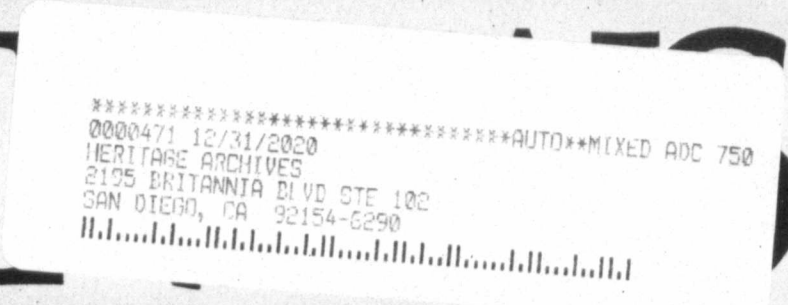


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# The PAMPA



## TODAY IN SPORTS



Tuesday, December 4, 2012 www.thepampanews.com Volume 108 • No. 192

**75¢** Low turnout for police workshop  
 Opinions on Susan Rice | p4  
 \$1.50 weekend  
 38¢ subscription

Varsity boys win River Road tournament  
 Varsity, JV, 9th girls and JV boys in tournaments | p1B

## Israel feels heat from allies over settlements

**By JOSEF FEDERMAN**  
 Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel rejected a wave of American and European condemnations Monday over plans to build thousands of new homes in West Bank settlements, vowing to press forward with the construction in the face of widespread international opposition.

The announcement from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office was likely to deepen a rift that has emerged between Israel and some of its closest allies following the U.N.'s recognition of a Palestinian state last week. The U.N. decision appears to be fueling a tougher international line against Israeli settlements in the West Bank and east Jerusalem.

Israeli ambassadors were summoned for consultations in five European capitals, and European officials warned of other potential measures against Israel. In Washington, the U.S. said the Israeli actions were "especially damaging" to peace prospects.

Italian Premier Mario Monti and French President Francois Hollande issued a joint statement saying they were "deeply worried" by Israel's settlement plans. The two men, meeting in Lyon, France, called the Israeli decisions "serious and illegal" and a "serious obstacle" to Middle East peace.

Netanyahu, however, showed no signs of bending. His office said Israel would continue to stand up for its interests "even in the face of international pressure, and there will be no change in the decision taken."

Europe could potentially play a strong role in any international action against the settlements. Europe is Israel's largest trade partner, and Israel has a partnership with the EU giving its exports preferential status.

But divisions within Europe could make it difficult to take any concerted action. Germany, Europe's largest economy, has a close relationship with Israel, and given its history as the perpetrator of the

**ISRAEL** cont. on page 5

### MERRY CHRISTMAS!



**PERFECT PARADE.** You don't have to be in New York City to see a great parade. Hundreds of local residents turned out Saturday for the Pampa's downtown Christmas parade, which had more floats and entries than ever. Pictured above are some of Santa's little helpers riding in a horse-drawn carriage. Events were held throughout town, including Breakfast with Santa at the Pampa Chamber of Commerce and a soup and chili lunch with Mrs. Claus at the Knights of Columbus hall. For more photos, see page 8B.

## Heller joins newspaper as reporter

**STAFF REPORT**

Sasha Heller joined the Pampa News staff this week as a reporter, leaving the Rio Grande SUN in Espanola, N.M., where he served as city editor and reporter.

Prior to working at the SUN, Heller was the news editor at The Enterprise-Tocsin, in Indianola, Miss. While at the Enterprise-Tocsin, Heller covered general news, designed pages and paginated editions. Heller was also influential in helping the Enterprise-Tocsin launch its online edition in January 2011.

Last year, Heller earned a 2010 Mississippi Press Association First Place award for Best Investigative Series for his series, "Beneath the Surface." The series covered the landmark case of the Sunflower County School District's his-

**HELLER** cont. on page 5



**Sasha Heller**

## 50th Annual Shopping Tour gets \$5,000 boost

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

It's better to give than receive. About 100 or so children will have the opportunity to buy presents for each of their family members on Dec. 15 at the 50th annual Christmas Shopping Tour, which is sponsored by the local Kiwanis, Altrusa and Optimist clubs.

Each child is given \$50 per family member to spend during a shopping trip to Walmart. However, the children cannot spend any of the money on themselves.

"It will be the first time for them to experience what it's like to give instead of receive," said Mike Hooper, general chair for this year's event.

Hooper was addressing the staff at Accolade Home Care, where he was presented a \$5,000 donation from Accolade's ministry, 26:12, to help pay for the shopping tour.

The name of the ministry comes from a verse in the Book of Isaiah, which states: "Lord, you established peace for us; All that we have accomplished you have done for us."

Each child is accompanied to Walmart with an adult volunteer.

**TOUR** cont. on page 5



Suzanne Courtney, administrative assistant for Accolade, presents Mike Hooper, general chair of the Home Shopping Tour, a check for \$5,000. At right is TV Cuellar, agency director for Accolade.

## CDC: Flu season could start early, could be bad

**By MIKE STOBBE**  
 AP Medical Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Flu season in the U.S. is off to its earliest start in nearly a decade — and it could be a bad one.

Health officials on Monday said suspected flu cases have jumped in five Southern states, and the primary strain circulating tends to make people sicker than other types. It is particularly hard on the elderly.

"It looks like it's shaping up to be a bad flu season, but only time will tell," said Dr. Thomas Frieden, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The good news is that the

**FLU** cont. on page 7

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Local Record .....	3A	Classifieds .....	4B-7B
Viewpoints .....	4A	Puzzles/Dear Abby..	7B
Comics .....	6A		
Social Security & You	8A		



### PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Wednesday	Thursday
		
High 61 Low 42	High 65 Low 42	High 65 Low 32
<b>Tuesday:</b> Mostly sunny with a high of 61. No chance of rain. Winds northeast at 7 mph. Sunrise at 7:38 a.m.	<b>Tuesday night:</b> Partly cloudy with a low of 36. No chance of rain. Winds south at 10 mph. Sunset at 5:31 p.m.	<b>Wednesday:</b> Sunny with a high of 65. No chance of rain. Winds south southwest at 18 mph. Sunrise at 7:39 a.m.
<b>Wednesday night:</b> Partly cloudy with a low of 42. No chance of rain. Winds south southwest at 13 mph. Sunset at 5:31 p.m.	<b>Thursday:</b> Mostly sunny with a high of 65. Ten percent chance of rain. Winds northwest at 11 mph. Sunrise at 7:40 a.m.	<b>Thursday night:</b> Partly cloudy with a low of 32. Ten percent chance of rain. Winds north at 8 mph. Sunset at 5:31 p.m.

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**HOT HEADZ** would like to Welcome Tori Lackey to our family! Her hrs. are Tue & Sat all day and Wed-Fri 12-7. Walk-ins & Call-ins are welcome!

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**ATTN: LIONS** Club of Pampa- Thursday noon meetings will return to First United Methodist Church on December 6th. For questions call ReDonn at 669-2525

**PACK 'N' Mail** will be open on Saturday December 8th and 9th from 10a-3p!

**COMPUTER SICK?** Call Mike, 665-2760.

**HEY KIDS & PARENTS**- Send us your Letters to Santa to be published in our annual Santa Letter Special Edition of The Pampa News! Email them to: [composing2@thepampanews.com](mailto:composing2@thepampanews.com) or bring them by the paper. Please include your child's name and age! Drawings are always welcome! Deadline is Thursday, December 6th. If there are any questions, please call 806-669-2525.

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## Obituaries

### Floyd Lee Barrett

Floyd Lee Barrett, 87, passed away on Nov. 24, 2012 in his home with family in attendance.

Floyd was born on the family farm in Pampa, Texas to Ben and Allie Barrett. He was a 1943 graduate of Pampa High School. He served honorably in the United States Navy in New Guinea from 1944-1946. He married Ruth Elva Matheny on April 2, 1946.



**Floyd Barrett**

He worked for Kewanee Oil Co. and retired from Chevron Oil Co. Floyd and Ruth moved to Las Cruces on Dec. 28, 2011 to be near family. Floyd was the seventh of nine children. He has one remaining brother, Raymond Barrett (Dorothy) of Pampa, sister in law Lois Barrett and numerous nieces and nephews. Floyd was a loving and well-loved and respected husband, father, grand, and great-grandfather. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Ruth Elva and two daughters: Martha Lee Wildman (Tom) of Las Cruces and Margaret Ellen Wildman (Charles) of El Paso, Texas. His six grandchildren are Thomas Joseph Wildman (Amy) and Teresa Ruth Sletten (Eric) of Las Cruces; Kimberlee Ann Henry (Richard) and Christopher Joseph Wildman (Nancy) of El Paso, Texas, and Melissa Lee Aranda (Jacob) and Michael Barrett Wildman (Christina). His nine great grandchildren are Army Pvt. Joseph Sanchez of Germany; Christina, Tomas, Evan Wildman, and Jessica Sletten of Las Cruces; Hannah Aranda and Naomi Wildman of Rio Rancho, N.M.; Ethan Henry and Sophia Wildman of El Paso, Texas. The family wishes to extend their gratitude to Mesilla Valley Hospice and to Liz Tarin, R.N. for her loving care and attention to Floyd's ever needs.

Visitation for Floyd was held on Thursday, Nov. 29, 2012 from 6-8 p.m. at La Paz-Graham's Funeral Home. Graveside services were at 10 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 30, 2012 at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Las Cruces under the direction of La Paz-Graham's Funeral Home with Rev. Bruce Freeman, Pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations to Mesilla Valley Hospice are requested.

