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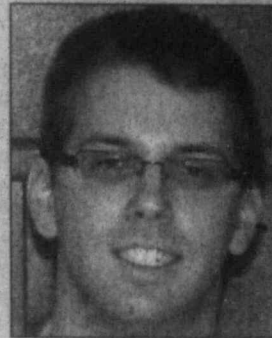
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The PAMPA NEWS

TODAY IN SPORTS



Sports season

Andrew Glover, others share favorite holiday sports memories

Page 7C

inside:

Split Screen with Arnie and Travis



Entertainment, Page 7A

Volume 106 • No. 217 Weekend Issue Saturday and Sunday, December 18-19, 2010 75c Daily • Weekend \$1.50

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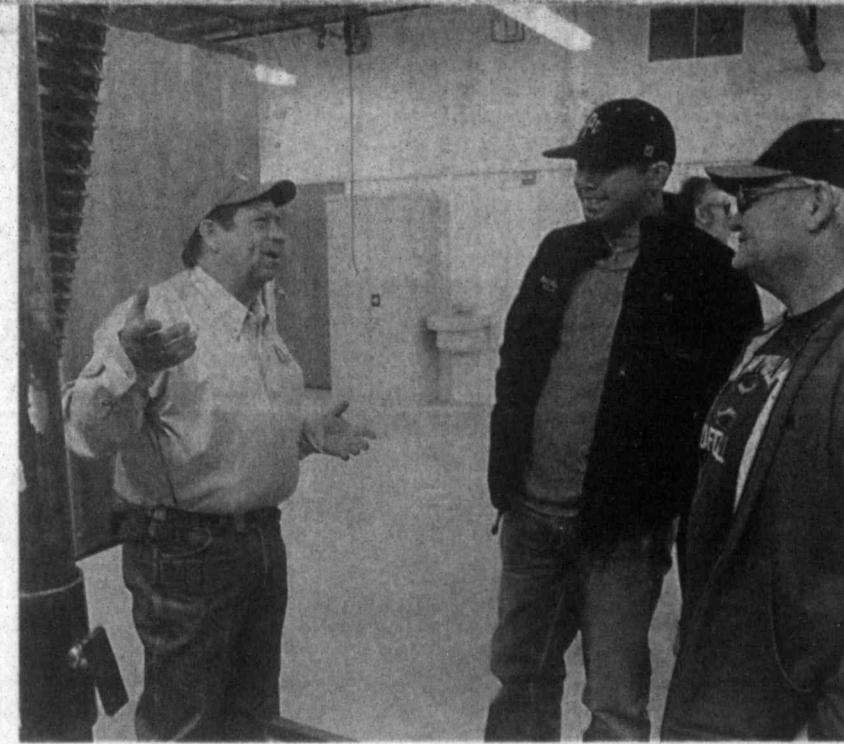
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BUILDING FOUNDATIONS



staff photos by David Bowser

TOP: Ray Jaramillo, Vice President of the Clarendon College Pampa Center, cuts the ribbon opening the school's new buildings on the west side of Pampa. **LEFT:** Mark Simmons (left), head of the Clarendon College Pampa Center's welding program, shows friends Patrick Pilapil and Johnny Davis from Frank Phillips College around the new welding training laboratory during the Pampa Campus open house Thursday night on the west side of Pampa.

Pampa PD: Celebrate responsibly

ARNIE AURELLANO
editor@thepampanews.com

With Christmas and New Year's just around the corner, Crime Prevention Officer Stormy McCullar and the Pampa Police Department would like to remind Pampa residents that, while the holidays are a time for merry-making, it's always important to celebrate responsibly.



McCullar

Department is expanding police **DRUNK** cont. on page 5A

"The last thing we want is something happening to anyone during the holidays," McCullar said.

To that end, McCullar said that the Pampa Police

Sheriff warns of 'law firm' phone scam

DAVID BOWSER
dbowser@thepampanews.com

'Tis the season to be jolly...and to be aware of scam artists.

"We've had a number of reports of people being scammed on the telephone in Gray County," said Lt. Joe B. Hoard of the Gray County Sheriff's Department.

Citizens have been getting calls from people saying they are investigators with a law firm and telling the citizens they have an outstanding loan of some type **SCAM** cont. on page 8A

VFW Post to help needy families shop for holidays

RANDY PRIBBLE
rpribble@thepampanews.com

Helping some local families in need has become a Christmas tradition for members of Pampa's Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 1657.

This year the post has found 8 families to take shopping today.

"All of the families are from Pampa," said Post Service Officer Alvin Johnson. "And all of them are single mothers. In all, there are 26 children in these families."

A committee of VFW members, headed by George Collingsworth, was formed to sort through the names of families submitted by other members and from the community.

"Some of them came from people in the town who knew we did this and brought in names for us to consider," Johnson said. "The committee went over the submitted names to make sure there really was a need."

Today the families will be accompanied by a VFW member to go shopping and purchase Christmas gifts courtesy Post 1657.

"We are also working in conjunction with one of the local churches to get the some food baskets, too," Johnson said. "A lot of the families will have their kids there (to help with the shopping), for other families it will just be the parent. It will be a surprise for the kids on Christmas Day."

SNOW DAY IN PAMPA WINTER WONDERLAND



staff photo by David Bowser

Callyer Stokes, 6, toboggans down a hill at Central Park Friday afternoon.

Nominations Needed! Business of the Year & Citizen of the Year

To be awarded at the Annual Banquet on March 24, 2011
Deadline: December 31
Please email erica@pampachamber.com or call 669-3241 for more information and ticket reservations

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For the record

Obituaries

PAMPA FORECAST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
		
High 50 Low 37	High 64 Low 32	High 53 Low 30

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 24. Wind chill values between 17 and 22. South southeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west southwest.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 50. Wind chill values between 17 and 27 early. West wind around 5 mph becoming south.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 37. Breezy, with a southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Monday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 64. Windy, with a west wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 32. Breezy, with a north northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 53. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 30. South southwest wind around 10 mph.

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LAST MINUTE ADS

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

50% OFF all remaining Christmas decor & ornaments. Cash and carry only. Brandon's.

BLESS THE Season and Bless You and Your Loved Ones. National Home Health Care, 1521 N. Hobart.

CHRISTMAS DINNER, Pampa Sr. Citizen's Center, Wed. 22nd, 10:45-12:45, \$6. Members & guests welcome. Carry-out orders-call Mon. & Tues. before 9am. Closed Thurs. & Fri. for the Christmas Holiday, see you Mon.!

EARLY CLASSIFIED & Last Minute Ad (on pg 2) Deadlines due to Christmas Holiday! For Fri. 12-24/10-Weekend combined edition deadline is Wed. Dec. 22 at noon. Merry Christmas from the Pampa News to all of you!

OPEN LATE Dec. 20 thru Dec. 24th. Rheams Diamond Shop

PACK-N-MAIL 25% off all items & jewelry excluding Lakeshore Candles and Miche Bags.

PAMPA SHRINE Club We Cater!! 50-200 people. (approx 3000 sq ft) available for rent. Weddings, Banquets, Company Parties or Family Reunions. Kitchen facilities avail. at no extra chrg. Call Ben Watson 665-3359 to reserve!

PARTY TRAYS for the holidays. Hoagies Deli, 665-0292. We deliver.

RAYMOND BARRETT'S grandson, Brian Anderson & Family performing at the Woody Guthrie Center, 320 S. Cuyler, Tues., Dec. 21, 6:30pm. Come enjoy! Public invited.

STYLIST, BARBER, Nail Tech wanted. Jim's Barber Shop, 1421 N. Hobart, 665-5111 ask for Candace.

UNIQUE GIFT Items! Foot massager, Ion Wands for skin & joints, gift certificates. Herbs Etc., 109 W. Kingsmill, 665-4883

WINTER ITEMS in stock! Shovels, Heaters, Ice Melt, Heating Tape!!! Frank's Hardware, 401 N. Ballard, 665-4995

Jackie Wilburn Tabor, 84

AMARILLO—Jackie Wilburn Tabor, 84, of Amarillo died December 11, 2010, in Amarillo.

Funeral Services were held on Wednesday, Dec. 15, at 11 a.m. at Amarillo South Church with Craig Albracht officiating. Burial was at Llano East Cemetery. Arrangements were by Schooler Funeral Home.

Jackie was born in Tulsa, Okla. to Gladys Tabor and Harry Hendrickson on March 6, 1926. He attended high School in Keiffer before enlisting in the United States Army Air Corp during WWII. He was stationed in Okinawa. Jackie married the love of his life, Virginia Giddens on February 28, 1948, in Pampa. They made their home in Pampa for nearly twenty years where he was employed by Texaco. In 1967 the family moved from Pampa to Perryton where he retired from Texaco after twenty eight years. He also worked for World Wide Energy and owned and operated the Vacuum Cleaner Center.

Jackie enjoyed riding motorcycles, fishing and family vacations to Red River, California and Washington. He cherished the time he spent with his family; they cherished those times as well and each of the stories he shared with them. Jackie never met a stranger and could strike up a conversation with anyone. The family moved to Amarillo in Feb. 2008, to be closer to family. They attended Amarillo South Church. His generosity, story telling, and kind heart will be greatly missed.

Jackie was preceded in death by his parents; by two sisters, Geneva Hadaller and Ruby Palmer; two brothers, Richard Hendrickson and Ronnie Tabor; grandson Travis Kuykendall and a son-in-law, Larry Bailey. Survivors include his wife, Virginia; three daughters, Susan Bailey of Amarillo, Cindy Lewis and husband Richard of San Angelo; and a son Gary Tabor and wife Sheila of Pampa; a half-brother, Tom Hendrickson of Arizona; twelve grandchildren Laura Weddle, Chad Padgett, Ashley Pshigoda, Austin Pshigoda, Jason Pshigoda, Cody Gift, Justin Pshigoda, Blake Gift, Joshua Tabor, Jessica Tabor and James Tabor; and eighteen great-grandchildren; and numerous other loving family members and friends.

Please sign our online guest register at www.schoolerfuneralhome.com.

Roy Edsel Ford, 79

AMARILLO—Roy Edsel Ford, 79, of Amarillo died Thursday December 16, 2010.

Graveside Service will be held 2 p.m. CST Monday December 20, 2010, in Grady, N.M. at Grady Cemetery with his brother, Gary Ford officiating. Arrangements are by Schooler Funeral Home, 4100 S. Georgia St. Amarillo, Texas.

Mr. Ford was born September 2, 1931, in Northern Curry County, N.M. to Roy Ellis and Ocie Pilliam Ford. He graduated from

Rosedale High School, N.M., in 1950 and attended New Mexico A&M at Las Cruces, N.M.

He was a Korean Veteran, serving in the U.S Army. After his discharge he was employed at White Sands, N.M. He retired from the Calanese Chemical Plant in Pampa, Texas on September 1, 1992, after 37 years.

He married Dorris Dunavant Evans in Amarillo, on December 21, 1986. He was a member of Hillside Christian Church. He served as a volunteer for Meals on Wheels for over 10 years. He loved to travel in their motorhome, fish, play golf, and square dance.

He is survived by his wife, Dorris of the home; two daughters, Carolyn Sue Robinson of Kingston, Okla.; Linda McDonald and husband, Kenneth of Ardmore, Okla.; two sons, Randy Ford of Pampa, Wade Ford of Dallas; two brothers, Elvin Ford and wife, Margaret of Clovis, N.M.; Gary Ford and wife, Donna of Broadview, N.M.; four grandsons, Dustin Converse, Clint Lowe, Cory Lowe all of Kingston, Okla.; Cody Lowe of Duncan, Okla.; two granddaughters, Cristin Lowe of Kingston, Okla., Melissa Robinson of Albuquerque, N.M.; two stepdaughters, LeAnne Prestridge and husband, Johnny, Gay Holcomb and husband, Gary all of Amarillo; one step grandson, Brandon Hefner of Austin; two step granddaughters, Christie Hefner and Abby Holcomb of Amarillo; three great grandsons; four great granddaughters, and one great step granddaughter.

The family would like to express their thanks and appreciation to the Ussery-Roan Texas Veteran Home, and Odyssey Hospice Health care for their compassion and loving care.

In lieu of flowers, the family request donations be made to Meals on Wheels, 219 W. 7th Amarillo, TX 79101; American Parkinson's Disease Association, c/o Amarillo Parkinson's Association PO. Box 19721 Amarillo, TX 79114; Odyssey Hospice Health Care 6900 I-40 West, Suite 150 Amarillo, TX 79106

Please visit our online guest register at www.schoolerfuneralhome.com.

Nancy Jane Boden, 60

Nancy Jane Boden, 60, died Thursday, December 16, 2010, in Pampa.

Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors. Mrs. Boden was cremated and will not be available for viewing.

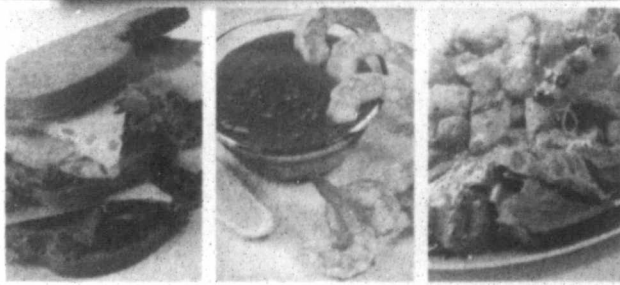
Mrs. Boden was born April 19, 1950, in Brighton, Colo. Nancy graduated from Burlington High School and she received her Master's degree in Psychology from Denver University. She married Bill Boden on December 21, 2001, in Burlington, Colo. Nancy was a Special Education teacher for over 20 years teaching in Colorado and Texas schools and she also was a girl's volleyball coach in the Burlington High School. She was a Boy Scout Master of 20 years and was very supportive of her kids and their friends in FFA. Nancy attended Trinity Fellowship Church where she helped with the Wednesday evening program for children. She was very active in Worth While Club in Vona, Colo. One of Nancy's passions was the outdoors where she loved to fish.

Survivors include her husband, Bill Boden of the home; three sons, Marc Megel and wife Robin and granddaughter, Elizabeth Jane of La Vernia, Mike Megel and wife Laura of Craig, Colo. and Anthony Megel and wife Shianne of Stillwater, Okla.; two brothers and four sisters. Nancy was preceded in death by her parents, Alfred and Margaret Erker and a brother.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, P.O. Box 50, Memphis, TN 38101.

