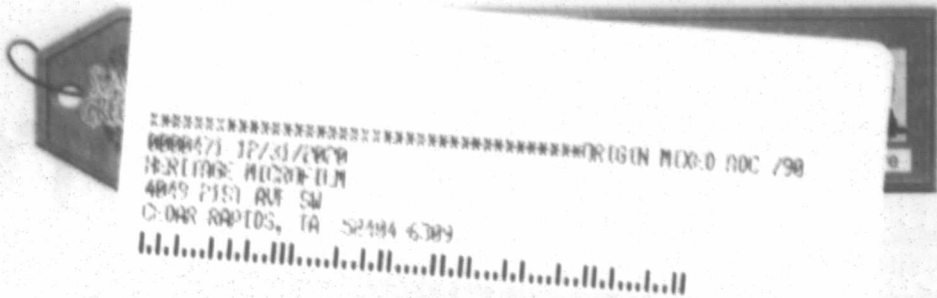


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Early Santa visit



staff photo by David Bowser

Santa arrived early at the Cabot & NOI Employees Credit Union Wednesday. Greeting by students from the White Deer kindergarten and first grade, Santa took requests for a varieties of books and toys from all the good little boys and girls.

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County Clerk running for re-election



County Clerk Susan Winborne has filed to run for re-election to the post.

BY DAVID BOWSER
dbowser@thepampanews.com

Susan Winborne has brought the Gray County Clerk's Office into the 21st Century.

Winborne, first elected county clerk in 1998, is running for reelection next fall.

A 1969 graduate of Pampa High School, she graduated from a two-year secretarial school at West Texas State University in May, 1971, and earned an associate degree from Clarendon College in 1992. She's completed the continuing education requirements for county clerk.

Winborne said that during the past decade she has computerized all the functions of her office and expanded access to records for the public. Citizens can now print birth certificates from all counties in the state through her office.

from as far back as 1983 can be viewed on computer, and she is continuing the process of scanning older records and putting them on compact discs.

She's implemented the use of electronic voting machines in Gray County elections and helped get legislation passed creating the position of joint election administrator in the county, the first county in the state to have such a position.

Winborne serves on the County Clerk's Handbook Committee of the County and District Clerk's Association and serves on the organization's educational panel a area and state conferences and seminars.

"I have considered it my privilege to serve the citizens of Gray County as county clerk for the past 11 years," Winborne said. "I

CLERK cont. on page 3

New film tells story of Pampa teen's cancer battle

"A Greater Yes" released on DVD

From PureFlix Entertainment comes the inspiring story of a young woman from Pampa, Texas, whose life was ultimately lost, but not defined, by cancer. A Greater Yes is based on the true story of Amy Newhouse and will be released nationally on DVD December 15 through EMI CMG Distribution.

After becoming one of Pampa High School's most popular students and taking her volleyball team to the state championship, Amy Newhouse found herself in the midst of the biggest battle of her life — terminal cancer. When her classmates

and community rally around her, the cancer seems to miraculously disappear. However, soon the unthinkable happens and Amy discovers that the deadly disease has returned and is incurable.

The second time around leaves the community feeling hopeless, and Amy left alone to deal with certain death. She continues to believe God for her healing, and a mildly surprising turn of events reveals that despite the outcome, He always has A Greater Yes.

Anne Underwood, who plays the part of Amy, comments on the challenge of her role:

"I took this role very seriously and

FILM cont. on page 3

One dead, one hurt in shooting at adult center

EDINBURG, Texas (AP) — A shooting at a crowded adult day care center in Edinburg has left one elderly man dead and the alleged gunman wounded.

Edinburg police say the suspect allegedly refused to surrender when officers arrived at the Pride & Joy Adult Day Care complex after the shooting around 9:30 a.m. Thursday. Police say an officer then shot the suspect.

Witness Irma Garcia told KGBT-TV that she and almost 100 people were inside the adult day care at the time of the shooting. Garcia says the gunman told everyone to leave or he would kill them all.

The name of the elderly man who was shot and killed was not immediately released.

Paramedics transported the suspect to a hospital.

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For the record

PAMPA FORECAST

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
High 51 Low 27	High 49 Low 26	High 52 Low 24

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 30. Wind chill values between 22 and 27. North northwest wind around 10 mph.

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 51. Wind chill values between 20 and 30 early. North northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 27. Wind chill values between 20 and 25. North northwest wind around 10 mph.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 49. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 26. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southwest.

Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 52. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 24. North northeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

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EMERGENCY SERVICES

SHERIFF

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests during the period ending at 8 a.m. today.

Tuesday, Dec. 15.
 Stephen Tyler Timmons, 25, Wheeler, was arrested by Gray County deputies on charges of possession of a firearm by a felon.

Mitchell Don Stapleton, 40, Panhandle, was arrested by Texas Department of Public Safety troopers on charges of driving while intoxicated.

Steven Wilson Rivera, 43, was arrested by Pampa police on bond surrenders on charges of burglary of a habitat, possession of a controlled substance, criminal mischief and a warrant charging him with driving without a license.

Wednesday, Dec. 16.
 Zachary Wade Skinner, 24, was arrested on charges of carrying a prohibited weapon.

Boyd Joe Vardy, 47, Midland, was arrested by Pampa police on charges of driving while license invalid.

Thursday, Dec. 17.
 Johnathan Frank Athey, 25, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of driving while intoxicated.

The Pampa Police PAMPA PD

Department reported the following calls in the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. Wednesday.

Officers reported nine traffic-related incidents and one accident.

Animal control officers reported six calls.

Obituaries

Bernice Riley Musgrave, 77

Amarillo, Texas—Bernice Riley Musgrave, 77, died December 15, 2009, in Amarillo, Texas.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, December 19, 2009, at Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel in Pampa, with Rev. Fred Palmer, pastor of the Carpenter's Church of Pampa, officiating.

Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery in Pampa, under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Bernice was born August 12, 1932 in Gerty, Oklahoma, and came to Pampa in 1933 from Gerty.

