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Pampa Police to target school bus stops

RANDY PRIBBLE
 rpribble@thepampanews.com

People who do not pay attention to school bus emergency flasher are putting children in jeopardy and are liable for a significant fine.

The Pampa Police Department has been getting complaints about citi-

zens passing the school busses when the emergency lights are flashing.

"Every year it is an issue," said Crime Prevention Officer Stormy McCullar. "We get calls and complaints."

The issue is that some people seem not to understand that vehicles must always stop when the

bus flashers are on and students are loading or unloading. Whether it is a two-lane road or a four-lane road, like Duncan Street, all lanes must stop.

"We want to do everything possible to help keep our children safe when getting on and off the bus," said Officer McCullar. "I want to remind the com-

munity that passing school busses when stopped is putting children at risk of getting hit by the oncoming traffic. Texas Law requires drivers to stop before reaching the school bus when the driver has activated its red flashing lights and displays a stop sign. Drivers may proceed when the bus resumes

motion, the operator signals the driver to proceed, or the visual signals are no longer activated."

If they safety of young children is not an adequate deterrent for the driver, there are also possible fines of up to \$1,000.

"Duncan Street is a

BUS cont. on page 2

'Young professionals' work on plans



staff photo by Mollie Bryant

Hannah Lane, (from left) Amber Cochran and Ryan Monroe meet for the monthly meeting of Pampa Young Professionals. This group, started by the Pampa Chamber of Commerce last February, brings together Pampans under 40 with the goals of community involvement, networking and education. Anyone interested in the group should contact the Chamber at (806) 669-3241.

'Silver Ring Thing' set for PHS

ANDREW GLOVER
 aglover@thepampanews.com

Talking about sex can be a difficult conversation for parents and their children to engage in. The "Silver Ring Thing" hopes to make it easier when they visit Pampa High School 7 p.m. Wednesday to spread their message of abstinence till marriage.

Monica Galloway, executive director of the Pregnancy Support Center and Hope House in Pampa, said students and parents will have separate sessions.

"The students will have a concert-style programs with music and drama," Galloway said. "The parents will have more of a lecture type program that will be geared to supporting their child's decision to remain abstinent."

Silver Ring President and Founder Denny Pattyn will be speaking to both the parents and children. Galloway said Pattyn's message to the children

RING cont. on page 2

City to begin 'smoke testing' of sewer system

MOLLIE BRYANT
 mbryant@thepampanews.com

Starting on Monday, the City of Pampa will be sending out work crews to Ward 4 to perform a smoke test on the sewer system.

"We have equipment that we hook up to the mains. It sends smoke through the mains, and anything with broken lines will show up," said Director of Public Works Donny Hooper. "Smoke will come up (a defective

line)." Hooper said that it's important to keep "clean out" pipes closed to reduce foreign material from entering the sewer system. Smoke testing can bring attention to these pipes.

"If people leave caps off (of the pipes), rain water goes into the sewer system and goes out to the plant," said Hooper. "This program is designed to stop infiltration and leaks in sewer lines."

If you notice smoke

entering your home or workplace, notify the Wastewater Collection Department as soon as possible.

"If smoke is getting through, it means sewer gas is getting through as well," said Hooper.

The smoke test is part of a continual project to maintain Pampa's sewer lines, and other wards have already been tested recently.

"We're trying to keep everything in check," said Hooper.

Jackson to speak on CCC

The legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) on the Palo Duro Canyon State Park will be the subject of a presentation next month at the White Deer Land Museum.



Lisa Jackson

Lisa Jackson, curatorial assistant, Archeology at Panhandle Plains Historical Museum in Canyon, will be the speaker for the presenta-

tion at 2 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 2.

The perspective of this presentation is from two disciplines: archeology and history. There is an historical overview of the CCC in general and specifically pertaining to Palo Duro Canyon. The archeological perspective introduces the features and artifacts, along with sites

CCC cont. on page 2

United Way campaign under way

The 2011 Pampa United Way pledge campaign is off and running.

At a "check-in" meeting for volunteers Tuesday, \$18,736.10 was turned in, according to Executive Administrator Katrina Bigham.

That amount represents 5.7 percent of the organizations \$310,000 goal for this year's campaign.

The donations benefit a number of local organization in Gray County, including Girl Scouts, Tralee Crisis Center, CASA, and many more.

For more information or to make a donation, contact Bigham at 669-1001.

United Way 2011 FUNDRAISING

as of Wed., Oct. 26

To date: **\$18,736.10**

Goal: **\$310,000**




Chamber Luncheon
 Tuesday, September 20 • Noon • \$10/person
 200 N. Ballard • MK Brown Room (Kingsmill entrance)
 Speaker will be Larry Boyer from Pantex
 Catered by Dixie, Sponsored by State Farm/Sheila Webb
 RSVP to Chamber at 669-3241 or admin@pampachamber.com

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PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Friday	Saturday
 70%	 20%	
High 56 Low 51	High 75 Low 59	High 83 Low 60

Today: Showers likely. Cloudy, with a high near 56. Southeast wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70 percent.

Tonight: Scattered showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 51. Southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.

Friday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 75. South southwest wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Friday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly before 1 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 59. South wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Saturday: Partly sunny, with a high near 83. South southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph.

Saturday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 60. South southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

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LAST MINUTE ADS

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

BASIC PEST Control welcomes Jonathan Pate as Licensed Technician. Call 806-662-8109 to find out about Fall Specials!

FLU CLINIC Sept. 14th 1pm-5pm & Sept 15th 3pm-5pm at Family Medicine Center 3023 Perryton Prkwy 665-0801

FRONT DESK / Reception, full time and part-time positions avail. Friday afternoons off! Fax your resume to 806-669-6688

TANGLES CUSTOMER Appreciation Day Sat. Sept. 17, 10-2 Refreshments & Vendors.

HOMECOMING MUMS available at Brandon's Flowers. Miami, White Deer, Letors, and Pampa. 665-5546, 123 N. Cuyler

WOODY GUTHRIE Days, Dinner & Show Sept. 17, 6pm. Tickets on sale now, \$20 per person! Contact Thelma Bray, Reed Echols, Ken Wilson, Pat Stewart, Michael Sinks, Rick Scott, Andy McLatchy, Lilith Brainerd or at Pampa Chamber of Commerce.

Ring

will be about the commitment to abstinence.

"He will be speaking about making a commitment to abstinence and what that means," Galloway said.

Galloway said the program is promoting abstinence until marriage because it's the best option.

"It's a healthier lifestyle," Galloway said.

way said. "We feel it's safer."

Children have the opportunity to purchase a ring for \$20. Galloway said the ring symbolizes their commitment.

"It signifies they have made a commitment with themselves and God to remain abstinent," Galloway said. "It helps remind them of that

commitment."

Galloway said she hopes it will make it easier for children and parents to talk about abstinence.

"This event brings up a prevalent topic," Galloway said. "Hopefully it will allow students and parents to have easier communication about the topic."

cont. from page 1

Bus

problem and Alcock is also becoming a problem area," the office said.

She added that Pampa Police will be watching the bus stop areas and are going to be issuing citations if this law is violated.

"Kids are kids," she said. "We don't know where those kids are going to go, because they don't pay attention (to traffic) as well as they should. We can teach them, yes, but we are the adults and we need to

obey the law."

Questions concerning this law may be addressed to Officer McCullar by calling 806-669-5700.

cont. from page 1

For the record

Police Department

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 24 hour period ending Wednesday, September 14 at 7 a.m.

Pampa PD reported 14 traffic related incidents.

Animal Control officers and Pampa PD responded to 10 animal related incidents.

Pampa EMS responded to 7 medical calls.

Tuesday, September 13

An accident occurred at Harvester and Duncan.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 1000 block of East Darby.

A hit and run was reported.

An abandoned vehicle was reported at the 500 block of North Nelson.

Assaults were reported at the 400 block of South Graham and the 100 block of East Harvester.

A theft was reported at the 2600 block of North Chestnut.

Domestic disturbances were reported at the 1600 block of North Sumner and the 700 block of North Sloan.

Criminal mischief was reported.

A hit and run occurred at the 800 block of West Brown.

An accident occurred at the 100 block of East Randy Matson.

An offense against family and children was reported at Houston and Francis.

The Pampa Fire Department investigated a fire alarm at the 1400 block of North Hobart.

An accident occurred at the 2800 block of North Charles.

Disorderly conduct was reported at the 1300 block of North Coffee.

Police investigated an alarm at the 2500 block of North Perryton.

An accident occurred at the 800 block of South Hobart.

A suspicious person was reported at the 1300 block

of North Coffee.

The Pampa Fire Department investigated a fire alarm at the 1400 block of North Hobart.

A stolen vehicle was reported at the 500 block of North Dwight.

Disorderly conduct was reported at the 500 block of North Dwight.

A suspicious person was reported at Market and Nelson.

A prowler was reported at the 600 block of East Browning.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 700 block of North Russell.

A domestic disturbance was reported at the 1000 block of East Browning.

Wednesday, September 14

Suspicious persons were reported at the 1000 block of East Frederic and the 400 block of East Francis.

A prowler was reported at the 1000 block of Varnon.

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sher-

iff's Office reported the following arrests for the 24 hour period ending Wednesday, September 14 at 7 a.m.

Tuesday, September 13
Kolby Dale Johnson, 24, was arrested by police for assault causing bodily injury.

Amber Sky Bradford, 21, was arrested by police for assault causing bodily injury.

Tamara Michelle Horton, 27, was arrested by police for possession of dangerous drugs, theft by check in Swisher County and Hale County, an unrestrained child under four years old, failure to maintain financial responsibility and failure to appear in court.

Jonnathon Michael Shade, 21, was arrested by police for theft of property over \$1,500 and under \$20,000.

Kymberlee Sue Smith, 50, was arrested by deputies for assault causing bodily injury.

Bison given bigger range at Caprock Canyons SP

QUITAQUE - Eighty descendants of the great Southern Plains bison herd that numbered in the tens of millions in the mid-19th century will once again roam the range of their ancestors at Caprock Canyons State Park.

