

ment programs. Texas needs a culture shift that emphasizes and rewards education. For example, employers of large numbers of teenagers in one Texas community have banded together to reduce night-time working hours and encourage the completion of homework on school nights. These businesses know that today's lower-wage teen workers can be either tomorrow's middle class consumers or tomorrow's public assistance recipients.

Students and parents will need the help of our entire state if we truly intend for more of our students to fulfill the excitement and promise of the start of a new school year. Given the consequences of inaction, Texas can afford nothing less than an all-out effort to move beyond the rhetoric of reducing the dropout rate toward actually ensuring that more of our students graduate from high school ready for the challenges of post-secondary education, work and life. The clock is ticking and the dollars are slipping through our fingers.

Jason Sabo is the Senior Vice President of Public Policy for United Ways of Texas, the voluntary state association for Texas United Ways.

What is your opinion? Why not express it in a Letter to the Editor? Send it to: editor@thepampanews.com.

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Today in History

Today is Thursday, September 3, the 246th day of 2009. There are 119 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

- 1189 - England's King Richard I is crowned in Westminster.
- 1609 - English navigator Henry Hudson discovers Manhattan, looking for a passage to India on behalf of the Dutch West India Company.
- 1783 - Britain, France, Spain and United States sign peace treaty of Versailles, officially ending Revolutionary War.
- 1791 - French constitution is passed by National Assembly, making France a constitutional monarchy.
- 1879 - Afghans massacre British legation at Kabul, leading to British occupation of the city.
- 1916 - The first German Zeppelin bomber is shot down over England.
- 1939 - Britain, France, New Zealand and Australia declare war on Germany; Germans sink passenger liner "Athenia" off Ireland, killing 112 people.
- 1943 - The British 8th Army invades Italy during World War II, the same day Italy signs a secret

armistice with the Allies.

1945 - Singapore is returned to British control after being occupied by the Japanese since 1942.

1957 - Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser begins talks in Cairo on proposed negotiations for international control of the Suez Canal.

1967 - Nguyen Van Thieu is elected president of South Vietnam under a new constitution.

1976 - U.S. Viking II spacecraft lands on Mars.

1989 - Thousands of blacks march and bathe at "whites only" beaches in nationwide defiance campaign in South Africa.

1990 - Russian President Boris Yeltsin unveils plan for Soviet republics to take control of their own economies.

1992 - Italian relief plane shot down by ground-to-air missiles outside Sarajevo.

1994 - China and Russia proclaim an end to any lingering hostilities, pledging they would no longer target nuclear missiles or use force against each other.

1996 - U.S. President Bill Clinton unleashes cruise missiles at military targets in southern Iraq twice to punish Saddam Hussein

for attacking Kurds in a U.N.-designated safe zone in northern Iraq.

1998 - Fresh fighting

'Any doctrine that will not bear investigation is not a fit tenant for the mind of an honest man.'

— Robert G. Ingersoll, American lawyer and politician (1833-1899).

breaks out near one of few remaining strongholds of the Kosovo Liberation Army, in an area believed to be packed with thousands of refugees.

2000 - Russian President Vladimir Putin debuts on the world stage at the U.N. Millennium Summit in an effort to restore Russia's clout and develop new partners.

2003 - North Korea's parliament, the Supreme People's Assembly, votes unanimously to re-elect the country's leader, Kim Jong

Il, to a new five-year-term as chairman of the National Defense Commission.

2004 - Commandos storm a school in southern Russian town of Beslan and battle separatist rebels holding hundreds of hostages, as crying children flee through explosions and gunfire. More than 330 adults and children are killed.

2006 - Europe's first spacecraft to the moon smashes into a volcanic plain as planned, signaling the end of a successful mission to test a new propulsion system and navigation technology for flights to other planets.

2008 - President George W. Bush announces the U.S. will send an extra \$1 billion to Georgia to help the pro-Western former Soviet republic in the wake of Russia's invasion.

Today's Birthdays: Ferdinand Porsche, German designer of Volkswagen car (1875-1951); Mort Walker, U.S. "Beetle Bailey" cartoonist (1923-); Charlie Sheen, U.S. actor (1965-).



