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# The PAMPA NEWS

Monday, September 21, 2009 Volume 105 • No. 126 50¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

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## LEFORS ROYALTY



Lefors Homecoming King and Queen, Seniors Keenan Lott and Lacie Johnston. The Pirates won their homecoming game against Holy Cross 61-22 to take their record to 4-0. (Photo submitted by Lendi Jackson)

## PISD to hold public hearing, meeting Tuesday

BY DAVID BOWSER  
dbowser@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Independent School District board of trustees will have a public hearing Tuesday night on First Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) report.

The hearing will begin at 6 p.m., Tuesday, at Carver Center Administration Office, 321 W. Albert.

The regular school board meeting will following the hearing.

The board will consider the employment recognition program, hear construction updates on Pampa High School and Pampa Junior High School and consider construction of a baseball concession stand.

They will also consider

the Safari Montage Video Distribution System for Pampa High and a revised trip schedule for the high school drama club.

The board will review a proposal for an intercom, paging, bell and clock system for the new junior high now under construction. They will also discuss procedures for Pampa Junior High dismissal.

Trustees will consider changing the signatures on the Wilson Elementary and Pampa Learning Center faculty accounts at First Bank Southwest.

The school board will discuss the district's agreement for using school facilities during emergencies and pandemics.

PISD cont. on page 3

## Energy prices drop sharply ahead of Fed meeting

Oil prices fell for a third straight day before the U.S. Federal Reserve meets to discuss monetary policy, which for months has helped to drive oil prices higher.

Benchmark crude for October delivery lost 4 percent, or \$2.85 to \$69.19 a barrel on the New York

Mercantile Exchange.

With the October contract set to expire on Tuesday, traders were focusing more on the November contract, which fell 4 percent to \$69.52.

Natural gas futures, which have soared through-

ENERGY cont. on page 3

## Contracts signed for new EMS service

BY DAVID BOWSER  
dbowser@thepampanews.com

Gray County and the City of Pampa will have a new ambulance service, officially, on the first of October.

County commissioners and city officials signed the contracts today.

In a special Gray County commissioners court meeting this morning, Judge Richard Peet and Pampa Mayor Lonny Robins signed their respective contracts with Emergency Service Foundation of Texas at the Gray County courthouse.

The county commissioners approved the measure unanimously in a voice vote today.

The county and city will each pay \$80,400 a year to the ambulance service.

County Attorney Josh Seabourn told commissioners the state permit should be in place by Oct. 1. He has been working with City Attorney Mark Buzzard on the contracts with the new home-owned service.

The contract is for five years, beginning Oct. 1. It will provide services at the same financial rate as Guardian, the current ambulance service. Ambulance officials told the county commission that they will be working with other area emergency groups to serve the area.

Officials said today that they will have two ambulances on duty from 7 a.m. to midnight in Pampa. From midnight to 7 a.m., an ambulance and crew will be on call.

COUNTY cont. on page 3

## A PALM TREE GROWS IN PAMPA



When Jose Solis moved to Pampa over 20 years ago, he knew something was missing, but he couldn't put his finger on it. This past April, he realized what it was and corrected the problem. In this land of mesquite and imported elm, there were no palm trees. On a trip back to El Paso in April, Solis bought a palm and brought it home. It now resides in his front yard at 859 East Kingsmill. His wife Gloria and their two daughters love it. As far as can be determined, he said it's the only palm tree in Pampa. Solis said he's checked with nurserymen who know of such things. They said it could be tricky, but if he can protect it for a few years, it may adapt to the panhandle climate. He plans on building cover for it this winter. That and a mild winter could help the tree to adapt. "I hope that it will make it," he said.

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# For the record

## PAMPA FORECAST

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
High 65 Low 45	High 69 Low 48	High 69 Low 54

**Tonight:** A chance of showers. Cloudy, with a low around 47. Windy, with a north northwest wind between 20 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

**Tuesday:** A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 65. North northwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

**Tuesday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 45. Northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph.

**Wednesday:** A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 69. West wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Wednesday Night:** A 30 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 48. North northwest wind around 5 mph.

**Thursday:** A 30 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 69. North wind around 5 mph becoming calm.

**Thursday Night:** A 30 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 54.

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## Obituaries

### Robert T. Laurie, 76

White Deer— Robert T. Laurie, 76, September 18, 2009, in Amarillo, Texas.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Monday, September 21, 2009 at the United Methodist Church in White Deer with The Dr. Rev. Jerry L. Lane, pastor, officiating.

Burial will be in White Deer Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Laurie was born November 25, 1932 in Canadian. He was reared in Lipscomb County and graduated from Darrouzett High School. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army. He married Mary Whisenant on March 15, 1952. Later married Glenda Wilkins on February 15, 1963, and married Celia Scarbrough on June 8, 1987. He attended Texas Tech University where he received his bachelor degree in education. He later returned to Texas Tech where he received his Masters degree. He was an Ag teacher in Groom, Claude, and White Deer and later became the elementary school principal. Mr. Laurie was former Mayor of White Deer and was a member of the White Deer Lions Club. He was a longtime supporter of the United Methodist Church of White Deer. He was preceded in death by his parents, James and Emma Laurie; two brothers, Donald Laurie and Milton Laurie; one sister, Shirley Beal and one daughter, Debora Laurie.



Laurie

Survivors include his wife, Celia Laurie of the home; two daughters, Rebecca Kells and husband Bill of Emory, Texas and Theresa Guthrie and husband Brad of Miami; one step-son, Steve Scarbrough and wife Ro of Hawaii; two step-daughters, Robin Nelson and husband Ron of Pampa and Melody Baker and husband Kelley all of Pampa; three sisters, Kathryn Paul and husband Wayne of Lipscomb, Texas, Karen Minyen and husband Gary of Canadian, Texas and Cheri Steed of Bakersfield, California; two brothers, Jimmy Laurie and wife Lynda of Roby, Texas and David Laurie and wife Norma of Booker, Texas; numerous nieces and nephews; eight grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

**MEMORIALS:** Texas Methodist Foundation, 11709 Boulder Lane suite 100, Austin, Texas 78726-180.

Sign the online register at [www.carmichael-whatley.com](http://www.carmichael-whatley.com).

