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TODAY IN SPORTS



Monday, Jan. 9, 2012 www.thepampanews.com Volume 107 • No. 228

75¢ More squabbling in GOP race | Hauling in the hardware
 \$1.50 weekend Republican hopefuls target Romney | p4 Several place for PHS Wrestling at Hereford duals | p8

GOOD OUT OF THE GATE

Big numbers for first stock show of 2012

ARNIE AURELLANO
 editor@thepampanews.com

With over 300 pigs and 100 lambs shown over the weekend, the Top O' Texas Livestock Show was a resounding success, proclaimed Top O' Texas Livestock Association spokesperson Charla Shults. "It was real good," Shults said of the county's first stock show of 2012. "We had so many (participants). That was more lambs, I think, than we've had in a very long time."



Emily Licklider of the Pampa FFA is congratulated by judge Jason Lakey for her Reserve Grand Champion cross barrow.
 photo courtesy of Charla Shults

STOCK cont. on page 2

FSA taking applications for loans

ARNIE AURELLANO
 editor@thepampanews.com

With Gray County being declared eligible for Farm Service Agency disaster emergency loans last Tuesday, applications are now being accepted at the FSA office in Perryton.

Gray County is one of 131 counties in Texas recently named by United States Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack as eligible for the loans, which cover damages, loss of production and physical losses resulting from the drought, heavy winds, heat and wildfires from Jan. 1, 2011 and onward.

Farmers may be eligible for loans of up to 100 percent of their actual losses or the operating loan needed to continue the agricultural business, whichever is less. For farmers unable to get credit from private commercial lenders, the interest rate is 3.75 percent.

According to a news release from program technician Cel Cloud of the Gray County FSA, as a general rule, farmers who have lost at least 30 percent of their production because of the above conditions qualify for the loans.

Proceeds from the Federal Crop Insurance program and/or any hazard insurance are taken into consideration when determining a producer's eligibility and total loss.

The FSA will accept applications for the emergency loans until Sept. 4, though FSA Farm Loan Manager James M. Heck is urging producers to submit their applications as soon as possible.

For further information, contact Heck at 806-435-6597, ext. 2, or visit the FSA office at 800 N. Main, Suite D, Perryton. Additional information regarding FSA Disaster Assistance programs can be found online at <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>.

SATURDAY BARROW SHOW RESULTS

Berk Class 1			Berk Class 2			Duroc Class 4					
Place	Name	Organization	Animal Wt.	Place	Name	Organization	Animal Wt.	Place	Name	Organization	Animal Wt.
1	Jennifer Crowl	Spearman FFA	142 pounds	1	Cash Manhart	Pampa FFA	207 pounds	1	Jimmy Guerry	Potter 4-H	168
2	Jontra Anderson	Perryton FFA	122	2	Oscar Jimenez	Gray 4-H	198	2	Devin McGarraugh	Perryton FFA	165
3	Arisa Nieto	Panhandle FFA	133	3	Sadie Arnold	Tascosa 4-H	215	3	Reece Shields	Spearman FFA	173
4	Hunter Warminski	White Deer FFA	173	4	McKenzie Hicks	Randall 4-H	218	4	Jaci Burgin	Hansford 4-H	167
5	Reece Parker	Pampa FFA	177	5	Makayla Reynolds	Randall 4-H	230	5	Arianna Anguiano	Pampa FFA	178
6	Janell Parks	Pampa FFA	180	6	Aireanna Hernandez	Potter 4-H	185		Jacey Baten	Gray 4-H	189
7	Joseph Slatten	Pampa FFA	169						Ray Paredes	Highland Park FFA	195
									Madison Mahaley	Randall 4-H	196
									Grace Kuehler	Panhandle FFA	198

STOCK SHOW RESULTS cont. on page 2 and page 5

Overpass damage closes part of State Hwy. 70

ARNIE AURELLANO
 editor@thepampanews.com

Traffic on State Hwy. 70 (Hobart Street) will be temporarily diverted while engineers examine and fix the damage to the rail overpass crossing the roadway, according to Paul Braun of the Texas Department of Transportation.

The overpass was struck by an over-height vehicle on Friday, prompting an initial closure of State Hwy. 70 that night. Over the weekend, BNSF Railway Company engineers discovered more extensive damage to the overpass structure and requested that TxDOT close both northbound and southbound lanes under the bridge. The road closure went into effect 7 p.m.

on Sunday. An alternate route on State Hwy. 152 and Farm-to-Market Road 282 has been marked and traffic will be directed to those thoroughfares.

BNSF engineers are scheduled to assess the bridge further this morning. The company projected that State Hwy. 70 under the overpass may stay closed for up to two weeks.

NWS: Strong La Nina made 2011 one of driest, hottest years

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
 Special to The Pampa News

Panhandle weather is often described as extreme and 2011 certainly fit the bill. A strong La Nina episode in the central Pacific Ocean significantly influenced the weather pattern across the Panhandle for most of the year. Due to this, 2011 will be remembered as the driest and one of the hottest years on record.