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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My older sister does not pick up her phone unless her boyfriend calls. They have

limit is always full. She has told everyone that, in case of emergency, they should contact her neighbors, her employer, the police, or -- if she is camping -- the campground police.

Since when is it the responsibility of others to take and deliver messages

for her when she makes herself unavailable? What makes it worse is she has a quadriplegic son in frail health who lives on his own with a caregiver. Although my sister makes medical decisions for him, the caregiver is never certain whether Sis can be reached if needed.

Abby, how do you handle such a person? -- **DISGUSTED IN UTAH**

DEAR DISGUSTED: Your sister is sending a strong message that she doesn't want to be disturbed, nor does she want any real contact with you. I'd "handle it" by taking a giant step back emotionally and contacting her only in case of emergency, in the manner she has requested.

The caregiver is another matter. Because of the son's frail health, the caregiver should be able to speak directly to your sister in the event that an emergency should arise that requires an immediate medical intervention.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 59-year-old woman who has been dating men in their 40s. At first, I refused because I thought they were too young for me and people might laugh. Since then, I have decided that as long as they know from the beginning that I'm not looking for a serious committed relationship, I'd be happy to go out. I have made some great friends and had some great times.

Abby, why do you think

younger men are attracted to older women? I'm not exceptionally pretty nor do I have a great body, but I am a caring, fun person who loves music and dancing. Do you think you could poll your readers and get some feedback from men who date older women as to why they do? -- **"COUGAR" IN NEW YORK**

DEAR "COUGAR": Lord, I hate that word because it implies (to me) that the older woman is somehow predatory, and the men who


find her attractive are helpless prey.

If I were to hazard a guess, I'd say it's because many older women are independent, self-confident, worldly and not looking for commitment. Those qualities can be very attractive if a man isn't looking for commitment either.

Men, I'll be interested in your comments.

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

ON VACATION WITH THE PAMPA NEWS!
- EAGLE NEST, NEW MEXICO



Jimmy & Wendy Cole celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary with a trip to Eagle Nest NM on August 21. They were enjoying "the coolness of the mountains and anticipating SNOW!" Jimmy is the pastor of the Pampa Church of the Nazarene.

Remember to take a copy of The Pampa News with you on your getaway. Take a photo of family and friends holding the newspaper. We'll print your picture in the newspaper. So, whether you are going to Paris, France or Paris, Texas (or Clarendon for that matter) ... take us along for the ride! Remember to: Identify every person in the photograph from left to right, front row first; Give us some information about the trip and the landmark in the photo; Give us a name of a contact person and a telephone number/email address and where they live. To see your photo in the paper faster, email the photo and information to: rpbible@thepampanews.com.

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Comics

Marmaduke

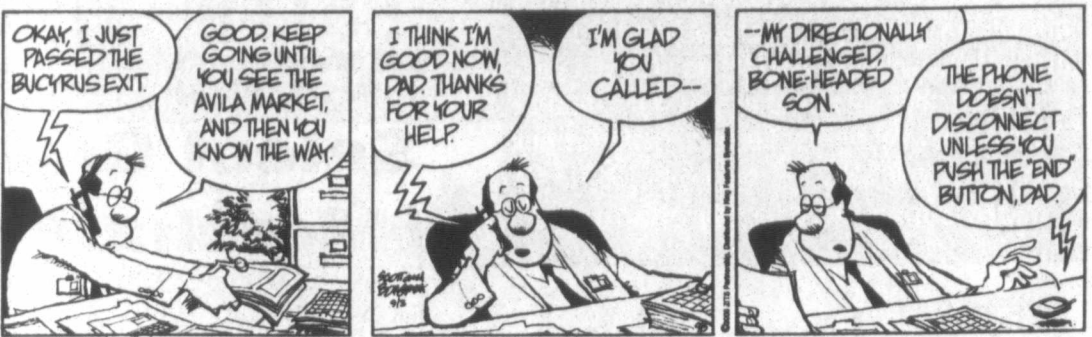


"You don't fetch the newspaper while chewing gum."