That means that for the first time since remnants of legendary Panhandle

pioneer rancher Charles Goodnight's historic herd were introduced to the park in 1998, visitors will be able to have an up-close, Yellowstone-type encounter with the shaggy beasts. Up until now, the official state bison herd, confined to a 300-acre area of the park, could only be viewed from a consider-

able distance.

The bison's new range will consist of more than 700 acres of restored native grass prairie in front of the Visitor Center and on the north and south sides of Theo Lake, where they will be fenced off from the campgrounds and day use area, according to park superintendent Donald Beard, who notes the bison will be in a "semi-free-ranging state" inside a perimeter fence.

"This is first and foremost a restoration project," Beard says, "not an exhibit. We're not just showing the bison, but are restoring an indigenous animal to its native habitat. For park visitors, it will be just like experiencing deer, road-runners or any other wildlife in the wild. But it's important to remember that the bison have the right-of-way and need to be given a large buffer zone."

An official ribbon cutting marking the completion of Phase I - the release of the bison into an expanded range -- is scheduled for 9 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 17 to kick off the Caprock Partners Foundation's Texas State Bison Herd Restoration Celebration. Weekend entry fees will be waived. From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, living history exhibits, interactive displays and food and drink booths will be open. At noon, a \$10 bison burger meal will be served, with proceeds going toward the bison restoration project.

Beard notes that when people drive into the park, they will be entering the bison's range so will have to stop to let them cross the road. New entry signs

posted will warn visitors of the bison's presence and urge caution around the beasts that weigh up to 2,000 pounds.

Future phases of the bison project, which depend on adequate funding, have as the ultimate goal the restoration of the herd to the park's entire 15,000-acres.

The small Texas State Bison Herd is all that remains of the vast Southern Plains herd that prior to the 1870s numbered between 30 million and 60 million head. The American bison were almost totally wiped out when the last of the Plains Indians were driven from their homeland and the railroad brought hordes of buffalo hunters who slaughtered the animals for their meat, hides and horns.

The Goodnight Herd was one of the five foundation herds that supplied stock to save American bison from extinction and the only Southern Plains bison herd established. Caprock Canyons bison are the last descendants of the herd that supplied wild stock for Yellowstone National Park and some of the largest zoos and ranches in the nation. The bison donated to the state by JA Ranch owners Monte Ritchie and Ninia Bivins were sent to Caprock Canyons and genetically tested. TPWD kept only those which had no cattle DNA.

Caprock Canyons State Park is located about 50 miles northeast of Plainview on FM 1065 approximately 4 miles north of State Highway 86. For more information, call (806) 455-1492 or visit the TPWD Website.



where company signatures have been left in stone or concrete for posterity. This program will present both

vintage and current images of these CCC features in the canyon.

cont. from page 1

PET OF THE WEEK

Sponsored by The Pampa News

Your local animal shelter needs donations of the following items:

Kitty Litter and Bleach

Animal #12385



"Leah"
Female DSH

Animal #12329



"Angel"
Female Jack Russell Cross

Animal #12493



"Jenni"
Female Pit Cross

Animal #12503



"Violet"
Female DSH

Animal #12634



"Trax"
Male Pointer

Animal #12635



"Buddy"
Male Shi-tzu

For more info about these pets or any other questions, call 806-669-5775 or visit our website at www.cityofpampa.com. All photos of animals can be viewed online at www.cityofpampa.com.

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

The Shelter is open to the public Mon. - Fri. from 3-6 pm and Sat. & Sun. from 3-5 p.m.

MORNINGRUSH

EPA may be forced to enforce

HOUSTON (AP) - An environmental group has submitted for federal court approval a consent decree that would require the Environmental Protection Agency to enforce clean air laws in Texas by the end of the year.

If the Sierra Club's filing is approved by a U.S. district judge, the EPA will have to ensure Texas is complying with laws from 1997 regarding ozone and particulate matter - or dust - pollution.

The proposed decree was filed Tuesday with U.S. District Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly in Washington. There will be a public comment period and agency review before it is submitted for final approval.

This settlement is the result of a lawsuit filed by the Sierra Club last year. The suit accused the EPA of failing to hold Texas accountable for statewide and regional pollution.

Wichita Falls: 100 for 100 days

DALLAS (AP) - Wichita Falls became the latest Texas city to have 100 days of triple-digit temperatures in one year.

Not far from Oklahoma state line in North Texas and home to the Hotter 'N Hell Hundred bike race every summer, Wichita Falls broke its one-year record for 100-degree days weeks ago. The previous mark of 79 came in 1980, which was the benchmark for Texas heat waves before this year.

Dallas-Fort Worth also broke a 1980 mark with its 70th triple-digit day of the year Tuesday, becoming the 16th market among 20 around Texas to set a record, according to weather service figures. Laredo tied a record with its 115th triple-digit day of the year Wednesday and could break the 1998 mark on Thursday.

Bachman feels sting of vaccine

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) - Republican Michele Bachmann is feeling the sting of presidential campaign jab gone awry.

In a GOP debate this week, the Minnesota congresswoman criticized front-runner Rick Perry over a controversial vaccination directive he signed as Texas governor. The executive order upset social conservatives and drew accusations of cronyism because the drug's maker donated to Perry's campaign.

Bachmann went further after the debate and linked the human papillomavirus vaccine to mental retardation. The claim was roundly disputed by medical experts, who called it irresponsible and dangerous.

Political observers say it muddied Bachmann's shot at Perry.

Bachmann is trying to regain her footing in the race after a late-summer slide. She hopes to raise doubts about Perry among conservatives and libertarian-style tea party members critical to both candidates.

Inmate accused of running ring

GREENVILLE (AP) - An investigation into an alleged drug ring has led to a North Texas jail where an inmate's estranged wife formerly was a guard.

The Hunt County Sheriff's Office says about 20 people have been arrested Wednesday across the county.

Lt. Nathan Ehrhart says the investigation began in April after Bobby Evens of Greenville was booked on charges of delivery of a controlled substance, child endangerment and parole violation.

Ehrhart told The Associated Press that the inmate's mail and telephone calls were monitored, leading to allegations of a drug ring being run from jail.

Ehrhart says the inmate's wife recently was fired as a jailer and that she was never assigned as his guard. Both are among the suspects facing charges Wednesday.

Evens still faces trial over the original charges.

Killer of 2 set to die today

HUNTSVILLE (AP) - A Houston mechanic who gunned down his ex-girlfriend laughed about the shooting as he told police she got what she deserved. A Houston jury that convicted Duane Buck of killing the woman and a male friend decided Buck deserved the death penalty.

The 48-year-old Buck is set for lethal injection in Huntsville on this evening for the double slaying 16 years ago.

Attorneys for Buck are arguing in the courts that he's entitled to a new punishment hearing because his case was "tainted by considerations of race." They base the claim on testimony from a psychologist who said the likelihood of Buck being a continuing danger was greater because he is black.

A similar argument seeking clemency for Buck has been rejected by the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles.

Texas accused in mail scheme

AMARILLO (AP) - Two Texas men have been accused of trying to use the U.S. mail to distribute drugs and threatening to kill a letter carrier.

A federal grand jury in Amarillo on Tuesday indicted Tony Phommachanh and Carlos Martin Gonzales, both of Dumas.

The Amarillo Globe-News reports the men allegedly ran a marijuana distribution ring.

Phommachanh was charged with conspiracy and possession of marijuana with intent to distribute. He's also charged with threatening to kill a federal official and an immediate family member.

Gonzales faces two counts of threatening to kill a postal worker and a family member, one count of conspiracy to possess and distribute marijuana and another mail-related count.

Kathy Colvin, a spokeswoman for the U.S. attorney in Dallas, says neither suspect is in custody.

Happy Bancshares to buy Signature

Happy Bancshares, Inc. of Canyon has signed a definitive agreement to acquire Signature Bancshares, Inc.

Signature Bancshares, Inc. owns Signature Bank, which originally opened for business in Coolidge, Texas in 1904 and moved to Dallas, Texas in 1996. The bank's one office is located at 6757 Arapaho Road.

The location in North Dallas will continue to operate under a separate state charter owned by Happy Bancshares, Inc. The company also owns Happy State Bank & Trust Company with 28 offices in 19 communities in the Texas Panhandle. This transaction is expected to close in the fourth quarter, following bank regulatory approval.

Signature Bank will operate as an independent bank with local leadership and its own board of directors. It has approximately \$106 million in deposits, \$56 million in loans and total assets in excess of \$116 million.

Happy State Bank was chartered in 1908 in Happy, Texas. In 1990, the then \$10 million bank headquartered in Happy, Texas was acquired by a group of Panhandle area investors and is now the second largest bank in the Amarillo region with \$1.6 billion in assets.

Rowdy behavior for rawhide



MATTHEW "UNCLE MATTY" MARGOLIS
Creator's Syndicate



Rowdy is a wonderful, loving and friendly dog ... 99 percent of the time. When we try to take his rawhide from him, he growls and lunges and tries to bite if reprimanded. And when we put him in his crate for a timeout, he growls and darts into a corner. When we calmly try to get him out of the corner to go to the crate, he growls and barks and bares his teeth and will lunge at us before running into his crate. Once in his crate, if we look at him or talk to him, he bares his teeth, barks, growls, snaps, lunges and snarls. We have never hit him or punished him in any way other than time out in his crate.

My boyfriend and I are now scared of Rowdy and don't know what to do. We have a puppy and don't want her to model his behavior. What should we do? I am truly afraid he will bite us. He only acts like this with the rawhide and timeouts - no other times. The rest of the time he's his sweet loving self.

You know, Einstein said the definition of insanity is doing the same thing again and again and expecting different results. First on the to-do list: Rid your house of those rawhides! It's not going to hurt Rowdy to go without rawhides until he learns to let go of them, and you are likely to get hurt if you don't cut off his supply.

