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Today at a glance



Bereavement and Healing



Tales from the Final Frontier: Nintendo cancels Club Nintendo



Today in sports: Lady Harvesters rout Borger More Sports: 7, 12





Obituaries 3 Comics8 Classifieds...9-11 Dear Abby 11

Check us out on the web www.thepampanews.com

Familiar face coaching in Fritch

By Zachary Green

zgreen@thepampanews.com



Pampa High School boys basketball team traveled to Fritch this year. Sanford-Fritch is coached by Wayne Parker,

a Pampa resident, who travels to Fritch every His parents are C.W. and Lois Parker. Lois is

a biology teacher at Pampa High School. C.W. is the preacher at Harvest Fellowship Church Parker is a 2008 graduate of Pampa High

He started his Masters program at Texas Tech

School. He graduated from West Texas A&M University in 2012 with a B.S. in Sports and

Many of you might have noticed that the University, but only stayed there a semester before going back to WTAMU and completing his degree. He received a Master of Education in Educational Leadership.

When asked why he took the Fritch job, Parker said he always wanted to be a head coach.

"It was close to home, and the program had been down before I took it," Parker said. "I wanted the challenge of building a program that consistently makes a run in the playoffs and I thought this was the best opportunity for

Another reason Parker likes being at Fritch is the fact that he has guys that only play basket-

PARKER cont. on page 2

PHS choir to hold annual "Dinner Theatre"



SUBMITTED

The Pampa High School Choir Department is preparing for their Annual "Dinner Theatre" production titled "Evening on Broadway." The event took place on Wednesday, but there is still an opportunity for those who missed out to attend tonight starting at 7 p.m. in the M.K. Brown Heritage Room. There will be many performances from various students and groups from the high school choirs. Some musicals that will be featured are: West Side Story; Dreamgirls; Footloose; Phantom of the Opera; Les Miserables and many more.

In addition to the student performances guests will enjoy a dinner consisting of: salad, roasted

pork tenderloin with cranberry-jalapeno relish, roll, dessert and tea/water and/or coffee.

This is one of the choir department's largest fundraiser that takes place in the spring and helps the students fund their annual choir trip. This year the choir students will the traveling to New York. Reservations are \$25 per person and can be made through any choir student or by contacting Mrs. Montgomery or Mr. Mays at brianna.montgomery@pampaisd.net or Julie Frost at 806-662-4111. In addition to the show, they students will also be holding a silent auction where 100 percent of the item goes to the students' account.

Cornyn, Cruz, Castro assess State of the Union speech

By ABBY LIVINGSTON The Texas Tribune

WASHINGTON, D.C. While President Obama was

for a moment or two. About a half-hour before the president entered the House chamber to deliver his biggest speech of the year, U.S. Sens. John Cornyn and Ted Cruz were part of the traditional delegation of senators who crossed the U.S.

Capitol to the House side.

806-665-1842

They also took time after the page," Obama said, echoing speech to offer their assessments, though their reviews

chamber, Obama called for new domestic programs on child care and community college, equal pay for women and a raise in the minimum wage. He also expressed solidarity against terrorism

assure Americans that after a troubled decade and a half since the Sept. 11 attacks, the country was on the rebound. "Tonight, we turn the

his 2008 stump speech.

"The shadow of crisis has passed, and the State of the Union is strong," he added. After the president's ad-

dress, lawmakers spilled into a nearby hall in the Capitol, and reaction to the speech split along party lines. Cornyn, the newly minted

Senate majority whip, gave the speech a mixed review as he walked back to the Senate side of the Capitol.

"It seemed more appropriate for his first State of the Union," Cornyn said. "We've

SPEECH cont. on page 2

Coupon book sales to benefit LEAP and NIE

■ \$20 booklets may be purchased at The Pampa News.

STAFF REPORT

The Pampa News is bringing back its Fabulous Fall Savings coupon books. These books have 88 pages of coupons and deals for various businesses both in Pampa and surrounding

Categories for the coupons include health, services, dining, retail, for kids, leisure and food.

The books are \$20 each, and all coupons are valid until at least March 31.

Proceeds from the sales of the books go toward two things: the LEAP fund at Happy State Bank set up for injured police officers and the Newspapers in

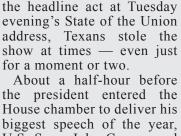
Education program. To purchase a savings booklet, stop by The Pampa News office, located at 403 W. Atchison during regular business hours.

Wheeler County January indictments

STAFF REPORT

The following are the Wheeler County Grand Jury indictments for the month of January:

- Eric Jayson Everett, driving while
- intoxicated third offense or more. Toby Mack Devenport, possession of a controlled susbstance, methamphetamine, less than one gram; manufacture and delivery of a controlled substance, methamphetamine, one gram or more but less than four grams; manufacture and delivery of a controlled substance, methamphetamine, one gram or more but less than four grams; manufacture and delivery of a controlled substance, methamphetamine, four grams or more but less than 200 grams; manufacture and delivery of a controlled substance, methamphetamine, four grams or more but less than 200 grams; manufacture and delivery of a controlled substance, methamphetamine, four grams or more but less than 200 grams.
- Brian Keith Longbine, escape while arrested/confined third-degree Rusty Shane Munsell, theft of cat-
- tle/horse/exotic livestock with a value less than \$100,000; forgery of a financial instrument. • Jose Juan Romero-Vasquez, evad-
- ing arrest with a vehicle. James Franklin Morgan, driving
- while intoxicated third offense or



were far from glowing. At the dais of the House

But mostly, he sought to

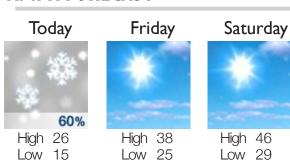
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PAMPA FORECAST



Today: Snow likely, mainly before noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 26. North northeast wind 10 to 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent. New snow accumulation of less than a half inch possible. Sunrise at 7:51 a.m.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 15. North wind 5 to 10 mph. Sunset at 6:01 p.m.

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 38. West wind 10 to 15 mph. Sunrise at 7:50 a.m.

Friday night: Mostly clear, with a low around 25. Northwest wind 10 to 15 mph. Sunset at 6:02 p.m.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 46. West northwest wind around 10 mph. Sunrise at 7:50

Saturday night: Mostly clear, with a low around 29. West wind around 10 mph. Sunset at 6:03 p.m.

