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# The PAMPA NEWS



Thursday, December 12, 2013 www.thepampanews.com Volume 109 • No. 176

**75¢** \$1.50 weekend 38¢ subscription  
**TFF: Is Ben Affleck as Batman that bad?** Student essays: What it means to be American | **p4**  
**Pampa Harvesters take on the RHS Raiders** University of Texas and Mack Brown saga continues | **p11**



File photo  
 Lindsey Been, a volunteer from Accolade Home Health Agency, in the checkout line at Walmart at last year's Children's Shopping Tour.

## Children's Shopping Tour on Saturday

**SUBMITTED**  
 Final plans are being made for the 51st Children's Shopping Tour which will take place Saturday beginning at 8 a.m. at the Pampa Optimist Youth Club.  
 The tour is for children between the ages of 5 and 10.  
 "They do not buy presents for themselves, but for members of their household," said Tom Kokoska, the general chair. "For most of them it will be the first time they have ever experienced giving at Christmas."

Kokoska is an attorney who works for John Warner's law firm.  
 Last year the project benefited 322 family members, including 77 children who went on the tour. In 2008, Optimist International declared the project the Outstanding Community Service Project in the nation. A month later, Altruşa International proclaimed the project the Outstanding Community Service Project in the World.  
 "Some earlier reports said that volunteers needed to be at the Optimist

Club at 7:15 a.m." Kokoska said. "That time is actually just for volunteers who are going to be helping with registration. The volunteers who are going to take children shopping do not need to be there until 8 a.m. At that time, Sandra McKinney with the Texas Department of Health and Human Services and her committee will register volunteers. The volunteers will be given the names and addresses of the children they will chaperone along with the ages and sizes of all  
**TOUR** cont. on page 2

## SUV wreck victims in stable condition

■ Unsafe speed caused rollover, DPS said.

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

The two people who were injured Tuesday in a single-vehicle rollover crash are in stable condition in an Amarillo hospital, a Department of Public Safety trooper said Wednesday morning.  
 The driver Jessica Miranda Vargas, 23, and Ryan Maddox, 17, were flown via Lifestar to Northwest Texas Healthcare System in Amarillo after the 2000 Ford Expedition they were in rolled over on the south side of County Road E one mile west of Price Road.  
 The trooper said unsafe speed was the cause of the wreck.  
 Along with DPS and Lifestar, the Gray County Sheriff's Office, Pampa Fire Department, Hoover Volunteer Fire Department and Pampa EMS responded to the crash.



Photo by John Lee  
 A rollover crash on Tuesday sent two people to the hospital. Unsafe speed was blamed for causing the wreck.