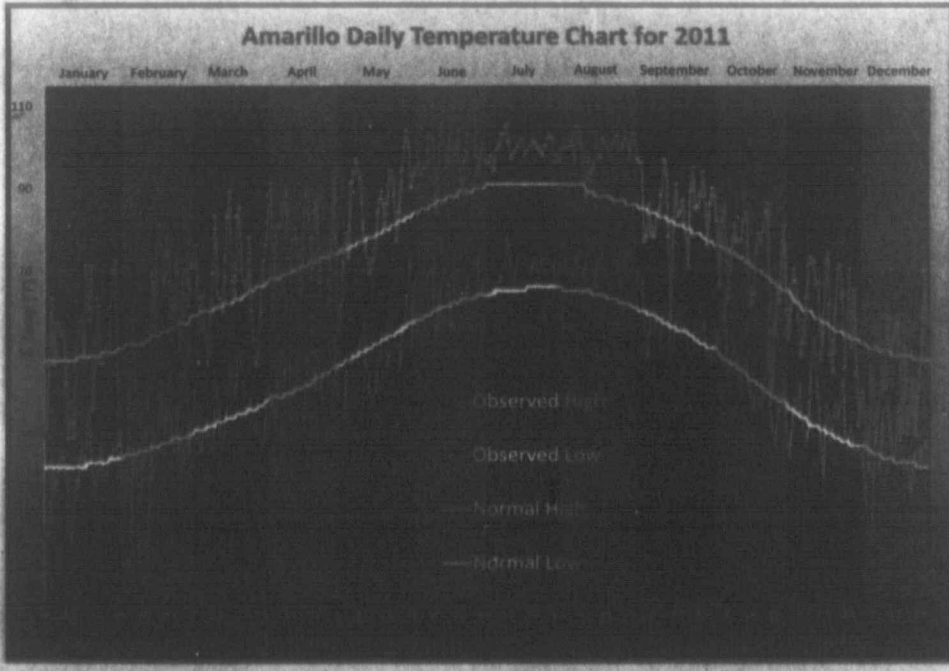
Amazingly, only one month in 2011 ended up with above normal precipitation -- December. Four of the first five months out of the year (January, March, April, and May) combined to experience only 0.25 inches of precipitation! Well below normal precipitation continued into the middle of August before the weather pattern became more favorable for precipitation. The final three months of the

year combined to produce almost half of the annual precipitation at Amarillo. For the year, Amarillo only received 7 inches of precipitation, easily placing it at as the driest year on record.

Amarillo typically averages about 18 inches of snow per year, and we measured just over 19 inches of snow, despite the historic drought. This was mainly due to three storm systems that combined to bring almost 14 inches of snow -- one in early February, the second in late October, and the last on Christmas Day.

The heat was also another major story, particularly between June and August when numerous daily temperature records were tied and/or broken. Some notable temperature records that were broken at Amarillo this year include the all-time record high (111° F, set on June 26), the

WEATHER cont. on page 3



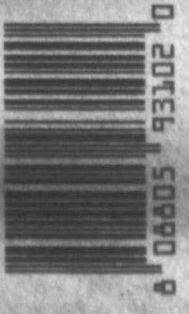
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IN THIS ISSUE:

Obituaries	2	Viewpoints	4
Local Record	2	Puzzles/Dear Abby	5
Weather	2	Comics	6
Morning Rush	3	Classifieds	7
Social Security & You	3	Sports	8



MORNINGRUSH

January best month to file for benefits

Houston skyscraper demolished

HOUSTON (AP) — It didn't take long — mere seconds, in fact — to create a new hole in the skyline of Houston's medical district.

Demolition crews used high explosives to implode the 20-story former Prudential Building that had been a landmark of the district landscape southwest of downtown Houston since 1952.

The crews had planned initially to touch off the explosives shortly before 8 a.m. Sunday, but dense fog delayed the series of blasts until 11:15 a.m.

The Prudential Insurance Co. of America built the 500,000-square-foot skyscraper to serve as its southwest regional headquarters. The M.D. Anderson Cancer Center bought the building in 1974 and made it the center's main building in 1980 before vacating and closing the building in April 2010.

Charges made on meth ring

DALLAS (AP) — A federal grand jury has returned two indictments charging 16 Dallas area residents with running a methamphetamine distribution conspiracy linked to the La Familia drug cartel.

The U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Texas and the federal Drug Enforcement Administration announced that 14 of the 16 were arrested Dec. 14 during a take-down by law-enforcement officers in Tyler, Texas, and in the Dallas metro area. Agents executed 11 search warrants at that time, seizing about \$700,000 in cash, 70 firearms, 20 pounds of methamphetamine, a kilogram of cocaine and a methamphetamine conversion lab.

Federal officials say the La Familia cartel is based in Mexico but has distribution cells throughout North Texas.

Judge issues media gag order

FORT WORTH (AP) — A visiting judge has issued a wide-ranging gag order prohibiting the media covering a capital murder trial from reporting anything that happens in open court while the jury is outside the room.

Attorney Tom Williams, who represents the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, raised concerns about the order with Judge Elizabeth Berry after the trial recessed Friday.

Berry agreed to consider some changes to the order but not to the prohibition on discussions held outside the jury's presence.

