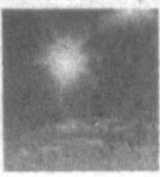








### PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Thursday	Friday
		
High 86 Low 54	High 85 Low 57	High 87 Low 60

**Today:** Sunny, with a high near 86. Southwest wind between 5 and 15 mph.

**Tonight:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 54. South wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

**Thursday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 85. Breezy, with a south southwest wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

**Thursday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 57. Breezy, with a south wind around 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

**Friday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 87. South southwest wind around 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

**Friday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 60. South southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

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## Obituaries

### W.G. "Bill" McComas, 91

W.G. "Bill" McComas, 91, died Saturday, May 12, 2012, in Amarillo.

Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, May 17, 2012, at Fairview Cemetery with Masonic rites courtesy of Top O' Texas Masonic Lodge #1381, and military honors will be accorded by the U.S. Army, Fort Hood. Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at First United Methodist Church with Rev. Blossom Matthews, pastor, and John Curry, officiating. Cremation and arrangements are by Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors.

Mr. McComas was born Sept. 25, 1920, in Wichita, Kan. and was a 1938 graduate of Wichita North High School. He attended Wichita State University. Bill married Martha Leah Wright on Dec. 20, 1941, in Wichita. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II in the European Theatre where he marched from Omaha Beach across Europe to Berlin. Bill fought in the four major battles of the European Theatre. After the war, he started his retail career with J.C. Penney and then became manager of Montgomery Ward stores in Springfield, Mo., Ranger, Pampa, Sheridan, Wyo., and Boulder, Colo. After 32 years with Wards, Bill retired and moved back to Pampa. He was a member of First United Methodist Church, Pampa Lions Club, Top O' Texas Masonic Lodge #1381, Khiva Shrine Temple of Amarillo, and was a charter member of the Pampa Chamber of Commerce Gold Coats. Bill owned and restored 32 rent houses during his lifetime.

Survivors include his daughter, Mary Jane Taintor and husband Dr. Jerry Taintor of Westlake Village, Calif.; his son, Mike McComas and wife Jeannie of Pampa; three grandchildren, Christy Taintor of Westlake Village, Calif., Katy McGee and husband Destry of McLean, and Matt McComas of Omaha, Neb.; a great-grandson, Jack McGee of McLean. Bill was preceded in death by his



McComas

wife, Martha Leah McComas on August 7, 2001; his parents, his sister, and an infant brother.

Memorials may be made to BSA Hospice, 800 N. Sumner, Pampa, TX 79065.

Sign the online register book at [www.carmichael-whatley.com](http://www.carmichael-whatley.com).

### Alice M. Phillips, 73

Alice M. Phillips, 73, died May 14, 2012, in Amarillo.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, May 17, 2012, at Memory Gardens Mausoleum, with Rev. Jim Sinyard of Carpenter's Church, officiating.

Entombment will be at Memory Gardens Mausoleum under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Phillips was born October 15, 1938, in Midland and attended school in Dallas. She moved to Spearman as a young woman where she met D.L. Phillips. They were married on February 15, 1957, in Clayton, N.M. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1958. She was a homemaker and a Baptist. Alice enjoyed the outdoors where she camped and rode 4-wheelers. Most of all, she loved her family and enjoyed her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Survivors include her husband, D.L. Phillips of the home; three daughters, Pamela Basden and Sherrie Marshall and husband Jackie, all of Pampa, and Tracey Sradler and husband Lee of Opdyke, Ill.; a son, Taisey Phillips of the home; her brother, Kenneth Tramtham and wife Sheila of Shamrock; her sister, Helen Smith of Greenville; 10 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, and a sister, Doris Combrink.

Memorials may be made to Pampa Sheltered Workshop, P.O. Box 2808, Pampa, TX 79066-2808.

Sign the online register at [www.carmichael-whatley.com](http://www.carmichael-whatley.com).



Phillips

## For the record

### Police Department

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 24

hour period ending Tuesday, May 15 at 7 a.m.

Pampa PD reported 13 traffic related incidents.

Animal Control agents and Pampa PD reported 10 animal related incidents.

Pampa EMS and the Lefors Volunteer EMS responded to two medical calls.

**Monday, May 14**

Fraud was reported at the 700 block of East Francis.

Thefts were reported at the 900 block of West Wilks and the 300 block of East Brown.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 4000 block of North Bad Cattle Company.

A threat was reported.

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

An accident occurred at 23rd and Duncan.

A threat was reported at the 1500 block of North Christy.

A hit and run occurred at the 1300 block of North Hobart.

A suspicious person was reported at the 800 block of

East Scott. Disorderly conduct was reported at the 1600 block of West Somerville.

A burglary occurred at Duncan and Harvester.

**Tuesday, May 15**

Suspicious persons were reported at the 300 block of West Buckler, the intersection of Purviance and Buckler, and the 800 block of West Francis.

A burglary occurred at the 600 block of North Wynne.

A suspicious person was reported at Cuyler and

Browning.

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# MORNINGRUSH

## Perry mum on approval for UT president

### Teen sues over Holocaust roleplay

AMARILLO (AP) — A teen who says he was injured at his Texas Panhandle high school in a Holocaust role-playing exercise has filed a federal civil rights lawsuit against the school district.

Andrew Yara alleges he was seriously hurt in a fall when he was jumped while carrying a classmate on his back two years ago.

The suit says the annual two-day exercise at Perryton High School teaches students about the Holocaust. Students who play Jews are required to obey demands by classmates playing Nazis — and will get a failing grade if they don't.

The suit was filed Monday in Amarillo against the Perryton school district, 100 miles to the northeast. Yara, who's now 19, seeks unspecified damages and attorneys' fees.

School district officials didn't return calls for comment Tuesday.

### George W. Bush endorses Romney

WASHINGTON (AP) — George W. Bush is backing presumptive Republican White House nominee Mitt Romney.

The former president offered a four-word endorsement of Romney as the doors of his elevator were closing after a speech Tuesday in Washington.

Bush said: "I'm for Mitt Romney." ABC News caught Bush after the speech, prompting his unscripted — but not surprising — endorsement.

Bush's parents, former President George H.W. Bush and Barbara Bush, endorsed Romney in March during an appearance in Texas. Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush also publicly backed Romney.

Romney's campaign issued a brief statement welcoming the support.

Since leaving office in January 2009, George W. Bush has tried to avoid politics. He left Washington deeply unpopular with voters who blamed him for the economic crisis that unfolded on his watch.

### Marriage shift energizes activists

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — President Barack Obama's shift to support gay marriage is energizing young Hispanic voters who are working side-by-side with gay activists in their push for immigration reform. The alliance has been growing across the country.

Both the Democratic and Republican parties are focused heavily on winning the Hispanic vote. Latinos make up the fastest-growing minority group, and some 600,000 U.S.-born Hispanics turn 18 each year, widening the pool of more than 21 million Hispanic eligible voters.

An activist in the Florida Immigrant Coalition, Juan Rodriguez is an immigrant himself. He sees the gay rights and immigrant rights movements as very aligned and becoming more so every year.

Two leaders in the movement to pass a student-focused immigration bill have recently taken over two emerging gay rights groups as well.

### Zetas deny slaying of 49

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Banners have appeared in northern Mexico signed by the Zetas drug cartel saying the gang was not responsible for killing 49 people whose mutilated bodies were found on a highway in a neighboring state.

An employee of the prosecutors' office in northern San Luis Potosi state says the banners were hung from overpasses in the city of Ciudad Valles. The banners were found early Tuesday.

The employee was not authorized to speak on the record, and did not give the precise wording of the banners.

The bodies were found Sunday in the neighboring state of Nuevo Leon with their heads, hands and feet hacked off. A slogan scrawled on a stone arch nearby read "100 percent Zetas," but it may have been there well before the bodies were dumped.

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry remained mum Tuesday on whether he is content with the University of Texas at Austin president whose supporters are rallying for amid speculation that his job leading the flagship campus is in jeopardy.

"That's for the Board of Regents to make that decision," Perry said. "I've got a state to oversee. I don't

spend all my time focused on one institution of higher learning."

While sidestepping a direct question about whether he was satisfied with Bill Powers, Perry made it clear that he backed regents who denied the UT president's request for a tuition hike. Powers this month publicly criticized the board's decision to largely freeze tuition at the

51,000-student campus for the next two years.

UT system chancellor Francisco Cigarroa has denied reports, first reported by Texas Monthly, that Chairman Gene Powell ordered him to fire Powers.

Perry said rejecting the tuition hike sent a "good message" that the state will not ignore economic realities facing families by raising that cost of college. His

comments came at Texas A&M University-San Antonio, where Perry was on hand to praise the fledgling campus for offering a \$10,000 bachelor's degree.

"I know that we're growing and there's need for more dollars, but we have to make those same decision in the legislature," Perry said.

At the same time, Perry said, lawmakers in 2013 will look at resources such as university land and oil and gas revenues as a way

### Smith

through education is an important issue to Smith, who attended public schools growing up.

"When you're talking about small areas like these, if a kid wants to go to college, that's great," he said. "We need to do everything we can to prepare them and get them ready for that. But a lot of kids don't want to go to college. They know they want to drive a truck out of high school. They know that they want to learn to weld and weld in the oil field, or they want to learn to plumb, or they want to learn to do any number of things, like go into an ag program. We need to put more focus, I believe, in these areas in small towns in rural Texas."

"Programs like that prepare kids well to work on the family farm, work on a ranch, and give them those skills to become productive parts of society," he added.