## City employees recognized for longevity, retirement

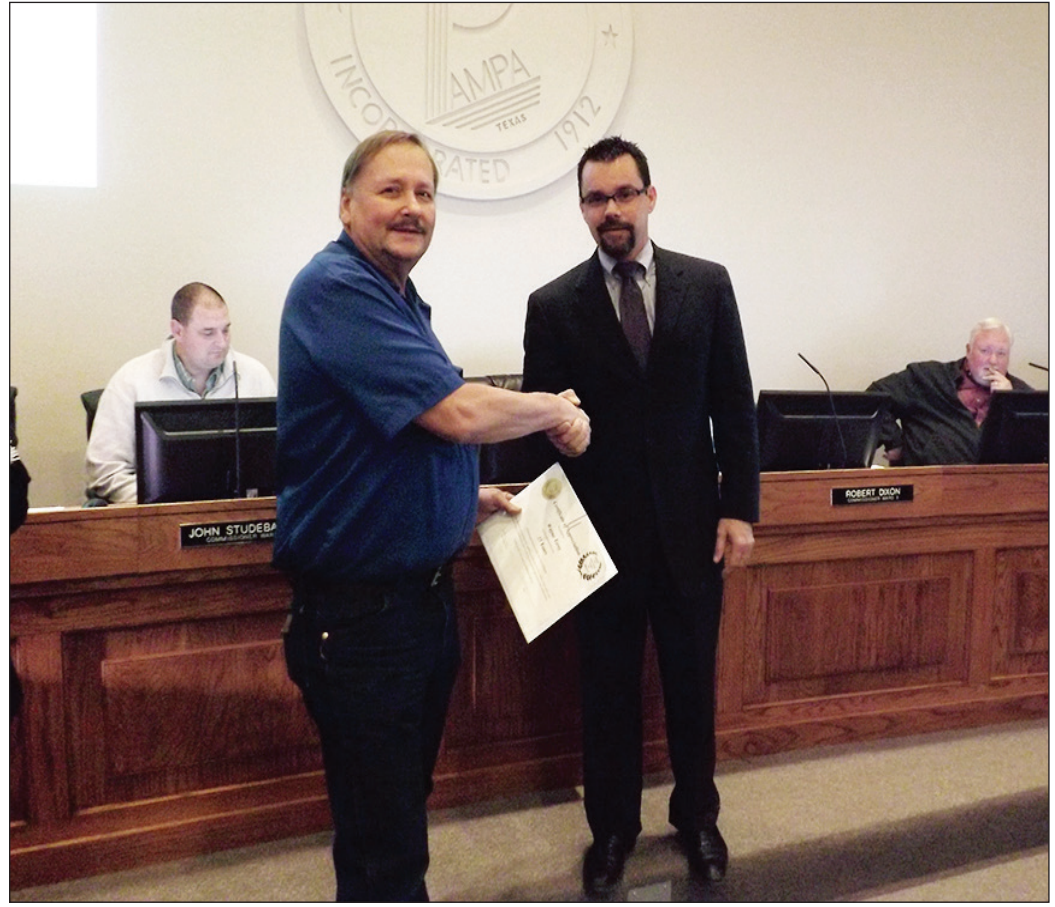


Photo by Timothy P. Howsare  
 City of Pampa employee Wayne Terry is recognized by Mayor Brad Pingel and the City Commission for 35 years of service.

### STAFF REPORT

At their regular meeting Monday, Mayor Brad Pingel and the City Commissioners recognized 13 city employees for years of service and four who have either already retired in 2013 or are retiring Dec. 31.  
 The employee with the longest service to the city recognized Monday is Wayne Terry, 35 years.  
 Following are the other employees with their years of service: Joe Palma, 30; Terry Brown, 25; Shane Stokes and Fred Courtney,

20; Donna Darling, 15; John Evans, 10; Craig Merritt, Christopher Wagner, Bryan Johnson, Jason Roberts, Tonie Bolin, Nadia Silva and Regina Alexander, five years.  
 City employees who have already retired in 2013 are James Hagemann, who retired in May with 32 years of service and Ed Turner, who retired in August with 18 years of service.  
 Retiring on Dec. 31 are Doug Brown, who has worked for the city twice, first for six years and then for 11 and Fred Courtney with 20 years.

## MIXING IT UP



Photo by Timothy P. Howsare  
 Vivian Romines, left, was the winner of a KitchenAid mixer after submitting a recipe to The Pampa News' annual recipe book contest. Presenting the mixer to Romines is subscription manager Beverly Taylor.

## Crime Stoppers' Crime of the Week

### STAFF REPORT

During the night on Dec. 10, 2013, an unknown subject or subjects cut a lock on a gate in the 100 block of South Nadia and entered onto the property. Once inside, the suspect or suspects stole a flat-bed trailer holding a blue Miller-brand arc welder and various welding supplies.  
 The trailer is white with no side rails, dual axles and had no license plate on it at the time of the  
**CRIME** cont. on page 2



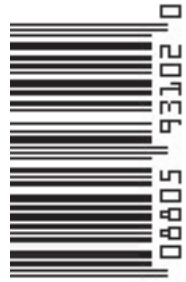
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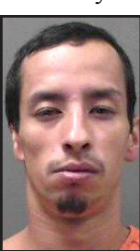
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# Crime Stoppers' Fugitive of the Week

## STAFF REPORT

The Gray County Crime Stoppers' Fugitive of the Week for Dec. 10-16 is Johnny Michael Dominguez.



Johnny Dominguez

Dominguez, a 28-year-old Hispanic male, is wanted in Gray County for bond surrender — possession of a prohibited substance in a correctional facility.

He is 5-feet, 5-inches tall, weighs 130 pounds and has

black hair and brown eyes.

If you have any information about Dominguez or any other fugitive, you are urged to call Crime Stoppers or submit a Web Tip. They don't want your name, only your information.

Never try to detain the fugitive yourself. In determining whether someone is a fugitive, a suspect must have a felony charge coupled with an arrest warrant that was not cleared within a week of being issued.

If your information leads to an arrest, Crime Stoppers will pay a cash

reward of up to \$200 and you will remain anonymous.

The wanted status of the posted fugitive or fugitives is updated as often as possible.