### Four die in Port Arthur duplex

PORT ARTHUR, Texas (AP) — Four people died in a fire at a Port Arthur duplex that caused the structure to collapse.

Justice of the Peace Tom Gillam III on Monday identified the victims as: 43-year-old Rodney Mitchell Sr.; his 45-year-old wife, Regina Cole; her 18-year-old son Tony Cole; and 67-year-old Louverie Hill, who lived on the other side of the duplex.

Gillam says another teenager at the Mitchell residence escaped unharmed

during the pre-dawn fire Saturday.

The Port Arthur Fire Marshal's Office says the fire started in a wall and quickly spread into the attic and other areas. The office says the cause is undetermined, but there is currently no suspicion surrounding the cause of the blaze.

Preliminary findings by the medical examiner's office showed the four victims died of smoke inhalation.

## Obituaries

### Hugh A. Stewart, 86

Pampa— Hugh A. Stewart, 86, September 19, 2009, in Pampa, Texas.

Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, September 21, 2009 at Stratford Cemetery in Stratford, Texas with Larry Norris, nephew of Mr. Stewart, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Hugh A. Stewart was born May 4, 1923 in Donley County to John A. and Vivian Stewart. Hugh passed away on September 19, 2009 at home after a long illness. Hugh married Billie Ann Ellison on May 27, 1951 in Stratford. Mr. Stewart graduated from West Texas State College with a Masters of Education in 1955. He was a teacher, coach, and principal in

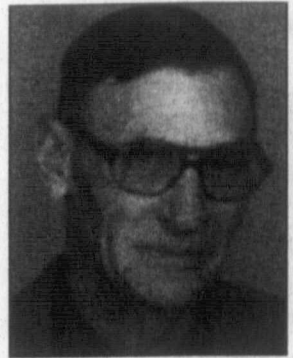
Stratford, Armstrong, and Sunray before retiring after 40 years. In his younger years he loved to coach Little League baseball and enjoyed watching his sons and grandchildren play sports. Hugh and Billie moved to Pampa in 2001. His hobbies included building birdhouses, chapels, and other wood crafts and enjoyed giving them to family and friends. Hugh was a loving husband, father, and PaPa and will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, sons John of Pampa, and William (Sparky) and wife Donna of Gruver; His daughter, Diane Lee and husband Tony of Enid, OK; Grandchildren, Nikki and Brady Hart of Gruver,

Wade and Brooke Stewart of Gruver and Krista and Ryan Bramhall of Manhattan, KS.

Hugh was blessed with his first two great grandchildren, Case A. Stewart of Gruver, and Rylan Robert Bramhall of Manhattan, KS. He is also survived by sisters, Peggy Stewart and Johnnie Polk both of Amarillo. Brother-in-law: Donnie Ellison and wife Martha of Stratford; special friends, Debbie and Greg Davis of Pampa, Dean and Marlene Bryan of Sunray, Addie Callan, and Gwen Douthit of Pampa, and several nieces and nephews.

Special thanks to Denise, Sandy, and BSA Hospice for all the love and care and being there whenever needed. Hugh was preceded



Stewart

in death by his parents, three brothers, and a very special grandson, Kurt Lee. **MEMORIALS:** BSA Hospice, 806 N. Sumner, Pampa, Texas 79065, or Good Sam's, 309 N. Ward, Pampa, Texas 79065, or favorite charity.

Sign the online register at [www.carmichael-whatley.com](http://www.carmichael-whatley.com)

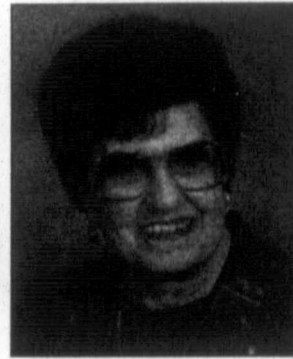
### Sara Jane Dooley, 88

New Mexico where she had resided for 19 years. She was a shoemaker for a family business while she was in high school, and then she and her husband had their own shop in Leavenworth, Kansas. After moving to Farmington, New Mexico in 1948, she became a leather craftsman, making purses and belts. She was a member of Trinity Fellowship Church and was a volunteer at The Harvest House.

Survivors include one daughter, Linda Whatley and husband Bob of Pampa; one granddaughter, Amber

Ickles and husband Chris of Amarillo; one grandson, Paxton Whatley and wife Kari of Pampa; one sister, Josephine Conrad of Springfield, Illinois; four great-granddaughters, Chloe, Olivia and Mattie Ickles, all of Amarillo, and Ella Whatley of Pampa; two great-grandsons, Corban Ickles of Amarillo and Easton Whatley of Pampa. She was preceded in death by her parents: Mary and Joseph Rizzio; three sisters, Mary, Rosa and Matilda and three brothers, Marian, Carlo and Joe.

**MEMORIALS:** Trinity



Dooley

Fellowship Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 2929, Pampa, Texas 79065.

Sign the on-line register at [www.carmichael-whatley.com](http://www.carmichael-whatley.com)

### Hitman in Houston slayings of 3 set to die

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) — A burst of gunfire on a dead-end street in Houston left four people shot and three of them dead in what was meant to look like a carjacking robbery.

Authorities would later determine the heist was botched and staged and was arranged by a Colombian man hoping to eliminate a cocaine supplier he owed \$80,000.

The convicted gunman, Christopher Coleman of Houston, was set to die Tuesday evening for the triple slaying nearly 14 years ago. The dead included a 3-year-old boy.

The 37-year-old Coleman would be the 18th convicted Texas killer executed in this year in the nation's busiest death penalty state.

Attorneys for Coleman went to the courts to try to block the execution.

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## Energy

out the month, fell sharply, as did most other fuels.

Energy consumption in the North America and Europe has been crimped by recession, leaving China as the one country that continued to consume oil, gasoline and diesel in large quantities. That pace, at least over the summer, appeared to slow, according to a report released Monday.

Chinese oil demand slid 5.4 percent in August from July, the first month-to-month drop since March, according to Platts, the energy information arm of McGraw-Hill Cos., as the world's second largest oil consumer reined in oil imports and crude throughput rates at its domestic refineries.

"August seems to have brought a reality check for refiners in China," Vandana Hari, Asia news director at Platts, said in a statement. "Domestic fuel demand has clearly been lagging their high processing rates, and storage space is finite."