This information brought to you by...



roofing the in the Panhandle 25 years

Parker

Continued From Page 1

and he can train with them all year round.

His future plans at Fritch are to build the program from the elementary schools up through high

"They were good in the early 2000s but haven't made the playoffs since 2006," Parker said.

Parker led the team to their first district win in a

district game. Fritch won young guys out is another 58-57 over Highland Park.

Some other goals are he wants to double the win total this year at Fritch versus last year. Parker said eventually he

plans to stick around here for a little while. How did Parker get into

coaching? Parker said it was be-

cause of coaches Dustin Miller and Jason Farmer.

"I saw them and how they enjoyed doing it for a liv-

reason as well."

Parker said at WTAMU coaches Rick Cooper and Vinay Patel solidified that he wanted to be a coach.

"I saw their competitivewants to find a coaching ness every day in college job in central Texas, but he and that really kept me drawn to being a coach," Parker said. "I crave competition and want to win at anything and everything I

coaches as well. Two of those he said are coaches, few years in just his first ing," Parker said. "Helping while two are still in school. your time to see him.

Parker's favorite moment thus far was when he was at WTAMU in the conference tournament.

"Winning games there was awesome and we beat Tarleton State," Parker said. "My first win at Fritch against Stinnett is another one. We didn't score in the first quarter and I was worried, but we ended up winning by 15."

Next season Fritch and Parker says he has four Pampa plan to meet again, friends that wanted to be but this time in Pampa. If you don't get to see coach Parker by then, that will be

Speech

school.

Continued From Page 1

got a six-year track record to reconcile with the rhetoric."

Most Texas Republicans were harsher in their failed economic agenda." assessments of Obama's speech.

reporters after the president's speech, a reflecsenator could soon announce his candidacy for the presidency.

tonight was disappoint- hope that they will accept ing." Cruz said, adding that Obama's speech didn't recognize that the that many of the presi-November election results suggestion a rejection of Obama's policies.

The president could have come out tonight

come together and focus people chose." on what we should have first place on jobs, eco- er." nomic growth and opportunity," Cruz said.

Another rising star in

the Texas delegation, Cruz drew a throng of U.S. Rep. Joaquin Castro, D-San Antonio, praised Obama's speech, saying tion on the growing ex- the president was clearly pectation that the junior reaching out to his political rivals.

"I thought the speech The Texas Tribune. "I in the coming months."

As for those who say dent's proposals are dead on arrival with the Republican Congress, Castro insisted he is hopeful.

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 com-

pletely updated or accurate. Please notify the

The Pampa News welcomes all submit-

newsroom if a change is necessary.

HUNTER'S

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tpwd.texas.gov or call 806-

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certification is 9. Everyone

under 17 will need the sig-

nature of a parent. All stu-

dents will need their social

security number.

Kerry Ballard

Zach Ballard

paths, that we would president the American

been focusing on in the our best to work togeth- him with a kiss from her

It was the president's sixth and penultimate as a regular among the Instead, he said, Obama State of the Union and members of Congress "doubled down on a took place exactly six who arrive early to the was sworn into office.

The audience looking fewest number of Democrats since he took office. Senate Democrats lost control of their chamber "He extended a hand to House Democratic cau-Republicans," Castro told cus shrank to its smallest she arrived in the chamsize in eight decades.

Among the observers in was "early." the gallery was a 20-yearold undocumented col- engage and make points lege student from Dallas about legislation to the named Ana Zamora, who senators, Cabinet officers was a guest of first lady and, of course, not a very Michelle Obama.

When Obama entered "I try to be optimis- the back of the House and told the American tic," he said. "This is the chamber and glad-handpeople that he hurt them, Congress the American ed his way up to the po- to be," she added. "It rethat we would change people chose. This is the dium, he was met by a ally works."

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for each group.

SUB-

familiar Texas face: U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, "And so we have to do D-Houston, who greeted prized aisle seat. Jackson Lee is known

years to the day since he House on State of the Union day, in order to secure a seat that maxiback at him included the mizes face time with the president and network television cameras. During an early evening security sweep of

in November, and the the Capitol, Jackson Lee declined to say what time ber, only stating that it "I get an opportunity to

long discourse but the president of the United States," she said.

"It's a very good place

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al assault, meet at 6 p.m., Thursdays, starting June 26 at the Tralee Crisis Center, 308 S. Cuyler St. For more info, call the Center at 806-669-1131. CITY BRIEFS Narcotics Anonymous The Pampa Group meets at 7:30 p.m., Tuesdays, and at 6 p.m., Saturdays, at **LEATHER SOFA** for sale. 805 N. Gray St. Narcotics Brown with riveted seam Anonymous — Rufe Jordan along edge. Some wear on

ted materials for area support groups. Please

include the meeting time, date and location

and, if applicable, provide a contact number

■ Victims of domestic violence and sexu-

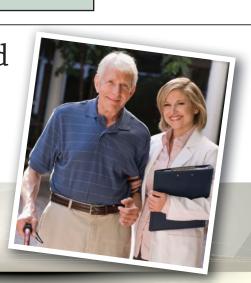
Unit also meets at 6 p.m., Mondays, and at 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays, at 1992 Hilton Road. ■ Cancer Support meets from 12-1 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Central Baptist Church. For

more info, contact Beth Kean at 800-274-4673 ■ 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



If you are in need of spending down assets to qualify for Medicaid coverage for nursing home or in-home health care, the subject of funeral planning may have come up.

Exempt assets are assets that are protected from being included in your non-exempt or countable assets. A pre-arranged funeral contract,

if purchased beforehand, can qualify. For more details,

600 N. Ward 665-2323

www.carmichael-whatley.com

Obituaries

Jerry Dobbs

Jerry Dobbs, 79, of Pampa, passed away on Jan. 20, 2015, in Amarillo with his family by his side.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 24, 2015,



Dobbs

at First United Methodist Church of Pampa with Rev. Dr. Ran Loy officiating. Graveside services will be 3 p.m. Saturday, at Plainview Cemetery in Plainview, under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Jerry was born on July 5, 1935, in Loraine. He lived as a devout Christian and was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Pampa. He had a positive impact on every life he touched and will be most remembered for his lustrous smile, joy-

ful laugh and compassionate heart. He genuinely enjoyed spending time with family and friends; and held a profound love for animals. Jerry was a strong and resilient man with uncompromising determination. His buoyant personality was inspiring, his independence was admirable and he will be deeply missed by all.

