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The PAMPA NEWS

Wednesday, February 16, 2011 Volume 106 • No. 264 75¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

TODAY IN SPORTS



Season finale
 Rangers edge Harvesters in season finale
 62-61.
Page 8

inside:
Dog Talk
 with Uncle Matty
Page 3

Rodriguez sentenced to 20 years for assault

DAVID BOWSER
 dbowser@thepampanews.com
 Salvador Rodriguez was in Gray County jail today awaiting transfer to the Texas Department of Corrections after being convicted of aggravated assault causing serious bodily injury.
 A Gray County jury found Rodriguez guilty of the charge Tuesday afternoon following an hour of deliberation.
 Rodriguez was sentenced to 20 years in prison and ordered to pay \$50,000 by 223rd District Judge Phil Vanderpool in restitution for injuries to the victim of

the assault.
 Rodriguez, 32, was indicted by a Gray County grand jury on the aggravated assault charge in connection with a June, 2010, incident in which Carl Cady, 53, suffered broken facial bones during a fight at the Rodriguez residence in the 1200 block of North Russell.
 After a seven-woman, five-man jury was selected Monday morning, Cady testified that he had gone to the Rodriguez house about 1:30 a.m. June 3, 2010, to retrieve his girlfriend's purse.



Salvador Rodriguez talks with his family after being sentenced to 20 years in prison in 223rd District Court this week.
 staff photo by David Bowser

RODRIGUEZ cont. on page 3

CUTTING THE NET



Senior Greg Cabrales trims part of the net after the Harvesters' game against Perryton. Pampa lost 62-61 but won the district title. (story on Page 8).
 staff photo by Andrew Glover

County will continue to help fund McLean ambulance

DAVID BOWSER
 dbowser@thepampanews.com
 The Gray County Commission will continue to help fund the McLean Ambulance Service. That decision was among those made in a regular meeting yesterday.
 County Judge Richard Peet said that several years ago, the county went from giving the McLean Ambulance Service a few thousand dollars a year to giving them \$12,000.
 This year, he said, the ambulance service asked for more money, so the county commission increased their payment to the service to \$20,000 a year.
 "We saw their need, and we upped our contribution to them," Peet said.
 But reported changes in the ambulance service's status have caused concern among county commissioners. One of the required medical personnel at the service

moved from McLean to Groom, raising the question of meeting personnel requirements.
 Sharon Tillman with the state health services office in Canyon oversees the rural ambulance services in the area.
 Tillman told commissioners that the McLean Ambulance Service had applied for a variance because of staff shortages, but the variance hasn't changed.
 To operate, she said the ambulance service has to employ two certified medical personnel, but under the variance they can staff an ambulance with only one certified person and a driver.
 Tillman said, however, that some of the regulations have been interpreted differently and that is what has raised questions.
 "It's confusing," Tillman said, referring to gray areas. "There hasn't been a great change," Tillman said. She said

that the ambulance service is waiting on instructions from their medical director, a doctor in Lubbock that serves as medical director for several rural ambulance serves.
 Tillman said that the medical director can allow ambulance personnel to perform certain tasks depending upon their training.
COUNTY cont. on page 3

NATIONAL, STATE VFW OFFICERS VISIT



Pampa's VFW Post 1657 was host to a rare joint visit by the organization's national and state officers - VFW Commander-in-Chief Richard L. Eubank (center) and Texas Commander Wayne Depute (right). Post Commander Danny Martin (at podium) addresses the crowd at a reception and dinner held yesterday in their honor. (Story and more photos will appear in tomorrow's issue of The Pampa News.)
 staff photo by Arnie Arrellano

Awards Banquet
 Citizen of the Year/Business of the Year
 Thursday, Feb. 24 • 7 pm
 MK Brown-Heritage Room
 \$25 / Tickets must be purchased by Feb. 22
 For more information, call 669-3241 or exec@pampachamber.com

IN THIS ISSUE:

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PAMPA FORECAST

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
High 69 Low 35	High 62 Low 39	High 68 Low 46

Tonight: Clear, with a low around 42. Breezy, with a southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 69. Windy, with a west wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 35. Breezy, with a northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 62. North-northwest wind around 10 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 39. South-southeast wind around 10 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 68. Breezy, with a south wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 46. Breezy, with a south wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

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LAST MINUTE ADS

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

NO MICROPHONES or LIKE NEW Cough or safe Amps, Only Acoustic Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center, Fri. Feb. 18, 6:30 p.m.



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: This is difficult to write. My sister reads her children's text messages after they're asleep. She bragged to me about how popular her daughter "Naomi" — my 14-year-old niece — is because she's giving oral sex to the boys.

My sister claims Naomi isn't "having sex," so she thinks it's OK. I am shocked by her ignorance and terrified knowing that Naomi is putting herself at risk for STDs. My husband says if I confront Naomi it will drive her away, but I can't remain silent and watch my niece ruin her life. What's the point of reading your children's text messages if you're unwilling to stand up and be a parent? What can I do? — TERRIFIED FOR MY NIECE IN THE SOUTHWEST

DEAR TERRIFIED: Your sister's parenting skills are appalling. Her daughter isn't "popular"; she is promiscuous — and her mother is allowing it. Do your niece a favor and talk to her, because oral sex IS sex, and she is putting herself at risk for a number of sexually transmitted diseases.

The Sexuality Information and Education Council has a wealth of information resources and tools for addressing this important subject. Its website, www.familiesaretalking.org, helps with discussing sexuality-related issues and

provides information for young people, parents and caregivers.

Other reliable resources include Planned Parenthood's www.teenwire.com and the American Social Health Association website, www.jwannaknow.org, which is also a safe place for teens to learn about sexual health.

DEAR ABBY: I was raised a Christian, but now that I am older I am questioning my faith. I consider myself an agnostic, borderline atheist.

The problem is I am married and a father. I want to raise my children to be open-minded and tolerant, but I don't know how I should go about it. How do I answer the question, "Is there a God?" when I myself am not sure? Have you any advice on the subject? — AGNOSTIC DAD IN SOUTH CAROLINA

DEAR AGNOSTIC DAD: Many deeply spiritual people are agnostic. The way to raise open-minded, tolerant children is to talk to them about your values and model that behavior for them. Parents convey their values verbally and by demonstrating them. As to the question, "Is there a God?" you and your wife should discuss that question in advance so she can have some input and you can handle this together.

BANANAGRAMS!

Each set of letters below is arranged alphabetically, and the ? is in the correct alphabetical position. Figure out what letter the ? represents and rearrange the letters to spell a six-letter word. For example, in A?ENTV the ? could be an A, B, C, D or E. Here it represents a D, which can be combined with the other letters to spell ADVENT. The last letter is placed to get you started.

A D I ? R W	E E I ? V V
□ □ □ □ □	□ □ □ □ □
B D N O ? Y	E H O ? T Y
□ □ □ □ □	□ □ □ □ □
C F ? I N O	D ? I O R R
□ □ □ □ □	□ □ □ □ □

Yesterday's Answer: PERSON, ASLEEP, LOCALE, SEARCH.

Obituaries

Billie Madeleine Bush Edgerton, 83

Funeral services for Billie Madeleine Bush Edgerton were held in Cortez, Colo., on February 4 at Ertel Memorial Chapel with Reverend Martin Graves officiating. Burial followed at the Cortez Cemetery.

Billie Madeleine Edgerton, 83, died suddenly on Tuesday, February 1, 2011, at her home near Cortez, Colo. She was born May 14, 1927, in Harlingen, to Hulley Doyle and Lillie Dale Hines Bush. Billie graduated from Raymondville High School in Raymondville, in 1944, and from Baylor University in Waco, Texas, in 1947, with a BA in Spanish. In 1971, she completed her master of education degree at Sul Ross State University in Alpine, and she received her Ed. Specialist Degree (principal's certification) from the University of Colorado.

