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75¢ Viewpoints: Bruno Baltodano Students for liberty, Free beacon & Clintons | p4
 \$1.50 weekend 38¢ subscription
 Baseball Preview: Baseball today at 4 p.m. From the Press Box: Basketball was exciting | p10&15

THEN AND NOW



File photo and photo by Timothy P. Howsare
 Pampa resident Frank Hernandez, 89, said he is proud to have been a paper boy for the Pampa Daily News when he was a kid. Though he wasn't sure on the exact date this photo was taken, he guessed it was between 1933 and 1935. He said two of his brothers, Joe and Raymond, also were paper carriers. He said both of them still live Pampa. The family moved to Pampa during the oil boom of the late 1920s, Hernandez said. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and professes to be a Glen Miller fan. The picture to the right was taken last week at the newspaper's original location on West Foster Avenue. The above photo was taken on the side of the building that faces North Somerville Street.



First State Bank of Miami to be sold



Photo by Timothy P. Howsare
 First State Bank of Miami is being sold to AimBank, which has a principle office in Littlefield. First State Bank opened in Miami in 1907 and the Pampa branch opened in 1998.

STAFF REPORT

One of the oldest banks in the Panhandle with a branch in Pampa has agreed to be sold to another Texas-based bank.

The First State Bank of Miami opened in Miami in 1907.

Pending approval of the Texas Department of Banking, the bank will be sold to AimBank, which is headquartered in Littlefield and has facilities in Levelland, Lubbock, Wolforth, Snyder, Midland and Odessa.

The Pampa branch opened in 1998 in the Combs-Worley building at 120 W. Kingsmill Ave.

The First State Bank of Miami is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Miami Bancshares, Inc., a locally owned and operated banking organization headquartered in Miami at 100 S. Main St.

AimBank was originally chartered on Sept. 19, 1925 as The First National Bank of Littlefield. For a short time in the early 1920's, the bank was housed in the historic Yellowhouse Building at 401 Phelps Avenue, where Major George Littlefield planned and developed the City of Littlefield while managing his other ranching and banking interests. The Bank later moved to 337 Phelps Avenue, and survived both the Great Depression and the Dust Bowl days of the 1930's - due to great perseverance on the part of its officers and staff.

Growth
 In the summer of 1945, J.T. Lee and Don Bell, two bankers from Clovis, N.M., purchased controlling interest in the bank, and it was subsequently owned and managed by these families for the next 58 years. In 2003, the Bank was converted to a state-chartered bank in connection with a change in control, and an increase in capitalization. Ownership of the bank is now vested in AIMBancshares, Inc., a bank holding company, which is in turn owned by a group of local individuals from Hockley, Lamb and Lubbock counties.

Since 2003, the bank has expanded both its product line and number of banking facilities.

AimBank will acquire substantially all of the assets, including all safe deposit contracts and leases, and assume substantially all of the liabilities associated with First State Bank of Miami.

The public notice on the sale states there will be no interruption in service to the loan and deposit accounts of current First State Bank of Miami customers as a result of this transaction. Likewise, there will be no lapse of FDIC deposit insurance coverage to the bank.

As a result of the business transaction, AimBank will operate branch offices at the former office locations of First State Bank of Miami. The names of the branches will change to AimBank.

Any questions about the transaction should be directed to David Locke, chairman of the board of First State Bank of Miami, at 806-868-2771.

For more information on AimBank, visit www.aimbankonline.com.

Into the hornets' nest



Photo courtesy of Amarillo NewsChannel 10

John Horst, Fritch interim city manager, at a city commission meeting Tuesday. Horst is a former city manager and finance director of Pampa. His position with Fritch is short-term to help the city rebound from deep financial troubles.

Former Pampa city manager charged with fixing troubles in Fritch.

By TIMOTHY P. HOWSARE
 thowsare@thepampanews.com

When Pampa resident John Horst retired as Pampa city manager five years ago, he planned to kick back and pursue his lifelong hobby, woodworking, full time.

He even opened up a shop on Tyng Avenue, Horst Woodworking, that now employs two people. If you need a beaten and battered old table or chest of drawers restored, Horst is the man in town to go to.

But Horst still wanted to keep his feet wet in the municipal government business, which had been his career for 35 years.

He turned in his resume to Texas First Group, an interim personnel company for municipal administrators, and did do a brief stint running the show at Darrouzett, a small community of around 500 in the northeast corner of the Panhandle.

And now all those years of experience and a cool head have proved to serve him well in his current job as the interim city manager of Fritch.

In recent months, the Hutchison County city of 2,200 has become the poster child for corruption and mismanagement in small-town government as news of missing funds, questionable credit card expenditures and suspicious loans to Fritch city employees reared their ugly heads.

Horst said he took the interim job in July after the previous city manager was terminated.

He plans to stay until May, but said it will take until September 2015 until the city's bond debt is where it needs to be.

For the entire year of 2013, nothing was paid on the bond debt for a new water treatment plant, Horst said. That would be like skipping payments on your credit card for an entire year.

To help pay down the debt, Horst had the city add a \$12 a month surcharge to water bills and increase property taxes.

And while taking an even bigger dip into the pockets of already honked-off citizens may not have been well re-

FRITCH cont. on page 2

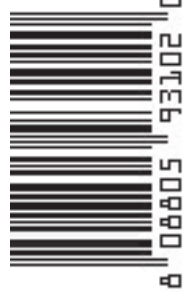
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Fritch

Continued From Page 1

ceived at the onset, Horst said the city has reduced its deficit by \$450,000 and people seem to be pleased with the turnaround.

Horst also cut eight full-time and five part-time employees.

Another cost savings measure was to eliminate the city's EMS department. Fritch now contracts with the Hutchinson County Hospital for its emergency services.

"It was a big challenge when I came in," he said. "We had employees on board who were not budgeted."

He said it all started "when the Texas Rangers were contacted to do a little investigation."

The "little investigation" turned into a bigger one as the Hutchinson County District Attorney's Office was brought in.

"Then the DA requested help from (state) Attor-

ney General's Office because of the magnitude of the misappropriation of funds," Horst said.

"We are still finding documents and sending them to AG's office. The DA has subpoenaed some of the former employees personal bank account records."

Horst said Fritch has about 1,000 utility connections in the city and another 1,000 outside the city limits.

"Whether you are in the city limits or not, you are still having to pay the tab (on the bond debt)," he said.

Horst said the people in the community have been very supportive and are "anxious to see something done with the people who have caused the problems."

Likewise, the bond holders have been none too happy with the situation, but Horst said he provides them monthly updates and keeps them informed of any new developments.

So how did Horst get

himself into the horns' nest over in Fritch?

He said when the city had to find a new city manager, it contacted the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission. The PRPC recommended the Texas First Group, who in turn contacted him, he said.

Horst said he was contacted in part because he lives close by — only 40 miles from Fritch.

But it's probably fair to say Horst's background as a solid city leader was considered along with his "short" commute time.

As part of his employment agreement Horst can work from home on some days, but is required to attend all the meetings.

Horst has not let his woodworking business go by the wayside, and said his two employees are more than capable to manage while he's not there.

And he does plan to be at the shop next Tuesday to do what he loves the most best — working with his hands.

2 admit guilt in Dodger Stadium Giants fan attack

LOS ANGELES (AP) — One of the greatest tragedies played out at Dodger Stadium in recent years was recalled in a courtroom just miles away as two men pleaded guilty Thursday to a 2011 beating that left San Francisco Giants fan Bryan Stow brain damaged and disabled.

They were immediately sentenced by an angry judge who called them cowards and the sort of people that sports fans fear when they go to games.

"You are the biggest nightmare for people who attend public events," said Superior Court Judge George Lomeli as he faced Louis Sanchez and Marvin Norwood across a courtroom crowded with media and members of Stow's family who wept and denounced the two men.

He noted that Sanchez was smirking during his remarks. "This is not funny," he snapped at Sanchez who said he knew that.

Sanchez, 31, acknowledging he kicked and punched Stow, pleaded guilty to one count of mayhem that disabled and disfigured the victim. He was sentenced to eight years in prison with credit for 1,086 days.

The complaint specified that he cut and disabled Stow's tongue, put out an eye and slit his nose, ear and lip in addition to other injuries that left him brain damaged.

Norwood pleaded guilty to one count of assault likely to produce great bodily injury and was sentenced to four years. His credit for time already in custody appeared to account for at least the majority of that term. Deputy District Attorney Michele Hanisee said Norwood could be released immediately.

But federal authorities said it would not be so fast. They have charged both men with weapons possession charges that could

send them to federal prison for an additional 10 years.

The men were sentenced after Stow's family addressed the court. His sisters wept.

David Stow, the victim's father, placed a Giants ball cap on a podium.

"The years you spend in prison is what you cretins deserve," he said as Sanchez smirked at him.

The victim's sister, Bonnie Stow, described her brother's anguished life.

"We shower him, we dress him, we fix his meals," she said. "We make sure he gets his 13 medications throughout the day. He takes two different anti-seizure medications to prevent the seizures he endured for months after you brutally and cowardly attacked him."

Lomeli told the men: "You not only ruined the life of Mr. Stow (but) his children, his family, his friends."

