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The PAMPA NEWS

TODAY IN SPORTS

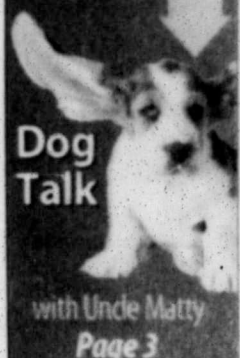


Smooth sailing

Pirates rout Coyotes for third win of season

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inside:



Dog Talk

with Uncle Matty
Page 3

Wednesday, January 5, 2011 Volume 106 • No. 230 75¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

PRMC layoffs not a distress signal, says Buck

ARNIE AURELLANO
 editor@thepampanews.com

Today is the last day at Pampa Regional Medical Center for many employees, some of them longtime members of the hospital's staff.

PRMC notified a number of its workers last week that the facility's extended downturn in business had forced a round of layoffs. According to hospital CEO



Buck

Bill Buck, the layoffs were a difficult decision that PRMC's parent company, Signature Hospital Corporation, unfortunately felt had to be made.

Buck estimated the number of layoffs at around 15 to 17, mostly

in non-clinical positions. He reiterated that the decisions were not performance-based, but rather the result of an evaluation on which positions could be eliminated to keep the hospital running efficiently.

He also acceded that the need the need to optimize the hospital's numbers is due in part to the facility looking to attract potential buyers. Buck declined PRMC cont. on page 5

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CITY LIGHTS



staff photo by David Bowser

Aaron Johnson of the City of Pampa replaces older fluorescent tubes in a City Hall conference room with new more energy efficient ones.

Grant nets new bulbs for city fixtures

DAVID BOWSER
 dbowser@thepampanews.com

There is an enormous crate full of four-foot fluorescent bulbs in the city's building and grounds office on the east side of town. These are fluorescent tubes that the city has removed

from city lighting fixtures and replaced with newer, more efficient bulbs.

"We got a grant from the state comptroller's office, an energy efficiency block grant, to replace all of our old T-12 fluorescent light bulbs and ballasts," said Shane Stokes,

Pampa's assistant city manager.

The City of Pampa is replacing them with T-8 bulbs that are much more energy efficient, he said.

"It requires a retrofit where you take the bulbs and ballasts," said Shane Stokes, **LIGHTS** cont. on page 5

Panhandle saw wetter weather than usual in 2010

JUSTYN JACKSON
 National Weather Service - Amarillo
 Special to The Pampa News

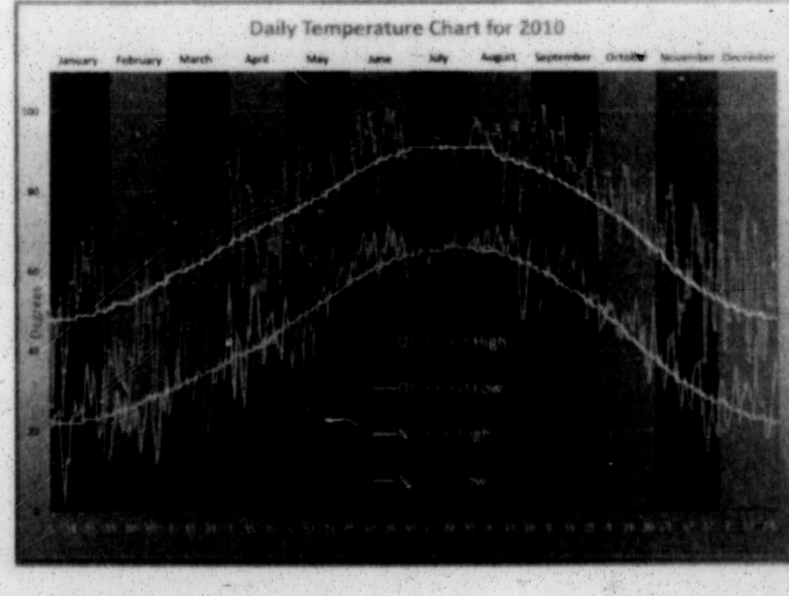
Once again, Panhandle weather provided plenty of diversity during 2010.

The winter season really started off in late December 2009 and continued through March. Amarillo typically averages about 20 inches of snow each year, and we measured nearly 24 inches of snow from January through March. In addition, these three months were quite a change from 2009. The average temperature for January through March 2009 was nearly 4 degrees above normal while this same

time period in 2010 experienced and average temperature that was nearly 3 degrees below normal with twice as much snowfall. For the entire year, 28.8 inches of snow were measured at Amarillo, which makes 2010 the 15th snowiest year on record.

The moist conditions continued through April with the four month combined precipitation total being nearly 4 inches above **WEATHER** cont. on page 5

This chart shows that, on average, 2010 exhibited a temperature over 20 degrees warmer than previous norms recorded in the Panhandle. >



Nominations Needed!
 Business of the Year & Citizen of the Year
 To be awarded at the Annual Banquet on February 24, 2011
 Deadline extended to: January 10
 Please email erica@pampachamber.com or call 669-3241 for more information and ticket reservations

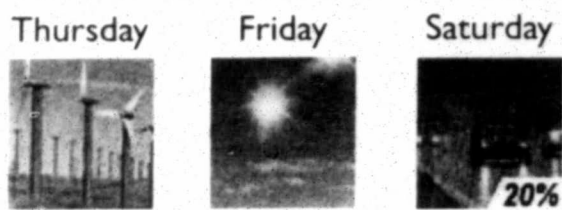
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For the record

PAMPA FORECAST



Thursday: High 56, Low 26
Friday: High 56, Low 24
Saturday: High 40, Low 22, 20% chance of rain

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 21. North northwest wind around 5 mph.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 56. Wind chill values between 13 and 23 early. Breezy, with a west wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 26. West northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 56. West northwest wind around 5 mph becoming east southeast.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 24. East wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Saturday: A 20 percent chance of rain. Partly sunny, with a high near 40. East wind around 10 mph.

Saturday Night: A 20 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 22. East wind around 10 mph.

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LAST MINUTE ADS

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

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JAMMING AT Woody Guthrie Music Center, Fri. 6:30 p.m.
PHS SOFTBALL Cajun Meal Fri. Jan. 21, 5:30 - 7:30 PHS Commons. Contact any PHS softball player for tickets or call 669-2232. Ticket sales end Jan 12.
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EMERGENCY SERVICES

Continued from Tues.

Police Department

Disorderly conduct was reported at Crawford and Huff.
 An alarm was reported in the 1900 block of North Sumner.
 An abandoned vehicle was reported at Hobart and 23rd.
 Found property was reported in the 1300 block of North Coffee.
 A theft was reported in the 100 block of Hampton Lane.
 The Lefors Volunteer Fire Department reported a grass fire on Gray County Road 11. Officers were placed on special assignment in the 100 block of West 30th.
 Pampa firefighters made a service call in the 1200 block of Crawford.
 Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1000 block of Sirocco.
 A suspicious person was reported in the 300 block of North Perry.
 A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 1200 block of North Duncan.
 A theft was reported in the 500 block of North Faulkner.
 Criminal mischief was reported in the 2300 block of North Primrose.
 A suspicious person was reported in the 500 block of North Gray.
 A domestic disturbance was reported in the 400 block of North Crest.
 A theft was reported in the 800 block of East Locust.
 A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1000 block of Sirocco.
Tuesday, Jan. 4
 Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1300 block of North Coffee and in the 1300 block of North Garland.
 A suspicious person was reported in the 1200 block of North Wells.
 An alarm was reported in the 1100 block of Terry.
 An alarm was reported in the 2300 block of North Navajo.
 The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents during 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. today.
 Police reported 12 traffic-related calls and one accident.
 Animal Control Officers reported 10 calls.
 Pampa EMS reported eight ambulance calls. The Pampa Fire Department reported one medical call.
Tuesday, Jan. 4
 An abandoned vehicle was reported in the 200 block of Atchison.
 Three officers were dispatched to testify in court.
 Officers made a welfare check in the 1300 block of North Terrace.
 Criminal trespass was reported in the 100 block of North Russell.
 Officers made a welfare check in the 2300 block of North Evergreen.
 Found property was reported in the 700 block of Municipal Drive.
 A suspicious person was reported in the 1000 block of North Sumner.
 Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1300 block of West Somerville.
 A burglary was reported to police.
 A theft was reported to police.
 Disorderly conduct was reported in the 800 block of West Kingsmill.
 An assault was reported in the 2300 block of North Mary Ellen.
 A narcotics violation was reported in the 1100 block of