Hari said the correction could be short lived as the government's new domestic oil pricing policy incentivizes high refining volumes.

Another key market driver is the dollar, which rose Monday ahead of a big week in global economic matters, said PFGBest analyst Phil Flynn.

The G-20 meets in Pittsburgh this week to try to assess what went wrong with the global economy

and try to fix it, and the Fed gathers to decide whether or not it's time to remove some of the props that have been lifting the global markets, Flynn said.

A weak dollar attracts more money to oil markets because crude is priced in the U.S. currency. There are also some concerns that if some of the economic supports are removed, demand for energy may dip in the near term.

The recession has already sapped American fuel consumption, and U.S. oil stockpiles are 14 percent larger than last year even as recent data suggests the economy is clawing out of recession.

The Energy Information Administration said Wednesday that the coun-

try also is sitting on a sea of distillate fuels including heating oil, with stockpiles approaching a 27-year high.

The average price for a gallon of regular gasoline held steady overnight at \$2.551, according to auto club AAA, Wright Express and Oil Price Information Service. That's 7.5 cents more than a month ago, but nearly \$1.21 less than at this time last year.

In other Nymex trading, gasoline for October delivery slipped 7.7 cents to \$1.7555 a gallon, and heating oil fell 7.4 cents to \$1.754 a gallon. Natural gas fell 12 cents to \$3.659 per 1,000 cubic feet.

In London, Brent crude fell \$3.04 to \$68.28 on the ICE Futures exchange.

## School bus ends up in pond

HEATH, Texas (AP) — A bus carrying 18 members of a swim team, their coach and a driver ended up in the shallow edge of a pond after going off a road in the Dallas area.

A spokeswoman for Rockwall-Heath High School, Sheri Fowler, said the students were returning from an aquatics center Monday morning.

The bus had been on Farm-to-Market Road 549, about 20 miles northeast of Dallas.

Fowler told The Associated Press that the students and coach walked off the bus through the back door, which initially was not in the water, and no one had obvious signs of injury.

She says five students were taken to hospitals, as a precaution, to be checked for head and neck injuries. Fowler says the bus driver was also taken to a hospital.

The cause of the accident is being investigated.

## PISD

The board is expected to nominate a Pampa Independent School District representative for the Gray County Appraisal Board.

They will also discuss the 2010 Pampa High School graduation.

The school board will

consider the Student Health Advisory Council (SHAC) membership and discuss revising the policy regarding Academic Achievement concerning grading and progress reports to parents. They will also consider student activities policy.

The board will discuss the district's belief statement.

On second reading, the school board will consider the report on guided services and reports on transportation.

They will also consider employment of new profes-

sional employees.

The board will hear employment requests, the Texas Education Agency High Quality Report, co-op and local expenditure report for 2008-2009 and preparedness for the H1N1 flu.

## County

Dr. James K. Hall Jr., head of Emergency Service Foundation of Texas, said that the state is fast-tracking the permit process.

The state permits are expected to be issued either later this week or early next week.

The service already has three white ambulances in Pampa being painted with green and gold trim.

"That's a big plus for Pampa and Gray County," Judge Peet said today.

He commended Dr.

Hall for helping to bring the emergency medical helicopter to Pampa and establishing the new ambulance service.

"We'll do whatever it takes," Hall said.

Peet said that he is happy with a home-owned ambulance service, but he commended Guardian ambulance service for stepping up five years ago when the area lost its ambulance service and taking the contract.

In other business,

Judge Peet asked County Commissioner Gary Willoughby to find a new location for an emergency siren in the Walnut Hills addition north of Pampa. A resident there is building next to where the emergency siren is located and asked that it be moved.

Peet said the siren would be moved in the next 30 days, most likely to a location next to Texas Highway 70 at Walnut Hills.

In other business, Willoughby told the com-

mission that the work on Haliburton Road east of Pampa was complete.

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# Viewpoints

## Today in History

Today is Monday, September 21, the 264th day of 2009. There are 101 days left in the year.

- Highlights in history on this date:
- 1327 - Edward II of England is murdered at Berkely Castle, eight months after he was forced to abdicate by his queen and her lover.
  - 1529 - Turks under Suleiman I begin an unsuccessful siege of Vienna.
  - 1746 - French forces conquer Madras, India, after brief siege.
  - 1792 - The National Convention formally abolishes the monarchy in France and declares a republic the next day.
  - 1802 - Napoleon Bonaparte of France annexes Piedmont in Italy.
  - 1860 - Anglo-French troops defeat Chinese at Pa-Li-Chau.
  - 1896 - British force under Horatio Kitchener takes Dongola in the Sudan.
  - 1898 - Tzu-Hsi, dowager Empress of China, seizes power and revokes reforms.
  - 1931 - Britain goes off the gold standard.
  - 1939 - Premier Armand Calinescu of Romania is assassinated by the Iron Guard.
  - 1938 - Hurricane kills more than 700 people in New England and on Long Island in the northeastern United States.
  - 1949 - West Germany comes into existence as U.S., British and French occupation zones are transferred to German control; People's Republic of China is proclaimed by its Communist leaders.
  - 1950 - U.N. forces spring an offensive in South Korea by invading Inchon and Seoul with U.S. Marines fighting on the outskirts of Seoul.
  - 1969 - More than 120 people are killed in rioting in western India that stems from alleged Muslim abuse of cattle, which Hindus regard as sacred.
  - 1972 - Ferdinand Marcos proclaims martial law in the Philippines and jails thousands of opponents. He stays in power till 1986.
  - 1985 - Mexico counts at least 2,000 dead from earthquake that devastated four states.
  - 1999 - Taiwan's strongest quake in decades with a 7.6 magnitude, kills more than 2,300 people, injures 10,000 and destroying hundreds of homes.
  - 2003 - NASA directs the unmanned space probe Galileo to plunge into the atmosphere of the planet Jupiter, destroying the craft after a 14-year mission to observe the planet and its satellites. NASA opted to crash Galileo after it ran out of fuel.
  - 2004 - Floodwaters recede and rescue workers reach homes buried in mud, but Tropical Storm Jeanne has killed more than 700 Haitians and left a quarter million homeless.

'We believe in evil at once, we only believe in good upon reflection. Is this not sad?'