Persons listed above may be arrested and no longer wanted. Upon confirmation of a person's arrest, Pampa Gray County Crime Stoppers will change or remove the post to reflect their status.

There are three ways to submit your tip, call 806-669-2222, visit Web Tips at [www.pgcestips.com](http://www.pgcestips.com) or text the word "pampa" along with your tip to 274637.

# Crime

Continued From Page 1

theft. Crime Stoppers needs your help in identifying the person or persons involved in the theft. If you have any information regarding this crime, or know the identity of those responsible, call Crime Stoppers at 806-669-2222, visit [www.pgcestips.com](http://www.pgcestips.com) or text "pampa" along with your tip to 274637.

A cash reward of up to \$400 is being offered for information that leads to the arrest or filing of criminal charges against the individual or individuals responsible for this offense.



Submitted photo

# Arizona detective resigns over resident status

PHOENIX (AP) — A detective for Arizona's state police force has resigned following the discovery that she was living in the country illegally after being brought to the U.S. from Mexico by her family at a young age, the agency said Wednesday.

The former detective, Carmen Figueroa, apparently was told by her family that she was born in the U.S., though she was actually born in Sinaloa, Mexico, said Department of Public Safety spokesman Bart Graves.

Figueroa's status was discovered when the State Department processed a passport application submitted by her brother, who is serving in the U.S. military, Graves said.

Figueroa, 42, resigned Monday but would have been fired if she hadn't

stepped down, Graves said. A criminal investigation continues, he said.

Arizona law requires sworn police officers to be U.S. citizens, and Graves said the state police agency would have terminated her for fraud and misrepresentation for "not meeting the qualifications."

Her status was first reported by Tucson television station KVOA.

Figueroa worked in southern Arizona and was with the department for 10 years, most of that time as a Tucson-based Highway Patrol officer. She became a criminal investigations detective in 2010.

"She told us she was always under the impression through her mother that she was born in this country, and she did not really find out until this

summer ... that she was an illegal alien through, I believe, a confrontation with her mother," Graves told The Associated Press.

Figueroa "had an exemplary record" and the circumstances of her departure don't put any investigations or prosecutions at risk, Graves said.

Efforts to reach Figueroa for comment were not immediately successful. Calls to a Tucson-area phone listed under her name were not answered, and Graves said he did not know whether she has an attorney.

He said the Department of Public Safety was informed of Figueroa's status Aug. 22, and she was placed on administrative leave with pay Sept. 4.

"It was pretty clear as it went up the chain (of

command) that she would be terminated," he said.

According to Graves, Figueroa previously worked for the federal Bureau of Prisons as a secretary and for the Pima County court system as a secretary and an officer. When Figueroa was hired to the state police force, she submitted a birth certificate from Texas and a driver's license and high school diploma from California, Graves said.

There was nothing suspicious at the time about the documents, but Graves declined to discuss whether authorities now question the legitimacy of any of the papers.

However, he said, "we are absolutely having in-depth discussions right now to prevent this from happening again."

## Correction

In Wednesday's paper, the location of IntegraCare's Community Chili Feed should have been reported as Briarwood Family Life Center, located at 1800 W. Harvester Ave. Also, the RN and sales marketer's name is Ginny Elliff.



# Tour

Continued From Page 1

members of the children's households."

Capt. Martha Higdon of The Salvation Army and McKinney are in charge of taking applications and screening them to make sure the children meet certain qualifications. Shonda Rucker is in charge of recruiting the 150 to 200 volunteers needed to take the children shopping and wrap their packages.

"All volunteers are asked to report to the Optimist Gym for registration by 8 a.m.," Kokoska said. "Then they will come in the meeting room for further instructions. At that time DeeDee Laramore of Tralee Crisis Center will furnish orange juice, milk and donuts for volunteers. The Salvation Army will furnish coffee."

Shortly before 9 a.m. the volunteers will begin picking up their children. The children may shop anywhere they please, but Walmart offers a 10 percent discount and will set up four registers which are programmed not to charge sales tax as well as provide the discount. These registers are for the shopping tour only.

The Kiwanis Club of Pampa, led by Bill Kindle, Bob Beneshek, Robert Jacobs and Doug Cates, will review each check out to make sure the volunteers do not exceed their allotment for each family and to mark out the bar codes so that the gifts cannot be exchanged for cash.

After completing their shopping, the volunteers and children will head back to the Optimist Gym where the Opti-Mrs. Club, headed by Whitney Davis, will sponsor a wrapping party. The children will wrap their gifts and then go into the Optimist meeting room where Kevin Davis and his Optimist crew will have prepared a hamburger luncheon with all the trimmings for the children and the volunteers.