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Cops' Corner

Christmas is just around the corner and many citizens will be traveling to friends and family's homes. As we all know the weather can sometimes be unpredictable, so the Pampa Police Department wants to encourage citizens to be more careful, prepared and aware during this time of year. We ask that you take a few moments and read the following safety precautions when traveling:

1. Always check the weather. Check the weather throughout the areas that you will be traveling and make sure you have the States Department of Transportation number for road closures. You can check the road closures nationwide by going to www.fhwa.dot.gov/trafficinfo/index.htm
2. Know the emergency cell codes for the area you're be traveling. You can go to www.ou.edu/oupd/highway-cell.htm to find out the cell codes for the states you will be traveling.
3. When traveling, consider a breakdown kit. You can go to www.ou.edu/oupd/holtips.htm for an example on what to carry.
4. Try to keep your gasoline tank at least half full. You never know when you might run into an unexpected delay.

Again, check the websites for more information before you travel. You can NEVER be too prepared. If you need more information on this Cops Corner contact Officer McCullar at 806-669-5700.

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AFTERNOON RUSH

DFW normal after bomb scare

DALLAS (AP) - Operations have returned to normal at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport after officials evacuated a portion of Terminal D because of suspicious package, an airport spokesman said Friday.

Authorities, who responded with bomb-sniffing dogs and other security measures, used a robot to safely remove the package and take it off site, airport spokesman David Magana said.

The package was not immediately opened as officials were trying to reach the sender or recipient, he said.

The package, which was in a shipping company's drop box inside Terminal D, was making a vibrating noise. Magana said authorities were alerted "to take every available precaution."

An area of about five gates near the center of Terminal D was evacuated.

The incident lasted a little more than two hours. Officials sounded the all clear at 1:30 p.m.

Houston store owner recovering

HOUSTON (AP) - A Houston jewelry store owner remains in critical condition after he was injured during an attempted robbery of his business where he shot and killed three armed men.

Police say 52-year old Ramon Castillo was in a Houston hospital on Friday, recovering from wounds to his stomach, shoulder and legs suffered a day earlier during the failed robbery of his east Houston store.

Police said Castillo fatally shot the three suspects after they went into his store and tied up his wife Eva during the robbery attempt.

Authorities identified two of the dead suspects as 21-year-old Nelson Wilfredo Tambora-Ramiro and 38-year-old Onilton Bolanos Castellano. The identity of the third dead suspect is pending.

Police say they are looking for a possible fourth suspect, the getaway driver.

Convicted Flores to stay in office

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) Texas state Rep. Kino Flores gets to stay in office until his term expires despite his conviction on felony ethics charges, because there is no law or rule that prohibits convicted felons from serving in the state House if they are convicted while in office.

Flores, a Democrat from Palmview in South Texas, can still collect his taxpayer-funded \$600-a-month state salary, receive state benefits and control a legislative office budget.

It won't last long. Flores' term expires Jan. 11, the first day of the 2011 legislative session, and his felony conviction prevents him from voting or running for public office while on probation. But he would be allowed to vote on House matters if the Legislature was in session.

Flores, 52, had faced up to two years in prison but was sentenced to five years probation on Monday and ordered to pay a \$1,000 fine and serve 40 hours of community service in Hidalgo County. Flores was convicted on 11 felony and misdemeanor counts of tampering with government records and perjury.

Us rig count down by 14

HOUSTON (AP) - The number of rigs actively exploring for oil and natural gas in the U.S. dropped by 14 this week to 1,709.

Houston-based Baker Hughes Inc. said Friday 941 rigs were exploring for natural gas and 756 for oil. Twelve were listed as miscellaneous. A year ago this week, the rig count stood at 1,193.

Of the major oil- and gas-producing states, Pennsylvania gained three rigs, Louisiana and New Mexico each gained two and North Dakota and West Virginia each increased by one rig. Wyoming lost the most rigs, dropping by six. Texas and Oklahoma each lost four rigs. California, Colorado and Alaska each lost one. Arkansas remained unchanged.

The rig count peaked at 4,530 in 1981 at the height of the oil boom. It posted a record low of 488 in 1999.

NM bus crash injures 20

CORONA, N.M. (AP) - State police say 20 people were injured, none seriously, when a bus crashed with a cattle hauler in southern New Mexico.

Lt. Eric Garcia says the bus driver had a broken arm and others were treated at nearby hospitals for cuts and bruises.

The crash closed U.S. 54 south of Corona in Lincoln County for about four hours Friday morning.

The bus is owned by the Los Paisanos company. Garcia says it was full but couldn't immediately say how many passengers were aboard.

A woman who answered the telephone at the company's office in El Paso, Texas, says executives are gathering information and had no immediate comment. According to the company's website, the bus line offers service between Mexico and several U.S. cities.

It wasn't known if weather contributed to the accident.

Dallas developer headed to jail

DALLAS (AP) - The developer of low-income apartment projects whose bribes were at the center of the Dallas City Hall public corruption case is headed to prison.

Brian Potashnik received his 14-month sentence in federal court Friday. He was fined \$50,000 and must forfeit \$1.25 million.

Potashnik's wife, Cheryl, was sentenced Friday to six years of probation and a \$50,000 fine.

Both Potashniks pleaded guilty to a conspiracy to bribe charge. Brian Potashnik agreed in his plea deal to cooperate with prosecutors.

Authorities say the scheme involved developers bribing city officials in return for votes on their low-income housing projects. Former Dallas Mayor Pro Tem Don Hill, the No. 2 public official in City Hall, was sentenced earlier this year to 18 years in prison in connection with the scheme.

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Holiday tax bill is law - help for rich and poor

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Barack Obama signed into law a huge, holiday-season tax bill extending cuts for all Americans on Friday, saluting a new spirit of political compromise as Republicans applauded and liberals seethed. The benefits range from tax cuts for millionaires and the middle class to longer-term help for the jobless.

The most significant tax legislation in nearly a decade will avert big increases that would have hit millions of people starting in two weeks on New Year's Day. Declared Obama: "We are here with some good news for the American people this holiday season."

"This is progress and that's what they sent us here to achieve," Obama said as a rare bipartisan assembly of lawmakers looked on at the White House.

The package retains Bush-era tax rates for all taxpayers, including the wealthiest Americans, a provision Obama and congressional liberals opposed. It also offers 13 months of extended benefits to the unemployed and attempts to stimulate the economy with a Social Security payroll tax cut for all workers.

At a cost of \$858 billion over two years, the deal contains provisions dear to both Democrats and Republicans. It represents the most money that Obama was likely to have been able to dedicate over the next year to the slowly recovering economy. Yet it also increases the federal deficit at a time when the country is growing increasingly anxious about the red ink.

Dramatic both as an economic and a political accomplishment, the agreement sets the stage for Obama's new relationship with Congress in the aftermath of a midterm election wave that devastated Democrats and stripped them of control of the House.

Obama called for maintaining the spirit of cooperation, declaring he was hopeful "that we might refresh the American people's faith in the capability of their leaders to govern in challenging times."

He conceded that the White House and Congress face a difficult challenge when it comes to controlling the deficit and tackling the nation's debt.

"In some ways this was

easier than some of the tougher choices we're going to have to make next year," he said.

Conspicuous by their absence at the ceremony were House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., a reflection of the sharply divided sentiment about the bill in the Democratic caucus.

For Obama, the deal completes the biggest agenda item he has placed before Congress during the post-election lame duck session. In addition, the White House is increasingly optimistic that he will also win Senate ratification of a nuclear arms deal with Russia and the repeal of the military's ban on openly gay service members.

Obama, who is delaying his vacation to Hawaii until Congress completes its work, now is expected to leave Washington as early as next Wednesday, said spokesman Robert Gibbs.

Friday's bill signing marked a remarkably swift conclusion to a bargain struck 11 days ago between the White House and Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky.

To complete the deal, Obama set aside his vow to extend tax cuts only for the middle class and lower wage earners. The measure also enacts an estate tax that is more generous to the wealthy than Obama had sought.

Since his campaign for president in 2008, Obama has said income tax rates should rise for single taxpayers with gross incomes over \$200,000 and married couples with incomes over \$250,000. His first budget, submitted a year ago, included plans for those tax hikes.

The extended tax cuts in the negotiated package include rates lower than those that would have gone into effect Jan. 1, a \$1,000-per-child tax credit, tax breaks for college students and lower taxes on capital gains and dividends. The bill also extends through 2011, a series of business tax breaks designed to encourage investment that expired at the end of 2009.

Social Security taxes would be cut by nearly a third, from

6.2 percent to 4.2 percent, for this coming year. A worker making \$50,000 would save \$1,000; one making \$100,000 would save \$2,000.

But the payroll tax cut also means that workers will face an increase in 2012 if the full 6.2 percent rate is restored. And by scheduling President George W. Bush's 2001 and 2003 tax rates to expire in two years, the law ensures that taxes will be a top issue in the 2012 presidential election.

The tax code is filled with dozens of cuts that expire each year, and not all of them made it into the package. Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., tried to include a property tax deduction for people who don't itemize, but it was left out. The provision would have saved taxpayers about \$1.5 billion a year.

Republicans boasted that their success in extending tax cuts for all was a sign of things to come.

"The American people are seeing change here in Washington; they can expect more in the new year," said McConnell, who was singled out for praise by Obama and shook hands with the president after the signing.

Indeed, McConnell was directed to stand right next to the presidential desk where Obama was signing the bill, ensuring he would be prominent in the photos.

Liberals, unable to alter the plan, were left bristling. They argued Obama should have bargained harder, and they especially objected to

the new estate tax, which will allow the first \$10 million of a couple's estate to pass to heirs without taxation. The balance would be subject to a 35 percent tax rate.

Obama signed the bill less than half an hour after meeting with a dozen labor leaders, some of whom were vocal critics of the agreement. A day before the session, AFL-CIO president Richard Trumka praised the union-sought jobless benefits but said passage of the legislation came "at a terrible price."

Rep. Anthony Weiner, D-N.Y., another critic of the bill, said Obama and lawmakers will face enormous election-year pressure in 2012 to extend the cuts again or make them permanent. Weiner said the Republicans turned out to be "better poker players" than Obama.

Obama conceded that the prospect of tax increases on all taxpayers helped prod an agreement that otherwise would have been difficult, if not impossible to achieve.

What's more, Obama's praise for Republicans, and his heralding of an overdue bipartisan moment in Washington, came after he himself spent the better part of 2010 bashing the GOP leadership as an obstructionist party of no.

The White House cautioned Republicans that Obama was not going to extend his hand in every case. "There will be times when we will draw the line and have big fights," Gibbs said.

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Christmas Eve Service

December 24 • 6 pm

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*Light refreshments will be served in the church foyer at 5 pm.
The public is cordially invited to attend.*



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Honey & Daddy Red

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Ronny & Family

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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Saturday, Dec. 18, the 352nd day of 2010. There are 13 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 18, 1865, the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, abolishing slavery, was declared in effect by Secretary of State William H. Seward.

On this date:

In 1787, New Jersey became the third state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1892, Tchaikovsky's ballet "The Nutcracker" publicly premiered in St. Petersburg, Russia.

In 1915, President Woodrow Wilson, widowed the year before, married Edith Bolling Galt at her Washington home.

In 1940, Adolf Hitler ordered secret preparations for Nazi Germany to invade the Soviet Union. (Operation Barbarossa was launched in June 1941.)

In 1944, in a pair of rulings, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the wartime relocation of Japanese-Americans, but also said undeniably loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry could not continue to be detained.

In 1957, the Shippingport Atomic Power Station in Pennsylvania, the first public, full-scale commercial nuclear facility to generate electricity in the United States, went on line. (It was taken out of service in 1982.)

In 1958, the world's first communications satellite, SCORE (Signal Communication by Orbiting Relay Equipment), nicknamed "Chatterbox," was launched by the United States aboard an Atlas rocket.

In 1969, Britain's House of Lords joined the House of Commons in making permanent a 1965 ban on the death penalty for cases of murder.

In 1972, the United States began heavy bombing of North Vietnamese targets during the Vietnam War.

Ten years ago: The Electoral College cast its ballots, with President-elect George W. Bush receiving the expected 271; Al Gore, however, received 266, one fewer than expected, because of a District of Columbia Democrat who'd left her ballot blank to protest the district's lack of representation in Congress.

Five years ago: In a televised speech, President George W. Bush declared that Iraq's parliamentary elections signaled the birth of democracy in the Middle East.

One year ago: The infamous iron sign bearing the Nazis' cynical slogan "Arbeit Macht Frei" ("Work Sets You Free") that spanned the main entrance to the former Auschwitz death camp in Poland was stolen. (The sign was later recovered and several suspects arrested.)

Today's Birthdays: Television writer-producer Hal Kanter is 92. Former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark is 83. Actor Roger Smith is 78. Blues musician Lonnie Brooks is 77. Actor Roger Mosley is 72. Rock singer-musician Keith Richards is 67. Writer-director Alan Rudolph is 67. Movie producer-director Steven Spielberg is 64. Movie reviewer Leonard Maltin is 60. Rock musician Elliot Easton is 57. Actor Ray Liotta is 55. Comedian Ron White is 54. Actor Brad Pitt is 47. Actress Rachel Griffiths is 42. Singer Alejandro Sanz is 42. Country/rap singer Cowboy Troy is 40. International Tennis Hall of Famer Arantxa Sanchez Vicario is 39. Actress Katie Holmes is 32. Singer Christina Aguilera is 30. Christian rock musician Dave Luetkenhoelter (Kutless) is 28. Actress Ashley Benson is 21.

Thought for Today: "A little inaccuracy sometimes saves a ton of explanation." - Hector Hugh Munro, British writer (born this date in 1870, died 1916)



Artistry in Pampa's 'china painting'

Several weeks ago Ann Lusk dropped by the Chamber, inviting me to a meeting of china painters. The gathering was going to be on a Saturday, so I'll admit I was less than enthused about going, but agreed to drop in.

The location was somewhat difficult to find, and I was not in the best mood when I arrived, but I was glad she had asked and that I had persevered.

The building was the Campana China Company, just south of Hwy 60, east of Hobart.

The company was begun by the Campana family in the 19th century and purchased by the Christensens and brought to Pampa in the 1980s. (I apologize for my details being sketchy, but I am working against a deadline!)

I was given a brief but thorough indoctrination into the art of china painting. Not an "art", but a "craft" you say? You are mistaken. There is no doubt that china painting is an art. This is not just "painting on china."

China is different from pottery, stoneware, and similar materials, and the paint itself is glass—ground so finely that an untrained eye would not suspect it. It is mixed with oil before applying then fired in a kiln to "set" between applications.

The result is absolutely beautiful, and while I can't imagine any-

Chamber Music



JOE WEAVER

one using such works of art as utilitarian vessels, it is perfectly safe, as the paint is actually part of the finished product.

The ladies involved showed me some of their work, some of the collected works, and even some by Mr. Campana himself (yes, men also paint china.) The practitioners are artists, without a doubt.