— Madame Dorothee Deluzy, French actress

1896 - British force under Horatio Kitchener takes Dongola in the Sudan.

1898 - Tzu-Hsi, dowager Empress of China, seizes power and revokes reforms.

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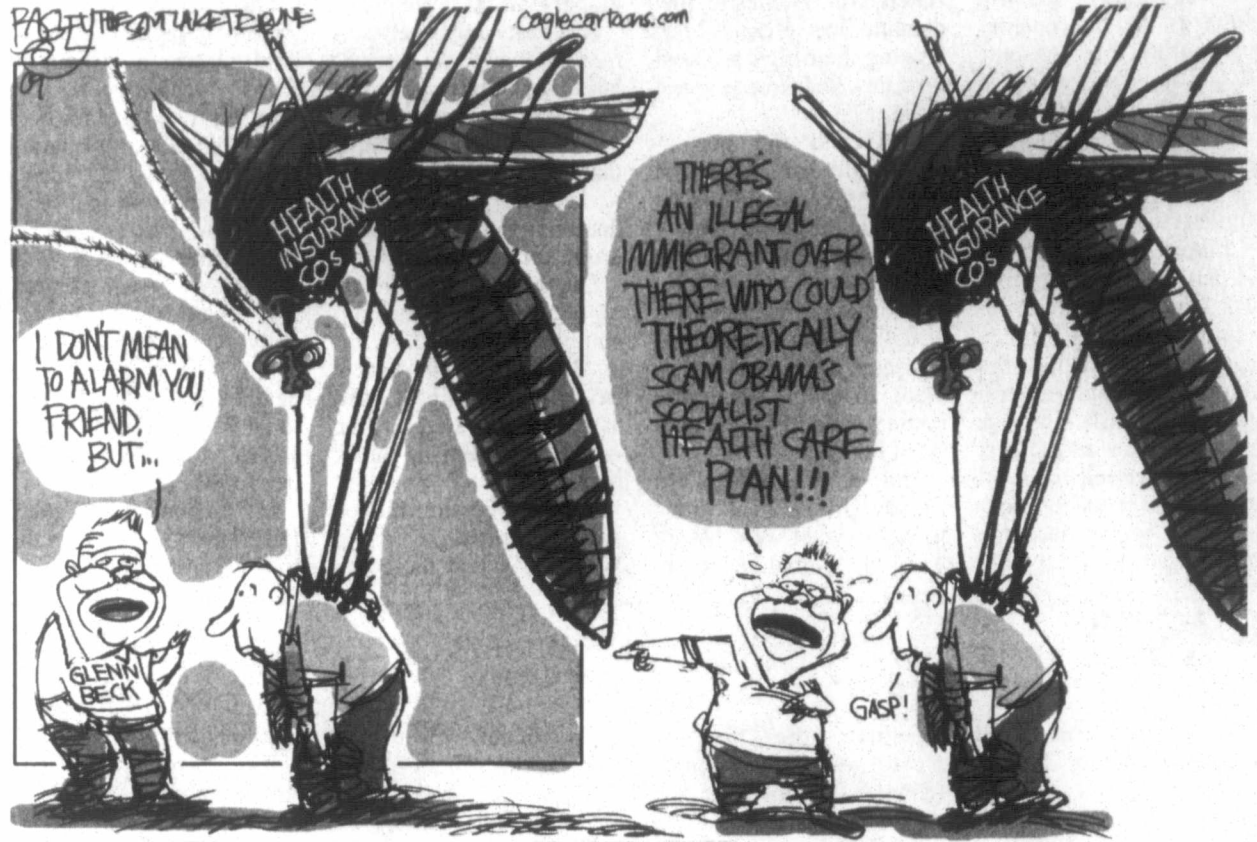
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### Today's Birthdays:

Girolamo Savonarola, Italian preacher and reformer (1452-1498); H(erbert) G(eorge) Wells, English author (1866-1946); Gustav Holst, British composer (1874-1934); Chuck Jones, U.S. animator (1912-2002); Leonard Cohen, Canadian poet-singer (1934-); Stephen King, U.S. writer (1947-); Bill Murray, actor (1950-); Luke Wilson, actor (1971-).



## CITY OF PAMPA'S VIEW

### Proposed aquatic center at Inez Carter Park

BY SHANE STOKES  
ASSISTANT CITY  
MANAGER

The City of Pampa plans to build its new outdoor aquatic facility at Inez Carter Park, located just north of the Pampa Youth & Community Center between Harvester Street and Randy Matson Avenue. Several concerns have been expressed recently by a few citizens that live in that area. This fact sheet will attempt to address each of those concerns.

#### Decreased property values:

Studies have shown in other cities that property values not only do not

decrease but in most cases, increase with the installation of well maintained city parks.

#### Only playground in that area of town:

If you have seen the conceptual drawings of the proposed facility, you would see that the new park will have a new, larger and much nicer playground area that will be open to citizens year round free of charge.

#### Increased noise from the park's rides:

There is a misconception that this park will be a large amusement park with mechanical rides and roller coasters. Fact is, this will be a new swimming

