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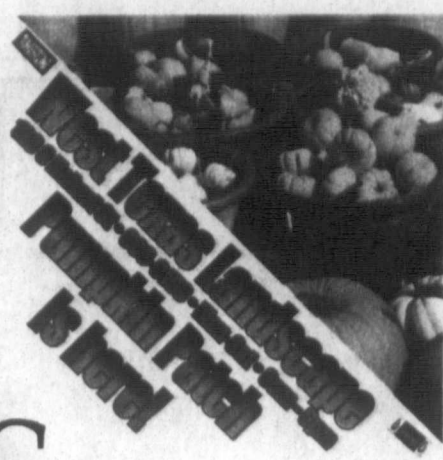
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# The PAMPA NEWS

Monday, September 28, 2009 Volume 105 • No. 131 50¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

## King case to last at least another week

**BY DAVID BOWSER**  
dbowser@thepampanews.com

LUBBOCK — While testimony in the punishment phase of the Levi King murder trial has already last more than three weeks, court officials expect at least another week of testimony and arguments.

King, 27, is on trial for the deaths of a rural Gray County family in 2005. Brian Conrad, 31, and his pregnant wife Michell, 35, along with Michell's son Zach Doan, 14, died in the predawn hours of Sept. 30, 2005, at their home on Texas Highway 70 about 13 miles south of Pampa. King pleaded guilty to

the murders as his trial started earlier this month. After accepting the plea, 31st District Judge Steve Emmert moved the proceeding directly to the punishment phase. District Attorney Lynn Switzer is asking the Lubbock jury of 12 women and one man, which

includes one alternate, for the death penalty. Defense attorneys Joe Marr Wilson and Maxwell Peck are asking the jury for life in prison without the possibility of parole. By the close of court about 5:30 p.m. Friday, the prosecutor had called 39 witnesses. The defense had

called 41 witnesses. The trial is expected to last at least through this week. Last week, jurors heard a description of a dysfunctional family in rural Southwest Missouri. King was running from

KING cont. on page 3

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## CAR SHOW/BLOOD DRIVE



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Pampans had a gloriously sunny day Saturday to check out vintage cars at Fenton Motors and perhaps make a donation to a Coffee Memorial blood drive.

## Texas ranks 49th in stimulus funds

DALLAS (AP) — Texas ranks near the bottom in federal stimulus funds received so far, according to a newspaper analysis of grants and contracts. The Dallas Morning News reported Monday that Texas has been approved for about \$12.9 billion in stimulus grants and contracts, not including an estimated \$4.2 billion received through the law's main individual tax credit. Adjusted for population, Texas' share of grants — about \$533 per person — ranks 49th, according to the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board. Texas lawmakers complain that funding formulas are often written by lawmakers in small states, creating a disadvantage for big states. Texas also has fewer research uni-

versities, less subsidized housing and a smaller contribution to programs like Medicaid and unemployment insurance, so that means less emergency stimulus funds. "If you are looking for benefits, you don't move to Texas," said Sherri Greenberg, a public finance expert at the University of Texas' LBJ School of Public Affairs. The \$787 billion stimulus flows through tax credits, student loans, Social Security checks, highway contracts, Medicaid, unemployment and several other programs. Medicaid accounts for 63 percent of stimulus outlays so far, yet most low-income, childless Texas residents can't get Medicaid. About 17 percent of Texas residents are enrolled in Medicaid, according to the Henry J. Kaiser

Family Foundation. "The fact that Texas is 50th out of 50 states in terms of children and adults insured for health care, that has not only hurt those families, it has cost us billions of federal dollars," said U.S. Rep. Chet Edwards, a Waco Democrat who supported the stimulus. "That, along with the decision to reject \$550 million in unemployment stimulus funding, certainly hurt the funding totals for Texas." Texas lawmakers gave up \$565 million by not changing the unemployment benefits program. To get stimulus funds, states had to expand their programs to reach more unemployed workers, including part-timers. Only 20 percent of unemployed Texas residents

## Bilingual census form to aid count

LONG BEACH, California (AP) — For the first time, the U.S. Census Bureau is distributing bilingual questionnaires to 13.5 million households in predominantly Spanish-speaking neighborhoods for its 2010 population survey. Automatic mailing of the forms, in English and Spanish, debuts next year. In addition to Spanish, census forms will be made available in Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese and Russian upon request. That's similar to the 2000 census, when participants could request questionnaires in several languages. But none of those other languages compares to the proliferation of Spanish. Roughly 34 million people reported speaking Spanish at home in the United States in 2007, more than all the other languages combined except English. Eighty percent of the U.S. population reported speaking only English at home. The census is done every 10 years. Latino advocates hope the forms will lead to a more accurate count by winning over the trust of immigrants who are often wary of government and may be even more fearful after the recent surge in immigration raids and deportations. "If the government is reaching out to you in a language you understand, it helps build trust," said Arturo Vargas, executive director of the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials. Traditionally, experts say, the Census Bureau has undercounted minority and immigrant commu-

CENSUS cont. on page 3

## Texas Comptroller urges small cities, counties to take advantage of energy grants

(AUSTIN) — Texas Comptroller Susan Combs today announced more than a thousand small cities and more than 200 counties in Texas can receive grants to help with energy efficiency and energy conservation projects. A total of about \$45 million in federal stimulus funds can be used for projects that include public building energy retrofits and energy efficient street lighting. The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program

will be administered through the Comptroller's State Energy Conservation Office (SECO). The list of the cities and counties, and the allocated grant amounts they can receive, can be found at www.seco.cpa.state.tx.us/arra/eebg/index.php. "Small cities and counties don't have to bid for these grants, the money is already allocated to them if they choose to use it," Combs said. "We want to make sure every eligible city and county gets to use these grants

and we'll provide as much help as possible. The allocated amounts range from \$20,000 to \$150,000." SECO will distribute the block grants to cities with populations under 35,000 and counties with populations under 200,000, based on 2007 census estimates. There are 1,127 cities and 244 counties in these categories. Packets have been mailed to the mayors and county judges with an acceptance form to proceed with the application process, examples of eligible projects and a

sample of official resolutions that cities and counties must pass. Document copies are at www.seco.cpa.state.tx.us/arra/eebg/index.php. "We want to help cities and counties explore options to get long-term benefits of conserving energy and reducing emissions while saving their taxpayers money by cutting energy costs," Combs said. Projects eligible for the EECBG program include: government building energy audits and retro-

GRANTS cont. on page 3

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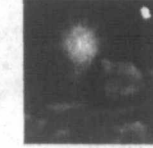
The first correct answer will win a country fair t-shirt.

