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TODAY IN SPORTS



Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2012 www.thepampanews.com Volume 107 • No. 252

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AG reaches redistricting deal, but...
 Minority groups cry foul, vow to fight | **p6**

A big finish?
 Lady Harvesters hope to down Dalhart in finale | **p10**

No permanent damage to PHS basketball team bus

■ *Perryton paintball incident similar to pellet gun shooting in Borger last year*

ANDREW GLOVER
 aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa High School boys basketball team bus suffered no permanent damage and there were no injuries after it was pelted by paintballs on the highway leaving Perryton on Friday.

"(The paint) all came off and there is no permanent damage," Pampa ISD athletic

director Stuart Smith said. The incident was the second notable episode involving the bus in the last two years. The bus was also shot with a pellet gun on the way back from an away game at Borger last February.

Senior Reid Miller, who was on the bus during the incident, said it was pretty crazy.

"It was kind of hard to believe what

had just happened," Miller said. "It was pretty scary."

Senior Latigo Collins said it happened quickly.

"I was at the front with Coach (Dustin) Miller trying to figure out what happened," Collins said. "Then next thing we knew, we were getting shot. 'I don't think anyone hit the floor. It was definitely loud and I was definitely ducking.'"

Dustin said the team went straight



Miller

"(It sounded like a rock hit the windshield. Then, it was multiple rounds hitting the windows and pretty much everyone ducked and got down.

— **Dustin Miller**
 Pampa High School head basketball coach on the incident involving the team bus leaving Perryton

home to avoid any situations in Perryton. **BUS** cont. on page 8

CAN-DO ATTITUDE



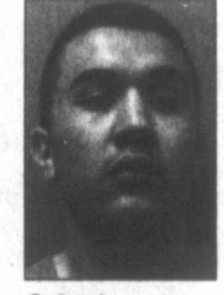
staff photo by **Arnie Aurellano**

Jim Anderson, youth pastor at First Presbyterian Church, takes inventory of the church's Sunday collection for the Souper Bowl of Caring. First Presbyterian collected 336 items and \$233. First Christian Church also participated in the Souper Bowl; the First Christian drive will continue next Sunday.

Two nabbed in connection to burglaries

MOLLIE BRYANT
 mbryant@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Police Department has arrested two individuals in connection to a series of burglaries that occurred in town between November of last year and January.



Cabrales



Benitez

Jose Manuel Cabrales, 17, and Jose Facando Benitez, 19, both of Pampa, were arrested and charged with burglary of a habitat.

Benitez was arrested on Jan. 25 and released on a \$20,000 bond. Cabrales was arrested one day later and released on a \$20,000 bond.

After a surge in burglaries last month, the department has increased residential patrols in Pampa, according to Crime Prevention Officer Stormy McCullar. She continues to urge people to report suspicious activity to the Police Department.

Investigations of these crimes are ongoing at this time.

Austin Elementary hosts Scholastic Book Fair this week

■ *Public invited to help kids get pumped for reading*

ARNIE AURELLANO
 editor@thepampanews.com

Austin Elementary is hosting its annual Scholastic Book Fair this week, and the public is invited to help promote reading.

Janelle Guymon, book fair chairperson, said that it's important to get kids to enjoy reading early, and the yearly fair presents a good opportunity.

"We just do it every year trying to get books to kids and teachers," said Guymon. "We have a whole bunch of books from preschool to a few adult best sellers and cookbooks. We have a bunch of variety. The kids get a chance to come in and see the books in their classroom and hopefully get excited about reading."

The event is a fundraiser for the Austin Elementary booster club, although Guymon said that the real aim of the event is to encourage enthusiasm about literacy.

"The main focus is just to get books out," Guymon said. "We just think encouraging reading is important, and (the fair) is a fun way to do that. The kids love it. It's enjoyable for them to come and browse the books and, hopefully, take home a few."

Fair hours are today and Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to

3:30 p.m., Wednesday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday from 7:30 to noon.

The fair will also include a handful of special events, including Family Night from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. tonight.

"We just invite the whole family to come," Guymon said. "We have refreshments and a couple of games that they can play together to try and win gift certificates."

Austin will also host Munchies with Mom from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. tomorrow and Donuts with Dad from 6:30 to 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, and grandparents are invited to visit their grandchildren during the kids' lunch hours on Wednesday.

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PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Wednesday	Thursday
		
High 35 Low 19	High 38 Low 26	High 50 Low 28

Today: A slight chance of rain and snow before noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 35. Wind chill values between 12 and 22. North-northwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 19. Wind chill values between 12 and 17. North-east wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 38. Northeast wind around 5 mph becoming south southeast.

Wednesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 26. South-southwest wind around 5 mph.

Thursday: Partly sunny, with a high near 50. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming east.

Thursday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 28. Northeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

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Randall Pribble

Publisher

rpribble@thepampanews.com

ReDonn Woods

Advertising Manager
rwoods@thepampanews.com

Bernie Frazier

Advertising Representative
bfrazier@thepampanews.com

Beverly Taylor

Classified Advertising
classified@thepampanews.com

Marijane Kent

Composing
composing@thepampanews.com

Carrie Hair

Accounting
bookkeeper@thepampanews.com

Sue Pribble

Subscription Manager
spribble@thepampanews.com

Arnie Aurellano

Editor
editor@thepampanews.com

Mollie Bryant

Reporter
mbryant@thepampanews.com

Andrew Glover

Reporter
aglover@thepampanews.com

Holley Bimson

Composing
composing2@thepampanews.com

Marcus Elkins

Press Supervisor
press@thepampanews.com

Chico Ramirez

Circulation Manager
circulation2@thepampanews.com

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Obituaries

Donna Lott, 75

Lefors—Donna Lott, 75, died in Lefors.

Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, February 8, 2012, at Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel in Pampa with Paul Nachtigall, chaplain of Interim Hospice, officiating. Cremation and arrangements are by Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Donna was born on October 7, 1936, in Hutchinson, Kan. She attended and graduated from Buhler High School in Buhler, Kan. She married Floyd Lott in Clayton, N.M., on December 29, 1954. She worked for the Grandview Hopkins I.S.D. as a bus driver for over seven years. She was highly active in the Gray County 4-H organization for many years. She volunteered for both the Channing and Lefors volunteer fire departments. She always had a positive attitude and outlook on life. Whenever she was asked how she felt, no matter how ill, she would always reply, "I'm fine." Through her life she cared and helped many children, and she was affectionately known as Momma Lott. Momma Lott will be remembered as a loving wife, mother, and most of all a grandmother.

Survivors include her husband, Floyd Lott of the home; a son, Roy Lott and wife Carrie of Lefors; three sisters, Linda Spicer and husband Terrie of Morrison, Colo., Raylene Wall and husband Gary of Springtown, Judy McReynolds and husband Eddie of China Spring; two brothers, Bud Shiffer and wife Lilly of China Spring, Jim Shiffer and wife Leesa of Salisbury, Md.; two grandsons, Keenan Lott of Alva, Okla. and Kyndan Lott of Lefors; one granddaughter, Khorri Lott of Lefors and numerous nieces and nephews. Donna was preceded in death by her parents, Ray and Mary Shiffer; two sisters, Mary Bates and Della Collie.

In lieu of flowers, the family would like memorials sent to the Lefors Volunteer Fire Department
Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whitley.com.



Lott

field, MA 01202

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

Ruby Piontkowski, 54

Ruby Piontkowski, 54, of Aurora, Neb., passed away Friday, February 3, 2012, at Memorial Hospital after a long battle with Multiple Sclerosis and chronic pain.

A Memorial Mass will be held at 3 p.m., Wednesday, February 8, at St. Mary's Cathedral in Grand Island, Neb. Fr. Richard Piontkowski will officiate. Higby-McQuiston Mortuary is in charge of arrangements.



Piontkowski

Ruby Yvonne (Collins) Piontkowski, the daughter of Buster and Ruby Pearl (Gibson) Collins, was born in Pampa on October 2, 1957, and passed away in Aurora, Neb., on February 3, 2012, at the age of 54.

Ruby grew up in Pampa, and attended Pampa High School through her junior year. In her early working years she was an ambulance driver in Pampa and worked in law enforcement in Canadian.

Ruby was married to Thomas Piontkowski on December 17, 1987, at Amarillo. They lived in Amarillo for 13 years before moving to Aurora, Neb., six years ago.

Ruby was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Grand Island and the MS Society.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and a brother, Wayne Collins.

Those left to cherish her memory are her husband, Tom of Aurora; three brothers, Kenneth Collins of Copperas Cove, Perry Collins of Port Lavaca, and Buster Collins, Jr. of Scottsboro, Ala.; sister, Susan (Mike) Ballard of Houston; two half-brothers, Casey Collins and Donald Collins both of Flint; half-sister, Bobbie Sue Horner of Borger, and several nieces and nephews.

Condolences may be e-mailed to the family through the mortuary website at www.higbymortuary.com.

Richard Earl McDonald, 86

Amarillo—Richard Earl McDonald, 86, died February 5, 2012, in Amarillo.