The next thing on that list you've already done: acknowledge that you are in over your head. Rowdy is warning

you with every tool in his belt - barking, snarling, growling, baring his teeth, lunging at you - that he is going to bite you if you don't alter your approach. This situation begs for professional intervention for two reasons:

1) Rowdy is a danger to you and others.

2) You have a new puppy, and you don't want two Rowdys on your hands.

A professional trainer - who specializes in aggression - will work with Rowdy to eliminate the problem behaviors, and will work with you to understand the root cause and modify your approach to Rowdy so you get the results you want. Depending on the dog and the dedication of the dog owner, most behavioral problems can be eradicated or at least controlled - i.e., if Rowdy's problem is truly limited to rawhide, no more rawhide!

A professional trainer will also demonstrate the concept of crate training. It may be too late for Rowdy to ever truly love a crate, but it's not too late for your new puppy. A crate should be a safe haven for a dog, not a place of punishment.

And it is possible that your new pup - happy, socialized and properly trained - could be the model of new and good behaviors for Rowdy. Just because Rowdy was there first doesn't mean he calls the shots - or even wants to. You call the shots, and a good trainer will show you how to call them so that your dogs not only respond to you, but also love you for it.

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!"

GE says gas turbine sales are returning

NEW YORK (AP) - General Electric Co. has received \$1 billion in orders this year for turbines that burn natural gas to make electricity from customers in North America eager to take advantage of low natural gas prices.

Natural gas prices in North America have been low and steady in recent years as drillers have learned to unlock vast amounts of natural gas once thought inaccessible in shale formations throughout the U.S.

With low natural gas prices, utilities and industrial customers that need to generate electricity can do so at lower cost. Natural gas-fired power plants are

also far cheaper, easier and faster to build than other major electricity sources such as coal and nuclear.

Natural gas traded just below \$4 per thousand cubic feet Wednesday morning, and it has traded in a range of \$3 to \$6 in recent years. In the middle of the last decade natural gas prices were extremely volatile and spiked to as high as \$14. Those unsteady and high prices discouraged utilities from adding much natural gas-fired capacity.

Now, after several years of low prices and increasing supplies, utilities are more comfortable with natural gas. Also, utilities are facing tightening emissions regulations that are

forcing them to close older coal-fired plants. They are expected to replace coal with natural gas.

GE, based in Fairfield, Conn., also unveiled a new, relatively small natural gas turbine that can power up quickly and operate without water. Natural gas-fired electricity already requires less

water than coal and nuclear, but most require some.

GE expects its new 50-megawatt turbine to attract businesses and small communities abroad. It made the announcement in Houston.

General Electric shares rose 2 cents to \$15.43 in morning trading Wednesday.

American to expand in-flight video offerings

FORT WORTH (AP) - American Airlines said on Wednesday that it will expand its inflight streaming video to about 400 Internet-equipped planes by the end of next year.

American currently has streaming video available on 15 of its 767s, which are mostly used on flights between Kennedy airport in New York and Los Angeles and San Francisco. American said it will add streaming video on more than 90 of its MD-80s by the end of this year and on more MD-80s

and on 737-800s by the end of next year.

American sells Internet service on some of its flights. The video offering that American is expanding allows passengers to use their own device such as a laptop or iPod to buy and watch TV shows or movies without paying for full in-flight Internet access.

Introductory prices are 99 cents for a TV show and \$3.99 for a movie, which comes with a free Internet session on the customers' next flight.

Christmas Mountains to go to TSU System

AUSTIN (AP) - Texas plans to turn over control of the rugged Christmas Mountains in West Texas to the Texas State University System.

Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson has scheduled a news conference today to announce the deal for the 9,000-acre tract next to Big Bend National Park. Patterson once considered selling the property to a private owner, but withdrew that idea under

fierce criticism from environmentalists who wanted it to stay in private hands.

Keep a level head in an up-and-down market.



Edward Jones
BANKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Cinema 4

<p>Movies Showing for Friday Aug 26th - Thursday September the 1st.</p> <p>Spy Kids 2-D Rated PG Fri 7:00 and 9:00 Sat 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:00 Sun 2:00 4:30 7:00 Mon - Thur 7:00 only</p> <p>Crazy Stupid Love Rated PG-13 Fri 7:15 9:45 Sat 2:00 4:30 7:15 9:45 Sun 2:00 4:30 7:15 Mon - Thur 7:15 only</p> <p>Fright Night Rated R Fri 7:15 9:45 Sat 2:00 4:30 7:15 9:45 Sun 2:00 4:30 7:15 Mon - Thur 7:15 only</p> <p>Final Destination 5 Rated R in 3-D Fri 7:30 9:45 Sat 2:00 4:30 7:30 9:45 Sun 2:00 4:30 7:30 Mon - Thur 7:30 only</p>	<p>Movies Showing for Friday September 2 - Thursday September the 8.</p> <p>Conan The Barbarian (R) Fri 7:15 9:45 Sat 2:00 4:30 7:15 9:45 Sun 2:00 4:30 7:15 Mon/Thur 7:15</p> <p>Crazy Stupid Love (PG-13) Fri 7:15 9:45 Sat 2:00 4:30 7:15 9:45 Sun 2:00 4:30 7:15 Mon - Thur 7:15 only</p> <p>30 Minutes or Less (R) Fri 7:15 9:30 Sat 2:00 4:30 7:15 9:30 Sun 2:00 4:30 7:15 Mon/Thur 7:15</p> <p>Apollo 18 (PG-13) Fri 7:30 9:45 Sat 2:00 4:30 7:30 9:45 Sun 2:00 4:30 7:30 Mon - Thur 7:30 only</p>
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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Thursday, Sept. 15, the 258th day of 2011. There are 107 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 15, 1961, the United States began Operation Nougat, a series of underground nuclear explosions in the Nevada Test Site, two weeks after the Soviet Union resumed testing its nuclear weapons.

On this date:

In 1776, British forces occupied New York City during the American Revolution.

In 1789, the U.S. Department of Foreign Affairs was renamed the Department of State.

In 1821, the Kingdom of Guatemala proclaimed its independence from Spain.

In 1857, William Howard Taft - who served as President of the United States and as U.S. chief justice - was born in Cincinnati, Ohio.

In 1935, the Nuremberg Laws deprived German Jews of their citizenship.

In 1940, during the World War II Battle of Britain, the tide turned as the Royal Air Force inflicted heavy losses against the Luftwaffe.

In 1950, during the Korean conflict, United Nations forces landed at Incheon in the south and began their drive toward Seoul.

In 1959, Nikita Khrushchev became the first Soviet head of state to visit the United States as he arrived at Andrews Air Force Base outside Washington.

In 1963, four black girls were killed when a bomb went off during Sunday services at the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala. (Three Ku Klux Klansmen were eventually convicted for their roles in the blast.)

In 1981, the Senate Judiciary Committee voted unanimously to approve the Supreme Court nomination of Sandra Day O'Connor.

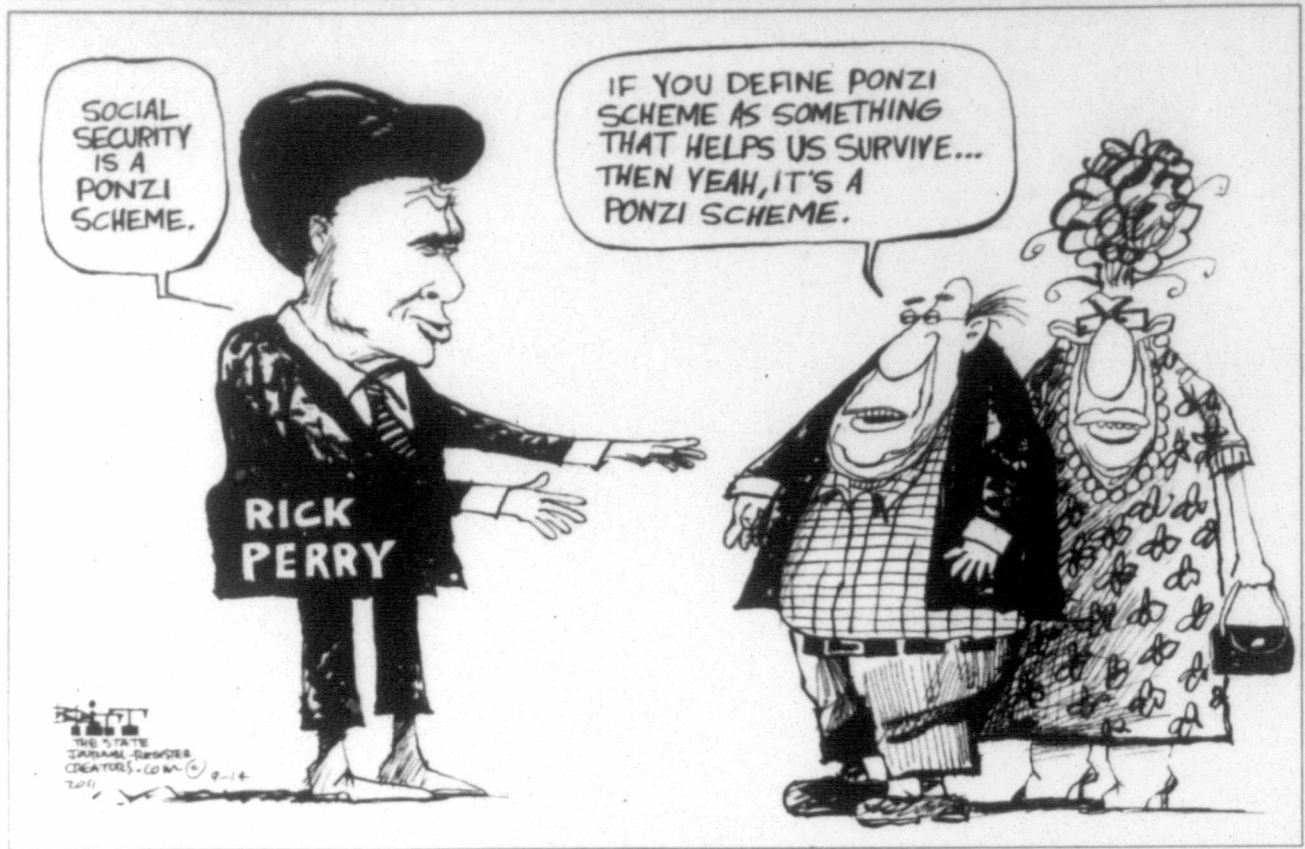
Ten years ago: President George W. Bush ordered U.S. troops to get ready for war and braced Americans for a long, difficult assault against terrorists to avenge the Sept. 11 attack.