He is preceded in death by his biological father Bruce Dobbs; parents Loyce and Pete Bond; great-nieces Randi Timms and Saylor Danner; and great-nephew Tyler

Survivors include three sisters, Judy Hawkins and husband Harry of Cedar Hill, Honey Kemph and husband R.J. of Groom, and Dixie Danner and husband Darrell of Pampa; two brothers, Danny Bond and wife Lynda of Sun Valley, Nev. and Beau Bond and wife Diane of Seattle, Wash.; seven nieces, Tammy Clary and husband Greg of Waxahachie, Holly O'Neal and husband Montie of Midlothian, Tina Timms of Maypearl, Lisa Bond of Yelm, Wash., Danielle Bond and husband Omi Kwangaya of Des Moines, Wash., Katie Fraser of Sacshe, and Holly Welch and husband Keith of Albuquerque, N.M., and six nephews, Nicky Timms and wife Alice of Lockhart, Pete Bond of Redwood City, Calif., Quintin Kemph of Groom, Wilbur Kemph and wife Rebeca of Amarillo, Casey Danner and wife Layci of Amarillo and Schuyler Danner of Pampa, and 27 great-nieces and great-neph-

Memorials may be made to Pampa Meals on Wheels,

P. O. Box 939, Pampa, TX 79066-0939 or PAWS, P. O. line Ledford of Pampa; great-grandparents, Peggy Helton Box 2095, Pampa, TX 79066-2095.

Sign the online guest register at www.carmichaelwhatley.com.

Gayle Shelden

Gayle Shelden, 58, of Humansville, Mo. passed away Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2015, at her residence. She was one of two daughters born in Pampa to Gene and Arlene Ballard

Gayle moved to southwest Missouri in 1999 and loved living there. She enjoyed the farm life and caring for her animals, (dogs, pigs, chickens and horses). She also enjoyed taking care of her garden. She was an avid reader.

She is survived by her longtime companion Byron Rollison of Humansville; sister Lanita Kay Ballard and Ray Dabney of Amarillo; nephew Charlie Dabney and his wife Karen and grandson Zander and step-granddaughter Jayce of Amarillo; step-sons David Rollison and his wife Tina and Byron Rollison III of El Reno, Okla.; grandson Deagan Rollison; step-granddaughters Courtney and Cammie; other friends and relatives.

Cremation has been accorded per Gayle's wishes. Online condolences may be submitted at www.murrayfuneralhomes.com.

Tanner James Bailey

Tanner James Bailey, infant son of Billy Bailey and Tessa Stearns, of Canadian, born Jan. 16, 2015, entered into the arms of Jesus on Jan. 17, 2015, in Amarillo.



Tanner James

Memorial Services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24, 2015, at First Baptist Church Panhandle with Bro. Josh Light officiating. The family has entrusted the cremation care of their little angel to the Winegeart & Eldringhoff Funeral Home of Pampa.

Survivors include his parents, Billy Bailey and Tessa Stearns of the home; a brother Jason Simpson Stearns; a twin sister, Alice Marie Janell Bailey; grandparents, Leya and Tim Paschall of Shamrock, Will and Geneva Stearns of Panhandle and Caroof Canadian, Carol McCarty of Pampa, Dennis Brooks of Panhandle and Bill Gilmer and wife Sharron of Dallas; uncles, Willy Stearns and Joshua Stearns of Panhandle, Kenny Ledford of Amarillo and Laythem Daughtry and wife Nikki of Pampa; aunts, Reba Bailey of Seymour; great-aunts and uncles, Johnny Bailey and wife Linda of Pampa, Jimmy Gilmer and wife Kori Allen of Canadian and Lynetta Brooks of Washington, and special friends of the family, Anne and Dustin Douglas.

Although we only had Tanner in our arms a short time; we will hold him in our hearts forever.

Winegeart & Eldringhoff Funeral Home, Pampa. Online Condolences at www.winegeartandeldringhoff.com.

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Stocks rise broadly on expected ECB stimulus, higher oil

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stocks are rising broadly Wednesday as investors weigh an expected big stimulus from Europe's central bank, higher oil prices and a batch of corporate earnings reports.

European stocks rose before a decision Thursday by the European Central Bank on new measures to jolt the region's economy to faster growth. Asian markets closed mostly higher.

KEEPING SCORE: The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose seven points, or 0.4 percent, to 2,030 as of 3:06 p.m. Eastern time. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 10 points, or 0.2 percent, to their own systems.

ENERGY UP: Higher oil prices are lifting stocks in oil drillers and servicers. The energy sector rose 1.6 percent, the most among the 10 sectors of the S&P 500.

MORE STIMULUS: U.S. an announcement expected Thursday from the European new stimulus measures is likely to be as large as investors set to unveil a massive round of government bond buying, a program known as quantitative easing.

gest gain in the S&P 500, six months, is largely to blame.

in subscribers and profits last expected to have fallen 22 perquarter. In a report late Tuesday, the company said it added 4.3 million subscribers in the final three months of 2014 and that per-share earnings rose 72 percent from a year earlier. market strategist at J.P. Mor-The stock jumped \$62.83 to gan Asset Management. "In \$411.63.

BLUES AT BIG BLUE: IBM fell \$4.48, or 3 percent, to \$152.44 after the technology and consulting company reported an 11 percent drop in fourth-quarter profit. Its outlook for the coming year also rebounded in December, helpdisappointed investors as business customers continued to move away from buying big 20 points, or 0.1 percent, to mainframe computers and tra-17,534. The Nasdaq climbed ditional software installed on

HEALTH BOOST: touching an all-time high, UnitedHealth was up \$3.13, or 3 percent, to \$108.76 following quarterly earnings that topped expectations. The nation's largest health insurer said last month that it expected stocks rose after reports that double-digit earnings growth

OUTLOOK ON EARN-Central Bank on the size of a INGS: Reporting of fourthquarter earnings is in full swing. When all S&P 500 had anticipated. The ECB is companies have reported, earnings per share are expected to have risen just 0.5 percent, the smallest quarterly gain in two years, according to NETFLIX NATION: Net- FactSet. A slump in oil, down flix leapt 18 percent, the big- about 60 percent over the last

cent from a year earlier.