She was a 1950 graduate of Pampa High School and attended Draughon's Business College in Amarillo. She married Paul Musgrave on February 18, 1960 in Pampa. She and her husband owned and operated Pampa Warehouse and Transfer and Atlama Moving and Storage from 1961 until her retirement in 1995.

Bernice was a supporter of the Carpenter's Church in Pampa. She had been a resident of Amarillo since September of 2007. She was preceded in death by two sons, Rick Musgrave and Kevin Musgrave; her parents, Jessie and Carrie

Riley; a sister, LaNora Stidham; and two brothers, Olon Riley and Sam Riley.

Survivors include her husband, Paul Musgrave of the home; two daughters, Nicki Jelinek and husband Jerry of Houston, and Mickie Frenzel and husband Charles of Amarillo; one son, Jesse Musgrave and companion Traci Peters of Houston; 10 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

MEMORIALS: Pampa Optimist Club, P.O. Box 802, Pampa, Texas 79066-0802, Carpenter's Church, P.O. Box 1476, Pampa, Texas 79066-1476, Hospice Care of



Musgrave

the Southwest, 1301 S. Coulter, Suite 404, Amarillo, Texas 79106, or a favorite charity.

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

Paul Payne, 86

Pampa—Paul Payne, 86, died December 16, 2009, in McLean, Texas.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, December 18, 2009, at Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel, with The Rev. Dr. Jerry R. Lane, pastor of United Methodist Church of White Deer, officiating.

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

Mr. Payne was born July 22, 1923 in Byers. He graduated from Texas Tech University. He taught Agriculture in Claude and worked in the Pampa Independent School District for many years, teaching Agriculture from 1950-1960, serving as principal at Pampa Junior High School from 1960-1972 and Pampa High School from 1973-1985, retiring in 1993. He

married LaNelle Brown on July 15, 1952 in Pampa. He was dearly loved and will be deeply missed.

Survivors include his wife, LaNelle Payne of the home; a son: Sidney Paul Payne and wife Beth of Leander; daughter: Alison Cagle and husband Jack of Pampa; 5 grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.



Payne

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

Larry Gilbert Petty, 83

Pampa—Larry Gilbert Petty, 83, died December 16, 2009, Pampa, Texas.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Gilbert was born February 8, 1926 in Russell, Arkansas to Ernest C. and Lou Petty, and moved to Electra, Texas at the age of two. He attended school in Harold and Electra, and later attended watchmaking school at Midwestern University in Wichita Falls. After college graduation in 1942, he worked at Branigan Jewelry in

Memphis until 1952, when he went to work for Natural Gas Pipeline, retiring on January 1, 1983. Gilbert was a veteran of the U. S. Navy. He married Bobbye Jean Bryan on April 25, 1943. He was baptized in 1955 and attended Hobart Baptist Church. Gilbert loved the outdoors and was an avid fisherman.

Survivors include his wife of 66 years, Bobbye Petty of the home; daughter, Donna Duvall and husband Ronnie of Pampa; son, Larry Petty and wife Kristi of Pampa; one sister,

Jo Ann Bentley and husband Charles of Wichita Falls; three brothers, John Petty and wife Nancy of Amarillo, Tony Petty and wife Helen of North Richland Hills, and Mickey Petty and wife Sherry of Bowie; 10 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews; and a large extended family. Gilbert was preceded in death by his parents and a sister.

MEMORIALS: Hobart Baptist Church, 1100 W. Crawford, Pampa, Texas 79065, or American



Petty

Cancer Society, c/o Gerry Caylor, 2130 Charles, Pampa, Texas 79065.

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

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Pampa EMS reported nine ambulance runs.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 1000 block of West Wilks.

A 911 hangup call was reported in the 400 block of Ballard.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1100 block of South Nelson.

An abandoned vehicle was reported in the 400 block of North Ballard.

An assault was reported in the 2400 block of North Charles.

A theft was reported in the 1000 of South Wells. Found property was reported at Browning and Magnolia.

Identity theft was reported in the 500 block of South Gray.

A 911 hangup call was

reported in the 1300 block of North Hobart.

Officers performed a welfare check in the 700 block of South Somerville.

A suspicious person was reported in the 1100 block

of Willow Road.

A theft was reported in the 2800 block of North Charles.

A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 900 block of South Wilcox.

Officers attempted to serve a legal papers in the 900 of East Francis.

Officers made a welfare check in the 800 block of North Dwight.

LAST MINUTE ADS

The Pampa News is not responsible for the content of paid advertisement

ANGELS, ANGELS, we have Salvation Army Angels for you to choose from on our Christmas Tree! Items should be returned unwrapped on or before Dec. 19th. Come by The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison, pick an angel & make someone's Christmas brighter this year! We are open Mon.-Fri., 8am-4pm. Merry Christmas from The Pampa News!!

COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN School has limited openings for Pre-K, beginning Jan. 2010. 1800 W. Harvester, 806-665-3393

PACK-N-MAIL will be open Sat., Dec. 19th, from 10-3pm. for your shopping, packing & shipping needs.

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The Pampa News

Natural gas surges on record supply drop

NEW YORK (AP) — Natural gas prices jumped Thursday after the government reported that supplies fell by the largest amount ever for this time of year as frigid weather chilled parts of the Midwest and Northeast.

A wintry mix of rain and snow kept heaters cranked on high, consuming large stores of natural gas in some of the country's largest markets like Chicago.

Still, the amount of gas in storage remains 14 percent above the five-year average for this time of year.

The Energy Information Administration said the country's supply of natural gas dropped by 207 billion cubic feet last week, the most ever for this time of year, according to analyst Stephen Schork.

"It was brutally cold," Schork said. "People have been saying for so long that natural gas is due for a rally and they've been wrong all year long. But with a big draw, I expect prices to move higher."

The natural gas contract for January delivery climbed 33.4 cents, about 6 percent, to \$5.796 per 1,000 cubic feet on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Natural gas prices had slumped all year as the economy struggled to pull itself from recession. Supplies finally started falling this month, but only after underground storage caverns were crammed to near capacity.

