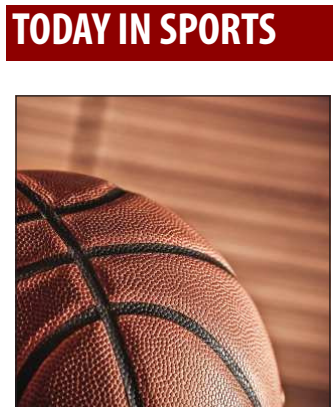


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75¢ Viewpoints: Letter to the Editor
 \$1.50 weekend Tales from the Final Frontier | **p4**
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The varsity teams take on Dalhart
 Pampa wrestling competed on Saturday | **p7 & 12**

City approves \$227,515 grant for new street

Game room ordinance passes first reading.

By **TIMOTHY P. HOWSARE**
 thowsare@thepampanews.com

The Pampa City Commission approved on first reading a \$227,515 grant by the Pampa Economic Development Corp. to CP 45(TX) LLC for construction of a street to be known as Stoney Brook Lane at its regular meeting Tuesday.

The proposed location of the street will be north of Sierra and will connect Hobart Street to Northcrest Drive. The street would be approximately 3,300 feet in length.

It will be paved with asphalt and have curbs and gutters, said Donny Hooper, public works director for Pampa.

The street is being built for a new assisted-living facility that will be built at the corner of Northcrest and Stoney Brook.

Country Place Senior Living of Pampa will be a 17,500-square-foot facility with 24 units with 30 beds, said Gary Sutherland, president of the PEDC board.

Construction of the center is expected to begin later this year and cost \$3 million, Sutherland said.

Hooper said the property for the assisted-living facility had been zoned and platted for that purpose in 2008 when an assisted-facility called Sunflower was proposed for the site.

Hooper added that the \$227,515 cost is line with recent estimates he had for building the street.

The Commission also passed on first read an ordinance to regulate game rooms and other establishments with amusement redemption machines.

Pampa City Manager Richard Morris said within the past year gaming rooms have sprung up throughout the city.

CITY cont. on page 2

As winds kick up, so does Red Flag season

By **JOHN LEE**
 jlee@thepampanews.com

Although the Panhandle is nearly three years removed from the 2011 wild fires that destroyed 130,000 acres and killed one person near Amarillo, the risk of wild fires is still fresh in the minds Panhandle residents.

Many Pampa and Gray County residents can remember the wild fires of 2006, which scorched 5,000 acres.

Fortunately, there weren't any fires that caused the catastrophic damage mentioned above, but the Panhandle was still under a Red Flag warning.

WINDS cont. on page 2



Injecting the Venom of moral character



Photo by John Lee

Amarillo Venom head coach Julian Reese used many students to demonstrate the points he was making. Reese called students up to answer his questions for them and encouraged them to speak loudly.

Successful Amarillo coach speaks to students on character.

By **JOHN LEE**
 jlee@thepampanews.com

The young men of Pampa Junior High School got a lesson in moral character and leadership Wednesday morning when Julian Reese, head coach of the indoor football team the Amarillo Venom, came and spoke to the guys about the values of respect, self-confidence and accountability.

Reese, 32, came to Amarillo from Indiana State University where he was both a football player and an assistant coach. He played for several years with the Amarillo

Dusters, including winning a championship with them in 2004. When Stephanie Tucker took over the team (then and now the Amarillo Venom) in 2011, she immediately named Julian Reese the head coach of the team and the Venom has not looked back, winning consecutive Lone Star Football League championships.

But this presentation was not about building and coaching a successful football team, this presentation was about being a man with moral character and respect for you brethren.

Reese began with his background. He was raised in Indiana as the middle child in a family with 13 children. Although he and all of his siblings played sports, his

VENOM cont. on page 2



Austin Elementary makes controversial safety change

By **LINDSEY TOMASCHIK**
 LKTomaschik@thepampanews.com

For the past several years, Austin Elementary has allowed students to leave through both the front and back doors of the school at dismissal time.

This year, the school's faculty has taken action and decided it would be safer for the students to leave only through the front doors of the school at the end of the day so teachers could better monitor the premises.

This change has taken some getting used to for both students and parents, but Superintendent Dr. David Young stands behind the school's decision and explained the reason for the change.

"There have been several incidents of

near misses with cars behind the school. There's no crosswalk back there and being that it is a residential road, the school has no control over it," he said.

The district has control over the school's main exit on Duncan Street, where there is a crosswalk and a parking lot, so in this respect the decision makes sense, even if there is some added congestion, Young said.

"Our main concern is for student safety, and as of right now, this is the best solution we have come up with," Young said.

Teachers are better able to monitor students leaving the school through only one exit, he added.

Though other elementary schools in the district do have more than one exit available upon dismissal, Young said that the layout of those schools is different, and they have

district owned and controlled streets accessible from more than one exit.

Though he understands this decision inconveniences some, Young said that this is the solution that will stand for now.

The district is open to other suggestions, and Young has put together a committee made up of community members, parents, teachers and safety experts to ensure that the safety of the students comes first in the decision making process.

The committee also analyzes decisions once they have been made to see that the safest solution for the students has been put to action. "We are always looking for ways to improve," Young said.

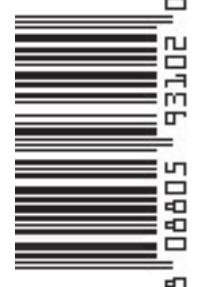
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Venom

Continued From Page 1

parents taught them to have higher priorities. "My parents taught us that there are things more important than sports," Reese said. "They go in this order, God, family, school and sports. When you are in school and playing sports you're a student-athlete, not athlete-student, sometimes kids get that mixed

up." Another area Reese focused on was that of respect. "Respect is a big thing," Reese said. "When you have something to say, you think it is important, right? So your teachers are here to give you information and you're not paying attention, that's disrespectful." Reese praised teachers and coaches in the public school system as some of the workforce who doesn't get paid what they rightfully should.

Reese had an example of how to treat yourself when trying to find your identity as a young person. He said that students could either be a thermometer or a thermostat. He said that by hanging out with cliques and being a follower you are being a thermometer, letting something else dictate your "temperature." But by being a leader and drawing people to you, you are being a thermostat and letting yourself determine what makes you comfortable.

"Habits determine character," Reese said. "When you let someone else, or all your friends tell you what to do, it becomes embedded in your brain." But Reese didn't want the young men to completely cut people out of their life. "If you're in class and you see your friend acting out whenever the teacher is speaking," Reese explained. "Nudge him and say 'Hey man, chill out.'" Reese, understanding that he was speaking to a crowd of early teenagers with rag-

ing hormones, knows that these guys want to feel macho, and that being a "goody-good" is not necessarily in the play books of these young men. "I know I am speaking to a bunch of macho guys," Reese said. "But when you are a 'goody-good,' or a G.G., respect follows. You get good grades, start working harder and people notice." During the question and answer session, Reese said he likes the Philadelphia Eagles because of their for-

mer quarterback Randall Cunningham, who Reese said was an exciting player to watch. Reese also has a strong respect for Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo, who barely made the NFL early in his career. His favorite college team is, of course, his alma mater Indiana State University. But among all the information he presented, Reese had one message for the young men of Pampa Junior High: "Set your mindsets now, so you can be successful in life later."