THE QUOTE: "This earnings season is not as much of a slam dunk as in the past," said Anastasia Amoroso, global prior seasons we had all sectors contributing (to gains), but energy and some industrial companies aren't now. There's a lot of uncertainty.

BUILDING Construction of new homes ing to push activity for the

after reporting record gains EPS at energy companies are entire year to the highest level since the peak of the housing boom nine years ago. Homebuilders D.R. Horton rose 1.4

The Commerce Department report showed that builders started construction at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.09 million in December, an increase of 4.4 percent from November.



Reduction in Hours?

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was on the

becoming

an adult;

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Bereavement and Healing Zac

I buried a young man for tragedy to make this weekend. He died before his time. He



TRACY LEE

disease.

He was diagnosed with brain cancer at a very young age and had lived the greater part of his life fighting this dreaded

He died in a different state and came to me for burial. His family traveled a great distance to be here with him when he went into his grave. They were sad, but they had prepared for this tragedy in their lives. They had taken time out of their every days and had dedicated themselves to his last few years.

Now that he is gone, each family member has special memories that are unique to their hearts. There are no regrets of behavior or selfishness. There is sadness; there will always be sadness. One cannot avoid sadness at the passing of a loved one. They will each travel through the dreaded stages of grief, but they will have sweet experiences and memories to draw upon for comfort. In offering comfort to their young family member, they inadvertently gave themselves the greatest gift possible; memories to draw upon for comfort.

Not every family has advanced notice of impending death, yet every family has the opportunity to spend precious moments together. Why do we wait time to share together? Because one never knows when their last moment on earth will strike, there are many things I would suggest we do with those we love. Of paramount importance however, today, I suggest you make time to spend precious moments with those you love. Do not let your life on earth slip away wishing you had just one more moment to quickly say, "I love you" to those who deserve to hear such tender words.

Take time and vow to do something to let those you love, know and feel your love for them. Get off the computer, turn off the singing competition, put the electronic games away and for heaven's sake, let go of the coliseum sports. Turn instead to those who if they were gone tomorrow would crumble your world. Do not waste one more moment on social media with social friends Spend real time making real memories with those you really love.

That is what Zac's family did. That is what will get them through his death.

My name is Tracy Renee Lee. I am a funeral director, author and professional speaker. I write books and weekly bereavement articles related to understanding and coping with grief. I am the American Funeral Director of the Year Runner-Up and recipient of the BBB's Integrity Award. I deliver powerful messages and motivate audiences on their "Road to Recovery". It is my life's work to comfort the bereaved and help them live on. Please follow my blog http://pushin-up-daisies. blogspot.com/, follow me on @PushnUpDaisies and visit my website for additional encouragement, information or booking speeches at www.QueenCityFuneral-

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Home.com.



Tales from the Final Frontier

Nintendo to end its rewards club program.

It's a sad day for those Nintendo die-hards. The Nintendo rewards program, called Club Nintendo, will

be ending June.

sole or game itself, they would register the serial number digital coins.

JOHN

For those unfamiliar with the club, any time gamers bought a Nintendo game conon the item and earn

Coins were distributed depending on

value and newness of the item. For example, if you bought "Yoshi's Island 3DS" the day it came out you were awarded more coins than if you bought it months after release. Obviously the Wii U, Wii and 3DS were worth more coins than the games that go with them.

Members could also earn coins filling out surveys and game re-

In my opinion, for a free rewards program, this was a pretty sweet

Some of the items you can still buy with coins include: "Super Mario Bros. 2" download for Wii U, "Super Mario Land" download for

3DS and Mario and Luigi greetings cards.

When it was in it's prime, however, you could redeem your coins for shirts, posters, bags and other memorabilia. I remember getting several things, including Legend of Zelda posters that went towards decorating my newborns Legend of Zelda themed nursery.

Like I said, this was a pretty sweet website so I am somewhat disappointed they are canceling it. Nintendo says on their clubnin-

tendo website: "Dear Club Nintendo Members,

Thank you for your continued loyalty to Nintendo. We launched Club Nintendo six years ago in North America,

and we're grateful for all of the feedback that our members have provided on your experiences with our products. In order to focus on planning for

a new customer loyalty program for our fans, we've decided to winddown the Club Nintendo program. We are deeply thankful to our members for being a part of Club Nintendo for all of these years.

We will share details about our new program at a later date. For

now, please see the schedule below for information on the discontinuation timeframe for Club Nintendo.

All Coins will be deleted when Club Nintendo accounts are closed on July 1, 2015. As a result, to give our members the best opportunity to use their Coins, we will add dozens of downloadable games and a limited quantity of exclusive reward items to the rewards catalog in February. In addition, as a small token of appreciation for your loyalty, all Club Nintendo members will receive a free download code for Flipnote Studio 3D in February 2015. Please visit here for information on the software and how to get the download code."

Hopefully this new program gets on par with rivals Microsoft and Sony's rewards programs for their console gamers.

John Lee is the editor of The Pampa News and a self-proclaimed nerd. He can be reached at jclee@thepampanews.com. Find him on Twitter @jcl1987.





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.

We reserve the right to edit letters or not to publish certain letters.

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jclee@thepampanews.

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Was Sierra Pacific victim of government shakedown?

After what became known as the Moonlight Fire burned some 65,000



SAUNDERS

acres in the Sierra Nevada in 2007, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

decided that Sierra Pacific Industries was respon-

sible for the damage. The culprit, regulators charged, was a friction spark from a bulldozer operating on Sierra Pacific land. Cal Fire fined the timber company \$8 million to pay for related costs. Because the fire burned more than 40,000 acres of national forest, the federal government also went after Sierra Pacific's deep pockets; in 2012, Sierra Pacific agreed to a settlement that entailed paying the feds \$47 million and giving Uncle Sam 22,500 acres of forestland. That's how the system

should work, you probably are thinking, and I would think that, too — except that Superior Court Judge Leslie C. Nichols tossed the state's case, citing a lack of solid evidence. Last year, he ruled that the government's case was corrupt and tainted. Cal

Fire failed to comply with discovery obligations, and its repeated failure was willful." The judge charged that the state destroyed evidence and "engaged in a systematic campaign of misdirection with the purpose of recovering money from Defendants." Call it robbery by fiat. If the judge is right, government watchdogs didn't care who the guilty party actually was, as long as they could cash in. Cal Fire is appealing

Communications director Janet Upton told me that Cal Fire disagrees with the judge and that "all those things will be addressed if (Cal Fire has) the opportunity to take the case to trial." Meanwhile, the judge was so appalled that he

ordered Cal Fire to pay Sierra Pacific more than \$32 million. That sort of judgment just doesn't happen in the real world. It has emboldened Sierra Pacific to go to federal court and ask Uncle Sam for its money back.