Billie married Charles Bennett Edgerton in Raymondville, on December 24, 1947.

Billie was a Spanish teacher at Durango High School in Durango, Colo., when she retired in 1992. She was chairman of the Foreign Language Department there, but she also taught many other subjects at all grade levels since she had an all-level teaching certificate. She was named the Outstanding Foreign Language Teacher for the State of Colorado. She had also taught in Texas at Corpus Christi, Idalou, San Perlita, and Ozona before moving to Durango. She taught school for 33 years.

Raising four children, Billie was very active in PTA, 4-H, Girl Scouts, and Cub Scouts, in addition to teaching an adult Sunday school class. She also helped her husband, Charlie, with their farming operation in Muleshoe, and San Perlita. She was a fantastic cook and was well known for her tamales. Many a home displays her beautifully cross-stitched pictures and pillows.

Billie was preceded in death by her husband of 58 years, her parents, and her sister, Imogene Wilson.

Billie is survived by her two daughters and two sons, Jamie VanZandt and husband Joe of Mobette, Skookie Bailey and husband, Dave of Bivins, Don Edgerton of Idaho Falls, Idaho, and Bill Edgerton and wife Susan of Cortez, Colo. She also leaves behind nine grandchildren, Becky Reed of Justin, Jaly N Setser of Atlanta, Charlie Bailey and fiancée Tricia O'Neill both of Stillwater, Okla., Irby Bailey and wife Rudi of Ponca City, Okla., Dennis Bailey and wife Veronica of Lufkin, Doyle Edgerton of Cortez, Colo., Dorothy Edgerton and Quirt Edgerton of Portland, Ore., and Sam Edgerton of Mesa, Ariz.; and one great-grandchild, Preston Setser of Atlanta.

Memorials may be made in Billie's name to First Southwest Bank, 1510 E. Main St. Cortez, CO 81321, to assist foreign language studies in the area.

Hope Cade Nelson, 86

Hope Cade Nelson, 86, passed away February 4, 2011, in Kemp.

She was born the only child of Sam and Rosamond Cade on December 4, 1924, in Jayton. The family lived in Hamlin, then moved to Sundown where she graduated high school. Hope majored in Fine Arts at Texas Tech where she designed the yearbook cover, La Ventana, and was a sorority member of Las Chaparitas (later Kappa Kappa Gamma). She was chosen as a Tech Beauty two years in a row with one judged by the famous director David O. Selznik. Meeting her life-long love, Joe Nelson of Pampa, they married in 1945 and recently celebrated their 65th anniversary in June 2010.

Hope and Joe were parents of three daughters, establishing homes in Oklahoma City, Enid, Dallas and the Cedar Creek Lake area. In addition to caring for her family, Hope was a Blue Bird and Camp Fire Girl leader, an officer of Robert E. Lee Elementary PTA and a Lee Ladies Luncheon Group member. Hope spent many years working for Sears and Tandy Leather Company.

Hope's passions were oysters, pelicans, holiday decorating, gardening, Port Aransas beach vacations, fishing, camping, world traveling, playing cards, dancing, the Texas Tech Red Raiders and, most importantly, her family and grandchildren, who affectionately called her "Mama Hope."

Hope was preceded in death by her parents and husband. She is survived by her daughters and their husbands, Jan and Bill Ragsdale of Pampa, Jolynn and Michael Bennett of Dallas, and Lisa and Lawrence DeLong of Kemp; her grandchildren, Jerome Ragsdale and wife Melissa, Joe Ragsdale and wife Michelle, Sara Pearson and husband David, Rebecca Bennett, Kristin DeLong, Kelly Unthank and husband Matt, Josh DeLong and Jason DeLong; her six great-granddaughters, Alex, Aubri, Emi, JoJo, Katherine and Kylee; and with much gratitude, her devoted caregiver, Lisa Marie Hambrick.

A service will be held Monday, February 7, at First United Methodist Church in Mabank with burial at Oaklawn Cemetery with Pastor Chris Schoolcraft officiating under the direction of Eubank Cedar Creek Funeral Home.

Memorials may be made to The Alzheimer's Association, 225 North Michigan Ave., 17th Floor, Chicago, IL 60601, www.alz.org, or The PKU Foundation, 7033 Wabash Cir., Dallas, TX 75214, www.pkufoundation.com.

Frances Tarrant French, 77

Frances Tarrant French, 77, died February 15, 2011, in Amarillo.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. French was born March 17, 1933, in Borger. She graduated from Pampa High School and attended Texas Tech University in Lubbock. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1944. She married Robert "Bob" French on January 18, 1952, in Pampa, and he preceded her in death. She was a member of First Baptist Church, and she was a homemaker.

Survivors include her son, James Lance French of Pampa; daughter, Lainie French of Amarillo; brother, Andy Tarrant of Smackover, Ark.; seven grandchildren, Julie Ann Towles of Iowa Park, Misty Lea Singleton of Little Elm, Kevin Daniel French, Rhiannon Lee French, and Gary Eldridge French, all of Dallas, Keith Christian Cuyilar Brewer

and Lauryn Anne Gollighugh, both of Amarillo, and seven great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by two sons, Lloyd Keith French and Robert Lee French; great-grandson, Tyler Jordan Reeves.

Memorials may be made to Odyssey Hospice, 6900 I-40 West, Suite 150, Amarillo, TX 79106, or Covenant Medical Center, 3615 19th, Lubbock, TX 79410.

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

Harold Dean Blackmon, 64

Harold Dean Blackmon, 64, died February 15, 2011, in Amarillo.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Blackmon was born July 2, 1946, in Gatesville. He attended schools in Pampa, graduating from Pampa High School in 1964. He married Vicki Ellis in 1970 in Pampa. He worked at Cabot/Ingersol Rand/IRI International for 20 plus years, retiring in 1995. He was a member of Highland Baptist Church. Harold liked to collect knives. He especially enjoyed the outdoors where he liked to camp and fish. He absolutely adored his children and grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife, Vicki Blackmon of the home; two sons, Shawn Blackmon and wife Camille of Happy, and Josh Blackmon and wife Courtney of Pampa; two brothers, Kenneth McAnally and wife Gila of Rio Vista, and Keith McAnally and wife Nancy of Mexia; a sister, Mary Nelson and husband John of Douglas, Wyo.; three grandsons, Joey, Jarrod and Vinny; and many treasured nieces and nephews. Harold was preceded in death by a brother, Junior McAnally, and his parents.

Memorials may be made to LifeGift Organ Donation Center of West Texas, 1200 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo, TX 79106, or a favorite charity.

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

Judy Dunham, 73

Judy Dunham, 73, died February 14, 2011, in Amarillo.

Services will be at 3 p.m. Thursday, February 17, 2011, at Memory Gardens Mausoleum, with Rev. Leland Lewis, pastor of First Assembly of God, officiating.

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

Mrs. Dunham was born March 12, 1937, in Cromwell, Okla. She spent much of her early life living in many locations, primarily in the southeast United States and California. She married Dick Dunham on November 26, 1955, in Manteka, Calif. He preceded her in death in 1992. She was a homemaker but also worked at M.E. Moses, the Pampa Credit Bureau, the Hollywood, and Bealls Department Store. Judy was a longtime member of First Assembly of God and later Lamar Full Gospel Church. She enjoyed raising her sons and being involved with many school and church activities. She was a den mother with the Cub Scouts for many years and especially enjoyed putting together projects, skits and outings. She was preceded in death by her parents, Dick and Nora Green; and by a sister.