Energy prices tend to rise when the weather cools, and this year is no different. Natural gas prices have doubled since September, but they're only slightly more expensive than a year ago.

Meanwhile, benchmark crude for January delivery gave up \$1.14 to \$71.52 a barrel. In London, Brent crude for February delivery fell \$1.72 to \$72.57 on the ICE Futures exchange.

At the pump, retail gas prices have been falling for more than a week. They dipped less than a penny overnight to a new national average of \$2.59 a gallon, according to auto club AAA, Wright Express and Oil Price Information Service. A gallon of regular unleaded is 3.7 cents cheaper than a month ago, but they're still 92.3 cents more expensive than the same time last year.

County's tree



staff photo by **David Bowser**
Jeanne Horton of the Gray County Clerk's office decorates the Christmas tree in the county courtroom in preparation for today's luncheon. The courthouse was closed from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. today so the Gray County employees could have a luncheon to celebrate the holidays.

Clerk

cont. from page 1

hope to continue serving the citizens in the capacity for another four years."

She has been married to Danny Winborne for the past 39 years and has two children, Lisa and Matt, and three grandchildren, K'Lyn King, 15, Hailee King, 13, and Canyon Winborne, 3.

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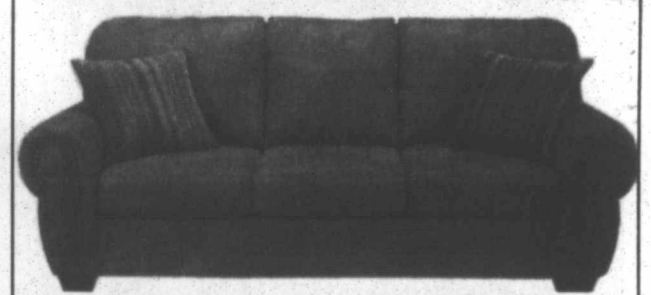
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tried to do justice to Amy's incredible life in every way that I could. There were days when, after going through make-up, I almost didn't recognize myself. While I was able to wash off the sickness and bruises at the end of the day, there are so many people who go through the real-life pain of this disease, including loved ones close to me. My heart was broken, while at the same time wishful and hopeful for a cure."

Filmmaker Bradley Dorsey, who created this inspiring movie about Newhouse's life, also plays Amy's high school boyfriend in the film. He shares what motivated him: "I had the opportunity to attend Amy's funeral in 1999, and felt like God was telling me that I would make a movie about her life one day. I knew her story would touch more people than she ever thought possible. Throughout her life, Amy changed thousand of lives for the better, but through this film I believe her story will inspire millions."

The DVD, which

cont. from page 1
includes bonus featurettes including "The Making Of," "Trailers," and "Commentary," became available at all major Christian stores on December 15.



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Today in History

Today is Thursday, Dec. 17, the 351st day of 2009. There are 14 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 17, 1903, Wilbur and Orville Wright of Dayton, Ohio, conducted the first successful man-powered airplane flights, near Kitty Hawk, N.C., using their experimental craft, the Wright Flyer.

On this date:

In 1777, France recognized American independence.

In 1830, South American patriot Simon Bolivar died in Colombia.

In 1939, the German pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee was scuttled by its crew, ending the World War II Battle of the River Plate off Uruguay.

In 1957, the United States successfully test-fired the Atlas intercontinental ballistic missile for the first time.

In 1959, Stanley Kramer's anti-nuclear war drama "On the Beach," starring Gregory Peck and Ava Gardner, premiered on all seven continents (including Antarctica).

In 1969, the U.S. Air Force closed its Project "Blue Book" by concluding there was no evidence of extraterrestrial spaceships behind thousands of UFO sightings.

'A fool and his money are soon parted, but you never call him a fool until the money is gone.'

— Anonymous

An estimated 50 million viewers watched singer Tiny Tim marry his fiancée, Miss Vicky, on NBC's "Tonight Show."

In 1989, the animated TV series "The Simpsons" premiered on Fox with a Christmas-themed episode.

Today's Birthdays:

Actor Armin Mueller-Stahl is 79. Magazine publisher Bob Guccione is 79. Actor George Lindsey is 74. Singer-actor Tommy Steele is 73. Rock singer-musician Art Neville is 72. Actor Christopher Cazenove is 66. Actor Bernard Hill is 65. Actor Ernie Hudson is 64. MSNBC political commentator Chris Matthews is 64. Comedian-actor Eugene Levy is 63. Actress Marilyn Hassett is 62. Actor Wes Studi is 62. Rock singer Paul Rodgers is 60. Actor Bill Pullman is 56. Actor Barry Livingston is 56. Country singer Sharon White is 56. Producer-director-writer Peter Farrelly is 53. Rock musician Mike Mills (R.E.M.) is 51. Pop singer Sarah Dallin (Bananarama) is 48. Country musician Tim Chewning is 47. Country singer Tracy Byrd is 43. Country musician Duane Propes is 43. DJ Homicide (Sugar Ray) is 39. Actor Sean Patrick Thomas is 39. Pop-rock musician Eddie Fisher (OneRepublic) is 36. Actress Sarah Paulson is 35. Actress Marissa Ribisi is 35. Actor Giovanni Ribisi is 35. Actress Milla Jovovich is 34. Singer Bree Sharp is 34. Actress Jennifer Carpenter is 30.

DPS asks: Please drive safely during this holiday season

The Christmas and New Year's holidays will see all available DPS troopers patrolling Texas roadways in an attempt to make travel safer for all Texans. Troopers will be focusing on locating drivers who may be intoxicated, but also will be looking for speeders and seatbelt violators.

All available troopers will be on patrol from Thursday, December 24 through Sunday, December 27, and again on Thursday, December 31 through Sunday, January 3.

During the Christmas holiday last year, DPS troopers arrested 651 drivers for DWI and issued 15,400 speeding tickets

and 2,580 safety restraint violations. During the New Year's holiday last year, DPS troopers arrested 304 drivers for DWI and issued 5,173 speeding tickets and 912 safety restraint violations.

