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On the verge Harvesters hunt down Wolves, playoffs in sight

Page 10



Wednesday, April 13, 2011

Volume 107 • No. 7

75¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

# WEDDING WARRIOR



photo courtesy The Media Collective/Lynn Freeny

Kirk Cameron will be speaking in Pampa on Sunday as part of the "Love Worth Fighting For" tour aimed at strengthening marriage.

# Cameron to speak in Pampa Sunday 'Love Worth Fighting For' to address marriage

ARNIE AURELLANO editor@thepampanews.com

Kirk Cameron, Christian speaker and star of the sitcom "Growing Pains" and the film "Fireproof," admits that he doesn't really know much about what the Panhandle is

"I've probably flown through there, driven through there

along my way, but I've not spent a whole lot of time there," Cameron said. "I'm looking forward to being out and talking to people, seeing what the part of the country is like."

He'll soon be getting a taste of Panhandle hospitality, as he'll be appearing in Pampa this weekend as part of the national Feed Your Faith's "Love Worth Fighting For"

tour. The event will be at 3 p.m. on Sunday at the M.K. Brown Auditorium, with a question and answer session for select guests beforehand at 1:15 p.m.

Sponsored locally by the Calvary Baptist Church, the event will consist of talks from Cameron and a concert from singer-songwriter Warren Barfield aimed at fortifying the

CAMERON cont. on page 2

# PRMC buyer group to host event on Sat.

DAVID BOWSER

dbowser@thepampanews.com

There will be a community event in the parking lot of Interim Healthcare Saturday in support of local ownership of Pampa Regional Medical Center.

Dr. James Hall of the Emergency Foundation of Texas said his organization is one of the potential buyers of the Pampa Regional Medical Center, a 115bed hospital. The foundation and its supporters will hold the event Saturday to answer any questions the community might have, he said.

Speaking to the city commission Tuesday afternoon, Hall said that Signature Corporation, the owners of the hospital, wants to sell the facility by the middle of the summer.

"Starting Friday and next Monday and Tuesday," he said, "everybody in the country that's considering buying this hospital will be here in town to see the hospital, look at it and kick the tires so to speak."

Hall said that the foundation he represents is trying to buy the hospital so it will be locally owned. It is the largest hospital in the panhandle outside of Amarillo.

"The hospital absolutely will not close," he said. "It won't happen. The question is who's going to own it?

Hall said his foundation wants the hospital to be locally owned and operated locally.

He said if somebody else wants to buy it, that's fine, but they need to be local residents so the money stays in town and can be reinvested in the hospital.

"That's our goal," Hall said. "We want to have a quality facility." EVENT cont. on page 2

# City to make move to paperless agenda

DAVID BOWSER dbowser@thepampanews.com

The Pampa City Commission will spend \$34,500 out of existing funds on a paperless agenda system and an

access control system for city hall. City Manager Richard Morris told the commissioners that \$21,500 would go toward the paperless agenda

While the details aren't completely worked out, the system would provide for two large screens in the city commission chambers showing the commission's agenda, touch screen monitors for commissioners and

back-up servers for the system. Morris said that it costs the city about \$350 a month in time and labor to print the agendas on paper. "We may not be able to get completely away from

that," Morris said. He said the paperless system, however, would elimi-

nate a lot of paper. Morris indicated that Amarillo and Borger use paperless systems.

The money to purchase the system will come from existing funds from the old economic development corporation. CITY cont. on page 2

# SOFTBALL CLINCHES DISTRICT SPRINTING TO THE CROWN



photo courtesy of Charla Shults

Claire Hopkins sprints to first to beat a throw. Hopkins reached base in all three at bats as the Lady Harvesters win 8-0 and clinch the district 1-3A title. Full coverage in SPORTS, page 9.

## IN THIS ISSUE:

Comics ..... 6 Classifieds ..... 7 Afternoon Rush ..... 3 Dog Talk...... 3 Puzzles/Dear Abby... 8 Viewpoints ..... 4 Sports ..... 9,10



### PAMPA FORECAST

Thursday

Friday Saturday







Low 38

High 64 Low 36

High 68 Low 42

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 45. East wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 69. Very windy, with a west northwest wind 15 to 20 mph increasing to between 30 and 35 mph. Winds could gust as high as 50 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 38. Windy, with a northwest wind 25 to 30 mph decreasing to between 10 and 15 mph. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 64. Windy, with a northwest wind 15 to 20 mph increasing to between 25 and 30 mph. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 36. Windy, with a north northwest wind 15 to 20 mph decreasing to between 5 and 10 mph. Winds could gust as high as 25 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 68. Windy, with a west wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south between 15 and 20 mph. Winds could gust as high as 25 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 42. Windy, with a south wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

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### City

The city manager said that \$13,000 of the \$34,500 would go to access control for city hall. He said that presently the four entrances have to be

locked by a person when city hall is closes.

The new system, using available money in a fund for court security (city hall houses the municipal court), would make it easier to control access after hours.

The doors, Morris said, would remain open during normal business hours. Citizens would notice no difference during regular working days, he said.

The city commission also entered into an agreement with the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission to upload Pampa's 911 data in a database for the new Panhandle Area Regional Information System (PARIS).

According to Pampa Police Chief Kelly Rushing, the sys-

tem would be able to notify all the residents within a given area of an emergency, such as a tornado or fire, through an automated phone messaging system.

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Pampa's Emergency Management Coordinator Fred Courtney told commissioners that people would be able to

list their phone numbers in the system. In other business:

· The commission also approved a walkway around the Pampa Family Aquatic Center. It had been part of the original plan, but it was cut because of expense. The Payne Foundation, however, donated the \$14,113 in funding needed to pay for the walking trail to be named for David D. and Nona S. Payne. • The commission also authorized publication of the official notice of election for the city's May 14, elections.

### Cameron

relationship between husband and

"There is no better example of the unconditional love God has for us than what we are instructed to have for our spouse and children," the event's website reads. "Building upon these themes, 'Love Worth Fighting For' is a marriage event... designed to strengthen and encourage your mar-

"I'm going to be sharing stories from my marriage," Cameron said. "Warren's going to be sharing stories from his marriage. Some of them are funny. Some of them are not. That's really what it is. It's not a group counseling session. It's not people preaching to you. It's a couple of guys who love their wives who want to make it work for the sake of their families, for the sake of their kids, for God. We're going to share some things and pass on what we know and have a great

"I've been married for 20 years. My wife and I have six amazing kids, and so we understand that a strong marriage is a foundation for a great family. I can't afford to lose when it comes to marriage. I've got to win, and I've got to fight for it, because it's hard... It's definitely close to my heart."

Cameron said that the success of "Fireproof" has provided a great springboard for him to dive into helping people support, sustain and rejuvenate their marital relationships.