Survivors include two sons, Randy Dunham and wife Kim of Pampa, and James Dunham and wife Sandy of Sulphur Springs; six grandchildren, two great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to BSA Hospice, P.O. Box 950, Amarillo, TX 79105.

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

Patricia Ann Lunsford Brazeal, 74

Patricia Ann Lunsford Brazeal, 74, died February 14, 2011, in Pampa.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Ms. Brazeal was born September 3, 1936, in Pampa. She attended Pampa schools, graduating from Pampa High School in 1955. She attended Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, Okla., where she received her B.A. degree in chemistry in 1960.

She then attended Baylor University for clinicals for medical technology. Patricia married Charles Brazeal on April 22, 1961 in Dallas. She was a medical technologist at the Collin Memorial Hospital in McKinney, the VA Medical Center in Leavenworth, Kan., the David Grant Hospital in Fairfield, Calif., and in 1995, she went to work for Pampa Regional Medical Center. She enjoyed traveling, bird watching and gardening, and she especially enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren. She was an honest, hard-working, God-fearing, Christian woman who would do anything for the people she loved. She will be sorely missed.

Survivors include two daughters, Laura Baird and husband Shawn of Fairfield, Calif., and Susan Springman and husband John of Portsmouth, Iowa; two grandsons, Aaron Baird and James Baird, both of Fairfield, Calif.; two granddaughters, Cameron Springman and Hailey Springman, both of Portsmouth, Iowa; brother, Donald Lunsford of Pampa; sister, Mary Kay LaFrance of Amarillo; a sister-in-law, Bernie Lunsford of Moore, Okla.; and her former husband, Charles Brazeal and wife Jayne of McKinney. She was preceded in death by her parents, Dewey and Ruby Lunsford; and a brother, Richard Lunsford in 2010.

Memorials may be made to American Cancer Society, c/o Gerry Caylor, 2130 Charles, Pampa, TX 79065, or Chronic Disease Fund, 6900 N. Dallas Parkway, Suite 200, Plano, TX 75024.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 6-7:30 p.m. on Friday, February 18, 2011.

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



Blackmon



Dunham



Brazeal

Cabot & NOI Employees Credit Union 80th Annual Meeting

M.K. Brown Heritage Room
 Thursday, Feb. 17, 2011
 meeting starts at 7 p.m.

5050

Rodriguez

cont. from page 1

which he claimed had been stolen.

Cady said that he was met in the yard by brothers Salvador and Rudy Rodriguez and, testifying that he did not want any trouble, Cady said he was beaten.

Dr. Donald Hubbard, the doctor on duty at the Pampa Regional Medical Center emergency room that morning, testified Tuesday to Cady's injuries. Hubbard said that Cady was transferred to Dallas for further medical treatment.

"It's a very violent crime," Assistant District Attorney Jason Ferguson told the jury Monday, "with very, very violent injuries."

The prosecution also introduced Salvador Rodriguez's record, showing some 20 arrests for assault, evading arrest and driving while intoxicated.

Defense attorney Todd Alvey put three witnesses on the stand Tuesday to refute Cady's version of events.

Jacob Rodriguez, Rudy Rodriguez Jr. and Paul Rodriguez (no relation) testified that they were present at the home that night and claimed that Cady was loud and threatening.

They also said Cady attacked Rudy Rodriguez and ripped his shirt. That's when Salvador Rodriguez hit Cady in the back of the head.

Salvador Rodriguez took the stand to say that he hit Cady only that one time. In closing arguments, Alvey noted that Cady's most serious injuries were to his face and that the defendant was behind the victim, but Ferguson argued that Salvador Rodriguez was as guilty as anyone because he participated in the fight.

Rudy Rodriguez has also been indicted on aggravated assault charges in connection with the same incident and is awaiting trial.

During the punishment phase of the trial, Pampa Police Detective Nicole Johnson testified that she knew Salvador Rodriguez and that he was not a law abiding citizen. Cady testified that his injuries required three surgeries and that the Crime Victim's Assistance Fund had paid Parkland Hospital in Dallas some \$50,000 for Cady's treatment.

Mila Portillo, Salvador Rodriguez' niece tearfully testified that he was a loving uncle and baby-sat her two-year-old daughter.

Lorena Rodriguez, Salvador Rodriguez' sister, testified that they came from a close-knit family of five girls and six brothers.

District Attorney Lynn Switzer, however, reminded the jury that it was a violent assault and that every bone in Cady's face was broken.

County

cont. from page 1

The medical director will issue a letter outlining what the crews can do, but he hasn't done it yet.

Tillman said she thinks that is where some of the confusion lies.

"There might have to be some revisions and adjustments to protocols," she said.

Tillman said the McLean Ambulance Service does have a personnel shortage and indicated that she expects that shortage to continue.

In the end, the county commission voted to continue funding the McLean Ambulance Service at the \$20,000 a year level.

The commission also heard from Dr. James Hall with the Pampa Emergency Medical Services Foundation concerning the new Genesis Clinic that the foundation opened in Pampa two weeks ago. Partially supported by the county, it is now seeing about 22 patients a day.

Dr. John Nguyen has opened a privately owned pediatric clinic next to Genesis Clinic, Hall said. The pediatric clinic, Hall said, is seeing about 25 patients a day. That number, too, is expected to increase.

Hall told the commission that the Genesis Clinic is a full service clinic, and it accepts insurance.

"We've had a good reception in the community so far," Hall said.

He said that for now, the clinic is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, but plans are to expand those hours in the future to include Saturdays.

The commission also heard from Kathy Boydston with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department concerning the proposed power lines that will cross Gray County on their route from near Childress to White Deer.

The route that has been approved by the Texas Public Utility Commission cuts through the range designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as habitat for the lesser prairie chicken, a small bird that is a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act.

Gray County and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department had proposed a route that would have avoided the lesser prairie chicken's habitat.

While the power lines are privately financed and within the state to carry wind-generated electricity to metropolitan areas downstate, Peet said the fear is that routing the power lines through lesser prairie chicken habitat might trigger listing of the small grouse by the federal government, resulting in restricted land use by ranchers and oil and gas operators.

Peet said that while the county supports the wind energy project, the commission is concerned that the Public Utility Commission's choice of routes could raise greater problems in the future.

In other business, the county extended its depository contract with Happy State Bank for two more years. County Treasurer Scott Hahn said everyone involved seems to be happy with the contract.

"I feel blessed that we have Happy State Bank," Hahn said.

Two years ago, he said, the bank stepped in with a better deal than what the county's old depository contract offered.

Hahn was also recognized for his continuing education hours as the county's investment officer.

Commissioners also heard from Cory Joiner with the accounting firm of Doshier, Pickens and Francis concerning his audit of the county's finances.

Joiner gave the county the highest rating possible and emphasized the cooperation he had received from county officials during the audit.

The commission deferred discussion of the donation of land for new routing of Johnson Ranch Road until more information could be gathered.

A dog's worst enemy: the car

Dog Talk with Uncle Matty



MATTHEW "UNCLE MATTY" MARGOLIS
Creator's Syndicate

"My well-mannered German shepherd passed away in July, so I adopted Wile E, a Husky mix, from a shelter. His in-home behavior is perfect. He is well behaved in the house with no exceptions. He does not give kisses to anyone, but he shows affection in other ways.

"The problem with this dog is on walks or when he is outside in front of the house — for example, when we open the garage door to move a car in or out. Under these circumstances, if there is another dog around, he goes nuts. He is not aggressive toward these dogs, but he goes wild and barks, pulls and gets right in the face of the other dog.

"His other problem is with vehicles. He used to get excited about trucks when we were walking. I think it was due to the fact that trucks and SUVs have noisy tires that set him off. He pulls and wants to chase them. I am afraid of what would happen if he found his way out of our home unsupervised."