What's in a name? A rose by any other name might not be a pharmacist!

The part of this column that is most often commented on is the "What if..." where I throw some names together to form a humorously appropriate designation for a fictional business. I started doing this at my daughter's graduation from Wayland University. At any graduation, most attendees are only waiting

for one name to be called, so my mind began to drift over the others listed and connect them. This "hobby" probably goes back to an old Three Stooges short featuring a law firm called "Dewey, Cheatham, and Howe." (And speaking of Cheatham, I had a neighbor in Fort Worth whose cousin owned a store in Canyon with a partner named Ketchum—Ketchum and Cheatham.)

In my own life, however, this fascination with names probably goes back to my grandmother—Minnie Miles. (Thankfully, she wasn't born with that name, but married into it.) I have also known a Candy Land, a Melody Tune, and a Cherry Peach—all married names. One of my favorites—though I didn't know the man personally—was Jim Shorts.

But it seems fate can create some of the oddest coincidences with no help whatever from oddballs like me. There was an article in the Amarillo Globe News this week about a set of triplet girls who had been injured in a fire when young, and now helped other burn victims. Their name? Berns!

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!!

Joe Weaver is the Executive Director of the Pampa Chamber of Commerce.

Letter to the Editor

Merry Christmas from Canada

To the Editor:

My wife Jackie and I had the opportunity to visit our good friends Robert and Johnnie Marx at your beautiful city in mid November. We spent a lot of time

visiting in your community and experienced Texas hospitality at its best, I'm sure.

We were very impressed with the cleanliness and the buildings in your downtown core and how they have been maintained. From your City Hall to your ornate old Post Office, these buildings are a testament to your past and are kept so well, they

should last forever.

I enjoyed meeting Cotton Loch at your museum, dedicated to your Veterans of Foreign Wars. The displays were most interesting - a real tribute to your local heroes.

Travelling around Pampa, we found the housing and streets to be well laid out with unique-styled homes.

Your city has a lot going for it from your architecture to your very friendly good people, and we look forward to coming back and enjoying this area of Texas again.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New year from Canada!

Larry and Jackie Brewster

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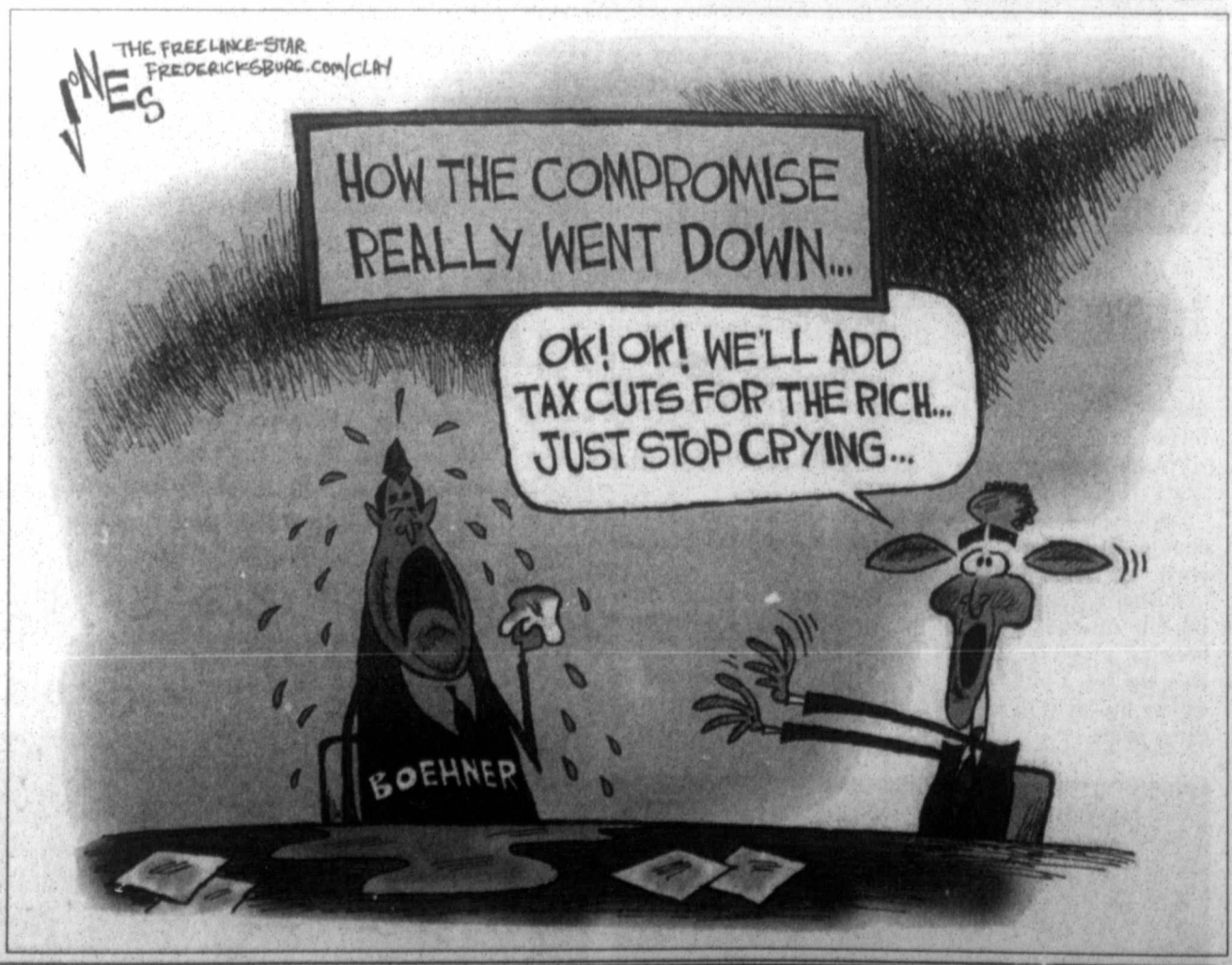
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Today in History

Today is Sunday, Dec. 19, the 353rd day of 2010. There are 12 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On Dec. 19, 1960, fire broke out on the hangar deck of the nearly completed aircraft carrier USS Constellation at the New York Naval Shipyard; 50 civilian workers were killed.

On this date:
In 1777, Gen. George Washington led his army of about 11,000 men to Valley Forge, Pa., to camp for the winter.
In 1813, British forces captured Fort Niagara during the War of 1812.
In 1843, "A Christmas Carol," by Charles Dickens, was first published in England.
In 1946, war broke out in Indochina as troops under Ho Chi Minh launched widespread attacks against the French.
In 1972, Apollo 17 splashed down in the Pacific, winding up the Apollo program of manned lunar landings.
In 1984, Britain and China signed an accord returning Hong Kong to Chinese sovereignty on July 1, 1997.
In 1998, President Bill Clinton was impeached by the Republican-controlled House for perjury and obstruction of justice (he was later acquitted by the Senate).

Ten years ago: President-elect George W. Bush met with President Bill Clinton in Washington. The U.N. Security Council voted to impose broad sanctions on Afghanistan's Taliban rulers unless they closed terrorist training camps and surrendered U.S. embassy bombing suspect Osama bin Laden.

Five years ago: President George W. Bush forcefully defended a domestic spying program as an effective tool in disrupting terrorists and insisted it was not an abuse of Americans' civil liberties.

One year ago: A U.N. climate conference in Copenhagen ended with a nonbinding accord to show for two weeks of debate and frustration.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Cicely Tyson is 77. Paleontologist Richard E. Leakey is 66. Rock singer Alvin Lee (Ten Years After) is 66. Singer Janie Fricke is 63. Actor Mike Lookinland is 50. Actress Jennifer Beals is 47. Magician Criss Angel is 43. Actress Kristy Swanson is 41. Model Tyson Beckford is 40. Actress Alyssa Milano is 38. Actor Jake Gyllenhaal is 30. Actress Marla Sokoloff is 30.

Thought for Today: "Worse than not realizing the dreams of your youth, would be to have been young and never dreamed at all." — Jean Genet (1910-1986).

Drunk

cont. from page 1

coverage through the holidays on the lookout for drunk drivers.

"We want (the community) to know that we're going to have extra officers out at night," McCullar said. "There's a zero tolerance policy with drinking and driving, even during the holiday season."

McCullar is also asking for the community's help in keeping intoxicated drivers off Pampa's streets.

"If any citizens suspect drinking and driving, please call the police department," said McCullar.

"There are some indications to know as far as possible drinking and driving: Swaying across lanes, driving really slow, randomly stepping on the brakes, driving erratically. If you're on the road and you see another driver doing those things and you suspect they might be a drunk driver, please go ahead and call us."

McCullar said that any people calling in to report a potential drunk driver should note the vehicle's license plate number, location and direction of travel, as well as a short description of the vehicle in question.

McCullar, however, was quick to mention that potential drunk drivers should be followed at a safe distance.

"We don't suggest getting anyone in danger," McCullar said.

Drunk driving, McCullar said, isn't any worse of a problem in Pampa than in many other communities. However, she added, that doesn't mean that the issue should be ignored.

"It's not a particularly bad issue, but it definitely happens," she said. "It's still something that we want to have less of. It's something that you can never have enough control of, because when you do that, you can save lives."

McCullar added that if you do plan on partaking in alcohol outside of your home, take the necessary precautions before you leave.

"If you do plan on drinking, take that time and get a designated driver first," she said. "It doesn't take long, but that little time that you do take could keep you out of jail or even save your life."

McCullar stressed that it's better to have a ride ready or call someone to pick you up rather than walking home, as doing so could earn you a separate violation.

"That's actually public intoxication," McCullar said. "It's always just better to have a ride. Better safe than sorry."

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

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Use the 18 tiles in this bunch to create words that fit into the grids below. To get you started, a few tiles from the bunch have been placed in each grid, and the BANANA BITES provide hints. Reuse the 18 tiles in the bunch for each grid.

BANANA BITE: One word means "to raise."

BANANA BITE: One word is a type of meat.

Yesterday's Answer: QUAYER, SQUARE, EQUALS, UNSEAL, ALIENS, INSOLE, LOSING

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Entertainment!

THE PAMPA NEWS

No amount of campiness can save clichéd 'Burlesque'

In theory, "Burlesque" probably should have worked.

It has bankable headliners in Cher and Christina Aguilera. It has a great supporting cast. And with a public hungry for nostalgic pleasures and the revival of burlesque in live entertainment (well, not around here, but still), it seemed like as good a time as any to bring it to the big screen.

"Burlesque," though, can't bring it all together. It's just bad. It's so bad, in fact, that circles right around and becomes compellingly awful.

This is the first musical for writer-director Steve Antin (who you might recognize as "Jessie" in Rick Springfield's "Jessie's Girl" music video — I couldn't make that up if I tried), and you can tell. A genre already burdened with stereotypes and bad writing, "Burlesque" is big on inspiration but never gets past the camp and clichés that spawned it.

The film is the story of Ali (Aguilera), a spunky Midwestern girl who heads to Los Angeles to follow her big city dreams. Those dreams apparently lead her to the Burlesque, a revue theater owned by the hard-boiled Tess (Cher), where Ali learns to shed her small town image and unleash her inner diva. Along the way, she falls in love with an artistic bartender whose own dreams are hampered by his dead end job and strikes up a rivalry with the vindictive dancer who ruled the roost before she happened to prance through the door.

Oh, and the theater is hemorrhaging money and is on the verge of being bought out by a greedy businessman.

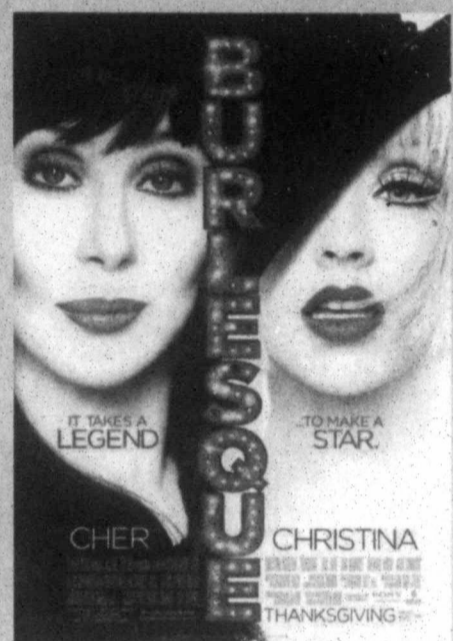
Sound familiar?

The premise is so overdone that no amount of campy spectacle and saucy rear end wiggling can hide the banality. It's a thorough waste of a very good supporting cast, who all perform admirably as the one-dimensional stock characters they're all pigeonholed into. The roster includes Stanley Tucci (as Cher's gay best friend), Kristen Bell (the aforementioned catty rival dancer) and Alan Cumming

(a reprise of the emcee from "Cabaret"). And then there's Cam Gigandet, the requisite beefy love interest guy, although really, more accurate credit should be billed given to Cam Gigandet's torso, which figures prominently in his first scene. Twice.

If you're looking for a "so bad it's good movie" to spend an afternoon shaking your head at, take a flyer on "Burlesque." If you like Christina Aguilera, buy the soundtrack. Otherwise, stay home and watch "Showgirls." At least that one's NC-17, so there's shock value, if you're into that sort of thing.

Arnie Aurellano is the editor of The Pampa News. He can be reached online at editor@thepampanews.com.



Burlesque ★★★★★
 Rated PG-13 sexual content including several suggestive dance routines, partial nudity, language and some thematic material

SPLIT-SCREEN

On video: 'Despicable Me' packs laughs, heart for all



"Despicable Me" (out now on Blu-ray and DVD) has the distinction of being the first animated movie about a super villain with a heart of gold that was released this year, the other is "Megamind" (currently still in theaters). I had a chance to watch both of them for a second time this week and couldn't help but notice the similarities as both movies follow the exploits of a super villain whose newest scheme backfires and ends up turning them into heroes.

The villain-turned-hero of "Despicable Me" is Gru (voiced by Steve Carell) a bald genius of presumably European descent, who dreams of going to space and stealing the moon. When the shrink ray he needs

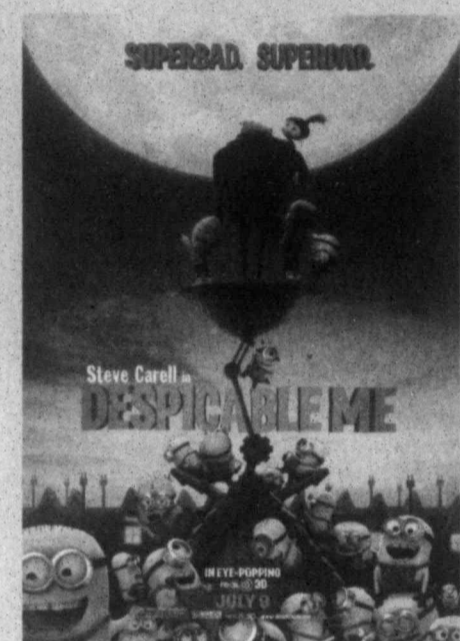
for the job is stolen by Vector (voiced by Jason Segel), a new, rival villain, he adopts three charmingly little girls to help him steal it back. Because its an animated kids movie, Gru of course comes to love the children and eventually changes his ways in time to stop Vector.