Water has become an important issue in this race, particularly in a state recovering from drought.

"There is a state water plan that hasn't been funded appropriately," said Smith. "I really believe in our process of going through the budget and making those tough choices, we need to make funding the water plan a priority."

Tough choices won't be lacking for the candidate who gets elected to the office, as the state faces a budget shortfall, but with a background in financial planning, Smith believes he is up to the challenge.

"It will be a difficult session, but we have a great place to start with the balanced budget amendment," he said. "From there, I think you

just go through and prioritize. Where do we need to fund the most? How do we need to fund correctly? You have to make hard choices, and some of that means cutting programs that might be good programs, because we just have to live within our means. When I'm working my personal budget for my home or for a business, it doesn't even occur to me that I could spend more than I'm bringing in. It's not the way the real world works, and it's not the way the government should work either, state or federal."

With a master's degree in dispute resolution, Smith thinks he would be well suited for the kinds of conflicts that occur during legislative sessions.

"I don't think anybody will argue that both the state and the federal government just sit around and bicker all the time," he said. "I am sick and tired of the partisan nonsense, the bickering. I think it's time to go and get things done. I think a lot of people are sick of seeing government argue, and want to see government work for the people."

cont. from page 1A

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# Viewpoints

## Today in History

Today is Wednesday, May 16, the 137th day of 2012. There are 229 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On May 16, 1868, the U.S. Senate failed by one vote to convict President Andrew Johnson as it took its first ballot on the eleven articles of impeachment against him.

### On this date:

In 1763, the English lexicographer, author and wit Samuel Johnson first met his future biographer, James Boswell.

In 1770, Marie Antoinette, age 14, married the future King Louis XVI of France, who was 15.

In 1866, Congress authorized minting of the first five-cent piece, also known as the "Shield nickel."

In 1910, the U.S. Bureau of Mines was established. (It ceased operations in 1996, its functions having been transferred to other agencies.)

In 1920, Joan of Arc was canonized by Pope Benedict XV.

In 1929, the first Academy Awards were presented. The movie "Wings" won "best production," while Emil Jannings and Janet Gaynor were named best actor and best actress.

In 1939, the government began its first food stamp program in Rochester, N.Y.

In 1948, CBS News correspondent George Polk, who'd been covering the Greek civil war between Communist and nationalist forces, was found slain in Solonica Harbor.

In 1955, American author and critic James Agee died in New York at age 45.

In 1961, Park Chung-hee seized power in South Korea in a military coup.

In 1975, Japanese climber Junko Tabei became the first woman to reach the summit of Mount Everest.

In 1992, the space shuttle Endeavour completed its maiden voyage with a safe landing in the California desert.

**Ten years ago:** Congressional Democrats demanded to be told what President George W. Bush knew about terrorist threats before Sept. 11 as the White House and its GOP allies defended the president for not disclosing intelligence that Osama bin Laden wanted to hijack U.S. airplanes. The remains of kidnapped Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl were unearthed in Pakistan.

**Five years ago:** Anti-war Democrats in the Senate failed in an attempt to cut off funds for the Iraq war. Britain's army reversed course and announced that Prince Harry would not be sent to Iraq with his regiment due to "specific threats" from insurgents. (The prince did end up serving in Afghanistan for 10 weeks, until word of his deployment got out.) British Prime Minister Tony Blair paid a farewell visit to President George W. Bush at the White House. Nicolas Sarkozy took over from Jacques Chirac as France's president.

**One year ago:** A judge in New York refused to release on bail the chief of the International Monetary Fund, Dominique Strauss-Kahn, who was accused of trying to rape a hotel maid. (The charges against Strauss-Kahn were later dropped.) The Vatican told bishops around the world it was important to cooperate with police in reporting priests who'd raped and molested children and asked them to develop guidelines for preventing sex abuse; however, victims groups immediately denounced the recommendations as "dangerously flawed." Endeavour blasted off on NASA's next-to-last shuttle flight commanded by Mark Kelly, husband of wounded Arizona Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords.

**Today's Birthdays:** Actor George Gaynes is 95. Actor Harry Carey Jr. is 91. Jazz musician Billy Cobham is 68. Actor Bill Smitrovich is 65. Actor Pierce Brosnan is 59. Actress Debra Winger is 57. Olympic gold medal gymnast Olga Korbut is 57. Actress Mare Winningham is 53. Rock musician Boyd Tinsley (The Dave Matthews Band) is 48. Rock musician Krist Novoselic (Nirvana) is 47. Singer Janet Jackson is 46. Country singer Scott Reeves (Blue County) is 46. Actor Brian F. O'Byrne is 45. Rhythm-and-blues singer Ralph Tresvant (New Edition) is 44. Actor David Boreanaz is 43. Political correspondent Tucker Carlson is 43. Actress Tracey Gold is 43. Tennis player Gabriela Sabatini is 42. Country singer Rick Trevino is 41. Musician Simon Katz is 41. Actress Tori Spelling is 39. Actress Lynn Collins is 35. Actress Melanie Lynskey is 35. Actress Megan Fox is 26. Actor Jacob Zachar is 26. Actor Marc John Jefferies is 22. Actor Miles Heizer is 18.

**Thought for Today:** "Work is about a search for daily meaning as well as daily bread, for recognition as well as cash, for astonishment rather than torpor; in short, for a sort of life rather than a Monday through Friday sort of dying." — Studs Terkel, American author and historian (born this date in 1912, died 2008).

## State Supreme Court could face change

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Three members of the all-Republican Texas Supreme Court face re-election this year, but two will have to survive primary opponents who accuse the court of becoming too pro-business.

Justice Don Willett, on the court since 2005, faces a familiar opponent — Steve Smith, an Austin lawyer who served two years on the Supreme Court in the early 2000s and narrowly lost to Willett in the 2006 Republican primary.

Justice David Medina, an eight-year incumbent, has two challengers who question his ethical history: John Devine, a former district judge from Hockley, and Joe Pool Jr., a lawyer and oil and gas executive from Dripping Springs.

Willett and Medina have substantial fundraising advantages. Both also know it is rare for a Supreme Court incumbent to lose a Republican primary — though that fact might provide mixed comfort for Willett. It was his opponent, Smith, who ousted a sitting justice in 2002, only to lose to a party establishment candidate in the 2004 GOP primary.

Justice Nathan Hecht, the longest-serving member of the court, has no primary opponent. However, the 23-year justice is the only incumbent to draw a Democratic opponent for the November general election — San Antonio lawyer Michele Petty.

The other statewide appellate court, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, has three Republican incumbents running for re-election without primary opponents.

Smith, who lost to Willett by only one percentage point in the 2006 primary, said he is running again to expose the corrosive influence of big business on the court "in general and Judge Willett specifically."

Tort reform has gone too far, limiting the rights of ordinary Texans while benefiting insurance companies and corporations, and opinions written by Willett have improperly stretched tort reform's pro-business reach even further, said Smith, whose campaign website deconstructs several Willett decisions.

"It's time to quit just being happy we have Republicans and start looking at how Republicans are governing," Smith said.

Willett denies the accusation of bias

and dismisses Smith, who is making his fifth run for the Supreme Court, as a gadfly and opportunist hoping to hit the lottery with an electoral victory.

"I revere the law," Willett said. "I believe that judging — safeguarding our liberties and deciding disputes peaceably, with wisdom and evenhandedness — is a noble enterprise."

Willett said his candidacy is supported by a long list of people versed in appellate law — former GOP justices, solicitors general, state bar presidents and top lawyers.

"I am the consensus conservative choice from every corner of the conservative movement: pro-life, pro-faith, pro-family, pro-liberty, pro-Second Amendment, pro-private property rights and pro-limited government," he said.

Both candidates emphasize their conservative philosophies.

Smith filed the Hopwood lawsuit that eliminated, for a time, consideration of race at the University of Texas School of Law, and he continues work for the Texas Legal Foundation, a conservative public-interest organization.

Willett was a lawyer for then-Gov. George W. Bush for four years and followed Bush to the White House, where he served as a special assistant in the office of faith-based initiatives.

A TV ad — made possible by \$1.4 million in his campaign account as of April 19 — quotes Focus on the Family founder James Dobson, who describes Willett as "the most conservative justice on the Texas Supreme Court."

Smith, whose campaign had less than \$2,300 in the bank in mid-April, said Willett's fundraising should raise eyebrows. "That's not from average Texans; that's from big business, basically. They're getting somebody who has a business interest — a bias in favor of business," he said.

Medina was general counsel for Gov. Rick Perry, who appointed him to the Supreme Court in 2004, and also served as a district judge and litigation counsel for Cooper Industries.

Medina touts endorsements from former Republican Supreme Court justices and conservative organizations and promises to be impartial and independent.

"I am a conservative judge who is committed to the rule of law,"

Medina, who did not respond to phone messages left with his campaign, said in a letter posted on his campaign website. "I employ the United States Constitution and laws of Texas as written and do not legislate public policy from the bench."

Both of his opponents say the Supreme Court has adopted an improper pro-business bias, and they point to a Texas Watch study that found the nine-member court overturned jury decisions in 74 percent of consumer cases decided since 2004.

For Pool — who calls himself a Christian constitutional conservative — that statistic stands in opposition to the Texas Constitution provision that says, "The right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate."

"That is not conservatism," said Pool, a 32-year lawyer and son of former at-large Texas Congressman Joe Pool. "Conservatism means that you uphold the Constitution; you don't reinterpret it."