A hearing has been set for Monday. Meanwhile, the newspaper says it has pulled several tweets and blog postings reported since the trial began Tuesday.

Kwame Rockwell of Fort Worth and three others are charged in the shooting deaths of two people in a convenience store robbery. Rockwell is accused of being the triggerman.

Cash not reaching trauma rooms

DALLAS (AP) — At least \$46 million in revenue from red-light camera tickets, intended to help fund trauma centers across Texas, instead sits in Austin as lawmakers use it to back certification of a balanced state budget.

The Texas Constitution requires a balanced budget of the biennial Legislature, and Texas lawmakers withheld a record \$4.1 billion generated by earmarked taxes and fees in their 2010 session.

The Dallas Morning News reports that has interrupted the steady stream of state funding for trauma systems that the American College of Surgeons said in a 2010 analysis is necessary to meet growing needs.

That's not the end of the worries John McWhorter foresees. The president of Baylor University Medical Center at Dallas says there is the fear that proceeds won't ever reach the trauma rooms.

Opposition to casino continues

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — Oklahoma's two U.S. senators and a U.S. representative have joined the opposition to a casino an American Indian tribe is building in Broken Arrow.

U.S. Rep. John Sullivan told the Tulsa World that he and Sen. Tom Coburn have sent letters to National Indian Gaming Commission Chairwoman Tracie Stevens and Assistant U.S. Interior Secretary Larry Echo Hawk inquiring about the status of the Kialegee Tribal Town's efforts to have land approved for a casino.

Construction has begun at the site, even though there has been no formal approval of a casino there.

Records show that the property is owned by sisters Marcella Giles and Wynema Capps, who tried to transfer it to the Kialegee Tribal Town through a lease, but a Tulsa County district court judge withheld approval of that request, saying they could present the proposal to the U.S. Secretary of the Interior.

Tiger Hobia, the Town King of the Kialegee Tribal Town, has declined interview requests, but said in a Dec. 24 statement that the tribe has no other economic development opportunities.

Man sentenced in shooting

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP) — A man who fatally shot a man and wounded a woman at a Santa Fe party in April has been sentenced to 15 years in prison.

Apolinar "Antonio" Islas-Hernandez expressed remorse, telling a judge he was on drugs and not in complete control when he shot Salvadorian immigrant Freddy Rueda after a quarrel. Both men were 29 at the time.

Accounts differ as to the cause of the dispute. Police originally said the men fought over music that was playing. But the Santa Fe New Mexican reports (<http://bit.ly/xzgpMF>) that prosecutor Orlando Torres said Friday he heard the fight was over a slight to the girlfriend of the suspect's brother.

TOM MARGENAU
Creator's Syndicate

I write a column similar to this one every January. But I don't mind plagiarizing myself because it contains a very important message for people planning to retire in 2012.

January is a critical month for the hundreds of thousands of potential Social Security beneficiaries who are reaching their so-called full retirement age in 2012. The important message: All of them should at least consider the possibility of filing for their benefits this month, even though they may not be reaching their retirement age until later in the year.

The reason for this early-filing timeframe has to do with some quirky and complicated features of Social Security's earnings penalty provisions. Those provisions generally keep seniors who are still working off of Social Security's rolls until they reach that magic "full retirement age." For most people reading this column, your full retirement age is probably 66. (Check out SocialSecurity.gov for a chart listing the various full retirement ages.)

The law essentially says that if you're over 62 but under your full retirement age and are still working full-time, you are not eligible for Social Security. Specifically, the rules require that the SSA deduct \$1 from any retirement benefits you might be due for every \$2 you earn over \$14,640 in 2012.

However, the rules say that once you reach your full retirement age, you are due full Social Security benefits, even if you're still working and no matter how much money you're making.

Let's follow an example. Let's say Ed was born in July 1946, which means he'll reach his full retirement age of 66 in July 2012. And let's further say Ed generally makes about \$60,000 per year and he plans to continue working indefinitely. Based on the earnings penalty rules I briefly outlined above, Ed figures he must wait until July (his full retirement age) to begin collecting his

Social Security and you

Social Security benefits. As I said, at that magical point, the earnings penalty rules no longer apply, and he can get his Social Security. And prior to that, he's making way more than the \$14,640 income threshold.

But here's why Ed should check into applying for Social Security in January: Congress set up a more lenient earnings threshold for the year you reach your full retirement age. Specifically, it says you can earn up to \$38,880 between January and the month you reach your full retirement age and still get Social Security benefits. And even if you earn more than \$38,880, you lose only \$1 from your benefits for every \$3 you exceed that threshold.

Ed is going to make \$30,000 between January and June (i.e., before he reaches the magic age of 66). And that's under the \$38,880 threshold for 2012, which means Ed is due

benefits beginning in January. He does not have to wait until July to apply for his Social Security checks.

There is a bit of a catch. By starting his benefits in January, Ed will be accepting a slightly reduced amount. (Benefits are reduced roughly one-half of one percent for each month they're taken before full retirement age.)

If Ed's Social Security benefit at full retirement age is \$2,000 per month, let's look at his options.

Ed's first option is to wait until July (his full retirement age) to start his Social Security benefits. He'll get \$2,000 per month for six months or \$12,000 for the year 2012.