Some of the best parts of "Despicable Me" comes from Gru's Minions, an assortment of small, yellow, pill-shaped beings, who were presumably created to do Gru's bidding. The Minions comes in various sizes and personalities, and although they are mostly speaking gibberish they are always hilarious.

The villain-turned hero of "Megamind" is "Megamind" (voiced by Will Ferrell), a blue, bald genius of alien descent, who dreams of defeating his arch-nemesis, Metro Man (Brad Pitt). When he finally gets his wish he realizes a super villain needs a super hero and sets out to create Titan (Jonah Hill). Because its an animated kids movie "Megamind" comes to love Metro City and reporter Roxanne Ritchie (voiced by Tina Fey) and eventually changes his ways in time to stop Titan.

Amazingly both movies are very different from each other, despite their similar plots. Where "Megamind" relies heavily on pop culture references, "Despicable Me" relies more on sight gags. But the main difference is the love stories at the center of each film. "Megamind" is a love story between outcast "Megamind" and Roxanne, while "Despicable Me" is the story of the love between a man and his adopted daughters.

Both movies are great not only for kids, but for adults as well. I highly recommend you add "Despicable Me" to your DVD library and that you go see "Megamind" while it's still in theaters, if you haven't yet.

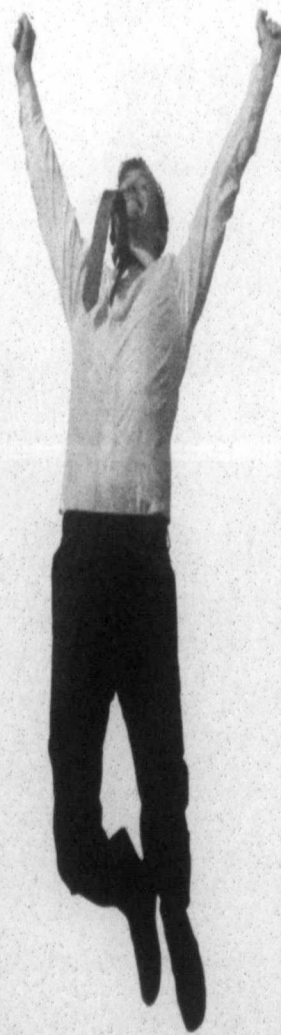


Despicable Me ★★★★★
 Rated PG for rude humor and mild action

Local attorney Travis Tidmore reviews movies for The Pampa News as well as on his blog, www.thecinemaniac.com.

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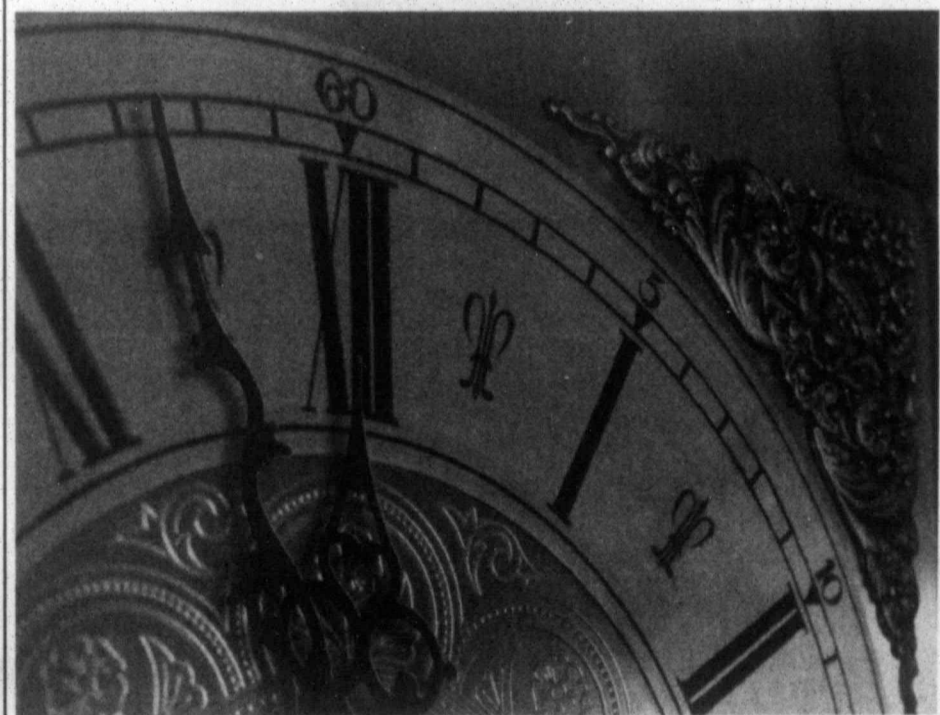
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IMPORTANT NOTE: There will be one issue for December 24-December 26 which will come out on December 24.

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Immigration enforcement won't shift if DREAM fails

WASHINGTON (AP) - Immigration officers are unlikely to take extraordinary steps to arrest young people in the country illegally should the DREAM Act fail in the Senate.

Assistant Homeland Security Secretary John Morton said Friday in a conference call with reporters that immigration officers will continue their focus on immigrants who have committed crimes or are a threat to the public. He said they will handle cases of non-criminal immigrants on a case-by-case basis.

The Senate has scheduled a vote Saturday on the DREAM Act which would give provisional legal status to illegal immigrants brought to the country as children. The House approved the bill last week. Many young illegal immigrants have been pressing Congress to pass the bill in public demonstrations.

"Were the DREAM Act not to pass we would handle the situation as we do now," Morton said. He said the DREAM Act would be "entirely consistent" with the Obama administration's immigration

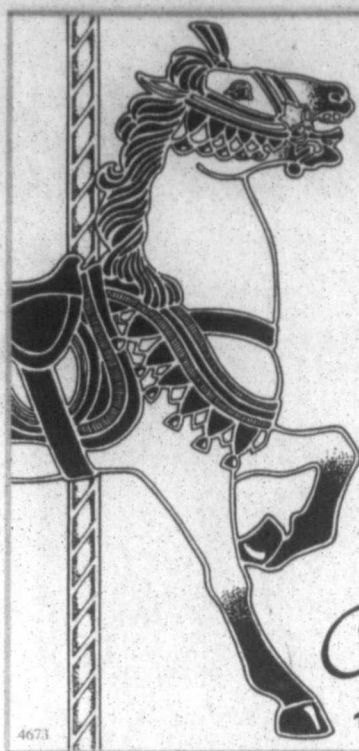
enforcement policies.

Many young illegal immigrants have asked Congress to pass the bill, going public with the fact they are in the country without permission in the hope that their stories would help get the 60 votes needed Saturday to move the bill forward.

Opponents say the legislation is "back-door amnesty" that encourages more people to come to the country illegally or overstay their time-limited visas. They also argue it rewards law breakers.

"This bill simply 'incentivizes' and rewards more illegality. And, if it passes, what principle would lawmakers cite to object to another amnesty, for another group, and another one after that?" Alabama Sen. Jeff Sessions, ranking Republicans on the Senate Judiciary Committee, asked at a news release.

Morton joined Alejandro Mayorkas, director of Citizenship and Immigration Services, and David Aguilar, deputy commissioner of Customs and Border Protection, in endorsing the DREAM Act as good for border security.



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Scam

cont. from page 1

and that they owe the law firm money for that loan, Hoard said.

"Normally, they will tell the citizen that the lawyers will settle for a lesser amount," Hoard said. "If the citizen tells the caller they don't have that amount of money, the caller goes even lower in the amount that they will take."

Hoard said the callers then give instructions on how to send the money via Western Union in order to stop local law enforcement from arresting them on warrants.

"We have no warrants," Hoard said. "People are getting these calls, and it scares them. It makes people scared that they're going to be arrested, and that is not the case."

He said the callers are preying particularly on the elderly.

"We are encouraging anyone that feels that they've been scammed to let us know," Hoard said. "If they get a suspicious phone call or anything that they believe that might be a scam, they need to contact their local

law enforcement agency." He said the sheriff's office has also been getting reports of callers telling people they need to send money in order to get sweepstakes winnings or insurance money.

"One of these people sent a bunch of money to these people in the form of postal orders," Hoard said, "and received nothing in return."

Normally, Hoard said, the caller will request that the money be sent to a third party.

"People need to let the police know what's going on," Hoard said. "It's something we don't need here."

Merry Christmas!

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The Pampa News has a new online home!

No, we haven't changed Web addresses. The paper's website can still be found at www.thepampanews.com. But with the new year on the horizon, we decided to spruce our dusty old website a bit. So, with the new site going live on Monday, we'd like to introduce you to the new thepampanews.com.

1. Previews of the day's stories

Previews of each day's local stories will be available online. To access the full text of each article, pick up a copy of *The Pampa News*, or subscribe to the new and improved online edition.

2. The Pampa News online edition

Subscribe to the newspaper's new E-edition, now in fully functional, Flash-enabled flipbook mode. With the new thepampanews.com E-reader (see below), you can literally flip through the pages of each day's *The Pampa News* right on your desktop! (Adobe Flash is required to view online edition.)



3. thepampanews.com tweetfeed

Check out the tweetfeed on the front page for breaking news alerts, *The Pampa News* contest clues and live Twitter tweets from *The Pampa News* sports reporter Andrew Glover from local sports events!

4. Weekly poll

Beginning next week, thepampanews.com will have a poll where Pampans and Gray County residents can vote on a different weekly question, with the results to be published every Monday on the Viewpoints page.

5. Kid of the Week and Pet of the Week

New on thepampanews.com: we'll be featuring a new photo of a local child and a local pet all week! If you'd like your little darlings (ages 8 and below) or four-legged friends featured on the site, send a photo and a short caption to rpribble@thepampanews.com.

6. The Pampa News on Facebook

The Pampa News is now on Facebook! Just type in "The Pampa News" in the search box to find our fan page, and hit "Like" for news, rundowns of the day's stories and contest alerts!

Corner of Hwy 80 & 70 • 806-669-6082 • Buy Here, Pay Here, No Credit Check

Pampa
Temperature: 62°
Wind: SE at 7 mph
Sunrise: 6:27 am CST-6
Sunset: 5:18 pm CST-6

The PAMPA NEWS

Gray County's trusted news source since 1904

FRONT PAGE SPORTS
FEATURES
EDUCATION
OBITUARIES
COUNTY
CITY
COMMUNITY
KID OF THE WEEK
PET OF THE WEEK

CHRISTMAS KIDS
staff photo by David Bousler and Redonn Woods, photos courtesy of Misty Jordan and Della Moyer

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Fourth graders from Austin Elementary sing Christmas carols at Coronado Healthcare; Jennifer Martinez serenades Walmart customers with Christmas songs; Nathan Ohsfeldt and Adeline Little share a story at the QCS Christmas program; Lamar third grader Cameron Har carols at First Bank Scuffweest.

HOUSE HUNTERS Realtor

Linda Laycock
BRUSH, ARL GREEN, REALTOR
806-662-1312

Larry Hadley
ASSOC
806-662-2779

Jordan O'Neal
ASSOC
806-670-8820

Natasha Holman
ASSOC
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6
The Pampa News is on Facebook! Search for "The Pampa News"

One for the Road

LADY SANDIES ROUT PAMPA
story by Andrew Glover
The Pampa Lady Harvesters met the Amarillo Lady Sandies once this season and lost at home. The two teams met again Monday in Amarillo, but the result wasn't different as ...
Read Full Story

HARVESTERS LEAVE NICHOLS SHOOTOUT EMPTY HANDED
story by Andrew Glover

What's happening

Harvesters can't quite escape the house of doom = 18 hours ago

Harvesters need defensive stop with minutes left = 19 hours ago

Halfway through fourth still anybody's game Randall leads by one = 19 hours ago

Tight game going into fourth Pampa up by 2 after single three = 19 hours ago

Raiders surge at end of second and Pampa only leads by one at half = 19 hours ago

this week's thepampanews.com poll

Will you be spending more or less on Christmas presents this holiday season?

CLICK HERE TO VOTE

The Pampa News' online poll is strictly anonymous and non-scientific. Poll results will be published on the Viewpoints page of every *The Pampa News* weekend edition.

Popular stories

Ewing fights fire in town, on track
Posted December 9, 2010, 8:03 pm

Allison a respected community servant
Posted: 7:03 pm

Eubank first All-State honoree since 1964
Posted December 9, 2010, 1:14 pm

Holiday drive
Posted December 9, 2010, 4:10 pm

Dancing like the Dickens
Posted December 9, 2010, 1:13 pm

For information on advertising on thepampanews.com, contact ReDonn Woods or Sue Pribble at 806-669-2525.

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Diamond Earrings, Pendants

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Seiko Sports Baseball Clock

Was \$330.00 Now \$99.99!