He said the two only seemed to care about when they will be getting out of jail.

"One day you will be released," he said, "and Mr. Stow will forever be trapped in the condition you left him in."

The judge said he often takes his son to football games and "my biggest fear is that we might run into people like you, who have no civility."

He concluded, "it's only a game at the end of the day and you lost perspective."

Stow, a 45-year-old paramedic from Santa Cruz who attended the 2011 opening day game in Los Angeles between the Dodgers and the Giants, was beaten nearly to death in a parking lot after the game.

He suffered brain damage and is permanently disabled, requiring 24-hour-a-day care.

The beating prompted public outrage and led to increased security at Dodgers' games. A civil suit by Stow is pending against the

Dodgers organization and former owner Frank McCourt.

Outside court, Hanisee said prosecutors had obtained sentences close to the maximum possible if they had been convicted at trial. She said there were insufficient facts to justify a charge of attempted murder which was considered.

In response to one of the family members' comments, she said, "They did get off easy. Brian Stow is serving a life sentence in a wheelchair and diapers. He is never going to get better."

If there is any positive outcome, Hanisee said attention has been drawn to the problem of fan violence at sports events.

Sanchez and Norwood were arrested after a lengthy manhunt that briefly involved the arrest of an innocent man. The two acknowledged their involvement during a series of secretly recorded jailhouse conversations.

Norwood was recorded telling his own mother by phone that he was involved and saying, "I will certainly go down for it."

The words the two men spoke in a jail lockup, unaware they were being recorded, were played at a preliminary hearing as they were ordered to stand trial on charges of mayhem and assault and battery.

Sanchez acknowledged he attacked a Giants fan, and Norwood said he had no regrets about backing him up.

Witnesses testified about the parking lot confrontation, saying Stow was jumped from behind and his head crashed to the pavement. While he was on the ground, Sanchez kicked him in the head three times, they said.

Last spring, Stow returned home after two years in hospitals and rehabilitation centers. His family said he requires constant physical therapy and remains severely disabled.

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Today	Saturday	Sunday
		
High 66 Low 35	High 60 Low 27	High 52 Low 27

Today: Sunny with a high of 66. Winds west-southwest at 15 mph. Sunrise at 7:24 a.m.

Tonight: Clear with a low of 35. Winds west-southwest at 11 mph. Sunset at 6:32 p.m.

Saturday: Mostly sunny with a high of 60. Winds north at 9 mph. Sunrise at 7: 23 a.m.

Saturday night: Mostly clear with a low of 27. Winds east-southeast at 8 mph. Sunset at 6:32 p.m.

Sunday: Sunny with a high of 52. Winds east-southeast at 12 mph. Sunrise at 7:21 a.m.

Sunday night: Partly cloudy with a low of 27. Winds southeast at 10 mph. Sunset at 6:33 p.m.

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For the record

Amarillo man arrested for theft

STAFF REPORT

• Maximillian Navarro, 26, Amarillo, was arrested Wednesday by the Gray County Sheriff's Office for theft of property between \$1,500 and \$20,000.
 • Kori Dawn Allen, 26, Canadian, was arrested Wednesday by the Pampa

Police Department for driving while license is invalid with a previous conviction, theft of service, two charge of contributing to nonattendance.
 • Horace Calvin Harvey, 19, Pampa, was arrested Wednesday by PPD for capias pro fine — nonpayment of court fees.
 • Betsy Amanda Cross-

man, 29, Pampa, was sentenced Wednesday for manufacturing or delivering a controlled substance.
 • Ronnie Bruce Jones, 45, was arrested Wednesday by PPD for having a wrong, fictitious, altered or obscured registration, capias pro fine — no insurance, capias pro fine — expired registration.

• Joshua Lee Rivas, 22, Pampa, was arrested Wednesday by GCSO for capias pro fine — no child safety seat, capias pro fine — failure to appear.
 • Gatlin Ray Taylor, 18, Pampa, was arrested Wednesday by GCSO for violation of probation — possession of marijuana.

Progressive Home Extension Club holds Feb. meeting

SUBMITTED

The Progressive Home Extension Club held its monthly meeting on Feb. 13 at the Pampa Senior Citizens Center.
 June Rowan conducted the brief business session.

Plans were discussed for the annual district spring meeting to be held in Amarillo in April.
 The Cultural Arts judging is to be held at the club's regular meeting in March.
 Joan Gray-Soria, Gray County Extension Agent,

presented an interesting program on "Unique Stroke Symptoms in Women." She stated that it's important to recognize stroke symptoms and act quickly. Common stroke symptoms seen in both men and women were named. "Understanding

the warning signs is important because there are treatments we can give for strokes," she said.
 Mrs. Rowan was hostess for the meeting. The March meeting will be at 2 p.m. March 13 at the Pampa Senior Citizens Center.

Mexico condemns shooting by US border agent

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The Mexican government on Thursday condemned a U.S. Border Patrol agent's fatal shooting of a Mexican man who allegedly struck the agent in the head with a rock near the U.S.-Mexico border in California.

Mexico's Foreign Relations Department said it was "deeply concerned" about the killing of 41-year-old Jesus Flores Cruz near San Diego. The department said lethal force should be avoided in immigration enforcement.

The unidentified agent fired his gun Tuesday after Flores Cruz hurled several large rocks, including one about the size of a basketball, the San Diego County

Sheriff's Department said. One of the larger pieces hit the agent in the head and that the agent feared for his life, investigators said.

Flores Cruz suffered two gunshot wounds, the sheriff's department said in a press release. Authorities said they confirmed his identity with a fingerprint match from a 1996 arrest by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. No further details on that arrest were released.

Under current policy, agents can use deadly force if they have a reasonable belief that their lives or the lives of others are in danger. The Border Patrol has long maintained rocks can be lethal weapons.

The Police Executive Research Forum, a nonprofit

group that led a government-commissioned review, previously recommended that the Border Patrol and its parent agency, Customs and Border Protection, prohibit deadly force against rock-throwers and assailants in vehicles, Border Patrol Chief Mike Fisher said last year.

Customs and Border Protection rejected the proposed curbs, which Fisher called "very restrictive."

Agents were attacked with rocks 339 times in the 2011 fiscal year, more than any other type of assault, according to the Department of Homeland Security inspector general. They responded with gunfire 33 times and with less-than-lethal force — a category that includes pepper spray and batons —

118 times. Rock attacks fell to 185 instances in fiscal 2012, becoming the second-most-common type of assault. Agents fired guns 22 times and responded 42 times with less-than-lethal force.

Department of Homeland Security Deputy Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas didn't address specifics when asked about the shooting Wednesday but said the Border Patrol's use-of-force policy would be publicly released.

"We are committed to ensuring the safety of our men and women who put their lives on the line on the border," he said. "At the same time we are committed to ensuring that our use-of-force policies are a reflection of best practices."

267

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This Land is Our Land The dolphin bullying debacle and its growing states of denial

Last week, Dan Le Batard wrote a piece in which he argues that the malodorous, and ongoing, bullying debacle of the Miami Dolphins is not only a matter of perspective but also is best understood from the perspective of “the guys who actually wear the uniform and bleed and break for [the Dolphins].”

More appalling than Le Batard’s willful



BRUNO BALTODANO

Marino and make Scott Mitchell our starting quarterback. Ok, now that I’ve gotten that out of my system. Central to the Incognito-Martin incident is the complex psychology of denial, a very human defense mechanism whose sole function is to disavow something we can’t deal with. Take, for instance, the following common expressions: “It’s got nothing to do with me.” “Don’t make waves.” “I was only following orders.”

They are “common” because we, each one of us, have said them at one point or another in our lives. All kinds of groups engage in denial, from families dealing with spousal abuse, “it’s not like him to be like that, it was the alcohol,” to Adolf Eichmann and the Jewish Holocaust, “Again, I would stress that I am guilty of having been obedient, having subordinated myself to my official duties and the obligations of my oath of allegiance.”

In his fine book, “States of Denial” Stanley Cohen explains that there are typically three ways in which denial presents itself in everyday life. Lateral denial is the conviction that something did not happen or is simply not true. I have lost count of the times that Richie Incognito, and most of the current men in Dolphin uniform, said that what happened didn’t actually happen. Hell, even we, the common fan-on-the-street, were guilty of this.

Interpretive denial happens when the facts are not being disputed but simply put under a different light. The textbook case of this was Bill Clinton admitting to smoking marijuana but never inhaling. Le Batard also does this when he tells us that, inside the locker room, the events were not about a hostile working environment but about “strength and weakness...because [it is a] survival-of-the-fittest workplace.”

normalization of harassment was his repugnance with what he claims is the fact that “the conversation got hijacked by people wanting to sermonize about the very real dangers of bullying.”

At the risk of falling into that last category, let me tell you why this viewpoint is not only negligent but dangerous.

But, first, I must disclose my bias...while I live in Texas now I went to high school in Miami, Florida and fell in love with the Dolphins during the Dan Marino years. So much so that I still hold a grudge against Le Batard for a column he wrote way back in 1994 calling for the Dolphins to fire the sainted Dan

They are “common” because we, each one of us, have said them at one point or another in our lives. All kinds of groups engage in denial, from families dealing with spousal abuse, “it’s not like him to be like that, it was the alcohol,” to Adolf Eichmann and the Jewish Holocaust, “Again, I would stress that I am guilty of having been obedient, having subordinated myself to my official duties and the obligations of my oath of allegiance.”