City

Continued From Page 1

There are also gaming machines at the VFW post, which donates most of the profits from the machines to student scholarships and charities.

Morris introduced Pampa Police Chief Kelly Rushing, who said an ordinance was needed for both accessibility and safety.

Rushing said that while some of the game room operators have been cordial with the police department, others have been a little difficult.

"I felt like we needed accessibility," he said. "We had reports of criminal activities with some, but not all, of these places. There have been narcotics at some."

On safety, Rushing said any establishment that has these machines must be clearly marked.

"We can't have windows blacked out," he said.

Rushing said that state law permits the game rooms.

City Attorney Lee Waters drafted the Pampa ordinance.

Waters said he referenced game room ordinances from several cities in Texas, including Austin and San Benito.

While Austin's ordi-

nance is only a page and a half long, San Benito's is very detailed and "covers everything imaginable."

In San Benito, each establish must pay \$2,000 yearly for a business permit along with \$300 per machine.

In Pampa, the fees will be \$250 a year per machine.

Each machine will be required to have a seal from the state and another from the city.

Per the proposed ordinance, all game rooms must have transparent glass or not otherwise block or obscure the view through a game room window.

The presence of alcohol in game rooms is prohibited and no one under 21 will be allowed in a game room unless they are an employee of the business.

Anyone who fails to comply with the ordinance can be charged with a Class C misdemeanor and fined up to \$500 for each offense. Each day that a violation occurs will be a separate offense.

During the public comment on the agenda item, Pampa resident Roberta Klapper said Rushing answered her primary question: Are gaming rooms legal?

She said her understanding was they weren't legal when they took it out

of the city except for the VFW.

Regardless of whether they are legal, Kapper said she is not for having them in the city.

"I have personal knowledge of someone going into one and losing \$6,000 in six weeks," she said.

Danny Martin, VFW post commander, also spoke during the public comment.

Martin said he is in favor of the ordinance and has always allowed the police into the VFW.

"Rushing talked about narcotics and we don't want that either," he said.

Martin said he also doesn't want a bar at the VFW.

The Commission also approved on first reading a \$20,000 grant from the Pampa Economic Development Corp. to the City of Pampa for construction of golf cart paths at Hidden Hills Public Golf Course.

In 2011, \$9,975 was approved and in late 2012 \$50,000 was approved.

Approval of the additional \$20,000 will complete all of the cart paths, said Assistant City Manager Shane Stokes.

Stokes said along with building cart paths, funds will be used for installing sprinkler systems and planting grass.

Winds

Continued From Page 1

"We had two fires this weekend, both in Roberts County," said Joe Millican, chief of Hoover Volunteer Fire Department.

"One was a bar ditch fire on (Texas State) Highway 70 north of town. The other was behind a resident's house, probably electrical in nature, that they already had put out when we got there."

According to the National Weather Service, a Red Flag warning is issued when the combination of dry fuels and weather conditions support extreme fire danger. The criteria of a red flag warning are:

- Sustained winds of 20 mph or higher.
- Afternoon relative humidity less than 25 per-

cent. • Ten-hour fuel moisture at 8 percent or less for one day.

"We are approaching fire weather season with all the dried or dead vegetation out there," said NWS meteorologist Lance Goehring.

"We actually have more fires out there during this time than summer," he said. "With the dryness mixed with the winds and low humidity, the conditions are right."

Millican said that The NWS sends out notices to area fire departments to let them be aware of the conditions being right for a Red Flag warning.

With all the national attention given to the "polar vortex" that has encased much of the United States, bringing sub-zero wind chills and temperatures, the Panhandle has resembled more of a frozen

tundra than a winter wonderland.

"We are just on the wrong side of the thing," Goehring said. "It's been dry from here to Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona and even Utah."

While it may be a surprise to some to hear, the Panhandle's driest months are during the winter.

"Winter time is normally our dry time anyway," Goehring said. "We are probably looking into March, April and May to get more moisture. June is our wettest month chronologically."

Goehring said that the chances for any precipitation over the next seven days are "not good."

While the area always needs more moisture, the following week or so would be a great time to get out, as the lowest high temperature is 54 degrees on Friday.

Video stirs debate over Dallas police shooting

DALLAS (AP) — A newly released dash-cam video has stirred debate over whether the December shooting of an unarmed man by a Dallas police officer was justified.

Senior Cpl. Amy Wilburn was fired after wounding a 19-year-old carjacking suspect on Dec. 9. Wilburn's attorney has said the ex-officer feared for her life when she shot Kelvion Walker, wounding him. But a witness told investigators the suspect had his hands raised at the time.

Wilburn was the second Dallas officer dismissed since October in shootings superiors have deemed unjustified.

The video was posted Tuesday on the Dallas Police Department's official YouTube page. In it, a carjacking suspect is seen running out of the stolen car after it pulled into an apartment complex. Wilburn runs up to the vehicle as it continues to roll forward. As she opens the driver-side door, she quickly pulls out her gun and fires once. Wilburn then holsters her gun and leans into the car.

Walker cannot be seen, but police say Wilburn shot

him. Police also say Wilburn subsequently dropped her gun in the car.

In the video, another officer can be seen handing the gun back to Wilburn, who by then had walked over to the passenger side of the car.

After leaning into the car for less than 30 seconds, Wilburn starts pacing around, with her hands on top of her head.

Walker, who survived, is suing the department. His attorney, Geoff Henley, said in a statement the video vindicated Walker and that Wilburn made "rash, reckless and dangerous decisions."

Dallas Police Association president Ron Pinkston told The Dallas Morning News that officers upset with Wilburn's firing were even more infuriated after seeing the video.

"There's a lot of these go-getters that want to go out and put bad guys in jail and they aren't doing it right now because of the possibility that they might have to use deadly force

and get fired," Pinkston said.

Retired Dallas police homicide detective Randy Loboda, who has investigated dozens of officer-involved shootings, told the newspaper Wilburn could have perceived any sudden movement with Walker's hands as him "going for a gun."

But Cletus Judge, president of the Black Police Association of Greater Dallas, has backed Police Chief David Brown's decision to fire Wilburn, writing in a recent letter to members that what he saw "in the video was a total disregard for the policies and procedures set in place to handle that situation."

Harvey Hedden, executive director of the International Law Enforcement Educators and Trainers Association, said Wilburn shouldn't have rushed the moving car because she risked being ambushed.

After the shooting, police officials announced a restructuring of some deadly force training. Brown said officers will now go through some realistic live simulation training every few months, rather than once every two years.

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PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Friday	Saturday
		
High 57 Low 24	High 56 Low 31	High 60 Low 31

Today: Sunny with a high of 57. Winds north at 20 mph. Sunrise at 7:53 a.m.