Five years ago: Ford Motor Co. took drastic steps to remold itself into a smaller, more competitive company, slashing thousands of jobs and shuttering two additional plants. U.S. Rep. Bob Ney, R-Ohio, agreed to plead guilty to two criminal charges in the congressional corruption probe spawned by disgraced lobbyist Jack Abramoff. (Ney served nearly a year and a-half of a 2-1/2 year prison sentence.)

One year ago: A mortar attack by Palestinian militants and airstrikes by Israel provided a grim backdrop as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas ended their latest round of peace talks still divided on major issues.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Forrest Compton is 86. Comedian Norm Crosby is 84. Actor Henry Darrow is 78. Writer-director Ron Shelton is 66. Actor Tommy Lee Jones is 65. Movie director Oliver Stone is 65. Rock musician Kelly Keagy (Night Ranger) is 59. Rock musician Mitch Dorge (Crash Test Dummies) is 51. Actor Danny Nucci is 43. Actor Josh Charles is 40. Singer Ivette Sosa (Eden's Crush) is 35. Pop-rock musician Zach Filkins (OneRepublic) is 33. Actor Dave Annable is 32. Actress Amy Davidson is 32. Britain's Prince Harry of Wales is 27.

Thought for Today: "You cannot survive if you do not know the past." — *Orsiana Fallaci, Italian journalist (1929-2006)*



Plowing ahead in the wireless revolution

REP. JOSE MENENDEZ
District 124, San Antonio

"If my friend, Senator Warren, wishes to use one of these new-fangled devices inside the confines of his own ranch in Wyoming, no one shall say him nay, but not on the public roads," said Senator Joseph Weldon Bailey (D-TX) on introducing legislation in the early 1900's that would have banned automobiles from public highways. "The horse has an ancient and prescriptive right to the highways."

Senator Bailey strongly believed that the rise of the automobile meant the fall of the horse and the farmers he represented. One century ago, it would have been difficult to foresee all the modern inventions - harvesting combines, hay-balers, F-150's - that his well-intentioned legislation would have needlessly stifled.

The special interests in Washington are now trying to force a similar misguided choice on the FCC: this time it pits the old technology of GPS devices against new wireless providers that offer innovation, competition, and investment to neglected rural communities. If the GPS lobby and its powerful allies in Washington get their way, rural communities may never see the benefits that new wireless competition offers.

There are now companies like

LightSquared with plans to connect 100 percent of the country to a hybrid satellite and celltower wireless network, boasting speeds unheard of in rural communities long ignored by the major cell phone providers. Such a network would create thousands of jobs a year and save consumers billions of dollars. It would help connect rural schools and businesses to world-class communications and information systems. Perhaps most importantly, it would bring more competition in the wireless industry, lowering prices and increasing speed and customer choice - especially in rural areas.

Connecting to new wireless networks would do for farming communities in the digital age what the harvesting combine did in the industrial revolution. Farmers could receive up-to-the-minute weather reports, create online clearinghouses for agricultural best-practices, and keep an eye on ever-changing agricultural prices and trends.

GPS companies predict that this new wireless service would interfere with their devices and cause widespread failure. They say that some GPS devices search through the new wireless spectrum when looking for available satellites. They claim that making a call on this network could confuse these GPS devices.

Yet tests indicate that the new

wireless service wouldn't cause any interference for 99.95 percent of all GPS users, and simple, inexpensive upgrades could solve the problem for the other 0.05%. Still, the powerful GPS lobby has managed to convince some in Congress to try to force the FCC into banning these new companies from offering their new wireless service to anyone.

Once the wireless revolution reaches rural America, Congress will realize that banning these innovative new wireless networks was just like trying to ban automobiles from public highways - an unnecessary regulation based on bad facts and special interest scare tactics. That is, unless the scare tactics carry the day. It's a perfect example of how an alliance between corporate self-interests and Washington power brokers often conspire against innovations that could create jobs, save consumers billions, and deliver real competition.

The choice between corporate profit and consumer benefit is clear. After many frustrated attempts to increase wireless access in rural communities, new companies want to plant seeds that will bring wireless service to everyone. Congress should put its lobby inspired regulations back in the shed and let the rural wireless revolution grow.

Letter to the Editor

Bus driver urges caution

Dear Editor:
As a bus driver for Pampa School District I am passionate about my job and the students that I transport to and from school each day. Yet each day imposes a threat for the students that are picked up and dropped off at their designated stops.

Heedless motorists pass stopped school buses illegally daily and it's not because a stopped bus is inconspicuous. It's 40 feet long, 11 feet high, it's yellow, it has flashing red and yellow lights on it, it has a

STOP arm that comes out, yet it's inconceivable that people don't see it or choose to ignore it.

Studies have shown that in a single day, hundreds of thousands of cars will pass stopped school buses illegally. Studies also show the average is 10 deaths each year in the U.S. at school bus stops. One death is enough, 10 is too many.

Eleven buses in Pampa School District transport your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews to school and home each day.

Each day motorists in Pampa run by a bus that is stopped to pick up or

drop off your children off. I pray that it doesn't take an accident to open the eyes of motorists in this town. I pray that if you see a motorist violating this law that as a concerned citizen you take it upon your self to get a license number and contact the Police Department.

Often a bus driver does not get a license number because they are involved in watching the children that are getting on or off the bus.

Help us protect your children. "If it's stopped, if it's flashing, STOP!"

Linda Hawley
Pampa

The PAMPA NEWS

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On defense, Perry talks of faith, military heroes

LYNCHBURG, Va. (AP) - Texas Gov. Rick Perry avoided contentious social issues in a speech Wednesday at the nation's largest evangelical university, offering the youth a testimonial about his own path to Christian faith and praising the men and women of the military.

The Republican presidential contender urged students at Liberty University to remember the legacies of service members killed in Iraq and Afghanistan. Without explicitly invoking his own presidential bid, he cast life's choices as tributes to the military's sacrifice in the years since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

"A great many of those who perished were approximately your age. Young men and women whose entire future was in front of them. They sacrificed their dreams to preserve yours," a somber Perry said on the campus founded by the Rev. Jerry Falwell.

"Because of what they gave, I simply ask you to make the most of the freedom that they sacrificed."

In a brief detour into politics, he urged the students to speak up for the kind of country and future they want. "Don't leave it

to a bunch of Washington politicians to tell you how to live your life," he said.

Perry's 20-minute speech to a packed arena was warmly received. But it was unlikely to quiet building criticism from his GOP rivals over two cultural issues: his failed effort to require girls to be vaccinated against a sexually transmitted disease and a Texas law allowing illegal immigrants to pay in-state tuition. Neither issue sits well with social conservatives, who hold great sway in the GOP nomination race.

The GOP race has been dominated by economic concerns and criticism of President Barack Obama's stewardship, pushing such cultural questions to the back burner. But in recent days, during a debate Monday and on the campaign trail, Perry's rivals have started trying to exploit Perry's perceived weaknesses on such issues to deflate his front-runner status in national polls.

"It is time that Gov. Perry is known for what he really is: not a long-time conservative governor, but a big-government moderate who has made a career of supporting harmful policies during his tenure as governor," former Sen. Rick Santorum

of Pennsylvania said Tuesday.

Specifically, Santorum, Rep. Michele Bachmann and other opponents for the Republican presidential nomination are singling Perry out for signing an executive order in 2007 requiring Texas girls to be vaccinated against the virus that can cause cervical cancer, an effort the Legislature rejected.

On immigration, Perry has had to defend in-state tuition for illegal immigrants as well as his opposition to a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border. Both positions conflict with conservative GOP orthodoxy.

Perry ignored those divisive issues in his remarks on this campus in central Virginia. Instead, he introduced himself as a small-town native who went to college hoping to become a veterinarian but struggled with his studies.

"Four semesters of organic chemistry made a pilot out of me," the Air Force veteran joked.

Perry also described his spiritual path as a young man, saying that at age 27 he was "lost, spiritually and emotionally," drifting with no sense of purpose.

"My faith journey is not as someone who turned to God because I wanted

to," Perry said. "It was because I had nowhere else to turn."

He also brought a spiritual element to his recollections of the Sept. 11 attacks, noting that many of the students were just children on that day. "You've grown up fast and you know the presence of evil is real in this fallen world," he said.

So far, voters are saying the economy and the 9.1 percent national unemployment matter most in the GOP race. In rough economic times, feeding the family tends to trump social issues.

But Perry's rivals have been trying to change that. Perry complicates Bachmann's prospects because both appeal to similar voters - tea partiers who are frustrated with the economy and say Washington is out of touch and social conservatives who care about cultural issues.

Both Perry and Bachmann are competing for voters who are looking for an alternative to Romney. He is running for president a second time after losing in 2008; Romney wasn't able to overcome skepticism of his Mormon faith among evangelicals in the lead-off caucus in Iowa and

first-in-the-South primary state South Carolina.

The candidates are likely to take on social issues again next week when the "don't ask, don't tell" policy formally ends, allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly in the military.

The GOP contenders are already using social issues

to raise money ahead of the next campaign collection deadline, Sept. 30. Santorum and Bachmann both wrote to supporters asking for money after Monday's GOP debate - and noted their attacks on Perry's record on social issues.

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Mother faces federal charge in gunrunning case

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) - A North Texas mother of three faces a federal charge related to her role in trying to smuggle high-powered rifles to a violent drug cartel in Mexico.