In his fine book, “States of Denial” Stanley Cohen explains that there are typically three ways in which denial presents itself in everyday life.

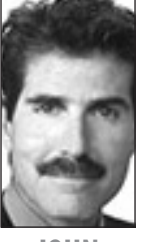
Lateral denial is the conviction that something did not happen or is simply not true. I have lost count of

Finally, rationalizing denial occurs when there is no attempt to deny either the facts or their interpretations but when an attempt is made to minimize the consequences. We have all done this when confronted by a homeless person begging for our spare change. “Not my problem, someone else will deal with it.” Arguments that the Wells’ findings are myopic because he “is not a former football player [but] a lawyer gathering facts” are a form of this very dangerous rationalization.

The last form is, to me, the most **DOLPHIN** cont. on page 5

Students for liberty

On Saturday, some 1,500 students from all over the world gathered to discuss freedom at the Students for Liberty Conference in Washington, D.C.



JOHN STOSSEL

If anything, these students were stauncher in their defense of liberty than the Founders. Kelly Kidwell, a sophomore from Tulane University, said, “Regardless of what its intent was, we still have the (big) government that we have now — so the Constitution has either provided for that government, or failed to prevent it.”

That’s an argument that libertarian economist Murray Rothbard used to make. He took the pessimistic view that the Constitution’s “limited government” was an experiment that had already failed, since 200 years later, government was barely limited at all. He concluded that libertarians should be not just constitutionalists but anarchists — get rid of government completely.

That idea sounds extreme to me, and to some libertarians at the conference — not to mention the few pro-big-government speakers, like movie director Oliver Stone. But I’m happy that students ask those sorts of questions rather than wondering which regulations to pass, what to tax and whom to censor for “insensitive” speech.

Even in an audience filled with libertarians, there were unsettled issues and divisive questions. Some students and speakers sounded a lot like the campus leftists who complain about “privilege.” Others sounded conservative and sought guidance from their religion.

I think this diversity is a good sign for the future of libertarian ideas. There are many ways for free people to live and to accomplish their goals — and as these students learned, the most important thing is not to assume that government has the answer to the questions.

Students for Liberty’s website says: “... this is the most libertarian generation. The millennial generation is more social, organized and receptive to liberty, but also the most punished by the economic misconduct of older generations.”

Old politicians and old voters may never change their minds. But libertarianism grows fastest among the young, and so groups like Students for Liberty give me hope. Those young people sure know more about liberty than I did when I was their age.



How To Write Us

The Pampa News welcomes letters to the editor. When submitting a letter, please include the writer’s name, address and signatures.

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The free beacon offends the Clintons

Media liberals are howling at the apparent injustice of the “anti-Clinton” Washington Free Beacon website, which has dared to paw through old Hillary Clinton history. The hypocrisy is stunning.



BRENT BOZELL

Let us recall the avalanche of mean-spirited and sleazy “fair game” the networks assembled for us just a few years ago in the last election cycle.

Sarah Palin? She didn’t even run, but NBC and Savannah Guthrie needed no documentary evidence to repeat every scurrilous accusation of leftist author Joe McGinniss: She was a horrible mother who used her children as props. Her marriage was a mess of incessant fighting on the verge of divorce. Both Palins used cocaine. And Sarah Palin once slept with pro basketball player Glen Rice.

Michele Bachmann? ABC’s Brian Ross used a leftist gay activist from the group Truth Wins Out to create a “pray away the gay” scandal around Michele Bachmann’s therapist husband, Marcus.

Post, a nothing burger that a hunting camp leased by the Pery family had a rock marker with the N-word on it — which the Perrys painted over — decades ago.

Herman Cain? The networks aired 100 stories relaying anonymous charges of sexual harassment against Cain before there was an accuser with a name and a face. Shameless George Stephanopoulos dismissed Cain for low character: “There are just too many questions about his honesty, his judgment, his experience, his organization.” NBC’s Chuck Todd clucked he was a dead man walking.

Newt Gingrich? ABC’s Brian Ross eagerly prompted Newt Gingrich’s second wife Marianne Gingrich to tell all about her claim that Newt asked for an open marriage: “You know his secrets. You know his skeletons,” he said hungrily.

Rick Santorum? NBC’s Michael Isikoff jumped right in with this utterly unnecessary attack on his wife Karen: “Newsweek reported that before she married Santorum, she had a six-year live-in relationship with a Pittsburgh abortion doctor 40 years her senior.”

Stories from Mitt Romney’s private life were routinely “fair game,” from the Washington Post’s story that Romney may

have cut another boy’s hair as a prank in high school in 1965 to the alleged horror that the family dog rode inside a cartop carrier on a vacation trip to Canada in 1983.

Keep all that in mind as NBC’s Andrea Mitchell raged on the “Nightly News” about “inflammatory excerpts” from papers from the late Diane Blair, one of Hillary Clinton’s closest friends in Arkansas. “Blair did not survive to provide context for her diary. Now Republicans say her notes are fair game.” She concluded: “Hillary Clinton had no comment on a campaign already brutal two years before it’s begun.”

Those dastardly Republicans. They are so ... brutal! Dear, Mitchell: before any lectures about campaign brutality, explain where you were while mud was splattering on Palin, Santorum, Cain, etc. Mitchell’s appointed left-wing expert at the University of Arkansas, Angie Maxwell, complained that the Free Beacon account was “very cherry-picked, it’s very selected.” So was every network story on Republicans listed above.

it’s not clear when she’s — Diane Blair’s quoting herself paraphrasing Hillary Clinton versus what Hillary Clinton said.”

What Mitchell quite clearly implied is that to explore Hillary Clinton’s history is to take Hillary out of context — unless you support her. Whatever Hillary wants to talk about her life’s work is current and fresh. Whatever Hillary’s critics want to discuss about her record is out-of-context and unfair.

Mitchell cherry-picked this quote from Blair’s notes for her NBC story, since it’s apparently Hillary in context: “I’m a proud woman. I’m not stupid. I know I should do more to suck up to the press. I know it confuses people when I change my hairdos. I know I should pretend not to have any opinions, but I’m just not going to. I’m used to winning, and I intend to win on my own terms.”

That same old win-on-my-terms ruthlessness is exactly what the Clintons are practicing against the Free Beacon: “Nothing to see here, folks. Everything negative about us is old news.”

L. Brent Bozell III is the president of the Media Research Center. To find out more about Brent Bozell III, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

Dolphin

Continued From Page 4

prehensible and it is why I have such a big problem with Le Batard's column and with the implicit projection of blame onto the victim of work-place harassment by "most if not all of Martin's teammates."

While literal denial can be a byproduct of honest ignorance and interpretive denial ranges from an inability to understand the facts, rationalizing denial is born from a very self-centered and predictable attempt to avoid or displace accountability.

This is dangerous because it demands a lot of deliberate work to minimize responsibility for evil deeds and creates bystanders of us all.

You can think of a bystander as the morally opposite of the Good Samaritan. By not doing, or demanding that something be done to rectify the wrongs, bystanders not only become complicit in the act but also protect the system from which it arose.

Claiming that the evils that occur within the Dolphin locker room are best understood from the perspective of the players "wearing the uniform" is akin to stating that the ones best suited to judge

the events behind the Holocaust would have been the guards running the concentration camps.

The word conformity has been tossed about regarding this dreadful spot on the history of the Dolphin franchise as if it is some magical and misunderstood potion that spread over the locker room like some invisible miasma. In fact, Le Batard is befuddled when trying to understand the reason why most, if not all, of Martin's teammate still blame him. Of course they do. Before they stop doing so they must acknowledge the facts and, based on their actions, they are still in denial.

The worst thing for the

Dolphins, their fans and the NFL in general would be for this sad tale to transform itself into mass-conformity. The unspoken message in that column was: "Look, if you had been in that locker room you would have done the same thing. So, you (common person not wearing a Dolphin uniform) have no right to judge our actions."

Yes we do. And indeed we should.

Bruno Baltodano, a resident of Pampa, is a faculty adjunct at Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston, Idaho and at Clarendon College in Pampa and the host of "Revolutionary Hour," a radio show about political songs on High Plains Public Radio. He teaches college courses on Global Politics, Government and Terrorism.

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The following is a list of support groups that meet regularly each week in Pampa. Information for each meeting is submitted to The Pampa News office and may not be completely updated or accurate. Please notify the newsroom if a change is necessary.

The Pampa News welcomes all submitted materials for area support groups. Please include the meeting time, date and location and, if applicable, provide a contact number for each group.