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie

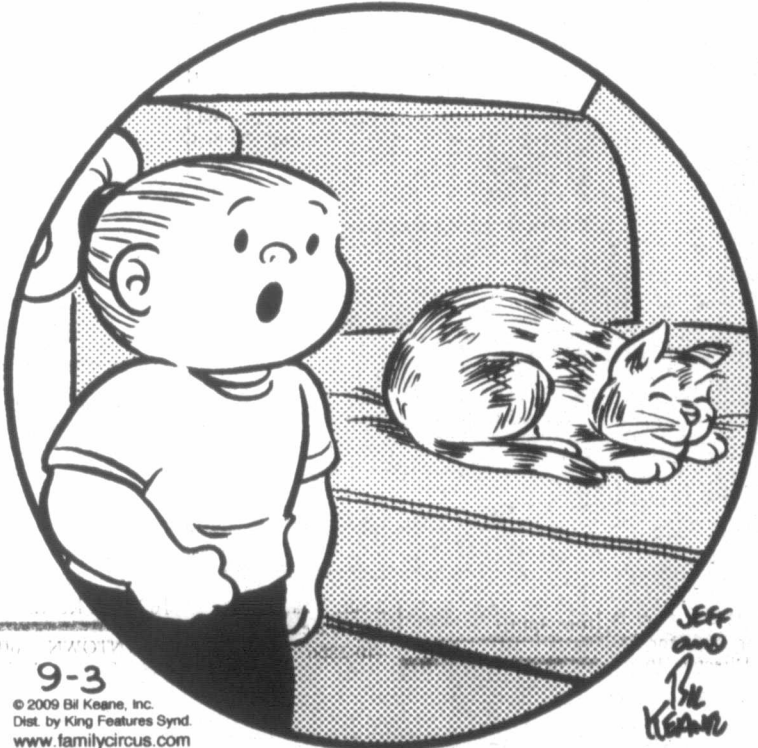


Flo & Friends



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"Are ALL cats good at takin' naps?"

Daily Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 44 Swear (to)
 - 45 "Sports-Center" carrier
 - 1 Impudence
 - 5 2002 animated film
 - 11 "Yeah, right!"
 - 12 Broadway worker
 - 13 Sean Astin movie
 - 14 Chooses from the menu
 - 15 Spur
 - 17 60 secs.
 - 18 "Great!"
 - 22 Horse
 - 24 Sung story
 - 25 Take the title
 - 26 Really enjoy
 - 27 Foreword
 - 30 First sign of spring
 - 32 Nebula makeup
 - 33 "Losing My Religion" band
 - 34 Rafter's protection
 - 38 African expanse
 - 41 Wild about
 - 42 Steamy
 - 43 Hearty dish
- DOWN**
- 1 Letter start
 - 2 Neighbor
 - 3 River deposits
 - 4 Thwart
 - 5 Fan's favorite
 - 6 Opera legend
 - 7 Finishes
 - 8 Dogfight pro
 - 9 Berlin lang.
 - 10 Hosp. sections
 - 16 "Sturm — Drang"
 - 19 Portico
 - 20 Pennsyl-vania port
 - 21 Hobo attire
 - 22 Big gulp
 - 23 Turner of song
 - 28 Feel sym-pathetic
 - 29 Brother of Isis
 - 30 "Right you —!"
 - 31 Edit
 - 35 Almanac bit
 - 36 Plan part
 - 37 Map dot
 - 38 Vast expanse
 - 39 Skill
 - 40 Steaming

C	O	D	E	B	E	R	I	N	G
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S	E	P	T	E	T	S	E	E	P

Yesterday's answer

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THE PAMPA NEWS

CLASSIFIEDS



1 Public Notice 1 Public Notice 10 Lost/Found 14e Carpet Serv. 21 Help Wanted 21 Help Wanted 69 Misc. 80 Pets & Suppl. 98 Unfurn. Houses