Ed's second option is to file for Social Security in January. Starting his benefits slightly early, his monthly rate is reduced to \$1,940. That comes out to \$23,280 in total benefits for the year 2012. The downside to Option 2 is that his ongoing monthly benefit rate will be \$1,940 -- \$60 less than what he would have been getting in Option 1. But because he'd be

getting about \$11,000 less in total 2012 benefits in Option 1, it would take Ed a long time to make up that loss with his extra \$60 per month in ongoing benefits. If I were Ed, I'd choose Option 2.

Even if Ed were to make more than the \$38,880 income threshold between January and June, he only loses one dollar in Social Security benefits for each three dollars he exceeds that amount. So he probably still comes out ahead by filing in January.

I know these rules are complicated, and the math in the examples above might be difficult to follow. But my overall message is easy to follow: If you're reaching age 66 in 2012, talk to a Social Security representative sometime this month to find out if it's to your advantage to file for those benefits in January.

If you have a Social Security question, Tom Margenau has the answer. Contact him at thomas.margenau@comcast.net.

Financial Aid Facts

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Sun 2:00 4:30 7:00
Mon/Thu 7:00
- Shutlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG-13)**
Fri 7:30 10:00
Sat 2:00 4:30 7:30 10:00
Sun 2:00 4:30 7:30
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- We Bought A Zoo (PG)**
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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Monday, Jan. 9, the ninth day of 2012. There are 357 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 9, 1972, reclusive billionaire Howard Hughes, speaking by telephone from the Bahamas to reporters in Hollywood, said a purported autobiography of him by Clifford Irving was a fake.

On this date:

In 1788, Connecticut became the fifth state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1793, Frenchman Jean Pierre Blanchard, using a hot-air balloon, flew between Philadelphia and Woodbury, N.J.

In 1861, Mississippi became the second state to secede from the Union, the same day the Star of the West, a merchant vessel bringing reinforcements and supplies to Federal troops at Fort Sumter, S.C., retreated because of artillery fire.

In 1945, during World War II, American forces began landing at Lingayen Gulf in the Philippines.

In 1951, United Nations headquarters in New York was officially opened.

In 1960, on his 47th birthday, Vice President Richard Nixon became a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination.

In 1968, the Surveyor 7 space probe made a soft landing on the moon, marking the end of the American series of unmanned explorations of the lunar surface.

In 1987, the White House released a Jan. 1986 memorandum prepared for President Ronald Reagan by Lt. Col. Oliver L. North showing a link between U.S. arms sales to Iran and the release of American hostages in Lebanon.

In 1995, in New York, the trial of Sheik Omar Abdel-Rahman and 11 other defendants accused of conspiring to wage holy war against the United States began.

Ten years ago: A U.S. military tanker plane crashed in western Pakistan, killing all seven Marines on board. Two Islamic militants stormed an Israeli army post near the Gaza Strip, killing four soldiers before being shot dead in a gun battle.

Five years ago: Apple Computer CEO Steve Jobs unveiled the iPhone, which went on sale the following June.

One year ago: Federal prosecutors brought charges against Jared Loughner, the man accused of attempting to assassinate Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, D-Ariz., and killing six people at a political event in Tucson the day before.

Today's Birthdays: Author Judith Krantz is 84. Football Hall-of-Famer Bart Starr is 78. Sportscaster Dick Enberg is 77. Actress K. Callan is 76. Folk singer Joan Baez is 71. Rockabilly singer Roy Head is 71. Rock musician Jimmy Page (Led Zeppelin) is 68. Singer David Johansen (aka Buster Poindexter) is 62. Singer Crystal Gayle is 61. Actor J.K. Simmons is 57. Nobel Peace laureate Rigoberto Menchu is 53. Rock musician Eric Erlandson is 49. Actress Joely Richardson is 47. Rock musician Carl Bell (Fuel) is 45. Rock singer Steve Harwell (Smash Mouth) is 45. Rock singer-musician Dave Matthews is 45. Actress-director Joey Lauren Adams is 44. Singer A.J. McLean (Backstreet Boys) is 34. Kate Middleton, the Duchess of Cambridge, is 30. Pop-rock musician Drew Brown (OneRepublic) is 28. Rock-soul singer Paolo Nutini is 25. Actor Tyree Brown ("Parenthood") is eight.

Thought for Today: "Love me when I least deserve it, because that's when I really need it." — Swedish proverb.



Rivals target Romney before primary

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — Mitt Romney's Republican presidential rivals piled on the criticism Sunday, two days before New Hampshire's primary, with a combative Newt Gingrich leading the aggression by accusing the GOP front-runner of "pious baloney" and charging him with hiding behind inaccurate attack ads aired by allies.

In the increasingly acerbic nomination fight, Romney fired back at Gingrich during a morning debate: "This ain't beanbag ... we're going to describe the differences between us." By evening, he also had taken shots from Rick Santorum, Jon Huntsman and Rick Perry.

With time running short to curtail Romney here and perhaps elsewhere, his opponents started the day assailing him on the debate stage and ended it by doing the same in appearances across New Hampshire and South Carolina as they worked to appeal to the chunk of Republican voters unenthused with the idea of the former Massachusetts governor as the party's nominee.