"'Fireproof' came out a few years ago, and maybe a year ago, we started doing these marriage events, using 'Fireproof' as a backdrop for the marriage event because a lot of people could relate to the story that was going on on the screen," Cameron said. "We had 6,000 people come to the first event in Knoxville. Tenn., and man, people were just starving for this. Some good, solid help on marriage and a great time with their husband or wife.

With most of their marriage events. being sold out, Cameron said that he has been excited and blessed to be able to speak to receptive audiences.

"It's probably mostly wives who are taking their husbands to a marriage event," Cameron added with a chuckle. "It's not the guys who say, 'Hey, honey, let's go to a marriage

"But once the guys come, you

know, they have a great time. They might start out with guys looking a little uncomfortable. It's sort of an awkward thing: 'Hey, I'm at a marriage event. What does that mean about my marriage?'

"But as it goes on, we just talk about real stuff. We're honest and sort of transparent about marriage and its challenges and what is it we all want out of marriage, and pretty soon, you see husbands and wives who walked in barely talking to each other with their arms around each other, holding hands. People are laughing, crying, praying together... You can go home with something that, in a lot of ways, is better than just your typical marriage counseling session."

For anyone who might be a little leery of sharing a counseling session with an auditorium full of people, Cameron said that the event is much more than just that.

"It's a date with your spouse. You're going to walk home and have some great stuff to talk about. You're going to get some great help about how to be a better husband, how to be a bet-"It's not like we all sit around and

hold hands and air our dirty laundry. It's not like that at all. It's inspiring. It's encouraging. It's strengthening.'

The language in the event's title, Cameron said, was carefully chosen to reflect its subject matter.

"It really kind of sprung off of the title of Warren Barfield's song, 'Love Is Not A Fight.' That was the theme song for 'Fireproof.' He talks about how love is not a feeling, not something you just fall into and out of when you don't have that feeling. Love is a decision, and it's worth fighting for.

"That's where the language came from. I like it because it characterizes this event well. This is not just a sort of soft, emotional counseling session. This has got some guts to it. We talk about some hard things. We talk about real life. The truth is that to make a marriage work, you do have to fight for it. You have to fight really hard for it.'

Cameron said that, as a celebrity, he's seen what the public eye and the Hollywood lifestyle can do to a marriage. He added that it's helped him be able to connect with regular people who may be facing the same difficulties within their own homes.

"Hollywood is kind of known for marriages that last two seconds," Cameron said. "Everyone here seems to be getting married and then switching spouses with somebody else. So we can relate to the challenges of marriage just like anybody else. If anything, it's even more intensified.

"We've learned the secret of it. We've learned the secret of marriage. It's not complicated. It's pretty simple. It's just hard, because it's about loving someone else and putting. them first before yourself, and that's not what Hollywood does. It's a challenging place, but it's the same challenge everybody else has. It's just a 🐺 bit more magnified."

Whatever the situation, Cameron said that its vital for people to understand the importance of the role a marriage plays within God's design.

"God created an amazing world and put us in it," he said. "He created marriage, and marriage is designed beautifully to be the foundation for .... raising kids and making the world an amazing, heavenly place. If you blow it in marriage, you're going to fail in an epic way when it comes to future.

"Now, all of us have blown it. All of us have made mistakes. A lot of people know the pain of going through a divorce. Fortunately, there's new . . . . starts. There's forgiveness. There's moving ahead. There's hope for the future. But we don't want to fail over and over when it comes to marriage and family, because ultimately you're going to miss the huge plan and design that (God) has for you being part of the great story of what happens here on Earth. There's a huge motivation for me to want to help people get that right."

Tickets for "Love Worth Fighting For" are currently available in advance from Calvary Baptist Church for \$22.50, with a special rate of \$20 a person for groups of 10 or more. ' . Reserved seating (including seats in the two front rows and access to the question and answer session) is \$35. Tickets at the door are \$25.

For more information, contact Calvary Baptist Church at (806) 665-0842 or check out the event online at http://www.feedyourfaith.org/event/ love-worth-fighting-for-pampa-tx.

### Event

He said the foundation would like to see the facility improved through reinvest-

"That's not something that's happened in a long time," Hall said.

through preach-

ing, teaching,

prayer and pro-

phetic ministry,

Barker said. She

carries a strong

prophetic anointing to minister

strength, and

truth to the body

of Christ, ac-

kingdom of God."

He said he has the support

Sandi Ballew is a powerful anointed

speaker, according to pastor Ed Barker.

Sandi brings the Word of God alive

cording to pastor Barker. Barker said,

"Sandi ministers with fresh revelation to

awaken, equip, and transform the Body

of Christ into powerful weapons for the

of 100 percent of the hospital's medical staff.

"Operating a hospital is a very complex business," he said. "We do not intend to run the hospital. If we succeed in buying it, it will be run by a professional

Sunday, April 10 at 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

April 11, 12 & 13 at 7:00 p.m.

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hospital management com-

Hall said the foundation hopes to know whether they will be able to buy the hospital by late May or early June.

Marla Jackson is a gifted psalmist. Marla

leads prophetic worship, teaches and

ministers throughout the United States

barriers to make way for even the hard-

est of hearts to receive and respond to

by scripture, Maria composes most of the

songs she uses in ministry.

ill be provided for all services for ages infant through

the Word of God. As a psalmist inspired

"The most important part

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is we need community sup-

port," he said. Hall said he expects ven- "..." ture capitalists to bankroll

the project. Texas Health Partners out of Dallas-Fort Worth is helping the foundation as

experts in the field. "I personally believe as someone that's been here for six years working down !!! there that we're at a fork in the road," Hall said. "We can go down the same road that 'L' we've been on with revolving ownership or we can try to bring it back locally and ' make it the first class institution it should be."

He said that's the foundation's whole purpose in taking on the project.

The doctor said that if the foundation is able to buy the hospital, they should be able :to add at least 50 jobs during the first six months of opera-

"They've lost a tremendous number of their staff," and he said of the facility.

Hall said there is the potential for many more jobs, de but he expects at least 50.

He asked for the Pampa City Commission's endorsement of a locally owned, locally operated hospital.

The commission approved such a resolution in ..... a unanimous vote.

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# AFTERNOON RUSH Campus gun bill dead

### Wildfires still burning

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LUBBOCK (AP) - Summer-like weather has contributed to spring wildfires still raging in parts of dry West

Texas Forest Service spokesman Alan Craft says a fire that's blackened 120,000 acres in Presidio and Jeff Davis counties was not contained Wednesday.

Craft told The Associated Press that aircraft and ground personnel were fighting the fire, which started Saturday and has burned as many as 50 homes.

The National Weather Service forecast Wednesday was partly cloudy with highs in the upper 70s in the moun- istrators from the state's tains to the upper 90s along the Rio Grande, plus winds of up to 30 mph.

Gov. Rick Perry took an aerial tour of burned parts of Stonewell County on Tuesday.