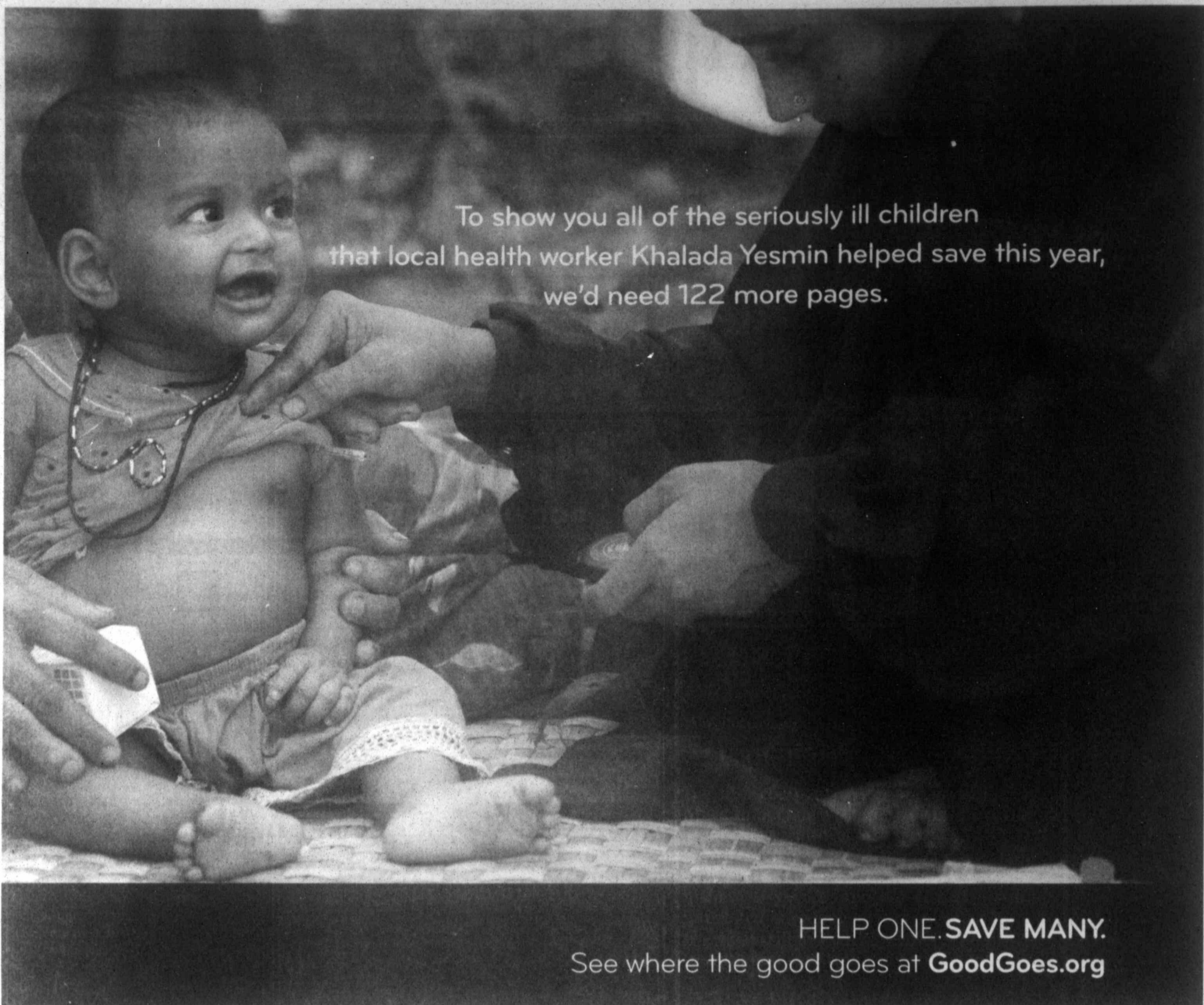
Ladies' Diamond Fashion Rings

25% Off!

2009 Business of the Year

Mon - Fri 9:30-5:30
Sat 10:00-4:00

111 N. Cuyler
806-665-2831



To show you all of the seriously ill children that local health worker Khalada Yesmin helped save this year, we'd need 122 more pages.

HELP ONE. SAVE MANY.

See where the good goes at GoodGoes.org



Save the Children.



Beverly Taylor - Classifieds

Sell it fast! Classifieds work! The Pampa News is delivered to over 4,000 homes a day. What better way to get the word out? To place an ad, contact Beverly Taylor at 806-669-2525 or via email at classified@thepampanews.com today!

The Pampa News'

Classifieds

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First Landmark Realty

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Classic Two Story
Ready to move in. Brick home, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, lovely formal living room, formal dining room, kitchen-breakfast-den combination. Spacious huge utility room. Knotty pine walls in finished basement. Lots of built ins and storage. Cedar closet, plenty of additional room for workshop in double car garage. Custom wood throughout and excellent location. **8628**

Four Bedroom Home
Game room is wired for sound, den has pellet burning stove and entertainment center. Hardwood floors, isolated master bedroom, seller will allow \$5,000 for completion of central heat and air conditioning.

South Side of Railway with Spur Potential
A vacant industrial tract of land containing 0.664 acres along south boundary of railway in city limits — over 200 feet of frontage. OE

Two Office/Warehouse Buildings
Super location on N. Price Road includes two buildings. Owner will sell buildings and equipment or buildings separate from equipment. Call office for details. OE

Beautiful Home in Excellent Location
Custom built home in 2006 with 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, classic interior archways, plantation wood blinds throughout home, double pane windows, lovely kitchen with granite counter tops and breakfast bar, one owner home, ready for you to enjoy. **8856**

Bobbie Nisbet BKR662-8118
Irvine Riphahn GRI665-4534
Chris Moore GRI665-8172
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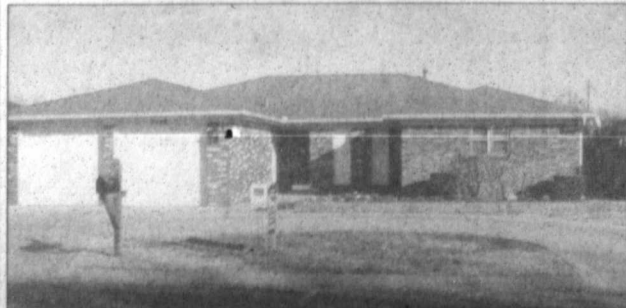
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2600 Evergreen



Come see my new interior deco!
\$159,900
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Century 21 - Pampa Realty Inc. 669-0007



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(Or call 669-2525 to have it delivered to your door.)



1 Public Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of CARL E. MANN, Deceased, were issued on December 13, 2010, in Docket No. 9791, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas, to: CARLA STOUT. CARLA STOUT is a resident of Galveston County, Texas. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate, addressed as follows:

Carla Stout
Independent Executrix
Estate of
Carl E. Mann,
Deceased
c/o Don R. Lane
P.O. Box 1781
Pampa, TX 79066-1781

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 13th day of December, 2010
Carla Stout
G-30 Dec. 19, 2010

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gabe.cornejo@patenergy.com

Attn: Gabe Cornejo

Human Resource Supervisor

6000 SW 44th Street

OKC, OK 73179 Fax 405-686-0150

Patterson-UTI Drilling Co LLC is an E.O.E.



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2010 Ford F-150 Sport Trac Limited 4x4 AUFO7478
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\$6,500 OFF! Only 1 Left! *3



2010 Ford Fusion SE AR161151
\$6,800 OFF! Only 2 Left! *4

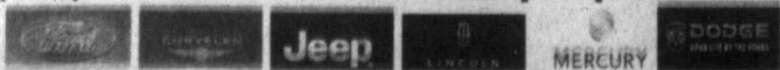


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Pictures are for illustration purposes only.

(*1 MSRP \$42,615, RCC \$2,000, FCRBCC \$1,000, YEBPRBCC \$1,500, MA \$500, AQAM \$500, Fenton discount \$5,000 *2 MSRP \$39,930, RCC \$2,000, YEBPRBCC \$1,500, MA \$500, AQAM \$500, CSPP \$500, Fenton discount \$4,000 *3 MSRP \$19,800, RCC \$2,000, PRBCC \$1,000, MA \$500, AQAM \$500, CSPP \$500, Fenton discount \$2,000 *4 MSRP \$21,860, RCC \$1,000, FCRBCC \$1,000, PRBCC \$1,000, MA \$500, AQAM \$500, CSPP \$500, Fenton discount \$2,300 *5 MSRP \$53,530, RCC \$2,000, PRBCC \$1,000, MA \$500, AQAM \$500, Fenton discount \$7,825 [*\$500 prepaid Visa gift card ask dealer for details] All prices, taxes, titles and licenses WAC

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Community

ENDURING LOVE



Billie Sue and Guadalupe Almanza

Almanzas celebrate 50th

Guadalupe and Billie Sue Almanza of White Deer are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary with a family dinner hosted by their children.

The Almanza's were married December 18, 1960. Mr. Almanza was self employed and retired in 2000. Mrs. Almanza worked for the White Deer

Post Office until 2006. They have six children, 13 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

CLUB NEWS

Twentieth Century Club

The Twentieth Century Club assembled in the movie room of the First Presbyterian Church at 1:30 p.m. on October 26.

The club's president, Mrs. Pat Terry, called the meeting to order, the Club Collect was recited and the American's Creed read by all members.

The minutes were read and approved with corrections made by secretary Mrs. Sue Pribble and roll was taken with members present being: Louise Bailey, Edna Hickman, Mary McDaniel, Myrna

Orr, Sue Pribble, Ruth Riehart, Dot Stowers, Pat Terry and Barbara Vanderpool and excused members: Nancy Coffee, Fay Harvey, Phyllis White and Cleo Worley.

Mrs. Myrna Orr gave the treasurer's report and the business meeting was concluded.

The program was given by Mrs. Stowers. She spoke about two books she had been reading, *If I Should Die Before I Wake*, *One Marine's Experience on Iwo Jima* and in more detail, *The War, An Intimate History, 1941-1945* which followed four cities and how the war changed them.

She focused on one par-

ticular story in *The War* that detailed the experiences of an American family that owned a plantation near the city of Manila in the Philippines, and their struggles in a Japanese internment camp.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, November 9th in the First United Methodist Church parlor with a Christmas gift exchange and paper product collection for Tralee Crisis Center.



submitted photo

Texans Caring for Texans - Linda Wasilauski of Pampa was one of the recipients of the Texas Helping Texans award for 2010. The annual award is given to a deserving person from each state agency who is nominated by a task force. The intent is to recognize Texas who are going a good job for the state, but who might not be normally recognized. The awards were given in a Aug. 24 ceremony. From left are State Rep. Warren Chisum, State Rep. Kel Seliger, Wasilauski, Sarah Whitley (Chief of Staff for State Comptroller Susan Combs) Mike Morrissey (Senior Advisor to Gov. Rick Perry), and the former Rep. David Swinford.



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2009 Business of the Year

Community

CLUB NEWS



submitted photo

Altrusans Visit - Judy Warner, Allison Watson, president; Brenda Tucker and Kathryn Green visit at the Altrusa Christmas Reception held recently at the home of Kathryn Green. The annual event is held to honor the club's president and is hosted by the Altrusa Board.



submitted photo

Plaza Restaurant of Pampa Manager Corina Adame presents a check to Jana Gregory, executive director of the Eastern TX Panhandle Chapter of the American Red Cross. The check represents money earned during a Nov. 27 fundraiser.

Weekly Menus

Pampa Meals on Wheels

MONDAY, Dec. 20
Steak Fingers/ Gravy, Broccoli Casserole, Carrots, Pears.
TUESDAY, Dec. 21
Turkey, Rice Pilaf, English Peas, Sweet Potatoes, Mixed Fruit.
WEDNESDAY, Dec. 22
Hamburger Patties, Mashed Potatoes, Pinto Beans, Cornbread, Peaches.
THURSDAY, Dec. 23
Oven-Fried Chicken, Corn, Sliced Potatoes, Pudding.
FRIDAY, Dec. 24
Closed Holiday Christmas Eve

Altrusans plan events, report on projects

Altrusa International of Pampa met Dec. 14 at First United Methodist Church with President Allison Watson presiding. Jennifer Monroe and Donna Turner served as greeters.

Brenda Tucker reported on the Christmas Reception for members held at the home of Kathryn Green on Sunday, Dec. 12.

The Accent was given by Pat Johnson who read an article regarding the true meaning of Christmas.

Karen Bridges and Sheila Winton were granted leaves of absence.

Carolyn Kessel was appointed to replace Stephenie Willis as 1 year director.

The club voted to make a donation to Lynzee Standerfer.

The club also voted to purchase blankets for Good Sam's.

The following committee reports were made:

- Children's Shopping Tour - Sue Pribble

and Judy Warner reported that 102 children ages 5-10 participated in the tour and shopped for approximately 400 family members.

- ASTRA - Eileen Kludt reported on projects in which the ASTRA members have been involved including wrapping gifts for Tralee and Salvation Army Bell Ringing.

- Tralee Angel Tree - Susan Winborne reported on shopping for angels.

- Lunch with Dignitaries - Susan Winborne reported that the project will begin in January and asked for volunteers.

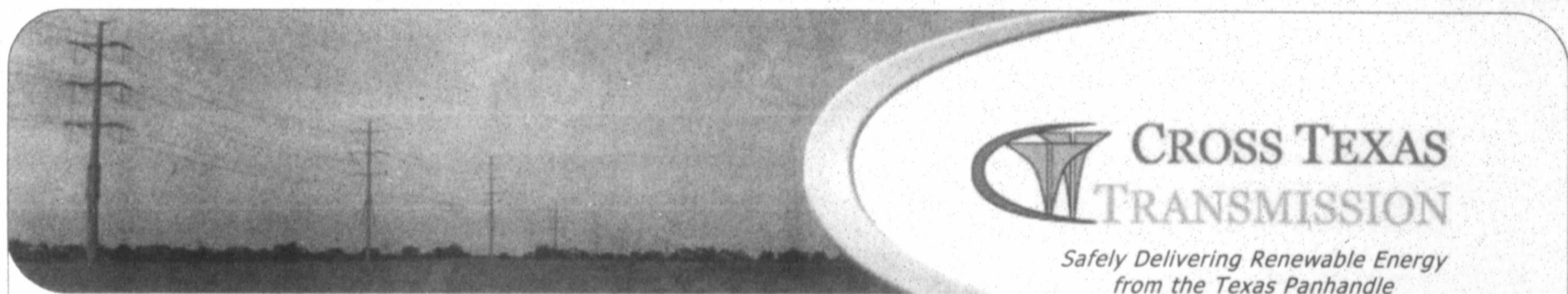
Birthday greetings were extended to Kadda Schale, Judy Warner, Mattie Norton and Karen Bridges who celebrate birthdays this month.

The next meeting will be held Jan. 11, 2011, at noon at First United Methodist Church.



Pampa/Gray County Crime Stoppers would like to give our thanks to the following contributors for their contribution for the support of our community program.

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| Pampa Concrete Company | Pampa Glass |
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JOBS

SALES TAX REVENUES

RENEWABLE ENERGY

All of us at Cross Texas Transmission are excited about becoming long-time members of the community as we prepare to begin construction of our new high voltage transmission line in Childress, Collingsworth, Gray, and Wheeler counties. This line is part of the CREZ transmission system designed to deliver electricity generated from the Panhandle's wind resources to millions of homes and businesses in Texas. This project will create hundreds of construction **jobs**, generate millions of dollars in **property and sales tax revenues**, and will enable **renewable power** generation that does not create emissions or consume water. Simply put, this transmission line is good for the Panhandle and good for Texas.

We at Cross Texas want to express our thanks to the many local citizens and community leaders who have provided input to us. Your involvement has resulted in a better project than we could have accomplished alone.

As we prepare to begin construction, we look forward to continuing to work closely with land-owners and the community. If you have questions or concerns, please call us or stop by one of our two offices. We welcome the opportunity to visit with you.