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# For the record

## PAMPA FORECAST

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
		
High 81 Low 60	High 87 Low 67	High 76 Low 47

**Tonight:** Mostly clear, with a low around 49. South southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Tuesday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 81. South wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

**Tuesday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 60. South wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

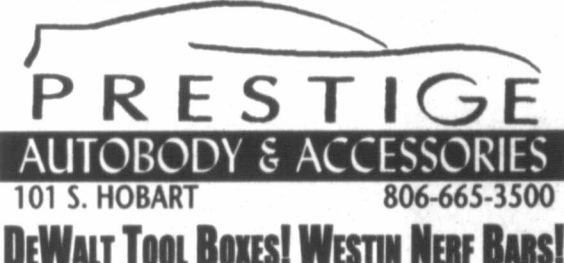
**Wednesday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 pm. Partly cloudy, with a high near 87. Windy, with a south wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

**Wednesday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 am. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 67. South wind around 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

**Thursday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 76. South wind 15 to 20 mph becoming northwest. Winds could gust as high as 25 mph.

**Thursday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 47. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

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## SHERIFF

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests over the weekend.

Friday, Sept. 25.  
 Juan Pablo Gonzales, 25, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of driving without a license and not having a driver's license.  
 Patrick Lee Edwards, 32, of Amarillo, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of possession of marijuana and theft of a firearm.  
 Terry Nicole Caldwell, 32, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of possession of marijuana in a drug free zone.  
 Misty Dawn Lang, 33, of Oklahoma City, was arrested by Gray County deputies on charges of theft.  
 Tyson Lee Waycaster, 26, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of public intoxication.  
 Jayme Lynn Nation, 34, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of running a stop sign, not having a driver's license and possession of drug paraphernalia.  
 Katherine Margaret Kernan, 45, was arrested by Pampa police driving while intoxicated, second offense.  
 Saturday, Sept. 26.  
 Michael James Cavaco, 28, of Chandler, Okla., was arrested by Gray County Sheriff's deputies on charges of possession of marijuana over four ounces but under five

pounds.  
 Wendy Lynn Cavaco, 34, of Chandler, Okla., was arrested by Gray County Sheriff's deputies on charges of possession of marijuana over four ounces but under five pounds.  
 Megdeleno Blanco-Zubia, 43, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of driving while intoxicated, second offense.  
 Michael Kurt Curfman, 30, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of driving while intoxicated, second offense.  
 Andrew Tolbert Loveless, 39, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of theft by check.  
 Amparo Moreno Ortega, 48, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of driving while intoxicated, third offense or more.  
 Jaime Castro, 42, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of public intoxication.  
 Vicente Hernandez Zarate, 34, was arrested by Texas Department of Public Safety troopers on charges of public intoxication.  
 Jose Manuel Arguello-Pinales, 41, was arrested by Texas Department of Public Safety troopers on charges of driving while intoxicated.  
 Marvin Monrow Finney III, 33, of Lefors, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of driving while license invalid.

## Texas alcohol agents plan undercover stings

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — Officials with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission say they're planning undercover stings to make sure residents and stores aren't selling alcohol illegally to minors.  
 Lt. Brian Williams says agents will be testing the waters to determine what

## Obituaries

### EMERGENCY SERVICES

#### PAMPA PD

The Pampa Police Department reported the following calls over the weekend.  
 There were 35 traffic stops and two accidents reported.  
 There were 34 animal-related calls.  
 Guardian reported 10 ambulance calls.  
 Friday, Sept. 25.  
 An alarm was reported in the 100 block of East 27th.  
 An alarm was reported in 2200 block of North Williston.  
 Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 1000 block of East Francis.  
 Officers assisted another agency.  
 A burglary was reported in the 300 block of North Christy.  
 Officers provided an escort in the 600 block of North Ward.  
 Officers provided a crossing guard in the 800 block of East Browning.  
 A civil matter was reported in the 400 block of North Perry.  
 Criminal mischief was reported in the 2200 block of Zimmers.  
 Found property was brought to the police station.  
 A domestic disturbance was reported in the 500 block of North Doucette.  
 A possible scam by phone was reported to police.  
 Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1100 block of South Neel.  
 Officers assisted a motorist in the 1600 block of

East U.S. Highway 60.  
 Criminal mischief was reported in the 1200 block of South Nelson.  
 A prowler was reported in the 1100 block of North Starkweather.  
 A theft was reported at Wal-Mart.  
 Suspicious persons were reported in the 400 block of West Francis and in the 600 block of Zimmers.  
 A purse was stolen in the 1400 block of North Hobart.  
 Officers assisted another agency in the 1100 block of Faulkner.  
 An abandoned vehicle was reported in the 800 block of South Hobart.  
 Buildings were checked by officers in the 100 block of East Craven and 600 block of West Foster.  
 Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1300 block of North Duncan.  
 Saturday, Sept. 26.  
 A suspicious person was reported at Gwendolyn and Banks.  
 An assault was reported in the 1000 block of North Hobart.  
 A suspicious person was reported in the 700 block of North Hobart.  
 A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 100 block of East Randy Matson.  
 An alarm was reported in the 2300 block of Rosewood.  
 A burglary was reported in the 1600 block of North Dwight.  
 An alarm was reported in the 1300 block of North Hobart.  
 A civil matter was reported in the 200 block of West Browning.

An assault was reported in the 900 block of South Faulkner.  
 Disorderly conduct was reported in the 2400 block of North Rosewood.  
 A prowler was reported in the 700 block of North Dwight.  
 Officers performed a welfare check in the 500 block of North Carr.  
 Furniture worth about \$8,825 was reported stolen in the 700 block of East Denver.  
 Disorderly conduct was reported in the 900 block of South Banks.  
 A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 2900 block of North Beech.  
 Sunday, Sept. 27.  
 A suspicious person was reported at Worrell and Dwight.  
 A domestic disturbance was reported in the 200 block of South Miami.  
 Disorderly conduct was reported in the 2200 block of Alcock.  
 Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 800 block of East Jordan.  
 Criminal trespass was reported in the 500 block of North Roberta.  
 A suspicious person was reported at Boyd and Christy.  
 A fire alarm was reported in the 400 block of North Ward.  
 A suspicious person was reported in the 1800 block of North Hamilton.  
 A suspicious person was reported in the 1200 block of North Hobart.  
 A suspicious person was reported in the 1200 block of North Hobart.  
 A warrant was served in

the 1000 block of Neel.  
 A suspicious person was reported at 18th and Nelson.  
 A civil matter was reported in the 1600 block of West Somerville.  
 A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1800 block of West Alcock.  
 Criminal trespass was reported in the 500 block of North Roberta.  
 A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 1100 block of South Faulkner.  
 A suspicious person was reported in the 500 block of North Hobart.  
 Disorderly conduct was reported in the 800 block of North Nelson.  
 A water problem was reported in the 300 block of Naida.  
 Criminal mischief was reported in the 2100 block of North Hamilton.  
 City employees worked on a sewer choke in the 1600 block of South Huff.  
 Officers assisted another agency in the 1100 block of South Faulkner.  
 Lefors Volunteer Fire Department investigated a fire in the 12000 block of Gray County Road K.  
 Officers performed a welfare check in the 700 block of North Banks.  
 A prowler was reported in the 700 block of East Scott.  
 Medication was reported from a vehicle in the 400 block of South Finley.  
 A domestic disturbance was reported in the 800 block of East Campbell.  
 Monday, Sept. 28.  
 A suspicious person was reported at Gwendolyn and Dwight.