### Jackie Ray "Jack" Selby

Jackie Ray "Jack" Selby, 70, died Dec. 1, 2012 in Pampa.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2012, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel with Dr. Jeff Knighton, pastor of the First Christian Church and Rev. Dr. Alberta Helton, pastor of the Triumph Truth Church in Amarillo, officiating.



**Jackie Selby**

Burial will be at Memory Garden Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors. Mr. Selby was born Sept. 4, 1942 in Wheeler. Jack was a resident of Pampa since 1966. Jack was a veteran of the U.S. Army serving at the start of the Vietnam War. He married Carolyn Harrell on Dec. 31, 1970 in Borger. Jack worked as a computer program-

mer at National Oil Well retiring in 1999 after 33 years of service. He was a member of the First Christian Church, Pampa Masonic Lodge No. 966 AF&AM, Pampa Rifle Club, American Legion and the Panhandle Bluegrass and Ol' Time Music Association. Jack enjoyed playing his fiddle.

Survivors include his wife Carolyn of the home; two sons: Thurston Nelson Selby and wife Ashley of Ladonia, Texas and William Wallace Selby of Chadron, Nebraska; his mother: Norma Selby of Clinton, Oklahoma; two sisters: Reta Hall and husband Eugene of Clinton, Oklahoma and Reba Helms and husband Steve of Monroe, North Carolina; one brother Roy Selby and wife Bonnie of Borger; and six grandchildren: Elaine Selby, Thurston Selby, David Selby and Daniel Selby all of Chadron, Nebraska, Kailyn Selby and Warren Selby both of Ladonia, Texas. Jack was preceded in death by his father William Nelson Selby and a granddaughter Edwina Selby.

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

### Oleta Farber

Oleta Farber, 84, died Dec. 2, 2012 in Amarillo. Services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2012, in Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel in Pampa with Scott Futrell, minister of Kentucky St. Church of Christ in Pampa, officiating.



**Oleta Farber**

Burial will follow in Memory Gardens Cemetery in Pampa under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Farber was born Dec. 19, 1927 in Sweetwater, Oklahoma to Bill and Virgie Smart. Oleta married Hershel Farber on September 23, 1946 in Sayre, Oklahoma. She had been a resident of Pampa from 1953 until moving to Amarillo in 2007. Oleta was a former member of Central Church of Christ in Pampa. She was preceded in death by her parents; and a brother: Leon Smart.

Survivors include her husband: Hershel Farber of the home; two daughters: Shirley Cummings of Claude and Judy Farber of Fairfield; a son: Larry Farber and wife Kathy of Amarillo; five grandchildren: Benji Hausen, Karie Crowley, Kellie Rogers, Gregory Farber and Grant Farber and all of their spouses, all of Amarillo; 12 great-grandchildren; a sister: Loveta Click of Amarillo; two brothers: Ray Smart and wife Lola of Sayre, Oklahoma, and Bobby Smart of Wilburton, Oklahoma; and sister-in-law: Mary Smart of Amarillo.

Memorials may be made to a favorite charity. The family will receive friends from 6-7 p.m. tonight at Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Home.

Sign the on-line register at <http://www.carmichael-whatley.com>

### Artie Toliver

Artie Toliver, 80, of Pampa, Texas passed away Nov. 29, 2012. Services are pending with Martinez-Smith Funeral Chapels of Odessa, Texas.

### Joseph Huson Huffman

Joseph Huson Huffman, 30, died Nov. 23, 2012 in Pampa.

A memorial service will from 4-6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2012, at Central Park in Pampa. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Huffman was born Oct. 11, 1982 in Augusta, Ga. He had been a resident of Pampa since he was a young boy, graduating from Pampa High School in 2001. He worked for the Coney Island, G.W. James and Douglas Painting. He was a very giving person.

Survivors include a daughter: Shyanne Rose Huffman of Nashville, Tenn.; a son: Rylan Joseph Huffman of Nashville, Tennessee; mother: Teresa Huffman of Pampa; father: Joseph Huffman Jr., of Augusta, Ga.; brother: Allen Bailey Huffman of Pampa; grandparents: Linda J. and Richard B. Palmer of Pampa, and Francis and Joseph Huffman, Sr., of Grovetown, Ga.

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

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### Deer get onto Pa. racetrack

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON, Pa. — Spectators who came to watch horses at a western Pennsylvania racetrack got a surprise this week when three deer got onto the course first and beat the horses to racing.

According to KDKA-TV, a race was about to begin Wednesday night at the Meadows Racetrack in Washington County when the deer jumped onto the track.

Race announcer Roger Huston didn't miss a beat. He began calling the race as it unfolded, saying things like: "As they race down the track, Bambi has the lead. Here comes Rudolph from the outside."

The deer ran fast but kept changing directions. At one point, they appeared headed to the paddock, where the horses were being held.

Several minutes into the show, the deer decided to leave the track to the horses.

Huston says Bambi won the race.

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## A BIGGER, BETTER PLACE

Accolade Home Care held an open house Friday for its new location at 1313 N. Hobart St. The certified home care agency moved about a month ago from its former location in the National Bank of Commerce Center. The new location not only gives the agency more space (about 1,000 square feet), but greater visibility from the road, said TV Cuellar, agency director. The Pampa site is a branch from its main location in Amarillo. Seated are clients Wendell and Helen Atkins (The cookie shaped in an "A" stands for both Accolade and Atkins, Wendell said.) Standing are Cuellar and Lindsey Been, account coordinator for Accolade.



Photo by Timothy P. Howsare

## Police: KC Chiefs' Belcher shot himself behind a vehicle

ASSOCIATED PRESS

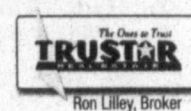
KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Kansas City police say Chiefs linebacker Jovan Belcher moved behind a vehicle and shot himself in the team parking lot after he saw police arrive.

Police say Belcher shot and killed his 22-year-old girlfriend, Kasandra Perkins, at their Kansas City home Saturday before driving to Arrowhead Stadium, where Belcher committed suicide in the practice facility's parking lot.

A police incident report released Monday says police arrived at the couple's home about 7:50 a.m. and found Perkins on the floor of the master bathroom, dead from multiple gunshot wounds.

The report says officers arrived 10 minutes later at Arrowhead Stadium, and when Belcher saw police, he moved behind a vehicle and shot himself in the head.

Police also said that firearms found at Belcher's home were legally registered.



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## For the record

### Pampa man arrested on 10 warrants

49-year-old Terry Wayne Rapstine, Pampa, was arrested Monday by the Gray County Sheriff's Office on 10 warrants. Two were for a bond surrender of possession of a controlled substance. Bond surrender is when the bondsman surrenders the bond to the court after failed payments. The possession of controlled substance had one charge of less than one gram and one charge of more than one gram but less than four grams. Three warrants were for expired motor vehicle inspection and two warrants were for no valid driver's license.

23-year-old Angel Renee Whinery, Pampa, was arrested Monday by the Pampa Police Department on a warrant for a charge of driving while license invalid.

38-year-old Alonzo Dionico, Amarillo, was arrested Sunday by the Texas Department of Public Safety on two arrests warrants. One was for a bond surrender of a previous theft charge and one was for a capias pro fine on a DWI out of Potter County. CPF is when court costs and fees are not paid.

38-year-old Richard Lee Gann, Pampa, was arrested Sunday by GCSO on three warrants. One warrant was for violation of probation for a DWI, 3rd or more. One was for theft of property for greater than \$50 but less than \$500. And the final one was for credit or debit card abuse.

19-year-old Brody Wayne Calcote, Wheeler, was arrested Sunday by GCSO for the possession and transportation of chemicals with intent to manufacture a controlled substance.

25-year-old Duglaus Shadd Johnson, Pampa, was arrested Sunday by GCSO for the possession and transportation of

chemicals with intent to manufacture a controlled substance.

25-year-old Mireya Villagrana, Pampa, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a CPF for theft.

22-year-old Ashleigh Breanna Grantham, Amarillo, was arrested Saturday by the Lefors Marshal on a charge of possession of marijuana and a public intoxication charge.

24-year-old Thaddeus Ryan McLaughlin, Amarillo, was arrested Saturday by LM on a charge of possession of marijuana and a public intoxication charge.

44-year-old Allen Lee Roberts, Pampa, was arrested Saturday by PPD on a charge of public intoxication.

18-year-old Josue Miguel Brisenio, Pampa, was arrested Saturday by GCSO on an assault that caused bodily injury charge and a theft by

check charge out of Hansford County.

35-year-old Detria Ray-Don McIntosh, Pampa, was arrested Saturday by GCSO on four charges. Two charges were for credit and debit card abuse and two charges were for fraudulent use of identification info.

29-year-old Jerry James Miears, Pampa, was arrested Saturday by GCSO on possession of drug paraphernalia.

63-year-old Shirley Orcutt Jones, Amarillo, was arrested Saturday by GCSO on a bond surrender for a possession of a controlled substance.

46-year-old Clifford Scott Oclair, McLean, was arrested Saturday by GCSO on an assault that caused bodily injury.

38-year-old Ricky Joe Diaz, Pampa, was arrested Friday by PPD on a violation of protective order charge.



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# Viewpoints

## The PAMPA NEWS

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## Obama should take the fight to GOP over Rice

Senators John McCain, Lindsey Graham and Kelly Ayotte really want us to believe that their shameful behavior towards United Nations Ambassador Susan Rice is all about getting to



**ROLAND MARTIN**

the truth about what happened in Libya. The truth is that this is the first salvo in a GOP war against President Barack Obama over the next four years.

Do they think Americans are dumb enough to believe that Rice, who had no responsibility over intelligence or approving security requests at the State Department, is the person to answer their queries over what happened in Benghazi that led to the deaths of four Americans, including Ambassador Christopher Stevens?