Tonight: Clear with a low of 24. Winds northwest at 11 mph. Sunset at 5:55 p.m.

Friday: Sunny with a high of 56. Winds west at 9 mph. Sunrise at 7:52 a.m.

Friday night: Clear with a low of 31. Winds west-southwest at 9 mph. Sunset at 5:56 p.m.

Saturday: Sunny with a high of 60. Winds southwest at 13 mph. Sunrise at 7:52 a.m.

Saturday night: Clear with a low of 31. Winds southwest at 6 mph. Sunset at 5:57 p.m.

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Pampa Fire Department call log — Jan. 6-14

The Pampa Fire Department responded to these calls for the following dates. One unit with three personnel responded to each call, unless otherwise indicated.

Jan. 6
• At 7:15 a.m., to a medical call in the 1800 block of Charles.
• At 8:03 a.m., to a medical call in the 2600 block of North Hobart.

Jan. 7
• At 4:04 p.m., to a lift assist in the 2600 block of Navajo.
• At 6:14 p.m., one unit and four personnel to a medical assist in the 600 block of Red Deer.
• 7:01 p.m., to a medical call in the 2200 block of North Sumner.

Jan. 8
• At 9:35 a.m., one unit and four personnel to a carbon monoxide investigation in the 700 block of Barnes.
• At 2:25 p.m., to a medi-

cal call in the 500 block of Roberta.
• At 4:34 p.m., to a motor vehicle accident at Ballard and Browning. One unit and five personenns. No injuries or hazmat.
• At 4:42 p.m., in the 1700 block of North Hobart for an odor investigation. No odor detected by PFD.

Jan. 9
• At 2:18 p.m., to a grass-fire at U.S. Highway 60 and Gray County 4. Two units and four personnel. No monetary damage.
• At 2:19 p.m., to a gasoline spill in the 1700 block of North Hobart. One unit and three personnel.
• At 6:25 p.m., to a fire alarm in the 2200 block of Duncan. Two units and six personnel. Faulty detector.
• At 10:28 p.m., to a medical call in the 1400 block of West Somerville.

Jan. 10
• At 7:45 a.m., to a motor vehicle accident 5 1/2 miles west on U.S. Highway 60. Three units and eight personnel. One person transported to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.
• At 11:25 p.m., to a lift assist in the 2700 block of North Hobart.
• at 12:10 p.m., to a medi-

cal call in the 2500 block of Perryton Parkway (Pampa Mall).
• At 5:46 p.m., to a medical call in the 500 block of Davis. One unit and for personnel.
• At 5:49 p.m., to an odor investigation in the 500 to 600 block of Roberta.
• At 7:04 p.m., to a medical call in the 600 block of Red Deer.

Jan. 11
• At 12:08 a.m., to an odor investigation at Hobart and Somerville.
• At 4:43 a.m., to a medical call in the 1000 block of Farley.
• At 8:18 a.m., to a lift assist in the 1100 block of East Francis.
• At 11:05 a.m., to a false alarm in the 2100 block of Williston.
• At 2:41 p.m., to a medical call in the 500 block of North Hobart. One unit and four personnel.
• At 4:28 p.m., to smoke from an electric meter in the 1100 block of North Starkweather. Two units and seven personnel.

• At 5:32 p.m., to a medical call in the 1300 block of North Coffee.
• At 9:23 p.m., to a medical call in the 500 block of North Naida. One unit and four personnel.
• At 10:41 p.m., to an investigation in the 1100 block of South Sumner. Dispatched to car fire but personnel found nothing.

Jan. 12
• At 12:50 a.m., to a medical call in the 1800 of North Dogwood.
• At 9:50 a.m., to a medical call in the 200 block of North Russell. One unit and four personnel.
• At 2:11 p.m., to a medical call in the 2800 block of North Charles.
• At 10:40 p.m., to a medical call in the 1200 block of East Foster. One unit and four personnel.

Jan. 13
• At 12:40 p.m., to a medical call in the 1200 block of North Wells.
• At 6:14 p.m., to an odor investigation in the 1100 block of North Starkweather.

Jan. 14
• At 6:06 a.m., to a medical call in the 2200 block of North Dwight. One unit and four personnel.

Okla. gay marriage ban struck down

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — For the second time in a month, a federal judge has set aside a deeply conservative state's limits on same-sex marriage, this time in Oklahoma.

U.S. District Judge Terence Kern on Tuesday struck down Oklahoma's voter-approved ban, but headed off any rush to the altar by putting the effects of his ruling on hold while state and local officials complete an appeal.

Like the federal judge who reversed Utah's gay marriage ban in December, Kern determined that Oklahoma's constitutional amendment violated the U.S. Constitution's equal protection clause. His ruling was littered with references to both the Utah ruling and those issued by the U.S. Supreme Court last summer.

Kern described Oklahoma's ban on same-sex marriage as "an arbitrary, irrational exclusion of just one class of Oklahoma citizens from a governmental benefit."

"Equal protection is at the very heart of our legal system and central to our consent to be governed," Kern wrote. "It is not a scarce commodity to be meted out begrudgingly or in short portions. Therefore, the majority view in Oklahoma must give way to individual constitutional rights."

The decision drew criticism from the governor, attorney general and other

elected officials in this state, known as the buckle of the Bible Belt. A state lawmaker who once said gay people posed a greater threat to the nation than terrorism blasted rulings from "activist judges."

Oklahoma's ban on same-sex marriage is the third to be struck down by a federal judge, after California and Utah. State courts also ruled in favor of same-sex marriage in New Mexico in December and New Jersey in October.

Camilla Taylor, marriage project director at civil-rights organization Lambda Legal, said momentum has been increasing as litigators see that gay-rights groups are winning same-sex marriage cases. She said there are currently 43 gay marriage lawsuits in courts, and a new one is brought almost every week.

The Oklahoma ruling came in a lawsuit filed nearly a decade ago, by two same-sex couples.

"There's so much emotion, I'm kind of crying right now," said Mary Bishop, who hopes to marry partner Sharon Baldwin. "It's overwhelming to think that we finally won."

"Sharon and I want to get married here in Oklahoma. We've been together for more than 17 years — it's time. This is something that when I was young, I thought I'd never see in my lifetime."

Bishop and Baldwin, who work at the Tulsa World newspaper, filed the lawsuit with another same-sex couple in November

2004, shortly after voters approved the constitutional amendment. Their case was the longest-running challenge to the Defense of Marriage Act, according to the national gay marriage advocacy group Freedom to Marry.

"The Bishop couple has been in a loving, committed relationships for many years," Kern wrote. "They own property together, wish to retire together, wish to make medical decisions for one another, and wish to be recognized as a married couple with all its attendant rights and responsibilities."

Taylor, with Lambda Legal, said she wasn't sure why the judge's ruling came now, though she noted that he made several references to the Utah case in his ruling.