## Trial set for accused killer of 6

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Opening statements begin Monday in the Texas murder trial of handyman Paul Devoe, accused of killing six people during a cross-country shooting spree.  
 Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty against Devoe, 46, who has a long criminal rap sheet in his native New York and a history of alcohol and drug abuse.  
 Authorities say Devoe's murderous rampage began in central Texas in August 2007. His first alleged victim was 41-year-old bartender Michael Allred, shot in the chest at O'Neill's Sports Tavern in Marble Falls on the night of Aug. 24. Then Devoe allegedly drove to the home of his ex-girlfriend, Paula Griffith, in Jonestown. There, prosecutors say Devoe shot and killed Griffith, 46, her boyfriend, Jay Feltner, 48, Griffith's daughter, Haylie Faulkner, 15, and Haylie's friend Danielle Hensley, 17.  
 After the killings, authorities say Devoe fled Texas and was on the way to his native Long Island, N.Y., when the sixth alleged victim met her fate. After experiencing car trouble near State Line, Pa., Devoe shot and killed 81-year-old widow Betty Jane Dehart, and stole her vehicle, according to prosecutors.  
 Devoe, who worked as a handyman on painting and carpentry jobs, was arrested in Shirley, N.Y., on Aug. 27, 2007.  
 In the trial that begins in State District Judge Brenda Kennedy's court Monday, Devoe will face capital murder charges for the deaths of the two teenage girls, Faulkner and Hensley. Travis County prosecutor Gary Cobb said he's seeking the death penalty against Devoe because of the nature of the crimes and the defendant's criminal past.  
 "We look at the circumstances of a person's criminal history and the circumstances of the offense itself," Cobb said. "All of those things added up to a decision by our office to seek the death penalty."  
 Tom Weber, one of Devoe's attorneys, did not immediately return a phone call to The Associated Press.  
 Cobb said he expected to offer up "several dozen witnesses," including some from New York and Pennsylvania.

He said the trial, which has received extensive publicity, would take at least two weeks.  
 "We wouldn't have indicted him if we didn't believe he committed the offense of capital murder," Cobb said.  
 Devoe spent several weeks in a Texas psychiatric hospital before being declared competent for trial in March. Law officers have testified that Devoe offered details about murders and shootings in Texas and Pennsylvania within hours of his arrest last year.  
 According to court testimony, he asked one police officer, "Do you know how many bodies they found?"  
 A cellmate also contends that Devoe told him he killed six people.  
 "I just snapped," Devoe allegedly told a former house mate, according to court testimony.  
 Devoe's decades-long criminal history, which contains numerous arrests and convictions, is detailed in a pretrial document filed by Travis County prosecutors. The filing, indicating that prosecutors intend to introduce Devoe's criminal history at the trial, lists 49 items compiled by authorities in New York, Pennsylvania and Texas.  
 Prosecutors alleged in the document that Devoe sexually abused his 11-year-old daughter in 2001 and had committed numerous assaults, acts of burglary, criminal harassment and trespassing. Devoe was convicted of driving while intoxicated at least five times between 1988 and 1997, court records indicate.

### 3 on 3 tourney cancelled

For those who volunteered to help in the 3 on 3 basketball tournament for Saturday, Oct. 3 it has been cancelled. We only had 3 teams - not enough to warrant everyone spending half or all day trying to make new teams as others arrived. We would get a few that would play when they saw it, but not enough to be worth the effort. Thank you.

## Fatal Crash Saturday in Carson County

Panhandle — Jewell Thomas Fleming 76, of Panhandle was killed in a two vehicle crash Saturday, September 26. The crash was located northwest of Panhandle on the FM 1342 and CR 16 in Carson County.  
 Jewell Thomas Fleming 76, of Panhandle was driving his 2006 Mazda westbound on CR 16 approaching the intersection with FM 1342. Glen Michael Leven 53, of Panhandle was driving a 2008 Dodge pickup northbound on FM 1342. Fleming failed to yield right of way at the stop intersection and was struck by the vehicle Leven was driving. Leven's pickup then rolled into a pasture and came to rest on its top. Fleming's vehicle spun around in the intersection and came to rest facing west. Fleming was pronounced dead at the scene his safety belt was not worn. Injured in the crash was the driver Glen Michael Leven and Justin David Leven 13, both were hospitalized at Northwest Texas Hospital in serious condition with head injuries. It was unknown if Michael or Justin Leven were wearing their safety belts at the time of the accident.

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## Funds

received unemployment benefits during the second quarter of 2008, 49th among states, according to the National Employment Law Project.

Many Republicans scoff at the idea that Texas is losing out. Gov. Rick Perry says accepting some stimulus funds, like the unemployment money, would require changes that would make the state less competitive.

"Texans are kind of sick of having Washington take their money in the form of all these taxes and fees and what have you, and then dribbling it back to them — and particularly, dribbling it back to them with all these strings attached,"

*cont. from page 1*

Perry said. But not all funds come with strings attached. The stimulus provided \$8.2 billion to the National Institutes of Health for research projects for universities, nonprofits and businesses. So far, California universities have landed about \$453 million for special projects, compared to \$161 million for New York, \$110 million for Pennsylvania and \$91 million for Texas, according to NIH data.

Most of the law's competitive grants, which are supposed to improve infrastructure and create jobs, have yet to be awarded.

## Republican Party of Texas Chairman Benkiser steps down

AUSTIN— Republican Party of Texas Chairman Tina Benkiser announced today that she is stepping down after nearly six years in office. Chairman Benkiser made the announcement at the quarterly meeting of the State Republican Executive Committee at party headquarters in Austin.

"I stand before you today with very mixed emotions," Benkiser said. "Effective October 5, I'm stepping down as chairman."

Benkiser became chairman of the Republican Party of Texas in October

10, 2003 and has presided over an era of unprecedented growth for the party across the state. Republicans went from the minority party to holding all statewide offices, a majority of both houses of the state legislature, and the party is close to capturing a majority of offices at the local level. Benkiser has won re-election as chairman in 2004, 2006, and 2008 and was poised to win re-election at the RPT convention next year.

Benkiser's resignation takes effect October 5, 2009. She leaves the RPT to join Governor Rick Perry's campaign for re-election as a senior adviser.



Grace and Grace Hudson attend a Community Christian School breakfast in celebration of our Moms September 22.

## King

his home in Pineville, Ark., after killing a Missouri man, Orle McCool, 70, and McCool's daughter-in-law, Dawn McCool, 47, on Sept. 29, 2005.

Heading west on Interstate 40 in a Dodge pickup that he has stolen from McCool, King exited the highway onto Texas Highway 70 and drove north in the early morning hours of Sept. 30.

He stopped at the Conrad farm, broke into the farm house and shot Brian and Michell Conrad with a stolen AK-47 assault rifle as the couple tried to scramble out of their bed.