There are two problems here. The lack of proper socialization with other dogs I'll save for another time in order to focus on a very serious problem.

The No. 1 cause of death for dogs is cancer. No. 2 is getting hit by a car.

I know six people, personally, whose dogs were killed in the past month by a moving vehicle. They are all having a hard time dealing with feelings of guilt. One told me he watched his dog being hit.

"He looked at me right before it happened." That's a tough one to get over.

Dogs that get hit by cars almost always share a profile: They are untrained. They have a habit of escaping through the front door as it's opened. They're allowed to hang out with their owners in fenceless front yards.

What makes this fate even sadder is that it is an almost entirely preventable cause of death.

As with most problems, the first line of defense is training. If your dog is truly trained to sit and stay, he will not run out of the door when you open it or into the street while you're gardening. Training your dog to stay at a distance of 10 feet from your front door teaches him boundaries — lifesaving boundaries.

And there are simple secondary lines of defense available to you in the meantime:

- Install a screen door as an additional safeguard.
- Keep your dog on a leash when opening the front door until he is 100 percent trustworthy.
- Keep your dog on a leash anytime he is not inside the confines of a secure fence. The other end of the leash should be attached to something secure, preferably your hand.

For reasons that are beyond me, some people get the idea that their dog should experience the freedom of roaming the world off-leash — in public parks, on city streets, at beaches and through their neighborhood. This is a dangerous misconception — one that has cost thousands of dogs their lives. Keeping your dog on a leash when outside of your own fenced yard is more than good manners. It's the best way to ensure your dog's long and healthy life.

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!"

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Intermediate

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Your local animal shelter needs donations of the following items:

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Animal # 9546

"Zoey"
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Animal # 9649

"Max"
Male Shih-tzu

Animal # 9685

"Ted"
Male Cocker Spaniel

Animal # 9530

"Stella"
Female DMH Cat

Animal # 9544

"Greg"
Male Schnauzer

Animal # 9626

"Mira"
Female DSH, Front Declawed

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

For more info about these pets or any other questions, call 806-689-5775 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, Feb. 16, the 47th day of 2011. There are 318 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 16, 1968, the nation's first 911 emergency telephone system was inaugurated in Haleyville, Ala.

On this date:

In 1804, Lt. Stephen Decatur led a successful raid into Tripoli Harbor to burn the U.S. Navy frigate Philadelphia, which had fallen into the hands of pirates.

In 1862, during the Civil War, some 14,000 Confederate soldiers surrendered at Fort Donelson, Tenn. Union Gen. Ulysses S. Grant's victory earned him the nickname "Unconditional Surrender Grant."

In 1923, the burial chamber of King Tutankhamen's recently unearthed tomb was unsealed in Egypt by English archaeologist Howard Carter.

In 1945, American troops landed on the island of Corregidor in the Philippines during World War II.

In 1959, Fidel Castro became premier of Cuba a month and a-half after the overthrow of Fulgencio Batista.

In 1960, the nuclear-powered radar picket submarine USS Triton departed New London, Conn. on the first submerged circumnavigation by a vessel.

In 1961, the United States launched the Explorer 9 satellite.

In 1977, Janani Luwum, the Anglican archbishop of Uganda, and two other men were killed in what Ugandan authorities said was an automobile accident.

In 1998, a China Airlines Airbus A300-600R trying to land in fog near Taipei, Taiwan, crashed, killing all 196 people on board.

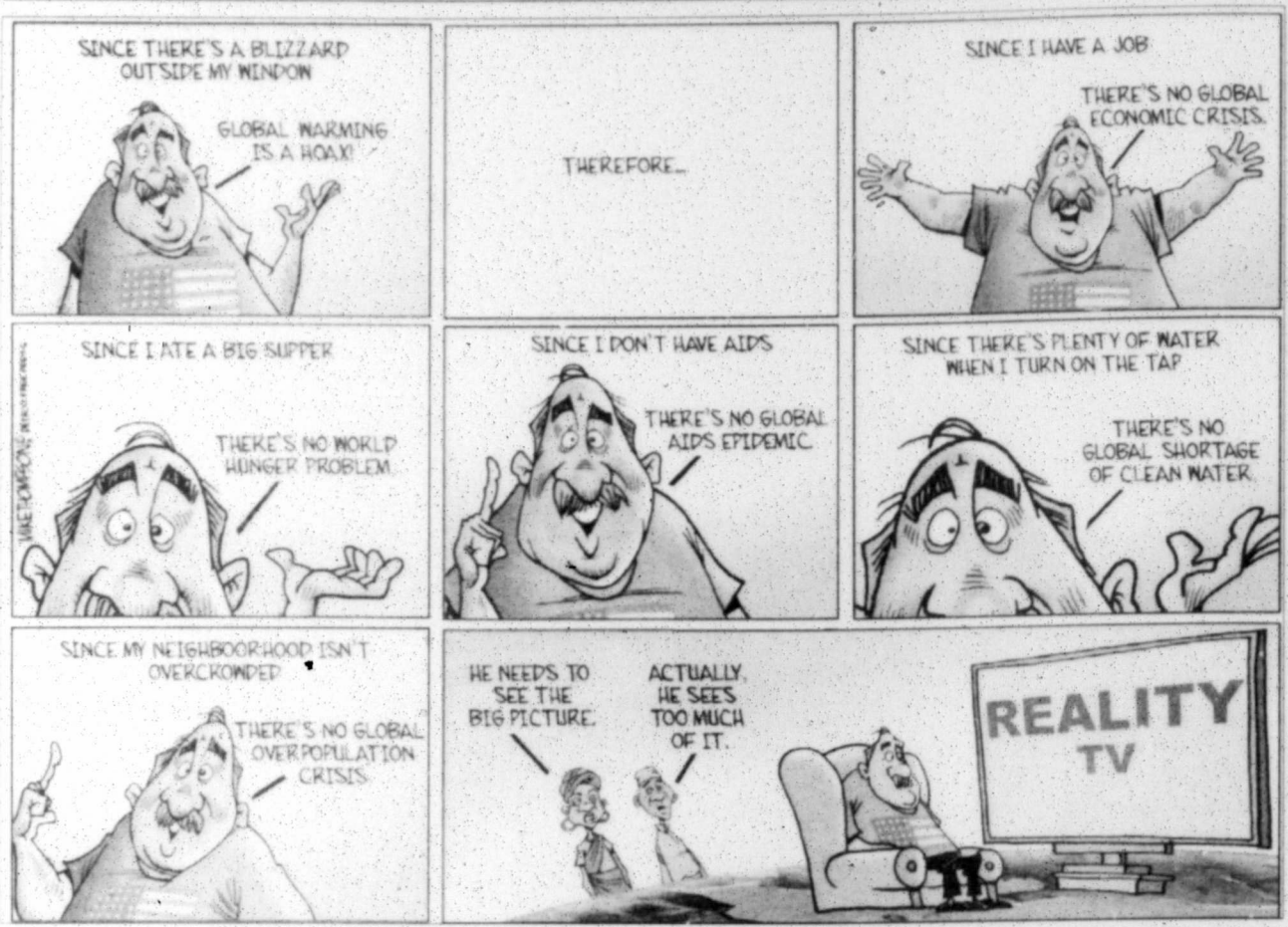
Ten years ago: The United States and Britain staged air strikes against radar stations and air defense command centers in Iraq. President George W. Bush met with Mexican President Vicente Fox on the first foreign trip of Bush's presidency.

Five years ago: The U.S. Army said goodbye to its last Mobile Army Surgical Hospital, handing over equipment from the MASH unit to doctors and nurses in Pakistan, the scene of an October 2005 earthquake.