The children who finish early will participate in a coloring contest sponsored by the Pampa Chamber of Commerce, according to Lori Byrne, executive director. There will be prizes for the winners in each age group. The children will sing Christmas carols and hear Christmas stories including a talk about "The Reason for the Season."

Rumors have it that a visitor from the North Pole will appear with a gift for each child. The Pampa High School cheerleaders will take pictures of the children with Santa so they will have a souvenir of their tour.

Dr. Mark Ford of New Life Wellness Center and Harley Knutson with Gideon's International will offer the children New Testament Bibles in either English or Spanish for children who would like to have one.

"The shopping tour should be completed about noon," Kokoska said. "The chaperones will then return the children to their homes with their presents. The last thing the chaperones will do is give a gift to each child as they go into their homes explaining, 'This is for you. Merry Christmas.'"

Other organizations participating include the Pampa Noon Lions Club. Brad Pingel will lead Lions' members to the houses of children who do not have telephones to remind them of the tour a day or two ahead of time. "This is very important," Kokoska said. "The Lions' good efforts have reduced the number of no-shows to practically zero."

The Altrusa Club led by Cheryl McFall, Melodie Dosch, Twila Thomas and Carolyn Kessel are preparing a brochure in English and Spanish which explains the project. "This brochure will be given to the chaperones and to all contributors to the project," Kokoska said.

John Warner of the Optimist Club is the treasurer. The cost to sponsor a child is \$75. Tax deductible donations may be sent to Pampa Optimist Youth Club, c/o John Warner, P.O. Box 645, Pampa, Texas 79066-0645. "Children's Shopping Tour" should be put in the left hand bottom corner so the money will be properly allocated.

Some 30 to 40 organizations are involved each year, which have included First United Methodist Church Aldersgate Sunday School Class, Pampa Police Department, First Presbyterian Church, Students Against Drunk Driving, Astra Club, Roberts County Sheriff's Office, Miami Area Youth Organization, PHS Lady Harvesters Basketball Team, PHS Student Council, PHS National Honor Society and Junior Honor Society, Church of Christ at Mary Ellen and Harvester, PHS Harvester Football Team, PHS Harvester Baseball Team, City of Pampa Fire Department, Gray County Sheriff's Office, 31st District Attorney's Office, PHS Choir, First Baptist Church, Ministerial Alliance, Calvary Baptist Young Adults Sunday School Class, Pampa's elementary schools, Chamber of Commerce Gold Coats and Senior Adult Men's Class of Central Baptist Church.

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# PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Friday	Saturday
High 50 Low 31	High 55 Low 23	High 46 Low 26

**Today:** Mostly sunny with a high of 50. Winds south-southwest at 14 mph. Sunrise at 7:44 a.m.

**Tonight:** Partly cloudy with a low of 31. Chance of rain: 10 percent. Winds south-southwest at 14 mph. Sunset at 5:32 p.m.

**Friday:** Mostly sunny with a high of 55. Chance of rain: 10 percent. Winds west at 11 mph. Sunrise at 7:45 a.m.

**Friday night:** Clear with a low of 23. Winds north-northwest at 10 mph. Sunset at 5:32 p.m.

**Saturday:** Sunny with a high of 46. Winds north-northwest at 14 mph. Sunrise at 7:46 a.m.

**Saturday night:** Clear with a low of 26. Winds west at 6 mph. Sunset at 5:32 p.m.

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<b>Last Vegas (PG-13)</b> Fri 7:30 9:45 Sat 2:00 7:30 9:45 Sun 2:00 7:30 Mon Through Thurs. 7:30 only	<b>Free Birds (PG)</b> in Real D 3D Fri 7:00 Sat 2:00 4:30 7:00 Sun 2:00 4:30 7:00 Mon Through Thurs. 7:00 Only
<b>Free Birds (PG)</b> in Real D 3D Fri 7:00 Sat 2:00 4:30 7:00 Sun 2:00 4:30 7:00 Mon Through Thurs. 7:00 Only	<b>Thor (PG-13)</b> in 2D Fri 7:30 10:00 Sat 2:00 4:30 7:30 10:00 Sun 2:00 4:30 7:30 Mon Through Thurs. 7:30 Only
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# Obituaries

## Linda June Smith

Linda June Smith, 61, died Dec. 9, 2013 in Pampa. Memorial services will be at 3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13, 2013, at Central Baptist Church, with Rev. Norman Rushing, pastor, officiating. Cremation and arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Smith was born Jan. 10, 1952 in San Diego to Johnnie and Colleen Lowe. She was reared in San Diego where she made lifelong friends, and married Michael B. Smith in 1974 in San Diego before moving to Pampa in 1975. Linda was a member of Central Baptist Church. She enjoyed scrapbooking, painting and working in the yard. She loved her family and friends, and caring for animals. Linda was preceded in death by her wonderful mother, and her very special friend, Sandra Chumley. She felt like she was so blessed.