These three continue to assert that Rice should have known better than to read talking points on several Sunday morning shows provided to her by the intelligence community, as well as provide an assessment that went outside of what she was told.

Is it fair that she be asked about those talking points? Of course. But to somehow try to pin the blame on her is downright offensive.

It has been amazing to watch the degree to which U.S. Senators don't want to criticize Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, who has jurisdiction over the department. Yes, Clinton, not Rice, oversees U.S. ambassadors across the world, and it is her department that denied the security requests from Stevens.

If there is anyone who should be answering questions about security of our consulate in Libya, it's Clinton. Instead, it has been all Rice, all day.

McCain, Graham and Ayotte want to know why the intelligence

was botched, yet what do they do? They try to pin it on Rice as well. It has also been stunning to examine the degree to which Congressmen are afraid to utter the name, Gen. David Petraeus, as if vigorously questioning the assessment of the Central Intelligence Agency, which he ran before a sex scandal forced him to resign, is off limits.

If GOP senators are demanding intelligence answers, they should continue to haul leaders of various agencies down to Congress to testify under oath. Instead, they've made the calculation to turn Rice into their pincata, desperate to scuttle a potential secretary of state nomination.

Seeing Maine Republican Sen. Susan Collins raise questions about Rice and the 1998 embassy bombings in Africa took the cake. Seriously? Are they now trying to pin those bombings on Rice? This has turned into a shameless, pathetic and embarrassing charade.

It's President Obama's turn to play hardball and make it clear that he won't be pushed around concerning his appointees during his second term.

After Jan. 1, he should announce his appointment of the eminently qualified Rice as his secretary of state, and dare the U.S. Senate to deny the pick.

The president needs to send an unmistakable signal to the GOP that he wouldn't be bullied. He forcefully defended Rice in a news conference a week ago and publicly thanked her at this week's Cabinet meeting, but the ultimate sign of confidence — and strength — would mean foregoing the easy pick of Sen. John Kerry and daring them to stop Rice's appointment.

President Obama shouldn't be afraid to engage in a public battle with the GOP. To heck with the naysayers who claim Rice is damaged

**MARTIN** cont. on page 5

## Low attendance

### Only 2 people attend workshops on shoplifting prevention

As a free public service, the Pampa Police Department presented two workshops last Friday on how businesses can curb shoplifting during the holiday season. One session was held in the morning and one in the afternoon at the Pampa Chamber of Commerce.

Though the workshops were well publicized for more than a week by both the chamber and The Pampa News, only two people showed up for the morning session and no one attended the afternoon session.

This was a missed opportunity for local businesses to find out first hand, from a member of the police department, on ways to not only prevent those with sticky fingers from stealing stuff during the holiday season — when store owners

#### Our View

This editorial reflects the views of The Pampa News' editorial board. Other opinions on this page may not reflect this view.

and employees are more likely to be more distracted from the increased business — but how to make their workplaces safer in general.

Understanding that not every one in town would have the time to attend, the newspaper printed the information presented during the morning seminar in its Saturday paper.

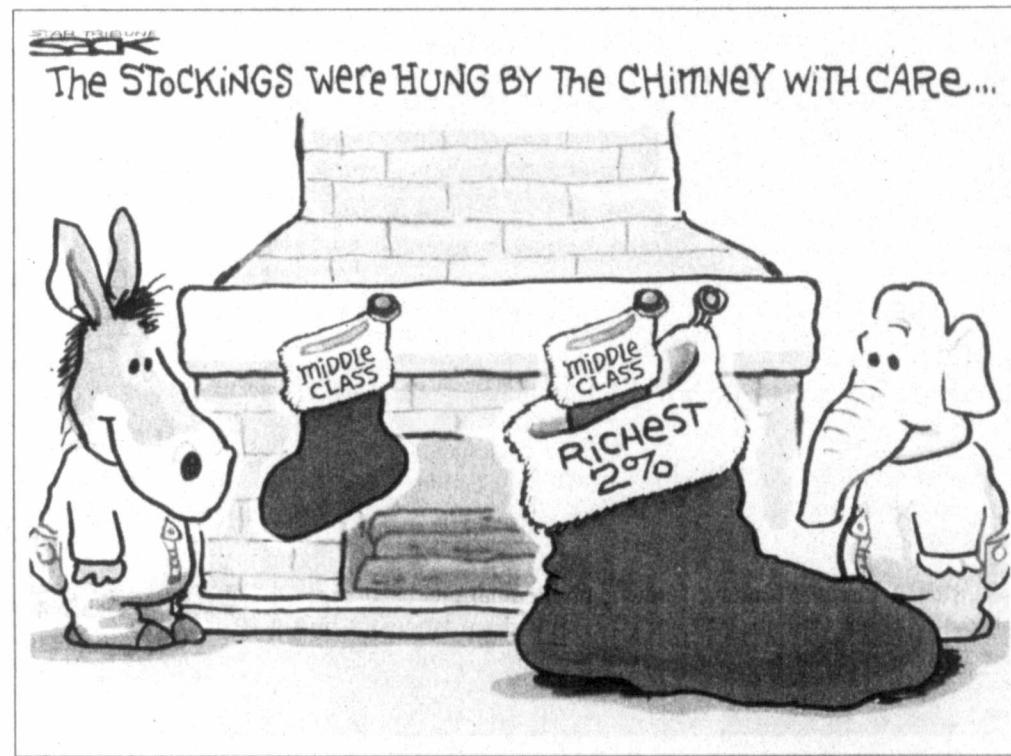
However, we were hoping more people in town would have attended.

Officer Stormy McCullar, who presented the workshops, advised store owners in different parts of town getting to know each other so when

a suspicious person is seen in one store, word about it can get passed around. She also advised getting to know your customers as much as you can. The more contact you have with your customers, the less likely they are to steal from you, she said.

In contrast to the low turnout Friday at the crime-prevention workshops, residents turned out in droves for the Christmas on Main events on Saturday, starting with Breakfast with Santa at the chamber.

Pampa has a lot of community spirit, and it was very satisfying to see the community support local events instead of traveling out of town for the day, which happened to be blessed with clear skies and warm sunshine.



#### 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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## Reputations will sink in persecution of Rice

With the Republican right persisting in baseless persecution of Susan Rice, the U.N. Ambassador who may replace departing Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, it has left President Obama little choice but to move ahead with her nomination. If he backs away from Rice, in the face of what he has called false accusations against her, that display of weakness would undermine his second term before it begins.



**JOE CONASON**

The opposition to Rice is cobbled together from the remnants of a failed "October Surprise" election gambit, which began when Mitt Romney sought to smear the president by using the tragic attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya, which killed four Americans, including Ambassador Christopher Stevens. In the election's aftermath, Senate Republicans have fixated on Rice, whom they accuse of misleading the public in television appearances several days after the Sept. 11 incident.

Rice's supposed offense was to downplay the likelihood that the attack had been perpetrated by al-Qaida terrorists or their local allies, while underlining the idea that it had been inspired by an anti-Muslim video on the Internet. On ABC News' "This Week," she repeated almost precisely the talk-

ing points provided to her by the CIA: Our current best assessment, based on the information that we have at present, is that, in fact, what this began as, it was a spontaneous — not a premeditated — response to what had transpired in Cairo. In Cairo, as you know, a few hours earlier, there was a violent protest that was undertaken in reaction to this very offensive video that was disseminated. We believe that folks in Benghazi, a small number of people came to the embassy to — or to the consulate, rather, to replicate the sort of challenge that was posed in Cairo.

And then as that unfolded, it seems to have been hijacked, let us say, by some individual clusters of extremists who came with heavier weapons, weapons that as you know in — in the wake of the revolution in Libya are — are quite common and accessible. And it then evolved from there. We'll wait to see exactly what the investigation finally confirms, but that's the best information we have at present.

In those remarks, Rice clearly warned against drawing any conclusions from the preliminary information then available. Nevertheless, Senate Republicans led by John McCain have sought to defame her as a liar, a fool, or worse. The latest insult came on Tuesday from Senator Kelly Ayotte, a junior Republican from New Hampshire with no significant

national security experience and little evident grasp of the facts. Tagging along with the embittered McCain and his reliable sidekick Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, Ayotte made an unprecedented threat to put a "hold" on Rice's nomination if Obama sends it up to the Hill — the first time in memory that a senator has deployed that privilege against a prospective nominee to head the State Department.

Exactly what the right suspects about Benghazi isn't clear. Initially, Republicans seem to have hoped that talking up al Qaeda would somehow help Romney and damage Obama. Not the most patriotic strategy, but that was their plan. What they supposedly suspect now remains obscure. Graham mutters darkly that he is "disturbed," while McCain claims to be "troubled." The blustering Ayotte has now locked herself in a bunker with these volatile characters, whose motives and behavior are hardly above suspicion.

Whatever their problem, knuckling under to such a puerile challenge would represent an unacceptable defeat for the newly re-elected Obama.

Properly, the Benghazi incident is under investigation by the FBI and the CIA as well as Congressional committees — and what those probes appear to have established so far is that the security arrangements at the consulate never came within the

specific purview of the White House. The CIA almost certainly made mistakes and omissions in protecting the consulate and sadly paid for those errors with the lives of courageous agency officers who died there trying to protect the State Department staff when the compound came under sustained assault from heavily armed jihadi militants.

The notion that Rice or any other administration official intentionally misled the public already has been thoroughly debunked by David Petraeus, the resigned CIA director. Petraeus told a closed-door hearing on Capitol Hill, attended by McCain, that Rice had faithfully followed the declassified talking points provided by U.S. intelligence agencies (McCain promptly fled from reporters when that hearing ended.) Although the president himself had referred to the Benghazi attack as an "act of terror" in the White House Rose Garden, specific information about potential terrorist suspects remained classified for sound investigative reasons.