"We want to do all we can to minimize the number of traffic crashes and fatalities during this holiday season. Texas drivers can do their part by designating a sober driver if they've consumed any alcohol. The holidays are no time to spend in jail, but we will arrest any driver who is impaired," said David Baker, assistant director for the Texas Highway Patrol. DPS offers the following

advice for holiday travel:

- Drive with courtesy; it's contagious. Remember, it's the holidays!!!
- Slow down—especially in bad weather, construction areas and heavy traffic.
- Don't drink and drive; get a designated driver.

• Buckle up everyone in the vehicle.

- Keep cell phone chatter to a minimum, and avoid texting.
- Avoid drowsy driving.
- Make sure your vehicle is properly maintained.

A&M's Byrne says audit findings corrected

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — An internal audit says the Texas A&M athletic department needs to do better when dealing with money.

The San Antonio Express-News reported Thursday that the 25-page report said the department "requires significant improvement in its financial controls and processes."

Auditors from the A&M system concentrated on September 2007 to December 2008.

A&M athletic director Bill Byrne, in his online column, said auditors

found that the department had limited monitoring of, and limited accountability for, daily financial operations.

Byrne, who became AD in 2002, says many audit recommendations are now in place or will be shortly. Byrne says he is confident that "our business operations are being conducted effectively and efficiently today."

The report notes more than \$2.5 million in revenues and expenses were not included in the department's fiscal 2008 statements.

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Mother's day out



First Christian Church MDO, Miss Amy's class of 4 and 5 year olds trimming their classroom tree. Left to right are Yena C., Valori S., Piper L., Lance D., Kevein K., Amy McDowell, Brooklyn S., Gabby T., Joelee B., and Olivia R.

Nonprofit workshops coming to Pampa

The Nonprofit Service Center of the Amarillo Area Foundation has scheduled three workshops in Pampa during 2010 to benefit area nonprofit organizations. Katharyn Wiegand, Director of the Nonprofit Service Center and Patricia Ward, CFRE, Nonprofit Consultant, will facilitate the workshops.

The cost for each workshop is only \$25 per per-

son (including lunch) thanks to underwriting from the David D. and Nona S. Payne Foundation. Nonprofit staff members, board members and volunteers are encouraged to attend. Space is limited to 40 participants for each workshop.

The first workshop, Board Governance, will be held on Tuesday, January 12, 2009 from 9:00 AM

to 3:00 PM. Session topics include responsibilities of board members, the board's role in fundraising, the board/executive director relationship, and strategic planning.

The second workshop, Introduction to Fundraising, is scheduled for Tuesday, May 11, 2010 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. This session will cover basics of nonprofit fund-

raising, challenges in rural fundraising, the Donor Bill of Rights and Code of Ethics, and creating a case for support for fundraising appeals.

The third workshop, Keys to Fundraising Success, will be held on Tuesday, September 14, 2010 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Areas of discussion include grant research, grant writing, and creating an annual development plan.

All workshop sessions will be held in the Greater Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce building at 200 N. Ballard. To register or receive additional information about the workshops, call or e-mail Katharyn Wiegand at 806-376-4521 or katharyn@aaf-hf.org



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: It's that time of year again when parents take their kids to see Santa. As a professional Santa's helper for many years, may I offer some suggestions?

Let your children approach Santa on their own. Do not force your child to sit on Santa's lap. Santa has been seen in books and on TV, but he is now real, big and loud. That can be scary to a child. If he or she wants to stand at a distance and talk to Santa, that is OK. Sometimes just holding the child and standing next to Santa is all it takes for a child to warm up to the idea of sitting on his lap.

If your little one is upset and you want a picture with Santa, have someone else snap the photo while you stand by your child. Let Santa talk to your children while you hold their hands. Santa (if any good) will pace the visit and stop it if it's taking too long. If children are afraid, do not let Santa grab at them to put them on his lap. That will only make the problem worse.

I hope this helps to make the visit easier. -- **SANTA'S HELPER IN CENTRAL ILLINOIS**

DEAR SANTA'S HELPER: Ho-ho-ho! Thank you for being ABBY's helper today. I hope parents will take your sound suggestions to heart when introducing their little ones to the jolly man in the red suit.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a retired waitress who worked for years in a family restaurant. Many elderly people would come in alone, and I could see they were hungry for conversation as well as food, so I'd talk to them as much as possible.

As the restaurant became more crowded, I had less time to chat, so I set up a table for four and asked the seniors if

they might like to sit at the "senior table." So many of the customers said yes that it turned into a table for 12!

It would be great if restaurants would set up senior tables so everyone could have a dinner partner if they wanted to visit. It's also a great way to make new friends. Now that I'm a senior myself I notice a lot of us sit alone, watching families enjoy being together. -- **KATHY IN BREMERTON, WASH.**

DEAR KATHY: You're a sweet and compassionate woman. A few years ago I heard about some restaurants here in Los Angeles offering a "community dining" table for singles -- but they were intended to help young singles mingle. Your idea of a table for solo seniors is a good one, and I hope restaurateurs agree and give it a try. Food tastes better when it's seasoned with good fellowship.

DEAR ABBY: My ex-wife recently remarried and has decided to keep my last name and hyphenate it with her new husband's. She says she's doing it "for the sake of our children."

I don't buy that for a minute, Abby. She was unfaithful many times during our marriage, and I want her to stop using my name so some dignity and honor can be restored to it.

Do you agree that she should drop my name, or does she have a right to it? -- **WANTS MY NAME BACK IN MAINE**

DEAR WANTS: Although I understand your anger, try to take comfort in the fact that your ex still finds prestige in the association with you. Honor and dignity will be restored to your name by the way you and the children conduct yourselves in the future.

P.S. As long as your ex is not trying to defraud anyone, she has the right to use the name you gave her. Accept it and move on.

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Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Intermediate

MERRY CHRISTMAS

During this holiday season and every day of the year, we wish you all the best.