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



McDonald

Mr. McDonald was born April 8, 1925, in Electra to P.L. and Dora McDonald. He graduated from Electra High School and joined the U.S. Navy in 1943, serving as a corpsman in the Central and Asia Pacific on the USS J. Franklin Bell. He was honorably discharged in 1946. After returning to the Pampa-Lefors area, Richard went to work for Texaco Oil Company. He retired in 1988 as a production supervisor after 43 years of service. Richard married Vera McDowell on September 30, 1945. They had two children, Marcia and James. Vera preceded him in death on September 3, 1982. He later married Helen Lofton on March 24, 1986, and she preceded him in death on February 11, 2006.

Survivors include a daughter, Marcia Stubbs of Baton Rouge, La.; a son, James McDonald and wife Carol of Midland; and a stepson, D.D. Lofton and wife Kerry of Pampa; four grandchildren, Stephanie Batts and husband Ron of Baton Rouge, La., Chris McDonald and wife Betsy of Horse Creek, Wyo., Richard Neil McDonald and wife Buffie of Amarillo, and Erin Matthews and husband Eric of Midland; six great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by three brothers, four sisters, and a stepson, Johnny Lofton.

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

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

Rosalie Catherine Brewer, 66

Rosalie Catherine Brewer, 66, died February 5, 2012, in Amarillo.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Brewer was born May 8, 1945, in Pampa to Robert and Vanice McAllister. She was reared at the Skelly-Schaffer camp west of Pampa. She graduated from White Deer High School in 1963. Rosalie married Leon Harrell Brewer on February 27, 1965, in Skellytown. He preceded her in death on September 22, 2006. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1973. She was a home health administrator for Auxiliary Health Services, and also worked in the administrative offices of the home health service of Coronado Hospital. Rosalie and Leon formed O&G Processing in 2002. She was a Methodist. She enjoyed gardening, but her true love was her family, especially her grandchildren. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and "Mammy."

Survivors include a son, Jeff Brewer of Bryan; two daughters, Heather Brooks and husband Ed of McLean, and Joy Wilson and husband Bill of Wheeler; a brother, Robert McAllister III and wife Pat of Parker; a sister, Rita Whitwell and husband Clyde of Seguin; four grandchildren, Cole Wilson, Clay Wilson and Alex Wilson, all of Wheeler, and Laura Brooks of McLean; numerous nieces and nephews; and a sister-in-law, Beverly Taylor and husband Keith of Howardwick. Rosalie was preceded in death by her parents.

Memorials may be made to The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Donor Services, P.O. Box 4072, Pitts-



Brewer

For the record

Police Department

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 72 hour period ending Monday, February 6 at 7 a.m.

Pampa PD reported 71 traffic related incidents.

Animal Control agents and the Pampa PD reported 14 animal related incidents.

Pampa EMS, Lefors Volunteer EMS and the Lefors Volunteer Fire Department reported 13 medical incidents.

Friday, February 3

An accident occurred at the 2200 block of North Hobart.

A threat occurred at the 400 block of West.

A dumpster fire occurred at the 2100 block of North Lynn.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 600 block of Red Deer.

Criminal mischief occurred at the 500 block of North Dwight.

Fraud was reported at the 600 block of North Hobart.

A theft was reported at the 900 block of South Dwight.

An offense against family and children occurred at the 600 block of North Frost.

A suspicious person was reported at the 300 block of North Frost.

Suspicious vehicles were reported at the 2900 block of North Beech, the 900 block of East 23rd and the 2200 block of North Hobart.

A threat occurred at the 100 block of West 30th.

Suspicious vehicles were

reported at the 1100 block of South Wells and the 100 block of North Hobart.

A threat was reported at the 2600 block of North Hobart.

Saturday, February 4

A domestic disturbance occurred at the 1300 block of East Foster.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 100 block of Panhandle.

A suspicious person was reported at the 2800 block of North Perryton.

A violation of city ordinance occurred at the 800 block of West Kingsmill.

An accident occurred at Highway 273 North in Lefors.

A threat was reported at the 900 block of South Banks.

An accident occurred at the 1700 block of North Hobart.

Criminal mischief occurred at the 300 block of North Faulkner.

A domestic disturbance occurred at the 900 block of East Francis.

An accident occurred at Francis and Somerville.

A burglary occurred at the 2500 block of North Rosewood.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 1100 block of

North Starkweather.

Criminal mischief occurred at the 2800 block of North Northcrest.

Suspicious persons were reported at the 1200 block of West Somerville, the 1300 block of North Hobart and the intersection of Foster and Starkweather.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 400 block of North Ballard.

Sunday, February 5

A suspicious vehicle was reported at 18th and Evergreen.

A suspicious person was reported at the 300 block of South Naida.

Suspicious vehicles were reported at the 2500 block of Perryton, the 200 block of East Finch, the 100 block of East Craven and the 2200 block of North Lynn.

A suspicious person was reported at the 2100 block of North Hamilton.

Harassment was reported.

An accident occurred at Williston and Randy Matson.

An accident occurred at 18th and Hobart.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 2800 block of North Charles.

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Acting governors cost state \$32K

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry spent 126 days outside Texas during his unsuccessful run for president and the state paid more than \$32,000 for the lieutenant governor or Senate pro tem to fill in for him.

When Perry is out-of-state for a full day, about \$411 in acting governor pay goes to fellow Republican and Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst.

If Dewhurst is absent too, it goes to Republican Sen. Mike Jackson of La Porte.

That worked out to \$32,466 while Perry was crisscrossing the country in pursuit of the GOP presidential nomination between Aug. 13 and Jan. 19.

The governor's office said Monday that Dewhurst collected \$29,589 and Jackson got \$2,876.

Dewhurst and state senators normally make just \$7,200 annually in base salary.

As governor, Perry is paid \$150,000 per year.

\$16 squatter ordered to vacate

ROANOKE (AP) — A man who gained notoriety for claiming he can live in a \$340,000 suburban Dallas house for \$16 has been ordered to vacate the home by next Monday.

Kenneth Robinson says he filed an "affidavit of adverse possession" that gives him the right to live in the empty foreclosed home in Flower Mound. He's spoken to law school students and created a website, <http://16dollarhouse.com>.

But Denton County Justice of the Peace Jay Hand ruled Monday that lienholder Bank of America can force Robinson to leave on Feb. 13.

The bank says it foreclosed on the house last month and wants the 51-year-old Robinson out. And a real estate lawyer says Robinson and others have misinterpreted what adverse possession means.

Prosecutors also are cracking down on others seeking to emulate Robinson.

Train graffiti man hit by train

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Police say a man who allegedly had spray-painted graffiti on a stopped train in San Antonio died after being hit by a second train.

Investigators say the man was dead at the scene Sunday morning.

Sgt. Earl Tovar says the crew of the northbound Union Pacific train saw the man spray paint on some cars. Tovar says the man apparently tried to get a can of spray paint, left on the tracks, when he was struck by the second train.

The crew of the moving train told San Antonio police that they sounded the horn, but the man was unable to get out of the way.

The name of the man was not immediately released.

Apparent arson kills 2

FORT WORTH (AP) — Investigators have blamed arson for a North Texas house fire that killed a 90-year-old man and his disabled 67-year-old nephew.

Fort Worth fire Capt. Tom Crow says the fire appears to have been deliberately set. Further details have not been released.

No one has been arrested over Saturday night's fire at the older man's home.

Crow says both men were dead at the scene. Names of the victims were not immediately released.

Authorities are trying to determine if the deadly fire and a blaze less than two hours earlier, at another home on the same block, are related. Nobody was injured and that fire caused minor damage.

Body found on S. TX campus

EDINBURG (AP) — Police at the University of Texas-Pan American are investigating a "suspicious" death after a woman's body was found near an outdoor staircase of a campus building.

A statement from the university says the body was found shortly before 8 a.m. Monday and identification of the woman is pending.

The science building near where the body was found has been evacuated and classes in that building were canceled for the day.

Students, faculty and staff received campus-wide alerts to avoid the area.

UTPA is located in Edinburg, about 18 miles north of the US-Mexico border.

Lamborghini driver hits 2

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston police say the driver of a recently acquired Lamborghini has been blamed for a wreck that left three people hurt.

Police say two pedestrians were struck by the sports car and someone in another vehicle hit by the Lamborghini suffered minor injuries early Monday.

Police say the driver says he bought the Lamborghini about a week ago and is still learning to operate the high-end vehicle. Police also say the driver did not appear to be under the influence of any substance and he stayed at the scene of the wreck outside a bar.

No charges were immediately filed. Further details on the accident, which left the front of the Lamborghini smashed, were not immediately available.

3 die in Cedar Hill house fire

CEDAR HILL (AP) — Authorities say a Dallas-area house fire has left a couple and their adult son dead.

Officials say the blaze was reported around 7 a.m. Sunday at a home in Cedar Hill.

City spokesman Corky Brown says one person was dead at the scene. Two other people died at a hospital.

Names of the victims weren't immediately released.

Investigators are trying to determine what started the fire in Cedar Hill, located about 15 miles south of Dallas.

Chicken money earning little, but good news: Sky's not falling

TERRY SAVAGE
Creator's Syndicate

The Savage Truth on money

money by destroying its value. Inflation is running at 3 percent, and you're earning one-one hundredth of one percent!

The continued low interest rates are driving some savers to take more risk than they understand. And that could be the greatest danger of all. Beware of jumping into products that advertise higher returns without understanding the hidden costs, concealed risks and illiquidity. Those overlooked pitfalls are a greater danger to your wealth than dipping into your principal for living expenses.

So here's a warning. Don't let greed blind you to the dangers of the following investments — despite the enticing sales pitches.