Survivors include her husband Michael Smith of the home; a son, Michael John Smith and wife Jennifer of Keller; two grandsons, Byron and Beau, both of Keller; her father, Johnnie Lowe of Pampa; her brother John "Bud" Lowe and wife Pam of Pampa; her dog "Buddy" and her grand dogs "Zoey" and "Molly."

Memorials can be made to Central Baptist Church, 513 E. Francis, Pampa, Texas 79065.  
*Sign the online guest register at www.carmichael-whatley.com.*



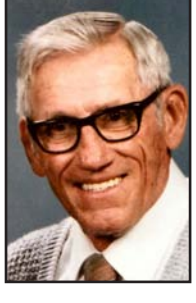
**Linda Smith**

## Bob Brandon

Bob Brandon, 88, died Dec. 7, 2013 in Lubbock. Vigil will be at 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12, 2013 at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel, and funeral mass will be at 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 13, 2013, at St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church, with Rev. Francisco Perez, pastor, officiating. Burial will follow in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Brandon was born Jan. 29, 1925 in Rawlins, Wyo. He moved to Pampa when he was a young boy, attending Pampa schools and graduating from Pampa High School. Bob was a veteran of the U. S. Army, serving in the Engineer Combat Battalion during World War II. After his honorable discharge, he attended Texas Tech University in Lubbock, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree.

Bob married Betty Dillman on June 15, 1950 in Pampa. She preceded him in death in 2003. He worked for Cities Service Gas Company for 33 years, retiring in the early 1980's. He was a member of St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church. Bob enjoyed playing golf and will be greatly



**Bob Brandon**

missed by his family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, a sister, Barbara Jean Brandon, and a granddaughter, Lauren Blevins.

Survivors include his son, Chris Brandon and wife Mary of Houston; a daughter, Cheryl Blevins and husband Dale of Lubbock; five grandsons, Ryan Brandon and wife Anna of Houston, Joshua Blevins and wife Sarah of Chilliwack, British Columbia, and Austin Blevins, Taylor Blevins and Brandon Blevins, all of Lubbock.

Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 415 W. 8th Ave., Suite 300, Amarillo, Texas 79101, or St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church, 810 W. 23rd, Pampa, Texas 79065.

*Sign the online guest register at www.carmichael-whatley.com.*

## Thomas J. Cox

Thomas J. Cox, 79, died Dec. 10, 2013 in Wheeler. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.



**Thomas J. Cox**

Mr. Cox was born Oct. 8, 1934 in Pampa, where he was a lifelong resident. He was a 1953 graduate of Pampa High School and attended Texas A&M University for two years where he received a scholarship in order to play golf. Thomas worked for Cabot/Ingersol Rand and National Oilwell as a machine shop timekeeper. He was a Methodist and a member of the Pampa Masonic Lodge #966 AF&AM. Thomas was a very loving and caring man and enjoyed watching his grandkids' sporting events. He was preceded in death

by his parents, M.N. and Virginia Cox; and a son-in-law, Terry W. Harris in 2006.

Survivors include three daughters, Terri Lynn Harris of Amarillo, Tammy Lou Hughey of Chandler, and Tracie Lois Timmons and husband Steve of Wheeler; seven grandchildren, Barkley Miles Harris, Kristen Michelle Harris, Sarah Pearl Hughey, Aaron David Hughey, Lauren Austin Timmons, Stephen Tyler Timmons and Kelley Ray Timmons; four great-grandsons; a brother, Jack Cox of Mineola; and a sister, Pat Stewart of Pampa.

Memorials may be made to the Texas Scottish Rite Children's Hospital, P.O. Box 190567, Dallas, Texas 75219-0567.

*Sign the online guest register at www.carmichael-whatley.com.*

## Bernice Ivy Collinsworth

Bernice Ivy Collinsworth, 79, died Dec. 10 in Shamrock.