Visit us online at www.crosstexas.com or in person at:

Pampa Office:
408 W. Kingsmill Avenue
Suite 436
Pampa, TX 79065
Local: (806) 669-3000
Toll Free: (877) 214-8288

Amarillo Office:
1616 S. Kentucky Street
Suite D130
Amarillo, TX 79102
Local: (806) 350-7752
Toll free: (877) 575-7752

PROPERTY TAX REVENUES FOR:

COUNTIES

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

HOSPITALS

Community

ENDURING LOVE



Tyrrells celebrate 60th

Leo and Lavena Jean then (at right)....

...And now (top)



Leo and Jean Tyrrell will celebrate 60 years of marriage with a reception on Dec. 23.

Leo Wayne Tyrrell married Lavena Jean Treat on Dec. 23, 1950, in Fairview, Oklahoma.

They settled in Pampa in 1957 where they raised five children: Mona Milam of Keller, Tx, Gary Tyrrell of Pampa, Kathy Harvey of Woodward, OK, Jo Karbo of Pampa, Terri Cree of Pampa. Leo worked as a fireman and an

employee of Texas Furniture until he retired in 1989.

Jean was a wife and homemaker - a career her kids are proud of. They have been a member of the Harvest Bible Church for 41 years.

The Tyrrells have nine grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

The children will host a reception on Dec. 23, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at 2112 Christine in Pampa. Please feel free to stop by and share a memory.

Weekly Menus

Pampa Senior Citizens Center

MONDAY, Dec. 20
Chicken Fried Steak or Chicken Spaghetti, Mashed Potatoes, Spinach, Beets, Northern Beans, Cole Slaw, Tossed Salad or Jello, Cherry Chip Cake, Chocolate Pie or Fruit Cup, Hot Roll or Cornbread.

TUESDAY, Dec. 21
Chicken Strips or Kraut & Sausage, Mashed Potatoes, Brussels Sprouts, Creme Corn, Beans, Cole Slaw, Tossed Salad or Jello, Peanut Butter Cake, Pineapple Squares or Fruit Cup.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 22
Baked Turkey & Dressing with Giblet Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Yams, Tossed Salad or Jello, Cranberry Sauce, Deviled Egg, Stuffed Celery Olive/Cheese/ Pickle Skewer, Pumpkin Square, Cherry Cobbler or Diet Cherry Cobbler, Hot Roll.

THURSDAY, Dec. 23
Please place your take-out lunch orders on Tuesday or before 9 a.m. Wednesday morning. All plates will be fixed the same, if possible. Your choice of dessert and whether it is regular or diet, you tell us. Thanks in advance. All of this for a suggested donation of \$6 to eat with us or take it out. Closed Thursday and Friday for Christmas holiday. We wish you a safe and blessed Christmas season!

'Master Gardener' intern course offered

AMARILLO- Potter County Master Gardeners are accepting applications for the 2011 Master Gardener intern course.

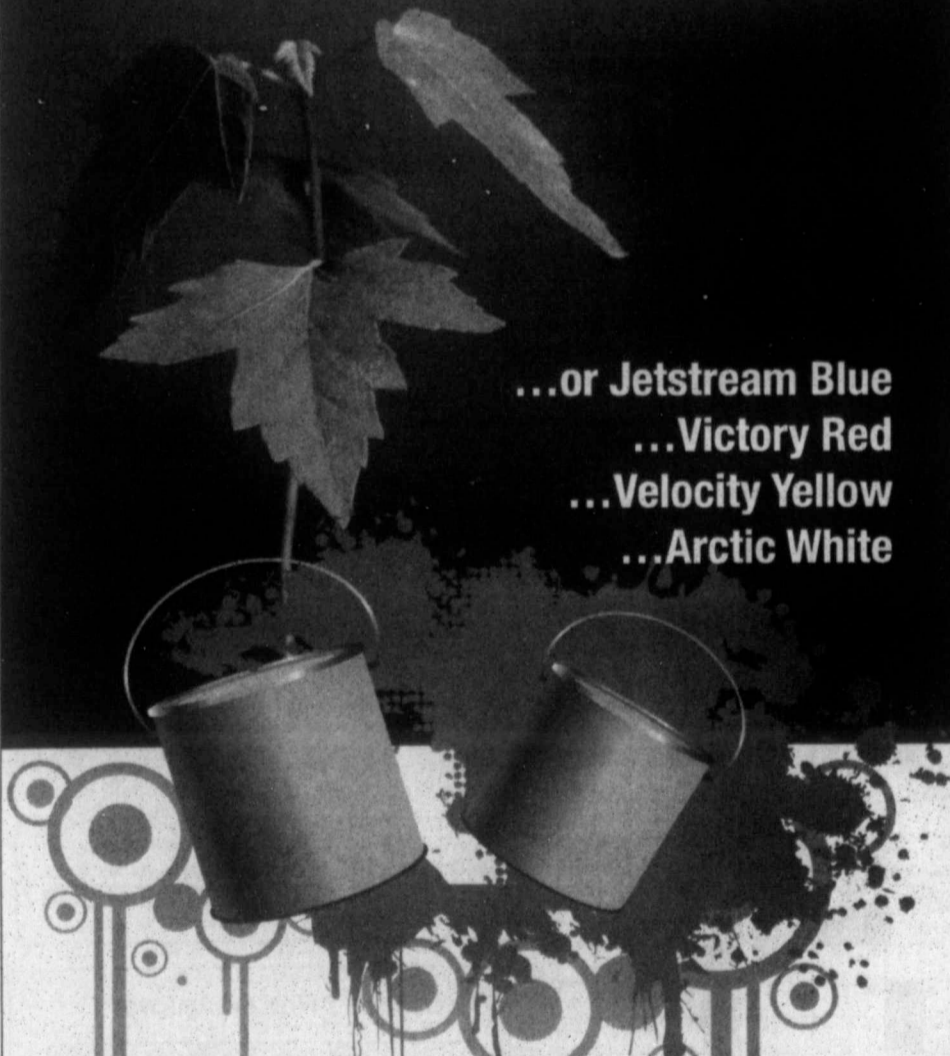
The program is an educational activity offered by the Texas AgriLife Extension Service. The purpose of Master Gardeners is to extend AgriLife Extension's capacity to provide horticultural, gardening and small-scale food production information as well as participate in horticultural projects throughout the community.

The prerequisite for acceptance into the Master Gardener Program is an application and a \$80 tuition fee, Boughen said. Applications are due by Jan. 7.

Interns in the Master Gardener program receive a resource manual developed by AgriLife Extension must attend a minimum of 50 hours of instruction and volunteer 50 hours of service to earn the title of Texas Master Gardener. The success of the program is dependent upon the commitment to these 50 hours of volunteer service. Applications are available from the AgriLife Extension office in Potter County, 3301 E 10 Street, Amarillo. For additional information, call the AgriLife Extension office in Potter County at (806) 373-0713.

T-SHIRTS & MORE
111 W. KINGSMILL • 806-665-3036

THINK GREEN



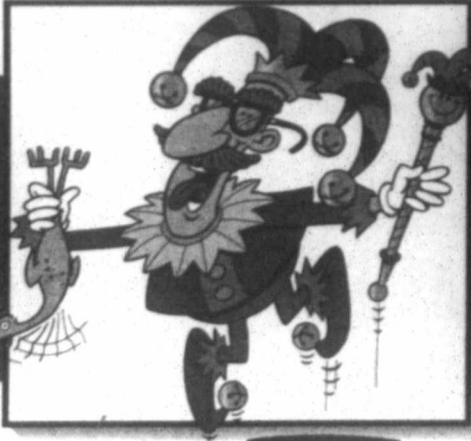
Culberson-Stowers Body Shop is proud to announce the introduction of BASF's R-M® Onyx HD waterborne paint. R-M® Onyx HD is an environmentally friendly automotive paint that offers an 80% reduction in solvent emissions when compared to conventional automotive refinish paint technology. So we can repaint your vehicle any color of the rainbow and it will still be GREEN.

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The Pampa Downtown Merchants would like to thank our friends and neighbors for your loyal patronage at Christmas time and throughout the year. May the true spirit of Christmas bless you all in this joyous season. Merry Christmas!





Kicks Kids

GAMES AND PUZZLES

DRAW IT!

DRAW A RED NOSE ON RUDOLPH...



GIVE ME 5 RHYMES FOR RED...



START AT THE ARROW AND WRITE DOWN EVERY OTHER LETTER TO SEE WHY RUDOLPH IS ALWAYS WET...



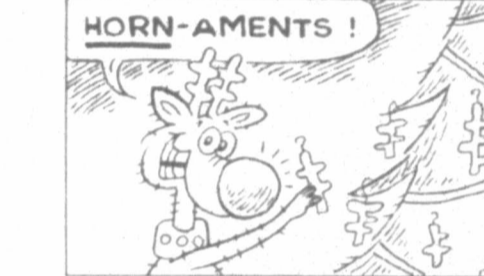
ICE CREAM IS HIS FAVORITE TREAT. IT'S WHAT RUDOLPH LOVES TO EAT! SOLVE THE CODE, AND YOU WILL SEE HOW THIS REINDEER ANSWERED ME!

WHICH RESTAURANT IS YOUR FAVORITE, RUDOLPH?

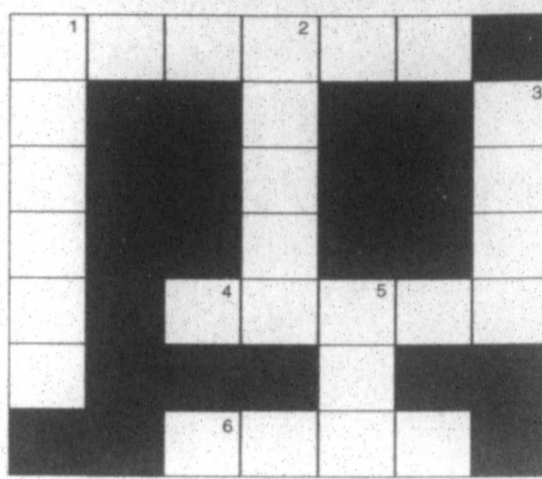


WRITE US... WE'LL WRITE YOU BACK!

WHAT DOES RUDOLPH HANG ON HIS CHRISTMAS TREE?



Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**
1. Cold season
4. Deposit of small ice crystals
6. Brief written message
- DOWN**
1. State of being warm
2. Tall structure
3. Outer clothing
5. Opposite of "in"

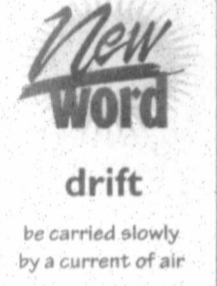
ANSWERS:
Across: 1. winter 4. frost 6. note
Down: 1. warmth 2. tower 3. coats 5. out

THIS DAY IN...

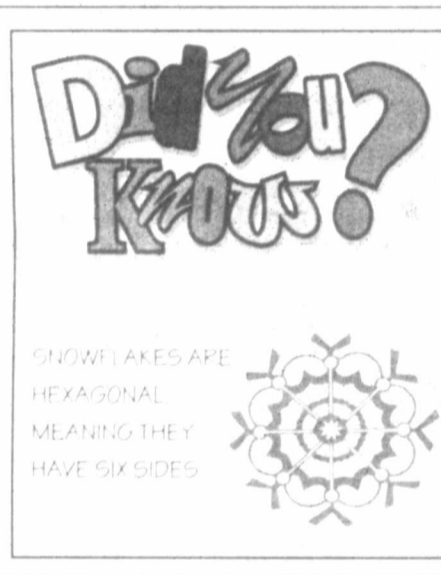


19 HISTORY

- 1152: HENRY II OF ENGLAND IS CROWNED AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY.
- 1941: ADOLF HITLER BECOMES SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE GERMAN ARMY.
- 1998: THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FORWARDS ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT AGAINST PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON TO THE SENATE.



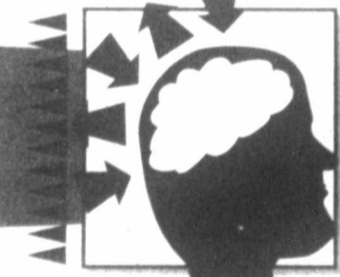
drift
be carried slowly by a current of air



Dear Shagg, What is a tree kangaroo?
Alexandra Serriz, Liverpool, NY



SHAGG'S ALWAYS ALARMING...
HAMDERS DO EXIST IN THE WILD. THEY CAN BE FOUND MOSTLY IN EUROPE AND ASIA.



adult addlers

Word Search — Impaired Driving

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

- accident alcohol arrest automobile dangerous driver drugged drunk fatality illegal impaired keys narcotics police prevention

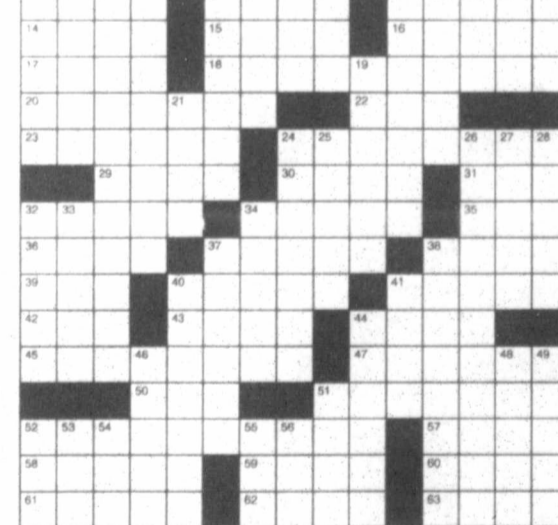
THE MORSE DECODER — CARRIAGES

THE INTERNATIONAL MORSE CODE CONSISTS OF DOTS, DASHES & SPACES. HOWEVER, IN THIS PUZZLE AN INTERESTING PROBLEM HAS BEEN CREATED BY THE ELIMINATION OF ALL SPACES.