It isn't hard to imagine what McCain would say if Rice had accidentally blurted out classified details of the Benghazi probe prematurely on television. In fact, it isn't necessary to imagine, because not so long ago, he angrily accused the White House of revealing classified information. Bu

**RICE** cont. on page 5

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# Martin

Continued From Page 4

goods. What's damaged is the logic of McCain, Graham, Ayotte and Collins, who look more foolish as the remarks about Rice drag on.

Barack Obama won. Mitt Romney lost. And before him, John McCain lost. Now it's time for the president to make clear he has no plans to be an idle bystander

# Rice

Continued From Page 4

But in fact, the only damaging leak in the Benghazi matter emerged from the hyperactive mouth of Rep. Darrell Issa, chairman of the House Government Re-

in another attack on a member of his Cabinet.

Mr. President, the GOP is itching for a fight going into the New Year. Give it to them. And show them who is boss.

*Roland S. Martin is an award-winning CNN analyst and author of the book "The First: President Barack Obama's Road to the White House as Originally Reported by Roland S. Martin." Please visit his website at RolandSMartin.com.*

form Committee.

Perhaps McCain, Graham and Ayotte should instead spew their bile on Issa, who has actually abused his authority and trifled with national security. They would be better off, because their reputations — and not Rice's — will be irreparably damaged if they continue to pursue this vendetta when the president sends up her nomination.

# Israel

Continued From Page 1

Holocaust, it is unlikely to take any strong action against the Jewish state.

In last week's decision, the United Nations General Assembly overwhelmingly recognized a Palestinian state in the West Bank, east Jerusalem and Gaza Strip, territories captured by Israel in the 1967 Mideast war.

Netanyahu rejects a return to the 1967 lines. His government also fears the Palestinians will use their upgraded status to join the U.N.'s International Criminal Court and pursue war crimes charges against Israel.

But Israel was joined by only eight other countries in opposing the bid, which was seen as a resounding international rejection of Israeli settlements in occupied territories. In a slap to Israel, its closest European allies — Britain, Germany, Italy and France — all abstained or voted with the Palestinians.

Israel has angrily condemned the vote as an attempt by the Palestinians to bypass negotiations. In particular, Netanyahu's government says it undermines any chance of negotiations over future border arrangements by endorsing the Palestinians' territorial demands.

The Israeli response to the U.N. decision was swift and strong. Just hours after Thursday's vote, Israel announced plans to build 3,000 new homes in the West Bank and east Jerusalem. It also said it would begin plans to develop a sensitive part of the West Bank just outside of Jerusalem.

Although construction is likely years off at best, the mere intention to build in the area known as "E1" is potentially explosive because of its strategic location in the middle of the

West Bank. Israel also said it was withholding a regularly scheduled tax transfer to the Palestinians and using the money to pay off Palestinian debts to Israeli utilities.

After a flurry of angry European protests over the weekend, the Israeli ambassadors to Britain, France, Spain, Sweden and Denmark were all summoned by their hosts on Monday.

"I set out the depth of the U.K.'s concern about these decisions and I called on the Israeli government to reverse them. The settlements plan in particular has the potential to alter the situation on the ground on a scale that threatens the viability of a two-state solution," said Alistair Burt, Britain's minister for Mideast affairs.

Senior Palestinian official Nabil Shaath praised the Europeans for taking action.

"We've been expecting this kind of behavior for a long time," Shaath said. "For this to come from France and England is very beneficial to us. We highly appreciate it and we are hoping the U.S. will follow their lead."

Later Monday, the Obama administration also harshly criticized Israel, its top Mideast ally, over the planned construction.

"We reiterate our longstanding opposition to Israeli settlement activity and East Jerusalem construction," White House press secretary Jay Carney told reporters. "We oppose all unilateral actions, including settlement activity and housing construction, as they complicate efforts to resume direct, bilateral negotiations and risk prejudging the outcome of those negotiations."

At the State Department, spokesman Mark Toner said the E1 plans are "especially damaging" to prospects for a resumption in Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

The E1 area "area is particularly sensitive and construction there would be especially damaging to efforts to achieve a two-state solution," Toner said in a statement.

The fate of Jewish settlements is at the heart of the current four-year impasse in Mideast peacemaking. The Palestinians say continued settlement construction is a sign of bad faith, and they refuse to return to the negotiating table unless Israel stops the building. More than 500,000 Israelis now live in the West Bank and east Jerusalem.

Israeli officials say the Palestinians have negotiated with previous governments while settlement construction took place. They also note that even when Netanyahu imposed a 10-month partial freeze on construction in 2009 and 2010, there were no serious peace talks. Netanyahu says negotiations should begin immediately without any preconditions.

But last week's U.N. vote appears to have marked a turning point. While the U.S. and Europe have long opposed the settlements, their new condemnations used especially sharp language, and rarely are Israeli ambassadors publicly grilled.

Swedish Foreign Minister Carl Bildt told parliament that "together with other EU countries we will discuss other potential steps," though he would not elaborate.

British government officials said the EU would be looking to President Barack Obama for leadership on the matter, and that British diplomats were in touch with American counterparts in London.

One EU official in Brussels said the matter will be high on the agenda of a meeting of European foreign ministers next Monday, and will also be discussed with U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham.

# Tour

Continued From Page 1

In past years, children were given \$40 for each family, but since this is 50th anniversary of the event, organizers decided to increase the amount to \$50.

The children are assisted in wrapping the gifts and taking them to the home.

Walmart is giving the youngsters a 10 percent discount on the purchases along with waiving the sales tax.

The Children's Shopping Tour was first held in Pampa in December 1963, when a group of Pampa Jaycees took six children shopping for Christmas presents for their family members. The project was named the outstanding community service project in the nation by Optimist International in July, 2008, and was named the outstanding community service project in the world by Altrusa International the following month.

People wishing to contribute should make their checks payable to the Pampa Optimist Youth Club and send them to John Warner, P. O. Box 645, Pampa, Texas 79066.

# Heller

Continued From Page 1

toric audit in which the school system failed all 37 accreditation standards, a first in the history of public education in Mississippi. Heller's series involved heavy research into public education records and featured stories from school administrators, teachers, students and parents.

Heller's first job in

newspapers was staff writer for the Daphne Bulletin on the Gulf Coast in Alabama. He worked at the Bulletin for a year and a half before moving onto the Enterprise-Tocsin.

Heller said he looks forward to joining The Pampa News' staff and to making a home for himself here in Pampa.

If you see him around on the street, say "Hey," introduce yourself and let him know what's going on around town.

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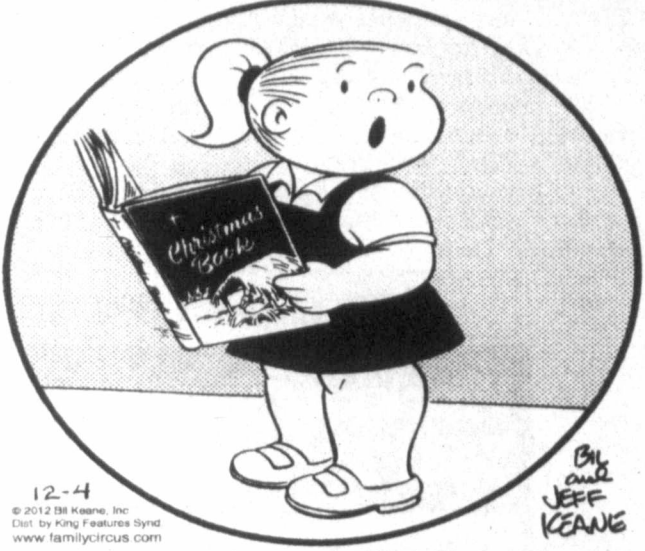
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# comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



12-4  
© 2012 Bill Keane, Inc. All rights reserved. www.familycircus.com  
"How come the only kid Baby Jesus got to have at his birthday party was that little drummer boy?"

Non Sequitur



Nest Heads



## daily horoscope

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2012:

This year you could experience an inordinate amount of pressure, as often what you feel could be in conflict with what you think or must do. People pick up on your mixed messages. You are better off explaining your internal battle to others, even though they likely will know about it anyway. If you are single, check out someone you meet with care. This person might not be everything he or she portrays him- or herself to be. Take a full year to get to know each other. If you are attached, the two of you will learn to communicate far better, which allows you to open up more. Caring flows between you. **VIRGO** can be demanding.

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)  
★★★★ Focus on a project that you must complete. A partner or an associate could act like a taskmaster and frustrate you to no end. Understand your limits here, and tap into your ingenuity. You just might find a way to lighten up the situation. Tonight: To the wee hours.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)  
★★★★ Your imagination knows no limits, and it opens you up to a new way of thinking. You could find that a friend wants more, which confuses you on some level, as you have kept romance and friendship separate. Be true to yourself. Tonight: Let the fun begin.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)  
★★★★ You might decide to call it an early day and head home; on the other hand, some of you will decide to just enjoy a day off. Of all the signs, you have the least amount of tolerance for boredom. Take up a new hobby to invigorate your daily life. Tonight: Make it easy.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)  
★★★★ Express yourself in a clear and succinct manner. Realize your limits within a discussion. No matter how creative you get, there are some things that are best left unsaid. Take time for a child or a new friend. Tonight: Catch up on a neighbor's news.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
★★★★ You no longer can avoid taking a hard look at your budget. You might feel uncomfortable at first, but it is better than not having enough money for the holidays. You'll come up with some good ideas that could make the next few weeks even more special. Tonight: Buy a gift on the way home.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)  
★★★★ Confusion surrounds a project, and possibly even a loved one. A misunderstanding might not be all that bad, as perhaps you have not yet heard the whole story. You'll feel happier when you do. Your creativity surges as a result. Tonight: Whatever makes you smile.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)  
★★ Know when you want to pull back. You could be taken aback by the assumptions someone close to you makes. You might not be sure what direction to head in. Do not worry so much. Try to think positively. Tonight: Make an adjustment to your thinking.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
★★★★ Emphasize others. You understand your own strength and where it comes from. You need less support than many other people do. Meetings could be quite important. Use them for networking. Tonight: Only where people are.