King went through the kitchen and down the hall to Michell's daughter's room and fired a single round at Robin Doan as she lay in her bed.

He then went across the hall and fired several rounds into Zach Doan as he lay sleeping.

What King didn't know at the time was that he'd missed Robin Doan: When he left to return to Interstate 40, King thought, and eventually told Pineville deputies that he had killed four people near Groom.

Robin Doan testified earlier that she had slipped out of the house after King left and called the Gray County Sheriff's Office from the bed of her step-father's pickup.

Friday's testimony closed with King's father, Scott David King, drawing verbal picture for the jury of the world in which Levi King was raised.

Scott King told the court that he had dropped out of his New Jersey high school his senior year to work full time.

The elder King told how he had met and married his wife Allison and bought 10 acres on a hilltop near the edge of Pineville. He moved in a trailer where the growing family lived until he could build a house.

But with the house near-

ing completion, Scott King said Allison left him, and though livable, the house was never finished.

Earlier Friday afternoon, Jared King, 18, Levi King's younger brother took the court on a video tour of the house with its unfinished walls and growing trash pile near the porch.

Noah King, 16 the youngest of the family, testified that after the divorce his father seemed saddened.

"He shut down," Noah King said.

Noah and Jared, who have spent time in foster homes, now live with their father and his girl friend in Anderson, Mo., near their home in Pineville.

Both boys said they loved their brother Levi and attended school sporadically, spending much of their time at home playing video games and smoking marijuana.

Their father, Scott King, testified that he smoked marijuana with his sons, including Levi.

"It's better to smoke at home than some place else," King said.

The elder King said he was not working.

"I'm trying to get on disability," he said.

He said he suffered whiplash from a fall off a ladder.

Under questioning by Cindy Short of the defense team, he said he had seven children and that Levi was his first-born son.

Scott King spoke of brushes the family had with the law and admitted to not liking authority.

"I don't really have much use for them," he said.

The father of the King clan told how he left the child raising to his wife while he worked.

After they separated, Allison initially took the children, except for Levi, but eventually drove back to the house and left them, Scott King said.

He said that Levi cried

over his mother's move.

King said that when his son was admitted to a drug rehabilitation program as a teenager, he became a burden.

When one of his daughters and Levi were using methamphetamines, Scott King said he hoped they would use it once or twice and not like it.

"It's a drug I never cared for," King said. "I prefer marijuana and pain killers."

He admitted on the stand to sharing his pain killers with his sons, even after a friend over dosed and died on the family's couch in the living room.

Scott King said that he argued with Levi and kicked him out of the house. "I wanted him to get out and find a job," Scott King said.

Scott King admitted that after Levi was arrested and convicted for burning down a house in Pineville, he never went to the prison to visit his son and wasn't there when Levi got out.

When Levi walked away from the halfway house in St. Louis after he'd been released from prison and hitchhiked back to Pineville, Scott King admitted he told his son that there was no place for him in McDonald County and gave him a pain killing drug.

Scott King testified that he loved Levi. He said that if he could have afforded it, he would have helped his son.

*cont. from page 1*

## Census

*cont. from page 1*

nities, who are harder to reach because of language barriers and distrust of government.

Census officials say they designed the bilingual forms after extensive research, using the Canadian census questionnaire as an example. Over a six-year testing period, officials said the forms drew a better response in Spanish-speaking areas.

The bilingual forms will be mailed out to neighborhoods where at least a fifth of households report speaking primarily Spanish and little English, said Adrienne Oneto, assistant division chief for content and outreach at the Census Bureau in Washington. More than a quarter of the forms will be distributed in California. The Miami and Houston areas will also receive sizable numbers of the questionnaires.

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## Grants

*cont. from page 1*

the application process. SECO will team up with other agencies and local utilities and co-ops to help provide assistance and resources for applications

and projects. If a city or county does not accept its grant, that money will be redistributed to other local governments that accept funding.

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PAMPA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

828

# Viewpoints

## Today in History

Today is Monday, Sept. 28, the 271st day of 2009. There are 94 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On this date:

In 1066, William the Conqueror invaded England to claim the English throne.

In 1542, Portuguese navigator Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo arrived at present-day San Diego.

In 1781, American forces in the Revolutionary War, backed by a French fleet, began their successful siege of Yorktown, Va.

In 1787, the Congress of the Confederation voted to send the just-completed Constitution of the United States to state legislatures for their approval.

In 1850, flogging was abolished as a form of punishment in the U.S. Navy.

In 1924, two U.S. Army planes landed in Seattle, having completed the first round-the-world flight in 175 days.

In 1939, during World War II, Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union signed a treaty calling for the partitioning of Poland, which the two countries had invaded.

Ten years ago: The Supreme Court agreed to decide whether a state can give visitation rights to grandparents

"The secret of how to live without resentment or embarrassment in a world in which I was different from everybody else, was to be indifferent to that difference."

— Al Capp, American cartoonist

when, after a divorce or some other family split, the children's parents say no. (The court later ruled that Washington state went too far in allowing grandparents and others to seek court-ordered visits against parents' wishes, but it stopped short of giving parents absolute veto power over who gets to visit their children.)

Five years ago: An earthquake measuring magnitude 6.0 rocked central California. Kidnappers in Iraq released two female Italian aid workers, Simona Torretta and Simona Pari, and five other hostages. Award-winning fashion designer Geoffrey Beene died in New York at age 77.

One year ago: President George W. Bush urged Congress to pass a \$700 billion rescue plan for beleaguered financial companies, saying in a written statement, "Without this rescue plan, the costs to the American economy could be disastrous." Chinese astronauts aboard the Shenzhou 7 returned to Earth after completing their country's first-ever spacewalk mission.

Today's Birthdays: Actor William Windom is 86. Actor Arnold Stang is 84. Actress Brigitte Bardot is 75. Singer Ben E. King is 71. Actor Joel Higgins is 66. Singer Helen Shapiro is 63. Actor Jeffrey Jones is 63. Movie writer-director-actor John Sayles is 59. Actress Sylvia Kristel is 57. Rock musician George Lynch is 55. Zydeco singer-musician C.J. Chenier is 52. Actor Steve Hytner is 50. Actress-comedian Janeane Garofalo is 45. Country singer Matt King is 43. Actress Mira Sorvino is 42. TV personality Moon Zappa is 42. Actress-model Carre Otis is 41. Actress Naomi Watts is 41. Country musician Chuck Crawford is 36. Country singer Mandy Barnett is 34. Rapper Young Jeezy is 32. World Golf Hall of Famer Se Ri Pak is 32. Actor Peter Cambor is 31. Writer-producer-director-actor Bam Margera is 30. Actress Hilary Duff is 22.



## On health care, beware wrath of seniors

JULIE HIRSCHFELD DAVIS

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER WASHINGTON (AP)

— Beware the wrath of the nation's seniors.