Obituaries

Beverly S. Boone, 75

Beverly S. Boone, 75, died January 4, 2011, in Amarillo. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Boone was born February 10, 1935, in Mineral Wells, graduating from Mineral Wells High School in 1953. She married her high school sweetheart, Herman Boone, on December 26, 1953, in Mineral Wells. She had been a resident of Miami since 1983. Beverly was a member of the Red Hat Club and was a Baptist. She enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to Dr. Lim and the staff of Texas Oncology, as well as the nursing staff of Northwest Texas Hospital for their loving care.

Survivors include her husband, Herman Boone of the home; daughter, Kim Vanderburg and husband Joe of Spearman; son, Sam Boone and wife Margie of Wichita Falls; seven grandchildren, Brandon Vanderburg and wife Crystal of Miami, Clancy Vanderburg and wife Chelsea of Spearman, Clayton Vanderburg of Lubbock, Cleve Vanderburg of Beaumont, Britta Vanderburg of Lubbock, Kia Boone of Wichita Falls and Madison Boone of Wichita Falls; three great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Make-a-Wish Foundation, 411 S. Fillmore Street, Amarillo, TX 79101.

Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

Mary Meathenia Coombes, 61

Mary Meathenia Coombes, 61, went home to be with her Savior on January 3, 2011 at Pampa.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, January 6, 2011, at Memory Gardens Mausoleum with Rev. Albert Maggard, pastor of First Pentecostal Holiness Church, officiating.

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

Mrs. Coombes was born March 31, 1949, in Pampa where she had been a lifelong resident, graduating from Pampa High School in 1967. She received her LVN degree from Frank Phillips College and received her Registered Nurse's degree from Amarillo College. She worked for Rural Metro Ambulance during her school years, and later, she was a nurse at Pampa Regional Medical Center for over 20 years. She was a member of First Pentecostal Holiness Church.

Survivors include her son, Terry Coombes of Lefors; sister, Rita Ellis and husband Keldon of Pampa; three grandchildren, Tad Coombes and wife Jonelle, Tory Coombes and wife Tabitha, and Brittney Coombes and Kegan Furgerson, all of Lefors; two great-grandchildren, Trace Coombes and Aiden Furgerson, both of Lefors; special friend, Mina Towery of the home. Mary was preceded in death by her parents, L.A. and Viola Meathenia; a brother and a sister.

Memorials may be made to Lefors Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 362, Lefors, TX 79054, or First Pentecostal Holiness Church, P.O. Box 1472, Pampa, TX 79066-1472.

Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whatley.com.



Coombes

Armond Lacy Lee, 78

Armond Lacy Lee, 78, died January 2, 2011, in Pampa.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, January 6, 2011, at Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel, with Glen Walton, minister of Bell Avenue Church of Christ of Amarillo, officiating.

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

Mr. Lee was born November 12, 1932, in Cimarron, Kan. He married Atha Belle Steward on August 23, 1952, in Pampa. He had been a resident of Pampa since 1957. Armond was minister of the Hugoton, Kansas Church of



Lee

Christ for three years. He worked for Citizens Bank & Trust for 26 years and was later the head custodian at Baker Elementary School in Pampa. He was a member and deacon of Mary Ellen & Harvester Church of Christ. He taught many Bible classes at Oklahoma Street Church of Christ and Pampa Church of Christ.

Survivors include his wife, Atha Belle Lee of the home; two daughters, Jenny Welch and husband Randolph and Linda Carlton and husband Marvin, all of Pampa; four sons, Mickey Lee of the home, Douglas Lee and wife Kellie of Burleson, Andy Lee of Pampa, and Robin Lee and wife Donna-Marie of Lake Jackson; 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Armond was preceded in death by his parents, Jess Homer and Etta Pyle Lee; a brother, Clarence Arnold Lee; and a sister, Darlene Cozadd.

Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

Evelyn Winborne, 78

Evelyn Winborne, 78, died January 4, 2011, in Pampa.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Winborne was born November 18, 1932, in Kingfisher, Okla. and was a 1951 graduate of Kingfisher High School. She receives an Associate's degree from Oklahoma and Mechanical College on May 19, 1953, and received a B.S. degree in education from Central State College in Edmond, Okla. on May 19, 1955. She was a Pampa resident for over 50 years. Evelyn taught typing, shorthand and business education at Pampa High School for many years before retiring in 1972. She married A.W. Winborne on September 3, 1970, in Pampa. She was a member of First Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband, A.W. Winborne of the home; four sons, Rodnie Winborne and wife Kathy and Danny Winborne and wife Susan, all of Pampa, Pat Prichard and wife Tami of Ransom Canyon, and Steve Prichard of Odessa; sister, Mary Beth Tyson and husband Al of Sun City, Ariz.; six grandchildren, Kelly Cambern and husband John and Lisa King, all of Pampa, Will Winborne and wife Cobi of Panhandle, Matt Winborne of Houston, Shelby Prichard of New York City, and Carson Prichard of Lubbock, and seven great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, Virgie and Lorene Phillips.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 621, Pampa, TX 79066-0621.

Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whatley.com.



Winborne

Mary Lea Garrett, 93

PENSACOLA, FLA—Mary Lea Garrett, 93, died Tuesday, Jan. 4, 2010, in Pensacola, Fla.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Garrett was born April 5, 1917, in Bluejacket, Okla. She married Leo G. Garrett on Nov. 12, 1934, in Oswego, Kan. He preceded her in death on Jan. 4, 2001. Mary Lea was a resident of Pampa for 44 years before moving to Pensacola to be near her son. She was a homemaker, realtor, and an accomplished artist. She was a member of First United Methodist Church of Pampa. Mary Lea was also preceded in death by her daughter, Barbara Sue Maher, her parents, two brothers, and a sister.

Survivors include her son, James Garrett of Fairhope, Ala.; sister, Earlene Snyder of Miami, Okla.; three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Memorials may be made to First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 1981, Pampa, TX 79066-1981 or Meals on Wheels, P.O. Box 939, Pampa, TX 79066-0939.

Sign the online register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.



Garrett

Thank You!

The family of Bill Allison wish to express our thanks to each of you who have allowed God to minister to our family during this time when we unexpectedly lost not only a husband, father, brother, son, but a good friend. The love that was shown to us by our church, the people of Pampa, the City of Pampa, City Commissioners, The Pampa News and countless friends who have reached out to us during this time in a way that has truly touched our hearts and let us know that we are not alone in our grieving. You have encouraged us by your phone calls, letters, cards, food, prayers and just a kind word. Thanks to the City of Pampa for the honor and respect shown to Bill. We realize many of you will miss Bill as much as we do and we just want to say "thank you" for loving him and being such a good friend to him. Words cannot express what you have meant to us! We know God remains faithful, and our faith in Jesus Christ assures us that we will be together again.