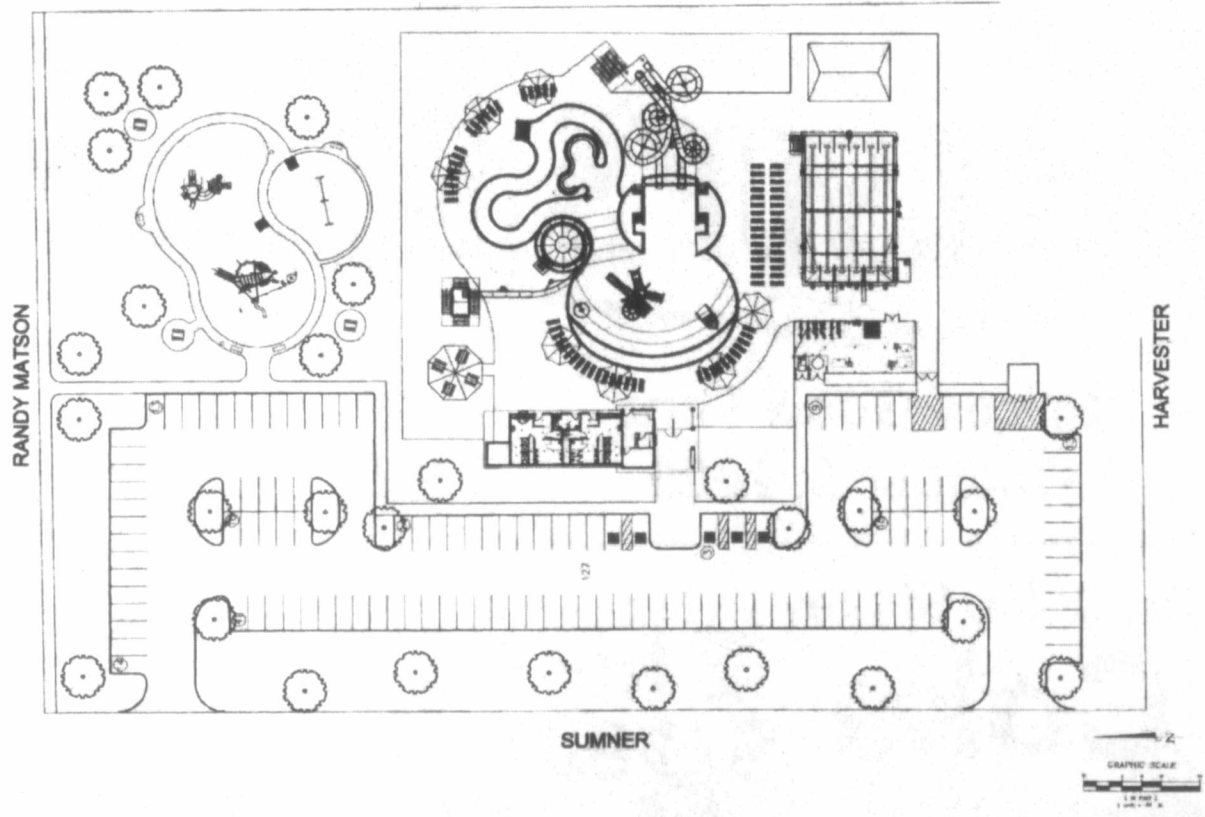
pool with slides and play features for people of all ages, from tots to adults. The only increased noise in the area will be that of children having fun. The park will rarely, if ever be open passed 10 PM and the original layout of the park has been changed moving the aquatic facility to the center of the property and the playground to the north end nearest the homes in the area.

#### Increased trash in neighborhood:

Most of the trash will be contained within the aquatic facility. Any trash that gets on the grounds outside the fenced area will be policed on a regular basis.

#### Increased traffic in the area:

This is one concern that really cannot be argued. There will be an increase in traffic in the area during the hours of operation of the aquatic facility (usually 10 AM to 9 PM). However, the facility will only be open during the summer months and the city plans to address different ways to control the speed and flow of traffic. If we look at the overall benefit to the city, the increase in traffic equates to an increase in tax revenues, increase in hotel/motel tax revenues and increase revenues for local businesses.



## Austin American-Statesman on Congress and health care

You should probably think of U.S. Sen. Max Baucus' health care reform proposal as a sacrifice bunt. It's fairly obvious that Baucus, who heads the Senate Finance Committee, won't see the legislation he unveiled last week become law, but it advances the issue.

Baucus' offering, which does not include expanding publicly funded health care, was greeted with criticism from Democrats and Republicans, who said it either went too far or didn't go far enough.

The projected cost of the Baucus bill is \$856 billion over 10 years, considerably cheaper than many anticipated, but then it does not include a public option and proposes comparatively modest efforts on increasing accessibility to primary health care.

One fair criticism of the plan is that it is more an attempt at insurance reform than health care

reform. There is a difference, although the distinction gets lost in the superheated rhetoric generated since President Barack Obama proposed an ambitious overhaul of the health care system this spring.

In fact, the superheated rhetoric is driving the legislation, and that is no way to approach this most important topic. Senate Democrats and the White House are reacting to unfounded beliefs that the legislation will kill Grandma or lead to a government takeover of the health care industry and rationed health care. If reform is to be meaningful, access to health insurance and access to primary health care have to be aggressively attacked.

That's why Baucus' bill is a bunt. The batter isn't going to score, but he makes it possible for other players to have a chance at it.

Mark-up on the bill

begins this week, and all of us should hope that legislators focus on real issues and not cave into the hysteria that has dominated the debate.

The stakes are real. Health care costs are skyrocketing. Even those lucky enough to have a job find health insurance premiums taking bigger divots out their paychecks. According to a study released last week, family health care premiums in Texas rose about 4.6 times faster than their incomes between 2000 and 2009.

To plug the gaps, Democrats favor a public option -- a fancy way of saying government-financed health insurance similar to Medicaid and Medicare. Medicaid covers low-income citizens; Medicare covers those 65 or older.

It's impossible to ignore the frequent complaints by doctors and hospitals about Medicaid and Medicare

reimbursement rates. Those complaints translate to higher fees passed along to those who can pay.

Even if you are insured, access to care may be difficult if you live in a rural area or even in the wrong ZIP code of a metropolitan area.

Covering more people, if some sort of reform is adopted, will be for naught if someone isn't there to tend to them. One solution would be granting nurses and nurse practitioners diagnostic and prescriptive authority. "Scope of practice" is what political pros call that type of legislation, and it is usually left to state legislatures to deal with. Those fights are usually brutal. It's time Washington weighed in.

Those issues are just a few that must be addressed in a serious discussion of health care reform.

We'll find out how serious Congress is this week.

## THE PAMPA NEWS

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## SHUTTLE STOPS IN PANHANDLE



Space Shuttle Discovery landed at Rick Husband International Airport, Amarillo, Tex., about 11 a.m. CDT and left about 1:20 p.m. on its way from California to Florida. staff photo by **David Bowser**

### Discovery back home in Florida

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Space shuttle Discovery is finally back home in Florida following a cross-country journey and a trip to orbit.

Discovery arrived at Kennedy Space Center at noon Monday atop a modified jumbo jet. The plane left Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana in the morning. The flight actually began Sunday at Edwards Air Force Base in California, where

Discovery ended its space station visit.

Stormy weather prevented Discovery from returning to its home base 1½ weeks ago. It ended up in California, the the backup landing site. The detour cost NASA nearly \$2 million.