Devine, best known for fighting off a lawsuit after he posted a painting of the Ten Commandments in his Harris County courtroom in 2000, said he hopes to restore balance to the court.

"I think there is a significant leaning to corporate interests over individual Texans," he said. "I'm a constitutional constructionist. When a judge makes a decision, he has to look within the four corners of the Constitution."

Devine and Pool also say they want to restore integrity to the court, alluding to headlines about Medina's use of campaign money for personal travel between Austin and his Houston-area home. Medina repaid more than \$57,000 in travel costs in 2008, saying he had received bad advice on the practice.

Also in 2008, Medina was indicted on a charge of evidence tampering in the suspected arson fire of his home. One day later, prosecutors moved to dismiss the charge, saying there was not enough evidence to proceed. Medina denied involvement in the fire.

Money could be a factor in the race, with Medina's campaign having almost \$145,000 available as of April 19 — a relatively low total when compared with other incumbents but well ahead of his opponents: \$5,805 for Devine and \$1,112 for Pool.

## Fact check: Romney oversimplifies 'inferno'

WASHINGTON (AP) — When Republican presidential hopeful Mitt Romney decried the "prairie fire" of U.S. debt Tuesday (*story on page 10*), he ignored some of the sparks that set it ablaze.

One was the Great Recession that took hold before Barack Obama became president. That landmark event went unmentioned in Romney's speech. Another was a series of Bush-era tax cuts that Romney wants to follow with even lower rates.

Instead he laid the blame on Obama, a president who has certainly increased the nation's eye-popping debt — but not, as Romney claimed, by nearly as much as all other presidents combined.

A look at some of Romney's assertions and how they compare with the facts:

ROMNEY: "America counted on President Obama to rescue the economy, tame the deficit and help create jobs. Instead, he bailed out the public sector, gave billions of your dollars to the companies of his friends, and added almost as much debt as all the prior presidents combined."

THE FACTS: Hardly. Presidents from George Washington through George W. Bush ran the national debt up to \$10.62 trillion, the amount it was on the day Obama took office. Today, it is \$15.67 trillion, according to the Treasury Department's Bureau of Public Debt. So it has gone up by \$5.05 trillion under Obama. That's roughly half of the amount amassed by all the other presidents combined.

In short, the debt has gone up by about half under Obama. Under Ronald Reagan, it tripled.

ROMNEY: "I will lead us out of this debt and spending inferno. We will stop borrowing unfathomable sums of money we can't even

imagine, from foreign countries we'll never even visit. I will bring us together to put out the fire."

THE FACTS: Romney's tax and spending plans don't support his vow to dampen the debt fire. He proposes to cut taxes and expand the armed forces, putting yet more stress on the budget, and his promise to slash domestic spending isn't backed by the big specifics. Romney's tax plan would cut the top income tax rate to 28 percent from 35 percent and other rates by 20 percent each. He says he'd broaden the tax base and eliminate many deductions in the process, but details are missing.

A study by the nonpartisan Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget concluded earlier this year that Romney's plans would not make a dent in deficits, and could worsen them considerably. That study was done before Romney upped his tax cuts, inviting even deeper debt.

That's not to say he can't at some point lay out the spending cuts necessary to achieve his aims. But he would have to slash domestic programs by more than 20 percent — far more than the 5 percent in immediate cuts he has proposed. It is nearly unthinkable that Congress would approve the evisceration of basic federal functions such as food inspection, air traffic control, the Border Patrol, FBI, grants to local governments, health research, housing and heating aid for the poor, food aid for pregnant women, national parks and much more.

Nowhere in Tuesday's speech was there a new idea of how Romney would accomplish the promised deficit reduction. He spoke generally of reforming Social Security and Medicare, eliminating duplicative government programs, and transferring some functions to the states or the private sector, adding that he would "streamline everything

that's left."

The closest he has come to laying out a specific spending plan has been in his endorsement of the budget blueprint passed this year by House Republicans, which also fails to produce his promised deficit reductions.

ROMNEY: "The people of Iowa and America have watched President Obama for nearly four years, much of that time with Congress controlled by his own party. And rather than put out the spending fire, he has fed the fire. He has spent more and borrowed more. ... When you add up his policies, this president has increased the national debt by \$5 trillion."

THE FACTS: Much of the increase in the debt is due to lower tax revenues from depressed corporate and individual incomes and high joblessness in the worst recession since the Great Depression. The recession officially began in December 2007, when George W. Bush was president and the national debt stood at just over \$9 trillion. Financial bailouts, stimulus programs and auto rescue spending that started under Bush and continued under Obama contributed to the run-up of the debt.

But so did the Bush-era tax cuts enacted in 2001 and 2003. With bipartisan support, Congress has extended the tax cuts until the end of this year, and Romney's proposals for big cuts of his own would risk another squeeze on revenue.

To be sure, Obama as a presidential candidate in 2008 was just as eager as Romney is now to pin blame for mounting debt on a president from the other party.

Ignoring economic circumstances and the role of both parties in Congress, Obama accused President George W. Bush in that campaign of driving up debt by \$4 trillion "by his lonesome" and taking out "a credit card from the Bank of China in the name of our children."



# Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle a Potter creation

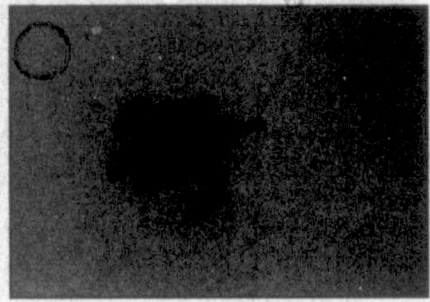
Q: This is a photo of a music box figurine that I have. Several years ago, I bought a home and all its contents and found it stored in a closet. On the bottom, are the words "Schmid — Musical Collectibles — The Tale of Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle by Beatrix Potter — Warne Co., New York & London 1977 — Hand Painted." It stands about 7 inches tall, is in perfect condition and plays "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning."

Can you tell me anything about my music box?

A: Your porcelain music box figurine is a hedgehog washerwoman named Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle. She was created by Beatrix Potter in the late 1900s. Potter was an English author, illustrator and conservationist who wrote children's books. The "Tale of Peter Rabbit" is one of her most well-known books. Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle was based on Potter's pet hedgehog. Schmid and Co. was located in New York and was a distributor of decorative items. Frederick Warne and Co. was the original publisher of the book "The Tale of Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle" in 1905. Potter's charming books are still being published.

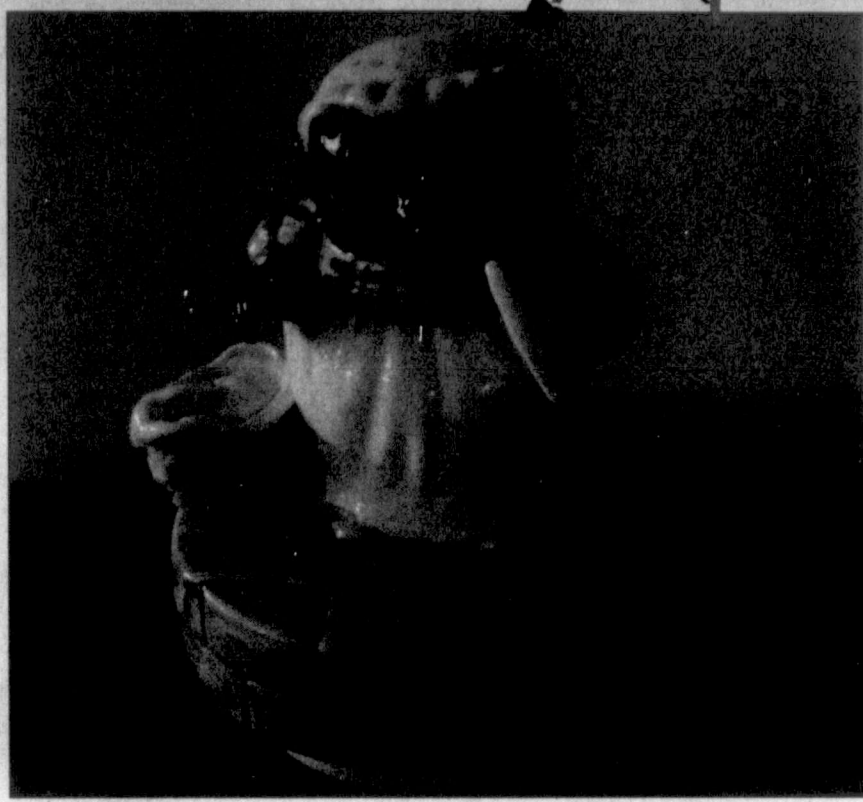
Your music box figurine was made in 1977. It is a popular collectible and sells in the range of \$25 to \$50.

Q: This mark is on the bottom of a porcelain water pitcher that was given to me by my mother-in-law. The color



Gerard, Dufraisseix and Abbot made porcelain in Limoges, France.

## Antique OR JUNQUE?



Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle was the creation of Beatrix Potter.

of the porcelain is spectacular, and I love it. It stands about 9 inches and has a sterling silver scrolled overlay, spout and handle.

What can you tell me about the mark, the vintage and value of my pitcher?

A: "GDA" is the mark used by Gerard, Dufraisseix and Abbot, in Limoges, France. Your pitcher is an example of art nouveau design and was made around 1900. It would probably be worth \$300 to \$500.

Q: I would like to know if you can help me find out the value of my set of sterling silver flatware. I

have place settings for 10 and also 6 serving pieces. The pattern is called "Processional," and it was made by Fine Arts Sterling Co.