One year ago: Officials reported the capture of Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, the Afghan Taliban's No. 2 commander, by a joint CIA and Pakistani team. President Barack Obama announced more than \$8 billion in new federal loan guarantees to build two nuclear reactors in Georgia.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Patty Andrews is 93. Kim Jong Il, the president of North Korea, is 69. Actor Jeremy Bulloch is 65. Actor William Katt is 60. Rhythm-and-blues singer James Ingram is 59. Actor LeVar Burton is 54. Actor-rapper Ice-T is 53. Actress Lisa Loring is 53. International Tennis Hall of Famer John McEnroe is 52. Rock musician Andy Taylor is 50. Rock musician Dave Lombardo (Slayer) is 46. Rock musician Taylor Hawkins (Foo Fighters) is 39. Olympic gold medal runner Cathy Freeman is 38. Singer Sam Salter is 36. Rapper Lupe Fiasco is 29. Actor Mike Weinberg is 18.

Thought for Today: "Anybody can make history. Only a great man can write it." — Oscar Wilde (1854-1900)



A crisis with Federal judicial nominations

There is a crisis in America's federal courts that has absolutely nothing to do with politics, although that is its cause.

The figures are familiar: one out of every nine seats on the federal bench is vacant. Half of the vacancies are in districts with multiple vacancies that have literally declared "judicial emergencies" because they have more cases (many of them criminal and thus subject to speedy trial requirements) than they can handle.

Only 65 of President Obama's judicial nominees have been confirmed. In the past six weeks, one federal judge a week has retired, further increasing the number of vacancies.

Chief Justice John Roberts has warned of the crisis. White House counsel Bob Bauer has warned of the crisis. The Senate even listened enough to actually confirm two judges on Thursday — easy confirmations of well-qualified candidates, both of whom, when they finally bothered to put them up for a vote, were confirmed unanimously.

Roberts' previous seat

has been vacant for five-and-a-half years.

The problem is not that well-qualified people have stopped applying for federal judgeships, though it is hard to believe that the average one-year wait for confirmation doesn't deter some folks. The problem is that well-qualified people are getting caught in political battles that have nothing to do with them, or with the judiciary for that matter.

There is a myth that seems to animate Senate review of judges: that every day on the federal bench you decide Roe v. Wade; that every day you decide whether gay marriage is lawful, whether Arizona's immigration law is unconstitutional or whether the president's health care bill gets thrown out.

It ain't so. Most judges don't decide a single such case in a lifetime. Even if they do, unless you're on the Supreme Court, it's just back-story.

What federal judges do, day in and day out, has much less to do with politics than with knowledge, judgment, management

and discipline.

Managing a criminal or civil docket is a major enterprise. Federal

judges do it with the help of a couple of kids right out of law school and a few hardworking clerks. Juggling dozens of cases, motions calendars and juries; ensuring that trial dates don't slip and speedy trial rights aren't compromised; making one decision after another, often with little time for reflection, that determine what evidence comes in, what arguments can be made, who gets bail, what charges will stand, what claims get dismissed, whether proper procedures were followed, what damages are justified, whether a temporary restraining order should issue — that's called Monday.

Good judges do these things well, and it almost never has anything to do with politics. Get together with lawyers to discuss

judges, and they don't talk about who appointed them or how they answered the Roe question in confirmation hearings. It's about how they run their calendar, whether they are prepared for and engaged in oral arguments, and how long it takes for a case to get to trial.

We have grown used to playing politics with nominees to the Supreme Court, to the point that having deep convictions is seen as disqualifying and confirmation hearings have become a charade. There are occasions when a high-profile ideologue, left or right, is appointed to an appellate court, and those battles are probably bound to play out again and again.

But most federal judges aren't there to do politics. And they shouldn't be demeaned by the political process — or forced to wait a year or longer because of it — when what they are trying to do is serve this country.

Susan Estrich is a nationally syndicated columnist.



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Local News Anytime, Anywhere

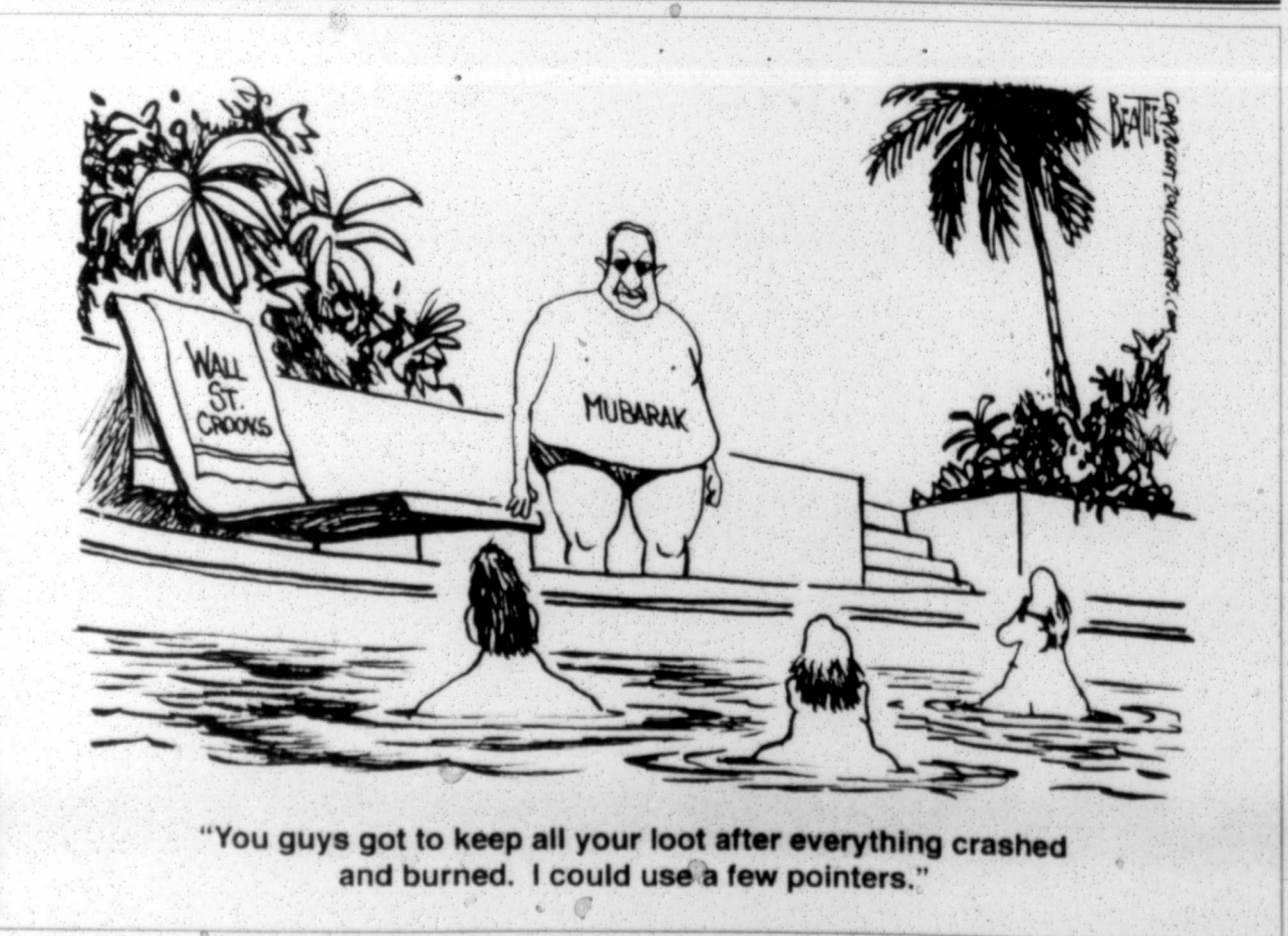


Call Kera at 669-2525

We welcome your letters

To ensure publication, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be edited for length and clarity.
- All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number with the letter for verification. Only your name and city will be published.
- Defamatory comments will not be published.
- E-mail submissions are welcome.
- The views and opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of The Pampa News or its staff.