Why did Sierra Pacific settle with Washington? "The federal government was demanding \$1 billion from us," Chief Financial Officer Mark Emmerson told me.

Sierra Pacific is a large, family-owned corporation — the second-largest lumber company in the country and the largest landowner in California. Even for a large corporation, it seems, the might of the federal government is daunting. Given the damage the U.S. attornev's office could do and given the federal government's considerable resources. a settlement for an appreciably lighter penalty made sense — especially after the timber executives observed a federal judge's pretrial rulings.

Meanwhile, the state court battle opened some doors for the timber lawyers. As The Wall Street Journal reported, when Sierra Pacific's team questioned the bulldozer driver, he denied that he had confirmed the location where the spark started the blaze as state investigators had reported. A former fire litigation attorney for the U.S. attorney's office for the Eastern District of California signed a 15page declaration in which he charged, under penalty of perjury, that prosecutors and state regulators had withheld information about the fire's origin. E. Robert Wright also suggested criminal charges might be appropriate. A second federal prosecutor

quickly bailed from the "We strongly dispute the truth of Sierra Pacific's allegations, which constitute unfair attacks upon the integrity of hardworking and valued public servants. The Government's response is due Feb. 17, 2015. We look forward to our opportunity to present to the Court a more complete and accurate version of what actually occurred in this case," U.S. attorney's office press officer Lauren Horwood told me in a statement.

The judge was especially harsh on the office of state Attorney General Kamala Harris. In his 47 years as an attorney and judge, Nichols wrote, he had never seen an instance "in which the conduct of the Attorney General so thoroughly departed from the high standard it represents, and, in every other instance, has exemplified.

Harris has announced that she plans to run for the U.S. Senate seat being vacated by fellow Democrat Barbara Boxer. A judge has accused her office of falling down on the job and fined Cal Fire more than \$32 mil — and she wants a promotion? I talked to her press office to find out what the attorney general had to say about the case. As of my deadline, no one had anything to say.

VICTIM cont. on page 5





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Victim

Continued From Page 4

Gov. Jerry Brown's office referred me to Cal Fire. If there is a burning concern in Sacramento to find out whether state lawmakers and federal lawmen misbehaved, then state pols are keeping unnaturally quiet

The case next goes before U.S. District Judge William B. Shubb, who will consider Sierra Pacific's request for a federal refund. In a brief filed Thursday, Sierra Pacific lawyers maintain: "The prosecutorial misconduct associated with the Moonlight Fire matter was not comprised of mistakes on the periphery. It was not the consequence of episodic errors of judgment. Instead, it was systematic, pervasive, and purposeful, with each act aimed at affecting the administration of justice through the use of a thoroughly corrupt investigation designed to frame these defendants."

I'll be watching for a simple reason: If Sierra Pacific is right, if state and federal officials engaged in what essentially was a shakedown against a powerful corporate giant, is there anything they wouldn't do to a small husiness or a humble head of household?

Email Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@sfchronicle.com. To find out more about Debra J. Saunders and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.



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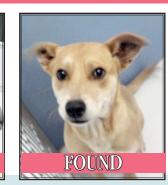
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PAMPASports 21 point fourth fuels Lady Harvester 61-37 rout

Three players scored in double digits for Pampa on Tuesday night.

By Zachary Green

zgreen@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Lady Harvesters (12-13, 2-1) traveled to Borger Tuesday night for a matchup with the Lady Bull-

Pampa had impressive defense to start the game and held Borger to just three points with 3:23 to go in the quarter. Borger took a timeout trailing 11-3.

After the timeout, Borger hit a pair of threes to pull within two at 11-9. Borger had a traditional three point play to pull within one at 13-12 with 1:10 to go in the

Pampa went on a 4-0 run to end the quarter with a 17-12 lead.

Senior Ty'Randa Johnson had two points in the quarter and went 2-2 from the line. Senior Madison Brown went 1-2 from the line and had seven points. Senior Rayna Wall had four points. Senior Taylor Eubank had two points. Senior Raven Neal-Landers had two points.

Pampa built on their lead and got it up to 10 at 25-15 with 4:27 before the half and that's when Borger called a timeout. The teams traded buckets most of the second quarter, which helped Pampa to maintain their lead. Wall hit a three at the end of the half to put Pampa up by nine

Wall had three points in the quarter. Mad. Brown had two points. Senior Caragan Niccum was 3-4 from the line and had three points. Eubank was 2-2 from the line with four points. Sophomore Montashia Brown had two

In the first half Pampa shot 7-8 from the charity stripe. Right out of the gates in the third quarter Pampa again started with a nice 5-0 run to build a 36-22 lead. Borger called a timeout at the 5:53 mark. Pampa led 38-27 with 1:51 to go in the quarter. It was a tale of two halves from the free-throw line as Pampa went 1-8 from the line in the third quarter.

Wall had three points. Mad. Brown had four and Eubank had two in the quarter.

Pampa really never let Borger get back into this one as they led 48-34 with 3:56 to go and Borger called a

The Lady Harvesters went on a huge 13-3 run in the final four minutes to take the game 61-37.

Chaffin said the press and the bench were big tonight. "We're really focusing on every girl being able to play either guard or post and it's really been effective for us,' head coach Kim Chaffin said. "Our press is coming along a little bit. We were trying to mix it up."

"We were able to put five different people on the floor at a time. Which we haven't been able to do all year."

Wall had two points in the fourth. Johnson was 1-1 from the line and had three points. Mad. Brown had three points. Niccum was 1-2 from the line with one point. Eubank was 2-2 from the line with eight points. Sophomore Elise Kennedy had two points in the quarter. Senior Keshia Daniels also had two points in the quarter.

Taylor Eubank had 16 points and went 4-8 from the line. Madison Brown had 16 points and went 2-3 from the line. Rayna Wall had 12 points, shot 1-4 from the line and had one three-pointer. Ty'Randa Johnson had five points and went 3-3 from the line. Caragan Niccum had five points and went 5-6 from the line. Raven Neal-Landers, Montaisha Brown, Elise Kennedy and Keshia Daniels all had two points.