A: From 1944 to 1979, Fine Arts Sterling Co. was a distributor for six sterling patterns made by International Sterling Co. "Processional" was made around 1947.

The value of your set would probably be between \$2,000 and \$4,000.

Address your questions to Anne McCollam, P. O. Box 247, Notre Dame, IN 46556. Items of a general interest will be answered in this column. Due to the volume of inquiries, she cannot answer individual letters.

## Powers

to potentially pump more money into campuses.

"As we analyze our wealth in this state, there will be decisions this next session whether or not they can transfer some of that into institutes of higher learning," Perry said.

Cigarroa's denial hasn't stopped UT students, faculty and staff from rallying to the defense of Powers, who was appointed president in 2006. The Austin American-Statesman reported that during a meeting of the UT Faculty Council on Monday, members gave Powers two standing ovations and passed a resolution that "strongly commends" Powers for seeking a "modest, well-

documented, and crucial" tuition increase.

UT-Austin is one of the largest public universities in the nation. Perry has been at the forefront of heightened political pressure for universities to improve graduation rates and decrease costs, which has led to unrest at some of the state's largest campuses, including the flagship Texas A&M University campus in College Station.

Powers asked to raise tuition from about 2.6 percent to 3.6 percent starting this fall. Much of the nearly \$26 million the university hoped to raise was to be used for improving academic advising and adding courses to help more

students graduate in four years.

Regents instead froze tuition for undergraduate in-state students and agreed to dip into money generated by the Permanent University Fund for about \$13 million. The regents approved a 2.1 percent tuition increase for out-of-state undergraduates and a 3.6 percent hike for graduate students.

Addressing a small gathering of state higher education officials and students on the A&M-San Antonio campus, Perry acknowledged that university leaders are facing hard decisions.

"We're going to have to continue to ask people to

do more, and sometimes do more with less," Perry said.

cont. from page 3A

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# comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane

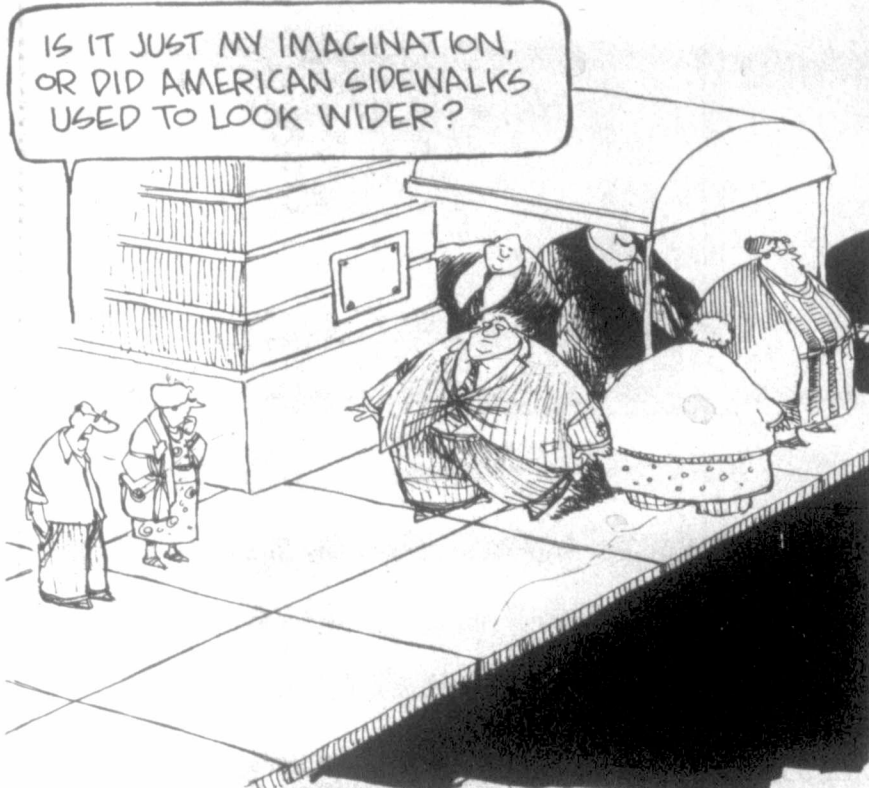


5-16

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"Can't we go to a store where they have TOYS?"

Non Sequitur



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Nest Heads



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## daily horoscope

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Thursday, May 17, 2012:

This year you act on a long-term desire that you have not revealed to many people. You could experience moments of insecurity, as you will tend to take risks. If you are single, you could date quite a few people. Many of them might not be who you think they are. If you are attached, you spend a lot of time together as a couple. Accept certain idiosyncrasies. ARIES has a blunt way with words that can be hurtful.

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)  
★★★★ Just when you feel a situation is improving, you'll discover the other party seems to shut down. Though you view this difficult situation to be long term, it will end this year. Drum up a little more patience. Tonight: Do your thing.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)  
★★★ You might choose to say little, yet your mind is on overload with all of your thoughts. You'll express yourself succinctly and gently, in hopes of being heard. The truth is that you are getting tired of the situation. Tonight: Take a break from irritations.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)  
★★★★ Look to a friendship in order to make necessary changes. Clearly what you thought was OK in the past no longer is, or at least might not be right now. Understanding will help far more than you think. Trust your sixth sense. Tonight: Where the fun is. Do not allow a bad mood to settle in.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)  
★★★★ A take-charge attitude does a lot for getting key matters handled. You might need to use that approach for now, because you really have little choice. Others respond in a fashion that might surprise you. Tonight: To the wee hours.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
★★★★ Allow more creativity into the most mundane chores or interactions. You will enjoy your life so much more as a result. Recognize what is happening with someone you put on a pedestal. This person might not want to put him- or herself on the line. Tonight: Wherever there is music.

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

★★★★ You might feel as if a partner wants something you cannot give. A financial situation could be wearing you down. You simply might need to say "enough," and mean it. Someone else might give you attitude at first, but ultimately everything will work out. Tonight: Dinner for two.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)  
★★★★ You might be causing your own problem. Sometimes you cannot help but reveal your feelings, whether it is with a look or how you approach a situation. Listen to suggestions, but also understand you need a change. Tonight: Chat over dinner.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
★★★★ Toss yourself into whatever you feel must be done. You cannot keep putting an important matter on the back burner. You see a situation far differently than others. Your caring comes through to a family member or daily friend. Tonight: Get some extra R and R while you can.

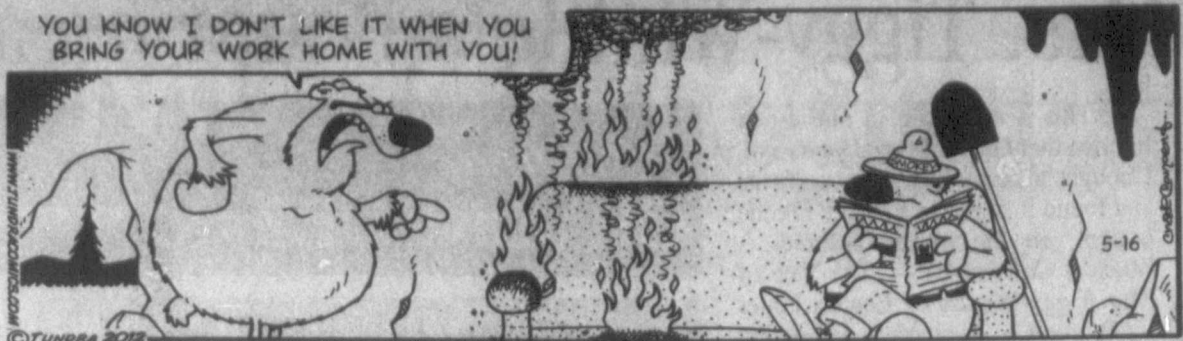
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)  
★★★★ Even if a meeting is difficult or a friend is irritable, do not let it bother you. You will soon discover exactly what has been ailing this person. Indulge a partner or loved one who is always there for you. Tonight: Play away.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
★★★★ You might need to walk out the door several times in order to release your stress. Someone you believe has no right to do what he or she is doing might challenge you. Know that you can close down if need be. Indulge an associate or friend. Tonight: Get a massage or soak in the tub.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
★★★★ You have a very sunny way of approaching others that works on nearly everyone. A situation that surrounds someone at a distance could be problematic at best. Your sense of humor helps you lighten up. Tonight: Hang at your favorite haunt.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)  
★★★★ Recognize that not everyone is capable of giving at the level you can. Center yourself, then proceed. No one can honor your interests as well as you can. A partner might seem disinterested, but he or she could be tired. Tonight: Buy that item you have been eyeing.