People think bonds are safe. In some ways, they are safer than stocks. If a company goes bankrupt, bondholders (lenders) are paid first — before shareholders. But there are other risks in buying bonds — risks that are not well understood.

If you buy a bond, you are lending money to a company or government, typically with a promise of receiving a fixed interest rate for a number of years. If the borrower has good credit, you can count on the fact that your money will be returned when the bond "matures" in 10 or 30 years. But in the meantime, you're stuck with that fixed rate of return.

If interest rates rise beyond the Fed's control — because of fears of inflation, or the changing quality of the debt — then the current market value of your bond will fall! You could be "stuck" holding a 10-year government bond paying less than 2 percent when rates rise. If you choose to sell your bond before maturity, you could take a substantial loss. Your \$1,000 low-rate bond might have a market value of only \$700 if people who have cash could buy a higher-yielding, newer \$1,000 bond.

That's called interest rate risk. And the longer the maturity of the bond, the greater the price risk.

Now, equity-linked CDS are a deal that sounds appealing. But it's like petting a tiger and thinking it's a pussy cat. These hybrid products haven't been around for a while, but now they're coming around again in offerings from the investment department of major banks like Wells Fargo and JPMorgan Chase. The pitch is simple: Get the safety of a bank-insured certificate of deposit combined with the upside of the stock market. How could you lose?

Turns out there are plenty of ways to lose. The principal may be 100 percent guaranteed — but only if you hold them to maturity. Try to get out early, and you could lose big, since there is no market for these CDs — and few will be willing to buy these packages from you if rates rise. The FDIC guarantee holds only for the princi-

pal, not for any gains in the stock market portion of the investment if the bank were to fail.

Even worse, unless you buy these products in an IRA, you might be liable for taxes on the estimated return for the year despite the fact that you don't actually receive the gain until the CD matures.

But worst of all, you're not getting the FULL return of the stock market in these products. Most don't include the market return based on dividends, which have accounted for 40 percent of the total market return over the years. Other products calculate the "market return" on odd formulas, including the gain from the starting date of your purchase and the average Dow Jones Industrial Average value for the entire period.

The deck is stacked against you with equity-linked CDs — almost every time. The salespeople and the institutions are the ones making the money on these "deals." So don't be swayed by the sales pitch.

There are literally dozens of other products ranging from some annuities to "structured notes" to "capital shares" that are being touted to savers as a "safe" alternative to today's low CD yields. Always remember that if you're being offered a higher return, there is always a greater risk — even if you haven't figured it out. And that's The Savage Truth.

Terry Savage is a registered investment adviser and is on the board of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. She can be reached at www.terrysavage.com.

Many Texans earn low, hold few assets

CHRIS TOMLINSON
Associated Press

AUSTIN (AP) - Texans politicians like to tout the state's economic growth, but more and more Texans are finding themselves teetering on the edge of poverty.

There is little doubt Texas has survived the Great Recession better than other states, but a study by the Corporation for Enterprise Development has found that 27.7 percent of Texas households have no financial cushion in case of an emergency. If you exclude homes and automobiles from the calculation, a full 50 percent of Texans have no assets they could use to survive if they suddenly lost their income.

When compared to the rest of the country, Texas ranks 41st in financial security. That means even if Texans survived the last economic storm, another one would swamp them. The corporation is a national non-partisan, non-profit that works to create and identify programs and policies that can help poor people move up the economic ladder.

The findings match up with the latest U.S. Census data on Texas, which found that 17.9 percent of Texans — or 4.4 million

people — live below the poverty line. That's 2.6 percent higher than the national average and ranks Texas 40th in the nation. Poverty is calculated by examining the make-up of a household and then comparing them to a minimum cost of living for such a household derived from the consumer price index. If the household makes less money than they need to survive, those people are considered to live in

poverty. There are many theories about why Texas has such a high rate - or if the rate is accurate - and even more ideas about how to solve

it. But no matter where Texans stand on the political spectrum, these statistics should be important when considering who to

TEXANS cont. on page 5

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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, Feb. 7, the 38th day of 2012. There are 328 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 7, 1812, author Charles Dickens, widely regarded as the greatest novelist of the Victorian era, was born in Landport, Portsmouth, England.

On this date:

In 1795, the Eleventh Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, dealing with states' sovereign immunity, was ratified.

In 1812, the last of three major New Madrid Earthquakes, with an estimated magnitude of 7.7 (according to the USGS), shook the central Mississippi River Valley.

In 1857, a French court acquitted author Gustave Flaubert of obscenity for his serialized novel "Madame Bovary."

In 1904, a fire began in Baltimore that raged for about 30 hours and destroyed more than 1,500 buildings.

In 1936, President Franklin D. Roosevelt authorized a flag for the office of the vice president.

In 1943, the government announced the start of shoe rationing, limiting consumers to buying three pairs per person for the remainder of the year.

In 1948, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower resigned as Army chief of staff; he was succeeded by Gen. Omar Bradley.

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy imposed a full trade embargo on Cuba.

In 1971, women in Switzerland gained the right to vote through a national referendum, 12 years after a previous attempt failed.

In 1984, space shuttle Challenger astronauts Bruce McCandless II and Robert L. Stewart went on the first untethered space walk, which lasted nearly six hours.

In 1992, European Community members signed the Maastricht Treaty, which led to creation of the euro.

In 1999, Jordan's King Hussein died of cancer at age 63; he was succeeded by his eldest son, Abdullah.

Ten years ago: Former Enron chief executive Jeffrey Skilling insisted to skeptical members of Congress that he knew of nothing improper about the complex web of partnerships that had brought down the company. Authorities in Oklahoma captured the last two of four escaped prison inmates from Texas who'd been on the run for more than a week.

Five years ago: A Marine CH-46 Sea Knight helicopter was shot down by insurgents northwest of Baghdad, killing all seven people on board. The Food and Drug Administration approved alli, a diet pill that can be bought without a prescription.

One year ago: Speaking to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, President Barack Obama echoed John F. Kennedy as he prodded business leaders to "ask yourselves what you can do for America," not just for company bottom lines. AOL Inc. announced the \$315 million purchase of The Huffington Post website.

Today's Birthdays: Author Gay Talese is 80. Sen. Herb Kohl, D-Wis., is 77. Actor Miguel Ferrer is 57. Reggae musician Brian Travers (UB40) is 53. Comedy writer Robert Smigel (SMY-guhl) is 52. Actor James Spader is 52. Country singer Garth Brooks is 50. Rock musician David Bryan (Bon Jovi) is 50. Actor-comedian Eddie Izzard is 50. Actor-comedian Chris Rock is 47. Actor Jason Gedrick is 45. Actress Essence Atkins is 40. Rock singer-musician Wes Borland is 37. Rock musician Tom Blankenship (My Morning Jacket) is 34. Actor Ashton Kutcher is 34. Actress Tina Majorino is 27.

Thought for Today: "A day wasted on others is not wasted on one's self." — Charles Dickens (1812-1870)



Newt Gingrich: The spawn of Citizens United

Wow, January's gone already -- time really flies when you're having Republican presidential primaries! And what better time than Groundhog Day to poke into that warren of feral Republican ideologues and see what the heck is going on.

Already, four of the GOP contenders have had to drop out -- Michele Bachmann because she was just too wacky, Jon Huntsman because he was too sane, Herman Cain because he was too exposed and Rick Perry because he was too dimwitted.

But the greatest surprise is the sudden surge of the Adelson campaign. Little-known until now, Adelson was the big winner in South Carolina, came from nowhere to a second-place finish in the Florida primary, and looks to have the political kick needed to go the distance.

Never heard of Adelson? It consists of the married duo of Sheldon and Miriam, neither of whom are actually on any ballot. Rather, they are running on the Money Ticket.

Sheldon Adelson of Las Vegas is a global casino baron who holds a \$21 billion personal fortune. He has long been a major funder of far-right-wing causes, and this year he is placing an extra-big bet on his old political consort, Newt Gingrich. When Newt's presidential bid nearly flatlined after his electoral collapses in Iowa and New Hampshire, Sheldon rushed in with emergency CPR -- Cash-Powered Resuscitation. This one rich guy wrote a \$5 million check to "Winning Our Future," Gingrich's Super PAC. Sheldon's money was injected directly into toxic attack ads against Mitt Romney in South Carolina's primary, jolting Newt's campaign back to life.

Gingrich still lacked the financial vitality to match Romney's media

buy in Florida's pricey primary, however. No worries, though -- Miriam Adelson stepped in to infuse Winning Our Future with another \$5 million jolt of CPR. The Gingrich campaign, you see, is a vessel for the Adelson campaign, and word is that this one power couple is prepared to spend another \$10 million to make their boy the GOP nominee, with more to come if he's the one to run against President Obama.

Just before this week's vote in Florida, Newt plunged head-first into the deep end of America's pool of political cynicism by telling a Tampa crowd that he's different than Romney because "I love people power, not money power." Sheesh -- he wouldn't even be in the race without the money power of the Adelsons, who've turned "Winning Our Future" into "Buying Our Future."

How can one couple cause such a political distortion. Aren't there limits? Used to be. But in its Citizens United decision, the Supreme Court upended our democratic elections by decreeing that corporations and uber-wealthy individuals can dump unlimited sums of cash into campaigns to elect their favored candidates. Astonishingly, Justice Anthony Kennedy declared in his majority opinion that such a gusher of special-interest money would not "give rise to corruption or the appearance of corruption." Who knew so much political naivete could be cloaked in a single judicial robe?