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Excel presents a check for the Create-a-Beat program at Hi-Land Christian Church, left to right are Cherylann Moore, Julie Long and Pat Rendon.

Xcel Energy awards local nonprofit grant

AMARILLO — The Xcel Energy Foundation is awarding \$177,300 in grant funding to nonprofit groups in Texas and New Mexico.

The grants are being made through the Arts & Culture and also the Environmental focus areas of the Xcel Energy Foundation, which grants money to nonprofit agencies working in towns and cities served by Xcel Energy.

"One of our responsibilities to our customers is to be a partner in the development of our communities," said Riley Hill, president and CEO of Southwestern Public Service Company, an Xcel Energy company. "A vibrant arts community and a healthy environment are two indicators of a successful community, and we are privileged to play a role in this success."

Other focus areas for the Foundation are education

and economic sustainability, which were completed during the first half of the year. The Foundation also matches United Way contributions dollar for dollar and matches employee gifts to non-profit agencies dollar for dollar, Hill said.

In Pampa CREATE a Beat area nonprofit received Arts and Culture funding.

Dallas utility workers sue alleging discrimination

DALLAS (AP) — Thirteen city of Dallas employees have filed a lawsuit alleging ethnic discrimination and retaliation.

The plaintiffs filed their suit Wednesday. They include black, Hispanic and Asian workers of Dallas Water Utilities.

A statement by the city of Dallas says officials have not yet reviewed the allegations. But deny the unlawful conduct.

The employees say they were threatened, verbally harassed and intimidated by racist graffiti written on bathroom walls.

The city says some of the allegations date back seven years and corrective measures were taken then. The statement also says the Department of Justice declined to file a lawsuit in the case.

Christmas Eve services at First Presbyterian Church

Everyone is invited to First Presbyterian to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the light of the world! At 5:00 pm we will have a Family Friendly Service. Children are invited to come dressed as their favorite character from the Christmas Story. Christmas hymns will be sung and the story of Jesus' birth will

be told. The children will be invited to come to the front as their character is mentioned.

At 11:00 p.m. we will have a Traditional Candlelight Service.

Everyone is invited to come for lessons and carols as we hear the Christmas story read and respond by singing some of our favor-

ite traditional Christmas hymns. We will hear the word proclaimed and then celebrate the Lord's Supper. We will conclude by singing Silent Night by candlelight.

If you are looking for a place to worship on Christmas Eve, you are welcome to join us for one or both of these services.



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Gray County's Hometown Newspaper

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THE PAMPA NEWS

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SELL IT FAST IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR Daily Horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, Dec. 18, 2009:
This year, you have a unique opportunity to express some of your ideas. For some, your concepts might feel a bit revolutionary. Many people find you to be exciting. The status quo could rapidly change, especially involving your home, domestic life and family. Don't automatically assume it is for the worse! You could opt to take a class or increase your knowledge in your field. If you are single, you'll draw your fair share of admirers. The real issue is choosing the right person. If you are attached, the two of you might make a major purchase that will improve your bond. CAPRICORN understands money differently than you. Learn from the Goat.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
**** Finally, you are able to clarify a situation with the boss. You might be surprised by what is shared. The unexpected occurs within your immediate circle. You are full of energy as the workday ends. A family member could push you too hard. Tonight: A must do.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
***** You might be thinking about new possibilities. The issue might be that you aren't getting anything done. Stop. Anchor. Try to get out of work early since your heart (and mind) really isn't there. A friend could surprise you. Tonight: Take in new vistas.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
***** Relate directly to a partner or various associates. You'll get a lot done if you stay focused on one issue at a time. Finally, someone opens up and is able to share more and get down to basics. Tonight: Dinner for two.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
***** Defer to someone who is more verbal and carries a sense of authority. Relax and take care of what needs to be handled directly. Others come up with great ideas out of the blue. Tonight: Just don't start the weekend alone!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
*** How you project yourself could be quite different from your usual self. Others respond with a lot more information than in the past. A steady and even approach has enormous impact. Examine what is happening behind the scenes. Tonight: Join co-workers.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
***** Your imagination knows no limits. Evaluate and consider your options with greater care and direction. The unexpected runs wild, and you have little opportunity to follow through on the unnecessary. Tonight: Do it. Let your hair down and play the night away.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
*** Your focus needs to be on home and family. If possible, take a personal day. The unexpected could make you more nervous or high-strung than necessary. How you handle someone changes rapidly. Tonight: Head home, maybe invite a friend over.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
***** Open your eyes to what is going on around you. Honor what is happening between you and another person. Finally, the lines of communication are open. A child or potential new loved one could surprise you. Tonight: Start the weekend as you would most like.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
** Knowing when to slow down and say little might be more important than you realize. A family member knows how to shake up the status quo. Discuss a financial matter more openly. If you need to, find an expert. Tonight: Your treat.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
***** You might not notice, but others discover a newfound clarity when speaking to you. You could be surprised by someone's attitude and how rapidly everything changes in your interpersonal bonds. Tonight: Choose a favorite person to celebrate Friday night with.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
** Take a much-needed day of rest. You could question how much more you can put up with. If you can skip out of work early, please do. Think positively about an upcoming change. Tonight: Head home. You need some R and R.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
**** Encourage others to visualize more. A meeting could be more instrumental than you originally thought. Though at times others distance themselves from you because of your quirkiness, they find your surprising ways fun. Tonight: Where your friends are.

BORN TODAY
Actress Katie Holmes (1978), actor Brad Pitt (1963), singer Christina Aguilera (1980)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at www.jacquelinebigar.com.
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AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

12-17 CRYPTOQUOTE

SMSXCUJAEB UJNU JNWWSEQ,
JNWWSEQ NQ AU QJRKHY, NEY
AL CRK RVQXSMS GNXSLKHHC,
CRK ZAHH LAEY UJAQ UR VS
QR. — ONXGKQ NKXSHAKQ
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: BEING BROKE IS A TEMPORARY SITUATION; BEING POOR IS A STATE OF MIND. — MIKE TODD

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2004 Ford 350 XLT Diesel, Automatic. Ranch hand bumper, single rear, mag wheels, good tires. 43,000 miles with or w/o DewEze bell bed. 2000 lb trip hopper cake feeder. 806-658-2278 or 806-435-0186.