Mary Jane Esparza, 34, of Joshua, south of Fort Worth, is accused of hiring a buyer to purchase four 5.56-caliber semiautomatic AR-type rifles from a Fort Worth firearms dealer.

"Drug cartels will use whoever they can get to buy guns for them," ATF Special Agent Tom Crowley in Dallas told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. "We've seen women being used before."

She and three men - Jose Francisco Ruiz-Sandante, Porfirio Vargas and Jesus Navarro - were named in a federal complaint Friday after their arrests a day earlier when the gun deal was completed. The complaint said that the four, who remained in federal custody Wednesday, conspired to make a false statement to deceive a firearms dealer. None of the attorneys listed for the four immediately returned calls Wednesday.

Minutes after the gun deal was completed on Sept. 8, the four were arrested by Bureau of Alcohol,

Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives agents and Fort Worth police.

Crowley said that in the past few years, gun traffickers have been working in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. ATF statistics show agents have investigated 90 cases of gunrunning in North Texas involving 2,500 weapons in the last two years.

ATF officials say Esparza and the men are accused of buying and trying to transport the rifles to Mexico for Los Zetas.

Esparza's mother, Rosalinda Cuellar, told KXAS television station of Dallas-Fort Worth that her daughter, a beautician, is a good person and a good mom who struggled to support her three children - ages 10, 11 and 16.

"I think it's all about the money," she said. "It's all about easy money."

Federal documents show that a Fort Worth firearms dealer alerted ATF agents Thursday about a "suspicious individual" possibly attempting a "straw purchase." The buyer paid about \$2,580 for the four rifles.

Authorities established surveillance at the business and ATF agents and Fort Worth police followed the buyer for about 10 miles

to the Haltom City area, where he admitted that he'd been recruited to buy the firearms by Esparza, who had agreed to give him \$200 for each firearm purchased, according to the federal complaint.

That man - not named as a defendant - agreed to call Esparza and transfer the firearms to her under surveillance.

Esparza and Ruiz were then arrested after arriving in a van to get the guns. Authorities also seized about \$14,900 in cash and two loaded pistols.

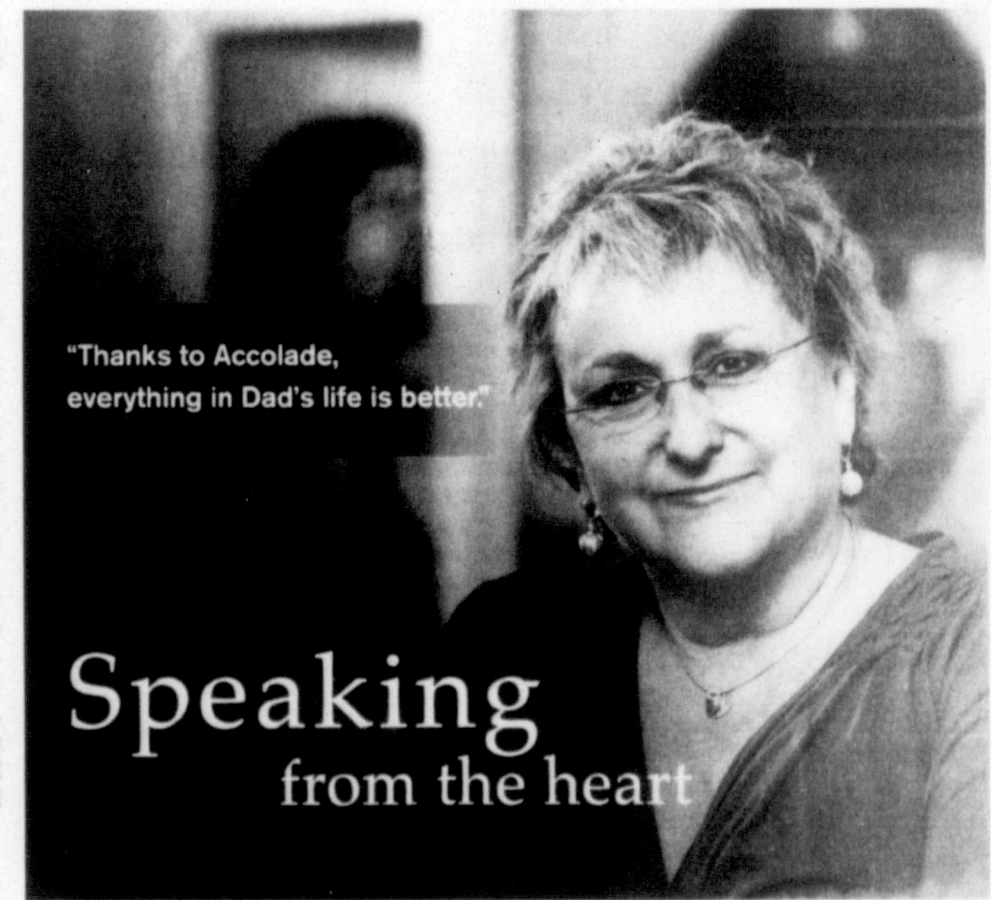
Vargas and Navarro were then arrested after Ruiz met with them under the direction of the ATF to give them the guns, according to the federal complaint. The complaint noted Vargas was with his wife and four children.

The complaint says that Ruiz admitted to arranging the firearm purchase through Esparza. Vargas admitted providing Ruiz with the money to buy firearms and arranging that they be sent to Mexico. Navarro admitted his role too - taking the firearms to Ciudad Acuna.

Ruiz agreed for ATF agents to search his home, where they found seven more AR-type that he said were going to be smuggled

to Mexico.

Esparza has a criminal history in Tarrant County. She was sentenced to a year in federal prison in 1998 for aiding and abetting illegal entry of aliens into the United States, federal court records state. Tarrant County criminal court records also showed that she was sentenced to two years in prison for a burglary in Haltom City.



"Thanks to Accolade, everything in Dad's life is better."

Speaking from the heart

Testimony ends in 'warden's wife's trial'

MANGUM, Okla. (AP) - Testimony concluded on Wednesday after defense attorneys for a former Oklahoma prison warden's wife charged with helping a convicted killer escape 17 years ago decided not to question any of the prosecution's rebuttal witnesses.

Bobbi Parker is on trial on a charge of helping inmate Randolph Franklin Dial escape on Aug. 30, 1994, from the Oklahoma State Reformatory in Granite where Parker's husband, Randy Parker, was deputy warden.

Jurors were dismissed for the rest of the week and will return Monday for closing arguments in the trial. Attorneys will confer with District Judge Richard Darby on jury instructions and other issues Thursday.

Darby said jurors will be sequestered at a hotel when they aren't deliberating a verdict.

More than 80 witnesses testified during the proceeding, which began with jury selection on May 16. Greer

County prosecutors entered 400 pieces of evidence and exhibits and hundreds more were introduced by defense attorneys.

Witnesses Wednesday included an Oklahoma prison official who testified to the truthfulness of an inmate who testified earlier for the prosecution. The inmate testified that on the day the two disappeared he saw Bobbi Parker get into the driver's side of a van, Dial get into the passenger side, and Parker drove out of the prison grounds.

"I believe him to be truthful and honest," Lawton Correctional Facility unit manager Gifford Barnard said of the inmate, whose name was ordered by Darby not to be revealed because he fears reprisal for his testimony.

Defense attorneys pointed out the inmate has 12 felony convictions, including a murder conviction.

Lead defense lawyer, Garvin Isaacs, asked Darby for a directed verdict of acquittal, based on insuf-

ficient evidence. Darby denied the motion.

Isaacs and Assistant District Attorney David Thomas both expressed gratitude to jurors for the patience.

"They've been here for a long time. They've been very attentive and hard-working," Thomas said. "There's quite a bit of evidence they will probably want to look at."

Prosecutors say Bobbi Parker fell in love with Dial, became his mistress and helped him escape. Defense attorneys say Dial kidnapped Parker and held her hostage until they were found at a chicken ranch in Campti, Texas, in 2005.

Dial also maintained until his death in prison in 2007 that he kidnapped Parker and held her against her will by threatening to harm her family if she left him.

The defense will have an opportunity to call final witnesses before closing arguments begin, which are scheduled for Monday.

Dad was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease 10 years ago. Recently, he started suffering from arthritis in his knees, extreme shaking and stiffness. The problem wasn't that he couldn't move, it was that his movement was too small to get anything done. That's when I talked to him about getting treatment from Accolade Homecare.

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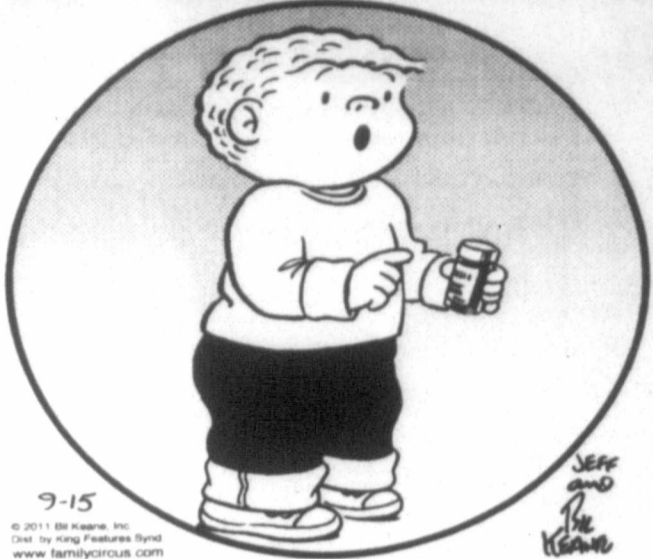
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comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



"How does this childproof cap know how old I am?"

Non Sequitur

OK, MAYBE IT'S NOT A GREAT SUPER POWER, BUT I STILL SAY THAT DISARMING-WITH-HUMOR IS A PRETTY DARN GOOD SUPER POWER...