'Right now I feel like its the deepest we've been and it's really helping us out. If we want to continue to pressure people, then we're gonna need the bench to come in and contribute," Chaffin said. "The way they were tonight you couldn't tell who was the bench or starters were. That was pretty awesome."

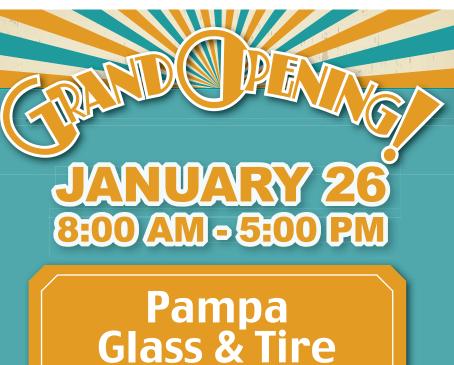
With the win Pampa improved to 2-1 in district play. They will host Bushland at 6 p.m. Friday in the final game of their first round of district play.

"Bushland is big, strong and physical. They can play basketball. We just gotta play our game. We're gonna focus on some of the little things they do," Chaffin said. 'We're going to continue to better ourselves. If we can move the ball around on offense we should be able to handle it pretty well."





Above left, Rayna Wall with a free throw shot. Above right, Keshia Daniels with a jumper. Below, Reata Collins shoots a jumper. Bottom, Raven Neal-Landers looks to pass or shoot during the game.



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PampaSports

Hustlin' Harvesters last second shot falls short

Had Bridges' shot gone in, it would have sent the game to overtime.

By Zachary Green zgreen@thepampanews. com

The Pampa Harvesters (18-3, 0-2) traveled to Borger to face the Bulldogs on Tuesday night. After a dissapointing loss to Perryton, the Harvesters hoped to get back on the winning

The game started off great for Borger as the Bulldogs had a 6-2 run to start the game. It was a very low scoring game though as Borger only led 6-4 at the 2:45 mark of the quarter.

A late Bulldog three in the quarter gave Borger a 9-6 lead at the end of one.

"We weren't able to run some of the lineups that we wanted to early because of foul trouble," head coach Matt Embry said. "Engle got himself going and then got two fouls called on him, that I don't even need to see the film to know they were called wrong.'

Junior Shanoaha Bridges was 2-2 from the line with two points in the quarter. Sophomore Brandon Sieck had the first points of the game and two points in the quarter. Senior Johnathan Stevens also had two points in the quarter.

Bridges hit a three-point-

er to tie the game at 11 all with 7:15 before half. Pampa took a timeout at the 4:21 mark, trailing 15-13. Sieck hit a three at the 3:35 mark to put Pampa ahead again at 16-15. Pampa led 18-15 when they called a timeout at the 3:12

Since Pampa called the timeout at the 4:21 mark, they went on a 5-0 run. The run was extended to 7-3 before the half. Pampa led at the break 20-18.

Bridges had three in the quarter. Sieck had five. Stevens was 2-2 from the line with four points and Junior Bryson Burrell had two points.

Borger started the second vens was 1-1 from the line then hit a bucket to go up half on fire with a 6-2 run with five points. Burrell had 52-49. Scott attempted a after hitting two threes to two points. Senior Dante three but was blocked this take the 24-20 lead with Jordan had two points in time. 6:29 to go.

The run continued as Borger led 32-22 before 5:51 mark after they started Pampa called a timeout at the quarter on a 4-1 run. the 4:11 mark.

before the Pampa timeout.

Borger got ahead 35-22 before Stevens had a traditional three-point play to led 49-42 at that point. make it 35-25 Borger at the

the quarter.

Borger led 43-38 at the ing 47-42.

Cade Engle fouled out at the 4:38 mark and Borger

Borger led 50-42 before called a timeout.

Borger called a timeout with 25.7 seconds left and

the three point lead. Bridges hit a big three to Borger called a timeout at tie the game at 52 all with It was a 14-2 Borger run the five minute mark lead- 17 seconds left. Borger called a timeout with 12 seconds left. Borger hit a bucket to go up 54-52 with 6.7 seconds left. Pampa

> Bridges got the ball after the inbounds pass and drove to the hoop but his potentional game-tying bucket hit the backboard and rim and bounced off.

> Burrell got the rebound but there wasn't enough time to throw it up.

Pampa lost the game 54-52 and fell to 0-2 in district play.

Johnathan Stevens was 6-7 from the line with 16 points. Cade Engle was 2-2 from the line with eight points and two three-pointers. Shanoaha Bridges was 2-3 from the line with two three-pointers and eight points. Brandon Sieck had seven points and one three. Brendon Woelfle had five points and one trey. Bryson Burrell had four points. Dante Jordan had four points.

Embry said he was proud of the team for fighting through adversity.

"Proud of the bench. Kambrin had some big rebounds. Woelfle had big steals and buckets. Bridges and Woelfle both hit big fouled out."

threes. Dante got a big bucket and steal. Bench did really good," Embry said.

"We have to put together 32 minutes of that. Not eight here, then off for six, then two there then off for four. We have to be consistent. Most of that is in- pened," Embry said. experience. We really only have two guys that had at 7:30 p.m. Friday. played big minutes in dis-

"We only had one experienced player out there and it showed, but I was proud of the way they fought."

'Not how we imagined

the fashion that they hap-They will host Bushland

it going, with two losses to

start district. Especially in

"It's gonna be a fun one trict before. One of those and a dog fight," Embry was Cade who was sitting said. "We gotta go get on the bench because he them, gotta go to work tonight (Tuesday night)."



the quarter.

lowed up by a 15-4 Pampa to make it 50-49 Borger. run. Borger led after three quarters 39-37.