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Sports

Pirates receive all-region honors after 9-2 season

BY ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

After a 9-2 season and back-to-back district championships the Lefors Pirates received all-region honors for region one in football.

Keenan Lott was named as the most valuable player

for Region 1. Head Coach Joey Czubinski aka "Coach Ski" was named coach of the year for district one. Senior utility back Trever Czubinski made first team offense. Senior wide receiver Wakely Pairsh made second team offense.

On defense, senior lineman Seth Fry and junior

cornerback Cody Hess made second team defense. Coach Ski was pleased with his players that made it.

"I got all of my best players in there," Coach Ski said. "All of them are very deserving."

Coach Ski said he was surprised when he found

out that he got coach of the year.

"I'm happy and shocked to see this," Coach Ski said. "(Mike) Bigham (Motley County's coach) said 12 coaches were up for it from all these schools."

Other players from Lefors' district receiving all region honors are

Candido Mejia, Ian Smith, Grant Floyd, Seth Boone, and Jared Roberts received first team offense honors all from Miami. Brandon Benton from Hedley and Trey Granades from Samnorwood made first team defense. Reid Copelin and Danny Garcia from Hedley made second team

offense. Tight end Trey Wright from Samnorwood also made second team offense. Jacob Torres from Groom was the only Tiger receiving all region honors making second team defense. Samnorwood's punter Junior Gonzalez also made second team defense.

SOCCER TEAM PRACTICING



staff photo by Andrew Glover
Cecilia Alonzo (yellow) kicks the ball in practice Monday with Kelsey Bagley (behind) defending and Cheyenne Young upfield. The soccer teams are led by John True.

8th grade girls fall on final day of tourney

BY ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Junior High eighth grade teams lose to Canyon Monday at Pampa Junior High.

The A team (2-6) lost 42-10. Coach Jim McDaniel said the team had 28 turnovers shot 40 percent from the free throw line and 17 percent in two-point field goals. Pampa had 19 rebounds with Krysten Miller leading the team with six. Savanna Mertz had five. Kylee Metts and Bailey Dixon each had three, Jessie Dixon and Alexa O'Brien each had one. Mertz and O'Brien each had one assist. Miller led the team in steals with four, Metts had three, O'Brien

Lady Harvesters vs. Lubbock Estacado at home Friday. JV starts at 5 p.m. and varsity starts at 6:30

had two, and Jessie Dixon had one.

The B team (1-7) lost 59-13. McDaniel said the team had 33 turnovers, shot 44 percent from the free throw line and 15 percent in two-point field goals.

Emily Terry led the team in rebounds with four, Ashlee Keith and Sandra Ramos each had three. Mattie Eldridge had one assist and also led the team in steals with one. Terry and Macy Cochran also had one.

7th grade girls swept by Eagles

BY ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

The seventh grade girls basketball teams fall to the Canyon Eagles Monday at Pampa Junior High.

The A team lost 65-10.

Taylor Eubank led the team in scoring with eight points and Caragan Niccum scored the other two. Eubank led the team in rebounds with four. Allison Nobles and Niccum each had three.

Eubank led the team in steals with two. Niccum, Noble and Hernandez each had one.

The B team lost 53-16. Ty'Randa Johnson and Kristina Brown led the

team in scoring with seven points each. Johnson led the team in rebounds with six, Elizabeth Gill had four. Johnson led the team in steals with seven.

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Sports

McLean Lady Tigers win and Tigers fall vs. Arbor Lions



Submitted by Mike Haynes
The McLean basketball teams split a doubleheader in Amarillo Tuesday night with the Lady Tigers defeating Arbor Christian Academy, 59-49, and the Tigers falling to Arbor's boys, 47-28.

Sheri Haynes scored a season-high 34 points as the McLean girls led Arbor all the way. Alexis Menefield had 15 points for the Lady

Tigers. McLean led at each quarter break by 18-13, 26-21 and 40-31.

Jordan Herring led the McLean boys with 13 points, followed by Isaac Martin with 7. The Tigers trailed at the quarter breaks by 10-5, 17-11 and 27-20.

Both teams will play in the Valley Tournament beginning Thursday.

Sheri Haynes (5) drives for two of her 34 points Tuesday night against Arbor Christian Academy. The Lady Tigers won 59-49. (Submitted photo)

8th grade girls fall to Eagles

BY ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Junior High eighth grade teams lose to Canyon Monday at Pampa Junior High.

The A team (2-6) lost 42-10. Coach Jim McDaniel said the team had 28 turnovers shot 40 percent from the free throw line and 17 percent in two-point field goals. Pampa had 19 rebounds with Krysten Miller leading the team with six. Savanna Mertz had five, Kylee Metts and Bailey Dixon each had three, Jessie Dixon and Alexa O'Brien each had one.

Mertz and O'Brien each had one assist. Miller led the team in steals with four, Metts had three, O'Brien had two, and Jessie Dixon had one.

The B team (1-7) lost 59-13. McDaniel said the team had 33 turnovers, shot 44 percent from the free throw line and 15 percent in two-point field goals. Emily Terry led the team in rebounds with four, Ashlee Keith and Sandra Ramos each had three. Mattie Eldrige had one assist and also led the team in steals with one. Terry and Macy Cochran also had one.

Fr. Boys 1-2 at Borger Tourney

BY ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

The freshman boys basketball team won their first game of the season in the Borger freshmen tournament Thursday through Saturday.

The Harvesters defeated Wellington 64-48. Trey Teel led the team in scoring with 11. Ryan Smith and Jonathan Cox each scored 10.

Pampa lost to the host team Borger 54-41. Nick

Johnson had eight, Terry Davis had six, and Jordan Lemons and Tyler Powell each had five.