Santorum made a beeline to the conservative upstate of South Carolina to trumpet the endorsement of former Republican presidential candidate Gary Bauer.

"I've still got a little blood on my sleeve from Mitt Romney from that debate," the former Pennsylvania senator told 400 people crammed into Chief's sports bar in Greenville, S.C. "We're not going to shy away where there are differences." He also alluded to Romney's position switches on a series of issues, saying: "We've got a lot of candidates that just adapt to whatever the environment is ... I don't, because the truth doesn't change."

Looking to revive his flagging candidacy, Perry also swooped into the Southern state.

The Texas governor told roughly 300 people at a packed burger joint in Spartanburg, S.C., that his campaign, after a disappointing finish in the Iowa caucuses, was like the last stand at the Alamo. He also assailed Romney, casting him as an insider and arguing: "We've got to have somebody that is an outsider that is not interested in tinkering around the edges — but that will go into Washington, D.C., and overhaul that place."

Back in New Hampshire, Gingrich assailed Romney as a "Massachusetts moderate" and promoted a video being released by his allies that attacks Romney's business career. The Gingrich-leaning Winning Our Future PAC said Sunday that a 28-minute online video — which assails Romney for "reaping massive awards" while head of Bain Capital — may show up on TV in the coming weeks.

"To quote the governor, you have to have broad shoulders and you have to be able to take

the heat to be in the kitchen," Gingrich said after an afternoon town-hall style appearance at Manchester restaurant.

Romney, the former Massachusetts governor, won the Iowa caucuses last Tuesday by a scant eight votes over Santorum but is so far ahead in New Hampshire polls that his rivals have virtually conceded he will win.

South Carolina comes next, on Jan. 21, the first Southern state to hold a primary. While it is the contest where Gingrich, Santorum and the rest of Romney's rivals face an urgent need to slow his candidacy, Romney pointedly noted that he has been endorsed by that state's governor, Nikki Haley.

Santorum finished second in Iowa, followed by Texas Rep. Ron Paul, with Gingrich fourth, Texas Gov. Rick Perry fifth and Minnesota Rep. Michele Bachmann in last place. She has since quit the race.

Huntsman, the former Utah governor, skipped Iowa in hopes of a breakout showing in New Hampshire.

He was mobbed at a coffee shop in Hampstead, where he stood on the counter to defend his past service in the Obama administration and assail Romney, saying: "I put my country first. Apparently Mitt Romney doesn't believe in putting country first. He's got this bumper sticker that says ... Believe in America. How can you believe in America when you're not willing to serve America? That's just phony nonsense."

Sunday began with GOP contenders facing off for the second time in less than 12 hours, following their debate Saturday night in nearby Manchester.

Though aggressive in assailing Romney, Gingrich hedged when he was confronted with one of his own campaign leaflets declaring Romney to be unelectable against President Barack Obama. "I think he'll have a very hard time getting elected," was as far as Gingrich would go.

Indicating he'd taken offense on another matter, Huntsman, who was Obama's ambassador to China before quitting to run for the White House, returned to a comment Romney had made the night before. Romney said then that the rest of the GOP hopefuls had been trying to oppose the administration's policies while Huntsman was advancing them.

"And I just want to remind the people here in New Hampshire and throughout the United States, he criticized me while he was out raising money for serving my country in China, yes, under a Democrat, like my two sons are doing in the United States Navy," Huntsman said Sunday. "They're not asking what political affiliation the president is."

As was the case Saturday night, Romney sought to shrug off the attacks from his rivals on the

debate stage and worked to turn the focus onto Obama.

But Gingrich was more aggressive Sunday morning than he had been Saturday night, his attacks serving as bookends to the 90-minute event.

The former speaker briefly led in the Iowa and national polls before the caucuses, before his surge was blunted by a series of ads aired by a so-called super PAC that is operated by former Romney aides and allies.

Gingrich has complained bitterly that the attacks were false, but he was asked Sunday about a similar organization set up by his own supporters. It is intent on criticizing Romney for having run an investment firm that cost workers their jobs when it took over their companies.

Asked if he was being consistent, Gingrich said, "I'm consistent because I think you ought to have fact-based campaigns." He demanded Romney say whether the attacks against him were true.

Romney replied: "I haven't seen them, and as you know, under the law, I can't direct the ads. If there's anything in the ads that are wrong, I hope they take it out."

Yet moments after saying he hadn't seen the commercials, he recited the charges they made.

Gingrich had been forced to resign as speaker, that he had once talked of finding common ground with House Democrats on climate change and that he had called a House Republican proposal to overhaul Medicare "right-wing social engineering."

Gingrich said he was glad Romney "has said weeks later if they're wrong they should take them down."

Santorum pointedly asked Romney during the debate why he hadn't sought re-election after one term as governor in the neighboring state.

"Why did you bail out?" Santorum asked.

Romney fired back with a reference to Santorum's lucrative career in the six years since he lost his Senate seat. Describing politicians who lose office but stay in Washington "and make money as lobbyists or conducting their businesses," Romney said, "I think it stinks."