Earth to Justice Kennedy: Sheldon Adelson is a product of your cluelessness about how real politics work. He's not pouring millions into Newt



JIM HIGHTOWER

because of some vague sense of civic responsibility but because he wants a president who'll serve him and his right-wing ideology. Adelson knows he can count on Gingrich because he bought him years ago.

The billionaire and the Newt bonded in the mid-'90s over their shared fondness for crushing labor unions. Adelson pushed a state law to crimp union rights, and Gingrich, then the House speaker, not only endorsed Adelson's legislation, but he also backed a tax break in Congress for casino owners.

In turn, Gingrich received campaign cash, funding to support him after being drummed out of office in 1998 for corruption, free rides on Adelson's corporate jet -- and now, an open spigot of cash for his presidential run. In the past, the biggest personal check that Gingrich could've taken from his casino sugar daddy was \$5,000. After the Citizens United edict, however, Adelson can go all in to push his willing servant into the White House.

How much money does it take to "give rise to corruption"? Well, 10 million bucks smells corrupt to me. But that won't be the end of it, since Kennedy and four other justices (none of whom have ever run for office or been in a campaign) voted to legalize unlimited spending to corrupt our elections.

It's a disgrace to let money rule America. To overturn Citizens United, go to www.united4thepeople.org.

Jim Hightower is a nationally syndicated columnist.

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Newt Gingrich: Battling the trifecta of tyranny

As a six-time undefeated middleweight world karate champion, I have a pretty good idea what makes a warrior. And there's presently one particular presidential candidate in the political ring who wears those gloves better than the others.

It's one thing to enter a ring with a single opponent, but what if you had to enter with three -- one candidate with unlimited money and two titans of political swing to back him? That is exactly what former House Speaker Newt Gingrich is facing right now.

People see Newt's primary GOP opponent as former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, but I don't. I think the battle is with Romney's and his cronies' staggering wealth. Last week, The Washington Post exposed that there are 41 mega-rich individuals who bankroll Romney's campaign and his purchase of the seat in the Oval Office: "Nearly a dozen of the donors have contributed \$1 million or more. ... Some of Romney's biggest supporters include executives at Bain Capital, his former firm; bankers at Goldman Sachs; and a hedge fund mogul who made billions betting on the housing crash."

In Florida, for example, they collectively spent \$15.4 million to run about 13,000 negative ads against

Newt (not Obama). Compare that with the 200 ads that Gingrich's campaign ran. Romney's campaign spent more on ads in Florida alone than John McCain spent during his entire presidential run. Given that monstrous media assault, I was actually pleasantly surprised Newt received more than 500,000 votes, compared with Romney's 700,000.

Newt's second major opponent is the mainstream media, or MSM. All it takes is a quick flip through the major network channels to hear the pro-Romney accolades and defenses being offered via a variety of news anchors.

For example, after Newt spanked (with great audience fanfare) CNN anchorman John King at the South Carolina presidential debate for asking Newt to defend himself against his ex-wife's accusations on ABC, CNN sent in its veteran bulldog, Wolf Blitzer, to host the Florida debate.

The next day, after his full-court press against Newt before a national audience, Wolf was on CNN gloating over his victory over Newt. Wolf said, "I was ready for him. ... I wasn't going to let Newt get



CHUCK NORRIS

away with that again" -- "that" being Newt's ability to shut down the power grid of the MSM. So much for unbiased hosting and objective media!

And it's no coincidence that radically left progressive globalist and billionaire George Soros, according to Fox News, wields his finances and pulls the strings in more than 30 major puppet outlets, including The New York Times, The Associated Press, The Washington Post, NBC and ABC. It's also no coincidence that Soros likes Romney just as much as he does Obama. During a recorded television interview, Soros said, "Between Obama and Romney, there isn't all that much difference."

The MSM would have us believe that the GOP contest is over and Romney is the winner. But the battle has just begun. Newt was absolutely correct when he stated before the Nevada caucuses, "This race is not anywhere near over. There are 46 states to go." As Joseph Farah -- CEO of WorldNetDaily, one of the few sources I trust for news -- said on Sean Hannity's Fox News

NORRIS cont. on page 5A

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Norris

Channel show last week, "nobody has 100 delegates yet. We are not even one-tenth of the way to the end of the GOP election."

Perhaps a word about the power of the MSM from Thomas Jefferson is apropos here: "The man who reads nothing at all is better educated than the man who reads nothing but newspapers."

The third enemy of Newt's is the entrenched GOP establishment -- a part of what Newt calls the Washington elite. Those in the establishment loathe Newt not because of what he's done, but because he is a lethal threat to their way of life and existence, namely their political control and sway over your money and tax dollars.

When the establishment types saw Newt's colossal win in the South Carolina primary, they scurried to bring forth a few of their kingpins, such as Bob Dole and John McCain, to try to convince us Newt is a danger to us, too. The Boston Globe even ran an article titled "GOP insiders rise up to cut Gingrich down to size."

Newt retorted at a tea party gathering in central Florida by stating categorically, "The Republican establishment is just as much an establishment as the Democratic establishment, and they are just as determined to stop us."

Dan Schnur, a former GOP campaign strategist who teaches politics at the University of Southern California, put it straight: "The Republican establishment might not be wild about Mitt Romney, but they're terrified by Newt Gingrich."

Rush Limbaugh reacted to the frightened squirms of the GOP establishment

by saying: "Newt doesn't act like he's got any fear. ... Finally, somebody's telling the bad guys who they are, what to do and that we're not going to take it anymore (just as Reagan did). ... Newt has thrown this thing into a tizzy."

While Romney decries that he is not a Washington insider, it is amazing to me that he gloats over the roughly 72 Washington elites who endorsed him, compared with Newt's 11. Rather than a badge of honor, that's a thorn of shame. How do they say it, birds of a feather flock together? I have only to remind you of the tea party's initial receptivity in Washington, which was not exactly like an actual tea party.

I'm reminded of the wisdom of Samuel Adams: "If ever the Time should come, when vain & aspiring Men shall possess the highest Seats in Government, our Country will stand in Need of its experienced Patriots to prevent its Ruin."

If it's true that you always can tell one's positions by the enemies he has -- and I believe it is -- then Newt is exactly where he needs to be, battling the trifecta of tyranny: Mitt's treasuries, the MSM and the GOP elite.

One cannot, in any way, underestimate the grisly enormity of this triple-headed monstrosity. It is a goliath of ginormous proportions. And let there be no doubt: Only heaven and earth combining their forces will overcome this gargantuan foe.

Thomas Paine was correct: "Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered."

Chuck Norris is a syndicated columnist and the former star of "Walker, Texas Ranger."

cont. from page 4

Police agency phone pitches for money questioned

AUSTIN (AP) — An analysis of donations obtained by telemarketers who say they're working on behalf of Texas police organizations shows much of the money collected by phone solicitors may never reach the people it's intended to help.

The Austin-American Statesman reported Sunday that some companies that employ solicitors appealing to the sympathy of people who answer their phone calls use up to 80 percent of the money raised to cover fundraising costs.

The newspaper said that what's left over often leaves few dollars for direct aid to officers, which is the pitch made by groups claiming to represent law enforcement agencies.

The newspaper also found fundraisers have little oversight or regulation and often use names that sound like official agencies or say they aid fallen officers. But Texas already provides benefits to families of fallen officers and offers training for law enforcement, negating the need for such donations.

The list of police groups using telemarketing in Texas shows about 20 law enforcement associations currently are registered to conduct telephone solicitations and they've

hired telemarketing firms based both in Texas and across the country.

In 2009, the most recent year with complete data, three of the largest law enforcement organizations using telephone solicitations reported proceeds totaling nearly \$7 million, much of it from phone donations.

Supporters say the efforts are successful and honest. But several law enforcement groups, including the Combined Law Enforcement Association of Texas, the state's largest, favor dues from members to raise money rather than appeal to the public for donations.

Telemarketing "has been a blight, a cancer, on the face of law enforcement," said Charley Wilkison, director of public affairs for the Combined Law Enforcement Association of Texas.

Allan Polunsky, who chairs the Texas Public Safety Commission, said lawmakers should do more to oversee the practice.

"I certainly feel there should be some formula put in place that would ensure that the majority of funds generated through solicitation, however that is accomplished, be used for the benefit of our state troopers and employees," he told the newspa-

per. "I think it would be appropriate for the Legislature to take a look at this in the future."

In December, Attorney General Greg Abbott sued the Texas Highway Patrol Association, contending it defrauded donors and used contributions for personal reasons for its officials, who deny the allegations.

One national group registered to do telemarketing in Texas, the Disabled Police and Sheriffs Foundation, reported nearly \$900,000 in revenue in 2010 and spent more than 90 percent of that on fundraising.

"Fundraising is a very expensive undertaking," the foundation's executive director, David Kenik, said. "We outsource the service because we are a training/officer training company, not a fundraising company. Our experience and dedication is best directed toward helping officers."

A few groups are listed as charities and contributions to them are tax-deductible. Most, however, are nonprofits, professional associations or police unions and contributions to them are not deductible for tax purposes.

Texans

vote for and what policies to support.

About 40 percent of the state budget goes to help the needy.