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Nest Heads



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Sept. 15, 2011:

This year, often you are digging and questioning about the real meaning of life. Other times, you are detached, light and easy. A key relationship plays into your processing when seeking answers. This person might have more depth than many people in your life. If you are single, romance could wing in from a distance or be very different. You make the call about what level this relationship evolves to. If you are attached, focus on a mutual long-term goal, which could involve a trip. This emphasis will bring more closeness. TAURUS helps you detach and understand.

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)

★★★★ Use the a.m. to the max. In the afternoon, attend to money matters. A quarrel could erupt with a child, loved one or someone you care about. At the present point, the wise move will be not to tackle any crisis, especially as you might not have all the information you need. Tonight: Treating doesn't have to cost.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ As the day progresses, you energize. Others become much more in tune with your ideas and whatever you project. A family member could be upset by a choice and lets you know it in no uncertain terms. Tonight: Whatever feels right.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Use the morning for decisive action. Others could be taken aback by your assertiveness. In the back of your mind, you have an idea or different perspective that you might want to look at. Tonight: Keep your own counsel.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Handle your responsibilities early on. A boss or someone you respect notices just how efficient you can be. In the afternoon, you could be overwhelmed by all the people and meetings. You can handle it! Tonight: Join friends, or go where people are.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Get more information and speak to experts in the a.m. The end result of a project could be a lot better if you follow through here. A boss or someone you

work with could be provocative at best. Try to keep the peace. Tonight: Let a close associate make the first move.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Have an important discussion with a partner. Don't back off. Recognize that what could be an issue for one person might not be for another. Seek out mutually acceptable solutions. Know that there is one. Tonight: Gain a new perspective through detaching.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Others come forward with ideas and solutions. You might feel overwhelmed by all the possibilities. Seek out a friend or a respected associate. Discuss all the options and, if need be, get more feedback. Tonight: With your pals.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Dive into work, and don't allow others to distract you. So much might be going on that you could be overwhelmed if you don't concentrate. Open your door, receive calls and return messages mid-afternoon. Tonight: So many choices.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Funnel your imagination into your daily life. You'll become more energized and enthusiastic. Reach out for someone at a distance in order to get feedback, but don't be disappointed if this person doesn't understand where you are coming from. Tonight: Finish up. Run errands.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Be aware of a tendency to limit yourself. A loved one's or friend's feedback will help you understand. Tap into your sixth sense when dealing with a special person. Tonight: Pretend that the weekend has already started.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Reach out for others. Schedule a meeting. Understand what your limitations are, especially financially. Share special feelings in a way that makes a difference. Avoid an argument with a roommate. Tonight: Hang out with pals.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Worry less about a risk. Just don't take it. Your intuition tells you a lot. Be sensitive to your personal needs when dealing with a relative or neighbor. Don't overextend yourself. You could feel awkward with a key associate at first. Tonight: Swap news with a friend.

Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts

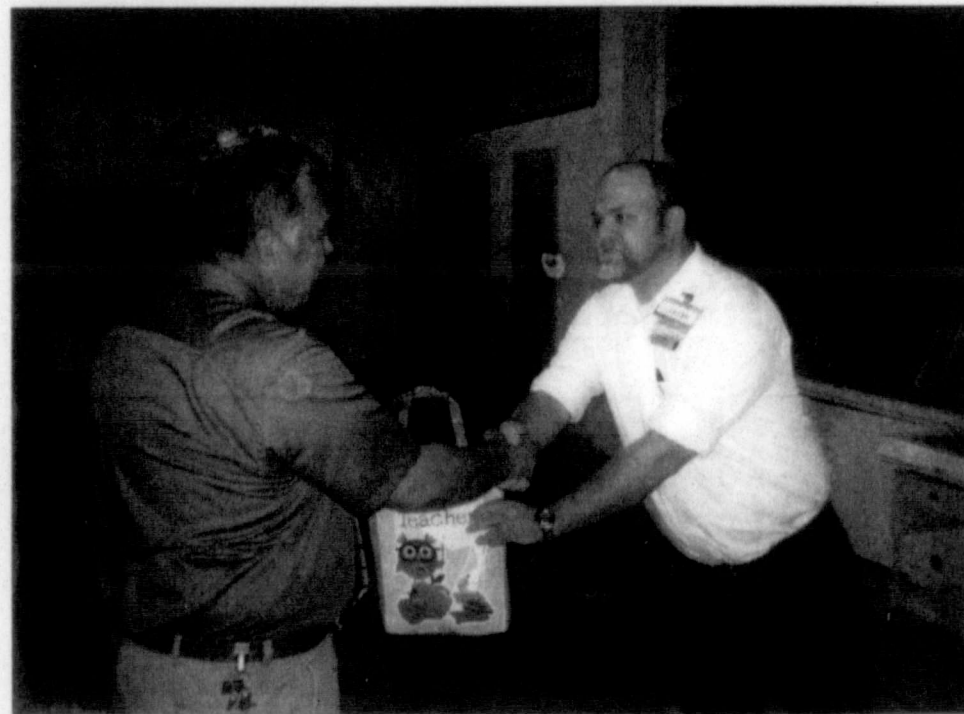
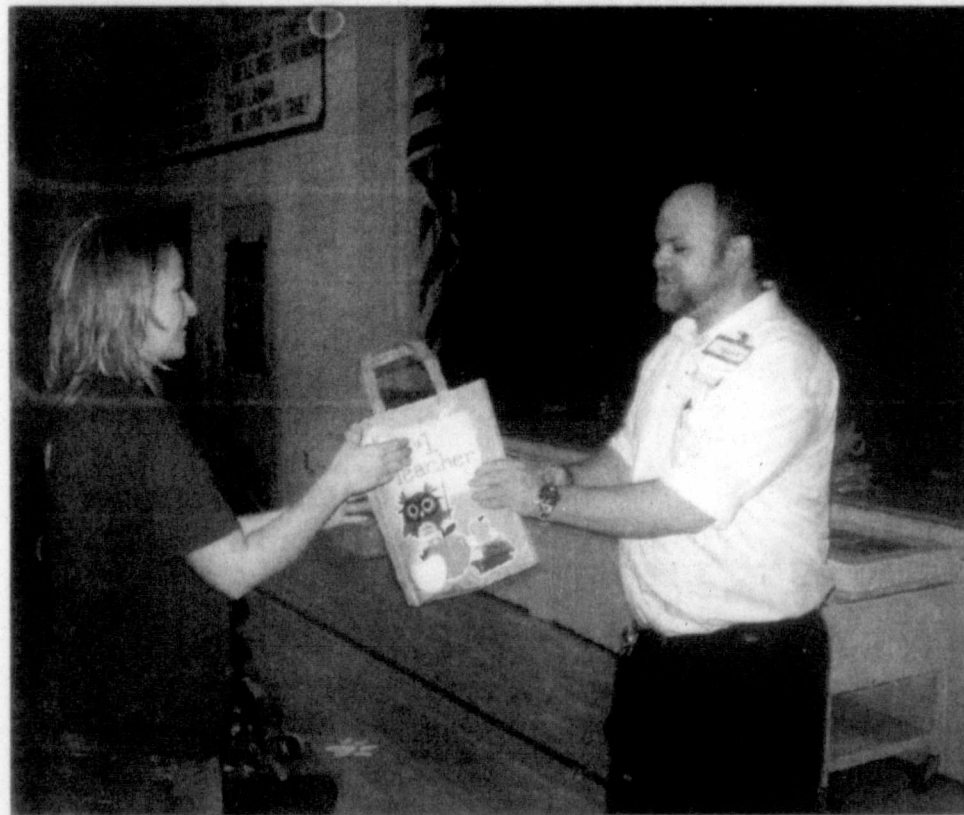


Blondie



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School Notes



staff photos by **Andrew Glover**
Wal-Mart honored Lamar teachers for their sacrifice at Lamar Elementary September 2 by giving a select group of teachers a \$100 gift card. **TOP LEFT:** Lamar Special Education teacher Gail Wilson receives a \$100 Wal-Mart card from shift manager Jason Ingram. **TOP RIGHT:** Jastien McGahee, 10, draws a teacher name from a pencil holder held by Wal-Mart shift manager Jason Ingram as Thomas Almanza, 10 and Devin Johnston 10 look on. **SECOND LEFT:** Lamar second grade teacher Pam Funderburg receives her \$100 Wal-Mart card from shift manager Jason Ingram. **THIRD LEFT:** Second grade teacher Julie Britten receives a gift bag from Wal-Mart shift manager Jason Ingram. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Mike Valdivia shakes hands with Wal-Mart shift manager Jason Ingram while receiving a \$100 gift card.



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Wildfire protection plan half-funded

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Long before this month's historic wildfires in Texas, the state's forest service came up with a \$20.4 million plan to stop the flames from starting or tamp them out before small blazes grew deadly and destructive.

Three years later, the plan is still only half-funded — a result of the weak economy, a strained state budget and what one former lawmaker calls a "dereliction of duty" by legislators who almost always prefer to spend money only after a crisis has unfolded.

In 2008, the Texas Forest Service made an insistent sales pitch for an ambitious wildfire protection plan that called for adding more than 200 firefighters, creating rapid-response teams to quash small flare-ups, building advanced automated weather stations and establishing two training academies for wildfire crews.

"We cannot over-emphasize the protection aspects of this plan," officials wrote in their request for money. When fully funded and implemented, the program was "guaranteed to protect lives and properties."

The idea for the plan dated to 1999. But over nearly a decade of steadily worsening fires, the budget request acquired a sense of urgency. By 2008, it declared: "This is the final straw! Bigger fires call for bigger state resources!"

The Forest Service concedes that even the full fire-protection system would not have completely spared Texas from last week's catastrophic fires, which incinerated more than 1,700 homes, black-

ened tens of thousands of acres and killed four people.

"There's no way we'll ever be staffed to handle the worst-case, catastrophic events like you've seen recently," said Robbie DeWitt, chief financial officer of the Forest Service.

But the plan was designed to limit exactly those types of widespread losses — and at a fraction of the price of fighting full-blown fires.