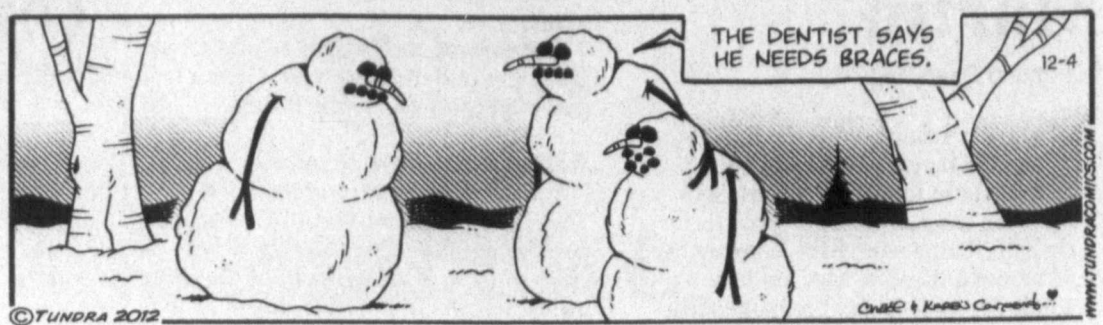
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)  
★★★★ Carefully rethink a situation involving a boss or higher-up. You could feel quite restricted, as you sense this person's negativity. The question remains: Is there really negativity here, or are you projecting it onto the situation? Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
★★★★ Listen to your sixth sense. You know when something is off. You need to honor those feelings, as they could prevent a problem before it happens. Someone at a distance or on a trip could rain on your parade. Tonight: Detach, and you will see more.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
★★★★ A partner whispers in your ear and has a lot to share. You listen, though you might want more information. A boss or an older friend could be challenging. Though you get feedback, your sixth sense tells you something different. Follow your instincts. Tonight: Be a team player.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)  
★★★★ Think carefully about what is being proposed. The problem lies in how much is being thrown on your plate. Not one person approaches you to help, either. You have to choose with whom and on what project you want to be involved. Tonight: Join friends.

Tundra



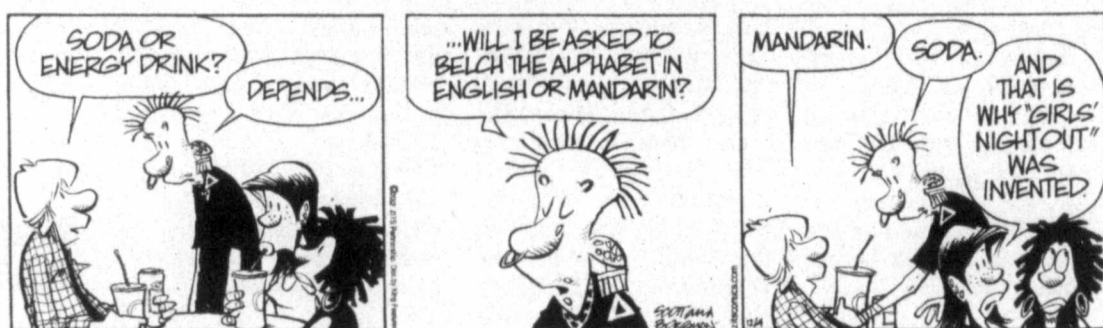
Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



# Flu

Continued From Page 1

nation seems fairly well prepared, Frieden said. More than a third of Americans have been vaccinated, and the vaccine formulated for this year is well-matched to the strains of the virus seen so far, CDC officials said.

Higher-than-normal reports of flu have come in from Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee and Texas. An uptick like this usually doesn't happen until after Christmas. Flu-related hospitalizations are also rising earlier than usual, and there have already been two deaths in children.

Hospitals and urgent care centers in northern Alabama have been bustling. "Fortunately, the cases have been relatively mild," said Dr. Henry Wang, an emergency

medicine physician at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

It's not clear why the flu is showing up so early.

The last time a conventional flu season started this early was the winter of 2003-04, which proved to be one of the most lethal seasons in the past 35 years, with more than 48,000 deaths. The dominant type of flu back then was the same one seen this year.

One key difference between then and now: In 2003-04, the vaccine was poorly matched to the predominant flu strain. Also, there's more vaccine now, and vaccination rates have risen for the general public and for key groups such as pregnant women and health care workers.

An estimated 112 million Americans have been vaccinated so far, the CDC said. Flu vaccinations are recommended for everyone 6 months or older.

On average, about 24,000 Americans die each flu season, according to the CDC.

Flu usually peaks in midwinter. Symptoms can include fever, cough, runny nose, head and body aches and fatigue. Some people also suffer vomiting and diarrhea, and some develop pneumonia or other severe complications.

A strain of swine flu that hit in 2009 caused a wave

of cases in the spring and then again in the early fall. But that was considered a unique type of flu, distinct from the conventional strains that circulate every year.

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## The PAMPA NEWS Community Calendar

### 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 252-5432.

### Jam sessions every Friday night

The Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center has a jam sessions 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.

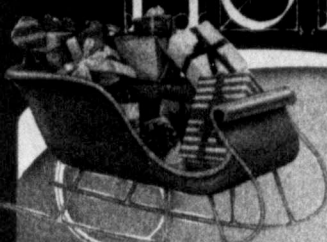
### Booster club holding enchilada dinner

The Pampa Soccer

Booster is holding an enchilada dinner from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 9, at the Pampa High Commons. The cost is \$8 a ticket and children under 3 are free. The meal includes two enchiladas, beans, rice, salad, a drink and dessert. Carryout will be available. For more information, call 806-886-1535.

*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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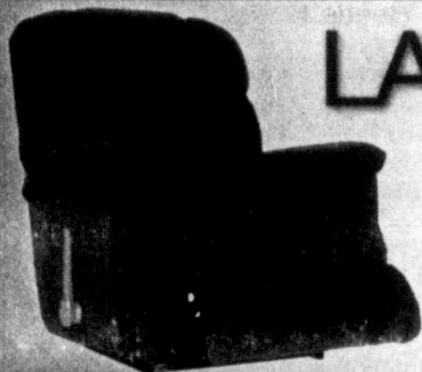
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## Advent devotionals from Pastor Mike Sublett

### December 5 - the pregnancy

The ADVENT story is all about what now would be called a fetus. It is a story so unbelievable that if God wasn't the author, it would surely be a lie.

I remember once hearing a song entitled The Ten Little Fingers Of God. Up until then I had never actually pictured the only begotten Son of God as a tiny baby inside of Mary's womb. Look at that tiny foot pushing against his

mother's belly. Mary felt that same pushing; Jesus had those same tiny feet and fingers.

Isn't that photo breathtaking? Doesn't it cause your imagination to run wild wondering about how Jesus felt inside His mother? And just think, He went through all that just so humans could have a Savior.

More directly, He went through all that just so that YOU could have a Savior; just so your debt of

sins could be paid in full. Doesn't that take your breath away? So what do you need to do in light of what He did? Is it time to praise His name? Is it time to brag on Him? Go for it!

Prayer: Gracious Jesus, You left heaven's glory and assumed Your position inside of Mary's womb. You didn't do that for Yourself, You didn't need a Savior. You did that for me and others like me. Why? Because we need-

ed a Savior. So this day I shout praises to You. May the glory that You so richly deserve be poured out on You and may Your name be praised throughout the whole earth. Amen.

### December 6 - the dream

I don't know about you, but most of the time when I awaken whatever I was dreaming about quickly fades. No matter how hard I try to remember, usually I just can't. However, there

ADVENT cont. on page 9

## It's their money to spend as they wish

TOM MARGENAU  
Creator's Syndicate

Q: I know someone who is getting disability benefits from Social Security. But he spends half of his disability check on illegal drugs. How can this person get away with wasting taxpayer money like this? Is there any way I can report him to the authorities? Also, how can a drug addict get benefits in the first place?

A: Drug addicts cannot get Social Security disability benefits IF drug addiction is their only disabling condition. However, many drug addicts have other medical problems and disabilities — that's why they may qualify for benefits.

So if this person you claim to know is legitimately disabled (because of problems other than drug addiction) and is getting Social Security disability benefits, then he can do with his money as he wants — because it is his money. In other words, he "earned" the benefit by working at a job and paying Social Security taxes just as a retiree "earns" his or her Social Security benefit by working and paying taxes.

What is the difference between a disabled person getting Social Security disability benefits and a retired person getting Social Security retirement benefits? One person qualifies based on a physical impairment and the other person qualifies based on age. Would you turn in a retiree if he was spending all his pension check on hard liquor or beer? Would you report an older woman for fraud because she might be gambling away her Social Security widow's check at a casino?

Do you see my point? That Social Security check, whether it be a retirement payment, a widow's benefit, or a disability check, is money that was earned by the person getting the check — or in the case of the widow, money earned by her husband — and they can do whatever they want with it.