Poor people depend on Medicaid, a government-financed health insurance program, and as poverty grows so does the expense to the state. Medicaid represents a third of the Texas budget now, and this week Health and Human Services Commissioner Tom Suehs -- who was appointed by Gov. Rick Perry -- said the program will need an additional \$15 billion in the 2014-2015 budget.

Suehs added that \$5 billion of that total is the result of the Legislature not appropriating enough money for Medicaid in this budget cycle, the equivalent he said of writing a bad check.

Poverty is also most acute among children, with 25.7 percent of Texas children living in poverty, compared to 21.6 percent nationally. According to former state demographer Steve Murdock, a poor child who attends college is seven times more likely to move into the middle class, so public education is critical.

Yet Texas Education Commissioner Robert Scott, another Perry appointee, apologized last week to the Texas Association of School Administrators for the Legislature's decision to cut per-student spending in Texas for the first time since World War II, and for cutting \$1 billion out of his agency's programs that have proven successful in boosting student achievement.

So the question remains: What role should state government play in helping people escape poverty?

The Texas Public Policy Foundation is a conservative think-tank in Austin with tremendous influence over Republican officeholders. Bill Peacock, the group's vice president for research, said more budget cuts are the answer because government is too inefficient to make a difference.

"The poor don't need a safety net, they need jobs," Peacock said. Programs like Medicaid, he argued, require working people to pay taxes instead of spending their money in a way that creates more jobs. Conservatives believe that less government spending leads to greater economic prosperity.

Progressives, or liberals, believe that society and the economy are imperfect, and government plays a role in caring for the needy and providing a level playing field. The Austin-based Center for Public Policy Priorities is a non-profit that fights for better government programs to help the poor.

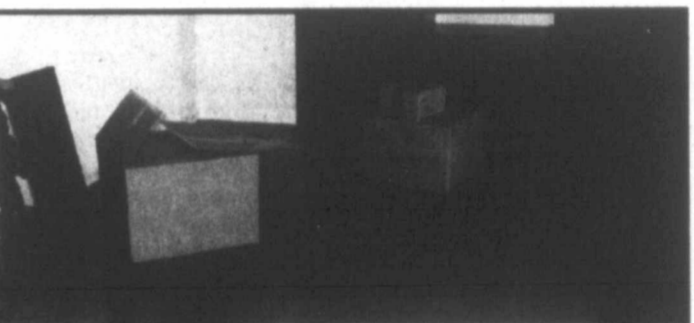
"There needs to be public policy that really enables economic mobility and removes policies that get in the way," said Don Baylor, a senior policy analyst at the center. As an example, Texas law requires someone to empty their savings account before they can receive financial help, which also happens to make it more difficult for that person to get back on their feet.

In the Occupy Wall Street and tea party era, economic inequality will be an important issue in the 2012 election, particularly in Texas where it appears to be only getting worse. The choices of how to solve the problem couldn't be more different.

cont. from page 3

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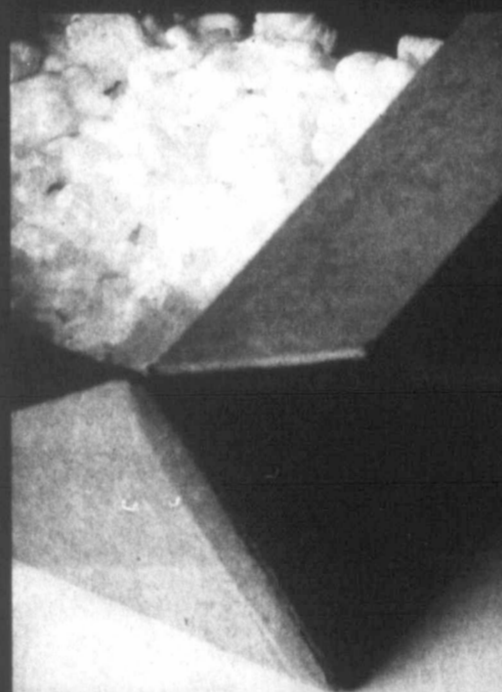


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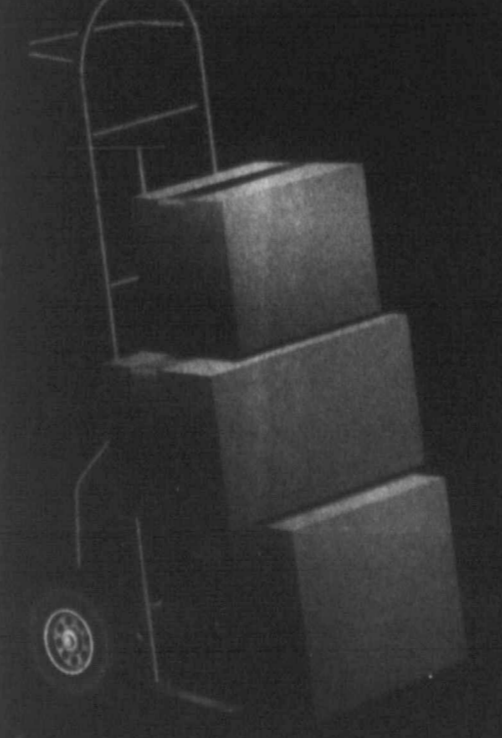


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AG reaches redistricting deal, but some vow to fight

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The Texas attorney general agreed Monday to temporary voting maps that would place two new congressional seats in Hispanic-dominated districts as part of a deal to preserve the already delayed primary elections in April. But several minority groups bristled at the compromise and vowed fight it.

Still, the proposal marks a rare moment of agreement in a bitter legal clash that has dragged on since last summer, even reaching the U.S. Supreme Court. Minority groups filed a lawsuit alleging the GOP-controlled Legislature drafted redistricting maps that were discriminatory and ignored a burgeoning Hispanic population.

A San Antonio federal court had given both sides until Monday to reach a compromise, or see the Texas primaries pushed back for a second time — a move that Republicans feared could leave Texas voters out of deciding which GOP presidential candidate challenges President Barack Obama in November. Primary elections are now set for April 3.

Attorney General Greg Abbott said

seven minority groups agreed to the new plan, which would give Hispanics control of two of the four new congressional seats Texas earned thanks to its population spike in the 2010 census. Abbot said the plan also minimizes changes to the Legislature's original redistricting maps.

"Today's maps should allow the court to finalize the interim redistricting maps in time to have elections in April," Abbot said in a statement.

But some of the groups suing the state said the deal was no compromise. The Mexican American Legislative Caucus argued that the new plan, which redraws boundaries for both congressional and state legislative districts, actually dilutes minority influence in some areas. Its chairman, Democratic state Rep. Trey Martinez Fischer, said the two Hispanic congressional seats would come on the condition of losing ground in other districts currently dominated by Hispanic voters.

"If you tell me we're going to get these seats at the expense of another district, that's not a win," he said.

Luis Vera, a lawyer for the League of

United Latin American Citizens, predicted the court wouldn't accept the deal, saying: "It means absolutely nothing." He noted the separate case challenging the maps' legality was pending in Washington. Since Texas is one of nine states with a history of racial discrimination, the federal court in Washington or the U.S. Department of Justice must pre-approve any changes to state election laws. A ruling in that case isn't expected for at least another month.

It wasn't immediately clear when the three-judge panel in San Antonio would accept or reject Abbot's proposal.

Rolando Rios, an attorney for Democratic U.S. Rep. Henry Cuellar, who also was part of the lawsuit, told The Associated Press that he was optimistic the other plaintiffs could support the compromise.

"This would be historic if we could get it," Rios said, referring to the two new Hispanic-controlled congressional districts.

The fight over new voting maps in Texas is being driven by new census numbers that show a burgeoning

Hispanic population in Texas. The stakes are unusually high because the nation's second-largest state is adding four congressional seats — and the way they are divvied up could be pivotal in determining which party controls the U.S. House.

The Texas Legislature got the first crack at drawing new maps for Congress and the Statehouse, but their plan was quickly challenged by Cuellar and minority groups.

If the court rejects the compromise, the judges could split the primaries into two elections — one for the presidential race, and a later one for state and congressional elections that are at the mercy of where map lines are settled.

A split primary would let parties hold their conventions on schedule — but could cost taxpayers \$15 million.

Republican legislative leaders argued that they drew the original maps merely to benefit their party's candidates, but minority groups claim they discriminate by diluting minority voting power. All states must redraw political districts following the census every 10 years to adjust for population changes.

GOP race turns to Colo., Minn., Maine

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Now it's on to Colorado, Minnesota and Maine.

With back-to-back victories fueling him, Republican presidential front-runner Mitt Romney is looking toward the next states that hold GOP nominating contests as main rival Newt Gingrich brushes aside any talk of abandoning his White House bid — all but ensuring the battle will stretch into the spring if not beyond.

Shortly after losing big to Romney here, the former House speaker emphatically renewed his vow to campaign into the party convention in Tampa this summer. His goal, he said, was to "find a series of victories which by the end of the Texas primary will leave us at parity" with Romney by early April.

Gingrich continued to shrug off Nevada's caucus results in an appearance on Sunday on NBC's Meet the Press.

"This is the state he won last time, and he won it this time," he said of Romney. "Our goal is to get to Super Tuesday where we're in much more favorable territory."