Forest Service officials say they harbor no ill will toward lawmakers. It was the agency's own idea to increase funding only incrementally given economic realities.

Still, at least one critic says the decision to leave the plan only partially funded reflects lawmakers' reluctance to make big investments to prevent emergencies.

Former Republican state Rep. David Swinford used to represent the Panhandle, which in 2006 endured the deadliest wildfire on record in Texas, a blaze that killed 12 people and scorched more than a million acres.

After the flames were out, Swinford worked to increase funding for the wildfire plan and for volunteer fire departments through a tax on insurance companies. He said the state relies on a "crisis management" attitude that leans too heavily on paying for firefighting efforts after the fact.

"The dereliction of duty is the state not putting money in that program," he said. "I got tired of watching it."

Once a fire takes hold, the flames and the costs can quickly spread out of

control. The federal government pays some of the expenses, but this past summer the Forest Service needed an infusion of \$121 million from the state.

With an additional \$8.5 million the state put toward the fire-protection plan in 2010, about 60 firefighters were hired. The Forest Service also bought heavy equipment such as bulldozers, opened nine new offices in high-risk fire areas and paid for some firefighter training.

Still, the annual funding for the program is about \$12 million less than what the Forest Service considers necessary, according to the budget request and other documents reviewed by The Associated Press.

Texas is not the only state where firefighting efforts have been pinched by tight budgets.

Amid California's financial crisis, the budget for fire prevention and suppression has been cut about 10 percent this year, including a \$2 million reduction that would have been used to hire 21 inspectors dedicated to preventing wildfires, said Janet Upton, a spokeswoman for the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

In Texas, the Forest Service's 2008 budget request outlined the human and financial costs of the devastating 2005-2006 fire season: 19 deaths and \$643 million in property damage. The agency seemed to anticipate steadily worsening fires.

"Extreme wildfire behavior as we've experienced over the last decade is what we can continue to expect," the Forest Service warned.

Because Texas is locked in a 25- to 30-year dry period, "even with occasional rain events, we can expect a long-term situation with an increase in the number and severity of wildfires, perhaps unlike anything we've seen in Texas," the agency said.

According to the budget request, \$20.4 million annually would be required to fund the program adequately. However, the agency said it would accept an "incremental approach" that would raise the amount of money slowly over several years.

The wildfire protection plan was also reviewed last year by the Texas Sunset Advisory Commission, which periodically assesses state agencies.

The commission took no position on whether the funding was adequate, but it noted that the Legislature had invested "significant" money to finance wildfire protection even though the Forest Service's plan was limited to a brochure and "miscellaneous documents."

DeWitt said the Forest Service was happy to get an added \$8.5 million for wildfire protection in 2009, raising annual funding to \$15.5 million. The agency's budget was slashed by \$35 million earlier this year, and it did not ask for more because of the intense battle for every dollar in the state budget, he said.

BANAGRAMS!

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.

LEVEL

V A R I A B A L M Y

ERASE LATKE

COMMON LETTER

Yesterday's Answer: F L E T H O M P I N E

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Intermediate

Combs: State sales tax revenue increases for 17th straight month

Austin — State sales tax revenue in August was \$1.98 billion, up 11.9 percent compared to August 2010, according to Texas Comptroller Susan Combs.

"Monthly sales tax revenue has now increased for 17 consecutive months," said Combs. "For the state's recently concluded 2011 fiscal year, sales

tax revenue increased 9.4 percent from the previous fiscal year. Sales tax revenue grew in major sectors especially the oil and gas industry and manufacturing as a result of increased business spending during the year. There was also growth in the retail and restaurant sectors. We will continue to monitor fac-



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I go to movies occasionally with my niece "Connie" and her two kids. Although the theater has a sign "No Outside Food or Drinks Allowed," Connie sneaks snacks in in her oversized purse, then does them out after the lights go down. I'm not talking about a couple of candy bars; she brings bags of candy, chips and cans of soda.

While I agree with my niece that the price of refreshments is outrageous, I also believe it's the theater operators' prerogative to set prices and policy. I suggested Connie skip the snacks during the movie and take the kids out for ice cream afterward, but she said she didn't want to "deprive" them. When I offered to pay, she said it wasn't about the money, it was "the principle, and besides, 'everybody else does it.'"

I feel my niece is teaching her kids it's OK to break rules you find inconvenient as long as you can get away with it. I enjoy the outings with them so I've dropped the subject for the sake of harmony, but it still bothers me. Connie probably thinks I'm a critical old crank who's out of step with the times. I'd love your opinion. — PAYING FOR MY POPCORN IN OREGON

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS
- 1 Dread
 - 5 Pottery piece
 - 10 Dogpatch boy
 - 12 Less colorful
 - 13 Dubya's secretary of state
 - 14 Jim Croce's "I Got —"
 - 15 Overly
 - 16 Playground feature
 - 18 Pricey stadium spot
 - 20 Put away
 - 21 End for mob or fib
 - 23 Crooner Tormé
 - 24 Winter wear
 - 26 Historic times
 - 28 Heir, at times
 - 29 Night fliers
 - 31 Pub pints
 - 32 Round storage item
 - 36 Place for valuables
 - 39 Soft-drink suffix
 - 40 Singer Cara
 - 41 TV's De-Generes
 - 43 Wall climbers
 - 44 Handle
- DOWN
- 1 Almanac fill
 - 2 Downloadable read
 - 3 Irk
 - 4 Wine choice
 - 5 Cross
 - 6 Four-inch measure
 - 7 Home of the Crimson Tide
 - 8 TV accessories
 - 9 Philadelphia school
 - 11 Tuscan dish
 - 17 Chopping tool
 - 19 Scouting org.
 - 22 Kicks back
 - 24 Fill with a crayon
 - 25 Penny words
 - 27 Queue after Q
 - 28 Digestion aid
 - 30 Comic first
 - 33 Farm baseman
 - 34 Beethoven's "— Joy"
 - 35 Inert gas
 - 37 Leg bend
 - 38 Porgy's love
 - 42 Charter

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

- Yesterday's answer
- 11 Tuscan dish
 - 17 Chopping tool
 - 19 Scouting org.
 - 22 Kicks back
 - 24 Fill with a crayon
 - 25 Penny words
 - 27 Queue after Q
 - 28 Digestion aid
 - 30 Comic first
 - 33 Farm baseman
 - 34 Beethoven's "— Joy"
 - 35 Inert gas
 - 37 Leg bend
 - 38 Porgy's love
 - 42 Charter

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	
10				11		12				
13						14				
15				16	17					
18				19				20		
				21		22		23		
	24	25				26	27			
28				29	30					
31					32			33	34	35
36			37	38				39		
40						41	42			
43						44				
45								46		

9-15



Beverly Taylor - Classifieds

The Pampa News'

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

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Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TXDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION / MAINTENANCE / BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Amarillo Contract 0041-02-012 for SEAL COAT in HARTLEY COUNTY, etc will be opened on October 7, 2011, at 1:00 pm at the State Office. Plans and specifications

1 Public Notice

are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TXDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TXDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 37807

1 Public Notice

State Office
Constr. / Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540
Dist./Div Office(s)
Amarillo District District Engineer
5715 Canyon Dr
Amarillo, Texas 79105-2708
Phone: 806-356-3283
Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.
A-82 Sept 15, 22, 2011

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14s Plumbing
JACK'S Plumbing
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665-7115

14w Air Cond/Heat
BROWNING'S Heating & Air and Refrigeration Specialists since 1964!! 665-1212.

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WILL do work for the elderly or disabled: run errands, do grocery shopping, pay bills. \$10 hour. Cash Only. Sally. 665-7351.

21 Help Wanted
PAMPA ISD is accepting applications for qualified RN. We also have an opening for Part-Time Weekend RN. Contact Administrator 537-3194

HOLMAN Well Service, LLC-Yard 1 Well Service Rigger Operator and Floorhands. Apply 11701 Hwy. 152 West, Pampa, Tx.

Maintenance Position
Must have valid driver's license. Must pass drug test. Apply in person 8:30-5:30, M-F. Hampton Villages, 100 Hampton Ln. (Alcock St.), Pampa, Tx.

SEEKING Experienced Pumper. Send Resume to Po Box 1422, Pampa, TX 79066-1422

SEEKING EXPERIENCED RIG OPERATOR & 2 RIG HANDS. SEND RESUME TO PO BOX 1422, PAMPA, TX 79066-1422

60 Household
DRESSERS, washer, refrigerator, tables, very nice electric cookstove, etc. 662-7557.

WOOD roll-top desk, 2 bookshelves and glass computer stand for sale. Call 440-2866

69 Misc.
ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

NEW Queen Matt. Sets, Sale Price \$266. Red Barn, 1424 S. Barnes. Call anytime 665-2767

69a Garage Sales
INSIDE Estate Sale, 2128 N. Dwight, furniture, piano, large entertainment center, lots of etc. Fri. & Sat. 9-4

3 Family Garage Sale Fri. & Sat. 8am to 5pm. 1427 N. Wells

3 Family Garage Sale: Table with 6 chairs, smoker, dishes, clothes, stove, metal bunk beds, towels & much more. Fri 8-4 2213 Lynn & 2207 Lynn

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80 Pets & Suppl.
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NEED Money Now? We will give you top \$\$ for your house. Call us today, 665-1875

We Buy & Sell Houses Call us today!! 665-1875

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CNAs / LVN
Immediate openings for a CNA / Weekday evenings & CNAs / Weekends. Must have State Certification. Licensed LVN for 2-10 shift. Competitive rates and full time employees eligible for benefits. EOE. For more information, please call (806)665-5746 or apply in person.

WELDERS NEEDED
Must be able to pass ASME Code Test. Apply in person only. Crall Products 2930 Hwy. 152 West Pampa, TX

FULL-TIME Cashier needed. Apply at Hoagies Deli, Coronado Shopping Center.

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.

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R XGGI JYRI ROI R XGGI

JYRMP RMY RFURAV R

BGMLHIRZFY DGLZHOPHGO.