Win a Family Bible & \$50 each week!

Find the missing words from this week's Bible verse in the ads below and fill in the blanks with the correct words. Entries must be mailed to P.O. Box 2198, Pampa Texas 79066 or delivered to the Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison by 4 p.m. on Feb. 21, 23, 28 and March 2. A random winner will be chosen from the forms with the correct answers. Copies of this form are not accepted. *Bibles donated by Carmichael-Whatley.*

THIS WEEK'S VERSE HOLY BIBLE (NIV, ©2010)

In the beginning God 1. _____ the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was 2. _____ and 3. _____, darkness was over the 4. _____ of the 5. _____, and the Spirit of God was 6. _____ over the 7. _____. And God said, "Let 8. _____ be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was 9. _____, and he 10. _____ the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and the 11. _____ he called "night." And there was 12. _____, and there was morning—the first day.

Genesis 1:1-5

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

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 525 N. Gray St. • Pampa, TX 79065
 5. deep 806-665-1031

SUNDAY
 Coffee Fellowship at 9:15 am
 Sunday School for all ages 9:30 am
 Worship at 10:45

WEDNESDAY
 Bible Studies for Children and Adults at 5:00 pm
 Dinner at 6:30 pm
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 Morning Worship 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
 Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.

12. evening

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www.ashmoreassociates.com

FAITH TABERNACLE

610 Naida
 665-3676

Ben Corbitt - Pastor
 Worship - 1:00 pm
 8. there

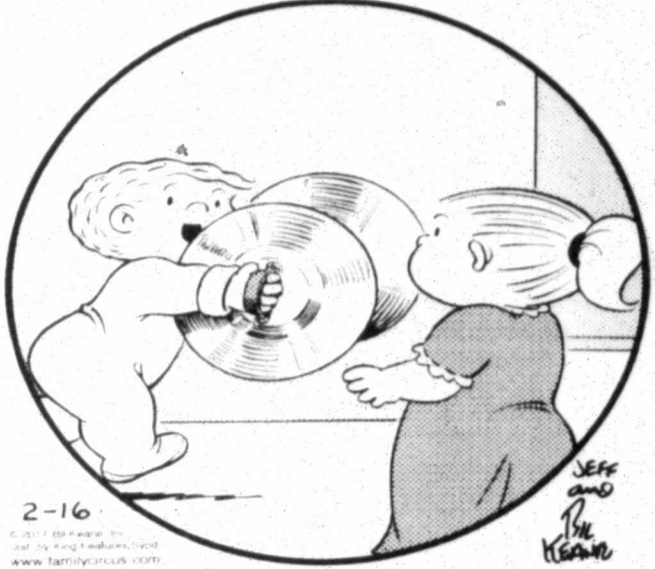
Online or delivered to your door... subscribe to The Pampa News and discover what's going on in your hometown.

10. separated

The PAMPA NEWS

comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



"Mommy said I get to wake up Daddy!"

Non Sequitur



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Nest Heads



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Feb. 17, 2011

This year, others present many options. Sometimes you will feel as if your ideas are being ignored. Actually, they are the stimulus leading to many suggestions. Your creativity comes out more when you are aggravated. Funnel this gift into problem-solving, creating success. If you are single, you are surrounded by a bevy of admirers. It is your choice! If you are attached, focus on your sweetie, not everyone else. Otherwise, you could generate some jealousy this year. LEO can be challenging.

A baby born today, Feb. 17, 2011, is a Sun in Aquarius, Moon in Leo. He or she is born on a Full Moon.

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 new sense of creativity and dynamic energy flows through your plans and any activity you take on. Don't feel pressured by others, causing you to challenge stances. The final product is important. Tonight: Let your hair down.

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20)
 *** Stay centered, despite another person's attempt to color your thinking. Perhaps if this statement refers to an authority figure, a little diplomacy might help grease the wheels. Tonight: Head home and relax.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 20)
 ***** Your ability to move through a conversation, help others understand and be receptive is a unique skill set. A child might be challenging or withdrawn. You can't change this person, but you can accept him or her. Let your sparkly nature warm up the moment. Tonight: Hanging out.

CANCER (June 21 - July 22)
 ***** Know when you have crossed the line. How you share with someone that you've hit your limit could be very different from what your inner voice might be screaming. Use care when dealing with any money-related partnership. Tonight: You deserve a treat.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22)
 ***** Open up to possibilities and question your direction, especially if you hit a brick wall over and over. Understanding will evolve quite quickly if you look at the signals and signposts. Tonight: Say "yes" to living in the moment.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)
 *** Understand another person's in-

nate fragility and use care when choosing your words. You, too, could be very sensitive and interpret a comment not as it was meant. Let go and relax. Explaining the confusion could be futile. Tonight: Get plenty of R and R.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)
 ***** A set of supporters helps you achieve a long-desired goal. Laughter opens up a whole new perspective. A child or loved one might be a little difficult or confusing. This person feels as if he or she isn't getting enough attention. Tonight: Where your friends are.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)
 ***** You know full well what needs to unfurl. Loosen up and enjoy what is happening around the workplace. You can throw your weight around, impacting the end result of a situation. Others admire your poise. Tonight: A must appearance.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)
 ***** Continue to be spontaneous. You intuitively know which way to turn in order to achieve what you want. Detachment simply occurs because of an innate perspective. Don't worry about confusion or a misunderstanding. You will find the right words. Tonight: How about a movie or a new place to listen to music?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)
 ***** Understand what is happening with a partner or associate rather than try to judge him or her. Together you can sort through a monetary issue that is impacting both of you. Loosen up with a friend. Confirm what time you will get together. Tonight: Continue a key discussion if need be.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)
 ***** You might be more challenging than you realize. An opportunity that comes out of left field might not be all that it's cracked up to be. Understand what is motivating key people who seem to be quite sure of themselves. Tonight: Decide with whom you want to be. Everything else will take care of itself!

PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20)
 ***** Watch what is going on around you. Your ability to sleuth through a problem at work or an issue impacting your daily life emerges. You might wonder what is best for you, as opposed to what is best for the group. Determining your priorities remains critical. Tonight: Recognize your limits.