Thank you!

Helen Allison and Luella Allison
 Stephanie Downs and Family
 Cody Allison and Family
 Tyler Allison and Family
 Lynn Allison and Family

AFTERNOON RUSH

Roof for Governor's Mansion

AUSTIN (AP) - The arson-damaged Texas Governor's Mansion is getting a new roof as part of \$26 million in renovations.

Project manager Dealey Herndon says restoration officials had some surprises over the front windows.

The Austin American-Statesman reported, for its Wednesday editions, that the tall windows were built to lift about 18 inches into a pocket built into the mansion's exterior walls, apparently so people could walk out on to the porch, on both the first and second floors.

Herndon calls it "a fun find." He also says the new roof could be done by April.

No one has been charged over the June 2008 fire that damaged the unoccupied residence during renovations. Gov. Rick Perry and his wife are living in a rental property. The mansion is expected to reopen in 2012.

Court blocks EPA plan

DALLAS (AP) - A federal appeals court has temporarily blocked the Environmental Protection Agency from taking over greenhouse gas permits in Texas.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia issued the stay Thursday, pending further action by the court.

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott had asked the federal appeals court in Washington to block the EPA from taking over greenhouse gas permits starting Sunday until the court could review the case.

The appeals court noted that order issuing the stay "should not be construed in any way as a ruling on the merits" of Abbott's motion.

Earlier last week, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit had declined to issue a stay that would delay the EPA's plans as Texas' lawsuit against the federal agency moved forward.

Texas economy outperforms US

COLLEGE STATION (Real Estate Center) — The Texas economy continues to outperform the U.S. economy in the current recovery. The state's economy gained 194,400 jobs from November 2009 to November 2010, an annual growth rate of 1.9 percent.

Over the same period, the U.S. economy gained 842,000 jobs, an annual growth rate of 0.6 percent. Texas' private sector continues to play a key role in creating jobs, according to the Real Estate Center's Monthly Review of the Texas Economy for December.

The state's private sector posted an annual employment growth rate of 2.2 percent compared with 1 percent for the U.S. private sector from November 2009 to November 2010, said the report's authors Research Economist Dr. Ali Anari and Chief Economist Dr. Mark Dotzour. To read the complete report, go to <http://recenter.tamu.edu/pdf/1862.pdf>

'Duct tape' judge suspended

GILMER (AP) - A state panel has suspended indicted Upshur County Judge Dean Fowler in an official oppression investigation that led some residents to protest by covering their mouths with duct tape.

The suspension was announced Tuesday by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct.

Fowler attorney Todd Teffeller says the suspension, with pay, is standard procedure when a judge has been indicted.

County commissioners in September decided to stop hearing public comment. A protester in November who put duct tape over his mouth was removed from the public meeting.

A grand jury Dec. 29 indicted Fowler on charges of official oppression and abuse of power. Two other county officials also were indicted. No trial dates have been set.

County commissioners on Dec. 30 voted to lift the ban on public comment.

Lawsuit not hurting prospects

LUBBOCK (AP) - Mike Leach says he doesn't think his lawsuit against Texas Tech for wrongful termination has anything to do with him not getting another coaching job.

Leach interviewed for the Maryland job, but Terrapins athletic director Kevin Anderson hired Randy Edsall away from Connecticut instead.

Leach was fired by Texas Tech in December 2009 after receiver Adam James accused the coach of mistreating him after the player was diagnosed with a concussion.

Leach denies the allegations and says his pending lawsuit against Tech "certainly doesn't impact my ability to coach and it wouldn't have anything to do with any other schools."

Ortiz cleared in travel probe

WASHINGTON (AP) - A longtime Texas congressman who failed in his 2010 re-election bid has been cleared in an ethics review of how he spent government funds during overseas trips.

Democrat Solomon Ortiz of Corpus Christi in November lost to Republican Blake Farenthold, who was being sworn in Wednesday.

Ortiz faced a travel-related review by members of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

A staff recommendation, dated Dec. 30, was for the committee to close its investigation after evidence did not support any alleged rules violations.

FBI investigates Bay City threats

BAY CITY (AP) - A hand-written death threat letter to a South Texas school district prompted the parents of hundreds of students to keep their children home.

A message Wednesday on the Bay City Independent School District website says classes continue with increased emphasis on safety and security.

The FBI and the Texas Department of Public Safety are investigating.

Parents on Monday were advised by Superintendent Keith Brown of the anonymous letter received Dec. 28. The letter to Brown contains profanity, misspellings and refers to the sender's child getting in trouble. The sender included new "rules" on discipline and threatened to "kill a random student" if the demands were not met.

About half the students in the nearly 3,800-student district missed school Tuesday. Bay City is about 70 miles southwest of Houston.

Dealing with unwanted behaviors

MATTHEW "UNCLE MATTY" MARGOLIS
Creator's Syndicate

Dog Talk



I recently heard from a woman who has three dogs and one enduring problem: They jump. On everyone and everything.

This problem has been going on for years. Her solution? Yell the word "no" whenever the dogs jump on someone who would rather they didn't.

In the meantime, when it's just family and when the dogs are at home, they're allowed to jump on people, and they're allowed to jump on the furniture. In fact, they're encouraged to do it.

It's an all too common story: Mom comes home. The dogs go nuts. They do their little happy dance, which includes a lot of spinning and barking and wagging and jumping. It's adorable. It's heartwarming. It's a wonderful ritual. And it's conditioning.

Whether it's the right behavior or the wrong behavior, and whether or not we realize we're doing it, we condition our dogs to behave in certain ways.

If every time you walk through the front door your dogs jump all over you, and if you, in turn, squeal in delight and kiss them all over, you are essentially telling them you love it when they jump! Do it again!

One of the benefits of dog training is that you, the owner, gain a deeper understanding of how your behavior affects your dog. Your posture, your body language, your voice, the tone of your voice, your energy and even your words all play a role in conditioning your dog.

When I asked the owner of the trio of jumpers why she hadn't trained her dogs, she said she was afraid training would "rob the dogs of their spirit."

Something to keep in mind when searching for a dog trainer: Good training utilizes love, praise and

affection to inform the dog of desirable behaviors. It should in no way rob the dog of his personality.

Bad training involves yelling and a host of punishments, and it usually creates bigger problems down the line. Ironically, this is exactly what she was doing.

Unwanted behavior should be corrected — not punished. There are humane and effective methods of correcting a dog, but the method must be infused with meaning. You must consistently correct the unwanted behavior every time it is presented. Then follow up the correction with a demonstration of what you want him to do instead. Then, when he does it, wrap the moment with some hearty praise and affection.

A couple of tips on corrections:

You can use the word "no," but never say it in conjunction with the dog's name. You'll never get him to come when called!

Kneeing a dog in the chest and stepping on his paws are inhumane tactics and should be avoided. There are much better ways to get your dog to stop jumping. For example, a dog with some basic obedience training should know the "sit" command. And a dog who has been given the job of "sitting" cannot jump.

For more information on getting rid of problem behaviors like jumping, visit unclematty.com or read "When Good Dogs Do Bad Things."

Woof!

Dog trainer Matthew "Uncle Matty" Margolis is co-author of 18 books about dogs, a behaviorist, a popular radio and television guest, and host of the PBS series "WOOF! It's a Dog's Life!"

Ruling to allow 36 states dump nuke waste

HOUSTON (AP) - A Texas commission approved rules on Tuesday that pave the way for 36 states to export low-level radioactive waste to a remote landfill along the Texas-New Mexico border.