— OYFVGO LROIYFR

Yesterday's Cryptquote: A MAN NEVER KNOWS HOW TO SAY GOODBYE; A WOMAN NEVER KNOWS WHEN TO SAY IT. — HELEN ROWLAND

14e Carpet Serv.
NU-WAY CLEANING SERVICE Bob Marx Owner-Operator. Call 665-3541.

14g Elec. Contr.
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— OYFVGO LROIYFR

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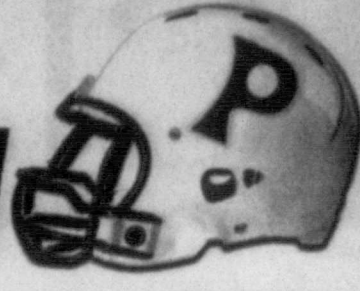
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THURSDAY

GRIDIRON PREVIEW

PAMPA
Harvesters



Harvesters look to snap losing streak vs. Huskies

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

In their two scrimmages and first three games, all of the Pampa Harvesters opponents were picked to win their district. This week though, the Wichita Falls Hirschi Huskies aren't favored to win their district. This will be a welcomed change as the Harvesters look to snap their two-game losing streak 7:30 p.m. Friday in Wichita Falls.

In its last two games, Pampa has been outscored 91-24. Senior wide receiver Miguel Pacheco said the losses haven't got the team down.

"We're still working hard," Pacheco said. "We put those games behind us. We are going to come out and play our hardest."

Offensive coordinator Casey Alexander said the mood has been fine.

"I think the last couple days the heat has gotten to them a little bit," Alexander said. "It's been hotter than last week. The mood is fine. They signed up to play and are going to play hard every week."

Hirschi (1-2) allowed over 50 points in its two losses. Junior receiver and defensive back Taylor Woods said it's nice playing an opponent not as good adding the team still needs to be prepared.

"It's the first week it hasn't been," Woods said. "We aren't going in too cocky. That helps boost our confidence a little bit."

Senior tight end and defensive end Ryne Richardson said the fact that Hirschi isn't favored to win district doesn't matter.

"It doesn't mean much to us," Richardson said. "It's just predictions. We just play."

This season, the Huskies have a new head coach Cody Slater. Woods said the Huskies are still similar to last year's team.

Richardson said defensively they have to contain the outside.

"It will be a challenge to keep them inside and stop the outside run," Richardson said. "We can get it done."

Alexander said the Huskies' strength is their speed.

"They are quick and aggressive," Alexander said. "They are not much different than Estacado. We're prepared to handle it."

Woods said getting the running game going will be key.

"(Running backs) will get going in the second quarter," Woods said. "We don't always get going in the first but that's because I don't think we prepare ourselves enough. (Running backs) always get going."

Pacheco said the offense is still trying to develop more receivers.

"We're working hard," Pacheco said. "We're getting there. We've had a lot of injuries."

Inside the matchup

Last week: Pampa lost to Randall 63-21, Hirschi lost to Decatur 52-16

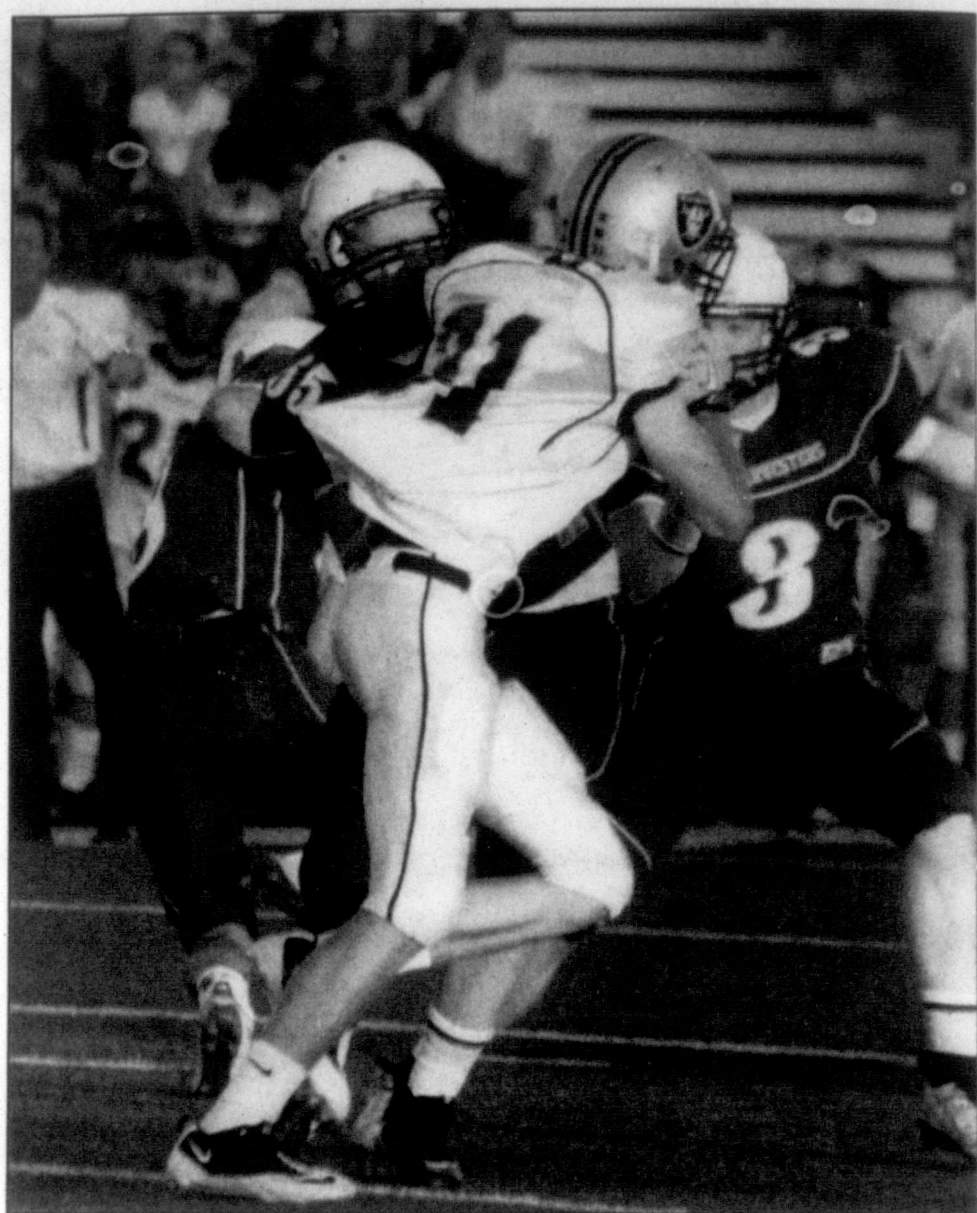
Series: Pampa leads series 1-0

Last Meeting: Pampa won 30-22, 2010.

Keep an eye on:

DE Sam Cain Sr.

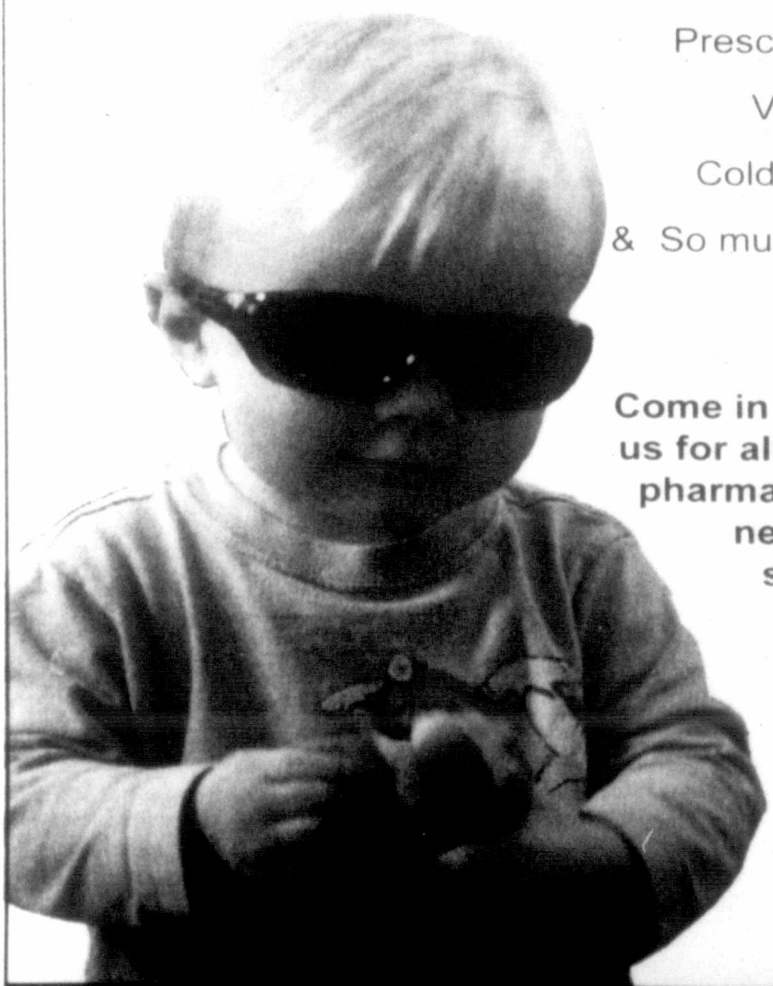
The Huskies have some speedy receivers and running backs. Look for Cain to help contain the outside.



Junior Kyler Allen blocks Randall's Shawn Kastning September 9. Allen and the offensive line will be dealing with a speedy defense Friday against Hirschi.

staff photo by Ryan Frazier

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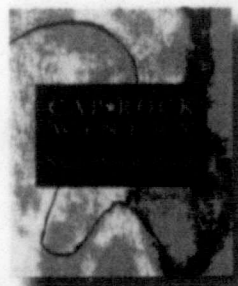
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