- **Victims of domestic violence and sexual assault**, meet at 5:30 p.m., Thursdays, and at 2 p.m., Fridays, at the Tralee Crisis Center, 308 S. Cuyler St. For more info, call the Center at 806-669-1131.
- **Narcotics Anonymous — The Pampa Group** meets at 7:30 p.m., Tuesdays, and at 6 p.m., Saturdays, at 805 N. Gray St. **Narcotics Anonymous — Rufe Jordan Unit** also meets at 6 p.m., Mondays, and at 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays, at 1992 Hilton Road.
- **Cancer Support** meets at 1 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month in the Pampa Regional Medical Center cafete-

ria. For more info, contact Beth Kean at 806-359-4673. Ext. 235.

- **Alcoholics Anonymous** Open Door Club meets daily at noon and 8 p.m. at 910 W. Kentucky Ave. **Al-Anon** meets at noon on Mondays. For more information, call 665-9072.
- **Alcoholics Anonymous** Primary Purpose meets daily at noon and 8 p.m. at 112 W. Foster Ave.
- **Alcoholics Anonymous** Keep It Simple meets Thursdays at 6 p.m. at the Methodist church in White Deer.
- **Pampa Caregiver Support** meets at the Pampa Nursing Center on 1321 W. Kentucky Ave. at 6 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. For more information call 806-669-2551.
- **Accolade Home Care sponsors a Parkinson's Support Group** the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. The group meets at Accolade at 1313 N. Hobart St. For more information, call Lindsey Been at 806-665-9700 or 806-324-3230.

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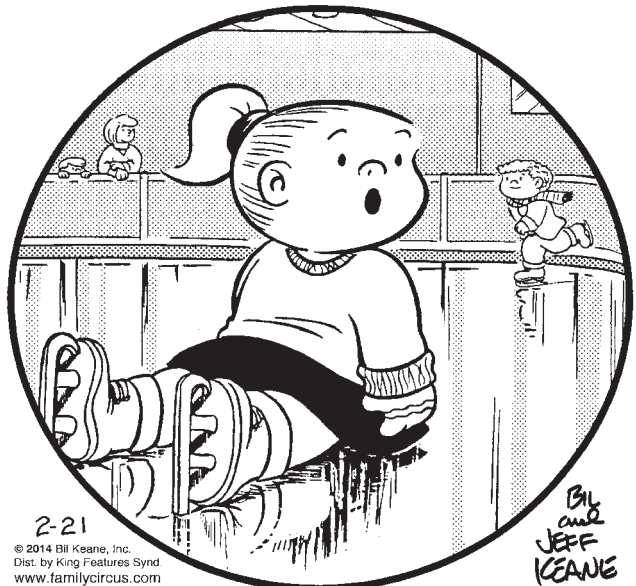
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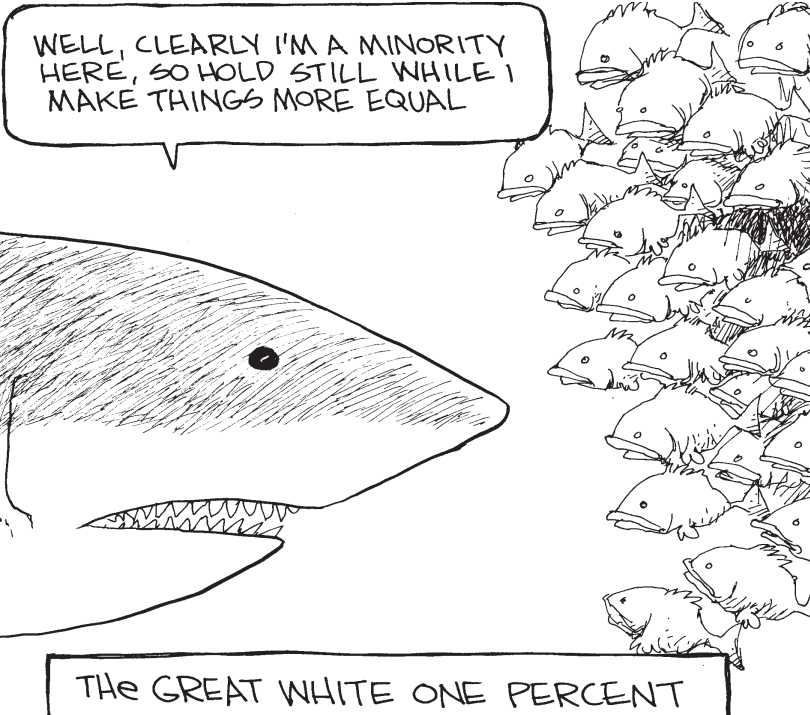
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"I'm glad I have another four years before the next Olympics."

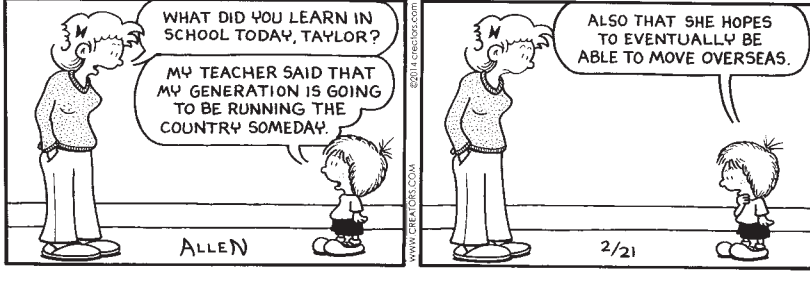
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Nest Heads



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, Feb. 22, 2014:
This year you find that you are in the limelight more often than you might like. Whether you are involved with your community or with your workplace, others naturally look up to you. Recognize your newfound leadership role. Your ingenuity is the key to handling everything. Open up to new possibilities, and learn to delegate. If you are single, you suddenly could meet someone who knocks your socks off. This encounter is more likely to happen in the second half of your birthday year. If you are attached, the two of you reveal a sense of togetherness. A special trip will be planned after July, which will bring you even closer together. The very presence of SAGITTARIUS creates pressure.

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)
★★★★ Staying too close to home might get boring. Why not take off and go on a day trip? Though you might think you are heading to a certain destination, you actually could end up somewhere else. Others find you more and more unpredictable. Tonight: Keep it exotic.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You might want to understand a dear loved one much better, so plan a long-overdue visit. There is nothing that can replace quality time together. Communication could be unusually awkward at certain moments today. Don't worry -- this is only temporary. Tonight: Be a duo.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Defer to others, and see what happens. You are always so adamant about what you want, and now you will see a lot more of what others desire. Be willing to see different choices more clearly; they might not be so bad. Tonight: So many people, so many invitations.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You will be unusually energetic and full of ideas, though many of them might not pan out. Stop and slow down. Run some errands, or make a stop at the gym. Enjoy a day with an easy pace. Pressure could build because of an older friend or family member. Tonight: Ever playful.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You attract people who love living life to the fullest. What starts as a difficult moment today is likely to turn

into a fun happening. Be willing to go somewhere you have never been. Read between the lines when someone refuses to share. Tonight: Let the party go on.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You have had a lot of interesting communication in the past few days. You'll want some time to think about everything that has been said. The unexpected could occur when dealing with a partner. Zero in on what you want. Tonight: Togetherness works.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You might want to have a long-overdue chat. You might notice that your feelings seem to be altering rapidly regarding a key person. This person could be changing in front of your eyes, which would explain your range of feelings. Tonight: Let the fun times begin.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Consider your options before making any new purchases. Say "no" to taking any risks today, no matter how good an offer might seem. Your creativity will emerge when you are able to detach and really look at a problem. Pace yourself. Tonight: Your treat.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You feel more in tune with yourself and your needs. You might wonder what would be best to do with an unpredictable and/or challenging loved one. An interaction with a partner promises to be very rewarding. Tonight: Whatever you decide, it feels right.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Take some much-needed downtime. You don't need to be alone; you simply need to relax. There won't be a problem if you're with the right company. Someone will go out of his or her way to express his or her caring. Be sure to show your appreciation. Tonight: Close to home.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ A friendship means much more than you might realize. When this person starts acting unpredictably, you could get upset. Know and communicate your expectations, as they might be changing. Take care of yourself first. Tonight: Surround yourself with friends.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Pressure to perform could build. Get past a problem simply by dealing with it directly. Understanding is likely to evolve to a new level as a result. Surprises could occur when you least expect them. Curb a tendency to overindulge. Tonight: You are the lead actor.

Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



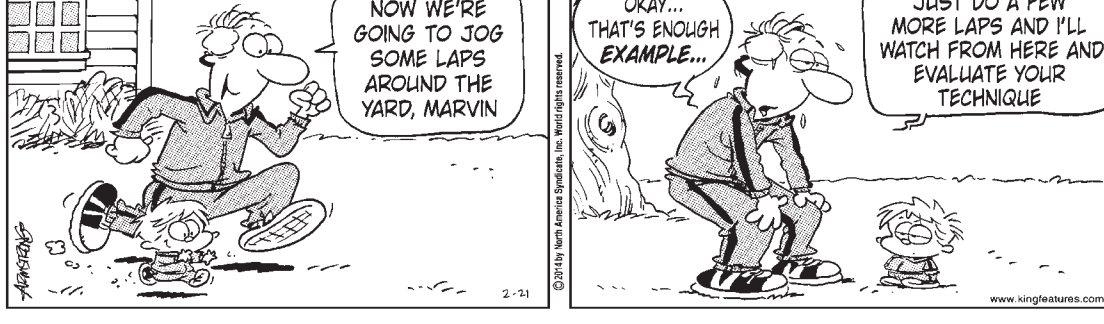
Garfield



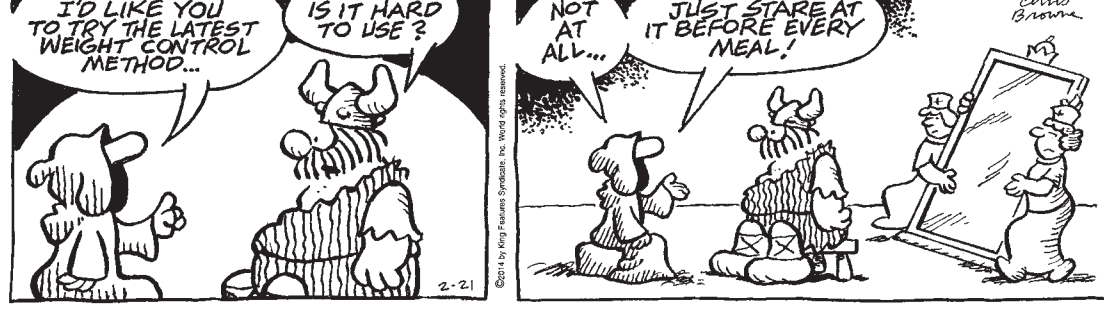
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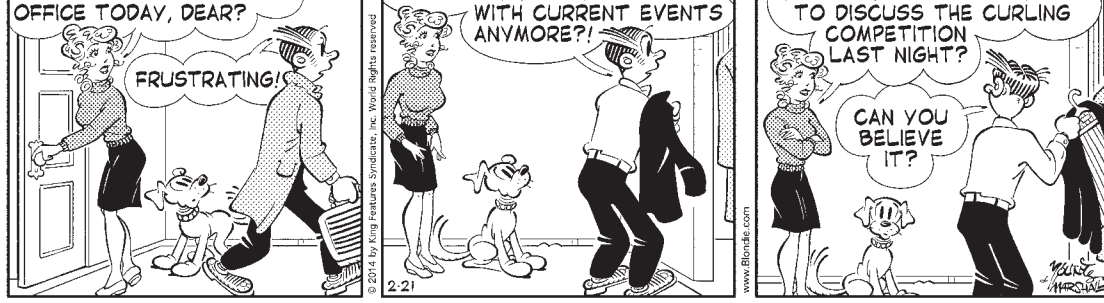
Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Keystone pipeline faces new obstacle in Nebraska

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Just as pressure was building on President Barack Obama to make a decision on the Keystone XL pipeline that would carry oil from Canada to refineries in Texas, the project ran into another obstacle — and it came again from Nebraska.

A judge's decision Wednesday to overturn a Nebraska law that allowed the pipeline guarantees the legal fight will continue for at least several more months. It also could leave Nebraska's decision in the hands of the state Public Service Commission, a little-known board that regulates natural gas lines, grain warehouses and recreational vehicles.

The ruling was a victory for pipeline opponents, including environmentalists who say Keystone XL would carry "dirty oil" that contributes to global warming and Nebraska ranchers and farmers who fear it could hurt their water supply.

TransCanada Corp.'s pipeline is critical in Canada's efforts to export its growing oil sands production. Supporters say it will create thousands of jobs and move the U.S. toward North American energy independence.

At issue in Wednesday's ruling was a 2012 law that allowed Gov. Dave Heineman to approve the route through Nebraska. The governor's approval gave Calgary-based TransCanada the power to use eminent domain on landowners who deny the company access to their property. Three landowners filed a lawsuit saying the decision should have been made by the Public Service Commission.

Lancaster County Judge Stephanie Stacy agreed. Attorney General Jon Bruning's office plans to appeal the ruling to the Nebraska Supreme Court.

A spokesman for pipeline developer TransCanada said company officials were disappointed and disagreed with the decision. The company planned to review the ruling before deciding how to proceed.

"TransCanada continues to believe strongly in Keystone XL and the benefits it would provide to Americans — thousands of jobs and a secure supply

of crude oil from a trusted neighbor in Canada," said spokesman Shawn Howard.

It's not the first time Nebraska has been an obstacle in TransCanada's efforts to complete the pipeline, which would carry 830,000 barrels of oil daily from Canada to Texas Gulf Coast refineries.

An earlier proposed route drew fierce opposition because landowners said it would threaten the Nebraska Sandhills, a region of grass-covered dunes used as rangeland. That prompted the state Legislature to pass a law in 2012 giving Gov. Dave Heineman the authority to approve the route. The new one he approved goes around an area designated as the Sandhills, although opponents insist it still traverses the delicate soil.

The other states along the pipeline's route — Montana, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas — have already approved their segments. Oil is already flowing through the Oklahoma-to-Texas segment.

TransCanada officials have said passing through Nebraska is the most direct, practical way to transport the oil. And rerouting the pipeline would bring new states into the mix and would lead to further expensive delays.

For the Nebraska Public Service Commission to act, state lawmakers may have to pass a new pipeline-sitting law. Staff members were still reviewing the ruling Wednesday, said Angela Melton, the commission's attorney.

The landowners believe they may have a better chance at blocking the pipeline if it's the commission that must approve the route, though the panel's five members haven't given an indication as to how they might rule. The commission was created in 1890s to prevent governors from granting political favors to railroad executives who wanted to expand through

private property, and its members are elected on a regional basis.

Randy Thompson, a Nebraska rancher and a leading plaintiff in the lawsuit, became involved in the dispute after he was notified that the original Keystone XL route would have crossed his parents' 400-acre farm in Merrick County. He said he doesn't think TransCanada should be able to force landowners to sign pipeline contracts using eminent domain.

"They came out here like a bunch of bullies and tried to force it down our throats," Thompson said. "They told us there was nothing we could do to stop it."

Meanwhile, the decision on a federal permit for the northern leg of the route still rests with Obama, five years after backers first asked his administration for approval.

Obama blocked the Keystone XL pipeline in January 2012, saying he did not have enough time for a fair review before a looming deadline forced on him by congressional Republicans. But late last month, the U.S. State Department released an environmental analysis that raised no major environmental objections to the \$7 billion pipeline, though opponents disagree.

U.S. State Department spokesman Douglas Frantz said officials were aware of the Nebraska ruling but would not comment because the case was ongoing.

Daniel J. Weiss, senior fellow and director of climate strategy with left-leaning think tank Center for American Progress, said Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry will probably wait until Nebraska has legally approved the pipeline route before making any decision on whether to approve the permit.

"This court decision provides more uncertainty for pipeline proponents, and more time to organize for pipeline opponents," Weiss said.

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7 steps to consider as you prepare your tax return

Tax Day is less than two months away. Are you ready? Here are some of the key points to keep in mind as you begin to focus on preparing your tax return, as well as a few new wrinkles for the 2013 tax year:

1. Get organized
The first step toward preparing an accurate return is to make sure you have all the necessary documents. At the top of the list are the forms detailing your income for 2013. This could be various 1099 forms, typically received by workers hired on a contract basis, or a Form W-2, commonly issued by employers of salaried or wage workers. Taxpayers who did a lot of independent contractor work will need to make sure they have a complete set of 1099s.

2. Understand what income is taxable
People who receive income from other sources aside from an employer should make sure they know whether they need to include those earnings as taxable income on their return. Some examples of income that are usually not taxable are child support payments, gifts and inheritances, and welfare benefits. Sometimes there are caveats. For instance, scholarship funds used to pay for tuition and books are not taxable. But if you use some of that scholarship to pay for room and board, that amount would be taxable.

The Internal Revenue Service has more details in Publication 525 on IRS.gov.

3. Consider new taxes for 2013
Lawmakers mostly kept

tax laws unchanged in 2013, but there are a few tweaks that could affect some taxpayers, particularly those who earn more than \$100,000 a year. Several changes came about as part of the federal health care overhaul.

One key change applies to medical expense deductions. Previously, if your medical expenses eclipsed 7.5 percent of your adjusted gross income, you could deduct any medical costs above that threshold. For this tax season, the threshold has been raised to 10 percent.

Another new tax applies to people whose income exceeds \$200,000, if they're single, or \$250,000, if they're married and filing jointly. The government will apply a 0.9 percent tax to income above those thresholds.

"This could catch particularly married tax payers by surprise," said Lindsey Buchholz, a principal analyst at H&R Block. That's because employers won't start withholding this tax until the person's income exceeds \$200,000. Married couples who separately have income under \$200,000, but jointly surpass the \$250,000 threshold, would not have the additional tax withheld.

4. Embrace e-filing
The IRS estimates that more than 80 percent of tax returns are filed electronically. And if you have a refund coming, filing your return electronically and requesting that the funds be paid directly into your bank account is the fastest way to get the IRS to pay up.

Electronic filing usually means using commercial tax preparation software, such as TurboTax. In addition to selling software, H&R Block also offers a way to file a tax return online for free at www.hrblock.com/online-tax-filing/.