Graveside services will be Friday, Dec. 13, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. in the First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Jarrod Neal, officiating.

Burial will be in Shamrock Cemetery under the direction of Robertson Funeral Directors.

Arrangements are by Robertson Funeral Directors of Shamrock.

Bernice Collinsworth was born June 11, 1934 in Lela, Texas to George and Katie Hamilton Close. Bernice had lived in Shamrock all of her life and was a member of the First United Methodist Church. She married Charles Eugene Collinsworth Aug. 21, 1954. He preceded her in death on Feb. 6, 1970. Bernice was Worthy Matron of the Shamrock Eastern Star, a member of the Retired Teachers Association and a member of Daughter of the Confederacy. She loved to cross-stitch, and she was a standout basketball player and cheerleader at Shamrock High School. She also played and taught piano. Bernice was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, a daughter, Sherry Collinsworth and a brother, Bobby Close.

She is survived by two sons, Charles Eugene Collinsworth of Pampa, Scott Eugene Collinsworth of Shamrock; two daughters, Susan Retana and husband Freddy of Mineral Wells, Sandra Young of Fairbanks, Alaska; one brother, Bryan Close and wife LaVerne of Shamrock; a sister-in-law, Evelyn Close of Marshfield, Mo.; six grandchildren; nine great grandchildren and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Memorials can be made to the First United Methodist Church in Shamrock or the Shamrock Retired Teachers Association.

## Pampa News Holiday Recipe Book

Pampa News Community Recipe Book 2013

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# Viewpoints

**The PAMPA NEWS**  
SERVING THE TOP O' TEXAS SINCE 1906

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## Tales from the Final Frontier

### ■ Ben Affleck as Batman may not be a bad thing.

The comic book community was in an uproar this past summer when Ben Affleck agreed to play Batman in the upcoming Man of Steel sequel.



**JOHN LEE**

The tool-man himself, Tim Allen, an apparent Batman-lover, said on “The Tonight Show” that while Affleck is obviously a great actor and director, his face is so recognizable that he just wants to say, “Why’s Ben Affleck in a Batman suit?” Affleck said himself that he thought his last superhero outing, “Daredevil,” was a disaster and he is using that as motivation to take the role of Batman and play the part well. DC Comics’ fans cannot get over the total failures in theaters that Affleck was a part of. With Affleck as the lead actor, it will become another “Daredevil,”

“Gigli” and “Jersey Girl.” Come on folks, if we judged an actor by every movie he/she did would Robin Williams still be a great actor after “Mrs. Doubtfire?” What about Jim Carey after “The Cable Guy?” What about Matt Damon’s recent dud “Elysium?” Are all of the Jason Bourne movies bad because of that tragedy of a movie?

Let’s look at Ben Affleck’s resumé. Two Academy Awards for “Argo” and “Good Will Hunting.” He also won two Golden Globes for those movies. Those are just the big boy awards. He has a plethora of awards from other smaller awards’ academies. Not to mention, Ben Affleck has shown he can play diverse roles. Remember his role as a renegade angel in 1999’s “Dogma?” He and his buddy Matt Damon were both hilarious and obnoxious. But then he turned around and played a pilot in “Pearl Harbor.” He has also had serious roles throughout time, such as “Armageddon.” There is too much that goes into a movie to judge right away whether

or not a role will work with someone. There is the chemistry between the actors, the director and the producers. Then you have the supporting cast, whether or not that has the proper makeup. Robert Downey Jr. didn’t become Iron Man and carry “The Avengers” alone, but the chemistry he had with Chris Hemsworth, Chris Evans and Scarlett Johansson played a part.

While many people believe one actor can make or break a film, I tend to disagree, but maybe that’s because I am a sports guy, too. So here is what we know about the movie. It does not have a title yet, but we know it is a collaboration of Batman and Superman, and they will be feuding. Batman is supposed to be a seasoned character, while Superman, still played by Henry Cavill, is still establishing his heroic efforts. Rumors are swirling about Wonderwoman being in the movie, played by Jaimie Alexander, and Joseph Gordon-Levitt coming back as Dick Greyson, not to be Robin, but Nightwing. Amy Adams who played a red-headed Lois Lane in “Man of Steel” also returns. So let’s calm down about how awful Ben Affleck will be as Batman.