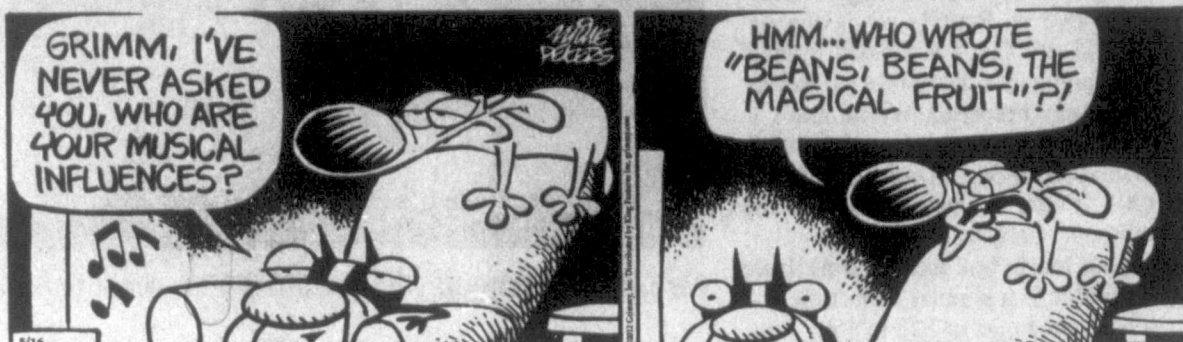
Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



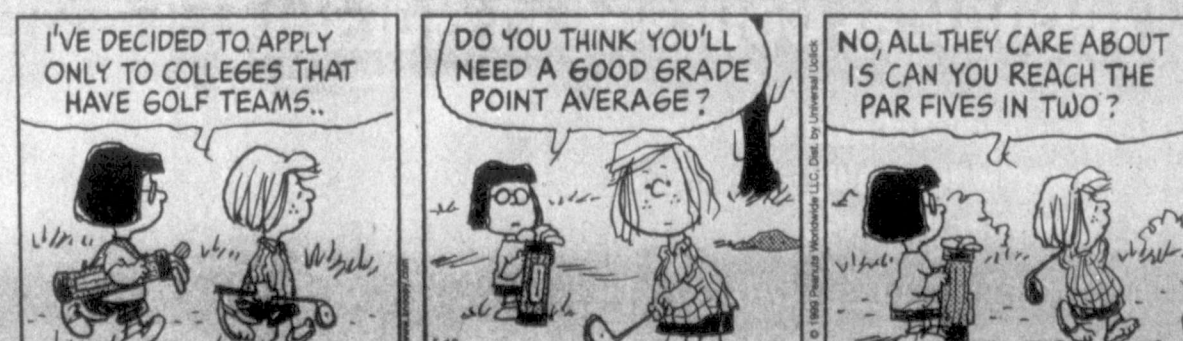
Marvin



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie





# Judge: Coal permit won't hold in court

HOUSTON (AP) — State environmental regulators did not follow federal guidelines when they issued an air permit for a proposed coal-fired power plant on the Gulf Coast, and a Texas judge indicated the paperwork is too flawed for construction to begin.

District Court Judge Stephen Yelenosky sent the letter Monday in response to a lawsuit filed by environmental groups, who challenged the air permit issued for Las Brisas Energy Center last May by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Yelenosky indicated he would not back the state agency, saying parts of the permitting process were "flawed," "misleading" and wrong.

The TCEQ issued the air permit for the proposed \$3 billion Las Brisas Energy Center after the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency had made it clear that it opposed the plan and feared it would cause more air pollution in the Corpus Christi area than allowed under federal regulations.

Yelenosky backed the TCEQ on a few points, but criticized it in major areas, including a failure to account for petroleum coke that will be held on site before it is burned.

"To issue a permit that does not specify the location, control and method of material handling is flawed," he wrote, lambasting some of the environmental modeling done for the permit.

The TCEQ said in a statement it maintains "the technical review and issuance of the air quality permit was conducted in accordance with all applicable state and federal regulations and requirements and is protective of public health. The TCEQ continues to review the details of the judge's letter and will review the order when issued to determine its course of action."

Las Brisas did not immediately comment on the judge's letter.

The EPA is still considering a request by the power plant for a greenhouse gas permit. Without that, construction cannot begin.

Texas is home to 19 coal-fired power plants — more than any other state — and is considering proposals for several more.

King

equity," said King. "To me, equity means equity in education, not more dollars for property-wealthy schools, while the state views equity as more dollars to the property-poor districts. I want to see educational opportunity be equitable for all students in Texas, whether they're (in) Miami or Amarillo. Kids in bigger schools shouldn't be allowed greater opportunities because of geography."

King noted standardized testing, specifically the STAAR exam, as hurting rural education.

"The STAAR test shouldn't have ever been implemented," he said. "Essentially, the STAAR test was put in to be the next level of standardized testing, but my biggest problem with the STAAR test is, number one, we underfunded education by \$5.5 billion. We couldn't afford to put it in this year. Number two, the state wasn't ready to put it in, and neither was Pearson, the makers of the test. That's why they had to suspend their 15 percent rule."

"It took accountability to a whole new level," King added. "There's not a superintendent in the state of Texas who doesn't believe in accountability,

but it's just government overreach."

King also identified Four by Four, the requirement for high school students to take four credits each of math, science, english and history, as having a negative effect on rural schools.

"With an eight-period day and a small school, and if (students are) in the band or play football or basketball, there's no time for the arts and vocational (programs)," he said. "Typically, you lose music programs and you lose ag programs. We're making sure all students, whether they're going to college or not, take physics, but we're getting rid of classes that teach them to actually do something. I think that's a problem."

"That's one issue that affects rural schools differently than it affects large schools. Large schools have enough kids that they can keep those programs. Not all kids get to take them, but still they have that option."

Aside from education, King touts water and health care as some of the most important issues facing Texans.

"Rural Texas faces the same things that rural schools do," he said. "We're underrepresented,

so we get outvoted. The fact is, it costs more to keep rural hospitals functioning, because it's a price per head issue, and our sparse population numbers aren't taken into account."

As the state recovers from a recession, King also has been thinking about the economy and growing industries like wind energy.

"There are some parts of this district that wind is going to be a big deal for," said King. "I'm for anything that creates a job and stimulates our economy. We're so sparsely populated up here, if we don't do something to create jobs and encourage people to move to the Panhandle, we're going to keep losing our voice in the legislature."

King equates the state's budget shortfall with another energy issue, the price of natural gas.

"We have a budget shortfall because we have

two dollar natural gas," he said. "When we had seven to nine dollar natural gas, we didn't have a budget shortfall. In fact, the state coffers were so robust, the 2005 legislature decided that property-wealthy districts weren't smart enough to give their taxpayers a break, so they did it for us. ...To me, the industry that produces the bulk of the budget, when it does better, the state does better. I think as a state, we should produce the use and sale of natural gas. It would have a natural effect on our state economy."

cont. from page 1A

## Landtroop

conservative, but when you get down there it's a lot harder to vote like one, and if you don't have the principles and the character to stand in the face of pressure, then I think that could be a problem, and so I have a proven record of not doing that."

Named the fourth-most conservative member of the House by the James A. Baker Institute at Rice University, Landtroop vowed to live up to that distinction should he be elected again. And education, he said, is again near the top of his priority list.

"I know people are talking about education," he said, "and look at the records. In my support of public education, there's a reason that the Texas classroom Teacher's Association is supporting me over everybody else. As a matter of fact, as far as I understand, nobody else has any education groups or organizations supporting them. I'm the only one, so that should tell the voters something about who would be best and who has the proven record in supporting public education and standing up for our rural teachers."

Landtroop, though, understands that education is not rural Texas' only concern, and took his opponents to task for records he views as detrimental to newly-formed District 88.

"I think there are several big issues. Education is certainly one of the big issues. Water I think is going to be a big issue, and my belief is that the water belongs to the land owners, not the water district, and that's a little different than Mr. (Gary) Walker as a ground water district manager and as a lobbyist for the water district. Even in his time in the House, he passed bills to take rights away from landowners and give them to water districts, and I think that's the wrong approach. The budget, again, can be a significant issue, and that's why the tax issue is so important. Both Gary and Ken (King) have records of raising taxes."

Landtroop, on the other hand, has been vehemently

anti-taxes during his campaign.

"I'm the only one that's said, 'I will not raise taxes.' We need to have government live within its means, and when we're coming back from this recession that we've been in, the way to kill that is to raise taxes on people. If we want to keep this economy moving forward, we want to keep strong businesses and create an environment for them to grow and expand and

hire more workers, you're going to do it by not raising taxes."

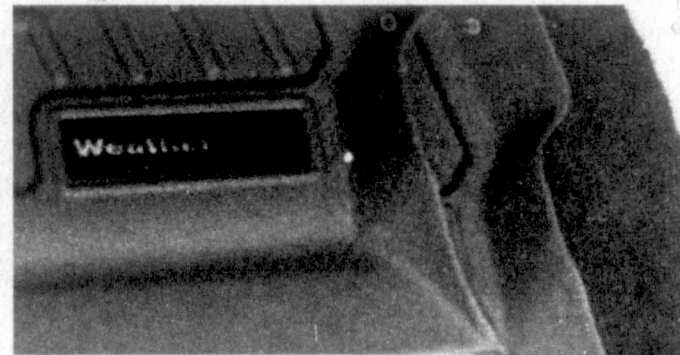
Instead, Landtroop touted the inflow of funds to the state because of the slowly rebounding economy and advocated saving by trimming inefficiency from the government.

"(We were) going to have a \$15 billion budget deficit, and there were people that came and said, 'Government is efficient, government is lean, there's

no waste in government. Your only option to fix this, to pass a balanced budget during a \$15 billion dollar budget deficit, is to raise taxes. That's the only option you have.' Well, no, we balanced the budget and we did it without raising taxes. There are a lot of ways. Government is not running lean, government is not running efficient, and we have to find those areas and cut that waste out, cut that inefficiency out."

cont. from page 1A

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# Worship

## CHURCH SPOTLIGHTS

### Organist Basmadjian to perform at First Presbyterian on Sunday

ANDREW GLOVER  
aglover@thepampanews.com

First Presbyterian Church invites the community to join its congregation for a free organ concert performed by Aram Basmadjian at 3 p.m. Sunday.

