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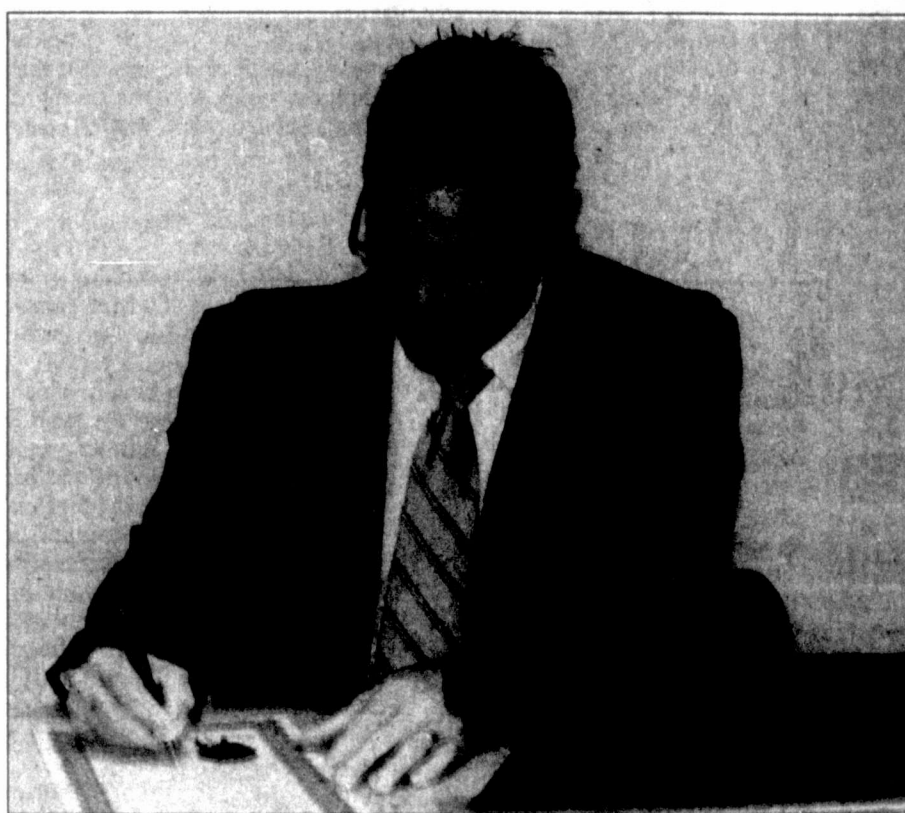
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Full proclamation text
 Pampa's centennial document in its entirety | **p5A**

Harvesters edge Bulldogs
 Pampa takes rival Borger down on soccer field | **p1B**

"As citizens, we cannot and should not forget those individuals and organizations whose efforts and labor over the past 100 years resulted in the quality of life that we enjoy today"

— from the text of the centennial proclamation



staff photo by **Mollie Bryant**

Mayor Brad Pingel smiles as he signs the proclamation recognizing the city's centennial. The signing was postponed from Tuesday's city meeting, with Pingel and three of the city's four commissioners signing the document at noon on Wednesday.

Lewis warns of incorrect info in email

■ **Mass message urging voters to re-register is wrong**

ARNIE AURELLANO
 editor@thepampanews.com

Linda Lewis, Gray County election administrator, has been dealing with an unusually large number of phone calls lately.

"Usually, we have a trickle, but today, it's been like an avalanche," Lewis said on Wednesday afternoon.

The reason? An email has apparently been circulating around Gray County inboxes telling people that their voter registration has expired because they have not yet received their voter ID cards.

The email's subject line reads, "Check your voter registration!!!" and continues in the body with, "Checked and mine is expired. Please people, get this taken care of, very important, check your voter registration."

Further down, the message reads, "Until this year, voter registration cards were automatically mailed to arrive before expiration, but that did not happen this year. That means you will have to go in and apply for a new one. If you do not, you will not be able to vote! Don't take any chances!"

Lewis acceded that the old voter registration cards did expire on Dec. 31 of last year and new ones have not been mailed out. However, Lewis said, this does not mean that voters will have to re-register.

"People are being told that because they have not received their voter ID card, that they are not registered," she said. "That is bogus, because they remain registered. They just don't have a new card."

"They are still registered if they voted in the last election. If there is a question, they can always call me. Now, I have **ELECTION** cont. on page 8A

City's centennial proclamation signed

MOLLIE BRYANT
 mbryant@thepampanews.com

Better late than never, especially when it comes to signing the city's 100-year birthday card.

After postponing the signing of the city's centennial proclamation for one day, Mayor Brad Pingel and the Pampa City Commission opened Wednesday's special meeting at City Hall by making the historic document

official. [Editor's Note: Full text of the proclamation is on page 5.]

The special meeting was called to give final approval to a general and special election to be held on May **MEETING** cont. on page 5A

High winds, but no Tuesday power outages

MOLLIE BRYANT
 mbryant@thepampanews.com

Wes Reeves of Xcel Energy reported that Pampa experienced no power outages during Tuesday's high winds. However, he said that outages caused by wind are a fairly common problem during this time of year.

"Wind doesn't always affect us the same way," said Reeves. "Hard, straight line winds that blow continuously can create problems."

Trees or broken tree limbs blowing into lines are one major cause of these outages.

"Power outages occur when lines make contact with each other or sometimes when trees blow into lines," said Reeves. "The system is designed to protect itself, so it will de-energize the line. During wind, the system will do that and correct itself, but if something has taken down the line, there can be power outages."

During high wind, bare branches are less likely to make contact with power lines.

"Depending on the time of year and if we have vegetation on trees, they can act as sails," Reeves said. "It's not quite as bad when trees don't have leaves on them. During high winds **WIND** cont. on page 5A

Drilling of new well to begin this week at Marcus Sanders Park

■ **Well's construction will run 24 hours for first one to two weeks of excavation**

MOLLIE BRYANT
 mbryant@thepampanews.com

This week, the City of Pampa will begin drilling a new well in Marcus Sanders Park, a process that will create well construction sounds for residents near the site during the one to two weeks that it takes to complete this phase of the project.

"During that period, they have to run 24 hours a day," said Donny Hooper, the city's director of public works. "They can't stop, but that's just during the one- to two-

week period that that'll be going on. After that, they'll be able to start doing their work where they're not up all night."

This construction is part of a project that includes the drilling of two wells, including the one in Marcus Sanders Park.

"We've got an existing well there now, but it's no longer in use, because it's just old and outdated, so we're replacing that one, but with that being in a neighborhood, there's going to be a lot of well operations that are



Hooper

going on," said Hooper.

Construction on a second well, to be located near Hobart Street Park, will begin immediately after completing the well in Marcus Sanders Park.

"These are two wells that are replacing our current well system," said Hooper. "We have four wells that are down right now that are probably beyond repair. They were built in the 40s and 50s, and it's just time to replace. We're trying to get these two in before our peak water demand begins, which is usually in June and July."

The city is also currently exploring locations for two additional wells.

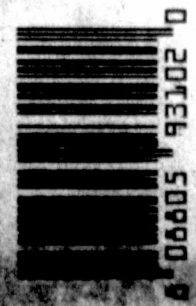
"After we finish our exploratory part of the project, we will eventually locate the best two locations that we can find out of our well field and our water rights that we **WELL** cont. on page 8A

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IN THIS ISSUE:
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 Weather 3A
 Morning Rush 3A
 Dog Talk 3A



PAMPA FORECAST



Today High 69 Low 35
Friday High 53 Low 27
Saturday High 56 Low 33

Today: Sunny, with a high near 69. Wind chill values between 29 and 38 early. Breezy, with a west southwest wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to between 20 and 25 mph. Winds could gust as high as 35 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 35. Wind chill values between 25 and 30. South southeast wind 10 to 20 mph becoming north northwest. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 53. North northwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 27. North northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 56. West northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 33. West southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

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Minority groups: New maps 'devastate'

AUSTIN (AP) — Disheartened and angry over the latest Texas voting maps handed down by federal judges, Democrats and minority rights groups looked Wednesday to a separate court in Washington as their last likely hope of cutting deeper into a solid Republican majority in the 2012 elections.

The GOP stands poised to hardly lose any power under the latest Texas congressional and state House maps delivered this week by a San Antonio federal court, which confronted how the state's political boundaries should be changed with more than 3 million new Hispanic residents.

Minority rights groups who sued the state over the original maps — drawn by the Republican-controlled Legislature last summer — received from the court Tuesday what will likely be the maps used this election year. They slammed those maps as a disaster, but with the twice-delayed Texas primaries on track for May 29, they also now face long odds of getting the lines redrawn yet again.

"This was a total devastation for the Latino community across Texas," said Luis Vera, attorney for the League of United Latin American Citizens.