Another option is to go directly through the IRS, which offers a free online tax filing program dubbed Free File. To use Free File, your adjusted gross income in 2013 must have been \$58,000 or less. If you earned more than that, the IRS offers free tax forms online that can be used to file electronically. But be aware that there are some exceptions.

For more details visit: <http://www.irs.gov/uac/Free-File%3A-Do-Your-Federal-Taxes-for-Free>.

5. Consider payment amounts

You've prepared your tax return and realize you owe money.

The IRS accepts payments online, by check or over the phone using a credit or debit card. More details on making payments are available on the IRS website.

What happens if you can't afford to pay the full amount by April 15? One possible option is to pay in installments. The IRS offers several payment plans, including short-term payment extensions of up to 120 days and monthly installment plans as long as six years. To qualify, you must file your tax return and owe \$50,000 or less in taxes, penalties and interest, combined.

If you owe between \$25,000 and \$50,000, you have to agree to let the IRS deduct payments automatically from your bank account.

Signing up for an installment agreement can cost from \$43 to \$120 in fees.

To find out whether you qualify, go to the IRS website's online payment agreement portal: www.irs.gov/Individuals/Online-Payment-Agreement-Applcation.

6. Keep tabs on your refund
If you are due a federal income tax refund, there are more options than sitting by your mailbox. The IRS typically will issue refunds in less than 21 days. But if you can't wait it out, you can check the status of your refund on IRS.gov, under the Where's My Refund tool. The IRS also lets you check on your smartphone via an app dubbed IRS2Go.

7. Get more time to file
Not able to make the filing deadline? The IRS will grant you a six-month extension to file your tax forms, as long as you request by 11:59 p.m. EDT on April 15.

Filing for an extension doesn't spare you from having to pay your tax bill by the deadline, however. And failing to do so means you'll incur interest charges and fees on top of what you owe.

The IRS accepts extension requests three ways: by mail, via tax-preparation software, or online via the IRS website. To request the extension, you must fill out IRS Form 4868, which is available on the IRS website, through most tax preparation software, as well as in public libraries and post offices.

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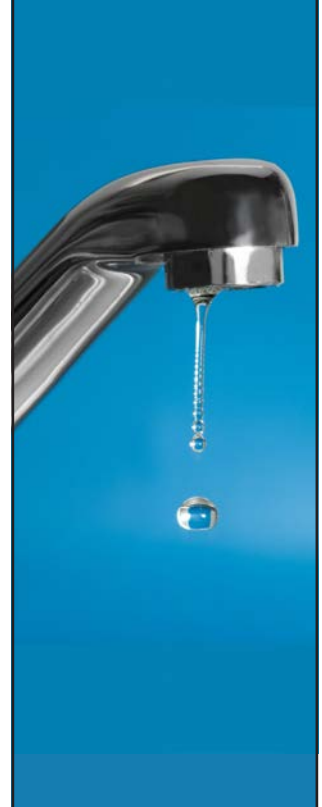
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LOCAL WRESTLERS MAKE STATE TOURNAMENT



Submitted photo

Boston Botello, a grappler from Harvester Take-down Club who recently won at a regional tournament, received special recognition at his school, Wilson Elementary. Botello and six other young wrestlers will be traveling to El Paso for a state tournament this weekend.

WOW Crowd casting call for Wonderland Amusement Park

SUBMITTED

Wonderland Amusement Park is looking for area kids and kids at heart to join the WOW Crowd. Several fun-spirited people will be selected to be part of the 2014 WOW Crowd. Those lucky few will appear in Wonderland's television commercials, print ads and billboards for the 2014 season. "We'd really like to see a face from every town in the Panhandle," said Wonderland owner Paul Borhardt. "Even though we

are located in Amarillo, we know visitors come to our park from all around the area. We think this would be a great way to show them we appreciate their patronage." This is the second year that Wonderland Amusement Park has featured the WOW Crowd in advertising and they hope to continue the fun in the coming years. WOW Crowd hopefuls can enter by sending their best WOW face, along with their name, contact information and location to WOWus@WonderlandPark.com.

Hit-and-run suspect pulled off plane at DFW

GRAPEVINE (AP) — Authorities in North Texas say they had to pull a suspect in a hit-and-run accident off a plane as he was trying to flee the United States. Arlington police say Omar Bashir Mohammed was detained Wednesday night at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport. Police spokesman Lt. Christopher Cook says the 25-year-old Mohammed was on board a plane when he was detained by police.

Cook says Mohammed was trying to flee to the Middle Eastern country of Jordan. Authorities say Mohammed hit a pedestrian on a sidewalk with his car on Saturday. He's accused of one count of an accident involving serious bodily injury. The man, who is in his 70s, was hospitalized in serious condition. Mohammed did not have an attorney in online jail records or a listed phone number.

www.thepampanews.com

Community Calendar

City Commission meetings

The Pampa City Commission meets at 4 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. The meetings are held on the third floor of City Hall.

School board meetings

The Pampa Independent School District board meets at 5:45 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month. Check The Pampa News for meeting locations.

Immunization clinic 3 times a month

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) hosts an immunization clinic in Pampa three times a month. The clinics are held from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and from 1 to 3 p.m. on the first three Wednesdays of each month. The first 10 people in line for the morning and first 10 in the afternoon will always receive shots. However, if there are more than 10, they still may be able to accommodate the patients, or ask them to come back at another time. For more information, call 665-4752 or 806-874-3211. The clinic is located at 736 S. Cuyler St.

PAWS meets first Tuesdays

Pampa Animal Welfare Society meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Pampa Animal

Shelter, 811 S. Hobart St. The meetings are at 6:30 p.m. and are open to the public.

PAWS members are needed to work at the shelter from 3 to 5:30 p.m. each day and to work adoption days or take animals to the vets when needed, but mostly people are needed to love and work with the animals where they will be more adoptable.

For more information, call the shelter after 3 p.m. at 669-5775 and ask for the PAWS volunteer.

County Commission meetings

The Gray County Commission meets at 9 a.m. on the first and 15th of each month. If the date falls on a Saturday, the meeting will be held on Friday. If the date falls on a Sunday, the meeting will be held on Monday. The meetings are held on the second floor of the Gray County Courthouse.

TOT Republican Women's Club

Top O' Texas Republican Women's Club meets at noon on the third Wednesday of every month at the Pampa Senior Citizens Center, 500 W. Francis St. For more information call 806-669-1990.

Jam sessions every Friday night

The Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center has a jam session every Friday

night starting at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to play or listen. The center is located at 320 S. Cuyler St. For more information, call 806-664-0824.

Meredith House presents live music

Meredith House, an assisted-living facility at 812 W. 25th Ave., has a band performing at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday and Saturday night. Join them for Western music, gospel and the classics. For more information, call 806-665-5668.

Monday night dance club

The Monday night dance club meets from 7 to 9 p.m. each Monday,

in the Pampa Chamber of Commerce building on the corner of Ballard and Kingsmill. Admission is \$3.50. Cold drinks and coffee are offered. The club plays country music. For more information, call Della at 806-663-1136.

Editor's note: Email submissions to thowsare@thepampanews.com. Submissions should be 100 words or less and written in the third person. Please include the title of the event, the date and time, physical address, the admission cost or whether it is a free event and a contact number and/or email address for the public.

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PampaSports

It is time to 'take me out to the ball game'

Harvesters looking to push reset and not dwell on last year's success.

BY JOHN LEE
jlee@thepampanews.com

It wasn't long ago that the Harvesters were walking off at Lubbock Cooper suffering a heart-breaking loss to the Sweetwater Mustangs. But the Harvesters return to action this afternoon at 4 p.m. as they host the Palo Duro Dons. Even though last season is considered a large success, the Harvesters are still pegged to finish third in their district, while their northern neighbors in Perryton are picked to win it.

"We are going to have our hands full. They have us picked third in the district which is extra motivation for us. They had us picked third last year," head coach Kaleb Snelgrooes said. "I told our kids we have the bullseye on our back because of last year and our kids have been working hard and their work

ethic is great. "We are just going to have to lean on our seniors. We have four great seniors, we will just have to lean on those guys. Those guys were in the playoffs last year and will help us get back there this year."

The four seniors that Snelgrooes mentioned are Josh Hernandez, Brandon Stokes, Ryan Powell and Ethan Hunt. Returning players include Ty Hooper, Cade Engle, Jacob Nelson, Brodie Gaines and Brandon Keown. But Snelgrooes is not going to lean on one or two guys to carry the team, it will be a team effort.

"We lost some big time seniors from last year, but we are returning Brody Gaines and Ethan Hunt, they were part of the bi-district/area team last year," Snelgrooes said.

"Braden Cowen, Ryan Powell and Cade Engle,

those are just a few names. We aren't going to lean on one guy. It's going to be a total team effort."

Not only is the team made up of guys who are experienced in baseball, but some of the names are familiar from other sports. Ty Hooper was the starting quarterback for the Harvester football team this last season. Cade Engle, Ryan Powell and Brandon Stokes just finished a winning basketball season, despite falling in the bi-district round.

"Having Ty Hooper as catcher, our quarterback, is huge. I need a leader behind the plate and that's what Ty is," Snelgrooes said.