"It's quite an opportunity for Pampa," Carolyn Kessel, First Presbyterian Church member, said. "It's an honor to have someone with his degree of talent to come to this town." Basmadjian has been performing since 1986,

making his debut at Temple Square in Salt Lake City. He studied under M. Lee Suito at the University of Utah and under James Drake at Utah State. Basmadjian recorded his first compact disc at the First Baptist Church of Pomona, Calif., in 1990. Basmadjian toured many years with Community Concerts, performing in over 50 cities.

Currently, he resides in Macungie, Pa., and is a manager of the custom organ department for Allen Organ Company.

A reception will follow the concert.

### Stephens to speak at First Assembly on Sunday; public invited to service

ANDREW GLOVER  
aglover@thepampanews.com

First Assembly of God invites people to join them on Sunday to hear Arman Stephens, Ph.D., speak.

The services will be at 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. Stephens is the pastor of Worship Center in Bethany, Okla. First Assembly pastor Leland Lewis said he found about Stephens by word of mouth.

"I heard about his ministry," Lewis said. "I called him up and invited him to speak at our church. He has a strong faith in the word of God. Praise and worship are at the core of his ministry."

Lewis said Stephens is a powerful speaker. "God is honoring the word he preaches with signs, wonders and miracles," Lewis said.

First Assembly of God is located on the 500 block of S. Cuyler.

### Former ministers from Gray County to sing at Pentecostal Holiness Church

THE PAMPA NEWS

Both approaching the century mark in their lives, retired ministers Archie Cooper of McLean, and Sam Godwin of Pampa still have good voices and enjoy singing in church. They will sing as a duet in the Gospel Signing at the Pentecostal Holiness Church on the 1700 block of Alcock from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

Godwin, 98, and Cooper, who will celebrate his 100th birthday in September, attend and participate in the monthly singings. While, of

course, much younger singers and musicians participate, the two have thrilled the congregation with their selections of great old Gospel songs. Their selection for last month was the enduringly popular "Amazing Grace."

The Gospel Singing is held each month. It's a sing-along type of event including numerous musicians and special singers. A lot of congregational singing is done. Several styles of Gospel music are sung and played with the beloved older songs and hymns included.

Pastors Albert and Mary Maggard welcome everyone to attend this event.

## GOD'S GOOD NEWS

### What is it that you treasure?

Helen Hayes tells a very sad story of a leading movie star she met while crossing our nation on a train. The famous woman was in the final stages of cancer and was on her way home to die. She asked Helen Hayes to come back to her compartment. This lady had been a very successful actress and had collected a beautiful selection of very expensive jewelry.

Her maid brought out a fine leather box filled with her jewelry. For the next hour, Mrs. Hayes was requested to take out each piece and hold it up to the light of the window while the actress looked upon it passionately.

"It was evident that this was a daily ritual with her," Hayes said. "It made me want to cry. All life had given this woman was a box of hard, bright objects to hold on to. When the darkness of the evening came and she couldn't see, in the time she needed comfort the most, she couldn't even see the treasures upon which she based her life."

It is possible for this to happen to people who fill their lives with nonessentials and call them treasures. We can forget our purpose to being here. We treasure diamonds and miss the great God who made them. We can treasure homes, cars, clothes of the outward temporal man and forget the eternal soul within us.

Let me remind us what we have



DAVID BOULTER

in these earthly bodies given to us by Jesus Christ.

"For God, who commended the light to shine out of darkness hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels..." (II Corinthians 4:6-7).

Think upon the wonderful treasures God has given us: The Holy Spirit within us; the treasure of fellowship with God in our Bibles each day; the wonderful home and city we have before us in Heaven and the treasure of home and family on this earth; the treasure of our mates, children, and grandchildren; the treasure of our church home, service to Jesus and others, and the treasure of being all God wants us to be.

Let's take our eyes off the trinkets so we can clearly see God's wonderful treasure in our lives as we walk with God.

David Boulter is a pastor at Highland Park Baptist in Chattanooga, Tenn.

## Pampa Church Directory

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>Bible Baptist Church</b><br>500 E. Kingsmill Ave.<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>669-7830                         | Pampa TX 79065<br>665-2545  | 404 Harlem<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-4044   |
| <b>Briarwood Full Gospel Church</b><br>1800 W. Harvester Avenue<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-7201              | <b>First Pentecostal Holiness</b><br>1700 Alcock<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-8192                  | <b>New Hope Missionary Baptist Church</b><br>912 S. Gray St.<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-4044   |
| <b>Calvary Assembly of God Church</b><br>1030 Love Street<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>669-7207                    | <b>First Presbyterian</b><br>525 N. Gray<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-1031                          | <b>New Life Assembly of God</b><br>1435 N. Sumner<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-0804              |
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| <b>Central Baptist Church</b><br>513 E. Francis<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-1631                              | <b>Grace Baptist Church</b><br>824 S. Barnes<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>669-7967                      | <b>Priest Park Church of God</b><br>731 N. Faulkner<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>688-0174            |
| <b>Church of Christ</b><br>1342 Mary Ellen<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-0031                                   | <b>Harvest Fellowship Baptist Church</b><br>2700 W. Kentucky Ave.<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-4922 | <b>Primeria Iglesia Bautista Mexicana</b><br>541 Hamilton<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-8347      |
| <b>Church of Christ Somerville</b><br>500 N. Somerville<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-0004                      | <b>Harvest Bible Church</b><br>300 W. Browning Avenue<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>669-2923             | <b>Redeemer Pampa</b><br>225 N. Cuyler<br>Pampa, TX 79065                                    |
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| <b>Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints</b><br>411 East 29th Ave.<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>669-2967 | <b>Hi-Land Christian Church</b><br>1615 N. Banks<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>669-6700                  | <b>Seventh Day Adventist Church</b><br>421 N. Ward<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-4492             |
| <b>Church of the Nazarene</b><br>500 N. West<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>669-3144                                 | <b>Highland Baptist Church</b><br>1301 N. Banks<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-3300                   | <b>Southside Church of Christ</b><br>11927 McCullough<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-2183          |
| <b>Community Christian School</b><br>1801 W. Harvester<br>Pampa, TX 79065<br>662-3393                      | <b>Iglesia Bautista Emanuel</b><br>1021 S. Barnes<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-4330                 | <b>St. Paul United Methodist Church</b><br>511 N. Hobart<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-8951       |
| <b>Cornerstone Baptist Church</b><br>2410 W. 23rd Ave.<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>669-6509                       | <b>Iglesia Casa Del Alfarero</b><br>500 N. Duncan<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-5898                 | <b>St. Mark CME Church</b><br>406 Elm Ave<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-6743                      |
| <b>Crosspointe</b><br>711 E. Harvester<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-2480                                       | <b>Iglesia Cristiana Canaan</b><br>905 E. Beryl St.<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>669-3330               | <b>St. Matthews Episcopal Church</b><br>727 W. Browning<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-0701        |
| <b>Faith Bible Church</b><br>110 W. Kingsmill<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>688-9266                                | <b>Iglesia Nueva Vida</b><br>New Life Church<br>1200 S. Sumner<br>Pampa, TX 79065<br>665-8331   | <b>St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church</b><br>810 W. 23rd Ave.<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-8933 |
| <b>Fellowship Baptist Church</b><br>1936 N. Wells<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-2747                            | <b>Jehovah's Witnesses</b><br>1701 Coffee<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>669-9355                         | <b>Straight-Up Fellowship</b><br>400 N. Wells<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>664-0096                  |
| <b>Fellowship Baptist Church</b><br>622 E. Francis<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-5976                           | <b>Kentucky Ave. Church of Christ</b><br>1612 W. Kentucky<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-2572         | <b>Trinity Fellowship Church</b><br>2225 N. Hobart<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>665-3255             |
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| <b>First Baptist Church</b><br>203 N. West<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>669-1155                                   | <b>Lighthouse Covenant Fellowship</b><br>1733 N. Banks St.<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>669-6915        | <b>United Methodist Church</b><br>201 E. Foster<br>Pampa TX 79065<br>669-9371                |
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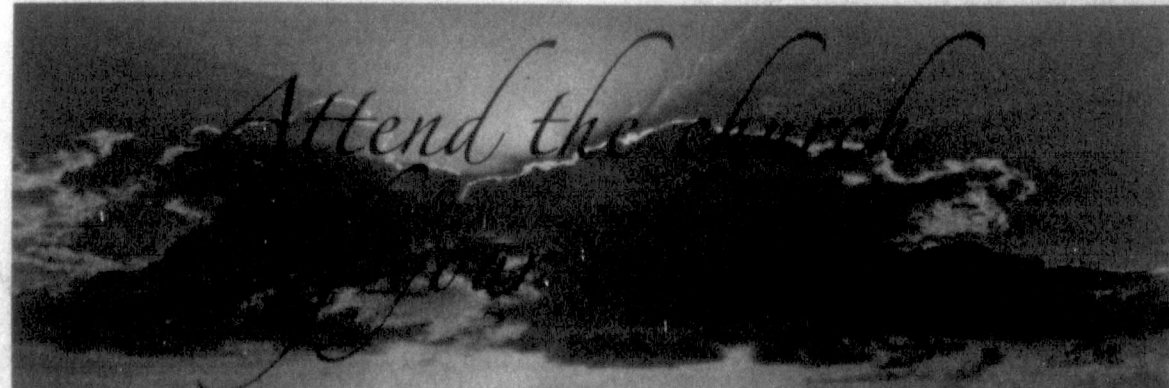
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## N.D. becomes second-leading oil-producing state in nation

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — North Dakota has passed Alaska to become the second-leading oil-producing state in the nation, trailing only Texas, state officials said Tuesday.