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Fonza Reid Brooks, Deceased, were issued on August 31, 2009, in Cause No. 9655, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas, to: June Lucille Brooks.
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
c/o: Vanessa G. Buzzard Attorney at Law 208 N. Russell St. Pampa, TX 79065 DATED the 3rd day of

August, 2009.
Vanessa G. Buzzard Attorney for June L. Brooks State Bar No.: 03547900 208 N. Russell St. Pampa, TX 79065 Telephone: (806)665-7281 Facsimile: (806)669-0972 D-61 Sept. 3, 2009

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Sports

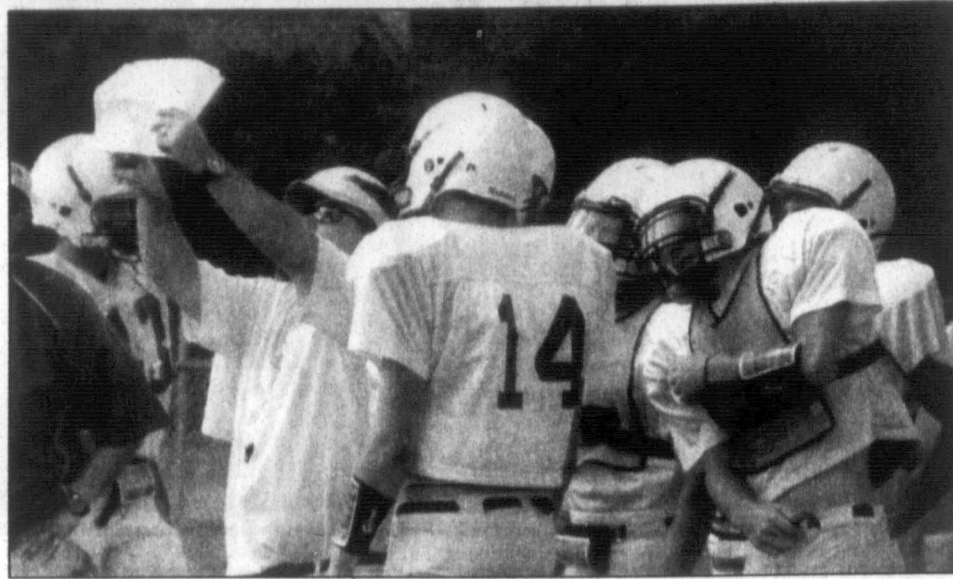
Harvesters, Matadors seek to even their records

BY ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Harvesters go on the road for the first time this season, playing the Lubbock Estacado Matadors, 7:30 p.m., Friday, at Lowrey Field. Pampa head coach Heath Parker said he is pleased with his players' effort in practice. "They are wanting to get better everyday," Parker said. "They understand that how we play deals more with us than our opponent." Parker said Lubbock Estacado is a pretty good team with lots of speed. "They are good with the ball on the perime-

ter," Pampa's head coach said. "They are improving on their passing game. They have an aggressive defense." Parker said Lubbock Estacado's loss to Hereford was similar to Pampa's loss to Borger. "They (Lubbock Estacado) had a couple of chances to put them (Hereford) away," Parker said. The Matadors lost 28-13 to Hereford. Parker said Estacado's defense is going to be more aggressive than Borger's. "Borger's secondary was loose and allowed us to pass up the middle," Parker said. "Estacado wants to

take that away from us." Parker said the Matadors are a run oriented team. "They run a great option," Parker said. "They like to get the ball on the perimeter." Coach said it is important for his team to get a win but that it's more important they improve as a team. "We want to leave as a better football team than when we stepped on," Parker said. "I'm pleased with the progress. We want to be perfect. But as long as we show continuous improvement, when district gets here we will be a good football team."



staff photo by Andrew Glover
Head Coach Heath Parker goes over a play in practice with QB Alex Clendening.