The 5-2 vote by the Texas Low-Level Radioactive Commission came after last-minute legal maneuvering on Monday failed to delay the meeting, environmentalists warned the dump would pollute groundwater and more than 5,000 people commented on the plan.

The expansion stokes the debate over where and if nuclear waste can be dumped in the United States, an argument that has taken on new importance since President Barack Obama vowed to decrease the country's dependence on foreign oil, partly by building more nuclear power plants.

In the end, however, the site's owner, Dallas-based

Waste Control Specialists, convinced the commission the West Texas landfill was a secure solution to permanently dump radioactive waste. Until now, the site has only accepted waste from Texas, Vermont and the federal government.

"We are certainly very pleased and happy," CEO Bill Lindquist told The Associated Press after the vote in Andrews, Texas.

The vote also came two days before Vermont's incoming governor, Peter Shumlin, takes office. The Democrat has openly criticized the plan and had said he would replace the state's two commissioners with members more in line with his views.

Opponents have argued the commission was rushing to vote on the rules to ensure a majority.

Lindquist said he is expecting some legal challenges to the commission's decision, but the company

is moving ahead with construction of the landfill. The first phase of construction should be completed by November. In early 2012, the second part of the site where federal waste will be stored - will also be finished, he said.

While the facility will now be able to accept waste from three dozen states, the commission guaranteed Vermont - which paid \$25 million to have two members on the commission - 20 percent capacity in the landfill. Vermont has only one nuclear facility, but since it plans to phase it out in the next 30 to 40 years it sought to promise itself space for the waste that process would create.

Vermont's concerns about where to get rid of its waste are shared by other states. In 2008, South Carolina severely curtailed who could send waste to its low-level nuclear dump, shutting down the

last major facility that had been accepting the waste. And a battle over burying high-level nuclear waste at Nevada's Yucca Mountain, a years-long, multimillion-dollar project that has suffered a series of setbacks, has created fierce opposition to building additional nuclear facilities.

Opponents argue that until there are viable solutions for dealing with the dangerous radioactive waste, no new plants should be built and the U.S. should instead focus on expanding solar and wind energy.

Texas Commissioner Bob Wilson has opposed the expansion plans and the rules for some time. He voted against the rules on Tuesday, but largely because he fears the commission is unprepared to deal with the enormity of the task once the 1,340-acre site begins accepting waste from other states.

PET OF THE WEEK

Sponsored by The Pampa News

Your local animal shelter needs donations of the following items:

Cat Litter, Cat Food, Bleach
Dry Puppy Food, Paper Towels



"Bruno"
Male Aussie X

"Lyla"
Female Shepherd X

"Missy"
Female Aussie X

"Steve"
DSH Cat

If you're looking for a "forever friend," call or visit us today!

For more info about these pets or any other questions, call 806-669-5775 or visit us at the Hobart Street Park.

All photos of animals can be viewed online at www.cityofpampa.org.

The animals can be seen through the window of the shelter any time.

The Shelter is open to the public Mon. - Sat. from 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 5, the fifth day of 2011. There are 360 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 5, 1896, an Austrian newspaper, Wiener Presse, reported the discovery by German physicist Wilhelm Roentgen of a type of radiation that came to be known as "X-rays."

On this date:

In 1781, a British naval expedition led by Benedict Arnold burned Richmond, Va.

In 1809, the Treaty of the Dardanelles, which ended the Anglo-Turkish War, was concluded by the United Kingdom and the Ottoman Empire.

In 1925, Nellie T. Ross of Wyoming became the first female governor in U.S. history.

In 1949, in his State of the Union address, President Harry S. Truman labeled his administration the Fair Deal.

In 1957, President Dwight D. Eisenhower proposed assistance to countries to help them resist Communist aggression; this became known as the Eisenhower Doctrine.

In 1970, Joseph A. Yablonski, an unsuccessful candidate for the presidency of the United Mine Workers of America, was found murdered with his wife and daughter at their Clarksville, Pa. home. (UMWA President Tony Boyle and seven others were convicted of, or pleaded guilty in the killings.)

In 1994, Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill, former speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, died in Boston at age 81.

In 1998, Sonny Bono, the 1960s pop star-turned-politician, was killed when he struck a tree while skiing at the Heavenly Ski Resort on the Nevada-California state line; he was 62.

Ten years ago: In a blizzard of last-minute executive orders, President Bill Clinton curtailed road building and jogging on federal forest land and reorganized the nation's counterintelligence efforts.

Five years ago: Christian broadcaster Pat Robertson suggested that Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's severe stroke was divine punishment for "dividing God's land." (Robertson later apologized.)

One year ago: President Barack Obama scolded 20 of his highest-level officials over the botched Christmas Day terror attack on an airliner bound for Detroit, taking them jointly to task for "a screw-up that could have been disastrous" and should have been avoided.

Today's Birthdays: Former Vice President Walter F. Mondale is 83. Actor Robert Duvall is 80. King Juan Carlos of Spain is 73. Talk show host Charlie Rose is 69. Actress-director Diane Keaton is 65. Actor Ted Lange is 63. Rhythm-and-blues musician George "Funky" Brown (Kool and the Gang) is 62. Rock musician Chris Stein (Blondie) is 61. Former CIA Director George Tenet is 58. Actress Pamela Sue Martin is 58. Actor Clancy Brown is 52. Actor Vinnie Jones is 46. Dancer-choreographer Carrie Ann Inaba is 43. Actress Heather Paige Kent is 42. Rock singer Marilyn Manson is 42. Actor Bradley Cooper is 36. Actress January Jones is 33.

Thought for Today: "It is the job that is never started that takes longest to finish." — J.R.R. Tolkien, English author (1892-1973)



Elites playing with economic dynamite

By gollyies, America is still an exporting powerhouse. In fact, the good ol' U.S.A. is No. 1 in the world in exports! Our corporate leaders, backed by Republicans and Democrats alike in Washington, are now routinely exporting America's most precious goods — our jobs, factories, technologies and middle-class opportunities.

With unemployment and underemployment devastating millions of families in our country, perhaps you've assumed that U.S. corporations simply aren't hiring these days. Nonsense. They added 1.4 million jobs last year alone — overseas.

For example, more than half of Caterpillar's new hires in 2010 were in foreign countries. Many more of this giant's jobs are headed offshore in the near future, for Caterpillar, which was once an iconic American brand, has recently invested in three new plants in China. It'll not only manufacture tractors and bulldozers there, but it'll also begin to ship its design work and technology development jobs to China.

Likewise, DuPont, once proud of its U.S. workforce, has slashed its number of American employees in recent years, while increasing its Asia-Pacific workforce by more than half. Indeed, DuPont no longer considers itself American — "We are a global player," sniffs its chief innovation officer.

Such homemade brands as Coca-Cola, Dell and IBM are also among the multitude of corporations abandoning our shores and our middle class. Of course, they



JIM HIGHTOWER

keep their posh headquarters here so they and their top executives can continue enjoying all that America has to offer.

Calvin Coolidge once famously asserted that "what's good for business is good for America." That's myopic enough, but today's narcissistic CEOs are even more self-centered, declaring that "what's good for business is good for business, America be damned."

In fact, profits are up, the stock market is roaring, corporations are awash in cash, CEOs are reaping fabulous paychecks again, and — did you hear? — holiday spending reached its highest level in four years.

Forget last year's talk of gloom, all economic indicators are now on zoom, headed for a new boom!