### Eminent domain bill up for vote

AUSTIN (AP) - The Texas House is taking up a bill that would limit the ability of governments to seize property using the power of eminent domain.

Under the proposed law, property could be seized under a process called "eminent domain" only it if would be put toward public use. The government would also be required to make a "bona fide" offer to buy the property. A vote is expected today.

Lawmakers have been tinkering with the state's eminent domain law for years as concern mounted about governments abusing their power to seize private land. Gov. Rick Perry, a Republican, has designated the eminent domain bill a legislative emergency.

Perry vetoed a similar bill in 2007, a move that angered farmers and private property rights advocates. But has supported the measure since 2009.

### Wild hogs invade Fort Worth

FORT WORTH (AP) - A posh gated community along the Trinity River in eastern Fort Worth has been invaded by wild hogs that have been digging up parts of the large lawns surrounding the homes.

Jeanie Turek told KXAS-TV of Fort Worth and Dallas that landscapers had just repaired the damage of her home from one invasion of the River Bend Estates when the peccaries made another raid the next day.

Turek said the hogs "sounded like a stampede of cattle, just running by the side of the house." They come to grub for worms, nuts and roots.

Since shooting wild hogs within the city limits is illegal, she considered traps. But Capt. Neal Bieler of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department says "you hardly Eddie Lucio of Brownsville ever trap them all."

### Perry giving eBay \$2.8 million

AUSTIN (AP) - Texas Gov. Rick Perry is giving eBay Inc. \$2.8 million to expand its Austin facility.

Perry's office says eBay will create 1,050 high-paying jobs. Perry announced the deal Tuesday.

The money comes from the governor's Texas

Enterprise Fund. The fund is used to lure businesses to Texas or expand existing operations.

Perry's office says the fund has spent more than \$430 million on deals that have created more than 58,000 jobs in Texas since 2003.

Some state lawmakers call the fund corporate welfare at a time the state is facing a \$27 billion budget short-

### Committee clears sonogram bill

AUSTIN (AP) - Gov. Rick Perry's emergency legislation requiring doctors to do a sonogram before performing an abortion is moving forward.

The Senate State Affairs Committee approved a compromise between a stringent House version and a more flexible Senate draft during a meeting Tuesday. The bill still requires doctors to show the woman a sonogram, to hear the fetal heart beat and provide a detailed description of the fetus

State Sen. Dan Patrick says the new draft restores an exemption for women who are victims of sexual assault, incest or in cases where the fetus is fatally deformed. The compromise also exempts women who live in rural counties from waiting 24 hours between receiving the sonogram and having the abortion.

Women's rights and doctor's groups oppose the legisla-

### Deal would free up ed money

AUSTIN (AP) - The federal budget deal negotiated to avoid a government shutdown would remove the strings a Democratic congressman had attached to \$830 million in funds for public education in Texas.

If passed into law as expected later this week, the bill would remove a requirement that Republican Gov. Rick Perry use the funds to supplement existing school spending rather than just replace state funds in order to balance the budget. Perry praised the agreement to do away with the requirement, which he called a "political stunt.

U.S. Rep. Lloyd Doggett, D-Austin, said in a statement released Tuesday that he hoped Texas lawmakers would use the money to fill an \$8 billion gap in schools funding over the next two years. Overall, Texas faces a \$27 billion budget shortfall in order to maintain the current level of services.

"Removing all accountability on Governor Perry's use of \$830 million of federal aid to education by repealing the 'Save Our Schools' Amendment is one of many unwise concessions made to Republicans to avoid their threatened government shutdown," Doggett said. "If this federal money is added to the funding for our schools contained in the state Senate finance bill, our

purpose can still be achieved." Perry has blasted Doggett for attaching strings to the federal money intended to protect 300,000 teachers and other nonfederal government workers from layoffs. Texas Republicans made repealing the amendment a

priority. "The people of the state of Texas will be better served with those dollars flowing to where they should be (going)," Perry said following a speech in Dallas. "Our delegation and leadership in Washington D.C. obviously saw through it as just a cheap political stunt."

AUSTIN (AP) - Two months ago, Texas looked ready to allow concealed handguns in college classrooms. Lawmakers lined up to sponsor a bill, pistolpacking Gov. Rick Perry supported it and gun control activists had all but conced-

Then students and adminuniversities mobilized in opposition, swaying two lawmakers Democratic who had supported the bill. Without them, the bill's sponsor hasn't had enough support to get a vote in the state Senate.

Texas is where concealed handgun license holders are allowed to skip metal detectors in the state Capitol, and Perry made headlines for shooting a coyote while out on a morning jog last year. State lawmakers are now considering a bill that would exempt them from bans on carrying guns into churches, sporting events and nursing

Hearings on the measure were dominated by powerful testimony from supporters. Hundreds of current students turned out for Capitol rallies, saying they didn't want to take a test sitting next to someone who might be carrying a gun.

They got a big boost from the nine-campus University of Texas System when chancellor Francisco Cigarroa wrote a letter to Perry and lawmakers telling them college officials worry guns will lead to more campus violence and suicides.

Two Democrats who had supported the bill, Sen. and Sen. Mario Gallegos of Houston, withdrew their support last week.

"I lost sleep over this," Gallegos said. "I've come to that reality with my community: They don't want guns on campus.

Lucio withdrew his support last week, accusing bill sponsor Sen. Jeff Wentworth ise to give him more time trict. The university wants If Wentworth sees oppoto exempt college campuses nents are out sick or attendwon't accept.

Senate rules require a bill to have the support of 21 senators in the 31-member chamber just to come up for a vote. Without the two

# Are we failing our animals?

MATTHEW "UNCLE MATTY" MARGOLIS Creator's Syndicate

the state of the s

Are we failing our animals? Nearly half of the millions of dogs and cats that enter America's shelters every year never make it out. Whose fault is this?

Does the blame lie squarely on the shoulders of those who fuel, directly and indirectly, the lucrative puppy mill industry, including pet stores and puppy brokers?

What about so-called backyard breeders? Many are responsible dog lovers who offer purebred pups that are healthy and come with proper early socialization to people willing to pay a premium for a specific dog. Are they part of the problem?

And what about the people who look to these breeders for their dogs, instead of adopting from their local rescue or shelter?

Is it the fault of every single individual who declines to spay or neuter

More than anything, I believe we are failing our animals because of an underlying notion that they are disposable. They're great - until there's a problem. And that's the problem.

Too many people fail to see a behavioral issue as a problem that needs a solution. Instead, they turn on the dog. The formerly great dog is now a problem dog - instead of a great dog with a problem. What's the easiest way to deal with a "problem" dog? Take him to the shelter. And that's how good dogs end up sitting in cages hoping for

Of course, there are other "reasons." Some relinquish their dog to a shelter because they have to move, or developed allergies, or were wiped out by divorce. Sometimes the dog gets sick.