"Having Cade (Engle), Ryan (Powell) and (Brandon) Stokes as basketball players playing baseball is



Kaleb Snelgrooes

great since their speed and agility is ahead of everyone elses". So they are ahead of the curb. Then I have my straight baseball guys. You know we share our athletes at Pampa and we are all successful with the same guys

so we just want to continue breeding success."

Snelgrooes said that Perryton is the team that is most dangerous in their district because not only are they tough to play at home, but the fact they are picked to win the district shows what they are capable of.

Snelgrooes said the team has to get their timing at the plate down.

"Your pitchers are always ahead of your hitters, it's just how it is, it's just timing," Snelgrooes said. "Right now we are just trying to get our

timing at the plate. Our agility, speed and conditioning is great. Pitchers are ahead of the game. It has been cold but we have been able to a lot of bullpen work inside."

While many may complain about the weather in the Texas Panhandle, the forecast for today is fairly decent with sunny skies and a high of 66. But Snelgrooes said that these guys will play in almost any weather.

"It's tough. Panhandle baseball with our weather is definitely tough on us. But our kids have grown up here for the most part," Snelgrooes said.

"We really preach arm care. You really have to take care of your arm. We are really fortunate to have the facilities we have here where we can get a full practice indoors and not skip a beat."

When asked what it would take to win district, Snelgrooes pointed to three components: routine play, having fun and max effort.

"We will win district if we make the routine play, and give max effort every day and have fun. I tell my guys we cannot live off last year's success."

"I am glad we won district, I am glad we got to dog-pile and all that. From where we started on Day One, nobody (outside of Pampa) cares. We all care and we all remember and we have the pictures and all that but nobody (outside of Pampa) cares."

"If anything, you have a bullseye on your back because they want to experience that. I got a really good group of kids, they do not take anything for granted. They come to work every-day."

"They aren't one to say, 'We had a really great season last year and we are done.'"

The Harvesters return to the baseball field today at 4 p.m. to take on the Palo Duro Dons in Pampa.

From the Press Box

Harvesters and Lady Harvesters' basketball was exciting all season long.

It's Friday, Feb. 21, no need to check your calendars. "From the Press Box" has been moved to Friday to make room for a weekly NASCAR column written by yours truly called "Green-White-Checkered."



JOHN LEE

So as you get used to "From the Press Box" being on Fridays, also get used to the warmer weather. That means a lot of things, but what it means to the high school sports world is that the days of shooting hoops are over and it is time to bust out the peanuts and Cracker Jacks. But before we put away the gym shorts and leave the hardwood, let's take a moment to remember this season.

At the start of basketball season, I had covered one basketball game in my short career. Even then I didn't keep my own stats. Needless to say, I was inexperienced in covering the sport. While I do feel like my

writing improved over the season, it was difficult because I was having too much fun watching the games instead of studying who was having a good game beyond the stat sheet.

Both coaches, boys basketball coach Matt Embry and girls coach Gene Valentine, definitely coached their players to continue playing whether winning by 20 or losing by 30. That is one of the many characteristics these teams showed.

Probably my favorite memory of covering the girls' basketball team was their last-second win in Panhandle. The game had been back-and-forth and senior Hayley Burnett, their leading scorer who had 20 points in the win, had been fouled out. The game only had 14 combined points in the first quarter, but still turned into a shootout.

The Pantherettes tied the game late and seemed ready to win as they had what should have been the final possession, assuming they punched it in. Junior Risa Rodriguez stole the ball away in the closing seconds and finished her steal-and-score with a layup, win-

ning the game for the Lady Harvesters 45-43.

This was definitely a game where the tenacity of the Lady Harvesters was tested and they proved they could play with anyone.

On the boys' end, it was very clear that Embry expected the best of his boys and all season long I continued to say the team could compete with any team in 3A.

I remember at a tournament in Canyon back in December when the Harvesters had fallen to Canyon the night before. Following the loss, the Harvesters took on San Jacinto for the second time in a few weeks, a team they beat handily before Thanksgiving.

Embry seemed a little disappointed by the fact they were playing San Jacinto again. Not to disrespect San Jacinto, but Embry always wanted to measure his team against the best of the best of the best.

Embry and Valentine are no doubt great coaches and both teams were exciting to watch. It may sound comical to hear a sports guy say he looked forward to watching a basketball

game, but I looked forward to watching the Lady Harvesters and Harvesters play every Tuesday and Friday night.

Whether it was watching one of Burnett's many steal and scores, Madison Brown scoring from under the rim or seeing any of the other Lady Harvesters work as a team to get the job done on the hard wood, it was fun to see these girls fight game-in and game-out.

While I mentioned Burnett and Brown specifically, it wasn't all them, Rodriguez, McKinli Thomas, Caragan Niccum, Ty'Randa Johnson and their younger counterparts Reata Collins, Keisha Daniels, Megan Brock, Raven Neal and Tiah Brown all contributed to making this team exciting to watch. Valentine repeatedly praised his bench for giving his starters minutes to rest.

For the boys, it is hard to pin-point two or three individuals but if I had to it was whomever was hitting threes all night. It seemed like every game there was someone who would hit nothing but threes.

One night it was Cade Engle, or Ryan Powell or Brandon Stokes. Sometimes teams would think just because Kambrin Scott was a sophomore he wasn't a threat, until he sank four threes on them in one quar-

ter. Jonathan Stevens, Gabe Garcia and Cory Ponce were guys you had to watch under the rim because they were bigger than their competition most of the time.

Bench guys Trey Miller, Blayne Troxell and Alex Marrufo were never forgotten by Embry. He would put them in because he knew they would be able to carry the load.

So to Coach Embry, Coach Valentine and the boys' and girls' basketball squads: Thank you for a fun and exciting season.

You may not have gone as deep as you would like to have in the playoffs, but your parents, peers and I thoroughly enjoyed watching you and cannot wait until you hit the hardwood in November.

Before you crank out John Fogerty's "Centerfield" take a minute or two to remember the basketball season and the hard work our hoopsters put in.

John Lee is the sports editor of The Pampa News. He can be reached at jlee@thepampanews.com.

Watch the Pros

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	Virginia Commonwealth at Massachusetts.....ESPN2 6 p.m.
	Iona at Rider.....ESPN 7 p.m.
	Detroit at Wright State.....ESPNU 9:30 p.m.
Olympics	Women's biathlon, women's freestyle skiing.....NBCSN 8:30 a.m.
	Men's hockey, women's speedskating.....NBCSN 10:30 a.m.
	Hockey.....NBCSN 2 p.m.
	Women's freestyle skiing, biathlon.....NBC 2 p.m.
	Men's curling (final).....CNBC 4 p.m.
	Hockey.....NBCSN 4 p.m.
	Women's Alpine skiing, speedskating...NBC 7 p.m.
Auto Racing	NASCAR Camping World Truck Series.....FS1 6:30 p.m.
Basketball	Denver Nuggets at Chicago Bulls.....ESPN 7 p.m.
	Boston Celtics at L.A. Lakers.....ESPN 9:30 p.m.
Golf	WGC-Match Play Championship.....GOLF 1 p.m.

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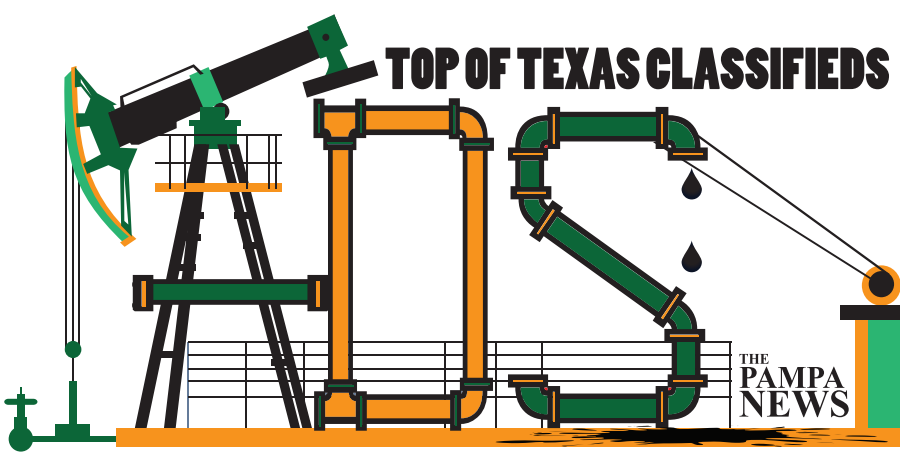


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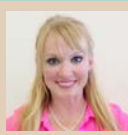
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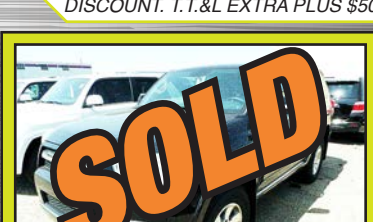
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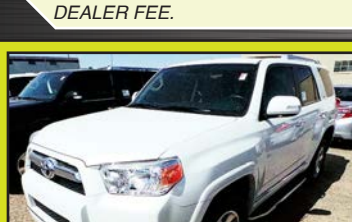
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Canada women beat US 3-2 in OT for Olympic gold

SOCHI, Russia (AP) — The puck skittered the length of the ice on its way toward the empty Canadian net before clanging off the post and coming to rest in front of the crease.