It's a lesson both political parties have learned the hard way about the potent over-65 voting bloc, and it's one that Republicans are working to turn to their advantage in the high-stakes fight over President Barack Obama's health care overhaul.

The tactic has left Democrats on the defensive, in the unenviable position of trying to assuage the fears of a segment of the population that opposed Obama in the last election and that polls show is disproportionately against the party's health care plans.

So this past week, Republicans seized upon seniors' concerns about losing benefits and high-quality care as their own cause celebre. GOP leaders, who for decades have called for scaling back Medicare and just this spring proposed eventually ending it, now are arguing that Democrats' proposed prescriptions for remaking the costly and inefficient U.S. health care system would lead to benefit cuts for the elderly.

"The irony is not lost on me. ... That's the way Washington works sometimes," says Bill Novelli, who as the former head of the powerful seniors' lobby AARP has seen both parties on both sides of the fight to activate elderly voters' anger.

This time it's Democrats — the party that created Medicare as well as the nation's other social programs — who have found themselves scrambling to prove they are on the side of seniors.

"Democrats have spent the past 40 years protecting America's seniors," protested Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., as his staff peppered reporters with examples of past GOP votes that Democrats say hurt the elderly. "The other side's insistence on spreading fear above all else is what will truly hurt our seniors."

There are good reasons for the intense partisan competition for seniors' perceptions. And there's every indication that whoever can persuade them that Medicare — the federal program that serves them — is either at risk or safe will have won an important battle in the health care fight.

They're a group that is by nature skeptical, votes faithfully and in large numbers, and is keenly aware of how the government's actions can affect their circumstances.

They were the focus this past week of a partisan spat over proposed cuts to Medicare Advantage, a program that lets private insurers contract with Medicare to provide coverage.

Democrats argued it's a wasteful initiative that can be trimmed without any reductions in enrollees' benefits. Republicans countered that seniors would be hurt by the cuts, and they got a major boost from Congress' nonpartisan budget analyst, who told a Senate panel that benefits could indeed be reduced.

The disagreement led to contentious deliberations at the Senate Finance Committee over a nearly \$900 billion health overhaul measure. In an indication of just how worried Democrats are about a backlash from seniors, the

committee chairman, Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., called for — and got — a federal investigation into whether private insurers were misleading their elderly patients and using "scare tactics" to try to derail the legislation.

Republicans and Democrats alike fearfully recall seniors' backlash in the late 1980s against a Medicare expansion that both parties supported. Elderly protesters revolted against the cost of the new plan, at one point mobbing Democratic Rep. Dan Rostenkowski, chairman of the tax-writing House Ways and Means Committee, at an event in his Chicago district, and chasing him into a waiting car waving signs demanding the law's repeal. Congress did so shortly thereafter.

About 15 years later, Democrats working to kill President George W. Bush's plan to add a voluntary prescription drug benefit to Medicare showed videos of the Rostenkowski mob scene as a reminder that triggering seniors' fears could be politically fatal for Republicans — and potentially a winning strategy for them. The plan passed anyway, but Republicans soon had buyer's remorse as polls showed seniors were dissatisfied with the benefit.

Bush again felt the sting of seniors' fears in 2005 after Democrats stoked their opposition to his plan to add private investment accounts to Social Security. He offered only an outline of his idea and left Congress to fill in the blanks — much as Obama did this year on the health overhaul. That gave Democrats the chance to frame the plan as a costly privatization of the bed-

rock social program that would ultimately slash seniors' benefits. The plan went nowhere, and Republicans lost control of the House and Senate in the 2006 elections.

Now GOP strategists say they have a chance to capitalize on the same dynamic to take down Democrats' health care plans and in the process earn voters' trust on the issue, traditionally a weak point for the party.

Obama "has managed to turn this into the equivalent of George Bush's Social Security effort, and seniors started to go, 'Wait, this doesn't look like it's going to work for me,'" said Republican pollster David Winston. "The Democrats have presented this unique situation where suddenly, on a very complicated issue that we've clearly been on the defensive on before, we have an opening."

An Associated Press-GfK poll conducted this month showed that while the public in general was opposed to Democrats' health care proposals, seniors were almost twice as likely to be concerned. Opponents of Democrats' plans outnumbered supporters 49 percent to 34 percent. Among seniors, 59 percent were opposed compared with 31 percent in support.

It's not at all clear that Republicans can gain the upper hand in the health care debate. Distrust of Democrats doesn't necessarily translate into trust of Republicans among seniors or any other group.

What seems certain, however, is that Democrats' ability to push through a health overhaul along the lines of what Obama has called for will depend in large part on their capacity to convince seniors that it's a good deal for them.

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# US flag in San Antonio had just 43 stars

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A star-spangled banner proudly displayed in San Antonio lacked a little something. Seven stars.

A San Antonio company has replaced a U.S. flag it produced that incorrectly had just 43 stars.

KSAT-TV reports the banner was displayed at the Northside Independent School District aquatics center when somebody noticed it didn't have the proper number of stars.

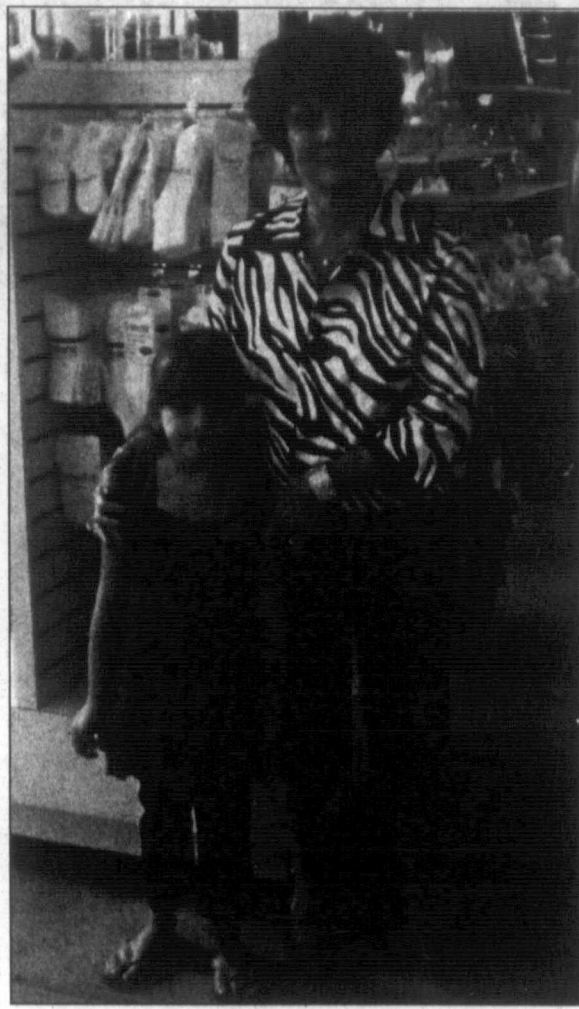
Aquatics director Scott

Zolinski says you assume that when you order a flag that it will have the 50 stars. Zolinski says the district "went on good faith that when you purchase the item that it was the real thing."