1. □
2. □
3. □
4. □
5. □

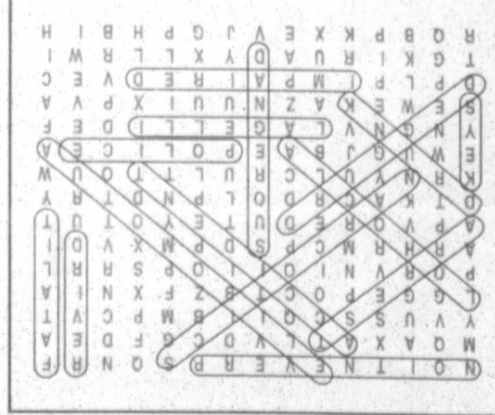
A B C D E F G H I
J K L M N O P Q
R S T U V W X Y Z

NO WRINKLES



- ACROSS**
1 Running count?
5 Afghanistan neighbor
9 Bergen's Mortimer
14 Competent
15 Monkier
16 Kind of story
17 Suffering sound
18 Capote
20 Madison County structures
22 Classic car
23 USS Enterprise device
24 Swindle
29 Chimney sweep's concern
30 Round projection, as of a leaf
31 JFK posting
32 Clean a spill
34 Opposite of pans
35 Moving
36 Moderate gait
37 Weird sisters, in Greek mythology
38 School ender
39 Mighty sprouter
40 English country home
41 Olympic skiing medalist Jean-Claude
- DOWN**
1 Short sheep?
2 What...?
3 Easy to understand
4 Distributes
5 Subscription renewal form, sometimes
6 St. Louis eleven
7 Latin word
8 Classical beginning
9 Marchioness
10 "This Earth"
11 Little rock singer
- 12 Family mem.
13 Dwight Gooden nickname
19 Sociological groups
21 Gunk
24 Downright
25 Romeo, to Juliet
26 Not easily rattled
27 Ever
28 Masculine
32 Follower of Zeno
33 Make speeches
34 Carries on
37 Daughter of Muhammad
38 Attack a sandwich, e.g.
40 Vineyard
41 Former baseball commissioner Bowie

Word Search Answers



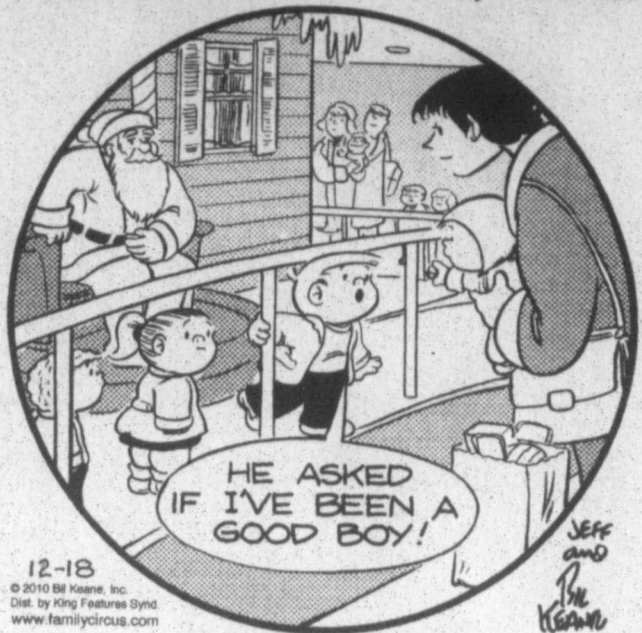
Crossword Puzzle Answers

ANSWERS:
ACROSS: 1. winter, 4. frost, 6. note
DOWN: 1. warmth, 2. tower, 3. coats, 5. out

MORSE DECODER ANSWERS
1. BUGGY
2. CHARIOT
3. OXCART
4. TRADER
5. COACH

comics PAGE

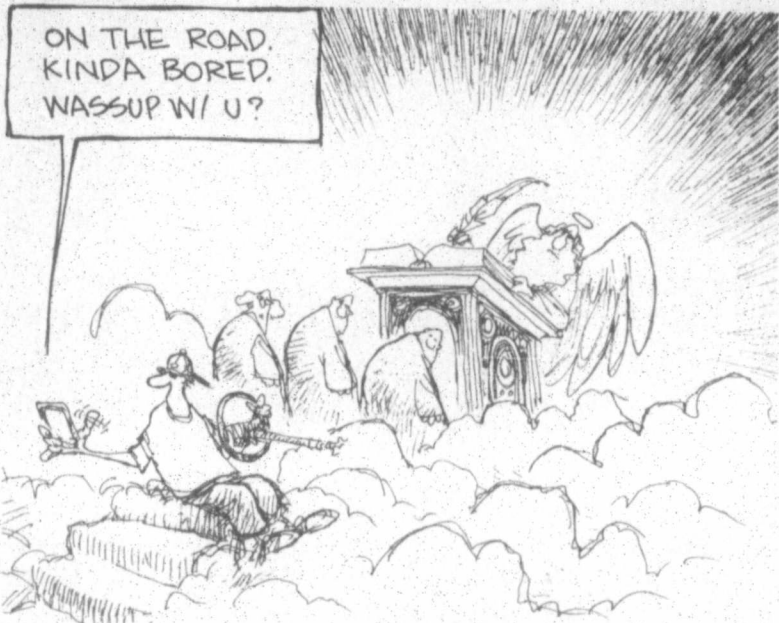
THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



12-18
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www.familycircus.com

"Can I say, 'Yes'?"

Non Sequitur



BAD JUDGMENT DAY

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Nest Heads



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, Dec. 20, 2010:

This year, allow greater give-and-take with key people in your life. Unusual creativity will come forward, though you might need to give up some of what you feel is right. In fact, as you broaden your mental horizons, your life becomes more dynamic. If you are single, many suitors seem to appear out of the ethers. Take your time choosing and committing. If you are attached, allow more give-and-take between you and your sweetie. GEMINI often challenges you.

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)

★★★★ A strong sense of direction defines your morning. The ability to flex becomes more important as the day continues. Communication might be off, as many people could respond to only a few words rather than a total concept. Staying even could be very important. Tonight: Having discussions, catching up on friends' news, answering e-mail.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ A steady path seems to be the only way to go most of the time, especially when dealing with finances. What happens and how you proceed become an issue when the unexpected starts running riot. Tonight: Center yourself, then clear up a misunderstanding.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Smile this morning. You have the capability to handle whatever you must. A key figure or situation could become quite demanding, fraught with unexpected developments this afternoon. Remember, you've got what it takes. Tonight: Blowing off steam and maybe having some fun on the way.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★ The smart Moon Child will decide to break from his or her usual routine. You need that extra time to center and perhaps finish off some holiday errands. For you, it is important to be prepared, and that you will be. Tonight: Keep it low-key.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You could be overwhelmed; many people seek you out. Though you focus on one issue at a time, you could be a little taken back by the time you spend working with others. Confusion surrounds communication. A partner or dear friend is nearly instinctive. Tonight: Where the

crowds are.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Take the lead. Others knock on your door. Friends call requesting this or that. Be careful dealing with so many people. You might not be so effective. Your intuition helps with last-minute errands. Tonight: A must appearance.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Keep reaching out for those at a distance, whether it's family, friends or associates. Make the most of the good humor of the moment. Don't stand on ceremony with an unreturned call. Remember, "tis the season." Tonight: Touch base with a special person in your life.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ You have a way with a key associate or partner. You need to be creative in how you approach this person, yet you generally get an agreement. Could the person in question be a secret admirer? Tonight: Make it comfortable and cozy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Others seem to know they have the power to make what they want happen. It nearly boils down to whether you are willing to be a player or you want to be a witness. Either way works; the choice is yours. Tonight: Touch base with someone you have been on the outs with. It is Christmas time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ Tackle as much as you can today. The real objective is to complete anything not related to the holiday season but is pending. Use your instincts with a financial matter or key gift. You know which way to go. Tonight: Get wrapping, etc., done.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Your imagination will kick in, especially if you hit a financial brick wall. You'll find a way to sail right through, and quickly at that. Investigate an opportunity, even if the person presenting it has been harsh or outrageous. Know when to look past the obvious. Tonight: Kick up your heels.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Know your limits and understand where a family member is coming from. You upset others when you let go and become unpredictable. Misunderstandings could happen. Confirm meetings, etc. Tonight: Home is where your heart is.

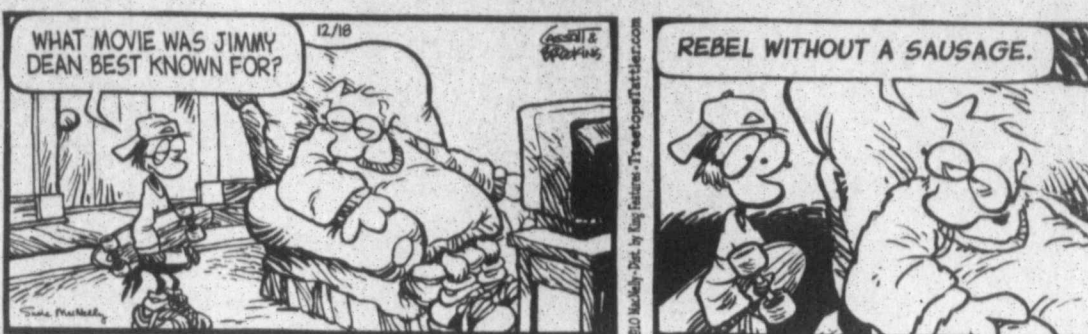
BORN TODAY

Drummer Peter Criss (1945), actress, singer Jojo (1990), singer David Cook (1982)

Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts

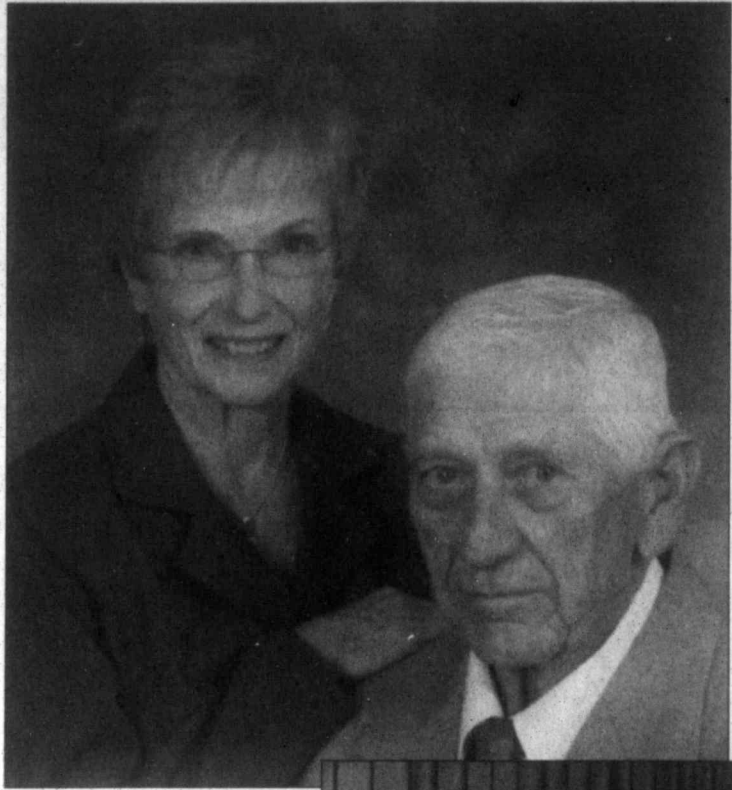


Blondie



Community

ENDURING LOVE



Barretts celebrate 60 years

Dorothy and Raymond Barrett then (at right)....

...And now (top)



Raymond and Dorothy Barrett of Pampa celebrated their 60th anniversary with a family dinner. They were married Dec. 16, 1950 in Pampa.

Raymond is a farmer and rancher, and was in the Navy for four years during the Korean Conflict.

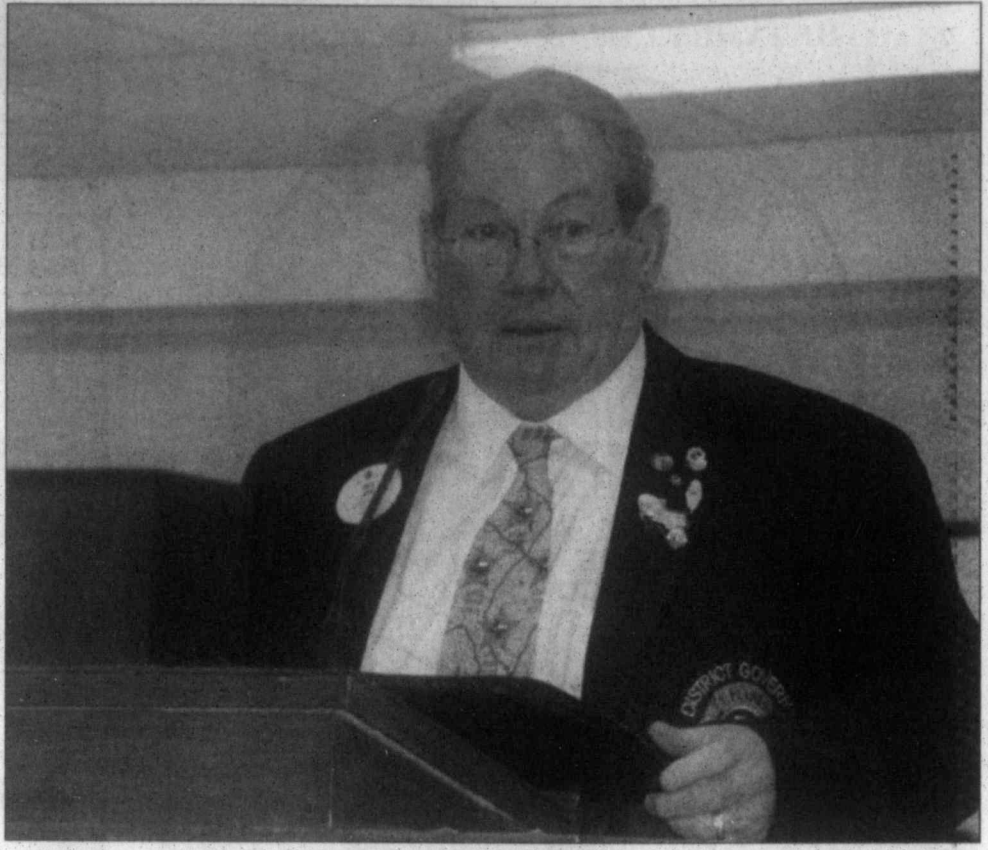
Dorothy was a nurse at Highland General Hospital for 20 years and for the Pampa schools for six years until her retirement in 1988. Both are members of First Baptist Church.

Raymond is currently involved with

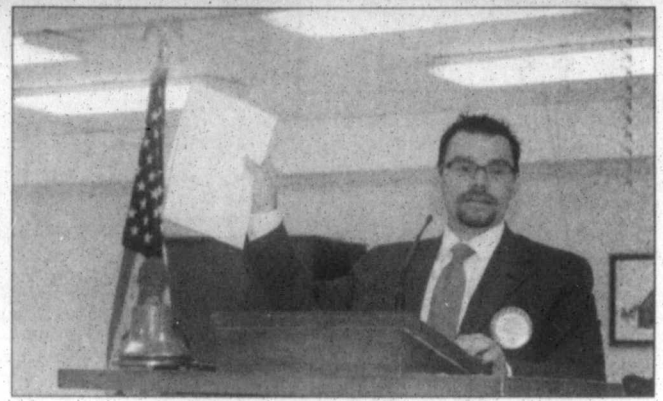
Meals on Wheels and the food bank. Dorothy is currently involved with the Pregnancy Support Center and teaches a ladies' Sunday School Class.