Now it would be a whole different story if the person was getting Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability. Unlike Social Security disability (which is regular Social Security),

SSI is a welfare program and people getting SSI must spend their money for basic food and shelter needs. People getting SSI are being supported directly by taxpayers. They are not getting an "earned" benefit as is the case with Social Security retirement, survivors, or disability checks.

Therefore, if this person you know is getting SSI disability, you can report them to Social Security's fraud hotline. You have two options for reporting fraud. You can go to Social Security's website, www.socialsecurity.gov and click on the link "Report Fraud" that is right on the homepage. Or you can call Social Security's fraud hotline at 800-269-0271.

Q: I thought I remember a past column in which you said that prisoners cannot get Social Security benefits. I have an uncle in prison, and the last time I visited him, he showed me something he printed off the Internet that gives prisoners hints on how they can collect Social Security benefits, SSI payments and many other federal benefits as well. What is going on here?

A: What is going on is that prisoners can be duped into believing anything they read on the Internet just as often as people outside of prison.

Anyone who has read my

### Social Security and you



column for any length of time knows that I spend a lot of time refuting the rumors and outright lies about Social Security that are spread online. Hardly a day goes by without at least one of my readers sending me an email referencing some silly or outlandish Social Security rumor being circulated in cyberspace.

Prisoners are even more susceptible to such online scams and lies because many of them are desperate for some bit of good news or some form of assistance — whether it be from a government source or anyone else.

And this has been going on for a long time, even in the pre-Internet days. About 20 years ago, I was put on a taskforce of Social Security agents charged with trying to come up with ways to combat all the Social Security and other federal benefit scams that were spreading throughout the nation's prisons. Apparently we did a lousy job because, two decades later, the problem still remains.

Once again, let me make this perfectly clear. No one who is in prison can collect any kind of Social Security or Supplemental Security Income payment — or any other federal benefit of which I am aware.

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Prayer:



# Advent

Continued From Page 8A

have been a handful of dreams that were so different that they were transported from faded forgetfulness to an emblazoned memory. Those dreams I have never forgotten.

Joseph had such a dream on the very worst day of his life.

All his life he had yearned for the day when he would find that special someone to whom he could give his heart and his love and his faithfulness. It turned out that she lived right there in Nazareth; her name was Mary. More importantly, she loved him too. Her family allowed the betrothal and all of life glowed.

Then Joseph's world came crashing in. Mary informed him that she was pregnant and then made the betrayal even more painful with a preposterous story that bordered on blasphemy. He was crushed.

So what do you do when you love someone and yet they have betrayed you? Joseph resolved to put Mary away quietly so that she would not be stoned for her adultery. With a shattered heart he laid on his bed that night praying that sleep would stop the agony for at least a little while.

Then it happened. God sent one of His angels to Joseph in a dream with the confirmation that Mary had spoken the truth and that now it was time for him to believe and assume his role in God's heavenly plan. He believed and immediately took Mary to his home as his wife. Now that's a man of God!

What about you? When was the last time you faced a situation where it was just time to believe and get up the next morning and start doing God's will? Maybe you didn't have a dream, but I'll bet it wasn't that long ago when it was time for you to believe. In fact, that time might just be right now. So what are you going to do?

Prayer: Father God, You

have always had a plan for me, just like You do for everyone. But I haven't always taken the right path and I haven't always really believed in You and in Your plan for me. I want that to change today. I want You to know that I really do BELIEVE! And Lord, I truly care about Your plan for my life. Please supply me with the strength and guidance I need to faithfully walk that path. Amen.

## December 7 - husband/wife

The plans for the big wedding were among the ashes in the fireplace. Everyone in the tiny village of Nazareth had been looking forward to the upcoming celebration. After all a Jewish wedding was a community affair; the whole town was to be invited and share in the celebratory food and drink.

So when Mary suddenly showed up at Joseph's house without all the hoop-la, the gossip lines throughout Nazareth were overloaded. And then when Mary began to show, the whispers turned to hurtful words and the doubtful glances turned to condemning glares.

But at least they had each other and the soon to arrive baby and their heavenly Father.

Those first weeks they shared together must have been special. Outside their home in the village, they each had to hear the snickers and the whispers and endure the finger-pointing and shaking heads. But inside their home everyone knew the truth; Mary knew, Joseph knew and God certainly knew. Those hours were the best.

Have you ever wondered how they endured it all? Could you endure the unjust mistreatment? Could you be the object of the unwarranted ridicule with only the truth to rest on and take comfort in? You could if you leaned on the same resting post that Mary and Joseph did.

Prayer: God, I want to want Your truth to be enough for me. I don't want to need anyone or anything else besides You

and Your plan for me. I want to want only You. Please help me. I'm not where I wish I was, so I can't truthfully say that I only want You all the time. But I want to want only You all the time. Please, please, help me. Amen.

## December 8 - Caesar Augustus

He was born 63 years earlier, assumed the throne of the Roman Empire 44 years before the Advent story appeared on the scene, was the face on the coins of the day and was the tool God used to get Mary and Joseph to the city of prophecy, Bethlehem. We know him in history as Augustus Caesar.

As the first century began, if you had randomly asked someone on the street who was in charge on planet earth almost everyone would have looked at you like you were crazy and then replied, "Well, Augustus Caesar, of course."

But even the Caesar of the Roman Empire was nothing more than a pawn in God's hand and merely a member of the cast of God's Advent drama.

So how do you feel about being a pawn? You are you know. How do you feel about being just a member of the cast of a play that someone else wrote and is directing? Since God is the chess master and the director, then being a pawn and a member of the cast should AOK. In fact, it should be your life's goal. Why? Think about it: if being a pawn was AOK with Joseph and Mary, then it ought to be fine with you too.

Prayer: Jehovah God, You and You alone were the author and director of the Advent production. You and You alone get all the glory. I desire more than anything for You and You alone to be the author and director of my life. Mold my story as You see fit; write the scenes of my life as only You know how to do. I vow to play my part as Your direct and with all that is in me. Amen.

## December 9 - census decree

The goal of the project wasn't really to count the people. Even though the census involved the counting of the people, that wasn't the objective, nor was it the incentive. So why did Caesar order an organized accounting of the population? MONEY! TAXES!

Things are not much different in today's world. Money is all too often the driving force behind politics, laws, elections and, sad to say, sometimes even churches.

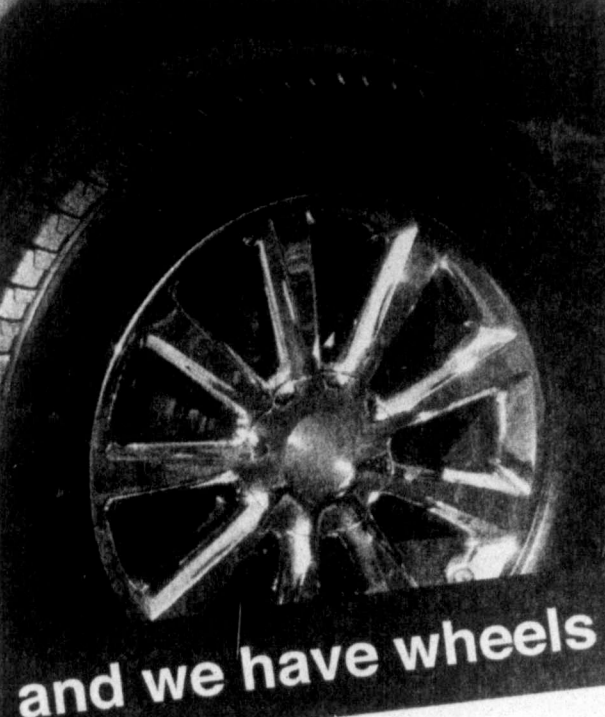
However, be sure to remember that in spite of the stained motives, it was that Roman census that forced Joseph and Mary to journey to Bethlehem. God used that earthly governmental project to bring about His will and to fulfill Micha's 700 year old prophecy. Micah 5:2 "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."

So what is going on in the world you live in that God could be using? Have you submitted yourself and your life to God's will? Have you told God that you want to be a tool in His toolbox? Sometimes God is just waiting for you to VOLUNTEER.

Prayer: Holy Father, I don't ask to see Your plans in advance or even to understand Your plans. Your ways are light years beyond my grasp. But like Isaiah, I do cry out, "Here am I, use me." I volunteer for You and Your plans. Use me as You see fit. Use me like You did the Roman census in the Advent story. If no one even notices, that's fine with me; just as long as You see. Amen.

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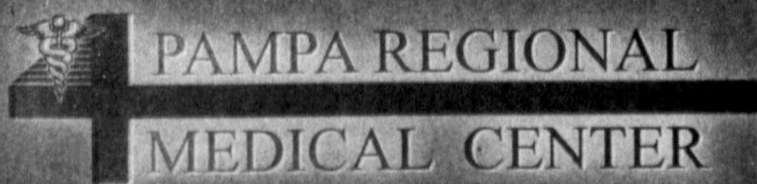
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# PampaSports

## Varsity boys cruise to River Road championship

By ZACHARY GREEN  
zgreen@thepampanews.com

The Harvesters went 4-0 and won the River Road tournament this past weekend. Not only did they go 4-0, but none of the games were closer than 24 point victories.

In the first game against Ascension Academy Pampa rolled to a 75-26 victory. The leading scorers were Ryan Powell with 14 points, Jake Green with 12 points and Cory Ponce with 10 points.

In the second game Pampa rolled again 53-24. Ty Hutto scored 14 points and Cade Engle added 11 points.

In the third game Pampa defeated Borger 48-24. Cade Engle scored 12 points and Ty Hutto added 7 points.