Allied Advertising spokesman Jesse Castoreno said it was a "simple mistake" and the flag was designed by someone who is no longer employed at the company.

The company replaced the flag for free.

# Style show Oct. 3



Mattie Norton, (standing) and her granddaughter, Mayce Ogle will be modeling fashions from Bealls Department Store at the Altrusa Style Show October 3 at M.K. Brown Heritage Room.

# Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips



DEAR ABBY: I am sick of being afraid of everything in my life. I'm a 21-year-old college student who wakes up every morning wondering what will go wrong today or what I am going to screw up this time. I don't know how to get beyond the little misfortunes that occur on a daily basis, and I take every form of criticism to heart, even if it's a joke.

I get nervous before and during every activity I take part in. I also get nervous talking to close friends and relatives and have a hard time articulating what I mean to say because I'm afraid everyone is judging me.

one who will listen. I was blessed that I didn't become addicted, and even luckier that I'm still alive.

There are those who are not as fortunate as I am. I have heard more stories about drug abuse, overdoses and drug-related deaths in my town than I can handle. I want to change this. I want to make a difference. But I need help. How can I get involved and make people in my community more aware that our town has a problem? -- REACHING OUT IN LAKE HAVASU CITY, ARIZ.

Please tell me how to relax for once; I honestly do not know how. My stress level is over the top, and it exhausts me beyond belief. I know I have a problem, and counseling is not an option. -- MESSED UP IN OHIO

DEAR REACHING OUT: By writing this letter, you have already taken the first step in raising awareness. Now it's up to your local police and your board of education to take some action. Everyone knows that passing laws is not enough unless they are enforced. And one of the most effective weapons in eliminating drug abuse is education.

DEAR MESSED UP: Excuse me? Counseling is not only an "option," in your case it is important you seek it out. You are fortunate to be in college, because your next stop should be the student health center. Anxiety can feed on itself, and sometimes it takes medical and psychological intervention to quiet the adrenaline rush that's causing it. Once that's done, you can then address the cause of your depression and low self-esteem and start feeling better about yourself. Please don't wait.

DEAR ABBY: Can you please tell me where is the proper placement of a name tag?

I own a small business and attend many networking events. Some people have told me the tag should be worn on the right side so you can see it when you shake hands. Others say it should be on the left, because people read from left to right. What is the proper etiquette? -- JEFF IN STUART, FLA.

DEAR ABBY: I am 20 years old and during this past year I have been exposed to more drugs than I ever thought possible. I have tried many of them -- from prescription drugs, marijuana and cocaine to ecstasy.

I know my decisions were reckless. Abby, I'm writing this in the hope of reaching out to any-

DEAR JEFF: According to Emily Post, the tags are usually worn on the right side because that's where most people look when they first greet each other with a handshake. (Using this logic, some women should paste the tag just above the middle of their chests.)

# Land stewardship workshop for women

Women of the Land is a land stewardship training program designed specifically for women landowners, land managers, and wildlife enthusiasts. The program combines information on land management and skill-based outdoor recreation in a venue that encourages women to ask questions, improve outdoor skills, and network with women of similar interests. The Texas Wildlife Association, in partnership with Texas Parks & Wildlife and with support from the San Antonio Livestock Exposition, will host this event.

The 2009 Basic Women of the Land will be held at Camp Allen in Navasota, October 30 through November 1. This year's program will focus on habitat management for a variety of wildlife species in the blackland prairie region of Texas but the information gained will be applicable statewide. Prairie management and the restoration of native grasslands will be

major topics with attendees having the opportunity to tour some model properties where excellent management is being done.

Registration is limited to 40 so get your registration in ASAP.

Texas Wildlife Association - The Texas Wildlife Association is a statewide organization that is an active advocate in the state and national political arenas for wildlife and natural resource conservation. Education of our young people and our growing urban populations, increasingly disconnected from the land, is critical to understanding our natural resources and maintaining rural lifestyles.

If you or someone you know is interested in the Women of the Land program please visit the Texas Wildlife Association website at <http://www.texas-wildlife.org> or contact Justin Dreibelbis at [jdreibelbis@texas-wildlife.org](mailto:jdreibelbis@texas-wildlife.org) or (512) 551-3004.

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

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# Comics

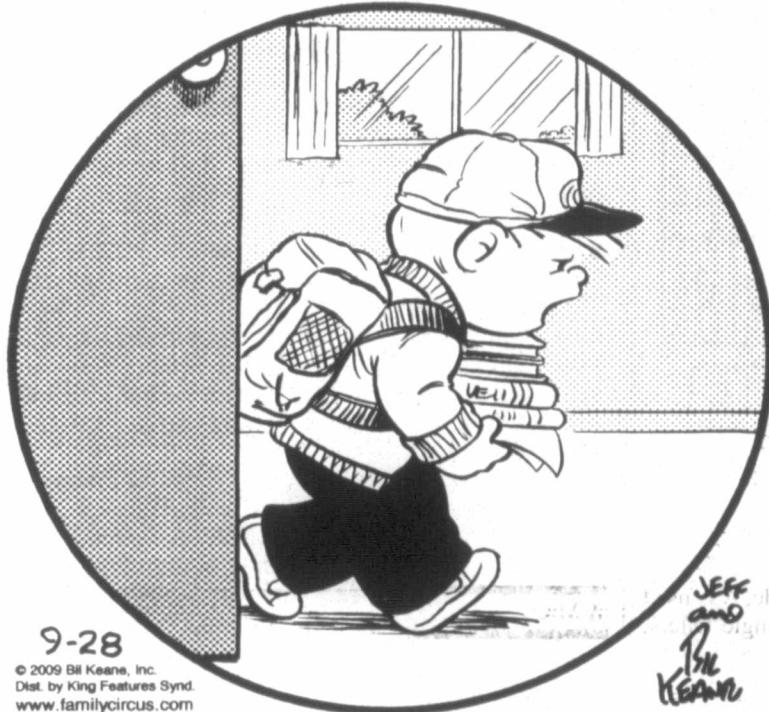
Marmaduke



"For your information, Marmaduke, I'm going to finish this ice cream."

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"The only parts I don't like about school are the subjects."