The Harvesters (1-6) lost their last game of the tournament 54-36 to Dalhart. Teel led the team in scoring with eight points, Taylor Woods had six, Lemons and Smith each had five. Coach Del Smith said his team played good but just turned the ball over too

much in their two losses.

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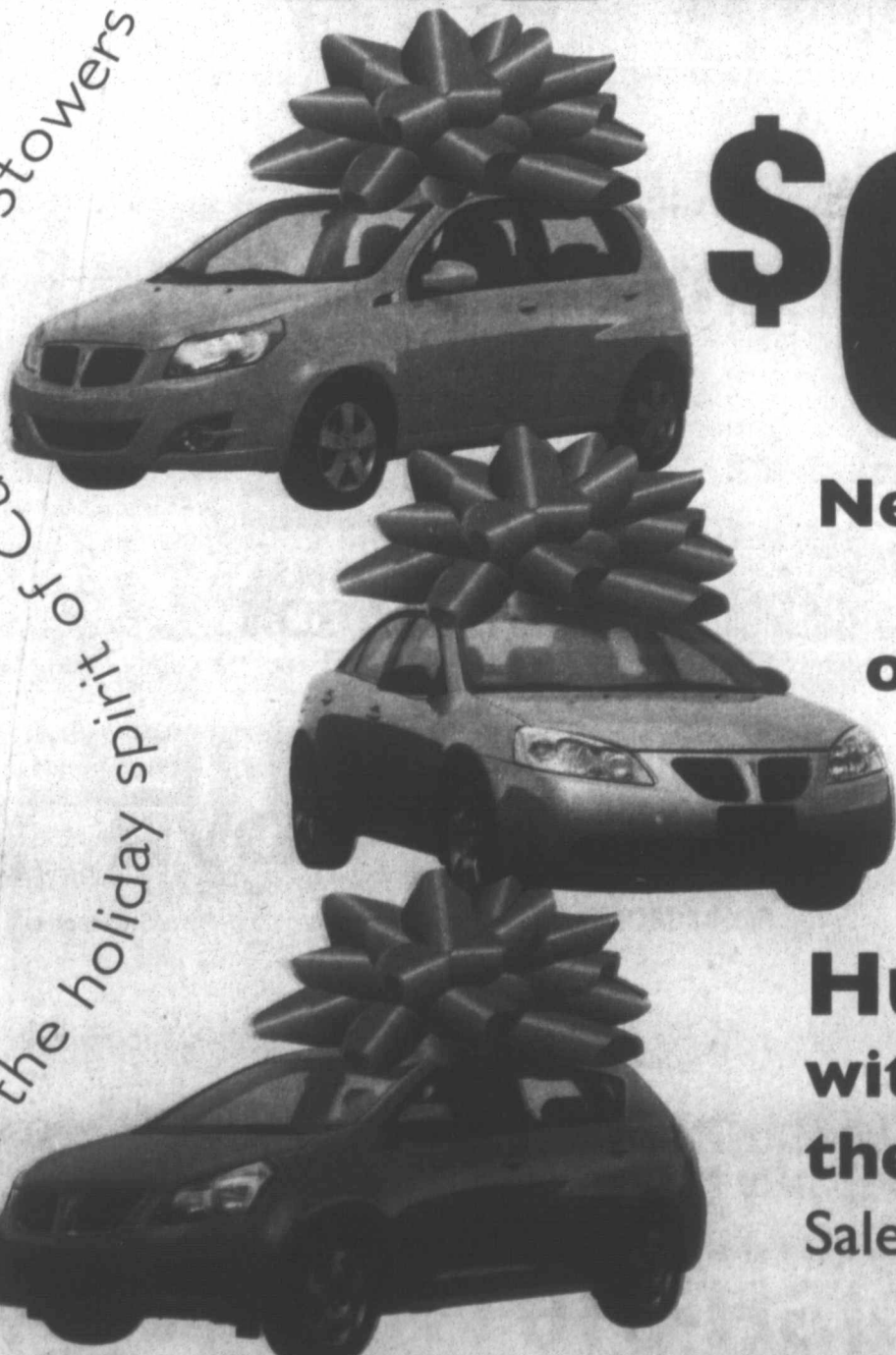
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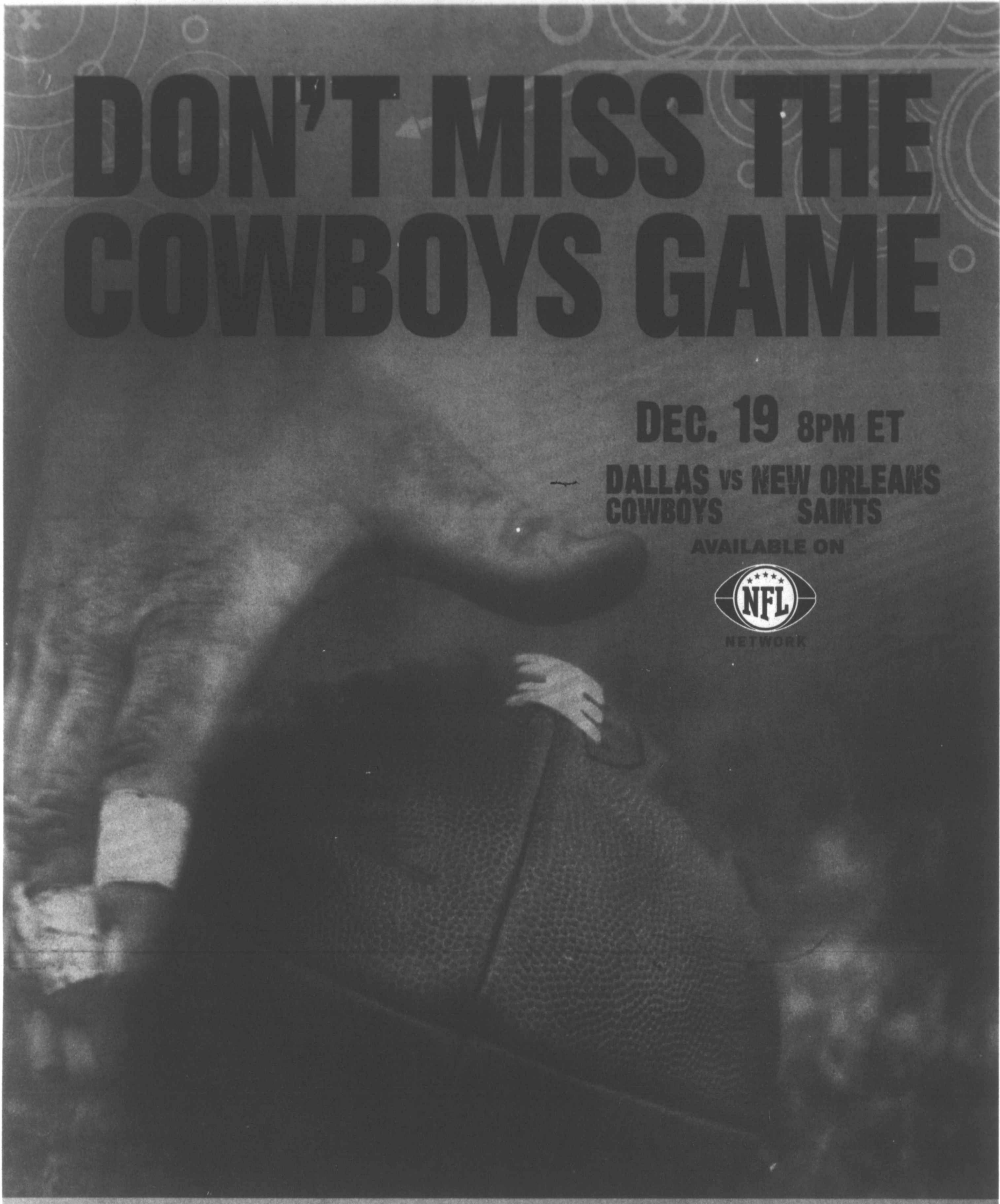
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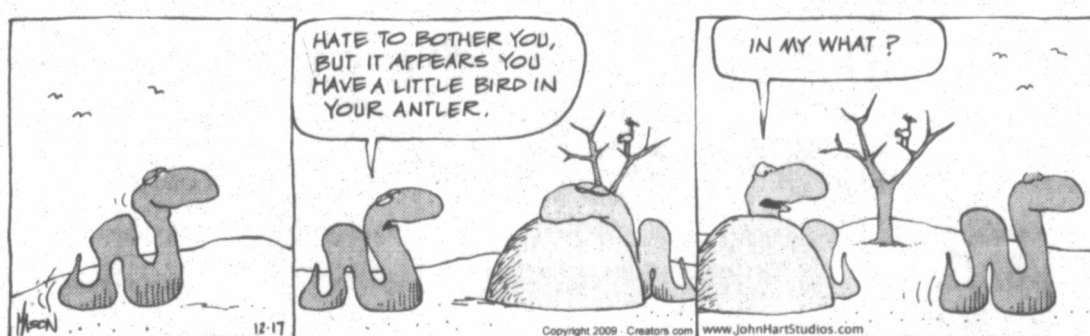
Beetle Bailey