It was, for a few more seconds at least, still a one-goal game.

Marie-Philip Poulin scored with 54.6 seconds left in regulation to complete Canada's comeback from a two-goal deficit, then added the gold medal-winning goal at 8:10 of overtime to beat the United States 3-2 on Thursday — the fourth consecutive Olympic women's hockey title for the country that created the sport.

Shannon Szabados made 27 saves for Canada, which has won 20 straight in the Winter

Games since the Nagano final in 1998. That was the only gold medal for the United States, which has lost in the Olympic final to Canada in all three tries times since then.

Meghan Duggan and Alex Carpenter scored for the Americans. Jesse Vetter made 28 saves for the U.S., shutting the powerful Canadians down for 56:34 before Brienne Jenner knocked a seemingly harmless shot off a defender's knee and into the net.

With the goalie pulled for an extra skater, U.S. forward Kelli Stack sent a clearing shot down the ice, missing a potential game-clinching empty-net goal by inches.

With Szabados still off, Poulin tied it and sent the game into overtime.

After six tense minutes of the extra period, the U.S. picked up a power play when Catherine Ward was sent off for cross-checking. But five seconds later, Jocelyne Lamoureux was called for slashing for swiping at the goalie's pads after a save. And during a sloppy player change by the Americans, five-time Olympian Hayley Wickenheiser got free on a breakaway before she was bumped from behind by Hilary Knight and sent sprawling.

It could have been called a penalty shot.

It could have been no call. But Knight was sent to the penalty box for cross-checking. With the 4-on-3 advantage, the Canadians worked the puck around

and over to Poulin, who knocked it into the open net and set off the celebration on the bench and among the Maple Leaf-waving fans.

The Canadians also beat their southern neighbors three times in a pre-Olympic tour before coach Dan Church quit unexpectedly in December.

Former NHL player and coach Kevin Dineen replaced him, but the Americans won four straight times heading into the Olympics.

Then, in a rare robin match up between the sports' two top powers, Canada won 3-2.

Switzerland beat Sweden earlier Thursday for the bronze medal at the Bolshoy Ice Dome, where the wom-

en moved after playing the preliminaries at the smaller Shayba Arena next door.

The 10,639 fans included the Canadian men's team that completed a sweep the hockey gold medals in Vancouver four years ago.

Less than 24 hours before the Canadians and Americans meet in the same rink in the men's semifinals, fans wearing Maple Leaf sweaters and Stars and Stripe scarves tried to shout each other — with a healthy number of locals chanting "Ro-ssi-ya!" for their long-departed hockey teams.

The pro-Canada crowd grew louder after the first goal, but the second one quieted them until the flurry at the end of regula-

tion.

The hard-hitting first period featured five penalties and no goals. It was still scoreless when Duggan took a drop pass from Lamoureux at the left circle and topped the puck into the top corner of the net past a screened Szabados.

The U.S. scored on a power play early in the third when Tara Watchorn was sent off for the third time in the game and, with just seconds left in the tripping penalty, Hilary Knight threaded a pass through Canadian defenseman Laura Fortino's legs to Carpenter at the far side of the crease.

She deflected it past Szabados and off the post to make it 2-0.

Joe Paterno's son running for lt. governor in Pennsylvania

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — Jay Paterno, son of the late Penn State football coach Joe Paterno, told The Associated Press on Thursday that he is seeking the Democratic Party's nomination for lieutenant governor in Pennsylvania.

Paterno said he is beginning to circulate petitions to get on the May 20 primary ballot, the first campaign for public office for a longtime assistant football coach.

Party officials had expected Paterno might



Jay Paterno

run for Congress in northern Pennsylvania, but Paterno said he believes he can serve Pennsylvanians better by staying in the state.

"What it really came down to for me is, where does my family come from?" Paterno said.

Paterno was an assistant coach under his father through 2011, has been working on a book and runs a nonprofit aimed at eradicating malaria in Africa. He has been active in Democratic Party politics, campaigning for President Barack Obama in 2008 and 2012.

He said he will be a forceful advocate for public schools and universities, and views himself as someone who is adept at building bridges after growing up in a mixed family of Democrats and Republicans, among them his father.

2 admit guilt in Dodger Stadium Giants fan attack

LOS ANGELES (AP) — One of the greatest tragedies played out at Dodger Stadium in recent years was recalled in a courtroom just miles away as two men pleaded guilty Thursday to a 2011 beating that left San Francisco Giants fan Bryan Stow brain damaged and disabled.

They were immediately sentenced by an angry judge who called them cowards and the sort of people that sports fans fear when they go to games.

"You are the biggest nightmare for people who attend public events," said Superior Court Judge

George Lomeli as he faced Louis Sanchez and Marvin Norwood across a courtroom and members of Stow's family who wept and denounced the two men.

He noted that Sanchez was smirking during his remarks.

"This is not funny," he snapped at Sanchez who said he knew that.

Sanchez, 31, acknowledged he kicked Stow, pleaded guilty to one count of mayhem that disabled and disfigured the victim. He was sentenced to eight years in prison with credit immediately.

for 1,086 days.

The complaint specified that he cut and disabled Stow's tongue, put out an eye and slit his nose, ear and lip in addition to other injuries that left him brain damaged.

Norwood pleaded guilty to one count of assault likely to produce great bodily injury and was sentenced to four years. His credit for time already in custody appeared to account for at least the majority of that term. Deputy District Attorney Michele Hanisee said Norwood could be released immediately.



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to a wonderful man for 17 years and we have two children. My life should be perfect, and it is — until it's time to visit my in-laws.

We don't see them more than a few times a year, but I've taken to pleading work as an excuse not to see them on holidays or special occasions if I can avoid it. I have even spent Christmas at home alone because I can't stand how verbally abusive my in-laws are.

My mother-in-law admits to being mean and nasty. She says she doesn't care because she "hates people." They are now pressuring my husband to move nearer to them. The thought makes me sick.

My life could have been so different if these relatives were nice, normal people. I wanted us to be friends. I'm a kind person, but I have never been good enough for them.

I would never dream of saying some of the things they have said to me. They're upper middle class and I'm "trash." I never thought when I married my husband that his family would enjoy making me miserable.

The Easter holidays are coming and I don't know what to do. I'm afraid one day the buildup of anger will make me explode. How can I make their verbal abuse stop? I'm sick of being the brunt of jokes and sarcastic comments. — "OUTLAW" IN ARIZONA

DEAR "OUTLAW": If your husband is "wonderful," why has he tolerated his parents' treating you this way for 17 years? He should have insisted from the beginning of your marriage that you be treated with respect. I can't believe the two of you would expose your children to this multiple times a year. You can't "make" your

in-laws stop their verbal abuse, but your husband might be able to if he locates his spine and puts his foot down. There should be no more talk of moving close to these toxic people, nor should there be any more visits to them until they either change their attitudes or learn to watch their mouths. If your husband feels he must go, then he should go alone, and you should stop making excuses for your absence.

DEAR ABBY: My husband is an alcoholic who attends AA meetings. Last night he forgot to sign out of his email and I saw he has been corresponding with a woman he met at the meetings. In her message she confided her problems finding a man. His reply was that she has been picking the wrong men, that he cares and that they need to talk face-to-face.

I wish I had never seen the email. Because of it, I can't eat or sleep, worrying about what might possibly be going on. I don't want to confront him because

he has a nasty temper, yet I feel I must do something. But what? — LOST IN NOWHERE, MONTANA

DEAR LOST: Instead of "confronting" your husband, simply ask him if he has become this woman's AA sponsor. It might explain why she is confiding in him, and why he suggested they meet face-to-face to talk, which could be entirely innocent. Does he have a history of cheating on you?

If something is going on, it would be better for your emotional health to know what you are dealing with. And if your husband responds with verbal or physical abuse because of his "nasty temper," you should insist on marriage counseling or get out of there for your own safety.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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By THOMAS JOSEPH

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 - 37 Kind of hit
 - 39 Place of refuge
 - 40 Deceitful bunch
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 - 4 Employ
 - 5 Police blotter types
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 - 8 Unlikely to happen
 - 9 Spring bloom
 - 10 Ibis's cousin
 - 17 "— been real!"
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 - 24 Craze
 - 26 Cheap-ened
 - 28 Folder type
 - 29 Dawn goddess
 - 31 Leave behind
 - 32 Game pieces
 - 33 Magnet ends
 - 35 Man of morals
 - 38 Cracker spread
 - 42 Pub staple

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Yesterday's answer

- 9 Spring
- 10 Ibis's
- 17 "—
- 22 Suffer
- 24 Craze
- 26 Cheap-ened
- 28 Folder type
- 29 Dawn goddess
- 31 Leave behind
- 32 Game pieces
- 33 Magnet ends
- 35 Man of morals
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BANANAGRAMS!

Use the 15 tiles in this bunch to create words that fit into the grids below. The BANANA BITES provide hints. Reuse the tiles for each grid.

LEVEL

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BANANA BITE: One word means "authored"

BANANA BITE: One word is a season

Yesterday's Answer: ALLYING, ATTIRED, ATHEIST

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