Seeking to illustrate how poorly the maps were drawn, Vera met reporters at a San Antonio intersection where three separate congressional districts would converge. One district goes north 80 miles to Austin; across the street, another district begins that stretches more than 550 miles west to El Paso.

On Tuesday, LULAC joined with the NAACP and three other groups in asking the Washington court to expedite its ruling on whether the Texas Legislature's

original maps violate the federal Voting Rights Act. They hope that a favorable ruling from the Washington court will compel the San Antonio court to go back and alter districts ruled to be in violation.

The San Antonio court, however, is not bound to make changes to the 2012 maps based on what is handed down from the three-judge panel in Washington. In that scenario, Vera said the next step would be appealing to the U.S. Supreme Court, but even lawyers for the same minority groups acknowledge a victory there to be a longshot.

Under the court's latest map, Democrats say 11 of the state's 36 congressional seats would be minority-opportunity districts. A surge in population over the last decade awarded Texas four new congressional seats, which are likely to be evenly split among Republicans and Democrats.

Republicans largely cheered the maps as a victory. According to an analysis by the state GOP party, Republicans lost only one state House seat from their original map and projected they could win as many 20 of the 31 state Senate seats.

In all, Republicans say they could win 100 out of 150 seats in the next state House election.

Another victory for Republicans is the increased likelihood of the May 29 primary sticking, giving the delegate-rich state a chance to remain relevant in the Republican presidential primary if Mitt Romney hasn't sewn up the nomination by then.

It's unclear when the Washington court will issue a ruling. But the timing is important because national party rules require primary elections be held by June 26. If the MAPS cont. on page 8A

Obituaries

Virginia Louise Jones, 79

McLEAN—Virginia Louise Jones, 79, died Wednesday, February 29, 2012, at McLean.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday, March 2, 2012, in Robertson Funeral Directors Route 66 Chapel in McLean with Rev. Thacker Haynes, Pastor of the First United Methodist Church, officiating.

Interment will be at Memory Gardens Cemetery in Pampa.

Arrangements are under the direction of Robertson Funeral Directors of McLean.



Jones

Mrs. Jones was born December 30, 1932, in Shamrock to Lucille Ferrell, and had been a resident of McLean since 1992. She was married to Virgil Jones. She was a beautician and was a member of the First Baptist Church in McLean. She also loved fishing. She was a great mother, grandmother, sister, and very good friend.

She was preceded in death by her mother; her husband; and a brother.

Survivors include a daughter, Kim Drape and husband Robert; a sister, Fern Ritter of Pampa; two grandchildren, Gary Jones and wife Terri of McLean and Brandon York of Copperas Cove; five grandchildren, Brandon Ellenburg, Tiffany Lee and husband Wesley, Tyler Britt, Abby York, and P.J.; a great-great-grandchild, Weston Lee.

The family request memorials be sent to the McLean Volunteer Fire Department or the American Cancer Society.

Sign our online guestbook at www.RobertsonFuneral.com.

For the record

Police Department

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 24 hour period ending Wednesday, Feb. 29 at 7 a.m.

Pampa EMS responded to 16 medical calls.

Animal Control agents and Pampa PD reported 12 animal related incidents.

Pampa PD reported eight traffic related incidents.

Tuesday, Feb. 28

A structure fire occurred at the 400 block of North Frost.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 4000 block

of North Bad Cattle Company.

Criminal mischief occurred at the 1300 block of West Wilks.

Suspicious persons were reported at the 400 block of North Ward and the intersection of Foster and Wynne.

A theft occurred at the 400 block of North Carr.

A theft was reported.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 300 block of East Frederic and the intersection of Tuke and Cuyler.

A suspicious person was reported at the 1900 block of North Dwight.

Criminal mischief oc-

curred at the 100 block of East Randy Matson.

An accident occurred at the 800 block of East Browning.

A suspicious person was reported at the 1100 block of North Hobart.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 2300 block of North Mary Ellen.

A suspicious person was reported at the 200 block of South Miami.

A threat was reported at the 400 block of South Graham.

A domestic disturbance occurred at the 1100 block of South Prairie.

Disorderly conduct oc-

curred at the 1200 block of North Hobart and the intersection of Starkweather and Atchison.

Criminal mischief was reported.

Driving while intoxicated was reported at 171 and 60.

A domestic disturbance occurred at the 300 block of South Miami.

An assault occurred at the 1000 block of East Jordan.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 1100 block of Francis.

A domestic disturbance occurred at the 400 block of South Ballard.

A runaway was reported at the 1000 block of East Jordan.

Wednesday, Feb. 29

Burglaries of motor vehicles occurred at the 1600 block of West Somerville and the 1600 block of North Somerville.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 2100 block of North Hobart.

A suspicious person was reported at the 1100 block of East Foster.

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Obama salutes Iraq War vets

WASHINGTON (AP) — With a formal dinner for the few, President Barack Obama on Wednesday paid solemn tribute to the many.

The president who opposed the Iraq war from its outset thanked those who fought its battles by sitting down to a candlelit meal with a small cross section of the million-plus who served there over the past nine years.

"In a culture that celebrates fame and fortune, yours are not necessarily household names," Obama told the gathering. "You are something more: the patriots who served in our name. And after nearly nine years in Iraq, tonight is an opportunity to express our gratitude and to say once more, welcome home."

The faces of war were reflected in the 200 veterans and their guests who gathered in the East Room to dine on aged rib-eye steak, potato croquettes and chocolate crème brulee. They came from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and U.S. territories, and spanned generations, gender and all five branches of the military.

Houston plans 'sobering center'

HOUSTON (AP) — People accused of being drunk in public in Houston will have an alternative to jail.

City officials on Tuesday announced plans for a so-called "sobering center" at the Star of Hope Mission.

Mayor Annise Parker says jailing people whose only crime is public intoxication diverts law officers from more serious offenses. Parker also hopes to ease jail crowding.

Houston police arrest about 19,000 people annually for public intoxication, at a jail cost of up to \$6 million.

About \$3 million in public safety bonds will be used for the 84-bed sobering center, opening by late 2012.

The facility would not be for suspected drunken drivers or anyone with outstanding warrants. Detainees would be held at least four hours, to sober up and avoid an arrest record.

Last madam of Texas brothel dies

HOUSTON (AP) — The last madam of the infamous Texas brothel that inspired the movie "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" has died in Phoenix. She was 84.

Edna Milton Chadwell's nephew, Robert Kleffman, said Wednesday that his aunt died Feb. 25. She had been in the hospital since a car accident in October.

Kleffman says Chadwell began working at the Chicken Ranch in 1952. About three years later, Chadwell became the manager. In 1962, she bought the establishment from Jessie Williams, commonly known as Miss Jessie, and ran it until it was shut down in 1973.

Chadwell did not like the movie that made the Chicken Ranch famous, saying the only truth in it was that there was a whorehouse in the town.

Ex-officer sentenced for assault

FORT WORTH (AP) — A former North Texas police officer has been sentenced to 20 years in prison for the sexual assault of five women he detained.

A judge in Fort Worth on Wednesday sentenced 34-year-old Daniel Lopez after the ex-lawman pleaded guilty to five counts.

Lopez was ordered to serve 20 years for each count, with the terms served concurrently.

Investigators say Lopez resigned as a Fort Worth officer in December 2010, shortly before being arrested.

Police say a woman complained that Lopez forced her to perform a sex act on him in November 2010. Four other victims were located following the initial accusation.

Lopez, who joined the police force in 2004, must serve 10 years before being eligible for parole.

Details on why Lopez detained the women weren't immediately available.

Man pleads guilty to 1978 death

GEORGETOWN (AP) — A Dallas man sentenced to 40 years in prison for the 1978 slaying of a Central Texas woman has received the same penalty for killing her date.

A judge in Georgetown on Tuesday sentenced 53-year-old Benny Tijerina (tee-hur-REE'-nah). Tijerina pleaded guilty to murder in the death of 19-year-old Kevin Key.

Tijerina last week was in court in Waco and pleaded guilty to murder in the death of 18-year-old Rita Salazar. Both teens were shot. Investigators say Salazar was also sexually assaulted.

The couple disappeared after seeing a movie in Austin and running out of gas. Their bodies were found in different counties.

Tijerina was arrested in 2007 for drunken driving and provided a DNA sample, which eventually was matched to the Salazar attack.

Tijerina's 40-year prison terms will run concurrently.

Man says dog killed wife

GUNNISON, Colo. (AP) — A businessman from Texas is due in a Colorado courtroom to face murder charges after he told police his dog killed his wife in Lake City four years ago.

Frederick Mueller of San Angelo, Texas, told authorities his wife Lorraine was near the edge of a cliff overlooking a gorge when a blue bird startled their dog.