In his 68-page ruling, Kern also took a shot at Oklahoma's high divorce rate, noting that "excluding same-sex couples from marriage has done little to keep Oklahoma families together thus far."

"Exclusion of just one class of citizens from receiving a marriage license based upon the perceived 'threat' they pose to the marital institution is, at bottom, an arbitrary exclusion based upon the majority's disapproval of the defined class," Kern wrote. "It is also insulting to same-sex couples, who are human beings capable of forming loving, committed, enduring relationships."

Republican Gov. Mary Fallin issued a written statement accusing Kern

of undermining the will of Oklahoma voters who overwhelmingly passed the ban.

"I support the right of Oklahoma's voters to govern themselves on this and other policy matters. I am disappointed in the judge's ruling and troubled that the will of the people has once again been ignored by the federal government," the statement said.

Attorney General Scott Pruitt said the Supreme Court had left it to the states to define marriage and that Kern's ruling was "troubling." He said it would likely take another Supreme Court decision to resolve the matter.

Tulsa County Court Clerk Sally Howe Smith, who was a defendant in the lawsuit, said there was no way under Oklahoma law for her to give Baldwin and Bishop a marriage license. "That's how I became a defendant in the case," she said.

Not including Utah and Oklahoma, 27 states still have constitutional prohibitions on same-sex marriage. Four more — Indiana, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Wyoming — do not permit it through state laws.

For 17 days, Utah was the 18th state to allow gay couples to wed, after a federal judge there overturned the state's same-sex marriage ban. Hundreds of couples got married before the Supreme Court put a halt to the weddings earlier this month by granting the state a stay on a federal judge's ruling that two other courts previously denied.

The fate of gay marriage in Utah now rests in the hands of the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver — the same circuit as Oklahoma.



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Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones Rated R Fri/Sat - 2:00 4:30 7:30 9:45 Sun - 2:00 4:30 7:30 Mon - Thurs. 7:30	Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones Rated R Fri - 8:00 10:00 Sat - 8:00 10:00 Mon - Wed. 8:00
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Viewpoints

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Tales from the Final Frontier

■ Despite being on back burner, Nintendo is still a legitimate player in the video game world.

Oh how I remember the days of Super Nintendo and Nintendo 64. Nothing brings happiness to my heart



JOHN LEE

like blowing in the cartridge, inserting and starting the Super Nintendo up and hearing the start-up song for “Super Mario World.” Or, what about hearing the slow strumming of a stringed instrument to open “The Legend of Zelda: Ocarina of Time.”

Long gone are the days when the major players of the video game industry were essentially Nintendo versus Sony versus Sega. While there is no argument that, outside of the pocket-full of Nintendo loyalists, Microsoft and Sony have a death-grip on gamers’ hearts with their superior

graphics, innovative features and adaptability to third-party games. I will not deny that I cherish my Xbox 360 over my Wii, but there is still some place in my heart for Nintendo.

It begins with the hand-held systems. While the 3D aspect of Nintendo’s 3DS is hardly anything more than a gimmick, the foldable console is certainly a must for gamers. I have not played a PS Vita but have heard good things about it. Personally for me the 3DS’ ability to play DS games, as well as download from a virtual console library (just like the Wii), makes it a must-have for Nintendo fans new and old.

With the recent releases of Legend of Zelda: A Link Between Worlds, Pokemon X & Y and always new indie-games in the Nintendo eShop almost weekly, the 3DS is starting to hit its stride.

Another thing that I have always loved about the Nintendo is they have stayed true to themselves. I remember growing up being told that Nintendo is for babies because it wouldn’t feature blood at the level of other publishers. It also didn’t have the heavy hitters

of “Duke Nukem,” “Tomb Raider” and “Grand Theft Auto” like Sony Playstation.

But Nintendo’s heavy-hitters, Mario, Zelda and Donkey Kong are more recognizable with families. That is what Nintendo worried about, family entertainment.

To be fair, Nintendo is renowned for having “Goldeneye 007,” which is argued as the game that brought popularity to first-person shooters like Halo and Call of Duty. While those do tend to be violent games, “Goldeneye 007” was one of the first four-player games, which for me means more members of the family playing.

But while “Goldeneye 007” was rated “T” for teens, games like the “Super Smash Bros.” series and “Mario Kart” are all family friendly games, all until a blue shell is thrown. Have fun with the blue shells, when you throw one, say “HEY FIRST PLACE!”

I often see Nintendo as the unorthodox console in more modern times. It isn’t exactly friendly to the third-party publishers like Ubisoft and Electronic Arts, but it is still a fun system and video-game producer.

So if you are getting bored with your beefed up Xbox One, PS4, Xbox 360 or PS3, play a Wii or Wii U, or even a 3DS.

John Lee is the sports editor for The Pampa News and a self-proclaimed nerd. He can be reached at jlee@thepampanews.com.

Letter to the Editor Proposed game room ordinance is harassment

What is it about being a duly elected government official that makes one morally superior to the general citizenry? It seems the city council, in its infinite desire to meddle in the affairs of man, have decided to pass an ordinance giving the police the authority to harass these private gaming businesses.

The article that appeared in this newspaper on Tuesday, quoted the Pampa Police Department spokesman who said: “The police haven’t had any major issues with gaming establishments.” If this is the case, then why pass an ordinance at all?

It can be argued, from a common sense standpoint, that it is probably not wise to patronize these establishments. However, to give a governmental body, in this case, peace officers, the authority to force their way into an establishment and search, without probable cause or warrant, the premises of a legitimate business is repugnant to me.

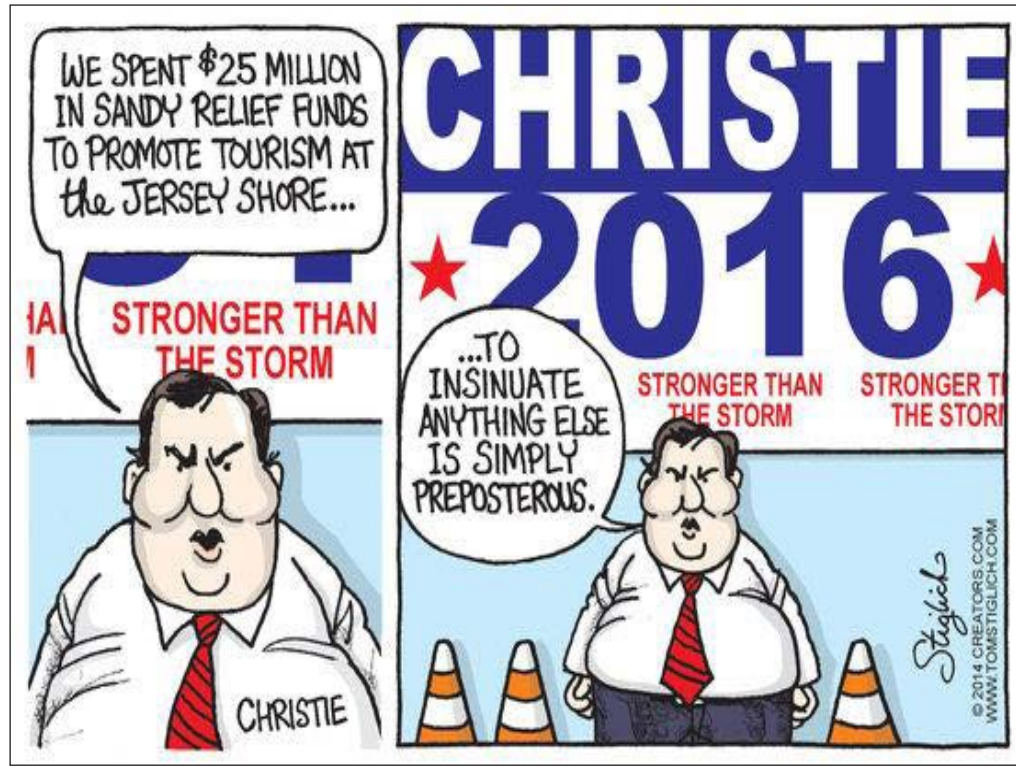
If the authorities have reasonable suspicion to believe illegal activities are taking place in or around these establishments, they can take their suspicions before a judge, swear out