Well, maybe not all indicators. There is still that pesky little problem of joblessness, for instance. Most politicians and economists, however, no longer want to be bothered with the fact that millions of our people are either unemployed or underemployed. Jobs, they say dismissively, are merely a "lagging economic indicator," a problem that'll take care of itself in the by and by. Just be patient. And be quiet.

But jobs have been "lagging" for years now, and there's no sign that

this problem will ever take care of itself. To the contrary, America's corporate elite have learned that they can prosper by deliberately holding the workaday majority in a new normal of job insecurity.

No one at the top wants to admit it, but big business has quietly been imposing a structural transformation on our economy, shifting from a workforce of permanent employees to one in which most jobs are temporary, scarce, low-paid, without benefits and with no upward mobility. Of the 1.2 million jobs created by the private sector last year, for example, 26 percent were temporary positions, and in November, temp jobs soared to 80 percent of that month's total.

What's happening here is not merely a matter of a few million folks being momentarily down on their luck, but of an intentional dismantling of America's middle-class structure.

The Powers That Be can talk all they want about a boom, but working families — America's majority — know better. A boom for whom? they ask. They can plainly see that self-serving elites are jury-rigging the job market, lowering the standard of living and closing opportunities for millions.

The elites don't know it yet, but they are playing with dynamite. Our society can tolerate such raw selfishness by the privileged few, or it can have democracy. It can't have both.

Jim Hightower is a syndicated columnist, populist activist and author.

The PAMPA NEWS

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15 Rare Earth Elements Essential To Technology

PRMC

to comment on the sale of the hospital, per corporate policy.

PRMC has been sold five times in its existence, counting its initial sale.

Buck said that, while the layoffs coincide with the upcoming release of Census information, those numbers had little impact on the decision to downsize.

"Some of what you look at is orthopedic procedures per 1,000 population, general surgical procedures per 1,000 population, pregnancies per 1,000 population, but all that has very little bearing at this point in time on this facility," he said. "What we're seeing over the period of the last two to three years is a decline in our business. What we're doing right now is just trying to catch up with it."

Much of that decline in business, Buck added, is a carry-over effect from the big job losses that the community suffered a couple of years ago.

"Pampa took a pretty serious blow in 2007 and 2008 economically, with some layoffs," Buck said. "(The hospital) didn't, because there's normally a trickle-down effect between when people leave a company like Celanese and use their benefits until their benefits are exhausted. When that begins to happen, that's when we start feeling the effects of the economy."

"We're always going to be a little bit behind the economic track... We're hoping that with some of the added activity in the area, maybe we'll pick up some better relationships with the businesses and their insurance companies, and maybe we'll pick up some of the tangent business."

Still, Buck said that while the layoffs were a necessary move, the overall fiscal health of the hospital is still within a healthy range.

"The good news is the hospital is performing within our limitations," Buck said. "We do have a positive bottom line. It's just that if we continue to watch our business drop, we'll cross over on our bottom line. Unfortunately, we have to do everything we can to make sure it doesn't happen."

The hospital remains an asset to the area, Buck said, and he reassured the community that PRMC will remain open and continue to provide a high level of healthcare for the foreseeable future.

"I'm going to give you Bill Buck's two cents worth. Absolutely, in my opinion, this hospital has absolutely no reason to think about closing... The quality of care here is excellent. We've got a really good team. It's positive. There are a lot of positives."

cont. from page 1

BANANAGRAMS!

For each phrase below, rearrange the letters to spell two new words that can both be combined with the suffix -BALL to form a compound word. For example, SOD DOWN becomes ODD (ball) and SNOW (ball).

LEVEL

PADDING TOE
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CABLE KEY
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BREAD TRUTH
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BLISS TAKE ME
 [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

Yesterday's Answer: COLONY SOLD CORNY GOLD SOLO

Lights

lasts out of the fixtures and replace them with the new ones," Stokes said.

He said that leaves the city with about 2,000 four-foot fluorescent light bulbs and 500 ballasts that they no longer need.

A ballast, Stokes explained, is the electrical box in the fixture that provides power to the fluorescent tube.

"We would like to donate those to

churches in town," Stokes said, "that still have the old fixtures that could use some spare bulbs and ballasts."

He said the city plans to send out letters to churches in Pampa offering the old bulbs and ballasts.

"They can give us a call here at city hall," Stokes said.

Churches interested in the fluorescent bulbs and ballasts can call Charlene Gardner at 669-5750

before the end of January. She is drawing up a list of those interested in the bulbs.

"We would much rather give them to facilities that can use them than throw them away," he said.

Once the city has a list of who would like the bulbs and all of them have been changed out, Stokes said, he will set up a time and place for them to be picked up.

cont. from page 1

Weather

normal. However, the moisture was not to last as a two month dry period developed. May and June precipitation totals were 2.5 inches below normal. A general warming trend started in June and continued through the end of the year.

The average temperature from June through December was over 2.5 degrees warmer than normal. Our highest temperature of the year actually occurred in September when the thermometer hit triple digits on two consecutive days.

Interestingly enough, half of the months in 2010 ended up with below normal precipitation while the other half recorded

above normal precipitation. However, the wet months were very wet.

Three months out of the year (April, July, and November) combined to experience nearly 10 inches more precipitation than normal. By the end of the year, Amarillo received nearly 7 inches more precipitation than normal, and in fact, 2010 will go down as the 11th wettest year on record at Amarillo.

2010 will also be remembered as an active severe weather year for the Panhandles. Although the severe weather season started somewhat slowly, the severe weather reports increased substantially from late April through

mid June. The Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles typically see about 21 tornadoes per year, and this year, 38 were reported. Fortunately, the vast majority were weak and caused no damage.

YEAR 2010 SUMMARY FOR AMARILLO

High for the year: 101°, Sept. 5

Low for the year: 2°, Jan. 8

Average High Temperature: 71.4° (1.1° above normal)

Average Low Temperature: 44.7° (1.1° above normal)

Average Annual Temperature: 58.1° (1.1° above normal)

Annual precipitation: 26.54 inches (6.83 inches above normal)
 Annual snowfall: 28.8 inches (10.9 inches above normal)
 Days with temperature ≥ 100 degrees: 5
 Tornadoes: 38 Total — 34 EF0's, 3 EF1's and 1 EF2

cont. from page 1



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I'm dating a 15-year-old girl who was seriously physically abused in the past. She and her mom had to move away for a while, but have now been told by Department of Children and Family Services that it's safe for them to move back with her father, who abused her.

After seeing what goes on in this house and hearing her describe how they treat her, I think the physical abuse has changed to mental and emotional abuse. I'm not sure what to do because I'm 18 and it's "illegal" that we are dating. It scares me that they can use anything against me. — WHAT TO DO?

DEAR WHAT TO DO?: You are not in a position to do anything yourself. If you try to get help for your girlfriend, her parents could create problems for you that would last a lifetime. However, that doesn't mean you shouldn't encourage the girl to help herself by talking to a counselor, a trusted teacher or a clergyman about the difficulties she's experiencing at home. If she does, they are mandated by law to report abuse. And this is a family that's already been in the system.

DEAR ABBY: I have been unable to ask "Mary" out — or at least see if she's into me — because we both

work at the same place. I am not the type to be shy with my feelings, but with her it's different. When I see her, I forget everything else. It's as if my whole world stops when I see her smile. She's amazing!

I want to ask her out, but I'm unsure how to, considering that I am a woman. She does not know how I feel about her. What should I do? — HAS IT BAD IN ARIZONA

DEAR HAS IT BAD: First, see if there are regulations in your employee handbook that discourage employees from dating. If there aren't, go slow and let Mary get to know you as a friend before trying to start a romantic relationship. And before declaring your feelings, be sure that a lesbian relationship is one that your co-worker would welcome.