Moments later, Gingrich appeared irked and accused Romney of using more than his allotted time to respond: "I realize the red light doesn't mean anything to you because you're the front-runner."

Gingrich also dismissed Romney's claims to being a political outsider: "Could we drop a little bit of the pious baloney? The fact is you ran in '94 and lost (to Massachusetts Sen. Edward Kennedy). ... You were running for president while you were governor. ... You've been running consistently for years."

The PAMPA NEWS

403 W. Atchison • Pampa, TX 79065
806-669-2525 • Fax: 806-669-2520

Randall Pribble

Publisher

rpribble@thepampanews.com

ReDonn Woods

Advertising Manager

woods@thepampanews.com

Arnie Aurellano

Managing Editor

editor@thepampanews.com

Bernie Frazier

Advertising Representative

bfrazier@thepampanews.com

Mollie Bryant

Reporter

mbryant@thepampanews.com

Beverly Taylor

Classified Advertising

classified@thepampanews.com

Andrew Glover

Reporter

aglover@thepampanews.com

Marijane Kent

Composing

composing@thepampanews.com

Holley Binson

Composing

composing2@thepampanews.com

Carrie Hair

Accounting

bookkeeper@thepampanews.com

Marcus Elkins

Press Supervisor

press@thepampanews.com

Sue Pribble

Subscription Manager

spribble@thepampanews.com

Chico Ramirez

Circulation Manager

circulation2@thepampanews.com

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Results

Cross Class 25 results table with columns for Place, Name, Organization, and Animal Wt.

Cross Class 26 results table with columns for Place, Name, Organization, and Animal Wt.

Cross Class 27 results table with columns for Place, Name, Organization, and Animal Wt.

Cross Class 28 results table with columns for Place, Name, Organization, and Animal Wt.

Cross Class 29 results table with columns for Place, Name, Organization, and Animal Wt.

Cross Class 30 results table with columns for Place, Name, Organization, and Animal Wt.

Cross Class 31 results table with columns for Place, Name, Organization, and Animal Wt.

Cross Class 32 results table with columns for Place, Name, Organization, and Animal Wt.

Cross Class 33 results table with columns for Place, Name, Organization, and Animal Wt.

Grand Champion Pig: Breckyn LeCompte, Perryton FFA
Grand Reserve Champion Pig: Emily Licklider, Pampa FFA
Junior Showmanship
Senior Showmanship

[Editor's Note: Results from Sunday's lamb, steer and goat shows will appear in the Tuesday edition of The Pampa News.]

BANAGRAMS!

Banagrams puzzle instructions and grids with letters to be rearranged into words.

Sudoku puzzle grid and answer key for the previous day's puzzle.

Weather

cont. from page 1

most number of 100-degree days (50 days), the most consecutive days of 90-degree temperatures (50 days), and the hottest average monthly temperature on record (July at 85.2° F).

including the 120-mph wind gust that occurred with a thunderstorm in Beaver County, OK on August 9.

2011 Year-End Weather Summary for Amarillo

High for the year: 111° F, June 26 (all-time record)
Low for the year: -6° F, February 9 and February 10
Average High Temperature: 74.5° F (3.5° F above normal)



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My fiance, "Kip," and I are being married next year and I do have only one disappointment. It's about my keeping my last name. I don't want to take Kip's last name.

themselves in a career in which they are known by their maiden name. Others fear that if they change their names they'll lose their identity.

No one can or should decide this for you. However, if Kip did know his dad and the man was a fine, upstanding citizen, would you feel differently? Remember, you are marrying Kip, not his father, and I assume your fiance is a wonderful person.

to ask how we are, how we are doing in school or just to talk.

My mom is a grandma to my oldest sister's children and when she doesn't see or hear from them within a week, she'll call or visit them. (By the way, my grandmother is retired, very healthy and travels.

DEAR HURT FEELINGS: I agree that you didn't get the standard-issue dotting, cookie-baking grandmother. Not knowing her, I can't explain the reason for her distant behavior, but I'm positive it has nothing to do with you personally.

I have had the same name for 33 years and I do not believe a woman "has" to take her husband's name when they marry.

DEAR STANDING: While most women still change their names to their husband's (or hyphenate them), those who don't usually have established

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 44Hardens 1 Singer-songwriter 45Irish people Colvin

DOWN 1 Big hit 2 Dutch capital, with "The" 3 Sports spot 4 Take the prize 5 Contrary to good manners 6 Church areas 7 Fellow beach 8 Seclusion 9 Tranquilizes

Crossword grid with starting letters and clues for across and down words.