Pirates look to capture a 2-0 start

BY ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Lefors Pirates won their opener 59-12 against the Hedley Owls last Thursday. Head coach Joey Czubinski said that win was forgotten as they started practice on Monday. "Our focus is now on Fort Elliot," Ski said. "We got to celebrate our win Friday and Saturday night. But on Monday it was back to work. There's no time to get a big head." The Pirates (1-0) host the Fort Elliot Cougars (0-1), 7:30 p.m., Friday at Shaw

Field. Coach Ski said they will be facing one of the fastest sprint backs, Kolbey Hanson. Ski said it will be up to his defense to contain him. "He can make you miss," Coach Ski said. "He can get in the gap offensively. He'll get his yards and score a couple of times. But we're going to contain him." Offensively, Coach Ski said Fort Elliot is starting to run tight run formations. "They like to run an option veer," Lefors head coach said. "They will sometimes run a spread

formation. Last year they ran a spread offense and got the ball in Hanson's hands and let him work his magic. Last week they didn't run any spread. But either formation they will try and get the ball in Hanson's hand." Defensively, Coach Ski said the Cougars run a two to four man line but that depends on what their opponent runs. "Last week they started with a 24 look (two lineman, four linebackers)," Coach Ski said. "They went with a 40 look, a 50 look to all six of their guys

on the line. Mostly they are going to come out with two rushers and three middle linebackers." Coach Ski said the key for his Pirates is executing their gameplan offensively and defensively. "On defense we need to execute and keep the threat contained," Ski said. "Offensively we just need to follow through with our gameplan. If we do that we will be fine." Fort Elliot enters this game 0-1, losing 58-12 to Christ the King.

Hidden Hills Texas gains ground in wildcard

Seniors Scramble
September 2.

- First-61
Roy Don Stephens
Buddy Epperson
Travis Johnson
James Richardson
- Second-62
D.D. Lofton
LeRoy Morris
Lucio Moreno
Bill Brown
- Third-63
Jim Brashears
BillieMac Millican
Marvin Allison
John McGuire
- Fourth-63
Gerry McCabe
Jerry Davis
Jerry South
Calvin Lacy
Bob Brandon
- Fifth-64
Roy Harper
Dick Dunham
Steve Cox
Gene Winegear
- Sixth-64
Ron Parnell
Charlie Byrus
Norman Willingham
J.C. Furgason
- Seventh-64
Ralph Baker
Jim Ashford
Joe Stringer
Bob Lyle

Closest to Pin #6: Steve Cox
Closest to Pin #15: Jim Ashford

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Elvis left the yard after Josh Hamilton left the game. Hours after the playoff-chasing Rangers learned injured third baseman Michael Young will be out at least two weeks, and an inning after slugger Hamilton came out because of a sore lower back, rookie Elvis Andrus hit a go-ahead two-run homer that pushed Texas to a 6-4 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays on Wednesday night. "It was the biggest hit of the night," manager Ron Washington said. After losing two All-Star players, the victory on the field got Texas within 3½ games of the AL West-leading Los Angeles Angels and 2½ games of wild-card leader Boston after both lost. It is the closest the Rangers have been in the division since Aug. 9. "We have got to keep going," said Marlon Byrd, whose scheduled night off got cut short when he replaced Hamilton in center field to start the fifth. "We've got to keep winning games." Even without Young and

maybe Hamilton. Young strained his left hamstring running out a grounder Tuesday night in the second game of a doubleheader sweep, the same game Hamilton hit two homers to break a span of 99 at-bats over 23 games without going deep. But Hamilton, whose back has bothered him since playing on the turf in Minnesota last weekend, left after he had a leadoff double in the fourth, sliding headfirst into second and then scoring on a single by Nelson Cruz to get Texas within 3-2. When Hamilton got to the dugout after scoring, Washington asked if he was OK. "I told him I was," Hamilton said. "I went to run out to center field and just couldn't really do it." Texas has a day off before playing in Baltimore on Friday night. Hamilton said he was hopeful that with treatment he will be ready to play. Andrus, the 21-year-old shortstop moved from ninth to second in the order with Young out, hit his sixth homer to make it 4-3 in the fifth. Andrus flipped

his bat away as soon as he hit the ball, and fellow rookie Julio Borbon looked back laughing while trotting around the bases. "I started jogging and smiled," Borbon said. "It was a good feeling, especially that time of the game."

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

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