Sometimes he just gets old. Any way you cut it, our dismal shelter population is what it is largely because people give up on their pets for no good reason.

We'd be building orphanages at the rate we do prisons if parents were allowed to treat their children this way.

A friend of a friend recently brought home a cat from his local shelter. After a week, he determined it wasn't a good match. The cat hadn't 'warmed up" to him, wouldn't sit in his lap long enough. He took the cat back. Word is, he thinks he wants a dog.

Thankfully, for every guy like this there are many more who love their pets like the family members they are.

Without a doubt, the puppy mill industry is a blight on our history. It's an industry that should be shut down from top to bottom. But what allows such an abomination to exist - and thrive - in the first place? By my lights, it all comes back to this idea that animals are disposable.

Responsible breeders are not the problem. They keep lineages alive. They preserve a variety of breeds, many of which serve a useful purpose to people beyond companionship.

People shouldn't be made to feel guilty when choosing a pup from a breeder rather than a shelter. But people should be made to feel responsible for their dog, regardless of where he comes from, in sickness and in health, till death do you part

A shelter is not a trainer.

A shelter is not a store. A shelter is not a home.

There's a 50/50 chance a shelter will be a death sentence, though. Cruel and unusual punishment for most of its residents, jailed for a crime they didn't

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

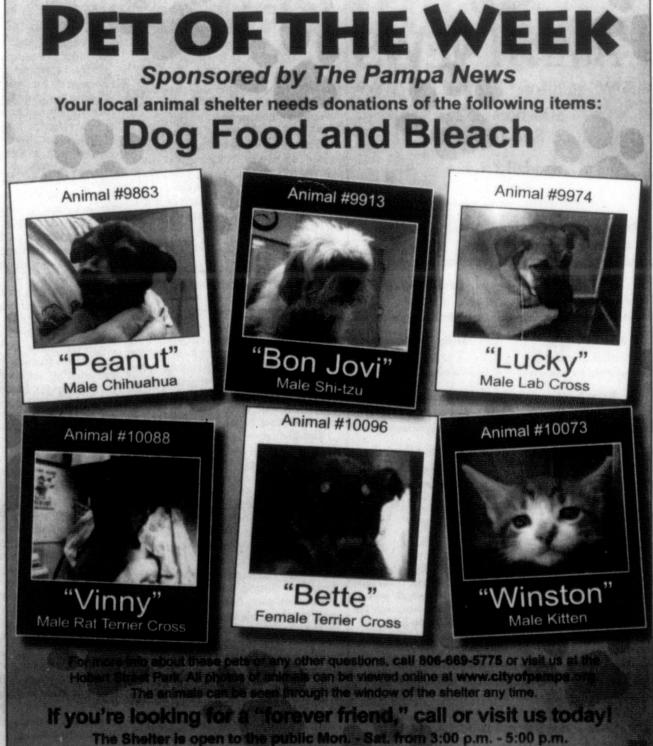
Democrats, Wentworth is at least one vote short, but he vowed Tuesday to be aggressive in trying to pass the bill.

The slim margin has set of going back on a prom- up the likelihood of political gamesmanship over the next to talk with officials at few weeks. The 21-vote rule UT-Brownsville in his dis- is really a two-thirds rule that have grade schools, a ing business outside of the change Wentworth said he chamber and the numbers are in his favor, he could try to call it up for a vote without warning.

"I'm here," Wentworth warned. "All the time."

We invite you to be with us at a celebration of the miracle of life as we bonor our mother ESTHER MORRISON BOWERS





# Viewpoints

# Today in History

Today is Wednesday, April 13, the 103rd day of 2011. There are 262 days left in the year Highlights in history on this date:

1528 - Pope Clement VII establishes a commission to determine the validity of King Henry VIII's marriage to Catherine of Aragon in England.

1589 - Britain's Sir Francis Drake and Sir John Norris launch expedition of 150 ships and 18,000 men to Portugal.

1742 - G. F. Handel conducts first performance of the "Messiah" in Dublin.

1772 - Warren Hastings is appointed Governor of Bengal in India. He later sets up the first colonial administration in Bengal.

1796 - French forces under Napoleon Bonaparte defeat Austrians at Millesimo in northern Italy.

1848 - Sicily is declared independent of Naples. 1868 - British forces under Robert Napier capture Magdala in Ethiopia. 1909 - Army counterrevolution in Constantinople

against rule of Mohammedan Union in what is now 1919 - British troops fire on a political gathering.

in Amritsar, India, killing 379 people. 1923 - The Illinois state legislature votes to allow

women to serve on juries. 1943 - U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicates the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, D.C. 1961 - U.N. General Assembly condemns South

African apartheid. 1964 - Sidney Poitier becomes the first black to win an Academy Award for best actor, for his role in "Lilies of the Field."

1975 - Fighting rages in South Vietnam's Mekong Delta as Communists drive to take city of Xuan Loc, civil war breaks out in Lebanon.

1981 - Washington Post reporter Janet Cooke receives a Pulitzer Prize for her feature about an 8-year-old heroin addict named "Jimmy." Cooke relinquishes the prize two days later, admitting she had fabricated the story

1986 - Stampede by Hindu pilgrims kills at least 46 people and injures 39 others at a religious festival northeast of New Delhi; Pope John Paul II visits a Rome synagogue in the first recorded papal visit of its kind.

1989 - Independent Solidarity trade union in Poland files for registration after seven-year ban.

1990 - The Soviet Union accepts responsibilits for the World War II murders of thousands of imprisoned Polish officers in the Katyn Forest, a massacre the Soviets had previously blamed on

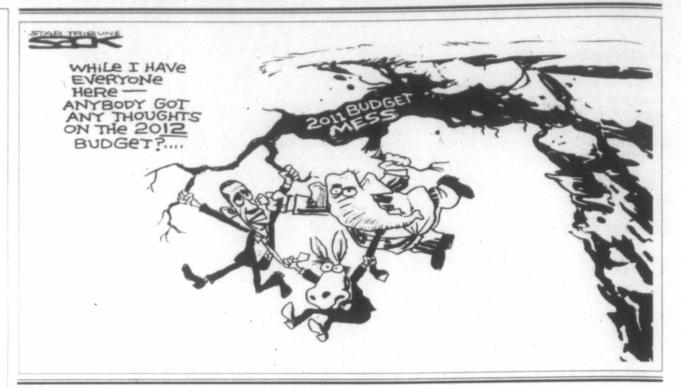
1992 - Hundreds of foreigners scramble for seats on the last flight out of Libva before sanctions seal off the country.

1993 - Twelve men accused of plotting the 1991 coup against Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev go on trial for treason.

1994 - An apparent suicide bomb rips though a bus jammed with soldiers and civilians, killing six people and wounding 28 in Hadera, Israel.