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend of three years, "Sam," came home from basic training in the Army and told me he wanted to go active. (He was part of the National Guard.) He has asked me to go with him and I agreed, but in order to do that we have to be married.

I love Sam very much and we have talked about marriage before, but not elopement. He hasn't really "proposed" because he doesn't have a ring. We will be married, but with-

out a real wedding — yet.

I have no problem with this. It's a bit unconventional, but I love Sam and want to go with him. It will be an opportunity to travel, and I could finish my degree online.

The problem is, how would I define us as a couple? When we move onto the base, I'm worried people will see my ringless finger and ask questions. What should I tell them? And when we do have the actual wedding, what will that be called? — DON'T WANT TO BE EMBARRASSED IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR DON'T WANT TO BE EMBARRASSED: Not all married women wear wedding rings, although most do. If you are afraid there will be questions if you're not wearing one, you and Sam might consider getting a used gold band to wear until he can buy you something else. If that doesn't appeal to you, then you'll just have to tell people that you are married and you have the license to prove it. (I doubt it will come to that.) And when you and Sam are finally able to have the wedding of your dreams, call it a renewal of your marriage vows because that will be accurate.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS DOWN

- 1 Colonial gun
- 7 Flag feature
- 11 Get away
- 12 Lot sight
- 13 Checked
- 14 Worry
- 15 Toady
- 17 Created
- 20 Incendiary crime
- 23 Commotion
- 24 Shorten
- 26 At this moment
- 27 Island souvenir
- 28 Poem of praise
- 29 Jazz great
- 31 Tie the knot
- 32 Stylishly quaint
- 33 Taverns
- 34 Overlooked
- 37 Maintenance
- 39 Back teeth
- 43 Holds title to
- 44 Illinois city
- 45 Final, for one
- 46 Careless
- 1 Sea, to Simone
- 2 Employ
- 3 Chem. or biol.
- 4 West of music
- 5 Foil's kin
- 6 Danson and Nugent
- 7 Game quest
- 8 Rejects
- 9 Had supper
- 10 Hogwash
- 16 Donny's sister
- 17 Fancy home
- 18 Find charming
- 19 Economic declines
- 21 Utah city
- 22 Is lacking
- 24 Choir group
- 25 Put on the line
- 30 "Papa" Hemingway
- 33 Snow house
- 35 Strike callers
- 36 Yule song
- 37 Rollaway bed
- 38 Reverence
- 40 Dadaist Jean
- 41 Tear
- 42 Pronounce

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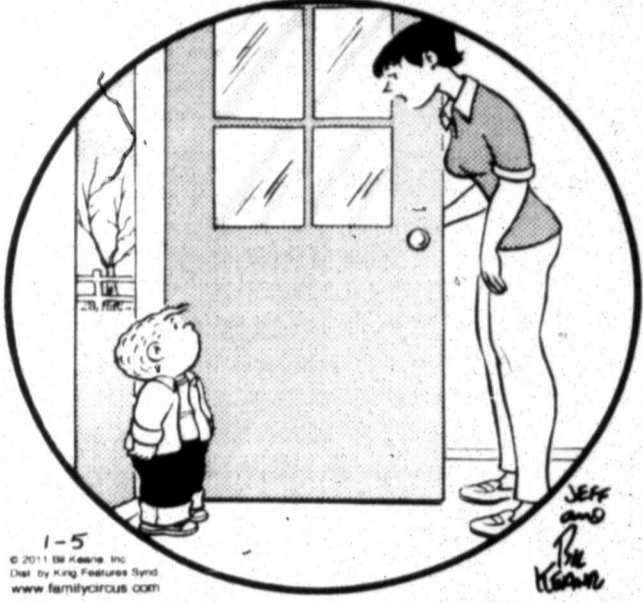
Yesterday's answer

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

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43					44					
45					46					

comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



"I'm sorry, your stomach is mistaken. It's not time for a snack."

Non Sequitur



Nest Heads



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Jan. 6, 2011:

This year, you put 100 percent into your work. You might not achieve at the level you want and expect. You have to put in many extra hours in order to reach your goals. Financially, you won't back away, as you need the funds, and you will receive them. If you are single, you might have difficulty meeting the right person. Part of the issue is how you project yourself. Take a hard look in the mirror. If you are attached, remember that there is more to life than work. Make special time for you and your sweetie. Ultimately, your relationship takes a higher priority. AQUARIUS views money in an interesting manner.

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)

Others believe you understand a lot more than you do. Sometimes allowing this type of misrepresentation might be smart, as more will be revealed. A partner or loved one might be very discouraging. Is this person having a bad-hair day? Tonight: Wherever you can relax.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Assume responsibility and worry less about the end results. At a certain point, you won't care in the least. Open up to new ideas. Your sense of humor helps loosen tension and, in some fashion, revitalize your energy. Tonight: A must appearance.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

Reach out for someone at a distance. How you feel could change radically as you deal with others. Brainstorming won't help move someone off his or her position. Keep getting more information, and the story will come out. Tonight: Listen to news.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

Open up to new beginnings. Listen to a family member or roommate. He or she might be negative. One-on-one relating enhances a bond. Be more nurturing and understanding with others. Tonight: Have a long-overdue talk.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Your creativity surges. You are more serious than need be. An even pace might be boring. Listen to your instincts. If you have several options, take the most upbeat. Avoid a dour neighbor or relative. Schedule meetings for late in the day. To-

night: Where the action is.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Understand what is happening. Listen to news with an open mind. If you need to, talk to a creative person you trust. Honor what might be occurring. Refuse to be challenged. Others might have too many suggestions. Go with the flow. Tonight: Go for the action.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

A conversation could perk up your mood and help you smile from ear to ear. What is quite clear is that you don't have the whole story. Are you ready to change gears? Take a walk or plan on a fun lunch to lighten up your mood. Tonight: Let the fun continue.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Take a personal day, please. Your spirit will lighten up the moment and allow for greater feedback. You might be slightly more negative than you realize, especially with a domestic matter. Open up to new ideas. Tonight: Happy at home.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

You can ask until you are blue in the face and still not get the answer. Your sixth sense is generally correct, but not when you are getting negativity from others. Be careful about snap judgments. Tonight: Consider hanging with more upbeat friends.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

You might be more in tune with a money matter than you have been of late. You could see a situation far differently from in the past. A boss could be pushing you beyond your limits. This person rethinks his or her approach. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

A friend demonstrates his or her loyalty. Good news surrounds a particular effort. Right now, certain planets pave the way to success and happiness should you be open and creative. Understanding will evolve if you detach. Tonight: Start your weekend early.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

Know when to pull back and perhaps proceed in a different direction. You know what is happening behind the scenes. Relate on an individual level. Feedback from a close partner or associate could be negative. Tonight: Vanish while you can.