North Dakota oil drillers pumped 17.8 million barrels in March, with a daily average of 575,490 barrels, Assistant State Mineral Resources Director Bruce Hicks said. That compares to 17.5 million in Alaska, though still far behind Texas.

The state's oil patch is drilling at record levels and shows little sign of slowing down. The 152.9 million barrels of crude oil produced in 2011 set a record, surpassing the previous year's mark by nearly 40 million barrels, according to the state Industrial Commission. The number of wells in the state jumped from 6,726 in February to a record 6,921 in March, Hicks said.

North Dakota owes its rapid rise from No. 9 just six years to improved horizontal drilling techniques in the rich Bakken shale and Three Forks formations in the western part of the state.

"No. 2, who would have thought?" said Ron Ness, president of the North Dakota Petroleum Council, which represents several hundred companies working in the state's oil patch.

"In 1999, we had zero

rigs working and people left this industry for dead in North Dakota. Technology, geology, price and the business climate changed that."

Ness and Hicks said the achievement is bittersweet, as North Dakota continues to surpass states that have seen a decrease in oil production, including California and Louisiana.

"It's unfortunate the way we overtook them," Hicks said. "We need to get domestic production up so we can wean ourselves from foreign oil."

North Dakota's oil boom also has pushed the state's population to record levels and its unemployment rate the lowest in the nation.

"This is more than oil — it's opportunity," Ness said. "We want these other states moving in the right direction, too. This nation needs to look at energy development. Federal regulatory policies have an impact."

Alaska, which pumped 17.5 million barrels in March, has seen its oil production slip by about 15 million barrels a year since 2008, Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation statistician Steve McMains said. The state expects to tally fewer than 200 million barrels this year. Alaska produced a record 738.5 million barrels in 1988.

North Dakota crude was fetching about \$93.30 a barrel on Tuesday, about

\$3 less than one year ago. Records show 210 rigs were drilling on Tuesday in the state.

To shake Texas from the top spot, North Dakota would have to nearly double its production. The most recent production numbers from Texas show it produced 1.1 million barrels daily in February and 32.9 million barrels for the whole month. And Texas' oil production has increased more than 8.2 million barrels from February 2011 to February 2012, records show.

"It's going to be tough to catch someone who also is inclining," Hicks said. "There are people out there who say we (North Dakota) could hit a million barrels a day, but it's way too early to say."

Natural gas, a byproduct of oil production in North Dakota, also was pegged at a record 620.8 million cubic feet in March — but about a third of it is being flared because the state lacks collecting systems and pipelines needed to move it to market. Less than 1 percent of natural gas is flared from oil fields nationwide, according to the Energy Information Administration in Washington, D.C.

Officials say about \$3 billion in infrastructure improvements are planned in the state to process natural gas and move it to market.

## Beating case involving former Houston officer going to jury

HOUSTON (AP) — A Houston police officer betrayed his oath when he stomped on the neck or head of a 15-year-old burglary suspect while trying to subdue the teen, prosecutors said Tuesday as the case against the officer went to a jury.

"Every witness got up there and said no police officers here or nationally are trained in what you see," Harris County District Attorney Clint Greenwood said in his closing arguments, referring to a video of the March 2010 beating of Chad Holley. "It's illegal, it's wrong, that's why we're here."

Andrew Blomberg subsequently was fired and charged with official oppression. He faces up to a year in jail if convicted. He is the first of four fired police officers to stand trial for their roles in the incident.

"Law enforcement officers are honorable persons. They take an oath," Greenwood told jurors. "This is what happens when police officers don't follow their oath."

Another prosecutor, Eric Bily, said thousands of officers face similar arrest situations every day and do so without mistreatment.

"They draw the line between good guys and bad guys," he said. "They don't become thugs."

The 29-year-old Blomberg testified earlier in the trial he didn't mistreat the teen, insisting he never kicked or stomped on his head or neck as prosecutors have alleged. Blomberg said he only used his foot to move and secure Holley's arm during the daylight arrest after the suspect tried to flee from police who were investigating a break-in.

"He'd been shown to be willing to flee," Blomberg's lawyer, Dick DeGuerin, told jurors of Holley. "It is reasonable for officers to use force to get him into custody."

The lawyer said, "The video doesn't tell you everything."

Holley, now 18, said he briefly lost consciousness during the incident. He insisted that he did not resist arrest.

The teen was convicted of burglary in juvenile court in October 2010 and placed on probation.

Defense attorneys tried to portray Holley as a gang member. DeGuerin showed photos of Holley making obscene gestures and wearing what could be perceived as gang clothing. Blomberg told

jurors he thought at the time of the arrest that the teen might have been in a gang.

Prosecutors said authorities had been unable to tie Holley to gang membership or activity. Holley denied being a gang member.

"It's not about Chad Holley," Bily argued. "Police officers can't intentionally mistreat a suspect."

In the security camera video of the March 2010 arrest, Holley can be seen on the ground surrounded by at least five officers who appear to kick and hit his head, abdomen and legs. Prosecutors told jurors that Blomberg kicked the teen several times. Defense attorneys countered that he was only trying to secure a potentially armed suspect.

A community activist released the video to the media, prompting fierce public criticism of the Police Department. Leaders in Houston's black community said they believed the treatment of Holley, who is black, was another example of police brutality against blacks and other minorities and that the misdemeanor charges were not serious enough.

Houston Police Chief Charles McClelland Jr. testified he believed Blomberg kicked and stomped on the teen.

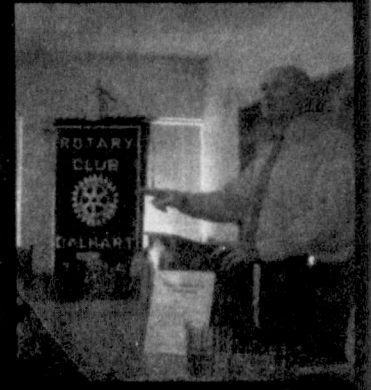
Several officers testified in support of Blomberg's claim that Holley was resisting arrest. Blomberg and the officers told jurors that before arresting Holley, they had been told the teen and several other suspects were potentially armed and dangerous participants in a series of bold daytime burglaries.

A number of officers were seated behind Blomberg in court Tuesday before closing arguments when state District Judge Ruben Guerrero announced that he had received a call from a Houston police captain telling him that uniformed officers had to leave. DeGuerin said he was outraged by the move. The judge said it wasn't his decision.

A police officers association official said later that the order was intended only for officers who may have been on duty. Several subsequently returned to the courtroom. Jurors were unaware of the flap.

A federal lawsuit Holley filed against Blomberg, the other fired officers and the city of Houston is pending.

# 193 & Counting!



Since taking office, State Senator Kel Seliger has traveled back and forth across his district conducting 193 town hall meetings.

*"This month I'm getting ready for my 194th Town Hall meeting. Even though the district has grown from 26 to 37 counties, I'm reaffirming my pledge to conduct at least one Town Hall in every county every year."*

*Kel*



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# In Iowa, Romney pins 'prairie fire of debt' on White House

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney on Tuesday painted President Barack Obama as a reckless steward of the country's economy and pointed to "a financial crisis of debt and spending that threatens what it means to be an American."

The likely Republican nominee offered a far-reaching indictment of Obama's tenure and portrayed himself as a beacon of fiscal responsibility with the public and private sector experience to prove it.

"A prairie fire of debt is sweeping across Iowa and our nation, and every day we fail to act that fire gets closer to the homes and children we love," Romney told supporters at a downtown Des Moines hotel. He emphasized an issue that's a big concern of the middle-class voters from across the political spectrum he and Obama are wooing.

"This is not solely a Democrat or a Republican problem," Romney added, a clear pitch to independent voters who will decide the election. "The issue isn't who deserves the most blame, it's who is going to do what it

takes to put out the fire."

The White House promptly dismissed Romney's critique.

Press secretary Jay Carney blamed federal over-spending primarily on Romney-backed tax cuts for the wealthy that were enacted during President George W. Bush's administration and on the pricy wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Carney said Romney wants to repeat policies that led to high deficits and the recession and to repeal Obama policies "that reversed the cataclysmic decline on our economy and that now has us growing for 11 straight quarters."

The Romney campaign's fresh focus on debt and spending came one day after Obama launched an effort to castigate his Republican rival's business credentials as the presidential campaign entered a more critical phase six months before the election. Obama's campaign and an allied group were unveiling advertisements in key battleground states that suggest Romney put profits over people during his tenure at Boston-based Bain Capital.

Romney let his advisers fight back on that front while

he opened his own sharp critique of Obama during his first trip back to Iowa since the leadoff nominating caucuses in January. Both campaigns see opportunity in Iowa in their battle for the 270 electoral votes required to win the presidency.

Romney was in this general election battleground as Oregon voters got ready to hand him a chunk of delegates Tuesday night that would help him inch closer to the 1,144 needed to clinch the GOP nomination. He was scheduled to travel to Florida, another key swing state, on Wednesday, where he planned to continue pressing his economic philosophy.

In Des Moines, Romney described Obama's approach as that of an "old-school liberal" who ballooned the debt he pledged to curb, and broke with the budget-cutting record of the previous Democratic administration of President Bill Clinton. Romney argued that Obama inflated the deficit with programs such as the 2009 economic stimulus and 2010 health care measure after promising to cut it sharply during his first presidential campaign.