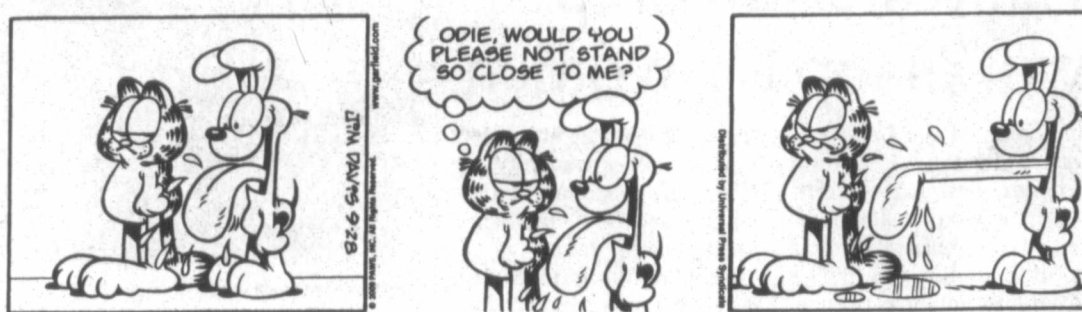
## For Better Or Worse



## Zits



## Garfield



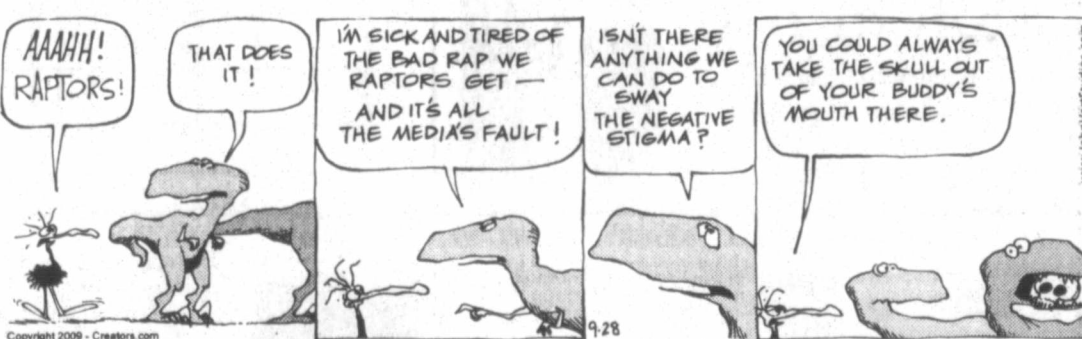
## Beetle Bailey



## Marvin



## B.C.



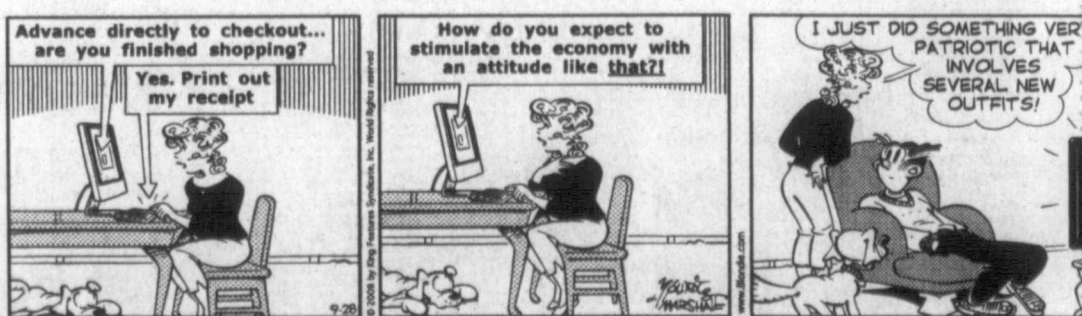
## Haggar The Horrible



## Peanuts



## Blondie



## Flo & Friends



## Daily Crossword Puzzle

### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Sound of surprise
  - 5 Camera feature
  - 10 Track event
  - 11 In the phone book
  - 13 Region
  - 14 Turkey's capital
  - 15 Swindle
  - 17 Baseball's Cey
  - 18 Diary bits
  - 19 Use a spade
  - 20 Chicago trains
  - 21 Sharpen
  - 22 Fire leftovers
  - 25 Circus worker
  - 26 Reach across
  - 27 Prohibit
  - 28 — chi (martial art)
  - 29 Non-wizards in the Harry Potter books
  - 33 Hockey's Bobby
  - 34 Trap
  - 35 School paper
  - 37 Mystique
  - 38 Wee amount
- DOWN**
- 1 Effortless charm
  - 2 Singer Neville
  - 3 Fragrance
  - 4 Cousin of char-treuse
  - 5 Calgary team
  - 6 Queues
  - 7 Inquire
  - 8 Ingenuie's hope
  - 9 Jane Eyre, for one
  - 12 Hazard
  - 16 Suffers
  - 21 Finger woe
  - 22 Family on the Titanic
  - 23 "I don't want to hear it!"
  - 24 Sharp, as a turn
  - 25 Gift attachments
  - 27 Made a short hit
  - 29 Highway sign
  - 30 George W.'s wife
  - 31 Blunder
  - 32 Penn and Connelly
  - 36 Eccentric

A	P	E	M	E	N	H	A	N	S
R	E	V	I	V	E	A	N	A	T
R	A	I	N	E	D	S	T	I	R
A	L	T	E	R	S	T	O	V	E
Y	E	A	R	S	C	O	N	E	S
	A	S	H	E	I	T	S		
J	O	L	T	I	N	J	O	E	
D	O	C	A	N	T	E			
A	Y	E	A	Y	E	T	O	W	S
B	R	A	N	S	S	P	R	E	E
B	I	N	G	T	O	O	B	A	D
E	D	I	E	A	R	R	I	V	E
D	E	A	L	B	E	T	T	E	R

### Saturday's answer

**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	
									11
10									12
13									14
15									17
18									19
									20
22	23	24							25
									27
28									29
									30
33									34
									36
35									37
38									39
									40
									41



# Sports

## Lady Harvesters v-ball saws off Caprock's horns

**BY ANDREW GLOVER**  
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Lady Harvester volleyball team defended their home court against the Caprock Lady Longhorns, sweeping them (25-8, 25-17 and 25-9) Saturday at the McNeely Fieldhouse.

The Lady Harvesters (14-9, 2-2) won their second consecutive district game at home. Head Coach Libby Garza said it is important for her team to win at home.

"We've talked about not having people come into our gym and push us around," Garza said. "The seniors and basically the team talked about leaving a legacy and that starts with creating a winning tradition here in Pampa."

In game one, Pampa and Caprock exchanged scores, but the Lady Harvesters started pulling away. Pampa went on an 11-2 run to take a 17-6 lead, prompting Caprock's coach to call timeout twice. The Lady Harvesters ended the game on an 8-2 run. Senior Natalie Parker said communicating and holding the momentum was key to the win.

"We started out talking and keeping the momentum on our side," Parker said. "It kind of shut the other team down."

In the second game, neither team could pull away until halfway through the game. Pampa went on a 4-1 run to open up a 12-8 lead. The Lady Harvesters kept slowly expanding their lead to win the second game by eight. Sophomore

Alanna Stephens said the team kind of coasted at the beginning of the game but picked it up in the end.

"We just realized that we got to do this and stopped coasting," Stephens said.

In the final game of the match, it was all Pampa from the start. The Lady Harvesters took a 6-0 lead and did not allow the Lady Longhorns to get closer than five. Pampa held a 20-6 lead prompting Caprock's coach to call a time out. Pampa scored five of the next eight points to win. Garza was pleased with how well her team played after coming off a tough loss at Dumas.