In the fourth and final game Pampa beat Clarendon 68-42. Cory Ponce scored 17 points, Derrek Pollard had 13 and Jon Cox scored 9 points.

"This weekend was a great example of what team basketball looks like. The scoring was spread out and balanced and the effort was maxed out all four games," said Pampa Coach Matt Embry. "We still have a long way to go but we took a step in the right direction this weekend. Very proud of my guys and the way they represented our community both on the floor and off."

With the wins this brings the varsity team's record to 5-5 on the season.

The Harvesters will be back in action this weekend as they travel to Dallas for a couple games. The game on Friday will be against South Garland and the game on Saturday will be against Lewisville Hebron. While there, the team will also get a chance to tour the Dallas Mavericks facilities.

The next home game for the Harvesters will be Tuesday Dec. 11 against Randall.

## WT topples No. 1 CSU-Pueblo to earn way into semifinals

ASSOCIATED PRESS

PUEBLO, Colo. — The 16th-ranked West Texas A&M football team upset No. 1 Colorado State-Pueblo on Saturday, beating the ThunderWolves 34-13 to earn a national semifinal matchup against No. 2 Winston-Salem State.

The Buffaloes, who handed Ashland and Pueblo their first losses in successive weeks, will now play the 13-0 Rams at 6:30 p.m. Saturday at Winston-Salem, N.C. WT earned that opportunity with a dominant performance over the weekend. The Buffaloes, who outgained Pueblo 459-225, held a 24-3 halftime lead en route to avenging a 44-34 loss to the ThunderWolves on Aug. 30.

Quarterback Dustin Vaughan and tailback Khiry Robinson fueled a balanced offensive attack for WT, which also got a big day from receiver Nathan Slaughter.

Vaughan completed 24 of 38 passes for 324 yards and three touchdowns with one interception, while Robinson rushed 26 times for 120 yards. Slaughter pitched in with seven receptions for 170 yards and two scores.

But as good as the Buffalo offense was, the defense may have been better. WT, now 12-2, held Pueblo more than 200 yards below its season average, forcing two turnovers and sacking ThunderWolves quarterback Ross Dausin seven times.

Taylor McCuller led the defensive effort with a game-high 14 tackles, while Aaron Wampler and Josh Hunt both had 2 1/2 sacks.

### The Pampa News Sports Briefs

#### TODAY DEC. 4

- Pampa Varsity girls @ Claude 6:30 p.m.
- Pampa JV girls @ Claude 5 p.m.
- Pampa JV boys v. Tascosa 6 p.m.

#### THURSDAY DEC. 6

- Pampa freshman boys @ Perryton tournament. Tournament runs through Saturday
- Pampa JV girls @ River Road tournament. Tournament runs through Saturday.
- Lefors V boys @ Ft. Elliott tournament. Tournament runs through Saturday.
- Lefors V girls @ Ft. Elliott tournament. Tournament runs through Saturday.

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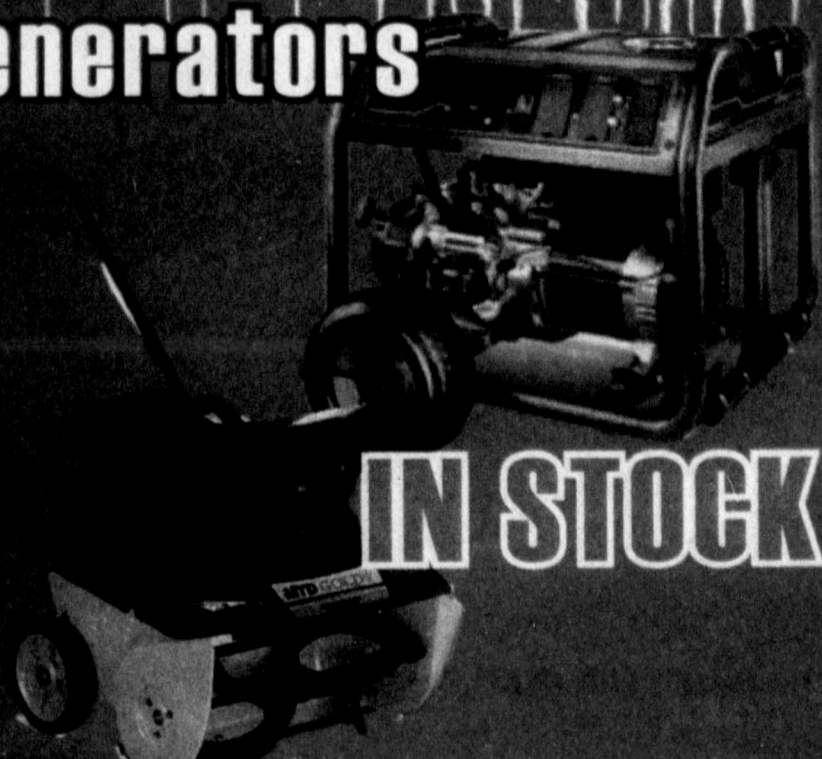
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# PampaSports

## Pampa freshman girls in tournament action

By ZACHARY GREEN  
zgreen@thepampanews.com

In game one of the Borger tournament, the Pampa freshman girls lost to Dumas 60-30. The leading scorers were Kathlyn Cummins with 11 points. Cameron Schaub and Megan Brock scored 7 points each. Kassie Jerome scored 4 points and Sarah Dennis added 1 point.

In game two, Pampa rolled over River Road with a 45-7 victory. Megan Brock scored 16 points. Kathlyn Cummins scored 9 points. Cameron Schaub added 7 points. Kassie Jerome and Ailene Cabrales scored 4 points each. Kristen Duree and Sarah Dennis both scored 2 points. McKenzie Dull added 1 point.

In game three, Pampa lost a close one to Perryton 22-18. Megan Brock scored 10 points. McKenzie Dull scored 4 points. Angel Brumfield and Kassie Jerome each added 2 points.

In game four, Pampa cruised over Dalhart 26-8. Megan Brock scored 11 points. Kathlyn Cummins scored 6 points. Sarah Dennis and Kassie Jerome each added 4 points. Kristen Duree added 1 point.

In game five, Pampa lost to Panhandle 41-22. Megan Brock scored 14 points. Angel Brumfield scored 5 points. Kristen Duree, Kathlyn Cummins and Sarah Dennis all added 1 point.

"Overall we did not play well this weekend. We had a couple of moments where we played well, but those moments were few. We need to get better fundamentally and we will spend a lot of time between now and district working on the little things," said Pampa Coach Alan Segura.

Pampa's freshman girls record moves to 5-4 on the season.

## JV girls struggle in Borger

By ZACHARY GREEN  
zgreen@thepampanews.com

The JV Lady Harvesters traveled to Borger this past weekend for a tournament. They went 1-3 during the tournament.

Game one was a close one that Pampa lost to Canadian 30-27.

Game two Pampa lost to Panhandle 44-25.

Game three Pampa defeated Dalhart 44-29.

Game four Pampa lost to Caprock 39-26.

Pampa's JV girls team falls to 3-4 on the season. The next game for the JV girls will be at Claude tonight at 5 p.m.

## Romo: Dallas Cowboys are 'playing for playoff lives'

By SCHUYLER DIXON  
AP Sports Writer

IRVING, Texas (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys barely beat two teams going nowhere and couldn't hang with Robert Griffin III in a loss during their three-game homestand.

Now the schedule turns to winning teams fighting for the playoffs, and the Cowboys need those games and probably some help getting to the postseason.

Dallas (6-6) visits Cincinnati on Sunday before returning home to face Pittsburgh. The Bengals and Steelers are tied for second in the AFC North at 7-5.

Tony Romo says the Cowboys are "playing for our playoff lives" as the NFC wild-card race tightens up.

Romo broke Troy Aikman's franchise record of 165 passing touchdowns in a 38-33 victory against Philadelphia on Sunday night.

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## The PAMPA NEWS Sports Briefs

FRIDAY DEC. 7

■ Pampa V boys @ South Garland

■ Pampa freshman boys @ Perryton tournament. Tournament runs through Saturday

■ Pampa JV girls @ River Road tournament. Tournament runs through Saturday.

■ Lefors V boys @ Ft. Elliott tournament. Tournament runs through Saturday.

■ Lefors V girls @ Ft. Elliott tournament.

■ Pampa girls wrestling @ Frisco tournament. Tournament runs through Saturday.

■ Pampa JH and JV wrestling @ Vernon tournament. Tournament runs through Saturday.

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# PampaSports

## Lady Harvesters take home 3rd in Miami tournament



Photo by Charla Shults

**AIR HAYLEY**, above, Hayley Burnett goes for a block during a game of the Miami tournament. The Lady Harvesters finished the tournament with a 3-1 record, taking home 3rd place.



Photo by Julie Morgan

By ZACHARY GREEN  
zgreen@thepampnews.com

The Lady Harvesters placed third in the Miami tournament over the weekend. Pampa went 3-1, with the only loss being in game one of the tournament.

In game one, Pampa lost to West Texas High School 61-59. The Lady Harvesters lost the game in the final seconds after a turnover.

In game two, Pampa cruised to a 73-13 victory over Darouzzette. The game was in hand from the beginning for Pampa with the score after the first quarter being 17-3 and at halftime, 41-7. The leading scorer was Hayley Burnett with 16 points. Bailey Wichert scored 12 points. Hannah Baker scored 10 points. Madison Brown, Taylor Eubank and Allison Ceyanes all added 8 points. Taylor Morgan scored 5 points. Casey Sark added 4 points and Risa Rodriguez scored 2 points.

In game three, Pampa rolled over Booker 50-26. Hayley Burnett scored 16 points. Eubank scored 10 points. Brown scored 5 points. Rachel Andrews, Ceyanes and Morgan scored 4 points each. Bailey Wichert scored 3 points. Baker and Rodriguez each added 2 points.