1995 - Ukraine agrees to close by 2000 the Chernobyl nuclear reactor, the site of an accident in 1986 that resulted in massive radioactive pollu-

1996 - Warring factions in Liberia negotiate a cease-fire with help from visiting West African politicians as nearly 1,500 terrified foreigners flee. 2000 - A Zimbabwe court rules that the govern-



# This week begins a new (budget) page

So far this year, Congress has been working primarily on last year's business. In 2010, for the first time in nearly 40 years, the House never even voted on a budget and Congress did not pass any of the 12 appropriations bills that fund government. The backand-forth between the Republican House on one side and President Obama and the Democratic Majority in the Senate on the other has been over whether to reduce spending from 2010, how much, and where. Now, six months into the fiscal year, that has been decided, and this week the House turns to the 2012 budget and much bigger stakes.

The budget voted by the House this week is a drastic departure from spending-as-usual in Washington. It holds down taxes and reduces overall spending to a level that the economy

and the American workers - can sustain. At the same time, it provides a blueprint for reforming government programs in a way that not only saves money but also makes them more effective.

The biggest drivers of our fiscal problems are the mandatory spending programs, also known as entitlements. Together with interest on the debt, they comprise well over half of the budget. In fact, if we were to eliminate all spending not in mandatory programs - that means cutting out all money for defense, foreign aid, and the programs we just spent four months debating with President Obama - the government would still have a deficit of several hundred billion dollars. In other words, all of the tax revenue coming into the federal government today is not enough to pay for the entitlements we have, and the

problem will get worse

So what will the House budget proposal do? First, it makes no changes in Social Security or Medicare for those age 55 or older - none at all. We should approach these discussions focusing on the

next generation, seeking a system that is sustainable, efficient, and compas-Under this proposal, younger folks

MAC

**THORNBERRY** 

would choose among several Medicare plans when they reach 65, much like beneficiaries do today in Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage. On Social Security, the budget requires the President to work with the Social Security Trustees to submit a plan to Congress that restores balance in the Social Security Trust Fund, recognizing that both parties and both branches must work together to strengthen this

important program. There would be significant reforms in programs that comprise the social safety net for the less fortunate. Medicaid, which provides health care for low-income Americans, would be sent to the states in a block grant without all of the federal regulations that prevent each state from delivering health care in the way that makes sense for its people. States would also have more flexibility with food stamps and public housing, with some commonsense requirements, such as time limits and work requirements,

which were so successful in the welfare reform effort of several years ago. Governors have been asking for stable funding and fewer strings. This budget delivers that.

While providing small increases for the first job of the federal government, defense, the budget takes non-defense discretionary spending back to 2008 levels. Doing so will require tough choices and dropping some lower priority programs. But we will not restore fiscal sanity to the government and to the country without making exactly those kinds of choices.

Finally, the budget blueprint would reform the tax code, lowering the top rate for individuals and corporations to 25% and eliminating many of the loopholes, deductions, and exemptions which contribute to the indecipherable monster of a tax code with which taxpayers are wrestling this week.

Reforming the tax code and restraining spending are essential for economic growth. And that touches on the bottom line for this or any other budget. If we do not take significant action, we may be the first generation of Americans that fails to leave the country in better shape than we found it. On the other hand, if we do take action, the economy can begin to grow again, jobs will be created, and living standards will improve.

It will not be easy, and all of us will have to be part of the solution. But it is time for us to face the truth straight on and choose what will be written on the new page of American history that begins this week

Rep. Mac Thornberry, R-Clarendon, represents the 13th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

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MEMBER 2010

**EXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION** 

# So much for change coming to Washington

BEN FELLER

AP White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Barack Obama promised to change Washington's ways. Yet he's as caught up in them as ever.

As last week began. Obama kicked off his re-election bid with a sunny video of people talking about their hopes and needs, the very image of life outside Washington politics.

By week's end, Obama was mired in budget negotiations, canceling trips and scrambling to stave off a government shutdown that could only undermine the public's faith in his

It was the messy business of governing, and how it's going to be in this long campaign for incumbent Obama.

Beyond the vision for economic competitiveness he wants to talk about, Obama is chasing a second term while trying to make a deeply divided government work. He got bogged down in legislative tactics in his first two years, even when he won fights on health

care and other issues. The goal now is to avoid all that. He can't. In this test of leadership, the White House says Obama wrangled the budget compromise he wanted, spending cuts he supported without

shelving his priorities or accepting unacceptable policy changes. His administration portrayed it as an example of bipartisan cooperation of

the highest stakes. Yet the government was on the brink of closing, and many people were wondering how that could happen, or why. This is change?

The showdown was a reminder that for all a president's powers, there's much beyond control. Think Libya, Egypt, Japan's earthquake, not to mention Iraq and Afghanistan.

In this case, the new House Republican majority, led by Speaker John Boehner, seized on a must-pass budget bill to give voice to frustrated

voters and tea party conservatives who

demanded spending cuts. It was brinksmanship mode again in the capital, where nothing gets done until the deadline. Sometimes not even then. In public, Obama tried to keep it

at arm's length. "I shouldn't have to oversee a process in which Congress deals with last year's budget," Obama said as the time got short this week.

In fact, he was up to his neck in it. Obama used a veto threat to make clear he would not accept the scope of GOP spending cuts. He said he would accept no more temporary extensions to keep the government running for a few weeks at a time unless there was a broader deal in hand. He kept saying

leaders had to act like grown-ups. The White House said his strategy was to stay behind the scenes, work the phones and let his senior aides do the negotiating. That type of role provided an opening for Republicans to question his leadership. It also led to rumblings from frustrated lawmakers in his own party who wanted the president to openly attack the cuts Republicans wanted.

The White House figured it would take those hits. It did. A Gallup poll in late March found declining numbers of people who said Obama was a strong and decisive leader: a little more than half of those polled, compared with 60 percent one year ago and 73 percent two years ago.

The White House believed that a better result would come if Obama didn't try to overheat the issue. Officials believed that people were worried about gas prices, not a spending squabble and that voters didn't hire Obama to be a legislator.

Obama would go public when it meant the most. That was Tuesday. The president suddenly got vocal. He said Americans didn't want games but results. The pragmatic approach is what White House strategists believe will bring back the election-turning

independents to Obama. "There are some things we can't control," he said. "We can't control earthquakes; we can't control tsunamis; we can't control uprisings on the other side of the world. What we can control is our capacity to have a reasoned, fair conversation between the parties and get the business of the American people done.'

But it wasn't getting done, and his voice was not the only one setting the tone.

"The president isn't leading," Boehner said Wednesday. "He didn't lead on last year's budget, and he clearly is not leading on this year's budget."

Obama met with Boehner and Reid four times in the White House during the week. He still went to the Philadelphia area Wednesday to talk about energy. He looked comfortable, almost carefree, as he laughed with workers at a wind-turbine company

about their families and their cars. But Washington had sucked him back in. By Friday, he canceled a trip to Indianapolis, scrapping the attention he wanted to give to clean energy.