Discovery's next flight is in the spring.

During the two-week mission, Discovery and its crew delivered a fresh load of supplies to the international space station.



### Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** My wife and I were walking our terriers one evening when one had to answer nature's call. Being responsible dog owners, I picked up the "deposit" with a bag we carry for such occasions.

It was garbage pickup day and the neighbors' trash cans were out at the curb, so at the next house I placed the bag in the trash can. My wife, family and co-workers all think this was not appropriate -- that I should have carried it home and disposed of it in our trash can.

Abby, we were 15 minutes from home, but given the choice, I would rather not carry that bag and figured a garbage bin is a garbage bin. I'll abide by your answer and admit I was wrong if you say so. -- **POOPED OUT IN NORTH CAROLINA**

**DEAR P.O.:** As long as the bag was securely sealed, I don't think adding it to someone's trash bin was a social no-no. But I do have one suggestion: Keep your water cooler conversation at a higher level and you'll get less poop from your co-workers. Your wife is another story.

**DEAR ABBY:** My 22-year-old son is involved with a 22-year-old girl who is married. He has moved in with her, her husband and their 4-year-old son. He says he's happy with the arrangement.

I have tried to accept this even though I don't approve. I don't want to alienate my son, but I see no good coming from this lifestyle. Abby, please help. -- **DISGUSTED MOM IN HENDERSON, NEV.**

**DEAR DISGUSTED MOM:** You do not have to "accept" the arrangement, and as your son's mother you are entitled to tell him you don't approve and why. But he is over 21, and some lessons have to be learned the hard way. So remain calm and bide your time because, sooner or later, the husband's tolerance will wear thin or your son will realize that he deserves to rate higher than No. 2.

**DEAR ABBY:** I have a gripe I haven't seen addressed in your column. I receive labels, free gifts and even money from charities asking for donations.

Why aren't they using all that money for the charity?

I thought I'd done the right thing by sending annual contributions to one charity. Then I get frequent appeals from them that they have run into extra expenses and want more! Americans are generous people, but these groups are bleeding us dry. I'm on the verge of not contributing to any of them. -- **TURNED OFF IN TOPEKA**

**DEAR TURNED OFF:** Charities (and causes) hire specialized companies that analyze what kind of "appeals" generate the most money. They have figured out that people who receive "gifts" feel "obligated" to reciprocate -- hence the labels, notepads, etc.

As to being solicited more than once a year, this is done because many people can't remember exactly when they last donated and, in my opinion, it's a way of taking advantage. That said, with the economy in the shape it's in, many charities are genuinely suffering. The need is great -- so please do not stop giving altogether.

### Health care forum is topic of WTAMU lecture series

CANYON, Texas—The Distinguished Lecture Series at West Texas A&M University will tackle a hot topic when the University hosts a Health Care Policy Forum at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 24 in Mary Moody Northen Recital Hall.

The forum will feature two experts on today's health-care issues. Shannon Brownlee, author of *Overtreated: Why Too Much Medicine is Making Us Sicker and Poorer*, and Michael Cannon, co-author of *Healthy Competition: What's Holding Back Health Care and How to Free It*, will discuss their views and examine health-care reform. A question and answer session will follow their presentation. The forum, part of the University's Distinguished Lecture Series, is free and open to the public.

Brownlee is a Senior Fellow at the New America Foundation in Washington, D.C., a visiting scholar at the NIH Clinical Center, Dept. of Bioethics and a Woodrow Wilson Visiting Scholar. She has numerous articles and essays to her credit, and her book *Overtreated: Why Too Much Medicine is Making Us Sicker and Poorer* was named the best eco-

nomics book of 2007 by New York Times economics correspondent David Leonhardt. Brownlee also is a requested speaker on such topics as health care economics. She is the recipient of several awards including the Association of Health Care Journalists Award for Excellence, the Victor Cohn Prize for Excellence in Medical Science Reporting and the National Association of Science Writers Science-in-Society Award.

Cannon, director of health policy studies at the Cato Institute, once served as a domestic policy analyst for the U.S. Senate Republican Policy Committee under Chairman Larry E. Craig. He is well versed in health care policy and has appeared on ABC, CBS, Fox News, CNN, CNBC, C-SPAN and NPR. He also is the author of numer-

ous books, book chapters, articles and blogs. He is an often requested speaker, and his topics range from health savings accounts to Medicare. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia and two master's degrees from George Mason University.

For more information about the University's Distinguished Lecture Series, contact Steve Sellars at 806-651-2345 or [ssellars@wtamu.edu](mailto:ssellars@wtamu.edu).

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

**Sudoku**

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Beginner

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# Comics

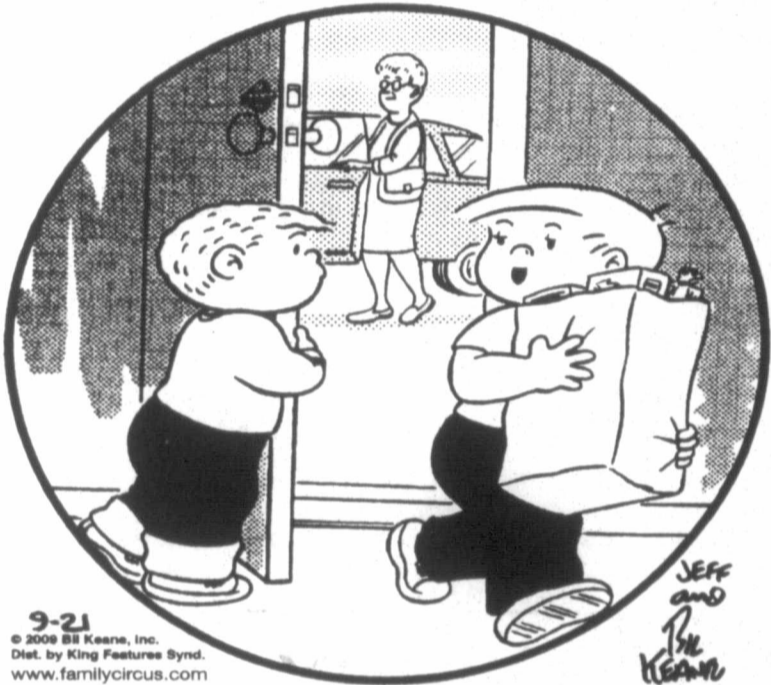
Marmaduke



"I may be late for work this morning... if I told you, you wouldn't believe it."