In the third place game, Pampa defeated Wheeler 59-47. Pampa came back in the fourth quarter to force overtime at 44-44. In the overtime period Pampa cruised 15-3 to win the game. Burnett scored 23 points. Eubank scored 10 points. Morgan scored 8 points. Andrews and Brown scored 6 points each.

Ceyanes scored 4 points and Sark scored 2 points. After the tournament Pampa's record moves to 5-6 on the season. The next game for the Lady Harvesters will be in Claude tonight at 6:30 p.m.

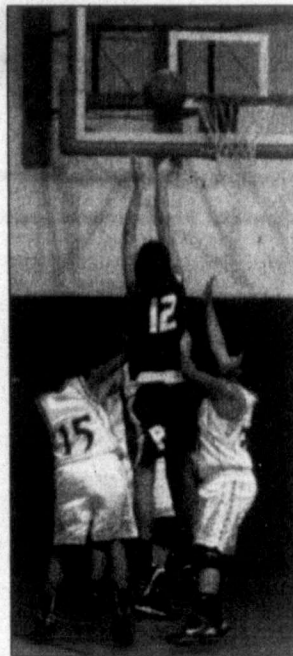


Photo by Charla Shults

Above left, the Lady Harvesters posing with the third place trophy. Left, Madison Brown shoots a jumper over Wheeler defenders. Brown scored 6 points in the game.

## Pampa's Junior Varsity Harvesters go 2-2 in the Miami tournament



Photo by Cherie Duke

Brandon Stokes goes up for a layup during a game of the Miami tournament. Pampa's JV went 2-2 in the tournament.

By ZACHARY GREEN  
zgreen@thepampnews.com

Pampa's JV Harvesters went 2-2 in the Miami tournament.

In game one, Pampa's JV Harvesters faced Bushland's JV team.

The Harvesters started out strong leading Bushland by 16 at one point in the first half. At the half, the Harvesters still had the lead at 26-18. When the second half came along, turnovers and missed freethrows plagued the Harvesters which allowed Bushland to make a comeback and outscore the Harvesters by 10 points in the second half. Pampa had a chance to tie the game with one remaining possession but Bushland prevailed and closed the game with a 2 point victory, 47-45.

The leading scorer for Pampa was Brandon Stokes with 13 points. Brayden Trimble scored 12 points. Kenneth Hair scored 8 points. Jonathan Stevens scored 5 points. Blayne Troxell scored 4 points. Alex Marrufo scored 2 points and Joe Meurer scored 1 point for Pampa.

In game two, Pampa defeated White Deer's Varsity 58-51.

After the first quarter the Harvesters found themselves down by 7 points.

In the next two quar-

ters they outscored White Deer by 15 points.

As the Harvesters had an 8 point lead going into the fourth, White Deer was only able to cut the lead to 7 points.

Stokes scored 33 points. Marrufo scored 9 points. Stevens scored 4 points. Trimble and Hair scored 3 points. Troxell, Trey Miller and Meurer all added 2 points.

"Hitting jump shots and creating turnovers while on defense was definitely the key to winning the game," said Pampa Coach Kyle Sanford.

In game three, Pampa defeated the Kress Varsity team 58-51. The leading scorer was Stevens with 17 points. Stokes added 16 points. Trimble scored 12 points. Troxell scored 7 points. Marrufo, Miller and Meurer each added 2 points.

In game four, Pampa lost to Shamrock's varsity 49-34. Stokes led Pampa with 12 points. Hair scored 7 points. Marrufo and Stevens scored 4 points each. Miller scored 3 points. Meurer and Cy Fuentes each added 2 points.

The Pampa JV Harvesters finished up in Miami with a 2-2 tournament record. "Both wins were hard earned and were against varsity opponents," said coach Sanford.

The Harvesters now have an overall record of 5-5 and will host the Tascosa JV team tonight at 6 p.m. in Pampa.

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### The PAMPA NEWS Sports Briefs

#### SATURDAY DEC. 8

- Pampa V boys @ Lewisville Hebron
- Pampa freshman girls v. Panhandle 10 a.m.
- Pampa freshman boys @ Perryton tournament.
- Pampa JV girls @ River Road tournament.
- Lefors V boys @ Ft. Elliott tournament.
- Lefors V girls @ Ft. Elliott tournament.
- Pampa girls wrestling @ Frisco tournament.
- Pampa JH and JV wrestling @ Vernon tournament.
- Pampa swimming @ Seminole Invitational.

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Escuela Dominical: 10:00am  
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Pastor  
Willy Jaramillo

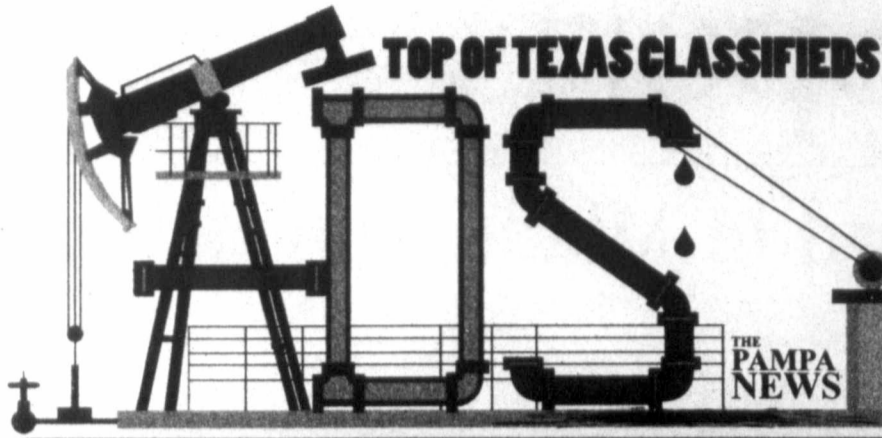
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**21 Help Wanted**

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The City of Lefors is currently taking applications for a full-time utility department employee. The applicant must have a class B CDL w/tanker endorsement prior to employment. Experience in water, wastewater, and gas utilities, as well as heavy equipment operation, is preferable. Applicant must be willing to obtain necessary water and wastewater licenses. Applicant must have a high school diploma or GED. A completed application is required and will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 10, 2012. Salary is commensurate with experience. Applications may be picked up at Lefors City Hall, 101 N. Court, Lefors, TX. If more information is needed, please contact Lindy Forsyth, City Secretary at 806-835-2200.

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**2005 Yamaha** Royal Star with trike kit. 10,000 miles, black with silver, back rest & windshield. Mint condition Asking \$11,500. Call 662-3497

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**1992 Buick** Roadmaster, 4D Sedan, Clean, in good condition inside and out, Runs well. \$3200.

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**MRS. CLAUS' NO. 1 FAN**



Photos by Zachary Green and Timothy P. Howsare



**CHRISTMAS SPIRIT.** Above: Jaylee Johnson, 6, visits with Mrs. Claus. Jaylee has visited with Mrs. Claus, aka Mary McDaniel, every year since she was 3 months old. Left, middle left and bottom left: Spectators pick up candy tossed out of floats as the parade goes by. There were many in attendance for the parade Saturday.



Santa hands out candy as the last float of the parade. The parade was one of many events on Saturday that were part of the Christmas on Main festivities.



**Check out our Instock Merchandise**

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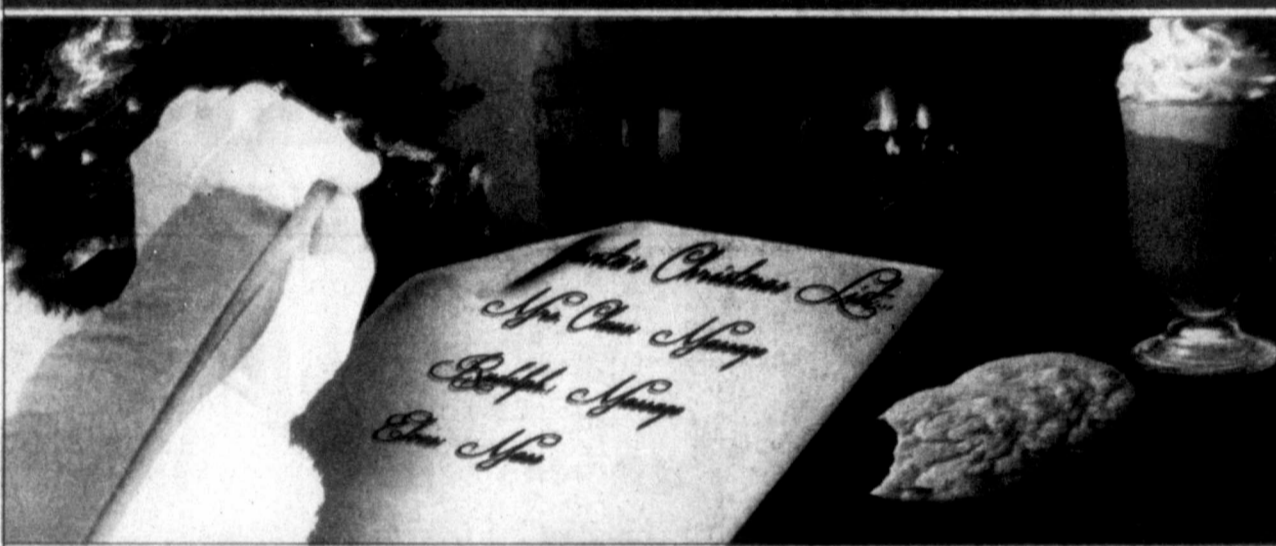
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