Saturday's answer

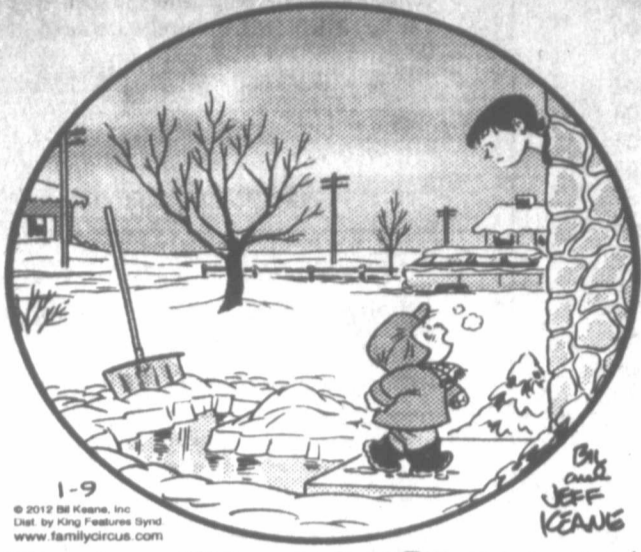
12Hinders 17Sky sighting 20Parceled (out) 21Lama's land 24Onto the beach 25Crust holders 26Foolish talk 27Poisonous element 29CIO's partner 31Caravan stop 32Painter's stand 33Skilled 34Ship poles 39Have lunch 41Low number

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

Large crossword grid with numbers 1 through 45.

comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



1-9
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Dist. by King Features Synd.
www.familycircus.com
By and with JEFF KEANE

"I'm done till tomorrow. Do you wanna pay me when the whole path is shoveled or at the end of each day?"

Non Sequitur



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Nest Heads



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2012:

You could feel touched by the many gestures of good will this year. A key relationship will deepen, encouraging greater trust and caring. You also could be involved with this person financially. If you are single, you will meet someone quite significant. Greet a sudden change with optimism -- in the long run, you will see many benefits. You could opt for changes around your home and family. Some of you will add to your household, remodel your home or change residences. The new factor will reflect where you are in life. LEO understands you nearly too well.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You have answers when others don't. Your natural ingenuity emerges no matter what you are doing. Allow more play and fun into your life. An idea might strike you as off-the-wall, even if it is your idea when you look at it. Tonight: Go with your heart.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Honor your priorities, and you will find that you won't be thrown by a sudden insight. Make family and your personal life your highest priority. Check out an investment carefully. Understand what is happening beyond the obvious, then decide. Tonight: At your pad.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You have pushed far and beyond the obvious. You might not be sure what to do next. Use self-discipline and timing. It is through setting an example that you can instrument change. Tonight: Favorite place, favorite people.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Understand your liabilities if you follow the suggested course. What might be excellent for the majority might not be workable for you. Be more open to the unusual path. Listen to a respected boss or friend. This person understands you well. Tonight: Just don't go overboard.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You seem destined toward excess. Surprising news comes forward, allowing for unthought-of possibilities. A boss or authority figure could be demanding, but he or she also means well. Take this person's behavior in the spirit in which it is meant. Tonight: Let the good times roll.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★ You might be inclined to play down a situation, making less of it than need be. Once relaxed, you can move forward and make a big difference. Listen to what is being shared. In your head, you might wonder why certain information was given. Tonight: Play it low-key.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ A meeting easily points to a new direction. You might want to reverse a present situation. A sense of well-being and confidence occurs naturally when dealing with people, making you more inclined to take a risk. Think before you leap. Tonight: Zero in on what is important.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You could feel betrayed in some sense or pushed to the max. You might want to get more of an impression as to where someone else is coming from. An unanticipated development could color your day. Stay true to yourself. Tonight: Follow the crowd.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Keep reaching out for more information. You will get just that, but you might need to detach a little, too. Your perspective could change radically given a few hours. Take as much time as is wise. Don't jump the gun. Tonight: Get tickets to a play or a concert.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ A direct interaction confirms many of your thoughts. Both you and the other party will flourish. A situation kindles greater insight. Don't overreact to this newness. Keeping a perspective could be equally as significant. Tonight: Ask for what you want.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Sometimes others are challenging and difficult. Today is no exception. Don't take another person's comments personally, even though you are sure they are directed at you. Unexpected words, conversations and interactions in general are scheduled for today. Tonight: Sort through what you want first.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Get as much accomplished as you can. Sooner rather than later, you will find a reason to let your mind wander. Live life to the fullest, and you will only gain. Grow with the moment and be willing to adjust. You are about to have a lot land on your plate. Tonight: Honor your energy levels.

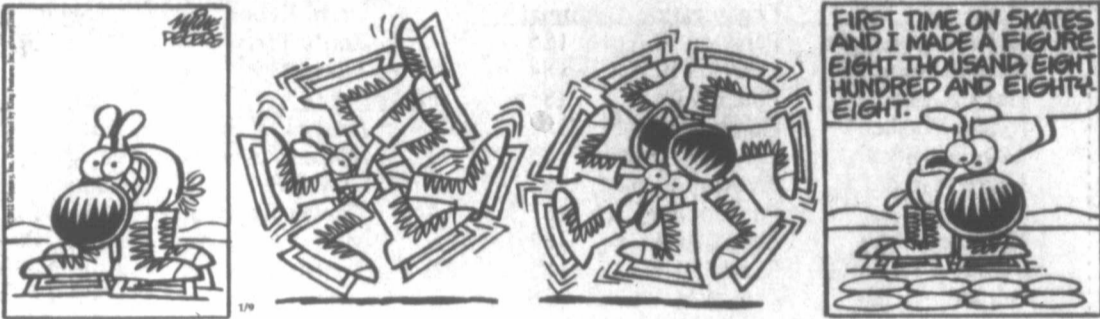
Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



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Chau
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Sports

PHS wrestling brings home hardware from Hereford



photo courtesy of Jerry Chennault

Junior Quaid Chennault receives his second-place medal Saturday in Hereford. Chennault competed in the 182-pound weight class.