"It was really nice to see them perform at a high level and the level they should be performing at every day," Garza said. "We came in had a good week of practice. I think they took that loss to Dumas to heart and it fueled their fire tonight."

Senior Emilie Troxell said the team should carry over this victory on the road against Hereford on Tuesday.

"So far we've been struggling with that (winning on the road)," Troxell said. "But I think some of the drills we've been doing in practice helped keep the momentum when we're down. I think this should carry over to Hereford next week."

The junior varsity swept the Lady Longhorns (25-22, 25-17). In the first game Pampa and Caprock played close. The Lady Harvesters took a 10-7 lead but the Lady Longhorns went on a 5-0 run to take a 12-10

lead. Pampa trailed 17-13 before they took over the game. The Lady Harvesters scored five points in a row to take a 18-17 lead. Both teams exchanged points until Pampa pulled out a three point win.

The second game started close until the Harvesters pulled out to a four point lead midway through the game. But Caprock closed the gap to one, prompting Embry to call a timeout with Pampa leading 12-11. The Lady Harvesters responded and outscored Caprock 13-6 to complete the sweep. Embry said his team got the killer instinct in the second game and had the will to finish someone off.

"Basically we've had a long talk about when we get ahead we get too confident," Embry said. "I had to tell them once again we have to keep that killer instinct. We smell blood, we have to attack. You can't draw blood and give them a chance to recover."

The freshman swept Caprock (25-19 and 26-24) for their first district win. Coach Deanna Polasek was pleased with how her team played.

"We've been working hard in practice this week to really work on talking on our side and also work on talking about what's happening on the other side of the courts," Polasek said. "That keeps us focused and in the game. I thought they did a really good job of that."

The Lady Harvesters will travel to Hereford and take on the Lady Whitefaces on Tuesday.



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Delaney Clendening (jumping) sends a ball over the net in Pampa's victory over Caprock Saturday. The Lady Harvesters won their second district game.

## PHS tennis edged by Dons

**BY ANDREW GLOVER**  
aglover@thepampanews.com

In Palo Duro on Saturday, the Dons and Harvester tennis teams each won eight matches, and the team that won two out of the last three won the match.

The Dons won the final three matches giving Pampa their third straight district loss, 11-8.

Head Coach Sarah Corse said it was a tough loss for her team.

"Once again we had

some matches that could have gone our way," Corse said. "We beat them on the girls side and they beat us on the boys side."

The head coach said neither team really grabbed the momentum.

"The whole match we alternated victories," Corse said. "In the last three we had our chances but didn't win."

Corse was pleased with how her girls played.

"It was a team effort for the girls, they won seven of

nine matches," Corse said. Myles Foreman was the only boy to win a match for the Harvesters winning in his singles.

The JV Tennis team also played Palo Duro, winning 11-2.

The Harvesters' (3-9, 1-3) next match is 4 p.m. Tuesday hosting Dumas. Corse said this will be a tough match for her team.

"They have a lot of confidence," Corse said. "It will be pretty hard and we will do what we can to win."

## PHS boys CxC finishes 15th

**BY ANDREW GLOVER**  
aglover@thepampanews.com

For the first time in four years, Pampa High School ran a boys varsity cross country team, Saturday in Lubbock.

The team finished 15th. Miguel Tapia had the best time in the three-mile race with 18:13, which was

42nd overall. Enrique Mier finished 97th finishing the race in 20:43, Flavio Gonzalez finished 99th with a time of 20:48. Cole Chumbley was 108th with a time of 21:41, Ramon Portillo was 113th with a time of 22:49, and Trent McAnear was 115th with a time of 23:11.

In the junior varsity girls

two-mile race, Brittney Weatherford finished in 16:26, Renee Baggerman finished in 17:42 and Lyndi Whitson finished in 18:16. J'Cee Holmes was 28th in the varsity two-mile race with a time of 13:17.

The team's next meet is in Canadian on Saturday.

## Pampa Junior High volleyball recap

The Pampa 8th grade volleyball team hosted a tournament at Pampa Junior High on September 19, hosting Borger, Dalhart, Dumas and Perryton.

The A team won two matches against Dalhart

25-15, 25-17 and Perryton 25-12 and 25-20. Coach Kristi Petty said Bailey Wichert led the team in passing and serving. Kylee Metts was the leading hitter.

The 7th grade B team

beat Borger 25-10 and 25-13 on September 21. Petty said the team's leading servers were Taylor Smith and Krysten Miller. Savannah Mertz was the leading hitter.

## PHS girls golf wins 4th

**BY ANDREW GLOVER**  
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Girls Golf team won fourth in the triangular match held at Hidden Hills Golf Course on Saturday.

The Lady Harvesters (406) not only finished fourth but they finished third out of their district opponents. Randall (361)

and Caprock (392) were the only teams that finished ahead of Pampa and finished first and second in the tournament. Pampa was only four strokes behind Borger who finished third.

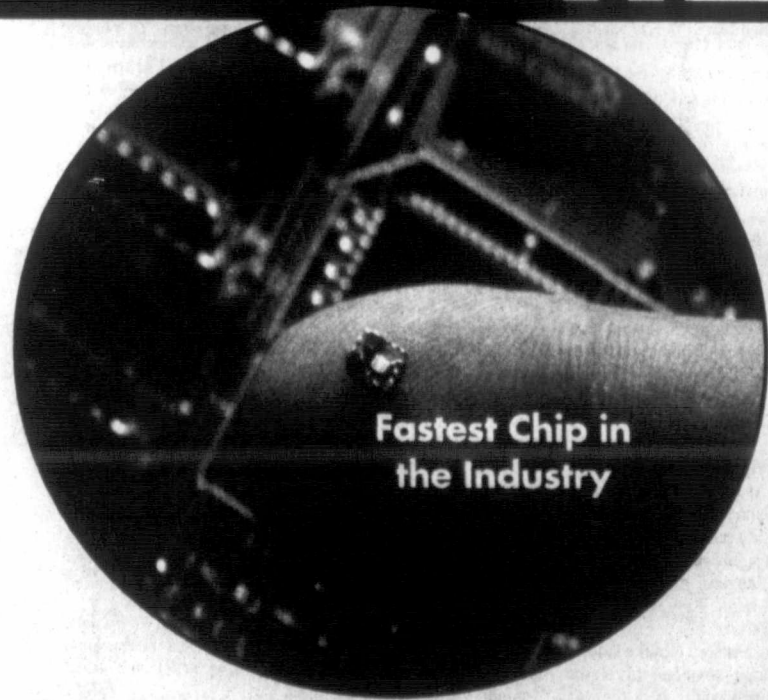
Lindsey Brown had the best score for the Lady Harvesters shooting a 94. Liz Hoelting shot a 99, Samantha Kelly and Cori Cook shot a 106, and

Sydney Hoelting shot a 116, to complete Pampa's score. Tamara Klusmeyer also competed and shot a 137. Coach Alan Segura said his girls are improving.

"They have improved 55 strokes in three weeks," Segura said.

The girls next match is the Dumas Triangular in Dumas.

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