BORN TODAY

Actress Loretta Young (1913), volleyball player Gabrielle Reece (1970), actor Tom Mix (1880)

Tundra



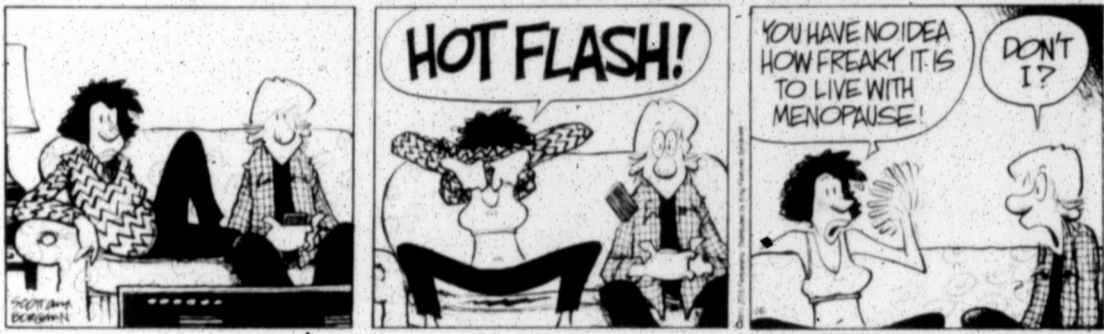
Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



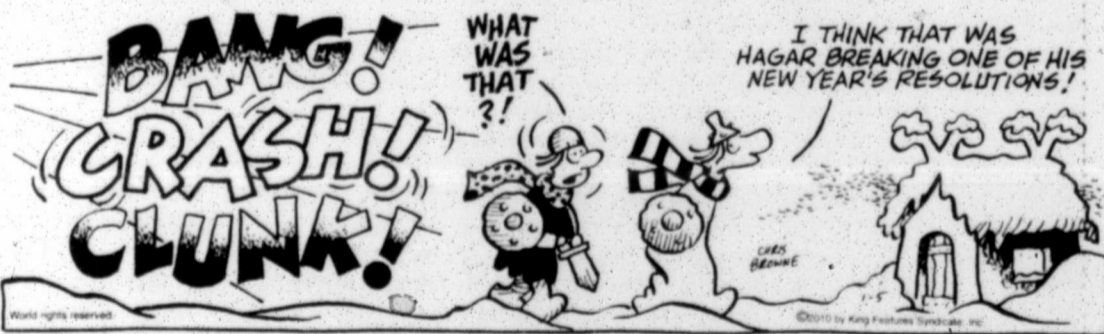
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Sports

Lady Harvesters' strong start leads to third straight

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Lady Harvesters jumped out early and had to hold on late to win their third straight game 41-37 over the Bushland Lady Falcons.

Head coach Gene Valentine said they played well and got off to an early start.

"We shot the ball well and were up by 10 at halftime," Valentine said. "We went cold in the second half. We



Valentine

had some missed shots and just had to play defense."

Pampa (4-14) stormed to a 14-4 lead after the first quarter and maintained their edge in the second. The Lady Harvesters led 30-20 at halftime.

The Lady Falcons rallied in the third quarter and out-

scored Pampa 12-5, cutting their lead to three. The Lady Harvesters won the final quarter 6-5.

Valentine said his team stepped up. "We did really well," Valentine said. "We only turned the ball over nine times."

The Lady Harvesters finished their non-district schedule and open district Tuesday at Borger. Pampa beat Borger in last week's Caprock Tournament. Valentine said he thinks his team will be ok going into district.

"All the games are going to be close like the one we played tonight," Valentine said. "We just need to step up."

The junior varsity (5-12) lost by 45-30. Coach Braydon Barker said they were out of shape from Christmas break.

"Our shooting was off," Barker said. "We have a week before district starts. So, it will be good to have four consecutive practices to get back in shape."

Harvesters can't hold first quarter lead, fall to Falcons

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Harvesters couldn't build on a first quarter lead and lost their second straight, 55-49, at the Bushland Falcons Tuesday.

Head coach Dustin Miller said they struggled defensively.

"Our defense was poor tonight," Miller said. They definitely rebounded better than us."

The Harvesters (10-7) led 14-12 after the first quarter but were outscored 10-3 in the second and trailed 22-17 at halftime.



Miller

In the second half, Pampa cut into their deficit outscoring Bushland 17-13 in the third. The Falcons outscored the Harvesters 20-15 in the fourth.

Senior Forward Garrett Ericson led the team in scoring with 18. Senior guard Jonathan Polasek followed with 10. Brett Wilhelm led the Falcons in scoring with 17. Calvin Thompson scored 16 and Mason Harris scored 11.

Miller said not a lot went well.

"Derrek Pollard came off the bench and played real well," Miller said. "Garrett shot the ball well again."

The junior varsity (2-7) lost 67-45. Coach Matt Embry said they struggled with defensive rebounding.

"They were getting multiple tries on offense because they were getting offensive rebounds," Embry said.

The Harvesters visit Lubbock Monterey Friday. Miller said it will be a challenging game.

"They are long and athletic," Miller said. "We will have to play great to come out of there with a win."

Former Tech coach Leach thought he was match for Terps

Mike Leach thought he was exactly what Maryland was looking for in a new coach.

The former Texas Tech coach interviewed for the Maryland job and was thought to be the front-runner to land it, but Randy Edsall was hired away from Connecticut to coach the Terrapins instead.

"I thought it was a good opportunity, but by the same token they have an idea of what it is they're exactly looking for," Leach told The Associated Press in a

phone interview on Tuesday night.

Leach said he wasn't upset by the way things played out at Maryland, but did feel as if he met the criteria athletic director Kevin Anderson had laid out when he fired Ralph Friedgen.

"They said they wanted offense and I have the ability to do that," Leach said. "They said they wanted to sell seats. I know we did that (at Texas Tech). They said they wanted to raise money. I know we did that at an exponentially higher fashion (at Texas Tech).

"Apparently, me and Ralph, neither one of us was what they were looking for."

Leach was 84-43 in 10 seasons at Texas Tech and his Air Raid offense was consistently one of the most prolific in the country.

Texas Tech fired Leach on Dec. 30, 2009, two days after suspending him amid allegations he mistreated Adam James, a receiver with a concussion. James, the son of former NFL player and ESPN analyst Craig James, has said Leach twice ordered him to stand for

hours while confined in a dark place during practice.

Leach denies mistreating the player and suspects an \$800,000 bonus he was to have received Dec. 31, 2009, was the reason he was fired. He has a pending lawsuit against Texas Tech for wrongful termination and filed a separate libel suit accusing ESPN and a Dallas PR agency of slander.

Leach said he doesn't believe the lawsuit is preventing him from landing another job.



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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.

1-5 CRYPTOQUOTE

BZLRR-BLHQJZD REGGQF GR

FZOSJ GT DLH, MGNO GQ S

RYSM M B L H Q J Z D

R J O N O Q K Z G F X J

Yesterday's Cryptquote: THE DANGER OF THE PAST WAS THAT MEN BECAME SLAVES. THE DANGER OF THE FUTURE IS THAT MAN MAY BECOME ROBOTS. — ERICH FROMM

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Sports

Pirates click on offense, slay Coyotes for third win

ANDREW GLOVER
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Entering their final non-district game Tuesday, Lefors head coach Joey Czubinski wanted to give his players as many minutes as possible. Czubinski's players not only received playing time but made contributions in a 69-17 rout of the Higgins Coyotes in Lefors.

Czubinski said his plan was to platoon his players every four minutes, and he was able to do that.

"We have 10 guys and our two-deep at each position," Czubinski said. "When you are looking to sub and all that, it makes it really easy. Tonight we said let's platoon and stay out of foul trouble and I think they did a really good job of that."

Junior forward Dennis Sprouse said they did some work during the break.

"We played well," Sprouse said. "We passed the ball well and shot the ball well."

The Pirates only trailed once in the game, 3-2 at the beginning of the first quarter. Lefors led 14-4 after one and forced six turnovers in the first quarter. The Pirates had six different players score in the first quarter with junior Taylor Ray leading the team with four.