Mueller told police the dog wrapped its leash around his wife's legs and pulled her off the ledge of the cliff.

According to KUSA-TV, a judge is expected to set a trial date Wednesday.

Okla. open-carry bill passes

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Despite some concern that Oklahoma is returning to the "lawless days of yesterday," a state House panel has approved a bill to allow gun permit holders to openly carry firearms.

The House Public Safety Committee voted 13-2 on Wednesday for the bill that allows those with a concealed carry permit to openly carry their weapons. It now proceeds to the full House.

Former Highway Patrol trooper and Democratic state Rep. Paul Roan of Tishomingo voted against the bill, saying he sees it as a return to the "lawless days of yesterday" and poses safety concerns for police.

Former Democratic Gov. Brad Henry vetoed an open carry bill two years ago, but Republican Gov. Mary Fallin has said she supports a responsible open carry bill.

Stanford fraud case continues

HOUSTON (AP) —

Texas tycoon R. Allen Stanford flushed away billions of investor funds on a "lavish lifestyle and his loser companies" as part of a massive Ponzi scheme that spanned two decades, a prosecutor told jurors Wednesday.

During closing arguments in Stanford's fraud trial, prosecutor William Stellmach said Stanford lined his pockets "with billions of dollars of other people's money."

Stellmach told jurors that Stanford, 61, for years lied to investors who bought certificates of deposit, or CDs, from his bank on the Caribbean island nation of Antigua, telling them it was a safe investment.

Prosecutors allege Stanford spent the money on a string of failed businesses that lost millions and an extravagant lifestyle that included yachts and private jets.

Stellmach said that by 2008, the bank owed depositors over \$7 billion that it did not have and Stanford was responsible for the massive debt.

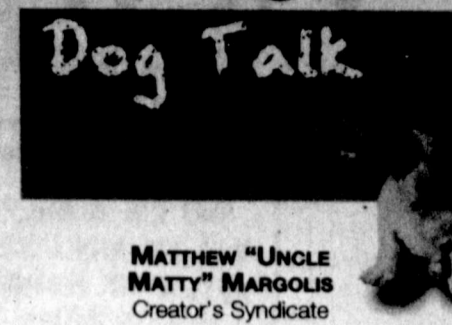
"Mr. Stanford had been digging that hole for years with his lavish lifestyle and his loser companies," he said.

Stanford's attorneys were set to make their closing arguments to jurors later Wednesday.

Stanford, who has been jailed without bond since

STANFORD cont. on page 5

Reaching the breaking point



MATTHEW "UNCLE MATTY" MARGOLIS
Creator's Syndicate

No one and nothing is immune from a breaking point. Chemical substances have breaking points. Physical objects have breaking points. Men and women have breaking points. And dogs are no exception.

A breaking point is defined as:
1. the point at which something or someone gives way under strain.
2. the moment of crisis in a situation.
Both definitions apply to the following scene:

I have some concerns about my 18-month-old American Staffordshire, "Duke," and my two children, who are 4 and 5. Tonight, the kids were playing with the dog, and my 4-year-old boy pinched and teased the dog and obviously hurt him. My daughter was giving him a big cuddle at the same time — and was probably also being a little rough. The dog lunged at her with a huge bark, which to me sounded like an aggressive warning as if to say I've had enough. Is that a normal response to pain from a dog, or is my dog a time bomb waiting to go off?

He didn't bite her, but he did show his teeth. He mouths sometimes when playing, and he's a big dog who could do a lot of damage if he snapped. He is very social with other dogs and people.

What is the best way to discipline this type of behavior? Or is it simply reason enough to give him away to someone without children? I just don't know...

Not knowing what you're doing when you bring together young children and dogs is risky parenting. You're gambling, and the stakes are high.

The first thing you should know is that all dogs — regardless of size, regardless of breed — have a breaking

point. Knowing that your dog has a breaking point is important, but it's not an invitation to go looking for it.

As a parent, you have a duty to protect your children. The best way to do that is through intelligent prevention. And the most effective way to prevent a dog from biting your kids is to teach your kids how to appropriately handle a dog.

The letter writer's questions are off-base. "What is the best way to discipline this type of behavior?" Whose behavior? The kids'? The dog's? The parents'? And "discipline" isn't the ingredient that will bring this dish together. Education is what's missing. These kids have not been taught how to properly handle and play with a dog.

That is not the dog's fault. And it's not the kids' fault.

This kind of behavior toward an animal is unacceptable — even abusive — and many parents don't even realize it. Kids are allowed to flat-out abuse the family dog, and their parents have this notion that because he's the family pet, he won't react.

Why is a dog expected to tolerate this? Where is it written that "family" can treat a dog however they want and the dog will just put up with it? Everyone has a breaking point.

It's important to understand the difference between aggression and a normal reaction to provocation. Duke might very well thrive in an environment without small children — or even with children who know how to properly handle a dog. A professional trainer or behaviorist can help make that determination. But if Duke is to stay in this home, everyone needs some good positive training.

Woof!

Dog trainer Matthew "Uncle Matty" Margolis is co-author of 18 books about dogs, a behaviorist, a popular radio and television guest, and host of the PBS series "WOOF! It's a Dog's Life!"

More details emerge in Medicare scheme

DALLAS (AP) — Years after Jacques Roy started filing paperwork that would have made his practice the busiest Medicare provider in the U.S., authorities say they've found most of his work was a lie.

They accused Roy on Tuesday of "selling his signature" to collect Medicare and Medicaid payments for work that was never done or wasn't necessary. Others charged in the scheme are accused of fraudulently signing up patients or offering them cash, free groceries or food stamps to give their names and a number used to bill Medicare.

Authorities say Roy's practice certified 11,000 Medicare beneficiaries through more than 500 home health providers over five years. More than 75 of those agencies have had their Medicare payments suspended.

Roy, 41, a doctor who

owned Medistat Group Associates in DeSoto, Texas, faces up to 100 years in prison if he's convicted of several counts of health care fraud and conspiracy to commit health care fraud. Six others, including the owners of three home health service agencies, are also charged.

Roy's attorney, Patrick McLain, said he had yet to review much of the evidence but Roy maintained his innocence.

A host of top officials from the Justice and Health and Human Services departments announced the investigation Tuesday in Dallas. They argued that the announcement was proof that changes in how Medicare data is analyzed had worked. The scheme was the largest dollar amount by a single doctor uncovered by a task force on Medicare fraud, authorities said.

The officials said years

SCHEME cont. on page 5

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Movies Showing	Showing Friday
Friday, February 24 through Thursday, March 1.	Friday, March 2 through Thursday, March 8.
Act of Valor (R) Fri 7:30 9:45 Sat 2:00 4:30 7:30 9:45 Sun 2:00 4:30 7:30 Mon/Thu 7:30	The Vow (PG-13) Fri 7:00 9:45 Sat 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:45 Sun 2:00 4:30 7:00 Mon/Thu 7:00
This Means War (PG-13) Fri 7:00 9:45 Sat 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:45 Sun 2:00 4:30 7:00 Mon/Thu 7:00	Dr. Seuss' The Lorax (PG in 3D) Fri 7:00 9:00 Sat 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:00 Sun 2:00 4:30 7:00 Mon/Thu 7:00
Journey 2 in 3-D (PG) Fri 7:00 9:00 Sat 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:00 Sun 2:00 4:30 7:00 Mon/Thu 7:00	Project X (R) Fri 7:30 9:45 Sat 2:00 4:30 7:30 9:45 Sun 2:00 4:30 7:30 Mon/Thu 7:30
Ghost Rider 2 (PG-13) Fri 7:30 9:45 Sat 2:00 4:30 7:30 9:45 Sun 2:00 4:30 7:30 Mon/Thu 7:30	Act of Valor (R) Fri 7:30 9:45 Sat 2:00 4:30 7:30 9:45 Sun 2:00 4:30 7:30 Mon/Thu 7:30

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THE FIRST TIME

Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Thursday, March 1, the 61st day of 2012. There are 305 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 1, 1932, Charles A. Lindbergh Jr., the 20-month-old son of Charles and Anne Lindbergh, was kidnapped from the family home near Hopewell, N.J. (Remains identified as those of the child were found the following May.)

On this date:

In 1565, the city of Rio de Janeiro was founded by Portuguese knight Estacio de Sa.

In 1790, President George Washington signed a measure authorizing the first U.S. Census.

In 1809, the Illinois Territory came into existence.

In 1867, Nebraska became the 37th state.

In 1872, President Ulysses S. Grant signed an act creating Yellowstone National Park.

In 1912, Isabella Goodwin of New York City was appointed the first female police detective.

In 1940, "Native Son" by Richard Wright was first published by Harper & Brothers.