## Walker

House of Representatives, and Walker sees himself as the most qualified in the race to go (or more accurately in his case, return) to the state House.

"I got elected in 1994 and I served in the sessions of '95, '97, '99 and '01," Walker said. "Then in the '07 and the '09 sessions, I was the legislative director for our Texas Department of Agriculture, so I've continued to keep that involvement with the legislative process on water issues. I've stayed involved and I've stayed informed, and we need that."

Water, of course, is not the district's only concern, Walker said.

"For us, water's got to be first, and public education's got to be second," Walker said, "because if our small schools were to go away, then we'd have towns that would actually go away. In your region, you know, Lefors, McClain, Hedley, back up north, Gruver — places that aren't the county seats, that community revolves completely around the school system. As equally important, there's the basic function of educating our kiddos, so it's important to maintain that."

Education is so significant, Walker said, that he wants to designate a specific individual to be his right-hand person when it comes to the subject, someone who brings with them distinct expertise.

"None of us are experts in everything. I would be considered an expert, I think, in ag and water issues, but because public education, and higher education to some extent but education in general, is so important to me, I want someone sitting in my office during the session that can answer the questions about legislation that's filed. I want someone that can explain to me how different pieces of legislation are going to impact this region of Texas: A recently retired superintendent or business manager or maybe even just a classroom teacher that's been through these accountability — I guess I'd say blowups — we've had over

the past few years. I want to be ready when the second Tuesday of January comes for this region to be proactive in what we're going to do to improve the situation for accountability and our other education issues."

Walker said that he wants to focus on the issues important to rural Texas.

"I'm against abortion and I'm against gay marriage, but — and I don't mean to be a smart alec about it — I don't have gay guys lined up at my courthouse to get married," he said. "It's not the problem here that I need to solve to keep rural Texas strong. I need water, I need public schools, I need rural health and I need transportation to keep rural Texas strong. Now, I will always vote against (abortion and gay marriage), but it's not what I'm going to work on because it's not what's the driving force that keeps us out here to be our strongest for the future. It's not that I've really shied away from them. It's that, you know, when you've got a fire going, you use the firehose to put it out and you don't worry about the petunias over here that didn't get a drink."

Walker stressed that, as a former representative, his years of service remain on his record should he return to office.

"You keep your senior-

ity," Walker said. "I would be a fifth-term member, likely a chairman. My seniority number will be somewhere in there about, I'm guessing,

42 to 50, so I'd be in the top third of all the 150 members. That gives you better committee assignments because you get some of your assign-

ments on seniority, and because, out of the 42 to 48 or 49 members, some of those would be Democrats. ... We have a huge leader-

ship void out here for our region of Texas, and with me having seniority, I'm in a good position to help move into that."

cont. from page 1A.



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## County

cont. from page 1A

2011 fiscal year;

- approved the budget for the Gray County Appraisal District's 2013 budget; and
- allowed the Dumas Police Department to use a radio frequency licensed by Gray County.

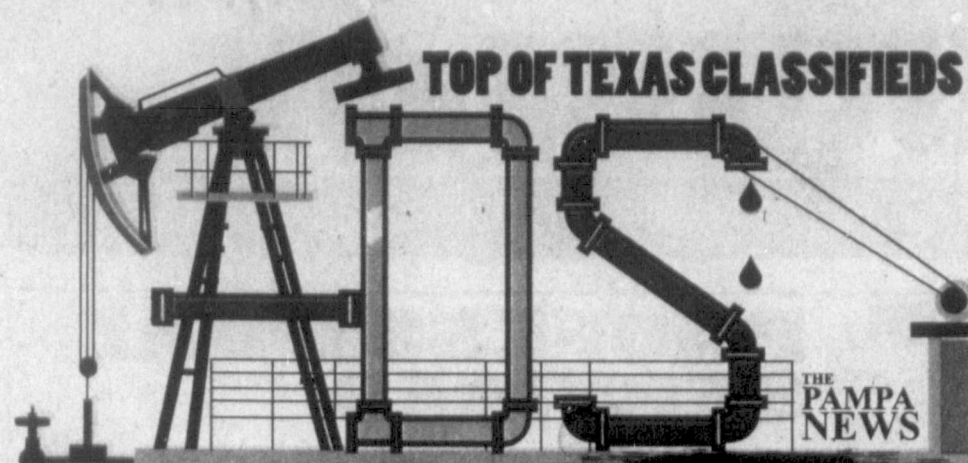


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**B&C Portables** is looking for CDL Driver. Must pass drug test & physical. Send resume to PO Box 1582, Pampa, TX 79066-1582 or call 806-663-0686, ask for Brian Smith

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Must hold a current Texas LVN or higher license, three (3) years of recent Nursing experience, and varied experience in nursing.

Application forms can be found at [www.clarendoncollege.edu](http://www.clarendoncollege.edu) under "Employment Opportunities." Please send completed application, resume, college transcripts, and references to: Darlene Spier, Assistant to the President, Clarendon College, Box 968, Clarendon, TX 79226. Clarendon College is an equal opportunity employer.

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# Sports



photo courtesy of **Shelly Teichmann**

The Howard Hawks celebrate their Region V Championship at LCU.

## PHS grad Teichmann back in postseason with Howard

ANDREW GLOVER  
aglover@thepampanews.com

Pampa High School graduate and Howard Junior college sophomore Carlyn Teichmann is no stranger to playing in the postseason, as she played in the 4A high school softball playoffs all four years and played in the National Junior College Athletic Association championship last season.

"I have been blessed to play with some awesome players and to play for great coaches throughout my career," Teichmann said.

This year, Teichmann and Howard return to the NJCAA Tournament and start play on Thursday in St. George, Utah.

Howard is ranked 13th and earned the seventh seed, facing Lake Land College in the first round. Howard reached the tournament after repeating as Region V Champions earlier this month. Teichmann said she thinks the team is good.

"This is an excellent hitting team," Teichmann said. "The experience of going to the national tournament for the second year in a row will help us. Coming off a 21-3 conference record and then winning the regional tournament by hav-

### catching up with

PHS grad Carlyn Teichmann



ing to come back and double dip Midland College gives us the confidence that we are never out of it."

Howard made the tournament last year and went 1-2, including a 4-0 loss to Salt Lake Community College, who Howard could face in the second round this season. Teichmann said every team in the tournament is good, but so is Howard.

"Playing a tough tournament schedule and playing in a tough conference has prepared us for success," Teichmann said.

Teichmann started at first, ranking third in the conference in fielding percentage (.987). She hit three home runs and drove in 31 runs. Teichmann will continue playing softball next year at University of Texas Permian Basin.

The NJCAA will stream live audio of games 1-26 and video of games 27-31 on the NJCAA TV website.

### Softball Regional Semifinal Information

Pampa Lady Harvesters vs. Kennedale Lady Cats  
**Game 1** 7 p.m. Friday at Softball Fields at Memorial Stadium in Wichita Falls.  
**Game 2** 10 a.m. Saturday  
**Game 3** 30 minutes after Game 2 if necessary.  
 Tickets: \$5 for Adults and \$2 for Students.

## McNamee testifies he saved steroid waste from Clemens

WASHINGTON (AP) — Brian McNamee testified Tuesday he saved medical waste after injecting Roger Clemens with steroids because his wife complained that McNamee was going to be the fall guy.

McNamee said his wife, Eileen, told him, "You're going to go down! You're going to go down! You're going to go down!"

McNamee, Clemens' former strength coach, has said he injected the seven-time Cy Young Award winner multiple times with steroids and human growth hormone. He said he had told his wife about the injections.

He said he wanted to do something that would make his wife stop giving him a "hard time every single day," so he took a swab and cotton ball from a Clemens' steroid injection in 2001, put it in a beer can, and brought it home.

He said when he showed it to his wife, she said, "all right."

The waste collected by McNamee is the physical evidence prosecutors are

using against Clemens in his perjury trial. Clemens is accused of lying to Congress in 2008 when he denied using steroids or HGH.

McNamee said he stored the material in a FedEx box, first in a closet in his basement, then in a closet in his master bedroom. He said he didn't have any plans to use the material in any way.

In his 2008 congressio-

nal deposition, McNamee said he kept the materials because he distrusted Clemens "to a degree."

McNamee, who testified Monday that he injected Clemens with steroids 8 to 10 times when they were with the Toronto Blue Jays in 1998, said Tuesday he injected him on multiples occasions when the two men were reunited with the New York Yankees in 2000 and 2001.

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### GOP PRIMARY: TUESDAY, MAY 29TH

Early Voting: May 14th - 25th

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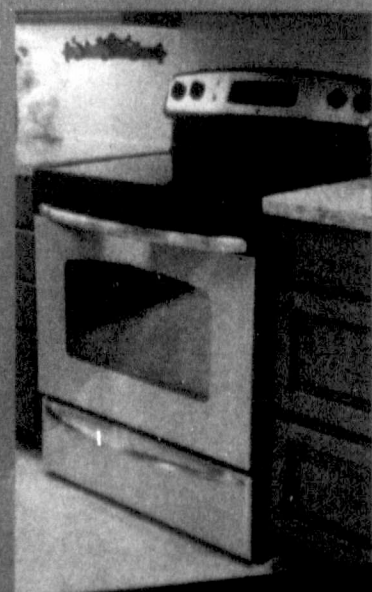
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