But first, Gingrich must make it through Colorado and Minnesota, which both hold caucuses Tuesday. Maine follows on Saturday during a month that promises to be as plodding as January was rapid-fire in the presidential race. Romney will look to maintain his position of strength, if not build upon it, as his rivals continue working to derail him even as their options for doing so narrow with each victory he notches.

The former Massachusetts governor held a double-digit lead Sunday morning over his nearest pursuer as the totals mounted in Nevada, where fellow Mormons accounted for roughly a quarter of all caucusgoers. Gingrich and Texas Rep. Ron Paul vied for a distant second. Former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum trailed the field.

Santorum won the lead-off caucuses in Iowa and has trailed in the contests since then. He nonetheless insisted on Sunday that "our numbers are moving up continually."

"I think we're going to show improvement. This race is a long long way from being over," Santorum said on Fox News Sunday.

And on ABC's "This Week," Paul maintained the results show voters are still up for grabs.

"I get energized because I know there's a large number of people who are looking for another option," Paul said.

With votes from 87 percent of Nevada's precinct caucuses tallied, Romney had 48 percent, Gingrich 22 percent, Paul 19 percent and Santorum 11 percent.

Votes were still being tallied in Clark County,

the state's most populous and home to the Las Vegas Strip, where officials stayed up until the wee hours of Sunday morning counting ballots, but still couldn't finish the task. The fate of the state GOP's 28 delegates remained unknown.

State party officials estimated the outcome would probably show Newt Gingrich in second place, followed closely by Ron Paul, but for most of Sunday, they didn't have the hard votes to shore up their projections.

"It is just layer upon layer of issues that we are trying to work through," said acting state GOP chairman James Smack. "We are not dragging our feet on it. We just want to make sure we get it right."

Romney's victory capped a week that began with his double-digit win in the Florida primary. That contest was as intense as Nevada's caucuses were sedate — so quiet that they produced little television advertising, no candidate debates and only a modest investment of time by the contenders.

A total of 28 Republican National Convention delegates were at stake in caucuses held across the sprawling state. Romney won at least 10, Gingrich

at least four, Paul at least three and Santorum at least two. Nine were still to be determined.

That gives Romney a total of 97, including endorsements from Republican National Committee members who will automatically attend the convention and can support any candidate they choose. Gingrich has 30, Santorum 16 and Paul seven. It will take 1,144 delegates to win the Republican nomination.

Preliminary results of a poll of Nevada Republicans entering their caucuses showed that nearly half said the most important consideration in their decision was a candidate's ability to defeat President Barack Obama this fall, a finding in line with other states.

About one-quarter of those surveyed said they were Mormon, roughly the same as in 2008, when Romney won with more than a majority of the vote in a multi-candidate field.

The entrance poll was conducted by Edison Research for The Associated Press at 25 randomly selected caucus sites. It included 1,553 interviews and had a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

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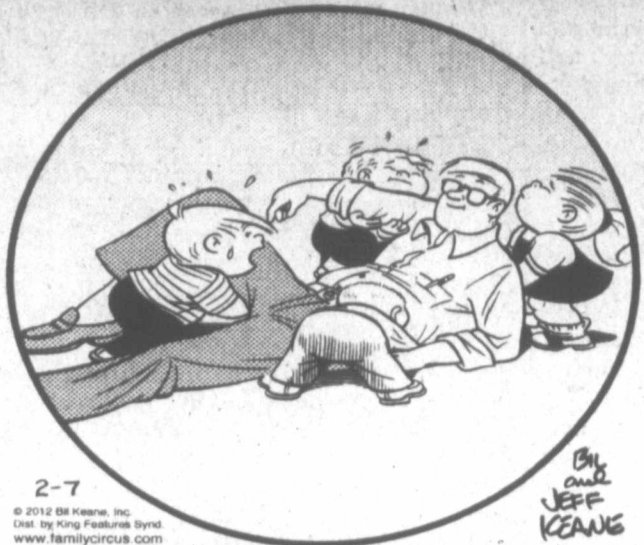
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Nest Heads



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2012:

This year you unravel a long-term issue by remaining gentle and caring. Others feel safer with you, no matter what type of relationship you have. Openness nearly becomes a way of life. If you are single, you might see a change in a major relationship, waving on more of what you want. If you are attached, don't test your sweetie's patience. Let him or her have his or her way more often. VIRGO understands you perhaps far too well.

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)
★★★★ Of course effort counts, but having some charisma on your side can only help. Show your concern as well when dealing with an associate who might not be doing what you want. Listen to your sixth sense with a friend. You might not be completely right, but you have a strong sense of direction. Tonight: As you like.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ The only mistake you can make is holding yourself back. You know what works well for you. Let your imagination come forward. The ideas that follow -- yours and others' -- are quite unusual. Do test them out. Romance could get spicy. Tonight: Some matters are best kept a secret.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Understand what is happening within your immediate domestic circle. You hear news that doesn't feel quite complete. You don't need to comment -- the less said the more that will come forward. Tonight: Vanish while you can.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Keep conversations moving, and realize where you want to go with a situation. Others might not be as grounded as you would like. You might have to go over certain points, not once, but several times. Stay centered, if possible. Tonight: Meet up with a friend.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Curb a need to be possessive or to overspend. You will be a lot happier if you use some self-discipline. Detach and try to understand where another person is coming from. Tonight: Relax with friends.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ The way you perk up in another person's company makes this person feel great. Relating to another person as well takes you to a new level of mutuality. Discuss a long-term desire. You could be delighted by the end results. Tonight: Make sure a favorite piece of music is on.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★ You might want to express a certain amount of consternation about a situation but then decide otherwise. Others don't appear to be receptive to a conversation of this nature, or of any nature, for that matter. Tonight: Be yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ A meeting helps you realize just what is needed to have a situation manifest as you might like. You have a lot of fun within this group or with a key person. Someone makes you an offer that you barely can say no to. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Your softer side emerges with a child or loved one. You express your dynamic energy and upbeat manner in a conversation. When you hear a vague statement, try to build on it. You find an associate upbeat and cooperative. Seize the moment. Tonight: Highly visible.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Keep reaching out for others. Share an unusually mellow mood. Some of you might opt to stay close to home. Use care with your finances, as a mistake can happen all too easily, especially in the next few weeks. Recognize your limitations while honoring who you are. Your creativity and confidence grow. Tonight: Touch base with a loved one at a distance.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Remain sensitive to a partner or associate. Relate one-on-one with key people if you want to make an impact. Keep reaching out for someone at a distance who might be closed off. You cannot change this person, but you can encourage him or her to look at his or her behavior. Tonight: Visit over a meal.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Let others show their hand. You might wonder which is the best way to handle a key issue. Listen to opinions. If you don't feel comfortable with what you hear, hold off on making a decision. Find a respected adviser first. Tonight: The only answer is yes.

Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Judge can't block new sonogram law

AUSTIN (AP) — A federal judge in Austin said Monday that he couldn't block a Texas law requiring women to have a sonogram before having an abortion any longer because an appeals court had ordered it to take effect.

District Judge Sam Sparks earlier ruled parts of the law unconstitutional, but his latest ruling said he's bound to follow the direction of the New Orleans-based appeals court, which said last month it believed the law to be constitutional.

The New York-based

Center for Reproductive Rights said it will continue to pursue appeals to block the law requiring doctors to show women images from sonograms, play fetal heartbeats aloud and describe the features of fetuses at least 24 hours before abortions.

There are exceptions in cases of rape, incest, fetal deformity and for women who travel great distances to a doctor.

Supporters argue the law ensures women will fully understand what abortion entails and will lead to fewer abortions. About 81,000 abortions

are performed every year in Texas.

But a group of doctors who joined the Center for Reproductive Rights to sue the state argue the law infringes on their First Amendment rights and is unconstitutionally vague regarding enforcement. The doctors claim the law requires them to perform a procedure that is not medically necessary and that women may not want to have done.

Sparks upheld the sonogram requirement last year but struck down the provisions requiring doctors to describe the imag-

es. He also struck down a requirement that victims of sexual assault or incest sign statements attesting to that fact, writing that the state was trying to "permanently brand" those women.

But a three-judge panel of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned Sparks and used its opinion to direct Sparks how to rule in the future.

The appeals court said it considered the law constitutional and sonograms, fetal heartbeats and fetuses' medical descriptions are important information.

BANANAGRAMS!

Change one letter in the top word to one of the letters that appears in the bottom word, then rearrange the tiles to form a new common word. Do the same with each new word until you arrive at the bottom word. For example, the path from BARK to PLUM is BARK, MARK, RAMP, RUMP, PLUM.

LEVEL

H O L Y H U N G

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M I N K W A R D

Yesterday's Answer: SALT, DILL, CLOVE

Bus

"We were just past the Y in the road," he said. "We were maybe a fourth of a mile and it sounded like a rock hit the windshield. Then, it was multiple rounds hitting the windows and pretty much everyone ducked and got down."

"You could hear the rounds splattering the windows," Miller added. "It honestly sounded horrible. Probably lasted a lot less than we thought."

Smith said the school is lucky that it wasn't any worse than it turned out to be.

"If it hit the windshield in front of J.L. (Ferguson), the driver, that could have caused J.L. to flinch and swerve, then wreck the bus," Smith said. "We are very fortunate that no

one was injured and there wasn't any damage to the bus. It's amazing that rivalries can get that heated."

Dustin said he felt "beyond anger" about the incident.