In 1954, Puerto Rican nationalists opened fire from the gallery of the U.S. House of Representatives, wounding five congressmen.

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy signed an executive order establishing the Peace Corps.

In 1962, an American Airlines Boeing 707 on a scheduled flight to Los Angeles crashed after taking off from New York's Idlewild Airport, killing all 95 people on board. The first Kmart store opened in Garden City, Mich.

In 1971, a bomb went off inside a men's room at the U.S. Capitol; the radical group Weather Underground claimed responsibility for the pre-dawn blast.

In 1981, Irish Republican Army member Bobby Sands began a hunger strike at the Maze Prison in Northern Ireland; he died 65 days later.

Ten years ago: Space shuttle Columbia blasted into orbit on a mission to renovate the Hubble Space Telescope. NASA said its Mars Odyssey spacecraft had found evidence that vast regions of Mars may be covered in water. Under pressure from prosecutors, the Archdiocese of Boston agreed to turn over the names of people allegedly molested by priests. Grand American series driver Jeff Clinton was killed during practice in a crash at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

Five years ago: Tornadoes killed 20 people in the Midwest and Southeast, including eight students at Enterprise High School in Alabama. Maj. Gen. George W. Weightman, who had been in charge of Walter Reed Army Medical Center, was relieved of command after disclosures about dilapidated buildings and inadequate treatment of wounded soldiers. An independent commission concluded the National Guard and Reserves weren't getting enough money or equipment.

One year ago: Yemen's embattled president, Ali Abdullah Saleh, accused the U.S., his closest ally, of instigating the mounting protests against him, but the gambit failed to slow the momentum of his ouster (he later apologized to Washington). The GOP-controlled House handily passed legislation to cut the federal budget by \$4 billion and avert a partial shutdown of the government for two weeks. (The Senate passed the stopgap funding bill the next day.)

Today's Birthdays: Actor Robert Clary is 86. Singer Harry Belafonte is 85. Former U.S. Solicitor General Robert H. Bork is 85. Actor Robert Conrad is 77. Rock singer Mike D'Abo (Manfred Mann) is 68. Former Sen. John Breaux, D-La., is 68. Rock singer Roger Daltrey is 68. Actor Dirk Benedict is 67. Actor Alan Thicke is 65. Actor-director Ron Howard is 58. Actress Catherine Bach is 58. Country singer Janis Gill (aka Janis Oliver Cummins) (Sweethearts of the Rodeo) is 58. Actor Tim Daly is 56. Singer-musician Jon Carroll is 55. Rock musician Bill Leen is 50. Actor Maurice Bernard is 49. Actor Russell Wong is 49. Actor John David Cullum is 46. Actor George Eads is 45. Actor Javier Bardem is 43. Actor Jack Davenport is 39. Rock musician Ryan Peake (Nickelback) is 39. Actor Mark-Paul Gosselaar is 38. Actor Jensen Ackles is 34. TV host Donovan Patton is 34. Rock musician Sean Woolstenhulme is 31. Rhythm-and-blues singer Sammie is 25. Pop singer Justin Bieber is 18.

Thought for Today: "The only sense that is common in the long run, is the sense of change - and we all instinctively avoid it." - E.B. White, American writer (1899-1985).

We welcome your letters

To ensure publication, please adhere to the following guidelines:

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



Citizens also have room to improve

As a member of Congress, you get used to being graded. Interest groups send you questionnaires, check your voting record, and then issue their "report cards." Editorial writers opine freely on your performance. Pollsters issue monthly updates on how Congress is faring with the public.

Members of Congress learn to expect this judgment and criticism. It's part of being an elected official in this country — and should be.

But they also learn that Congress is part of a larger political system that also involves We The People. Our democracy doesn't just require its institutions and political leaders to function well; it works best when we, as citizens, all do our part. So at this moment when Congress's public standing is at an all-time low, it's natural to wonder: how are the American people doing at holding up their end of the bargain?

Every year, the Center on Congress at Indiana University surveys political scientists around the country to get their sense of how Congress is functioning. But it recognizes that Congress is just one part of the picture, and so it also asks these 40 experts how Americans as a whole are doing at playing the constructive role our system demands of them.

The questions are instructive, because they give you a sense of the citizen's responsibilities. How well do people actually keep in touch with their members of Congress, for instance? Communication between elected officials and the people they represent — ordinary people with ordinary concerns — is the lifeblood of a representative democ-

racy. It can happen through letters, emails, phone calls and visits; through the interest groups many people join; and through voting. On all of these fronts, a majority of the experts surveyed give Americans about a C average for their participation.

If we're to pass judgment on Congress, then it's also worth asking how much we actually understand it. If we want it to improve, how much do we know about what it does and how it operates? The experts surveyed take a pretty dim view of Americans' performance.

How regularly do Americans follow what's actually going on in Congress? Most of those surveyed gave the country at best a D.

How well do Americans understand the main features of Congress and how it works? Almost two-thirds of the respondents handed out a D, while most of the rest gave us an F.

Do Americans have a reasonable understanding of what Congress can and should do? In other words, do they understand the powers given to Congress by the Constitution, and its role in executing those constitutional powers? D's and F's again.

Especially noteworthy is their low opinion of Americans' grasp of the importance of compromise. In a politically and socially diverse country, with two houses of Congress and a president all able to weigh in, most legislation simply cannot be crafted without some measure of compromise. Most of the experts surveyed believe that many Americans don't



LEE H. HAMILTON

understand this. They hold a similarly low opinion of the media's ability to explain how Congress works to readers and viewers.

Now, these are the opinions of a handful of political experts. The point is not to berate our fellow citizens for their ignorance, but to understand that if we want Congress to improve, it is not just up to its members to make it happen. Congress will change when we insist that it change.

We can take a lesson from Will Rogers. His statue in the U.S. Capitol is the only one directly facing the House chamber, honoring his shrewd comment: "I always keep my eye on Congress to see what they're up to." All of us need to do this: communicate more fully and openly with our representatives; learn Congress's responsibilities and how it fulfills them — and, even more importantly, how it should fulfill them; and recognize that if we don't like intense partisanship and political games-playing, then we need to give our representatives room to craft legislation with broad appeal.

Without the informed understanding of the American people, in other words, Congress will continue to flounder. And if it does, it won't just be its members' fault.

Lee Hamilton is Director of the Center on Congress at Indiana University. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

Ruling a victory for Texas landowners

February 24, 2012, was an important day for Texas landowners, and for all Texans who care about property rights. On that day, the Supreme Court of Texas issued its opinion in a case called Edwards Aquifer Authority and the State of Texas v. Burrell Day and Joel McDaniel. The court spoke definitively to an issue of enormous importance to all landowners: their right to use the waters under their properties.

As a fourth-generation West Texas rancher myself, I know full well how important that water can be, and what it would feel like if a government agency told you that you couldn't use the water under your own land.

But too often, that's just what happens. Conservation goals that could be accomplished with open communication and negotiation between agricultural producers and Texas' water districts are pursued by administrative edict instead.

I've been concerned with this issue for a very long time. As a legislator in 1995, with the late Senator Teel Bivins, I wrote and passed the Texas Private Real Property Rights Preservation Act, a law that has been called "a basic charter for the protection of private real property rights in Texas."

The act specifically defined real property as including groundwater rights — rights that shouldn't be taken away without just compensation.

When government regulations

limit your ability to use your land as productively as you can, they've cut its value. And when they devalue your land, it's called a "taking." Article I of the Texas Constitution says it clearly:

"No person's property shall be taken, damaged, or destroyed for or applied to public use without adequate compensation being made."

It's a bedrock principle of our state.

It was the issue before the Supreme Court in the Day case: "Whether land ownership includes an interest in groundwater in place that cannot be taken for public use without adequate compensation" as guaranteed by the Constitution?

The Court looked at how the Edwards Aquifer Authority issues permits based on "the amount of beneficial use" a person's groundwater has been put to in the past. The Authority was using a "use it or lose it" approach to groundwater ownership based on regulations that say, in effect, that landowners can be deprived of nearly all use of their groundwater simply because they hadn't used it before.

That's why I was pleased to file an amicus brief in the case, and even more pleased to learn that the court had supported the landowners involved, concluding "a landowner cannot be deprived of all beneficial use of the groundwater below his property merely because he did not



SUSAN COMBS

use it during an historical period."

Now the Supreme Court has set it in stone: you have an ownership interest to the water under your land, just as you do oil or gas. And if state or local authorities want to interfere with your constitutionally protected rights, they have to pay you for it.

This opinion was critical to ensuring the stability of land titles and market value of lands and to the continued sustainability of investments made by communities across the state in acquiring groundwater rights from landowners to support the water supply needs of their growing economies.