He scrapped a weekend getaway with his family to Colonial Williamsburg in Virginia. While working to avoid a shutdown, Obama's team thought the White House would come out OK in

the public's mind if it came to that. The thinking was that the president had presented a reasonable case of agreeing to spending cuts without going too far, and that people would be angry with Republicans if the government closed up partially over a

policy disagreement about abortion. Only when the standoff grew most dire did it end. But the budget mess showed how government isn't supposed to operate. No matter who's to blame, all will be, including a president running for election this time from inside Washington's ways.



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By Bil Keane



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# horoscope

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, April 14, 2011:

This year, focus on your health and your day-to-day life, work or commitments. You can break patterns and open up to new possibilities, making this period very exciting. You also need to curb a sweet tooth and a tendency to go overboard. A little self-discipline goes a long way. If you are single, you could meet someone in your normal daily routine. This person might not be "the one," but it could be a significant relationship. If you are attached, the two of you become more of a team. VIRGO keeps you grounded.

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)

\*\* ★ An even approach works wonders. Your instincts guide you past a problem. Be ready to flex with someone's request. You really have no choice, no matter how you look at the matter. Relax with a boss or elder. Tonight: Could go till the wee hours.

### TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

\*\*\*\* You might feel like you cannot get a perspective no matter how hard you try. Be adaptable, and tap into your creativity. A meeting provides food for thought. Gain a different perspective by talking to some experts. Tonight: Start

### your weekend early. **GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**

★★★★ If you can work from home, by all means, do. You could be overly tired and drawn from the recent pace. Deal with a partner or associate directly. You could find a key person inspiring yet confusing. Tonight: Your home is your castle

### CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Follow your instincts, as you will tumble onto a problem otherwise. If you think a friend is being deceitful or hiding something, he or she probably is. Know that you might not understand why. Revamp your plans and adjust accordingly. Tonight: Hang out with friends.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

\*\* Be aware of how much you bring to different situations. You often might feel as if you push beyond what you should. Giving 100 percent is different from being motivated by insecurity.

Stop and ask yourself what your motivation in a situation is. Tonight: Treat yourself on the way home

### VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

\*\*\*\* Someone close seems nearly perfect! You need to be aware that perhaps you are wearing rose-colored glasses. Stop and take another look. Allow greater creativity and flow with others. You don't need to worry about giving too much away. Tonight: As you like it.

### LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

\*\*★ You might want to slow down. You'll gain new information by not being as active of a player in a situation. You might need to revamp your approach, stand and/or attitude as your perspective transforms. Tonight: Vanish happily!

### SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

\*\*\*\* Zoom in on what you want. You could be surrounded by people nearly all day as you go from meeting to meeting. You gain support for a new or seemingly foreign idea. Approach the topic in a novel way, much like the idea. Tonight:

### Where the action is! SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

\*\*\* Take the lead on a project. Yes, you could be distracted at first. A personal matter knocks on your door. Others want to hear more of your opinions. Also consider the personal ramifications of a situation. Tonight: A force to behold

### CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

\*\*\*\* Reach out for others, especially if you want another perspective. The more views and opinions you gather, the stronger your decision and plan will be. You might need to revamp your thinking as a result, turning some heads. Tonight: Let your imagination be the lead player.

### AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

\*\*\*\* Deal with others on a oneon-one level. Your time and attention mean more than you imagine. You draw a strong response. You learn a lot more of what others expect and what they think

### they offer. Tonight: Dinner for two! PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

\*\*\* You have the unique ability to draw in others. Though you might not always see eye to eye with certain people, you appreciate their feedback. Don't push so hard to make an impression. You don't need to! Tonight: Think "weekend plans."

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Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim







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1 Brisk pace

2 Lounge

attire

4 Soggy

5 Beatles

drummer

6 Braque's

7 Like the

desert

choice

9 Curved

letter

10 Finale

18 Brain-

storm

art

8 Wine

3 Exhausts

### **CROSSWORD** By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS** 

1 Be boastful

5 Uncommon

11 Troubadour's topic

12 Soup holder 13 "Yeah,

right!" 14 Tolerated

15 Apiece 16 Cross-

word part 17 Layers 19 Clumsy

one 22 Woman in white

24 Studio work

26 Steakhouse order

27 Zeus' wife 28 Group of

top workers 30 Historic

event 31 Agreeable

answer 32 Like Holmes game

34 Pivotal point

35 Game caller

38 Join the formation 41 Vicinity

**42** In the

vicinity 43 Favorites

BEST WHEAT IDEAS EARTH DINNERPLATE TANUT SELA DETAIN DEMOSPRAM BRACE FLAIR ERIE TURNIN RIMMHEMMOE BOILERPLATE ELTONSATED

19 Musical intros 20 Haughtiness

21 Accomplishment 22 Donkey sound

23 Assess 25 River from 16 "My word!" 29 Corps

member 30 Kit's parent

RESTS BEDS Yesterday's answer

33 Club money 34 Sleuth's

find **36** 1969 World Series

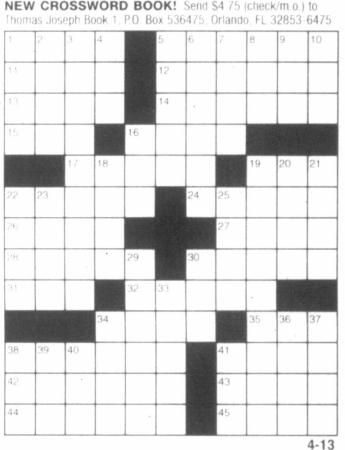
champs 37 Days

gone by Pittsburgh 38 Corpulent 39 Is for you?

40 Sever 41 Phone

program

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## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

25-year-old gay man who for two years with a guy who just turned 30. My told his family about me.

my family, and they view him as part of the family. I want the same with his parshould have told them by now

Is it OK to give him an ultimatum to either tell his family or I'll leave? I don't want to be a secret anymore, and I don't know how to handle this. - OUT AND PROUD IN BALTI-**MORE** 

DEAR OUT AND PROUD: It appears your boyfriend has not yet come out to his family or if he did, it didn't go well. Although your family accepts him and the fact that you are a couple, the same may not be possible with his. Your boyfriend may need counseling in order to gain the strength to level with his parents and sibling. Because you are no longer willing to be kept under wraps, you do need to make that clear to him. But do not give him an ultimatum unless you are prepared to follow through.

DEAR ABBY: My unmarried sister passed away unexpectedly two years ago. My brother, other sister and I had a difficult time locating her personal accounts and bills because she did everything online. This prompted me to begin writing down all my passwords for my computer and storing the list in a secure location. I have asked my husband of 29 years to do the same, but he refuses.