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"I'm REALLY strong. Grandma says when she was little it took two grown-ups to carry \$20 worth of groceries."

### Daily Crossword Puzzle

#### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 43 Woes on toes
  - 1 Flat-bottomed boats
  - 6 Bring up
  - 10 Irrational fear
  - 11 Violinist
  - Mischa
  - 13 Pedro's pal
  - 14 Exact copy
  - 15 Gumshoe
  - 16 Letter after pi
  - 18 Quarterback
  - Manning
  - 19 Camping need
  - 22 Waiter's reward
  - 23 Solemn promise
  - 24 Overly virile
  - 27 Gets up
  - 28 Jai —
  - 29 Skillet
  - 30 Boxing-practice aid
  - 35 Toronto's prov.
  - 36 Agreeable answer
  - 37 Totality
  - 38 Grammar topic
  - 40 Skylit lobbies
  - 42 Wyoming's Grand — National Park
- DOWN**
- 1 Petty quarrels
  - 2 Caravan animal
  - 3 Chilled
  - 4 Toupee's kin
  - 5 November sign
  - 6 Scout's work
  - 7 Building wing
  - 8 One-celled creatures
  - 9 Was behind schedule
  - 12 Stallion sounds
  - 17 Stylish
  - 20 Moral code
  - 21 On the way out
  - 24 Plan in detail
  - 25 Four-time Indy winner
  - 26 Bach creation
  - 27 Plunder
  - 29 Diner dessert
  - 31 Laughing mammal
  - 32 Ballet handrail
  - 33 Dress type
  - 34 Pane material
  - 39 Obtained
  - 41 Great weight

C	H	A	D	M	O	M	S		
W	H	A	L	E	E	P	I	C	S
H	A	Z	E	L	S	T	R	A	P
E	L	I	X	I	R	S	A	L	A
T	E	E	V	O	A	G	E	R	
S	T	R	E	E	P	L	E	S	
S	A	S	H	D	O	G	A	C	T
O	U	T	O	F	I	T	T	A	R
A	P	E	A	N	A	T	O	M	Y
K	A	R	A	T	L	I	N	E	S
S	I	E	V	E	U	N	C	U	T
R	O	A	D	P	E	E	P		

#### Saturday's answer

- 9 Was behind schedule
- 12 Stallion sounds
- 17 Stylish
- 20 Moral code
- 21 On the way out
- 24 Plan in detail
- 25 Four-time Indy winner
- 26 Bach creation
- 27 Plunder
- 29 Diner dessert
- 31 Laughing mammal
- 32 Ballet handrail
- 33 Dress type
- 34 Pane material
- 39 Obtained
- 41 Great weight

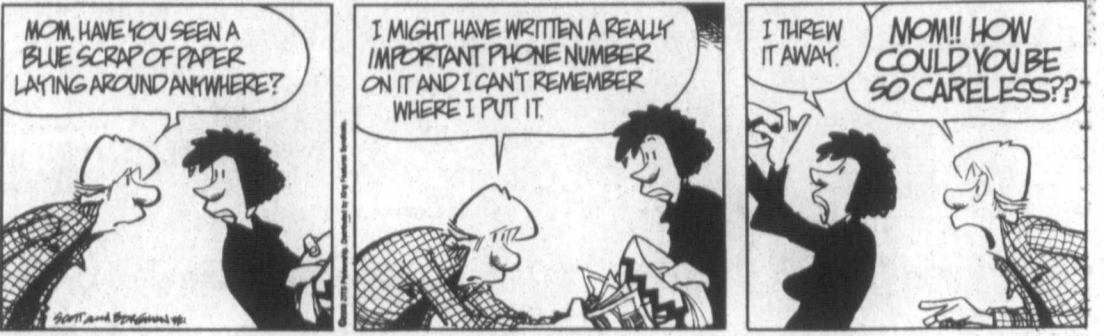
NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
10					11				12	
13						14				
15					16	17		18		
19								21		
					22			23		
24	25	26					27			
28							29			
30					31			32	33	34
35									37	
38					39			40	41	
42								43		
44								45		