"We have a bus full of other people's children that we are responsible for," Miller said. "We will do anything possible to ensure their safety. Then it's out of your control."

Smith said the parallels to the Borger incident were disturbing.

"It was scary because it sounded similar," Smith said.

The Harvesters visit Perryton again on February 14. Miller said he is looking forward to returning.

"I can't wait," Miller said. "The incident does fire us up a bit."

The bus shooting was not the only source of controversy from Friday's game. Postgame tensions led to a spectator taking to the court after Reid's game-winning three-pointer, prompting Dustin to expedite the team's exit from Perryton for safety.

Smith said that any added safety precautions are up to Perryton for the upcoming game, adding that he is grateful that Pampa fans haven't acted in similar fashion.

"I hope that Perryton will be more vigilant with their spectators," Smith said. "Our spectators have much higher behavior standards. We hold our spectators to higher standards. We will have people ejected. If people act like Perryton's did last Friday, there will be consequences."

cont. from page 1



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I just read the letter from a fellow frustrated night shifter, "Working a 40-Hour Week at Age 73" (Dec. 20). I have worked 12-hour shifts for many years to accommodate our family life. It is easier for me to be home in the morning to get the kids to school and be home when they get off the bus in the afternoon. I have the early evening free to get them to their activities, then go to work later.

I thoroughly agree that the rest of the world does not understand! I've had the strangest requests from people because I'm home during the day. My solution has been to turn off our home phone and sleep with my cellphone on (in case one of the kids gets sick at school or some other dire emergency). This year I made a laminated sign for my front door, asking for peace and quiet. It says, "Please do not ring my doorbell. Night-shift worker sleeping at this time." — SLEEPLESS IN WISCONSIN

DEAR SLEEPLESS: Thanks for your letter. Your fellow night shifters were in complete agreement with you. My newspaper readers comment: DEAR ABBY: There's nothing unusual about "Working's" problem. I worked the graveyard shift

for years at different jobs in different states, and it was exactly the same. In my case it was usually my mother, not my husband, who kept waking me up. Even worse, it wasn't unusual for bosses to call and wake me.

What surprised me was the number of people who think that sleep is optional rather than necessary. They seemed to think that they sleep at night because there's nothing else to do.

— LAURA IN POLLOK, TEXAS

DEAR ABBY: Many people don't understand night workers' schedules. Relatives would announce that they were coming to visit during my working weekends despite the fact that I'd specifically explained my schedule. My husband would snipe at me in underhanded ways. When I finally confronted him, he admitted that he "subconsciously" felt that someone sleeping during the day was lazy.

Working nights is tough. The Harvard Nurses' Health Study has discovered that night workers get less rest even if they get a good day's sleep, that we make less melatonin and we die younger. — R.N. IN CONNECTICUT

DEAR ABBY: I sympathize with "Working." I

also work a graveyard shift so I can be home with our newborn and not have to put him in day care eight hours a day. It's hard for people to understand that even though it's daytime for them, it's my night! I found myself running errands, marketing, etc., because I felt guilty being at home all day and "doing nothing." It took its toll on me until I got to the point where I could barely function.

I finally had to get over my issues about being home during the day and realize that I was putting in a 40-hour week just like anyone else. Since I didn't expect to do my chores at 3 a.m., I would no longer let anyone expect it of me. I still sleep in shifts to keep my son's time at day care to a minimum, but when I sleep, I don't let anyone interrupt. The world is going to have to wait until I get up.

Please tell "Working" not to let anyone make her feel guilty. Everyone needs sleep, and she shouldn't have to justify it to anyone.

— FELLOW 3RD SHIFTER IN INDIANAPOLIS

DEAR ABBY: I worked nights for years. My husband's friends thought they were being funny when they'd call me at 7 a.m. asking, "How's the 'bat' doing?" One night at 3 a.m. I

called each one of them to ask how THEY were doing. After that, I never received an early call again.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 42 Oboe
 - 1 Rocker parts
 - Bob
 - 43 Hits
 - 6 Ninnies
 - 11 Stood up
 - 12 Proper
 - 13 1976 decathlon medallist
 - 15 Scepter
 - 16 Place down
 - 17 Mine rock
 - 18 Pencil parts
 - 20 Sturgeon eggs
 - 21 Hosp. areas
 - 22 Splinter group
 - 23 Film excerpts
 - 26 Office sights
 - 27 Poland's Walesa
 - 28 Buck's mate
 - 29 Poker card
 - 30 Trimmed, as a photo
 - 34 Comic Bernie
 - 35 Possessed
 - 36 Juan Perón's wife
 - 37 He becomes the Hulk
 - 40 Photographer Diane
 - 41 "Death Be Not Proud" poet
- DOWN**
- 1 Buffalo
 - 2 Goof
 - 3 Dutch
 - 4 PC key
 - 5 Some square dancers
 - 6 Poker cards
 - 7 Finish first
 - 8 Pays no heed to
 - 9 Alcatraz nick-name
 - 10 City routes
 - 14 Baby-food buys
 - 19 Second-year student, for short
 - 22 Ooze
 - 23 Place to get steamers
 - 24 "Smiley's People" author
 - 25 Drink cooler
 - 26 Gizmos
 - 28 Colorless
 - 30 Mating game
 - 31 W.Va. neighbor
 - 32 Happening
 - 33 Challenges
 - 38 Cow's chew
 - 39 At present

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Yesterday's answer

- 14 Baby-food buys
- 19 Second-year student, for short
- 22 Ooze
- 23 Place to get steamers
- 24 "Smiley's People" author
- 25 Drink cooler
- 26 Gizmos
- 28 Colorless
- 30 Mating game
- 31 W.Va. neighbor
- 32 Happening
- 33 Challenges
- 38 Cow's chew
- 39 At present

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FREE ADS for free items!

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

2-7 CRYPTOQUOTE

FVC OMNF MA QXWXGZ XN

ZMXGZ SR, TGB FVC OVTGOC

MA QXWXGZ XN ZMXGZ BMPG.

— AQXR PXQNMG

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THERE IS NO CURE FOR BIRTH AND DEATH SAVE TO ENJOY THE INTERVAL. — GEORGE SANTAYANA

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 for Application 7:30am-4:30pm.

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 for Free Items!

10 Lost/Found
REWARD! LOST on Foster & Lowry, 1 female golden retriever, tan, no collar, 1 female solid white, looks like retriever, no collar, 1 female black with white on belly, neck, tip of tail, no collar. Please call Kelly 898-9417.

21 Help Wanted
 LVN'S and CNA's, come check out our benefits! We have immediate openings for Full-Time. St. Ann's Nursing Home, Panhandle, 537-3194.

21 Help Wanted
MAINTENANCE Tech needed. Small plumbing repairs, painting, texturing & some electrical. Apply at The Floor Store, 2110 Perryton Pkwy or 662-8615

49 Pools/Hot Tubs
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96 Unfurn. Apts.
APTS. Houses Duplexes. K&B Properties. Ref. & dep. req. Lakeview Apts. 669-4386
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 1 and 2 bdr. avail. now at the Gwendolen Apts. Largest square footage in Pampa. 665-1875

103 Homes For Sale
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 Agent 663-2800
Queen Williams
 Realtors
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 MLS# 12-9271
PRICE REDUCED!
 \$105,000
 1212 W. 21st Ave
 3 bdr., 1/34 ba
 4 car garage
 MLS# 11-9070
LOTS OF SPACE!
 225 Dixie Dr.
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 Howardwick, TX
 OE
 (Listing Agent is Owner)
 Look up these listings at
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13 Bus. Opp.
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 Must pass drug test. Salary depends on experience. Apply in person. No Phone Calls Please.
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 Pampa, TX.

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

FULL-TIME Insurance Specialist / Receptionist. Busy retail optical office in Pampa needs Receptionist with some optical or medical billing exp. Will train the right person, but 1-2 years experience preferred. Please mail or fax your resume to: Panhandle Eye Group, LLP, 1916 N. Hobart, Pampa, TX 79065. Fax 806-669-3586.

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 Oil field experience required. CDL a plus. Work in a safe and effective manner. Benefits: health, dental, life, LTD, FSA, 401k, vac/sick.
 For an application call 918-582-4242 ext23. Or send resume and salary requirements to: pbusch@adamsaff.com or C/O Steve Kistner 6202 CIG Rd., Masterson, TX 79058

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102 Bus. Rental
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JACK'S Plumbing 715 W. Foster 665-7115

14w Air Cond/Heat.
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Local Beauty Professionals

Look and feel your best! This guide is a list of local salons and parlors that want to cater to you!

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Massage Advantage Trena Moore, LMT 701 N. Price Road (806) 665-7261

Massage Therapy
Magic Moments Massage By Genna By Appointment Only 806-662-4586

Want to list your salon?
 Call Beverly at 806-669-2525 for information.

19 Situations
 WILL do housecleaning. Daily, weekly or bi-weekly. Call 806-670-5137.

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

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Compression Techs
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These positions are located in Wheeler, TX.

Additional information on these positions can be viewed on the Enogex website. Applicants must apply online at www.enogex.com/careers

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8 am - 5 pm each day

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Sports

Lady Harvesters look to down Lady Wolves in finale

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

After taking the Perryton Rangerettes down to the wire Friday, the Pampa Lady Harvesters hope to close the season with a victory over the Dalhart Lady Wolves 6 p.m. Tuesday in Dalhart.