As Texas' population growth continues its breakneck pace, greater demands inevitably will be placed on our precious water resources. These will have to be managed wisely and well through a shared responsibility. But if we ignore private property rights, we've lost a fundamental part of what makes Texas what it is.

Fortunately, it looks like we're staying on the right path.

Susan Combs is Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts. For more information on government regulation and Texas property rights, please visit the Comptroller's Keeping Texas First website at www.KeepingTexasFirst.org.

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Town of Pampa, Texas was "duly incorporated" February 17, 1912 with an election held at the schoolhouse. The result was a 6-vote majority for incorporation, the vote being 34 for and 28 against; and

WHEREAS, Pampa was formally classified as a "city" on June 23, 1919 with a population of 860, and today it has grown to 17,998 citizens; and

WHEREAS, the city was first named "Glasgow," then "Sutton," and finally Pampa by George Tyng, manager of the White Deer Land Company because the plains of the Panhandle reminded him of the pampas, the vast grassy, treeless plains of Argentina; and

WHEREAS, the first election to elect officers was held on March 5th, 1912. J.N. Duncan was elected Mayor, J.R. Brown, S.S. Thomas, J.T. Crawford, Jr., C.P. Ledrick and O.A. Barrett were elected as Alderman; and

WHEREAS, the history of Pampa has been perpetuated in the naming of its streets. Pampa named its streets for our own pioneers and developers of this city, their families and friends; and

WHEREAS, as citizens, we cannot and should not forget those individuals and organizations whose efforts and labor over the past one hundred years resulted in the quality of life that we enjoy today.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Brad Pingel, Mayor of the City of Pampa, along with City Commission Members Rebecca Holmes, John Studebaker, Robert Dixon and Neil Fulton do hereby proclaim the year 2012 as:

"The City of Pampa's Centennial Year"

And call upon the citizens to honor the past, celebrate the present, and continue to be a beautiful, vibrant community who have dreams and visions for a bright and prosperous future.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set out hand and caused the Seal of the City of Pampa to affixed this 28th day of February, 2012.

image courtesy of City of Pampa

Pictured above, verbatim, is the text of the centennial proclamation signed by Mayor Brad Pingel and the City Commission on Wednesday. The date of the proclamation is off by one day because the signing of the document was postponed.

Meeting

cont. from page 1A

12. The elections were approved on first reading at Tuesday's regular City Commission meeting.

Voters will elect commissioners for Wards 2 and 4 (the positions are currently held by Rebecca Holmes

and Neil Fulton), and also vote on an amendment of the city's charter.

Wind

cont. from page 1A

last year, weak branches were already broken, and we've done a better job of tree trimming to help prevent an outage."

Reeves recommended considering a tree's location before you plant it.

"If you plant trees close to electrical lines in alleys or near overhead service lines, be careful if you decide to trim them," he said. "Call Xcel's customer service line if you're concerned about trees around alleys, because we have experts who can (trim them)."

Stanford

cont. from page 3A

being indicted in 2009, is on trial for 14 counts, including mail and wire fraud. He could be sentenced to more than 20 years in prison if convicted. The financier's trial began Jan. 23.

Over a three-week period, federal prosecutors methodically presented evidence — including testimony from ex-workers of Stanford's companies as well as emails, financial statements and other documents — that they say shows the flamboyant businessman orchestrated a 20-year scheme that bilked more than \$7 billion from investors.

The prosecution's star witness, James M. Davis, the ex-chief financial officer of Stanford's companies, told jurors he and Stanford faked the bank's profits and used CD deposits to bribe an outside auditor and Antiguan bank regulators to help them hide the alleged fraud.

Defense attorneys tried to show Stanford was a

savvy businessman whose business empire, headquartered in Houston, was legitimate. They blamed Davis for the alleged fraud. They said Stanford was trying to consolidate his businesses to pay back investors when authorities seized his companies.

Defense witnesses told jurors Stanford was not a hands-on boss and that Davis handled the day-to-day operations of his businesses.

Stanford's attorneys, who spent about nine days presenting their case, did not put the businessman on the witness stand. Stanford had apparently wanted to testify but was convinced not to do so. Legal experts say it's usually better for a defendant not to testify.

Stanford was once considered among the wealthiest people in the U.S. with an estimated net worth of more than \$2 billion. But at his trial, he had court-appointed attorneys because his assets have been seized by authorities.

Scheme

cont. from page 3A

of alleged "off the charts" billing by Roy went unnoticed because they did not have the tools to catch it. Health and Human Services has since beefed up its data analysis and can track other cases, HHS Inspector General Dan Levinson said.

"We're now able to use those data analytic tools in ways — in 2012 and 2011 — that no, we really could not have done in

years past," Levinson said.

The department also is working on a system of "predictive modeling" to flag suspicious billings for investigation before they are paid, HHS Deputy Secretary Bill Corr said.

But others still have questions about how a fraud so big could have gone unnoticed for so long.

Patrick Burns, spokesman for the advocacy group

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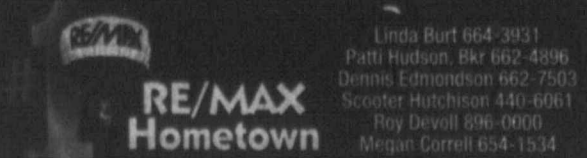
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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: For years, I suffered from high blood pressure and diabetes. I never had a clue that they are the two leading causes of kidney failure. After reading in your column about National Kidney Month, I decided to take your suggestion and go to the National Kidney Foundation website at kidney.org.

When I attended their free screening through the Kidney Early Evaluation Program (KEEP), I found out that high blood pressure can damage the kidney's filtering units, that diabetes is the No. 1 risk factor for kidney disease and how important it is to keep them both under control.

is, she was a good person who made some mistakes toward the end of her life. Alton is arrogant and mean and has a long history of verbally attacking family members.

People are still talking about the eulogy. There were individuals at the service who called him names, and a few walked out in tears. Word spread to people in other states within minutes after the service ended.

to "once a jerk, always a jerk"? — COULDN'T BELIEVE MY EARS IN ARIZONA

DEAR COULDN'T BELIEVE YOUR EARS: I vote no, because I seriously doubt that anything you could say would shame an arrogant, mean jerk into admitting he made a mistake by speaking disrespectfully of his mother at her funeral. A better way to handle it would be for those who were offended to avoid him. A deafening silence may convey the message more loudly than words.

That screening was a wake-up call for me. I now take insulin for my diabetes and medication for my blood pressure. I have cut out salt and starch, added lots of vegetables to my diet, and 30 minutes on the stationary bike to my daily routine. My efforts have paid off. Last year when I was screened again at the KEEP, I learned that my kidney function has increased.

Tens of millions of Americans are at risk for kidney disease. Won't you please remind your readers again how important it is to be screened? For me it was a lifesaver. — JERRYDEAN QUEEN, NEW ORLEANS

DEAR JERRYDEAN: I'm pleased that my column alerted you to your risk for kidney disease, and that you caught it in time.

Readers, March 8 is World Kidney Day. The National Kidney Foundation is again urging Americans to learn the risk factors for kidney disease and be screened so you can prevent damage to these vital organs. For advice on how to stay healthy and a schedule of free screenings — not only during March but also throughout the year — visit the National Kidney Foundation online at kidney.org.

DEAR ABBY: Someone gave a very inappropriate eulogy for someone my family cares about dearly. Is it worth it to say something to him? "Alton" lost his mother, a really good person who was loved by many, and he attacked her during his eulogy.

Alton shared quite a few details about his mother's life that no one needed to know. But the bottom line

BANANAGRAMS!

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

LEVEL

CAROB BLARE
 GRATE WOADS

COMMON LETTER

Yesterday's Answer:

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

Level: Intermediate

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 44 When pigs fly
- 45 Rival
- 46 Some wines

DOWN

- 1 Ipsos
- 2 Profit
- 3 Prepared for the cobbler
- 4 Merino mom
- 5 "Shane" star
- 6 They may clash
- 7 Team leader
- 8 Showy
- 9 Pulled in
- 11 Patsies
- 17 Caustic stuff
- 19 Gold unit
- 22 Blue-veined cheese
- 24 Fellows with letters
- 25 Out, socially
- 27 Throw in
- 28 Catch some Z's
- 30 Alamos
- 33 Spartacus, for one
- 34 Ventilated
- 35 Puts on
- 37 Impact sound
- 38 Effortless
- 42 That lass

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

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Well

cont. from page 1A

have, and then we'll drill those as well," said Hooper. "Then we'll be back to full capacity in our well field here that we have locally."

Making sure the first two wells are online by the summer, when the city experiences peak water demand, has become a priority since the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority's (CRMWA) decision last year to stop pumping water from Lake Meredith to its member cities, including Pampa.