an affidavit of probable cause, obtain a search warrant and go ahead and search the establishment without violating anyone’s rights. To give them the authority to do so without the protections provided in the constitution of the United States is just plain wrong.

The city council would do well to remember that not every good idea needs to be codified into law. Remember the words of the famous Christian writer C. S. Lewis, who wrote: “Of all tyrannies, a tyranny sincerely exercised for the good of its victims may be the most oppressive. It may be better to live under robber barons than under omnipotent moral busybodies. The robber baron’s cruelty may sometimes sleep, his cupidity may at some point be satiated; but those that torment us for our own good will torment us without end, for they do so with the approval of their own conscience.”

Editor’s note: The ordinance passed first reading Jan. 14. To become law it will need to pass a second reading on Jan. 28.

**Wade A. Mitchell
Pampa**



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Fighting poverty the Republican way

Listening to Republican politicians these days as they talk (and talk and talk) about poverty and inequality can be a poignant experience. They want us to know they’re worried about the diminishing economic prospects confronted by so many Americans. They hope we will admire their shiny new solutions. And they are so eager for us to believe they care.



JOE CONASON

But however concerned these Republican worthies may be, they still insist on promoting the same exhausted and useless ideas favored by their party for decades.

The sad result is that almost nobody believes that they care at all — and their “anti-poverty initiatives” tend to be dismissed, with a snicker, as public relations rather than public policy. Of course, it would be easier to feel sorry for these would-be saviors of the poor if they tried just a little harder. How long have conservatives been advising the poor that their lot would improve if only they found religion? That pious attitude dates back beyond Dickens — but Wisconsin Republican Paul Ryan, House Budget Committee chair and Mitt Romney running mate, seems to feel it qualifies him as a deep and sensi-

tive thinker. (As a Catholic, however, Ryan should note that Pope Francis doesn’t think prayer will suffice for the excluded and impoverished. Instead, His Holiness urges governments to act boldly on their behalf.)

The latest example of rhetorical failure is Sen. Marco Rubio, the Florida Republican whose eager quest for national relevance has yet to achieve traction.

Marking the 50th anniversary of former President Lyndon Johnson’s declaration of a “war on poverty,” Rubio delivered what aides billed as a major address on the topic, filled with fresh and brilliant policy alternatives to “big government.”

What little content could be found in Rubio’s speech — leaving aside the worn homilies about the land of opportunity and his toiling ancestors — was a Reagan-era plan to devolve federal anti-poverty programs to the states, as “block grants,” plus a vague scheme to transform the successful earned-income tax credit into something different, with details to arrive someday.

The entire speech consisted of such thin and indigestible gruel, which the worst workhouse would have hesitated to serve its downtrodden clientele a century or so ago. Even the undeserving poor deserve better.

Much as conservatives like Rubio repeatedly tell us, that local and state

programs are always better than federal, there isn’t much evidence to support the claim. They should listen to their own constant complaining about the unacceptable quality of public education, which is almost entirely administered by towns, counties and states — and contrasts nicely with Social Security and Medicare, the two most effective remedies for poverty ever devised in this country.

Does Rubio propose that the government should turn these popular and efficient programs into block grants and send the money to the states? He would be chased out of Florida with tar and feathers if he were to dare.

Whether it is Rubio’s Reaganesque retreat or Ryan’s cold spiritual comfort, we have seen and heard it all before. Their point seems aimed less at addressing human need than at preventing serious action — as when Rubio poses his “wage-enhancement” scheme as a better choice than raising the minimum wage, or when Ryan praises church charities while cutting food stamps.

But if we reject these cruel follies, how can government help the poor — and restore a measure of equity and decency to the economy?

A substantial increase in the minimum wage, which would raise earnings for all the working poor, is the beginning.

A federal commitment to universal pre-kindergarten schooling, proven effective from Europe to deep-red Oklahoma, would be valuable.

And a national infrastructure bank, as part of a real program to rebuild the nation’s decaying transportation, energy, recreation and education systems, would be a significant step toward full employment — the true antidote to hopelessness.

Yes, these things would surely cost money. But they would just as surely save money — a lot of money, as in trillions of dollars.

Rebuilding bridges and roads is far cheaper today, when interest rates are low, than when they tumble down years from now.

Raising the minimum wage requires no federal dollars and saves the government from subsidizing low-wage employers.

The estimated return on universal pre-K is roughly \$17 for every buck spent — because those fortunate children tend to stay out of jail, off welfare and in taxpaying jobs.

It is time to stop pretending that we can solve national problems by shuffling inadequate budgets around and praying for mercy. It is time to do something — and we already know what to do.

To find out more about Joe Conason, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.

Bundchen says stress low at home during playoffs

NEW YORK (AP) — It may be NFL playoff time in the Tom Brady-Gisele Bundchen household, but the stress doesn’t carry over at home.

“He’s very focused,” the 33-year-old Bundchen said of Brady, quarterback for the New England Patriots, in a recent interview. “We are both very supportive of one another in what we do. Of course nobody likes to lose. Those aren’t the best days. He knows he does his best. He works extremely hard.”

The three-time Super Bowl champ and his New England Patriots travel to Denver to play the Broncos on Sunday for the AFC championship.

To stay calm, the Brazilian model says the couple winds down differently.

“At night if my husband is watching TV and watching football, I have my little book and I put something in my ears so I don’t hear it and I put my light (on) and have my book and I’m like, ‘Ohhh.’ He’s feeding his soul and that’s important to him to watch football. I only

want to watch if I’m watching him,” she joked.

And win or lose, family comes first. Brady has a 6-year-old son, John, whose mother is actress Bridget Moynahan. Bundchen and Brady have a 4-year-old son, Ben, and a 1-year-old daughter, Vivian.