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

## ‘Nashville’ soundtrack slick and solid

Like the rare, maybe mythical man who only reads Playboy for the articles, some must surely claim to watch “Nashville” solely for the music. That’s no crime — those who aren’t much for sudsy nighttime soaps would do well to check out the ABC show’s songs on “The Music of Nashville: Original Soundtrack Season 2, Volume 1.” While the storylines strain credulity, these sonic underpinnings hold the show together — as should be the case with a series set and filmed in Music City. The actors sing their own parts, and the leads, Hayden Panettiere and Connie Britton, do fine jobs at the mic. Yet the true revelations are found

in the musical chops of others, such as Clare Bowen and Sam Palladio. “The Music of Nashville” runs the gamut from the slick and sassy (“Can’t Say No to You,” “Trouble Is”) to tender, deeper cuts (“Why Can’t I Say Goodnight,” “This Town”). Still, less can be more: The acoustic, demo-like take of “Ball and Chain” sung by Palladio and Bowen on the show is preferable to the Stetson and rhinestone-laden version on the soundtrack by Britton and Will Chase. Overall, this collection has many hooks worth a listen — and could hook a few more viewers who might typically forgo froth on TV.



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

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## What is an American?

*Editor’s note: The essays submitted for this column were written by Pampa High School students enrolled in a dual-credit college course on American Federal Government at Clarendon College. Each week students are assigned a different topic related to American government. The two best essays are then selected, from different students each week, by their professor, Bruno Baltodano. This week students were asked to answer the following question: What is an American? They were instructed to interview two persons; one from their parents’ generation and another from their grandparents’ generation. Courtney Ma and Madison Joyce are seniors at PHS.*

### The country of dreams

**BY COURTNEY MA**

America, the land of the free and home of the brave: the melting pot of different cultures, races and opinions. To many, especially foreigners, America represents freedom and opportunity. They escape their homeland to come to our land. They escape governments that take from their people rather than protect them, governments that will not hesitate to hurt a family because of something they said against the regime in power. I think some of us take for granted that we have some freedoms: freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom in general. Home-bred Americans have not experienced oppression under a totalitarian system. Our country shelters us, as it should, with protection and guidance. So, what does it mean to be an American?

In an interview with my father, we discussed his views on what it means to be an American. My father, William Ma, is 56 and immigrated into the United States when he was 14 years old from Hong Kong. Hearing the perspective

of an immigrant really opened my eyes. He said that he feels some Americans are lazy to the extent of expecting everything to be handed to them, especially my generation. Something that was of particular interest to me was that he said my generation is being spoiled by the government. We lack ambition and motivation because so many things are handed to us. Yes, my generation is lazy, but in his opinion is a consequence of the government’s decisions; the government created a lazy society. In an interview with my grandmother, who is 71, she explained that an American is a mix of several cultures, races and ancestries. It is interesting to see the perspective of someone who moved here from another country, like my father, and someone who was born here, like my grandmother. When I asked them if people born in the U.S.A. are better at being American, they both replied “no.” They both agreed that immigrants have to work harder at it than someone who was born here. My dad said that immigrants