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

With district and regionals around the corner, the Pampa Harvesters got a look at their regional competitors in the Hereford Duals Friday and Saturday in Hereford.

"Most of our kids got to wrestle 7 to 9 times," head coach Michael Stovall said. "It was a great tune-up for our last three district duals and district tournament."

Junior Quaid Chennault finished second in the 182-pound weight class. Junior Carlos Regalado finished third in the 220-pound weight class. Seniors

Robert Radke and Trent McNear and sophomore Jon Cryer finished fifth in their weight classes. Senior Dylan Hooker finished sixth in the 195-pound weight class.

Stovall said his team is getting close to being full strength.

"We almost have the team that I was excited about in the first two weeks of the season," Stovall said. "Wrestling is a grinding sport and a roller coaster. Sometimes things happen and you just have to go with the flow."

The Harvesters dual against Borger and Bushland in Borger 5 p.m. Tuesday.

PHS volleyball seniors play in Golden Spread All-Star game

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

Pampa high school seniors Ramie Hutto, Stephanie Allen, Caitlin Sieck, Kailyn Troxell and Alanna Stephens spent the last two years playing together as Lady Harvesters.

Saturday at the First United Bank Center in Canyon, they opposed each other in the Golden Spread All-Star Tournament.

Troxell and Stephens played together on the East. Sieck played on the West. Allen played on the South. Hutto played on the North.

Troxell and Stephens' team finished fourth. Stephens said it was nice

getting to play a couple more games with Troxell.

"I wasn't adjusting on my own," Stephens said. "It was nice having someone that I know how they play."

The East lost to the North in four (19-25, 25-22, 24-26, 23-25) and were swept by the South (23-25, 19-25, 19-25).

The West beat the

North in four (25-23, 27-29, 25-19, 25-23) to win the tournament.

Troxell said it was different playing against Hutto and Allen.

"It was fun," Troxell said. "It was like practice again."

Hutto said her former teammates still supported each other.

"We clapped for each other when we got kills, no matter what side of the net we were on," Hutto said.

Hutto said making the finals was fun.

"It was a great experience," Hutto said. "I'm glad I got to be involved in it."

All five seniors had teams with the best players from the Panhandle area. Stephens said it was fun playing with the top

players.

"You can tell that those players stepped up and earned their spot," Stephens said.

Stephens said she enjoyed getting to play in a different system.

"It was fun getting to play a different style with different people," Stephens said.

Troxell said she was glad to have those play-

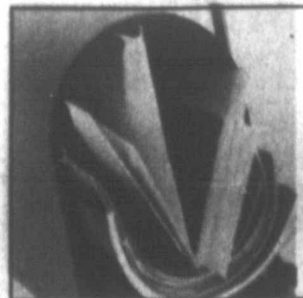
ers as teammates. "We played against a lot of them," Troxell said. "It was fun getting to play with them."



Stephens



Troxell

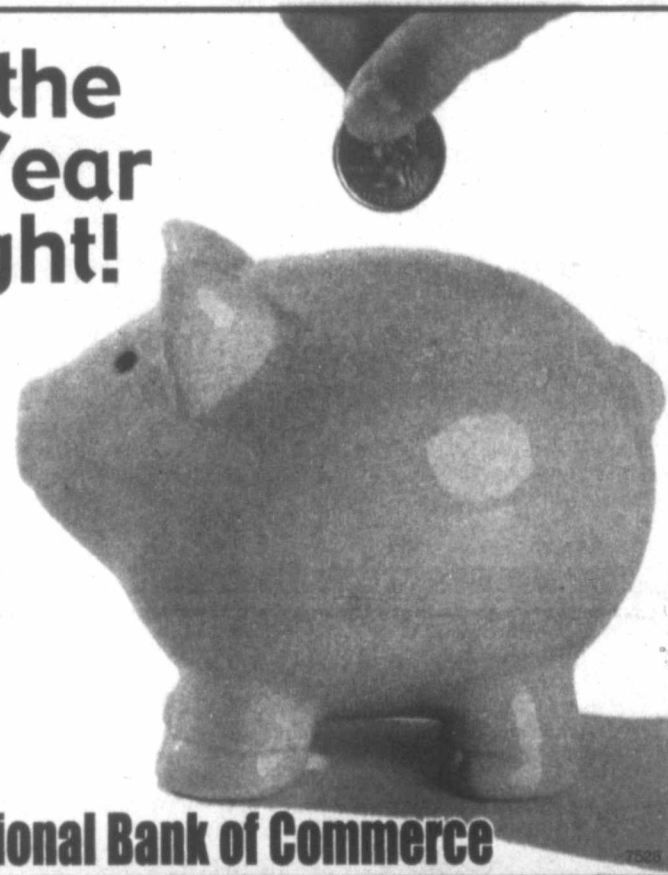


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