“He’s very loving and it’s a wonderful thing. In our house we are very affectionate,” she said. “I think it’s very important for the boys to know that it’s OK to hug and to kiss and you’re not less than a man.”

Bundchen was recently named a brand ambassador for Pantene hair products. She’s worked with the company in Brazil since 2007.

When she’s not working, Bundchen says she doesn’t have much time to put into her locks and laughs that her go-to style is a “sleek bun.”

She doesn’t even own a hairbrush.

“In my job you have to remember people are brushing my hair every day. You have to remember the last thing I want (on a day off) is a brush in my hair!”

Crime Stoppers' Fugitive of the Week

STAFF REPORT

The Gray County Crime Stoppers' Fugitive of the Week is Jose Facundo Benitez, who is wanted in Gray County for the violation of probation — burglary of a habitation. Benitez, a 21-year-old Hispanic male, is 5-feet, 4-inches tall, weighs 140 pounds, and has black hair and



Jose Benitez

brown eyes. If you have any information about Benitez or any other fugitive, you are urged to call Crime Stoppers or submit a Web Tip. They don't want your name, only your information. Never try to detain the fugitive yourself. In determining whether someone is a fugitive, a suspect must have a felony charge coupled with an arrest warrant that was not cleared within a week of being issued. If your information leads to an arrest, Crime Stoppers will pay a cash

reward of up to \$200 and you will remain anonymous. The wanted status of the posted fugitive or fugitives is updated as often as possible. Persons listed above may be arrested and no longer wanted. Upon confirmation of a person's arrest, Pampa Gray County Crime Stoppers will change or remove the post to reflect their status. There are three ways to submit your tip, call 806-669-2222, visit Web Tips at www.pgcestips.com or text the word "pampa" along with your tip to 274637.

Robbery happens during Odessa church service

ODESSA (AP) — Some worshippers at a West Texas church have been credited with chasing and catching two suspects after a purse was snatched during the service. Odessa police say one of the fleeing men allegedly pulled a knife but nobody was hurt after the robbery Sunday at Sher-

wood Baptist Church. Ector County jail records show Nicholas Alexander Kempf was being held Wednesday on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. Online jail records don't list an attorney for Kempf, whose bond was \$100,000. Timothy Ray Yanaga was charged with

misdemeanor theft and released on \$500 bond. Odessa police say the pair apparently were in the last pew when Yanaga allegedly grabbed the purse. The bag has been returned intact to the woman. Pastor Ivy Shelton says security will be increased.

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By THOMAS JOSEPH

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 - 7 Became frosted
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 - 10 Operated
 - 16 Casserole bit
 - 19 Pretend to be knocked out
 - 20 Fix copy
 - 21 Match parts
 - 22 Monument Valley sight
 - 23 Uttered
 - 28 Bagel choice
 - 29 Short sock
 - 30 Feel poorly
 - 31 Graft
 - 35 Woes
 - 36 Watch reading
 - 37 Leisurely
 - 38 Private room
 - 39 One, for Juan
 - 40 Big truck

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1-16

As a math teacher we use the newspaper a lot during our statistics unit. I have students look up examples of percentages. It is a great way to show students that they will use math in the "real world."

-Middle School Math Teacher

Thank You!

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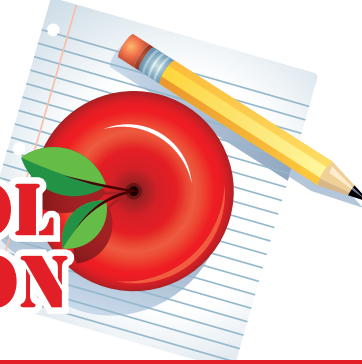
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The PAMPA NEWS

SCHOOL EDITION



Thursday, January 16, 2014

Page 6

Lamar Elementary

Lamar rocks

Students, teachers, parents and community are all key to successful learning at Lamar



Left: Mrs. West hard at work with student and family. Below: 3rd grade students show their work at the PISD showcase.



Above: 4th grade performs rock and roll musical. Right: Sweet Adelines from Amarillo perform for students.



Below: students learn about fire safety.



Right: Mrs. Brown and Ms. Morgan's PreK class visit the pumpkin patch.



Left and below: Lamar student and family decorate pumpkins at Lamar Family Night.

Hi my name is Maribel Cabrales a 5th grade student at Lamar. I am writing this letter to share several upcoming events we have going on at Lamar Elementary. On January 20th P.I.S.D. will be closed to honor Martin Luther King Day. Lamar will be having group picture day on January 29th. On February 6th we will have an early release and students go home at 1:00. On February 17th there will be no school for students to honor Presidents' Day. The dates for spring break this year will be March 10-14. My favorite subject is math and learning about new things to improve my math. The most fun I have had at school this year is when I went on our first field trip.



Haley Davis shows off a cabbage she grew for a class project.



Left: Mrs. Guardado's 2nd grade class has fun learning!



Left: Lamar boys pose as "ninjas" after school. Below: Lamar kindergarten girls happy to be at school.



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PampaSports

Dalhart Golden Wolves stun Pampa at home

BY JOHN LEE
jlee@thepampanews.com

The Harvesters and Lady Harvesters both fell to the Golden Wolves and Lady Wolves last night at McNeely Field House. The Harvesters fell to 1-1 in District 1-3A play, while the Lady Harvesters fell to 1-2.

"Yeah it's a good team, we had them on the ropes. It came down to free throws and turnovers," Harvesters head coach Matt Embry said.

"We had more turnovers and they made their free throws and we didn't. It's not a lack of effort, our guys are trying and they are executing. Sometimes those little things fall short on you and that happened to us tonight."

The Harvesters and Golden Wolves battled fiercely back and forth. Pampa fi-

nally got on the board after senior Ryan Powell hit a 3-pointer to cut Dalhart's lead to 5-3. This sparked a small scoring run in which senior Cory Ponce, who worked the inside the entire game, hit a 2-pointer and free throw to put the Harvesters up 6-5.

"He (Ponce) really battled tonight. He was good on the glass and making his put backs and made most of his free throws," Embry said.

"So I am real proud of his effort. But it doesn't matter how one guy does, it matters how we all do. We win as a team and lose as a team. We will take this one and go back to the drawing board and move forward."

After the Golden Wolves hit a 3-pointer, Powell returned again and hit another 3-pointer pulling the Harvesters closer at 11-9. Continuing to battle, the

quarter finally ended with Dalhart hitting a 2-pointer ending the quarter at 24-23.

The second quarter was opened up with an immediate bucket from senior Trey Miller, followed up by four consecutive points from Ponce to put the Harvesters up 32-25. The Golden Wolves then went on a 6-2 scoring run, hold the Harvesters to the 34-31 lead at halftime.

The Harvesters opened the second half on a 6-2 scoring run, again led by Ponce with four straight points and capped off with a lay-up from Cade Engle to put the Harvesters up 40-33. Despite Powell hitting another three, the Golden Wolves went on a 10-point scoring run, drawing them close at 45-43.