3:30 mark. Engle had a 5-0 Woelfle had a steal and run by himself to make it bucket to make it 50-44 39-37 Borger at the end of with 2:39 to go and Pampa called a timeout. Woelfle Borger had a 17-2 run had a three and then a steal in the quarter that was fol- and Jordan added a bucket

Borger missed a shot, but Scott was called for a Engle was 2-2 from the charge on the offensive end line with eight points. Ste- at the 1:26 mark. Borger

Photos courtesty of Charla Shults



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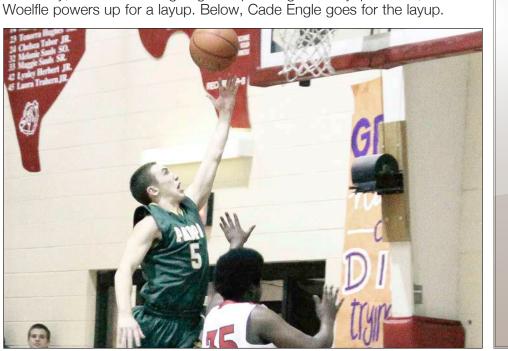
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Top right with story, Jett Gibson plays great defense on a Borger player. Top

with story, Shanoaha Bridges goes up strong for a layup. Above, Brendon

THEFunnies

By Bil Keane THE FAMILY CIRCUS 1-22 © 2015 Bil Keane, Inc. Dist. by King Features Synd. www.familycircus.com

"How long do I have to hold the door while Kittycat decides if it's too cold to go out?"

Non Sequitur



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DAILYHorosco

Jan. 23, 2015:

This year you'll find that your finances are a key factor in making plans, especially as you consider a major life change. Sometimes you prevent yourself from realizing how you really feel about a situation. Be aware of this tendency, as it could cause a problem. If you are single, 2015 will be a year to remember. Expect to encounter an abundance of suitors; at least one of them will be very appealing. If you are attached, the two of you have a tendency to go overboard, but you always manage to have a ball doing it. Make sure to schedule special time together as a couple. PISCES wants to be involved in your life,

The Stars Show the Kind of Day 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

but it is your call.

★★★ You could be facing a decision that will force you to go within. You might resist the process at first, but you will warm up to it eventually. Don't fight it, and vou will have an easier time. Make time to have a discussion with a key confidant. Tonight: Try not to be so visible.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ Zero in on what you

want. Information you are receiving could be subject to dramatic change, even if you don't see it yet. Emphasize your goals and priwill be highlighted. Make a note of what is not being said. Tonight: TGIF!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ You could be startled by how someone else takes a stand before you can even verbalize what you feel needs to be done. Try not to hold a grudge. This person might want control at any cost. The only way to win a power struggle here is not to play. Tonight: Leader of the gang.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Reach out for more information and/or to an expert if you are not satisfied with what you are hearing. You could be questioning what works for you. Distance yourself from the issue as much as possible; only then can you make a good decision. Tonight: Follow the music.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You'll want to cut back and relax more, yet you might resist letting go of certain responsibilities. Figure out what you really want to A loved one will let you know where tress Tiffani Thiessen (1974)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, he or she is coming from. Tonight: Munchies with a friend.

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

★★★ You seem to be unusu-

ally resourceful when dealing with someone who can be very controlling. Be aware of your objective, and don't play into this person's control games. The results will be a lot better than you might have expected. Tonight: Accept a special invitation.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ You could be at your wits' end when dealing with a difficult, controlling person. Avoid getting into a conflict by backing away carefully. The only way to be effective is to be nonreactive. Listen to others' feedback. Tonight: Accept a colleague's invitation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ You might have to You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; handle a task, but your mind will be on a loved one. Break free from the shackles of your schedule, and go be with this person. Remember that life is for living. Sometimes you get too caught up with work and responsibilities. Tonight: As you like

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) *** Perhaps you don't realize how much you enjoy staying close to home. However, given the op-portunity, you might consider having a home-based business, if you don't already. Make a call to someone who can help you clear up a problem. Tonight: Kick back.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) *** Express what you feel, orities. A get-together with friends and remember to be diplomatic. You will get better results than if you were to proceed in your usual way. Someone might be trying to win a power play, but this person doesn't know how strong and willful you are. Tonight: Head out with

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

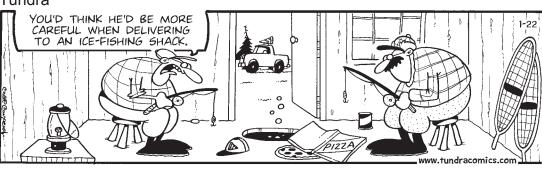
★★★★ You could have the best intentions, but you might unknowingly trigger others. Do some soul searching or have a discussion with a trusted friend. You will want to root out this problem in order to have better communication. Tonight: Treat a friend.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You might feel as if you're on top of the world, yet a problem could be brewing within a friendship. This issue will need to be addressed. Ask yourself how important this person is to you, and then proceed accordingly. Tonight: You are noticed wherever you are.

BORN TODAY

Statesman John Hancock (1737), do, and you won't have a problem. musician Jacky Vincent (1989), acTundra



Nest Heads





Shoe





Mother Goose and Grim







Zits





Garfield

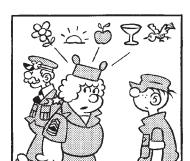






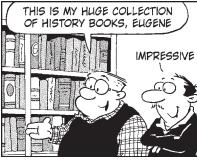
Beetle Bailey







Marvin





Hagar The Horrible



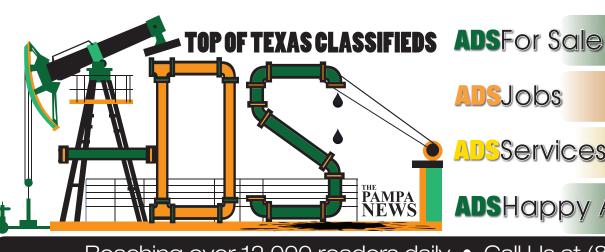


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& Duncan. New hard-

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ture, granite in kitchen.

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> 2007 JEEP COM-MANDER R4177A, \$17,995. Doug Boyd

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Hwy 70, 806-669-6062. 2005 FORD F150 #R3914, \$16,995. Doug

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M-F 10-5:30



Dear Abby... By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

finished the letter from of my own or someone to a few of the women "Plotting and Planning else, contribute to medi- who have touched my in Arizona" (Oct. 5), re- cal science and prolong a life in various ways over garding why cremation few lives. — CAROL IN the years. I feel it is not is so popular. There are LONG BEACH, CALIF. also other reasons.

veteran, had planned to be buried in a national veterans' cemetery. After his death we were informed that the only the cemetery had run out be. of space for traditional burials. DAUGHTER OF WWII VET

DEAR PROUD DAUGHTER: "Plotting and Planning" guessed one reason was cost, while another might be that we live in a more mobile society. Readers agreed, but offered additional input:

DEAR ABBY: Several people I know prefer cremation because they claustrophobic. Even the thought of being shut up in a casket gives them the heebiejeebies. — DAVID IN EAST MOLINE, ILL.