Their marriage produced four children; David Barrett of Pampa, Susie Birtell and husband Don of Borger, Becky McGaughy and husband Tim of Amarillo and Leigh Anderson and husband David of Pleasanton.

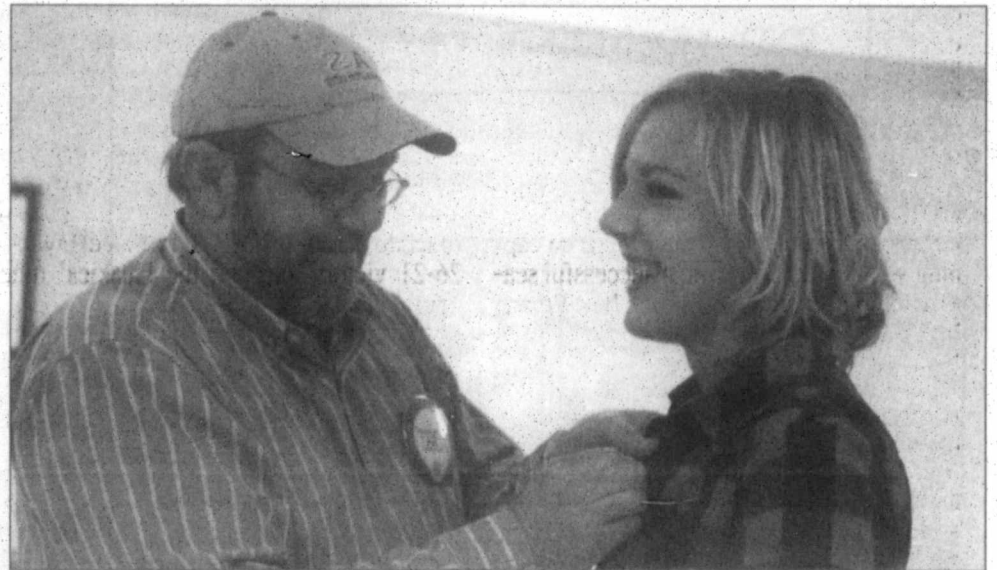
They have 11 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, with two more great-grandchildren on the way.



Lions District Governor visits



Don Weeks (top photo), district governor of the Lions Club, spoke at the local Lions Club recently. At the same meeting, Lion Brad Pingel (center photo) asks for Volunteers for the annual Lions Club Basketball tournament. Hannah Smith (bottom photo) is pinned by her father, Lion Charles Smith, as November's Lions Club Sweetheart.



'Star of Wonders' at FPC

staff photo by Randy Pribble

Star of Wonders - A Kid's Christmas of Hope was presented recently by the youth of Pampa's First Presbyterian Church. Among the character telling the Christmas story were (above, from left) Jackson Hendricks (North Star), Emily Hendricks (Shooting Star), Molly Nelson (Superstar), Ruth Andrews (Lucky Star) and Chae Ward (Falling Star). Other cast members included (Shepherds) Mason Bagwell, Tristan Black, Brant Hill, Kenon Rigoulot, Corby Unruh, Jarrett Waggoner, (Kings) Rhett Hill, Burkley Unruh, Jade Ward, (Angels) Rebekah Andrews, Reese Nelson, Brayden Rigoulot, (Animals) Tristan Bagwell, Joshua Hendricks, Owen Tidmore and Samuel Walls.

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 Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.
 Evening.....6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.



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Sports

What is your Favorite Holiday Sports Memory?



Libby Garza
PHS Head Volleyball Coach
"My daughter asking me for a pink volleyball for Christmas. It's in her blood!"



Andrew Glover
The Pampa News
"My mom and I were eating at The Village Inn in Colorado and I got Denver Bronco wide receiver Rod Smith's autograph. I thanked him by giving him the 'Mile High Salute.'"



Colten Adams
Pampa football/soccer player
"Last year during soccer practice, we were practicing in the snow and Coach True was playing with us. Everybody was sliding and tackling each other, even Coach True."



Kaleb Snelgrooes
PHS Head Baseball Coach
"My favorite memory was playing at Texas Stadium in the football playoffs the day after Thanksgiving. We got beat 42-0 by Stephenville but it was awesome playing on the same field as my heroes!"



Dustin Miller
PHS Head Boys Basketball Coach
"My favorite memory is playing in the Fort Worth Lion's Club Whataburger Tournament. Getting to experience the metroplex and witnessing and participating in some great basketball."



Braydon Barker
Assistant Volleyball/Basketball Coach
"I would have to say winning the Lion's Club Tournament my senior year. It was the first year it was held and we beat some of my good friends from Borger for the title."



Edward Garvin
PHS Head Swimming Coach
"My favorite holiday memory was watching the Cowboys play on Thanksgiving with my grandma."



Taryn Eubank
Pampa volleyball player
"My favorite memory was having fun at the basketball tournaments over Christmas break my sophomore and junior years."



Matt Embry
Assistant Football/Basketball Coach
"My favorite memory was beating Hobbs (New Mexico) in their tournament my junior year of high school. They had a 100 plus game win streak at home at the time. Their fans were throwing food and water bottles at us as we were escorted off the court and onto the bus."

Humanitarian Bowl in Boise one of NCAA's kickoff bowls

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — On a Friday night in Detroit two weeks ago, Northern Illinois saw what would have been its first Mid-American Conference title in nearly 30 years slip away.

By Sunday, its head coach was headed for the Big Ten and a job at Minnesota.

"It was rough. We got our hearts ripped out on Friday and we lost our coach on Sunday," NIU interim coach Tom Matukewicz said. "You're sitting there looking at each other and no one knows what to do on Monday, and all of a sudden that clutter gets in about what-ifs."

So for the past two weeks, it's been Matukewicz's job to settle the Huskies' turbulence and try to get their focus on capping what could be the most successful season in NIU's history if they can beat Fresno State on Saturday in the Humanitarian Bowl.

He won't be the head guy when next fall arrives. That job is going to Wisconsin defensive coordinator Dave Doeren, who will take over the Huskies program after the Rose Bowl. But Matukewicz is sticking around, returning to his job as linebackers coach next season following the Huskies' third straight bowl appearance.

His players appreciate what the 37-year-

old has tried to do during the past two weeks to bring in a little bit of normalcy during this rough stretch.

"The transition has been a lot better than a lot of us expected," NIU quarterback Chandler Harnish said.

Northern Illinois (10-3) probably should be playing in a different bowl as the MAC champion. All they needed was to stop a fourth-and-20 against Miami (Ohio) in the conference title game with less than 2 minutes left and the Huskies could have claimed their first league crown since 1983.

Instead, Miami QB Austin Boucher found Chris Givens for 31 yards and two plays later hit Adrian Robinson on a 33-yard touchdown strike to give the RedHawks a 26-21 victory and end the Huskies' nine-game win streak.

It was a gut-wrenching dagger, only amplified by coach Jerry Kill's departure just a couple of days later.

"Focus is the best way to go through change and you can't focus on things you can't control, focus on the things we can control and that's our attitude," Matukewicz said.

The focus for the Huskies the past two weeks has been figuring out what happened to its offense in the MAC title game,

a unit that was averaging 46 points during a nine-game streak that was stymied by the RedHawks in the biggest game of the season.

Running back Chad Spann saw his streak of a touchdown in 11 straight games snapped against Miami when he was held to 54 yards rushing, his second-lowest total of the season. Illinois was the only other team to stop the 5-foot-9, 200-pound back, holding him to 15 yards rushing back in September.

Still, Spann finished with 20 rushing touchdowns this season, tied for second in the country behind Oregon's LaMichael James, and was the MAC offensive player of the year. He has 39 rushing TDs the last two seasons.

"They're a very good rushing offense.

They've put up some great numbers and they've got some phenomenal athletes," Fresno State defensive end Chris Carter said. "We have small running backs ourselves, so I'm not going to judge anybody on their size. If they can run the ball, that's all that matters."

Returning to the blue turf in Boise might bring back some ugly memories for the Bulldogs, who were here just a month ago and were shut out for the first time in a dozen years in a 51-0 loss to Boise State.

But Boise's been good to Fresno State (8-4) in the postseason. The Bulldogs, working on a streak of 11 bowl trips in 12 years, are 2-0 in the Humanitarian Bowl. Ai and its other name incarnations — beating Virginia in 2004 and Georgia Tech in 2007.

Cancellations

- The Lefors Pirates and Lady Pirates' Friday games against Miami were canceled due to inclement weather.

- The JV and varsity girls basketball teams games against Lubbock Estacado were also canceled for weather issues.

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this week in SPORTS:

- DEC 20 Monday**
• Pampa High School JV and Varsity Boys Basketball vs. Panhandle, JV starts at 5 and Varsity 6:30 p.m., Panhandle
- DEC 22 Wednesday**
• Seniors Scramble: Sign up 10 a.m., 10:30 a.m. shotgun start, Hidden Hills

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Who's Behind Santa's Beard?

Match the Santas in the pictures below to their respective business.

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RULES

- Must be 18 or older to win
- Only official entries from *The Pampa News* accepted
- Entries due Wednesday, December 22, at noon
- Entry with the most correct answers will win — in case of a tie, a drawing will be held to determine the winner.

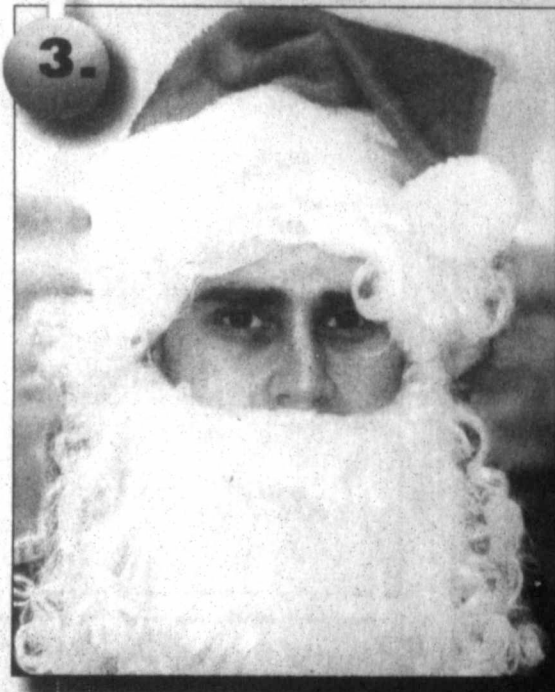
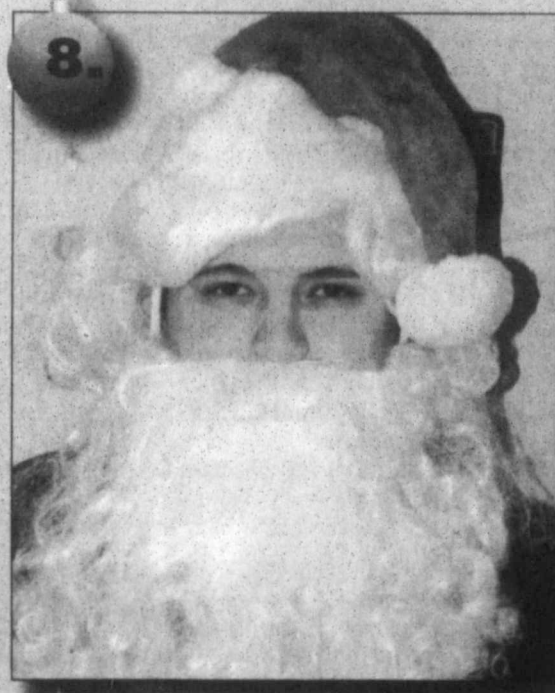
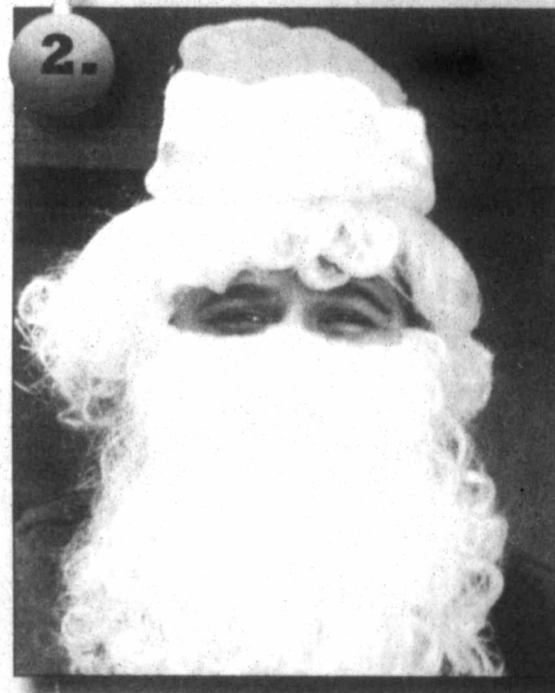
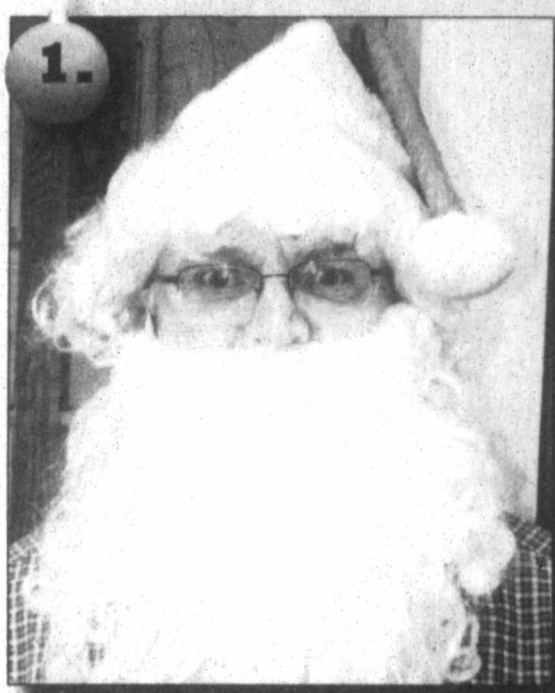
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- ___ **Prestige**
(Casey)
- ___ **Sonic**
(Jose)
- ___ **Rheams**
(Ken)
- ___ **Holmes**
(Ronnie)

- ___ **Brandon's**
(Misty)
- ___ **Culberson-Stowers**
(George)
- ___ **Franks**
(Miguel)
- ___ **Keyes**
(Merlin)
- ___ **Roberta's**
(Crystal)

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