With the game tied 50-50 to start the fourth, Pampa once again tried to pull away, with 2-pointers from

Ponce, senior Brandon Stokes and junior Jonathan Stevens putting the Harvesters up 56-52. But Dalhart was too much for the Harvesters and the Golden Wolves pulled away off free throws at 64-62.

Cory Ponce led the team in scoring with 24 points, along with nine rebounds. Ryan Powell and Cade Engle had 13 and nine points respectively. Jonathan Stevens finished with eight points, Gabe Garcia had three points and Brandon Stokes had two.

Lady Harvesters fall to Lady Wolves

Just as the boys' game was a battle, the Lady Harvesters fought a very physical Lady Wolves team.

The Lady Harvesters opened up the game scoring two 2-pointers from junior Madison Brown

on the inside. Following a three-pointer from senior Hayley Burnett, the Lady Wolves went on a 7-0 scoring run, that came to an abrupt halt when Burnett hit a layup to pull within two points at 9-7 to end the quarter.

The Lady Harvesters and Lady Wolves continued to play each other close, with the Lady Harvesters getting points from Burnett, Brown and juniors Risa Rodriguez and Carrigan Niccum. The score at the half was 22-17 Dalhart.

The Lady Harvesters opened up the second half with a 6-2 run, with Burnett scoring first and Brown hitting four-unanswered points. The story of the third quarter has to be the way Hayley Burnett took control of the game late in the third, scoring eight points on four take-

aways to give the Lady Harvesters the 49-46 lead.

As fast as the third quarter ended, the Lady Harvesters found themselves trailing in the fourth quarter, and being stunned by a late Dalhart rally. The Lady Wolves outscored the Lady Harvesters 19-10 in the fourth quarter, giving them the 51-49 win.

Burnett led the team in scoring with 21 points, accompanied by Madison Brown's 18. Carrigan Niccum led the team in rebounds with four. Niccum, Ty'Randa Johnson and Risa Rodriguez had six, two and two points respectively.

The Harvesters and Lady Harvesters return to action next Tuesday, Jan. 21, to take on Perryton at McNeely Field House. The girls will play at 6 p.m. with the boys to follow.



Photos by Charla Shultz

Left, Carrigan Niccum (14) works through the defense to get the ball to (12) Madison Brown. Right, Cory Ponce (35) follows through on a put-back.

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Providence at St. John's.....FOXS1 6 p.m.
Missouri at Vanderbilt.....ESPN2 6 p.m.
Arizona St. at Arizona.....FOXS1 8 p.m.
BYU at San Francisco.....ESPNU 8 p.m.
(11) Ohio St. at Minnesota.....ESPN2 8 p.m.
Long Beach St. UC Santa Barbara.....ESPNU 10 p.m.

Hockey
L.A. Kings at St. Louis Blues.....NBCSN 7 p.m.




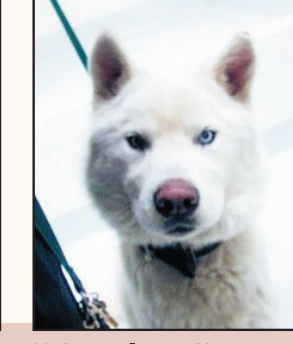


Basketball
Brooklyn Nets at Atlanta Hawks.....NBATV 2 p.m.
New York Knicks at Indiana Pacers.....TNT 6 p.m.
Oklahoma City Thunder at Houston Rockets...TNT 8:30 p.m.
Check your local listings for channel number
Times may vary and blackouts may apply

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SATURDAY
Pig show 8 am
Buyer's reception 5 pm
Sale 6 pm
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16801

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comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



1-16
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"Whenever I watch it snow, my voice likes to whisper."

Non Sequitur



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Nest Heads



daily horoscope

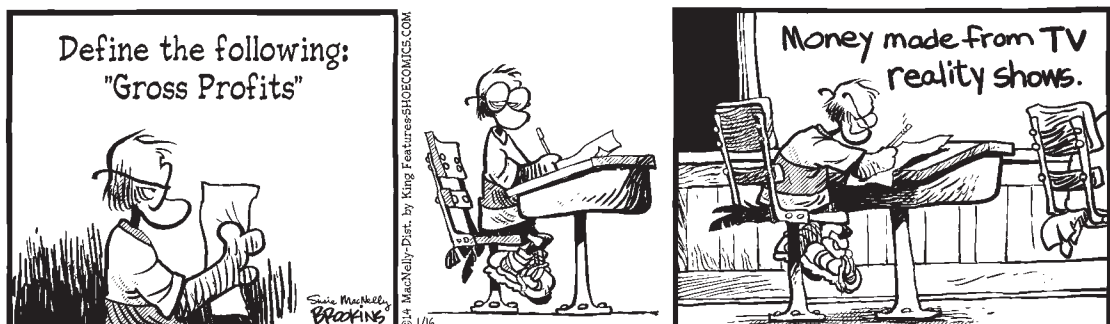
HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, Jan. 17, 2014:
This year many people surround you and demonstrate interest in your work, studies or whatever your focus might be. All this attention could be quite flattering. If you are single, you will meet someone easily. Excitement will surround the developing relationship. Enjoy the moment; worry less about the future. If you are attached, be careful when dealing with joint finances. You easily could become demanding or not see eye to eye with your partner. Find some middle ground, or consider getting separate checking accounts. LEO is lovable and fun.
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)
★★★★ You will wake up feeling tired, which could be the result of an active dream life. You might decide to clear up an issue involving a higher-up. Sometimes this person's demands are too much to handle, especially when you have other matters to tend to. Tonight: Time to relax.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Stay secure in that you know what to do and when to act. You have been observing a new friend or associate closely, and you will know when the timing is right to initiate a conversation. Check out a new purchase carefully. Tonight: Make it easy.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Speak your mind. Your ability to move past a restriction will emerge. You have strong feelings about an associate or someone who plays a role in your daily life. Listen to a suggestion about how to relate better to this person. Tonight: TGIF!
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Be aware of your spending, but proceed accordingly if you feel that you are lucky. Buy a lottery ticket on your way home. Others might decide to make an important call that they have been putting off. Tonight: Treat someone to dinner.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You might have drifted into weekend mode already, and you could have difficulty settling into your day job. Clear your desk, and get as much done as possible. A discussion could become too animated, even for you. Tonight: Finally, the weekend is here.