My husband has given

account is private.

problem is he has not yet have to give me the pass- you may need one. word. I just want him to He has been around write it down in the event mother was recently insomething happens. I told him I have nothing to hide, but does he? He got angry, ents and sibling. I think he and we are barely speaking

Five years ago, I found out he was trading questionable emails with a divorced cocktail waitress, thank-you notes. and now I'm concerned. IN OHIO

DEAR TO HIDE: Folks who are to let you have the pass- their proud of what you would and forgo the shower. find. If you're willing to accept the status quo,

me the information on our drop the subject. Howevjoint financial accounts, er, if you assert yourself has been in a relationship but insists that his email and pursue this, the first person you should talk I told him he doesn't to is your lawyer because

DEAR ABBY: vited to a shower and was given specific instructions NOT to put her name on the gift. The reason? The honoree plans to issue one general thank-you to everyone because she "doesn't have the time" to send individual

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Abby, if someone He frequents bars after takes the time and spends work, and I can't help but the money to buy a gift, worry. Should I drop it or shouldn't the recipient ask him what he's hiding? be gracious enough to NOTHING TO HIDE write a personal note? -THOUGHT I'D HEARD NOTHING IT ALL IN OHIO

DEAR THOUGHT: secretive usually have Of course she should! If something to hide. Your the honoree is so busy husband's past behavior that she plans to forgo coupled with his refusal thanking her guests for generosity, she word to his email account should save everyone's indicates that he's not time, money and effort

### 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.

CRYPTOQUOTE

KE YGUXU FZCY RU YXAZRSU.

FN IGKSM FDN GDHU VUDIU

YGAFDC VDKQU Yesterday's Cryptoquote: ONCE YOU BRING LIFE INTO THE WORLD, YOU MUST PROTECT IT. WE MUST PROTECT IT BY CHANGING THE WORLD. — ELIE WIESEL



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## BANANAGRAMS!

There is one letter that when added to all of the five letter words below can be used to form new six letter words. Find the letter that works for all four words, add it to each word, and then rearrange each set of letters to form a new word

VOTER

AUNTS

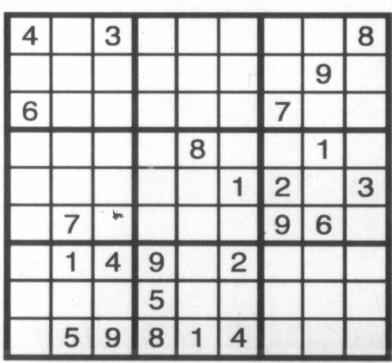
THEME

# Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

ANSWER: 25963107

2	5	B	0	3	1	9	1	4
3	7	4	8	9	5	1	2	6
6	1	9	7	4	2	3	5	8
9	4	2	5	8	7	6	3	1
5	3	7	1	6	4	8	9	2
8	6	1	9	2	3	5	4	7
4	2	6	3	5	8	7	1	9
7	9	3	2	1	6	4	8	5
1	8	5	4	7	9	2	6	3



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Heath pitche

# Sports

# Coffee's outing lifts Lady Harvesters to district title

ANDREW GLOVER aglover@thepampanews.com

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Dalhart's Benji Romero grounded out to Pampa junior McKinlee Stokes to end the game and clinch the district title for the Lady Harvesters. Pampa has bigger goals though.

"Our goal is to finish 9-0 in district," head coach Bobbi Gill said.

Knowing they still had business to take care of, the Lady Harvesters just walked off the field like it was any normal win in an 8-0 victory over the Dalhart Lady Wolves Tuesday at Lady Harvester Field.

Gill said the team played much better defense than Saturday.

"We came out pretty flat defensively on Saturday," Gill said. "(the team) responded to that and put enough runs on the board to hold on. The defense buckled down and backed Heather (Coffee) up and she threw amazing today.

Junior pitcher Heather Coffee (11-2) pitched a complete game shutout and only allowed one hit and a walk while she struck out six. Coffee said it felt good to clinch the district title.

"We tried to get a lot of momentum going and I think we did a good job of that," Coffee said.

Coffee said she was able to keep the Lady Wolves hitters off balance.

"I was just trying to hit my spots and

trusting Coach Gill," Coffee said. Pampa scored from the get-go. Sophomores Claire Hopkins and Bailey Beck led off with singles. Both stole bases but Hopkins was thrown out at the plate on a fielder's choice by Mayhew.

Stokes drove in Beck with a bases loaded single in the infield. The Lady Harvesters left the bases loaded and led 1-0 after one.

Pampa added another in the second. Coffee reached on a walk and freshman Alexa O'Brien courtesy ran. Romero dropped a throw to first and allowed Hopkins to reach safely and O'Brien advanced to third. Beck drove in O'Brien with a sacrifice fly to center.

The Lady Harvesters broke the game open in the fifth with four runs on three hits. Freshman Krysten Miller and senior Jordan Mayhew led off with walks. Junior Alanna Stephens hit a RBI single to center. Stokes followed with a RBI double to left. Stephens and Stokes scored on a passed ball and increased Pampa's lead

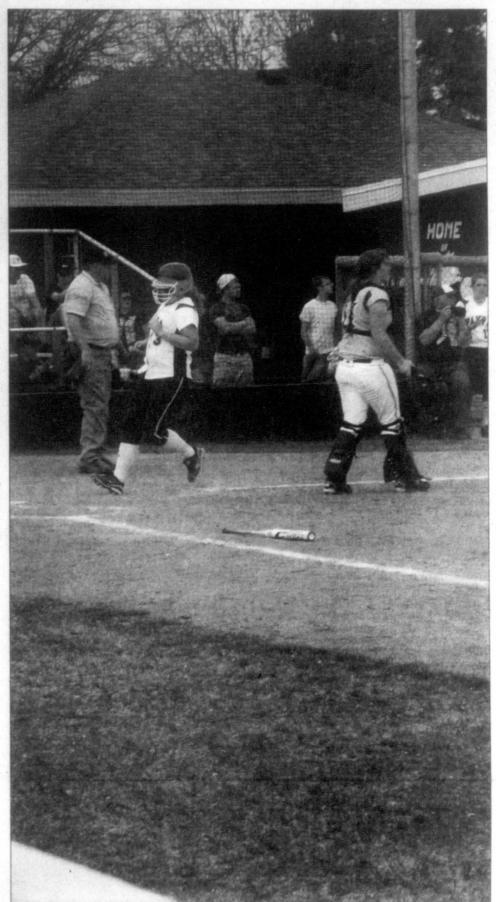
Mayhew said it feels good to win.

"I wouldn't say we are getting used to winning," Mayhew said. "That's what we are trying to do and that's what we are going to continue to do for as long as we can.

The junior varsity (24-5, 6-0) also clinched district with a 16-1 victory over Dalhart. Pampa scored eight runs in the first inning and never looked back. Coach Jim Gill said his team has continued to play well.