In the second quarter, the Pirates didn't allow the Coyotes to get closer than eight. Lefors outscored Higgins 13-7 in the second. Sophomore Gaitlin Reagan took advantage of his offensive rebounds and scored eight points in the first half. Reagan would finish the night with 16 points and 14 rebounds for a

double-double.

Czubinski said Reagan is starting to develop down low.

"I shifted him to the low post from the wing at the beginning of the year, because we had an injury to Dennis Sprouse with a broken hand," Czubinski said. "He seems to thrive down there."

The second half was completely controlled by the Pirates as they outscored the Coyotes 42-6. Lefors used good passing to find quality shots close to the basket. Czubinski said that was something they were focused on in practice.

"At halftime, I said, 'Let's control the ball and the tempo,'" Czubinski said. "I told them to make a good pass and let our height be the differential. Work the ball around and make that extra pass."

Reagan led the team in scoring and rebounds. Ray scored 12 points and grabbed six rebounds. Senior post Austin Brooks scored 10 points and grabbed six rebounds. Sprouse scored 10 points and grabbed five rebounds.

The Pirates (3-6) finished their non-district schedule and open district January 14 hosting Samnorwood. Czubinski said he expects district to be a boxing match.

"This game someone is going to get hit with a body blow," Czubinski said. "Next game somebody is going to get uppercutted and the next game someone is going to counterpunch. One team is going to beat somebody in their gym. The next district night is going to go home and lose to somebody. That's what I see happening."

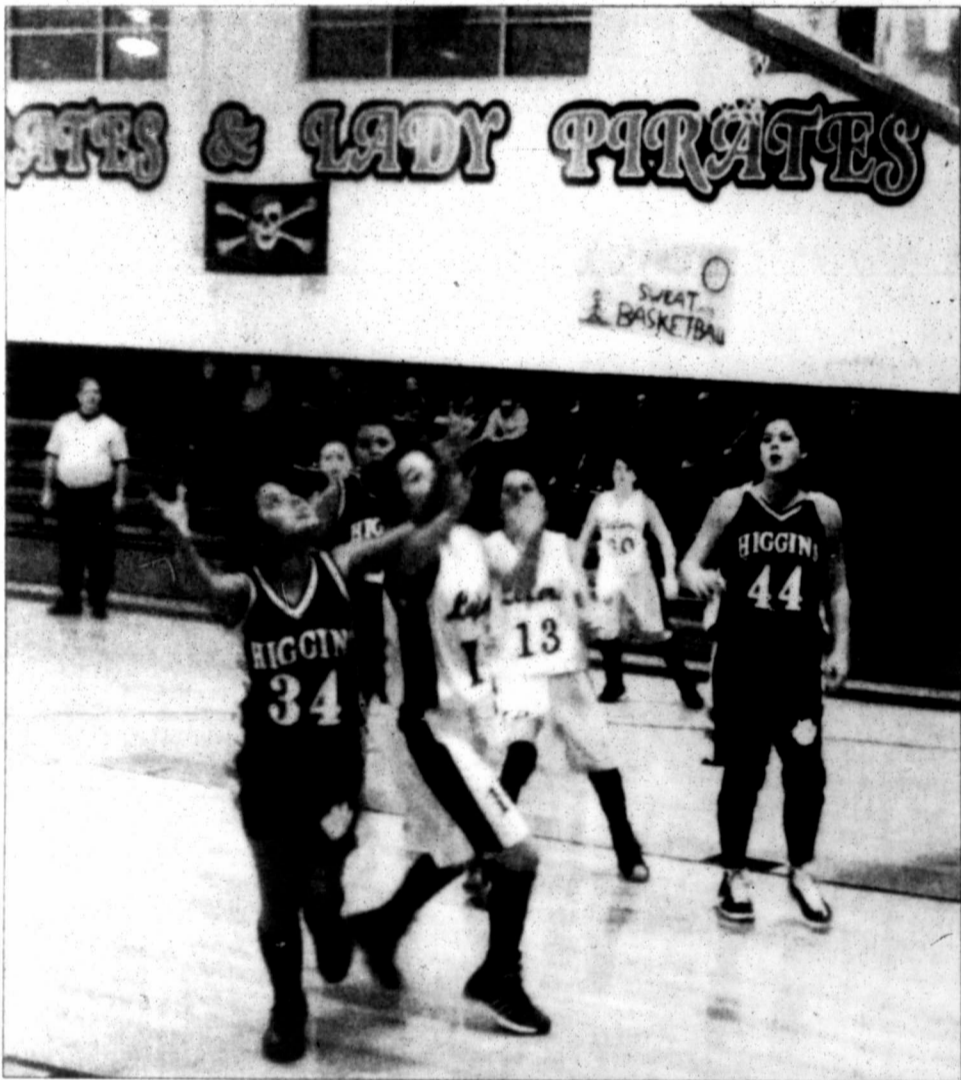


staff photo by Andrew Glover

Seth Scully drives in the first half against Higgins Tuesday in Lefors. The Pirates won 69-17 and closed out their non-district schedule.

Lady Pirates' steps up D in second half, downs Higgins

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staff photo by Andrew Glover

Tycee Overstreet battles a Higgins defender for an offensive rebound Tuesday in Lefors. Overstreet scored five points in the Lady Pirates 51-38 victory. Lefors finished non-district with a 3-8 record and visit Shamrock Friday in the district opener.

Before Tuesday's game, junior Taylor Overstreet told head coach Tory Peet that she wasn't able to hit a shot and was going to be the "assist person." Overstreet's teammates cashed in, as they defeated the Higgins Lady Coyotes 51-38 Tuesday in Lefors.

Head coach Tory Peet said they are more together as a team and played together for four quarters.

"After the game, no one asked me who scored how many points," Peet said. "We don't care. We won the game and that's what we are focused on now."

Freshman Khorj Lott said they know how to play with each other.

"At the beginning of the year we were kind of nagging on each other," Lott said. "We working together and learning to play with each other."

The Lady Coyotes got off to a strong start, jumping out to a 9-2 lead in the first. Lefors scored the next five points and cut the lead to two. Higgins responded to the Lady Pirates' run and closed the quarter on a 5-1 run and led 14-8 after one.

The Lady Pirates stormed back at the beginning of the second quarter. Lefors scored the first six points of the quarter and tied the game. The Lady Pirates took the lead later in the quarter and led by as many as four. Higgins came back and took a couple of one point leads. Junior guard Story Pairsh scored a basket at the end of the

half to put the Lady Pirates ahead 25-24. Overstreet led the Lady Pirates attack with eight points and Pairsh contributed seven.

Peet said he was proud of how his team didn't get down after the first quarter.

"Down at the end of the first quarter, we come back and our up by one at halftime," Peet said. "To extend that lead, I was thrilled."

In the third quarter, the Lady Pirates took control. The quarter started competitive but Lefors pulled out to a six-point lead. Higgins cut the lead back to two but the Lady Pirates would go on a game clinching run. Lefors started a 17-0 run that would last until the last third of the fourth quarter. Lefors gained momentum towards the end of the quarter when Kellie Neal was called for a flagrant trying to take the ball from Overstreet. The foul sent Neal to the bench as she recorded her fifth. Pairsh made both technical free throws. The Lady Pirates led 42-30 after three.

Things got a little scary at the beginning of the fourth quarter. Pairsh collided with Higgins' Natalie Hassler and both hit the floor. Pairsh got up, soon after but Hassler wasn't as fortunate and had to be helped off the court and didn't return.

The Lady Pirates outscored Higgins 9-8. Pairsh led the Lady Pirates in scoring with 17. Overstreet, though struggled hitting shots still scored 13. Lott followed with 12.

The Lady Pirates open district Friday at Shamrock.

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