BORN TODAY
 Celebrity Paris Hilton (1981), actor Alan Bates (1934), singer, songwriter Bryan White (1974)

Tundra



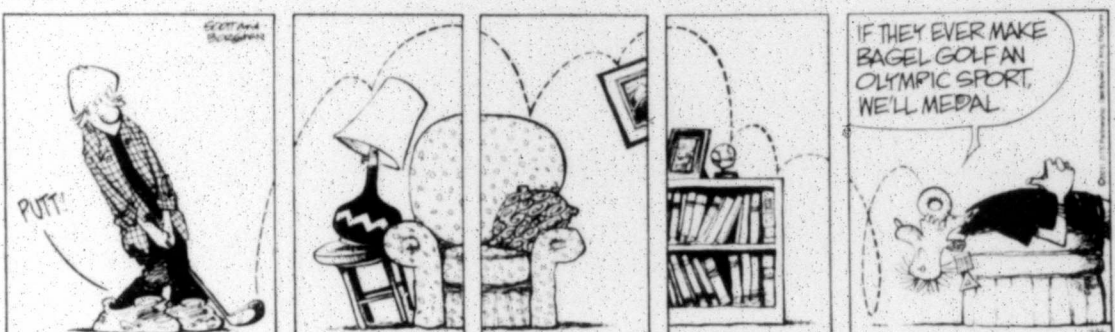
Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



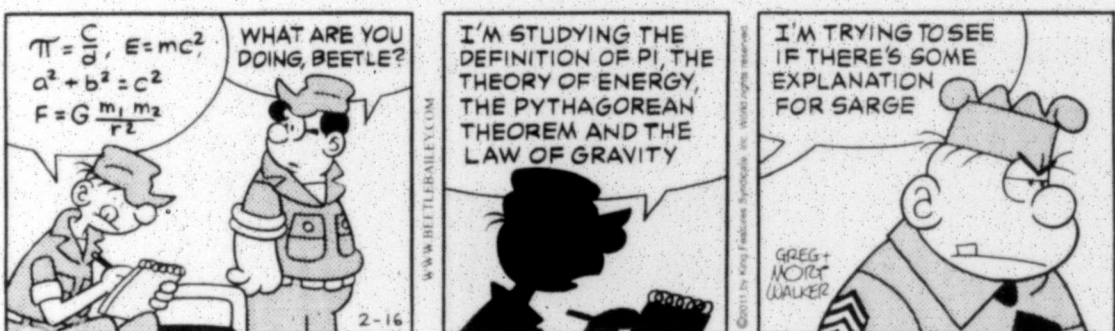
Zits



Garfield



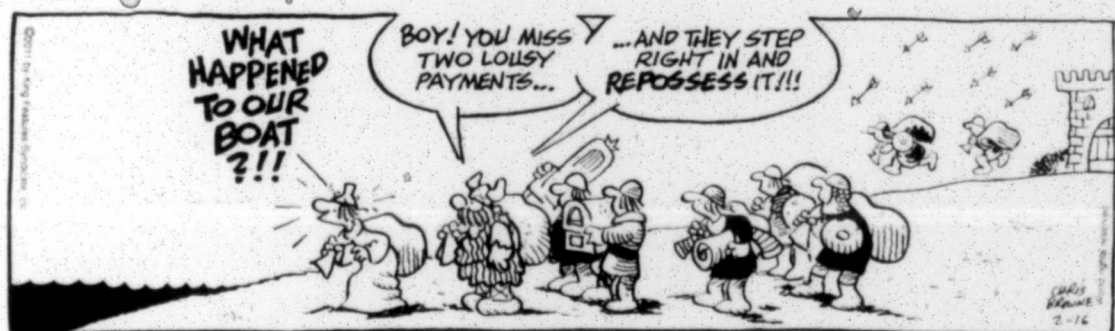
Beetle Bailey



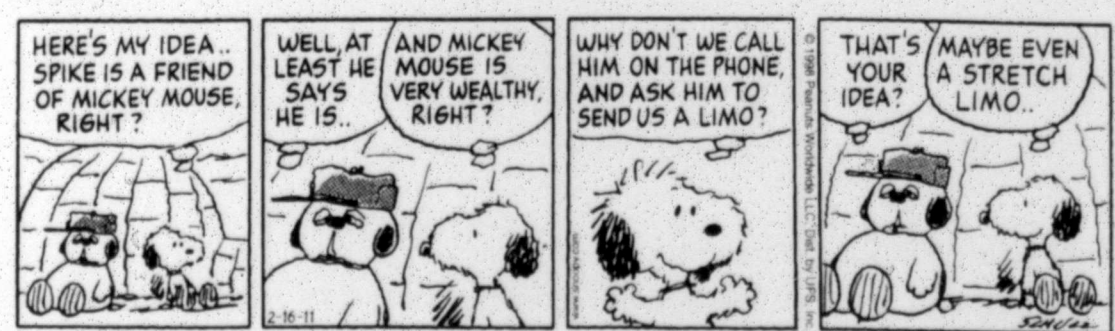
Marvin



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie





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LOST in vicinity of Taco Bell long haired tan Chihuahua mix named Toodles 663-1276.

13 Bus. Opp.

XTREME Audio & Truck Access. Store for sale. 407 W. Foster. For info. call 806-440-6433.

14d Carpentry

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347, 806-663-0192.

14e Carpet Serv.

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14g Elec. Contr.

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14i Plumbing

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14j Situations

NAVARRO Masonry. Brickwork, stucco, synthetic or original, concrete, fences all types & carpentry. 438-1066.

14k Gen. Serv.

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14l Painting

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14m Plumbing

JACK'S Plumbing 715 W. Foster 665-7115.

14n Air Cond/Heat

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21 Help Wanted

NOTICE Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

21a Help Wanted

SMOKIN' Jobs now hiring exp. mature prep person, cook, dishwasher, server & hostess. Apply in person, 732 E. Frederic, between 8-10am Monday thru Wednesday only.

21b Help Wanted

ROUTE Driver needed. Culligan Water is looking for full-time route driver. Insurance, paid holidays and vacations. Need a people friendly, positive, team player in good physical shape. Call us at 888-501-1031.

21c Help Wanted

EXPERIENCED Manager wanted. Apply in person at Pak-a-Burger, 1608 N. Hobart, Pampa.

21d Help Wanted

SHEPARD'S Crook Nursing Agency needs Full-Time Accountant. Full benefits. Come by 916 N. Crest Rd., Pampa for application.

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COOK for evening meal prep & other kitchen duties. Prefer experienced individual, but will train qualified applicant to prepare meals for special diets. Must be reliable and dependable, and pass drug screen & background check. EOE. Apply in person. CORONADO HEALTHCARE CENTER, 1504 W. Kentucky Ave., Pampa.

21 Help Wanted

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21 Help Wanted

DRIVER needed. 1-yr experience. DOT physical - drug screen required. 806-665-2451.

21 Help Wanted

PIZZA Hut 1500 N. Banks now hiring delivery drivers \$9 - \$12 hr. Apply in person.

21 Help Wanted

LVNs Charge Nurses Must have state license. Competitive rates & benefits available for full time employees. EOE. Must be able to pass drug screen & background check. For more info, call (806)665-5746, or apply in person at CORONADO HEALTHCARE CENTER, 1504 W. Kentucky, Pampa.

21 Help Wanted

EXPERIENCED steamer operator needed w. at least 2 yrs exp. & good driving record. Apply at 8037 Co. Rd. 11.

21 Help Wanted

USED Appliance Sales & Service. Sell yours working or not, or buy mine, guaranteed. 806-627-1343.

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FIREWOOD For Sale. \$160 a rick, delivered. Call 664-1900 or 664-1901.

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WASHER, dryer, freezer, sofa, tables all sizes, etc. 662-7557.

21 Help Wanted

NEW Quality queen mattress set \$246. Used furniture. Red Barn, 1420 S. Barnes, 665-2767. Open each Sat.

21 Help Wanted

WANT to buy junk cars w. titles and scrap iron. Call 806-663-6907.

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21 Help Wanted

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21 Help Wanted

MINUTES from downtown efficiencies. Short term leases avail. 806-665-4274.

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89 Wanted To Buy

1 bdrm's avail. starting \$435/mo. \$100 off 1st mo rent w. 7 mo lease. Corp. units, utilities, linens, basic cable. Caprock Apts. 665-7149.

89 Wanted To Buy

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89 Wanted To Buy

2 & 3 bdr. starting at \$559/mo. \$150 off 1st mo Rent w. 7 mo lease. W/d hookups in all units. Caprock Apts. 665-7149.

89 Wanted To Buy

APTS. Houses Duplex etc. K&B Properties. Ref. & dep. req. Lakeview Apts. 669-4386.