"We'll probably be pushing those wells pretty good at the start of the summer when we reach peak demand, because we're not getting any Lake Meredith water at all now," said Hooper. "It's been completely shut off, so that leaves us in a pinch on how much water we're actually going to be getting from CRMWA, as opposed to the demand that he have."

Last summer, the city put out pamphlets on water conservation that Hooper said were well received by the public.

"They responded so well that we dropped our demand by 2 million gallons a day during that time period," he said. "We know that the people are capable of conservation. They've shown us that they care about that, and they've shown us that they want to participate in conservation, so with their help (and) with the two new wells, Pampa's going to be in good shape when it comes to the water."

Election

cont. from page 1A

been getting inundated with calls from people worried that they're not even registered anymore."

The misinformation has not been exclusive to Gray County voters.

"It's all over the state," Lewis said. "I don't know where it was generated. There's no party affiliation. It's just a random email, and it's scaring people because it's an important election year. People were already a little bit unsettled because they hadn't gotten their new cards, and that's really added fuel to the fire."

Voter registration cards for Gray County residents — and for people all over Texas, for that matter — still have not been mailed because of the state's prolonged redistricting process.

"The redistricting maps are what our cards are hinging on," Lewis said. "There are little blocks on the side of the card which will say your Senate (district), your school district — everything available for where you vote and who you're eligible to vote for. Because we can't fill those in all the way, there's nothing that we can do at this point. If we sent the cards out and the maps come back as not approved or if they have to change them, we will have to re-send these, and that would be a huge monetary problem for the county."

It would cost the county approximately \$5,000 to re-send the cards, according to Lewis.

As for redistricting, new maps for Texas' state house and congressional districts were issued by a federal court in San Antonio on Tuesday, though nine organizations representing voting demographics in the state could file an appeal. Election administrators throughout the state, like Lewis, are still awaiting final word from the Texas Secretary of State before making preparations for a tentatively scheduled May 29 primary.

That means, for now, there is still no official mail-out date for the voter registration cards, though Lewis is confident that they will eventually make their way into voters' hands before the election.

"I firmly believe that we will get these to the public," Lewis said. "It's going to happen. It's going to be wild and fast, but when it rolls out, it's going to be like a floodgate opens. The mass mail-out will go out, the public will get their ID cards, we'll prepare for the election, the early voting will come. We'll have our primary."

At the moment, though, Lewis remained steadfast with the same message she has been giving since the start of the New Year, preaching patience and assuring voters that, yes, they are still registered.

"My main thing is for the voting population to know that they are still registered," Lewis said. "They can use their driver's license. Even if they do not have the registration card in their possession by the time they vote, we can look them up in our system. They will be in the poll books when we're at the voting center. The fact that they don't have their registration cards in their hand right now is just a formality."

Maps

cont. from page 2A

court doesn't act in time, this year's Texas elections would be held under the temporary maps proposed by the court in San Antonio.

The Texas primary was once considered the biggest prize of next week's Super Tuesday, but the legal wrangling over redistricting has pushed the state's primary back twice — from March 6 to May 29.

The U.S. Supreme Court threw



out the San Antonio court's first attempt to draw temporary maps because they didn't adhere closely enough to what the Legislature created. The court released a second set of maps on Tuesday following the Supreme Court's instructions.

Since the new congressional and state House maps are based on the Legislature's originals, the court-drawn maps reflect the

same "intentional discrimination" of the Legislature's maps, the groups argued in the court filing Wednesday.

The Washington court has said it would probably rule sometime in March. If the courts accept the minority groups' argument, such a move could delay the Texas primaries back again.

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Harvesters edge Bulldogs 3-2, snap four-game skid

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@
thepampanews.com

Over the last several seasons, the Borger Bulldogs have had Pampa's number in soccer and already beat Pampa once this season. Tuesday night looked to go on a similar path, but the Harvesters rallied and senior Colten Adams scored on a penalty kick to give Pampa a 3-2 victory at Harvester Field.

"We came out determined to play a lot better," head coach Byron May said. "We did. We gutted one out. As usual with Borger, it was a physical game."

The Bulldogs took a 2-0 lead with goals at the 15- and 20-minute marks. Junior Adrian Ramos cut the lead in half with a shot about 10-yards away. Senior Flavio Gonzalez tied the game at the 32-minute mark on an assist by Ramos.

"I have to credit Adrian

Ramos, who assisted off a corner kick," Gonzalez said. "It felt really good to come back. We worked our hardest to get in there."

The game remained tied until the last 15 minutes. The Harvesters got pressure at the net and Adams attempted a shot, with sophomore Alan Stovall going after the ball. Borger was called for a handball and set up a penalty shot. Adams kicked it to the right and above the goalie.

May said Stovall's hustle was key.

"His hustle and Miguel Pacheco's hustle opened things up on top," May said.

In the first meeting on Feb. 3, Pampa gave up seven goals. May said he was pleased with his team's hustle.

"The number one problem I had at halftime was I didn't know who I wanted to put where," May said. "We had 15 guys playing excellent soccer. I was trying to pick and choose

my spots where I can put guys in."

Gonzalez said the win is a confidence booster.

"I believe we have many good things coming in our season," Gonzalez said. "We are looking forward to playoffs and doing the best we can."

The Harvesters (5-11-1, 2-6-0) visit Randall, 2 p.m. Friday at Kimbrough Memorial Stadium. Pampa beat Randall 4-2 on February 9. May said his team needs to avoid a letdown.

"The good news is with it being on Saturday, we got an extra day to focus and regroup on things," May said.



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Freshman Chris Melindez dribbles the ball upfield against Borger Tuesday. The Harvesters won 3-2 and face Randall 2 p.m. Saturday in Canyon.

Pampa girls let early lead slip, tie Borger

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Lady Harvesters scored early but couldn't hold the lead in a 1-1 tie against Borger.

"We did pretty good the first 15 minutes," junior goalie Bree Howard said. "Then we started giving up. We weren't playing as a team and communicating."

Junior Terra Truitt scored Pampa's only goal, the result of pressure on Borger's goalie.

"As long as the forwards put pressure on the goalie, it's going to happen eventually," Truitt said. "I just happened to be there at the right time."

Head coach Libby Garza said she was proud of how they played in the first 15 minutes.

"We were talking and pressuring," Garza said. "Then we kind of let up. It was just recover the rest of the game."

Howard held Borger scoreless in the second half and said she felt OK about her performance.

"I had a miscommunication with one of my defenders and that's why they scored," Howard said. "Other than that I just don't like Borger and I'll do whatever takes to win."

Garza said her team has a tougher road to the playoffs but his confident in her girls.

"They can do it, they just got to believe in themselves," Garza said. "It's just tough when you aren't a winning team and trying to win."

SOCCEER cont. on page 2B

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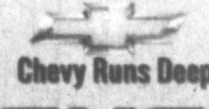


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Sports

Harvesters hope to leave Burkburnett with victories

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Burkburnett Tournament has not been kind to the Pampa Harvesters. The last two seasons Pampa is 0-9 and have been outscored by an average of 12-4. This year, Pampa hopes to reverse that when it opens play against Vernon at 1:30 p.m. today.

"I think we can come out of this thing 3-2, if not 2-3," senior Cole Engle said. "The first two games, I think we can win. After that we will see what happens in the past."

Head coach Kaleb Snelgrooes said the tournament will help his team.

"We are going to have our hands full," Snelgrooes said. "If you are going to want to be good, you have to play with the best teams available."

Pampa continues play against Iowa Park 6 p.m. today. On Friday, the Harvesters face Wichita Falls and defending 4A state champion Wichita Falls Rider at 1 and 6 p.m. respectively. Pampa closes the tournament 9 a.m. Saturday against Caprock.

Senior Collin Killgo said it will be tough.

"We have to play hard and do our best," Killgo said.

Vernon and Iowa Park are teams Pampa could face in the playoffs. Snelgrooes said it's good for his team to test the competition.

"It's good to see 3A competition that you could see in the playoffs," Snelgrooes said. "From a coaching standpoint, it's good to make 3A friends so you can get scouting reports on opponents."

The Harvesters (2-2) are coming off the Cavalier Classic, where they lost their last two games. Fielding was an issue, as Pampa committed 18 errors including 12 in its two losses. Engle said the team is getting used to each other.

"We had some communication problems on fly balls," Engle said. "Practicing out here on windy days like this will help us a lot."

Snelgrooes said practice time is helping.

"Every day we are getting more familiar with each other," Snelgrooes said. "We only had one day of practice (last week) with the basketball guys back. Pre-district, I want to win, they want to win. We are just getting ready for district."



Engle



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Jordan Lemons throws a pitch against Palo Duro Saturday. The Harvesters are competing in the Burkburnett Tournament Thursday through Saturday.