"Kaylene (Wyant) pitched well," Gill said. "We hit the ball well. Bailey Wichert hit the ball extremely well. I was proud of them they did a good job. So many girls throughout the year have done so much."

The Lady Harvesters (22-7, 6-0) visit the Borger Lady Bulldogs (18-15, 3-3) 1



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Senior Jordan Mayhew touches home to score on a single by Alanna Stephens. The Lady Harvesters won 8-0 and clinched the district 1-3A title.

## District 1-3A Softball Standings

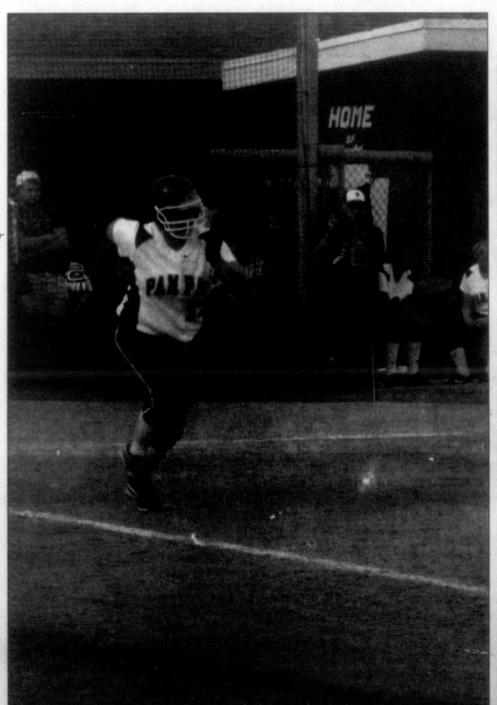
Team	W	L	W%	W	L	W%	
x-Pampa	6	0	1.000	22	7	.759	
Borger	3	3	0.500	18	15	.545	
Dalhart	2	4	0.333	22	9	.710	
Perryton	1	5	0.167	14	13	.519	

x=clinched district

### **Upcoming Games**

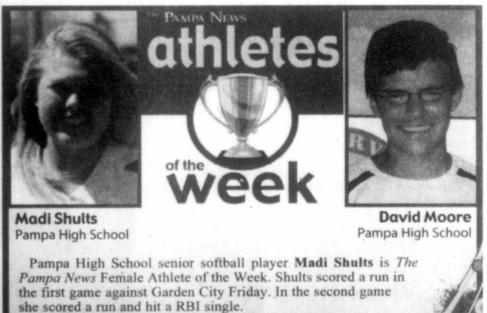
Saturday Pampa at Borger 1 p.m.; Dalhart at Perryton 1 p.m. Tuesday

Perryton at Pampa 5 p.m.; Dalhart at Borger 5 p.m.



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Heather Coffee hustles to first on a single in the bottom of the fifth. Coffee pitched a one hitter as Pampa won 8-0 over the Dalhart Lady Wolves.



Saturday against Perryton, Shults hit a two-run home run, two singles, drove in three and scored four runs. Pampa High School junior tennis player David Moore is The Pampa News Male Athlete of the Week. Moore won singles in the district tournament at Borger Thursday and Friday. Moore advances to regionals April 20-21 in Lubbock.



# Sports

# Harvesters hunt down Wolves, playoffs within reach

ANDREW GLOVER aglover@thepampanews.com

Saturday, Pampa starting pitcher Garrett Ericson was involved in a car accident and had a sore shoulder. Tuesday, the Harvesters ace was mowing down Dalhart hitters and threw a five-inning shutout as the Harvesters won 10-0 Tuesday at

Ericson allowed two hits and struck out six. The senior said it felt good to be on the mound.

"The first couple of days I was sore," Ericson said. "Today I was feeling a little bit better. It was warm outside and my shoulder wasn't bothering me as much. I thought I pitched pretty well."

Head coach Kaleb Snelgrooes said he had several players step up with certain players injured.

"Jared Lusk caught a great game behind the dish today," Snelgrooes said. "We had some guys who were injured today. We had Cole Engle at third and Jordan Lemons at second and Jared Lusk catching. They all did well.

Pampa was without senior second baseman Mitch Simon, who's been out with a tendon and senior catcher Brent Green was also out

The Harvesters struck immediately with two runs on two hits. Junior Cole Engle led off with a walk and scored. Junior Jared Lusk singled and scored Sophomore James Thompson singled. Junior Collin Killgo reached on a walk and senior Tyler Malone was hit by a pitch. Sophomore Tyler Powell walked.

Pampa was held scoreless until the

District 1-3A Baseball Standings

 $W^{0}/_{0}$ 

0.800

0.600

0.600

0.000

**Upcoming Games** Saturday Pampa at Borger 2 p.m.; Dalhart at Perryton 2 p.m.

Tuesday Perryton at Pampa 5 p.m.; Dalhart at Borger 5 p.m.

13

18

9

6

10

15

15

10

0

0

fifth inning where they scored 8 runs on five hits. 11 batters came to the plate and seven of the nine hitters scored runs. Killgo scored the last run with a double invoking the ten run-rule.

Snelgrooes said Dalhart's starter Kaleb Grant did good in keeping his team in the

"He's their ace," Snelgrooes said. Ericson agreed and said Grant is always a challenge.

"Hats off to their pitcher," Ericson said. Their pitcher is a good pitcher. We've played him in summer league and he throws pretty hard and has a good curve ball. He kept us off balance most of the

day but we hit when it mattered." The victory puts the Harvesters (11-12, 3-2) in a tie for second with Perryton (9-15, 3-2). Borger (13-10-1, 4-1) beat Perryton 11-5 and holds a one-game lead Dalhart (6-10, 0-5) is one loss from being eliminated from the playoffs.

Snelgrooes said his team was focused on winning the game.

"I told the boys we were focused on Babe Ruth (Win three) and that's all that mattered," Snelgrooes said. "We weren't thinking about the Borger Bulldogs or the Perryton Rangers. We were worried about the Dalhart Wolves today.'

The Harvesters visit Borger 2 p.m. Saturday. Ericson said the team is still looking to accomplish their goals.

"One of our goals was to make the playoffs but that's not our ultimate goal," Ericson said. "We got three wins now. We play on Saturday and I think we will get another one there.'



photo courtesy of Joe Murray

Junior Collin Killgo slides into home to score against Dalhart Tuesday. Killgo hit a RBI double to end the game as the Harvesters won 10-0.

# Hidden Hills

senior results

April 6 Senior Scramble

First- 57 J. Brashears

Team

Borger

Pampa

Perryton

Dalhart

L. Morris

O. Sargent Second- 62

RD. Stephens W. Nickelberry N. Lancaster

H. Knutson B. Young

M. Allison

J. McCall

Closest to the Hole # 6

N. Lancaster



W%

563

.478

.375

.375

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