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MINUTES from downtown efficiencies. Short term leases avail. 806-665-4274.

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NO transportation, not a problem. These large 1 bdr apts w. appliances, are in walking distance to everything you need. 665-4274.

96 Unfurn. Apts.

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An EEO/AA Employer/Drug Free Employer.

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.

2-16 CRYPTOQUOTE

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

K L V O E L H
Yesterday's Cryptquote: SERVICE: NEVER HAVE THIS WORD ON YOUR LIPS. BUT KEEP IT IN YOUR HEARTS. — ALBERT SCHWEITZER

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4 Lines, 4 Days
\$18.50

8 Lines, 4 Days
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Valid Through February 2011.

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Sports

Rangers sneak past Harvesters in season finale

ANDREW GLOVER
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There would have been no better way for the Pampa Harvesters to end Tuesday night, than to cut down the nets and celebrate a victory over the Perryton Rangers. After the game, the students were chanting "district champs" but the Harvesters weren't feeling like champs in a 62-61 loss at McNeely Field House.

Head coach Dustin Miller said his team played hard, but dug themselves too big of a hole.

"It was a great basketball game period," Miller said. "I don't want to blame anybody and give Perryton credit for finishing it off. It was just one of those nights that wasn't meant to be our night."

Junior guard Latigo Collins said they had some missed opportunities.

"We just ran out of time," Collins said.

Pampa got off to a quick start when senior forward Jonathan Polasek hit a jumper and senior forward Garrett Ericson sunk a three. The Rangers would take control the rest of the quarter with an 18-7 run. Hunter Wade scored eight of Perryton's last 16 points and the Rangers led 18-12 after one.

The Harvesters struck quickly to start the second. Sophomore post Derrek Pollard scored on an offensive rebound. Junior swingman Cole Engle hit a three to cut Perryton's lead to one. The Rangers built their largest lead of the half with a 12-0 run. Wade, Blake Turner and Braiden Vernor did most of the damage for Perryton, as they combined for 13 of the Rangers' 16 points. Senior guard Greg Cabrales scored six points in his first 30 seconds of playing time and cut Perryton's lead to seven. The Rangers led 34-25 at halftime.

Cabrales said he wanted to put on a good performance in his last home game.

"It felt good to help my team and create a spark for us," Cabrales said.

The Rangers (16-14, 5-4) quickly built their lead up to 13 at the start of the third, prompting Miller to call a timeout. Taking it over turned out to be what the

Harvesters needed, as they went on a 13-0 run to tie the game. Collins scored five points including a three that cut the lead to four. Polasek, junior post Reid Miller, senior point guard Zach Murray and Ericson each scored a basket. The Harvesters trailed 47-44 after three.

The Rangers pulled out to a six-point lead in the fourth but that was the biggest lead they would get. Ericson nailed a three and cut the lead to three. A jumper by the senior forward cut the lead to one. Miller tied the game at 54 with a three. Ericson gave Pampa their first lead since the first quarter with a jumper. That's the only lead Pampa got. Vernor tied the game at 58 and Turner gave the Rangers the lead for good with a jumper.

The Harvesters had several chances to tie the game or take the lead. Pampa missed three lay-ups, Wade missed the front end of a one-and-one but Pampa couldn't convert to tie the game. The Harvesters had one final chance when Wade missed a free throw. Ericson couldn't get a shot off before the buzzer.

Wade led the Rangers in scoring with 29. Vernor and Kalynn Samples followed with 11 each. Zach Allred led the team in rebounds with seven. Ericson led the Harvesters in scoring with 14. Collins, Engle, Polasek and Miller each followed with eight. Miller led the team in rebounds with 10.

The junior varsity lost 65-37. Tyler Powell led the team in scoring with eight. Coach Matt Embry said his team showed considerable improvement.

"Our district win percentage was 200 points better," Embry said. "I feel like some guys are ready for the next level, if they have a good spring and fall."

The freshmen lost 61-36.

Miller said his team will take a little time to re-cooperate and then get ready for the playoffs.

"We are going to take a day off tomorrow and recuperate," Miller said. "We are going to go back to work Thursday and Friday. We are going to Randall on Saturday to get sharp and get ready for the games that really matter."

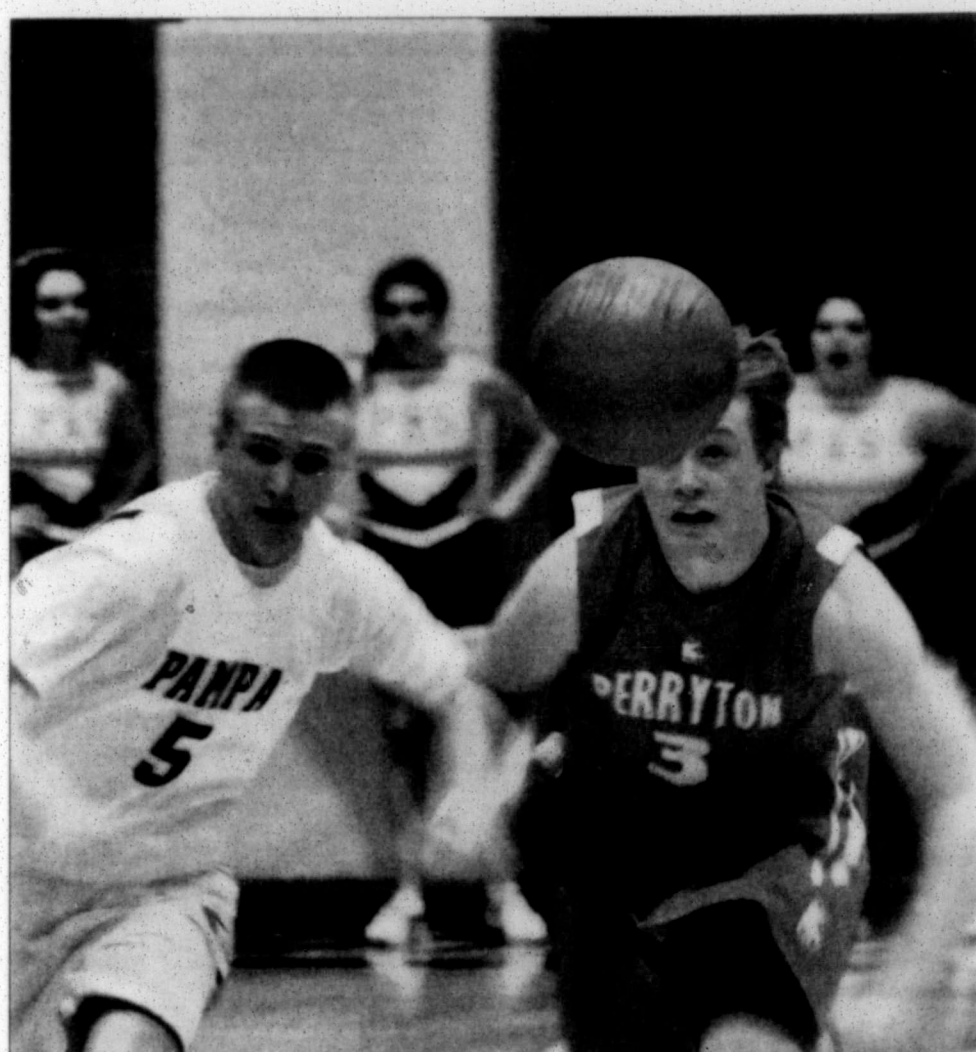


photo courtesy of Joe Murray

Latigo Collins and Perryton's Braiden Vernor chase down a loose ball at McNeely Fieldhouse Tuesday. The Rangers won 62-61 but the Harvesters still finished as district champs and start their run to state February 25 in the area round.

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