Snelgrooes



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Junior Bree Howard heads a ball in the second half against Borger Tuesday. Howard helped Pampa to a 1-1 tie at Harvester Field.

RETURN TO SENDER

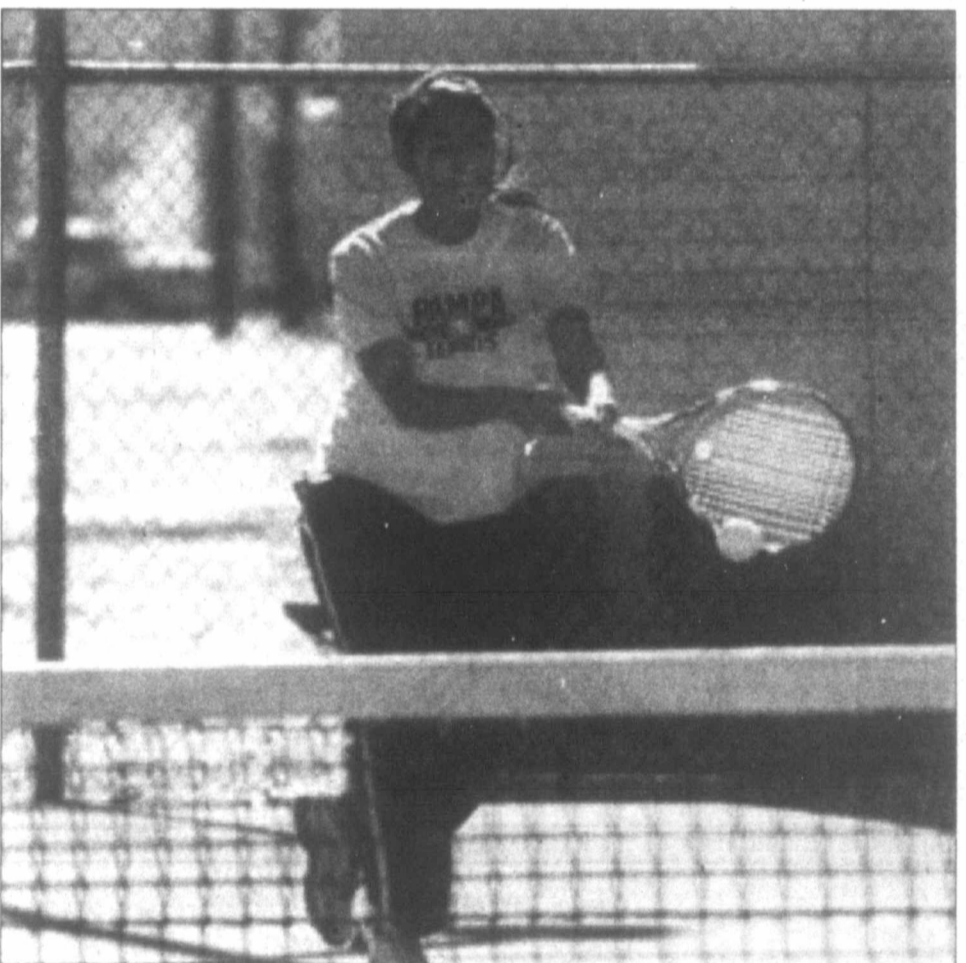


photo courtesy of Cody Moore

Junior Diamond Marrufo returns a ball in a tennis match against Plainview Saturday.

Soccer

cont. from page 1B

Pampa gained junior Hannah Baker and senior Kirsten Kuhn from basketball.

Garza said they are great assets to the team.

"Kirsten knows what it takes to win," Garza said. "She has been in a winning program. Hannah has too. I think that these girls are receptive to what they have to say."

The Lady Harvesters visit Randall 12 p.m. Saturday. Randall beat Pampa 7-0 on February 9. Howard said it will be a challenge adding the girls have improved.

"We just have to learn to communicate and spread out," Howard said. "Don't let them run around us. We have to talk more, and if we do, maybe it won't be a blowout."

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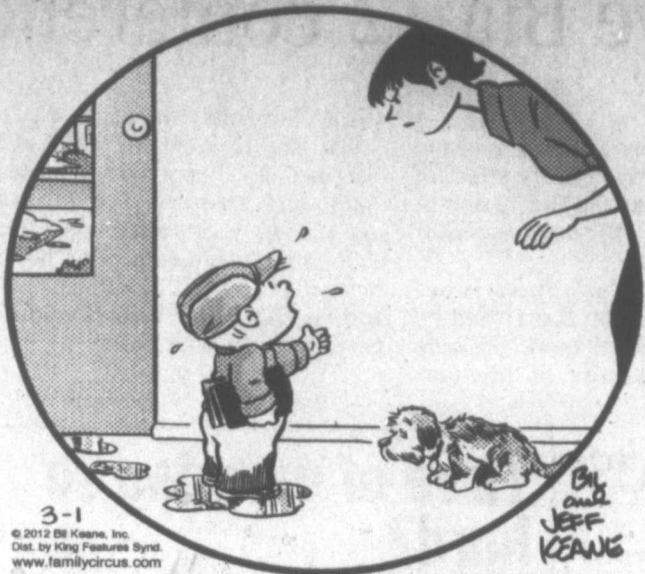
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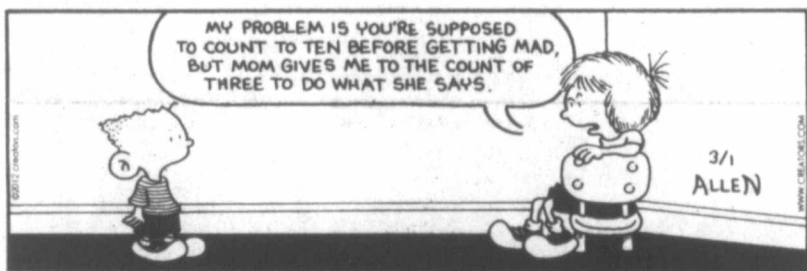
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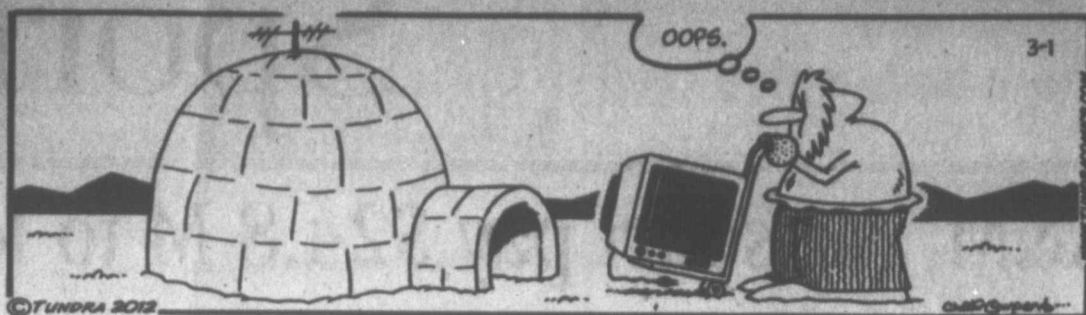


daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, March 2, 2012:
This year creativity surges. You also will have a tendency to romanticize situations. Test reality by brainstorming with family and/or friends. Confusion could surround communication, as your mind often will drift. You pull the wild card financially. You can expect swift changes either way. If you are single, be aware of how much you are projecting your dreams and desires onto a new person. If you are attached, the two of you are likely to go on a second honeymoon. A new addition to the household also is likely. **CANCER** is as emotional as you are.
ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You are more on top of your work than you realize. The immense amount of work you have already cleared out allows you to head home early. Nearly everywhere you go, you might encounter the unexpected. Tonight: Be spontaneous. Invite everyone over to your house.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Sometimes you underestimate how much you have to offer. Though a misunderstanding could arise from out of nowhere, stop and be aware of how much you care about people. Lady luck comes through regarding your ability to unravel a communication knot. Tonight: Say "yes" to the right invitation.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You could feel as if you are out of control in the morning. You bounce from one item to another. Someone you counted on could disappoint you and create a last-minute flurry. Understand what you can and cannot do. Tonight: Join friends.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ The unexpected occurs with a parent or higher-up. Know that you can handle it, no matter what occurs. Do not make a big deal of what goes on, as another party could become embarrassed later on. Be as gracious as possible. Tonight: Expect to be popular.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Play it low-key. Some of you might decide to cancel appointments or call it an early weekend. People will notice, but you simply might need some quiet time to get your work done or handle a personal matter. You gain a new perspective on an old problem. Tonight: Put out