DEAR ABBY: Rather than be buried in a cemetery (\$\$\$) or be cremated (my kids objected), I'm donating my body to medical science. I have degenerative arthritis, asthma and other minor conditions. Perhaps by

DEAR ABBY: I just doing this, I can help one of my ashes distributed

My father, a WWII reasons why I have requested cremation:

technology, it is now possible to take a portion MATIST of one's cremains and option currently avail- turn them into diamondable was interment in the like gems, one of which columbarium, because dear mother-in-law to

intend to have a portion NATURAL

only my right but also DEAR ABBY: A few my duty to avoid saddling others with the exorbitant costs of today's First, due to modern funeral extravaganzas. — KIFFIN, THE PRAG-

DEAR ABBY: Cremation has a lot going for it. "Green burials" are veterans' wall of honor I'd like to leave to my becoming more popular. You can be wrapped in a shroud and buried in the Second, because of ground. No chemicals, — PROUD the proliferation of fine everything is biodegradmini-urns — which may able — ashes to ashes, be used as jewelry — I dust to dust. — KEEP IT

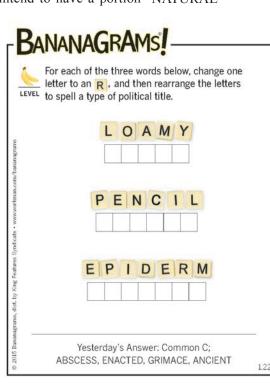
memorial reef by the INALABAMA Neptune Society. This will help to create an underwater reef system not only for fish, but for divers to enjoy. That lips, and was founded by way, I'll be able to return her mother, Pauline Philto nature, give divers a lips. Contact Dear Abby place to enjoy and for- at www.DearAbby.com ever be back in the water or P.O. Box 69440, Los that I have always loved. Angeles, CA 90069. - SCUBA SHELL

DEAR ABBY: I'm opting for cremation

DEAR ABBY: Be- don't want to be dug up ing an avid scuba diver, in the future for some-I have instructed my one's science project, family that I wish to be grave robbers or archaecremated and my ashes ologists. I have "urned" turned into part of the my rest. - RALPHEE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phil-

To receive a collection when my time comes. I of Abby's most memo-



Answer to yesterday's puzzle: Sudoku 2 8 9 4 3 6 7 1 4 6 5 1 2 8 3 3 6 8 2 7 9 5 4 4 7 1 6 5 8 3 9 9 1 3 7 2 4 6 5 8 6 5 4 9 8 7 5 3 2 8 6 1 9 9 7 3 4 5 2 8 1 1 9 3 9 8 6 9 7 2 3 8 4 8 5 4 6 3 8 5 8 1 4 8 5

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3 Kilauea

carrier

5 Bridge

costs

specifica-

8 "- Misér-

ables"

9 Rented

11 Appears

singer

17 To boot

units

19 Chuck

out

15 Poet-

18 Yard

6 Shoe

tion 7 Anger

ACROSS

1 Course activity

5 Trouser material

10 October birthstone

bash 12 Opera

11 Evening

star **13** Firstborn

14 Car part

16 Car part

20 Applies, as finger paint

23 Zodiac sign

24 Be miserly

25 Wine buys

27 Tiny worker

28 Portions out

29 Car part 32 Car part

36 Botch

39 Clinton's veep

40 Fly or

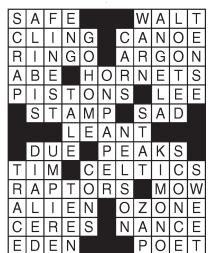
flea **41** Foray

42 Gaggle group

43 Keats poems

DOWN

1 Olympus group



Yesterday's answer

20 Carpet 31 Draw out type **33** Swamp **21** "— Lisa" croaker 22 Chow 34 Pennsyl-25 Chowder vania chunk port **26** Brisk **35** Some wines tempo

28 Take as

30 Ends of

36 Mediterraone's own nean fruit 37 Small bill

38 Exploit the earth THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1 AND 2! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

10 11 12 13 14 15 16 18 27 29 31 30 32 34



Pampa JH boys tournament

else will always come up

The boys are now 8-0 this

The eighth grade A team getting to the championship game. Like the seventh grade A team, the boys urday morning, Pampa appeared to be in control of the game late in the fourth quarter against Gruver. Gruver hit a couple big shots to take the lead in the end, and it was too much for Pampa to overcome. The boys rallied back in the third place game, defeating Vega by a large margin. Ethan Lemke and Robert Botello had big weekends with points, steals, and rebounds. Nelson Garcia and Braydon Oxley was a beast on defense. This tournament evened their record up at 4-4.

The eighth grade B team pionship, and the seventh "A" division, so they had

PHS wrestling at Vernon

took third in the 110 weight

Junior JT Belcourt took class for the guys. Senior

The wrestlers will be

Watch the Pros

South Florida at Temple	ESPNN 5:30 p.m.
Alabama at Arkansas	ESPN/ESPN2 6 p.m.
Ohio State at Northwestern	ESPN/ESPN26p.m.
Xavier at Providence	FSSW 6 p.m.
DePaul at Seton Hall	FS1 6 p.m.
Coastal Carolina at UNC Ashville	ESPNU 6 p.m.
Farleigh Dickinson at Sacred Heart	FCSA 6 p.m.
Austin Peay at Southern Illinois	FCSC 7 p.m.
George Washington at Fordham	
Arizona at Stanford	
UTEP at Western Kentucky	
Maryland at Indiana	
Washington at Colorado	
Grand Canyon at New Mexico State	
St. Mary's Calif. at Gonzaga	
2	1

Women's College Baskethall

Tromon o conogo backotban	
Idaho at North Dakota	FCSP 6 p.m
Montana at Northern Arizona	FCSA 8 p.m

San Antonio Spurs at Chicago Bulls	TNT 7 p.m.
Brooklyn Nets at LA Clippers	
	y 10 v p

Qatar Masters	GOLF 5 a.m.
Humana Challenge	

Humana ChallengeGC	ルド	2 p.m.
		1

Snowboarding, snowmobiling......ESPN 8 p.m.

Send it to us!

jclee@thepampanews.com or bring it to the paper!