### For Better Or Worse



### Zits



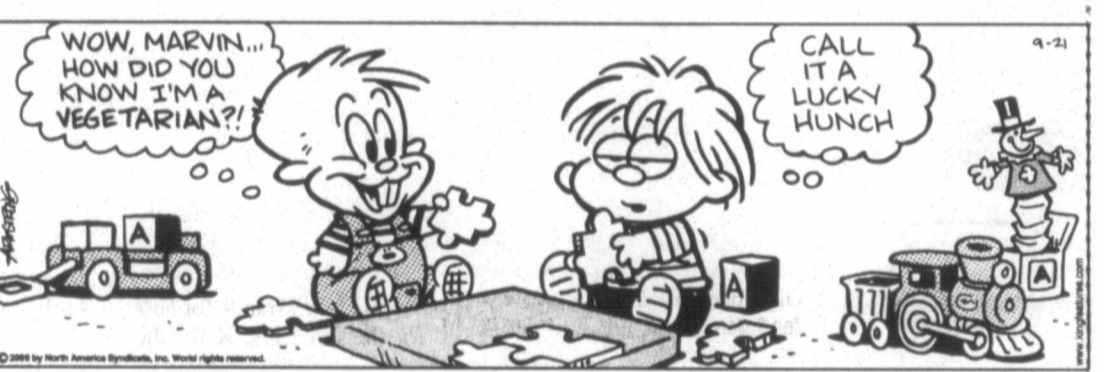
### Garfield



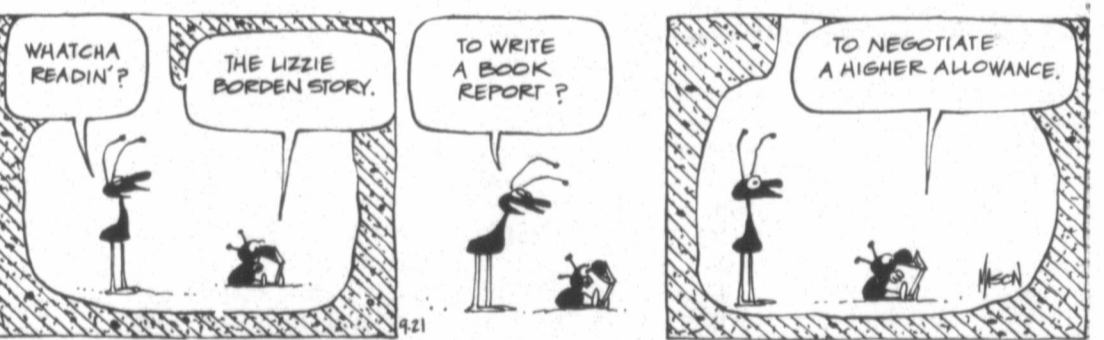
### Beetle Bailey



### Marvin



### B.C.



### Haggar The Horrible



### Peanuts



### Blondie



### Flo & Friends





# Sports



Hilary Acker returns a ball in her singles match against Canyon. Acker lost the match and Pampa lost 19-0 to Canyon. (Photo submitted by Synda Foreman)

## Canyon blanks Pampa

BY ANDREW GLOVER  
aglover@thepampanews.com

Pampa's Head Tennis Coach Sarah Corse said Canyon was the top team in the district and would be a tough match. On Saturday, coach was proven right as the Harvesters did not win a match losing 19-0 to Canyon.

Corse said Canyon is a tough team.

"They're just that good," Corse said. "We played well in a lot of spots. We just didn't win a match."

Corse said Holly Gage played well in her singles match.

"She just couldn't pull it off," Corse said. "She played really well."

Coach said she was disappointed that they lost but not in how her team played. "They all played good,"

Corse said. "Sometimes you play your best and it isn't enough."

The Harvesters host Randall Tuesday at the Harvester Tennis Courts. Corse said Randall is very strong on the girls side.

"They have three solid players," Corse said. "We will need to step it up and play are hardest. I see us as an even team. The kids are looking forward to it."

## PHS JV CxC finishes second

BY ANDREW GLOVER  
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Harvester boys junior varsity cross country team finished second in their meet Saturday at Sunray.

The junior varsity had seven boys run in a three mile race. Flavio Gonzalez finished second with a time of 18:35. Enrique Mier was fourth finishing the race in 19:33, Ramon Portillo

finished 10th with a time of 20:15, Cole Chumbley was 13th finishing the race in 20:36, Trent McAnear finished 17th with a time of 20:53 and Steven Botello was 27th finishing the race in 23:08. Robert Radke ran the race in 29:40.

The girls junior varsity team had three girls run a two-mile race. Brittney Weatherford finished 17th with a time of 16:59, Lyndi Whitson finished

22nd with a time of 17:16, and Renee Baggerman was 30th finishing the race in 17:52.

J'Cee Holmes ran in the girls varsity two-mile race and finished seventh with a time of 14:28. Miguel Tapia finished 20th in the boys varsity three-mile race with a time of 18:19.

The team's next meet is Saturday, September 26 at Lubbock.

## PHS Golf: Boys 5th, Girls 11th at Hereford

BY ANDREW GLOVER  
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Harvesters boys golf team finished fifth and the girls finished eleventh in the Hereford Invitational Friday and Saturday.

The teams played 18 holes on Friday and Saturday. The boys team score was 657 and was 24 points behind the fourth place team, Borger. Cole Killgo shot a 156, Collin Killgo scored a 162, Logan Reagan shot a 166, and

Joseph Mechelay scored a 173. Garrett Fatheree shot an 88 on Friday and was a no-show on Saturday. Randall won the invitational with a score of 601.

The girls team score was 863 and was four points behind 10th place Dumas. Liz Hoelting led the team with a score of 195, Samantha Kelly shot a 199, Lindsey Brown scored 223, Cori Cook shot a 246, and Sydney Hoelting shot a 259. Amarillo High team one won the invitational with a score of 602.

Head coach Alan Segura said both teams played well on both days.

"The girls have improved every round that they have played so far this year," Segura said. "I am very proud of both teams."

## JV wins, 9th ties against Perryton

The junior varsity football team beat Perryton 24-22 and the freshman tied 14-14 Thursday at Perryton.

Pampa's junior varsity trailed 22-8 at half-time. Coach Byron May said trick plays including a fake field goal helped the Rangers take the lead. In the second half, Pampa's defense tightened up. Jessie Cruz and Reid Miller scored touchdowns and the Harvesters converted the two-point conversion on both of them.

May said he was pleased with how his defense played in the second half.

"Our JV defense has really begun to buy in," May said. There were several times in the game where they fired out so low and fast that their quarterback wasn't able to take a step backwards before we sacked him."

The junior varsity coach

said he noticed improvement in his offense.

"I was proud of the way we handled the challenge of being down by two touchdowns in the first half," May said. "The kids really responded."

Ryan Smith and Sammy Smith scored both touchdowns for the freshman team. Ryan Smith scored on a 72-yard touchdown run and Sammy Smith scored on a 67-yard kick-off return. Taylor Woods caught a two-point conversion pass from Ryan Smith.

Coach Kaleb Snelgroes said he was very proud of his defense.

"We flew to the football and played extremely hard," Snelgroes said.

The football teams are off this week and the freshman and junior varsity's next game is October 1. The freshman will play at Plainview and the junior varsity will host Plainview.

## GOOD LUCK HARVESTER VOLLEYBALL AND TENNIS TEAMS!!

## Notice of Tax Revenue Increase

The City of Pampa conducted public hearings on September 1, 2009 and September 18, 2009 on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues of the city of Pampa from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 2.56 percent.

The total tax revenue raised last year at last year's tax rate of \$0.66500 for each \$100 of taxable value was 3,015,935.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.62693 for each \$100 of taxable value, excluding tax revenues to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$2,975,757.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.62693 for each \$100 of taxable value, including tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$2,993,269.

The City of Pampa Council of City of Pampa is scheduled to vote on the tax rate that will result in that tax increase at a public meeting to be held on September 22, 2009 at City Hall, City Commission Chambers, 200 W. Foster, Pampa, Texas 79065 at 4:00p.m.

D-59 Sept 2, 21, 2009

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