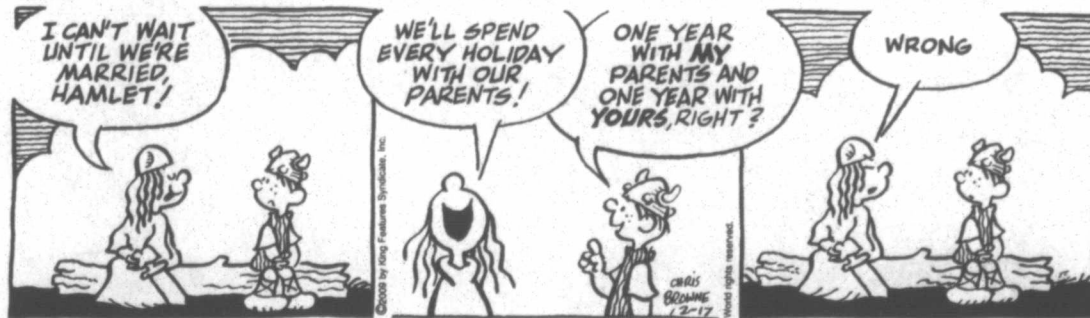
Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



12-17

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"Something's wrong! This candle just smells like a candle."

Daily Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 43 Busybody
1 Aerie builder
6 Marina sight
11 Ready for bed
12 Findable fellow in children's books
13 Improve, in a way
14 Almanac section
15 Noted cellist
17 Kin of calc.
19 They hold power
20 Yak it up
23 Have no requirement to
25 Florence's river
26 Emmy-winning TV movie of 2009
28 Defeat
29 Colors anew
30 Pupil's place
31 Tease
32 "You there!"
33 Sobbing sound
35 Winger or Messing
38 Blow one's top
41 Profit
42 "Lou Grant" star

DOWN
1 Greek letter
2 Prepare to fire
3 Wild honkers
4 TV's Jay
5 Swirling
6 Does the crawl
7 Turner of film
8 Outdated
9 Pindar poem
10 Old calamity
16 New York neighbor
17 Polygon corner
18 "Bad, Bad — Brown"
20 Rabbit chaser
21 Year, in France
22 Popular cow name
24 Prefix with functional
25 Throw in
27 Lucy, for one
31 Eucalypt-
33 UK resident
34 Approximation words
35 Vampire's rest time
36 Dec. 24, e.g.
37 Prohibit
39 Cribbage piece
40 Attempt

S	L	O	M	O					B	O	B	S
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					S	W	I	T	C	H	E	S
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S	L	A	N	G		A	D	O	R	E		
S	A	S	S			T	E	X	T	S		

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11						12			
13						14			
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41						42			
43						44			

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