"It gave us a lot of confidence," senior Caitlin Sieck said. "We figured out what we can do in the play-offs and see if we can go farther."

Head coach Gene Valentine said his team has a good chance.

"If we can play with that kind of effort, who knows what can happen," Valentine said.



Sieck



Valentine

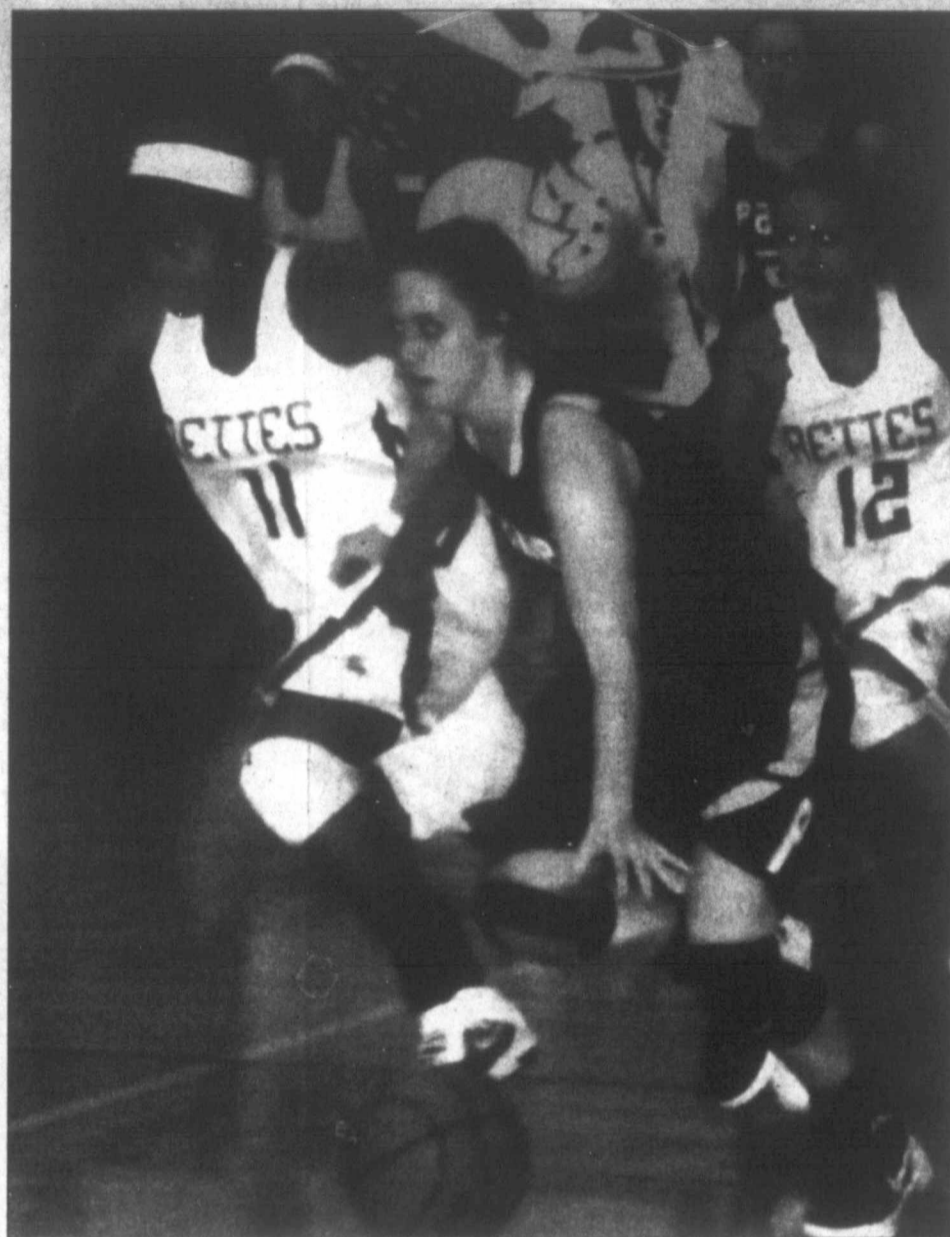
The Lady Wolves (18-10, 5-3) clinched the second seed in the state playoffs and defeated the Lady Harvesters in the previous two meetings. Sieck said the team feels confident.

"We're ready to go into playoffs and show everyone what we are capable of," Sieck said.

In the previous two matchups, Pampa struggled to hit shots and contain Dalhart post Jeana Sybesma. Sybesma scored 22 points and attempted 14 free throws in the January 27 game. Valentine hopes playing at home will help.

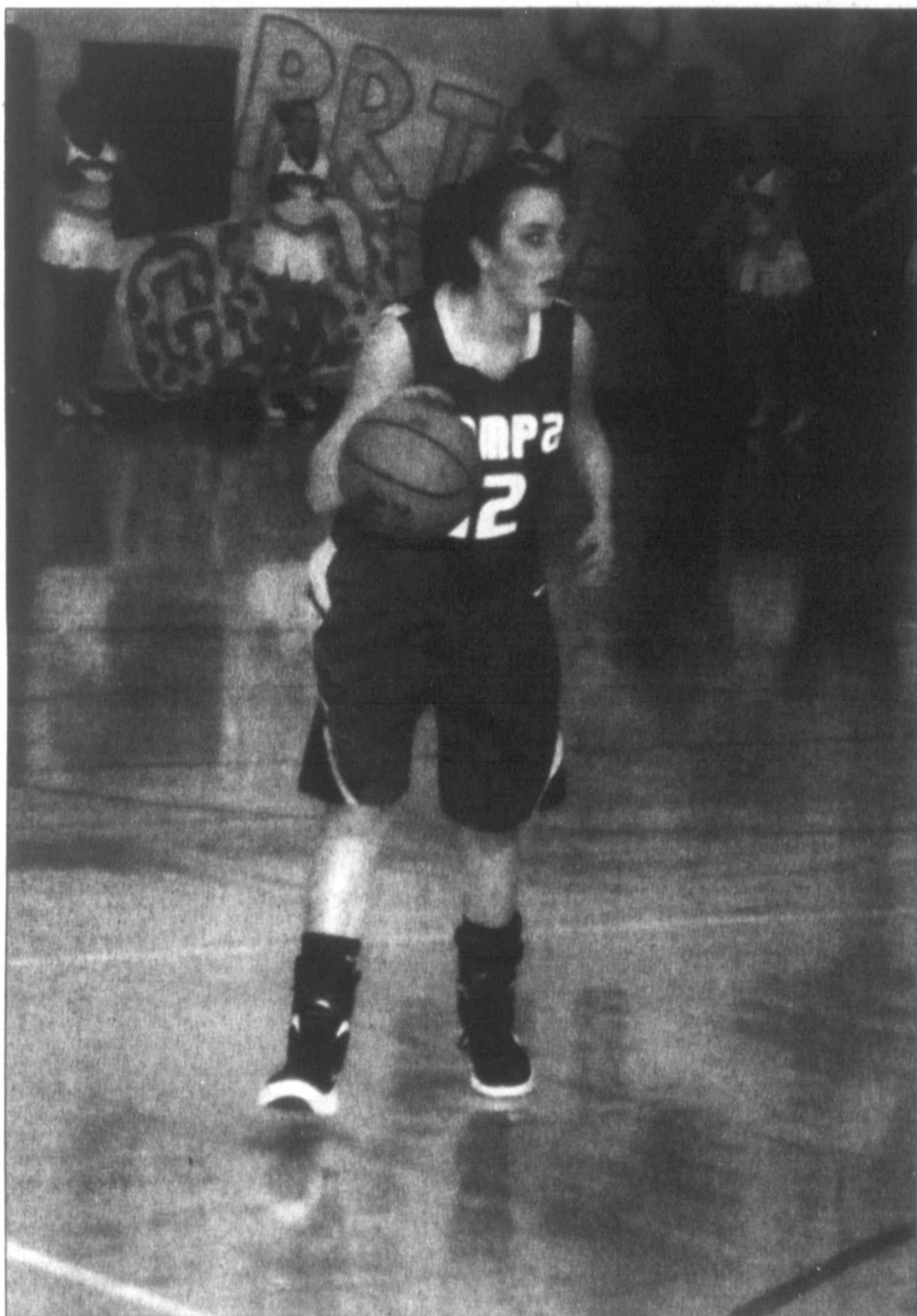
"Hopefully we will use (the Perryton game) to motivate us," Valentine said. "There is no reason that we can't play like this against (Dalhart). Have the ball at our place. I'm looking forward to it."

The Lady Harvesters (13-15, 3-5) will be the third seed in the state playoffs and will play the second seed from District 2-3A in the bi-district round on February 13 or 14. As of press time, Shallowater is in that position. Shallowater beat Pampa 53-30 on December 9 in Shallowater. Pampa could also face Lubbock Cooper or Lubbock Estacado.



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Senior Kirsten Kuhn steals the ball against Perryton Friday. The Lady Harvesters close the regular season 6 p.m. today against Dalhart.



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Senior Caitlin Sieck sets up the offense against Perryton Friday. Sieck said the team gained confidence after taking Perryton to the wire.

Boys and Girls Soccer vs. Randall

Due to a technical issue, the recaps for the boys and girls soccer games against Randall will be in Wednesday's edition.

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