your unavailable sign.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Consider alternatives in a meeting to resolve a problem concerning an associate. In fact, the issue could evolve in a meeting. Allow more brainstorming. You cannot always be so controlling! Make sure you are on budget. Tonight: Where people are.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You could be off and tense about an appearance in the near future. You want to assume the lead, but complications in your dealings worry you. Relax and work with the unpredictable. Know that success can be yours. Tonight: Could go to the wee hours.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You might want to try another approach. Finish up some research, and realize when you cannot go any further. An element of the unexpected punctuates your plans. Be ready to regroup and rebuild. Opt for a new path. Tonight: Distance yourself from the day.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You might want to switch gears, partially because it is Friday, but also because a partner needs your time. Realize that you might disappoint others by not following your normal routine. A very fun but shocking happening occurs with a loved one or friend. Tonight: Dinner for two.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ What you thought you would do yesterday is far different from what you will choose today. Somehow, someone close to you can't seem to understand why you cannot be with him or her more. As a result, you could witness some acting out. Tonight: Defer to a partner or loved one.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You could be left holding the bag when dealing with others. It seems that someone wants much more than you want to give. Do not be surprised when he or she acts out. Focus on getting what you need to get done. Tonight: Off to the gym, then home. Clear your mind.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Others admire your intrinsically caring manner and enormous creativity. How you see a situation could change radically because of a sudden financial change. Verify what is happening first. Tonight: Be with your favorite person.

Tundra



Shoe



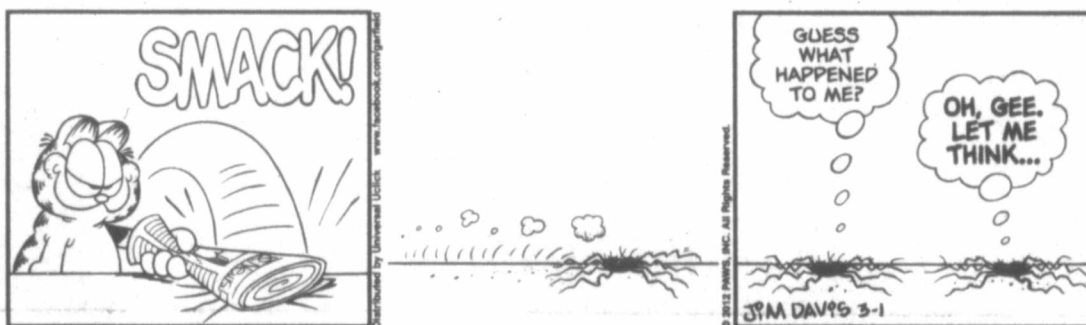
Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



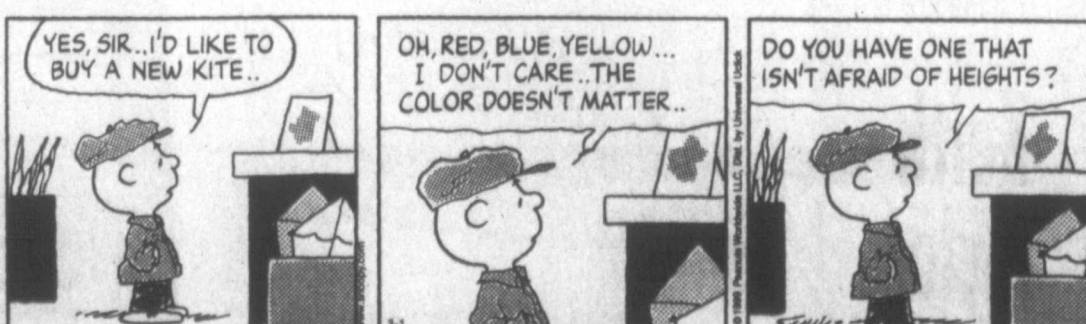
Marvin



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



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Sports

A&M, Missouri pay \$24.8 M to leave Big 12 conference

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Texas A&M and Missouri have agreed to pay \$12.4 million each to leave the Big 12 and join the Southeastern Conference in July.

Big 12 Interim Commissioner Chuck Neinas said Tuesday in a statement that the agreements were reached "through a collegial, respectful process among the Conference, its institutions," and the departing schools.

Texas A&M will receive unspecified benefits from the Big 12's new television contract with Fox Sports and "certain other concessions."

"We appreciate the Big 12 working with us on a quick and amicable settlement," said Texas A&M President R. Bowen Loftin, who indicated that the bottom-line financial impact of the withdrawal settlement for the university will

be \$9.31 million.

Missouri waived any claims to revenue from the TV deal, which takes effect in July, and agreed to pay the Big 12 another \$500,000 to cover officiating expenses for 2011-12.

"We are pleased to have these issues resolved and we wish the Big 12 and its continuing member institutions the best in the future," University of Missouri

Chancellor Brady Deaton said.

The Big 12 is adding TCU and West Virginia next season to replace Texas A&M and Missouri. The Mountaineers and the Big East settled competing lawsuits earlier this month, with the Big East receiving \$20 million from the school and the Big 12 for West Virginia to join next football season.

Rangers' Darvish uses all of his pitches

SURPRISE, Ariz. (AP) — Texas Rangers right-hander Yu Darvish threw 35 pitches to two minor leaguers in a 10-minute session.

Catcher Mike Napoli said Wednesday Darvish used his entire seven-pitch repertoire in facing Joey Butler and Chris McGuinness. Darvish, who had an ERA of less

than two the past five seasons while pitching in Japan, throws a two-seam fastball, a four-seam fastball, a split-finger fastball, a curve, slider, cutter and change up.

Darvish is next scheduled to throw the third inning of the Rangers intrasquad game Friday in Surprise. Darvish went 93-38 with a 1.99

ERA in 167 games in seven seasons with Hokkaido.

He is scheduled to face major leaguers from another team for the first time on March 7. The Rangers have said Darvish will get the start against the San Diego Padres in Peoria, Ariz.

Odom still hasn't returned to Mavericks

DALLAS (AP) — Lamar Odom wasn't with the Dallas Mavericks for their first game after the All-Star break Tuesday night, and was expected to miss at least one more game after that.

Odom missed the previous game Wednesday night before the break against his former team, the Los Angeles Lakers. Coach Rick Carlisle said then that Odom was excused for a family matter and would rejoin the team after the break.

The game against New

Jersey on Tuesday night was the first of nine games in 12 days for Dallas. Carlisle said before the game that Odom would also miss Wednesday night's game at Memphis, and that he expected an update Thursday.

Mavericks owner Mark Cuban, without being specific on the reason for Odom's absence, said the team will do everything it can to support him and get him back.

Cuban also refuted rumors of a possible buyout of Odom's contract.

"I knew I'd get the question over and over again until I said I wouldn't do it," Cuban said, adding there hadn't even been a discussion about a buyout. "We want him to contribute. We want him to help."

Odom, a 13-year veteran who was the NBA Sixth Man of the Year last season for the Lakers, is averaging 7.7 points and 4.5 rebounds. Those are some of the lowest numbers in his career. He missed only two of the 34 games before the All-Star break.

By missing the game

against the Nets, Odom didn't play against Nets forward Kris Humphries, his brother-in-law for a short time last year.

Humphries and Kim Kardashian split up 72 days after their wedding that was chronicled on reality TV. Odom is married to Khloe Kardashian and their life is on display in another reality show.

Texas Panhandle Fishing Report

GREENBELT: Water stained; 42-54 degrees; 37.63' low. Black bass are slow to fair on jigs, Texas rigs and chatterbaits. Crappie are fair on live and minnows. The Old Marina Point ramp is still open.

MACKENZIE: Water stained; 44-53 degrees; 85.65' low. Black bass are fair on Texas rigs and slow-rolled spinnerbaits.

Striped bass are fair to good on live shad. Catfish are fair on nightcrawlers. Ramp (hash)1 is still open.

MEREDITH: 97.63' low. No report available.

PALO DURO: 44.54' low. No report available.

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Second Place - \$50
Third Place - \$25

There is no limit on the number of entries. All contest entries must be received in our office or be postmarked by 3 p.m. Friday, March 2, 2012.

Entry Form

Please attach the following form to your photos. Photos submitted without this information will not be considered. Include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you wish your photos returned. Mail completed form and photos to Photography Contest, The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison, Pampa, TX 79065.

Name _____

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The names of people in the photo (if any) from left to right, front row to back row _____

Description of photo _____

Submission by email: Send the form information with the photo(s) attached to rprbble@thepampanews.com. Photos should be sent in high resolution, jpg format.

Contest rules—Each photo submitted to the contest must be taken by the person submitting it and must have been taken since Jan. 1, 2011. The photos cannot have appeared previously in any other publication or contest. The Pampa News will publish all the winners, and many of the other submissions in our annual Pride issue in March.

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