Join a friend!
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You might consider taking the day off and starting the weekend early. Others might notice how drained you are before you do. Listen to the feedback you get more often. Honor a child's request, even if it feels silly to you. Tonight: Screen your calls, and keep your plans to yourself.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Your fiery energy could point to a solution that you might not have considered. Be aware of what you want from a situation. Your requests and demands might seem clear to you, but others will be getting mixed messages. Be clear. Tonight: Where your friends are.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You might not be aware of how much admiration others have for you; people observe your behavior a lot more than you realize. You could be subject to more judgment as a result. Still, you enjoy taking a leadership role. Tonight: Others take their cues from you.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You might be taken back by someone's far-out ideas. Once you get past how different they are, you will be able to evaluate whether you want to be a part of this undertaking. This endeavor could be a wild escapade. Tonight: Touch base with a friend at a distance.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You could be taken back by a partner's revelation. You also might wonder what would be appropriate, past your knee-jerk reaction. Your intensity marks your interactions and draws others toward you. Why not just jump in? Tonight: Togetherness works.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You have an original way of expressing yourself. Others respond strongly to you. You might not be revealing your true feelings to a very important person in your life. Whatever your reason is, think again. Tonight: A social butterfly.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Be realistic about what you need to get done. If you are ahead of schedule, you might decide to move up your evening plans by an hour or so. Count on the fact that you will feel better if you clear your desk before you start planning your weekend social life. Tonight: Out late.

Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



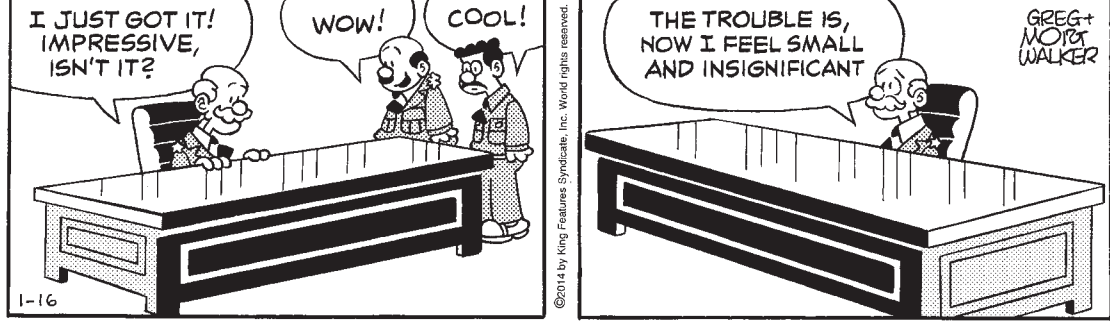
Zits



Garfield



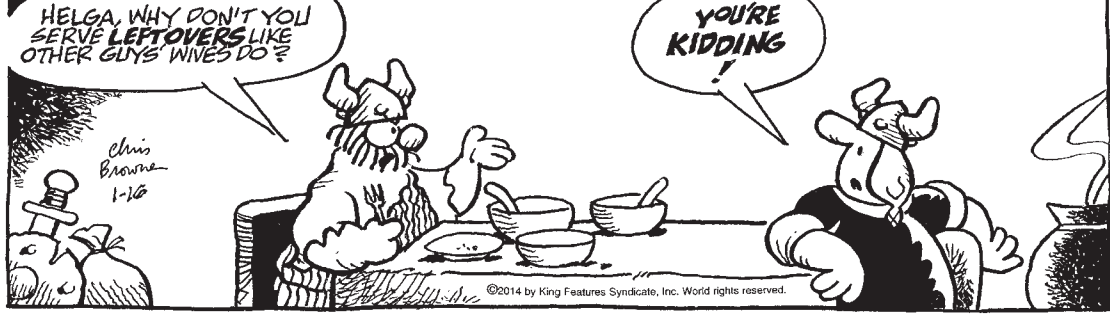
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



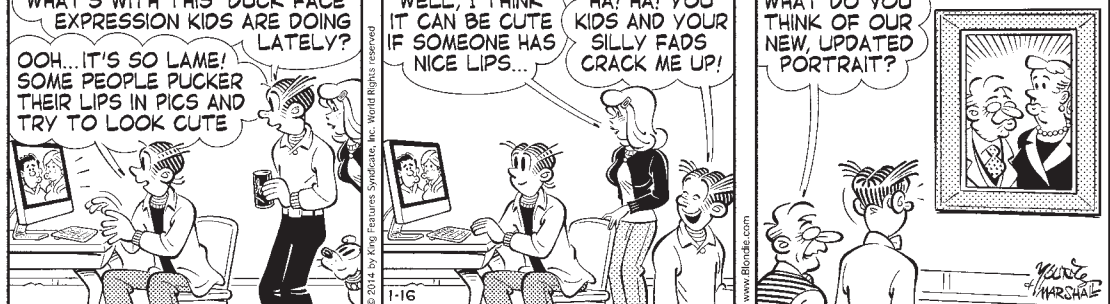
Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie

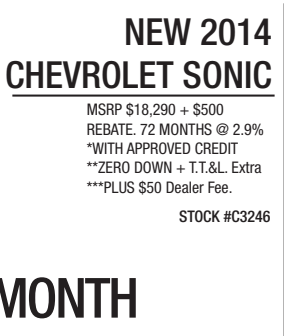


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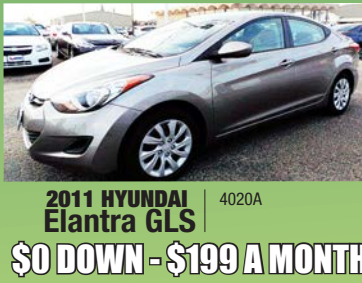
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PampaSports

Harvester wrestling competes at separate locations

By JOHN LEE
jlee@thepampanews.com

The boys' team finished eighth out of 19 teams.

The boys' wrestling team traveled to Hereford on Saturday, while the girls competed in the Lady Horns Classic at Caprock High School in Amarillo.

The girls' team wrestled in the Caprock Lady Horns tournament. Shiann Regalado won her first two matches handily. Savannah Chaney, although she didn't pin her opponent, was very aggressive and countered opponent moves to win 8-6.

For the boys, 170-pound sophomore JT Bellcourt was 7-0 and finished first. 285-pound senior Isidro Estrada was 7-1 and finished third. Head coach Clint Wood said he also had good showings from Shalor Sokolosky, Austin Hernandez, Joseph Radke and Cade Ferguson.

"(We) really saw some improvement by of our juniors," Wood said of his Lady Harvesters. "Nikki Poland and Meranda Ferguson had a very good tournament."



Boys' photos by Jenn Belcourt, girls' photo by John Lee
Top, Cade Ferguson attempts to pin his opponent. Above, Miranda Foreman escapes a hold. Below, Isidro Estrada attempts to pin his opponent. Bottom, Logan Blackburn grapples his competitor.



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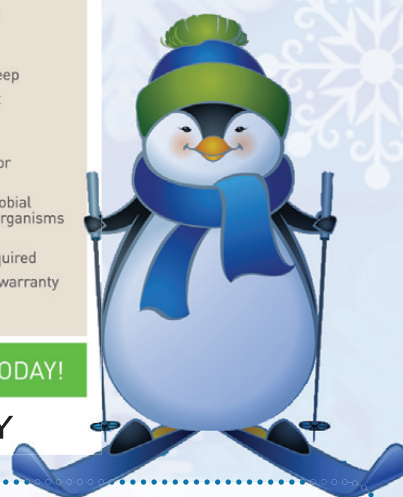
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