### Respect, honor and hope

**BY MADISON JOYCE**

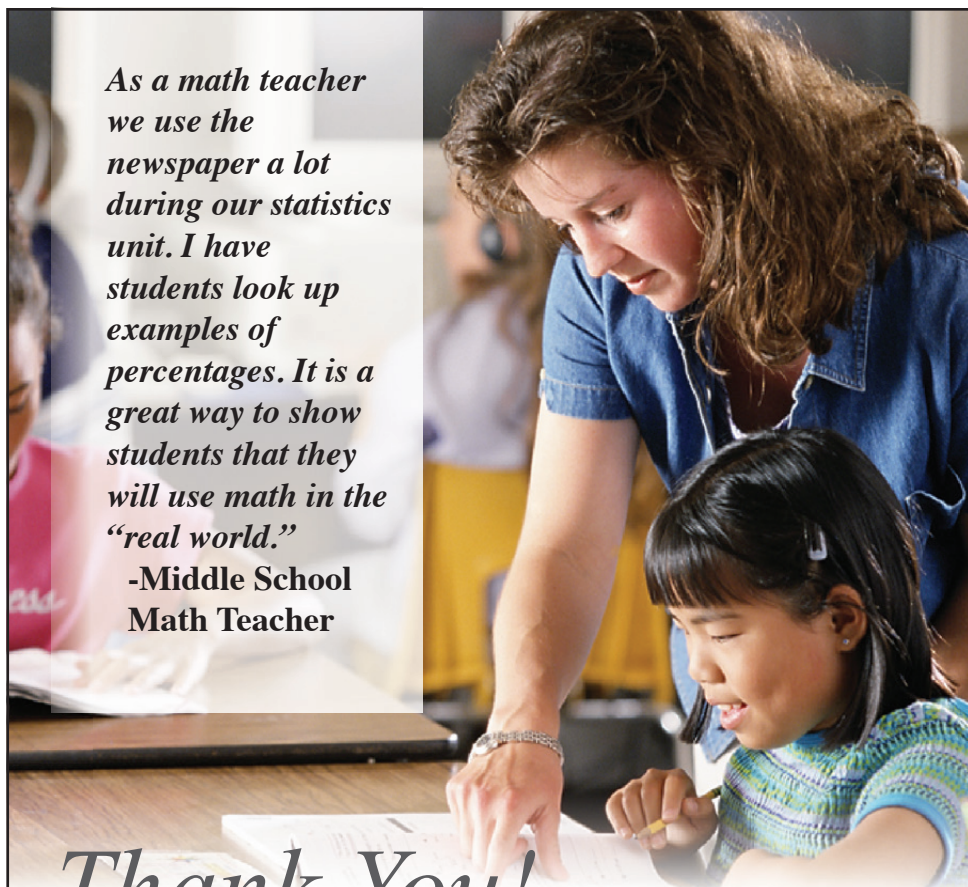
What is an American? According to Webster’s dictionary, an American is defined as a person born, raised or living in the United States. But, as an American, I can vouch to say that it is so much more than that. An American is someone who stands up for what he or she believes in. Someone who is not afraid of doing what is right even when no one else will do it and, most importantly, someone who does not take freedom lightly. Although there are many different types of Americans throughout our nation, at the end of the day, we are all united under the general classification of a people who lives in the “Land of the Free.” Personally, I don’t think that you have to be born in the United States to be an American or even to fully understand what it means to be an American. If fact, I think those who come to America for security will appreciate our country and our freedoms more than those who have lived here all their lives. Life in America is a paradise, compared to some of other places around the world. I think we are spoiled in a way that makes it hard for us to appreciate true poverty and also why so many people are desperate to leave their families and home and come to America. Without experiencing the chaos and deterioration of poor countries around the globe it is difficult to appreciate their decision to get out. Through the eyes of someone I interviewed from my parents’ generations, being an American means “coming together when times are tough to rebuild our nation, united as a community because we are free to do so. Believing in the people we allow to construct our country, because, once they are elected, all we can do is pray for their guidance.” The most significant political event for my parents’ generation was the terrorist attacks of 9/11. Although I was only in kindergarten, I can appreciate the great impact it had on our nation as a whole. One thing that stood out about the events of 9/11 is the way the people of America came together to rebuild what was taken away from so many Americans. My interviewee said that “I remember watching the aftermath of the strike on the Twin Towers on TV and being so amazed by the unity and strength seen throughout our country as we came together to help not only the people, but the communities devastated after the tragedy.” I think this quote goes to show some of my early comments and how, even the most heartbreaking of terrorist attacks can’t break the unity of the people of America. As for the generation of my grandparents, the person I interviewed said that “being an American is standing up for what is right and [opposing] what is wrong no matter the consequence.” For my interviewee, the most significant political event was the assassination of Martin Luther King. In 1968, Dr. King was a man who spoke words of hope, faith and love. He had been killed for acting like an American, standing for what he believed to be right and against what he knew to be wrong. “We can’t take our freedom for granted here in the U.S.,” said my interviewee. “We have to take full advantage of being able to speak revelations to society.” That generation learned that being an American was not about who has been here the longest. It’s about how to fulfill our potential because of the civil liberties and civil rights we enjoy. I have learned that an American is a person who freely represents the red, white and blue with respect, honor and hope for our future generations.

# NEW SHELTER'S FIRST PUPPY ADOPTION



Photo submitted by Glenda Hesley

This adorable little girl, an 8-10-week-old terrier mix, was the first puppy to find a forever home from the new Pampa Animal Shelter, which officially opened at noon on Monday. She was adopted by Chris Seymour, who said the new animal shelter looked beautiful. She said that the new shelter appeared to have more space for the animals and better ventilation. Scruffy, as she has been named, bonded immediately with the dogs in Seymour's household. "She is just wonderful," Seymour says of her new addition to her family. "I just couldn't imagine her being at the facility and not being picked up." Seymour said the thing that stood out the most about Scruffy was her "adorable little face."



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

*Thank You!*

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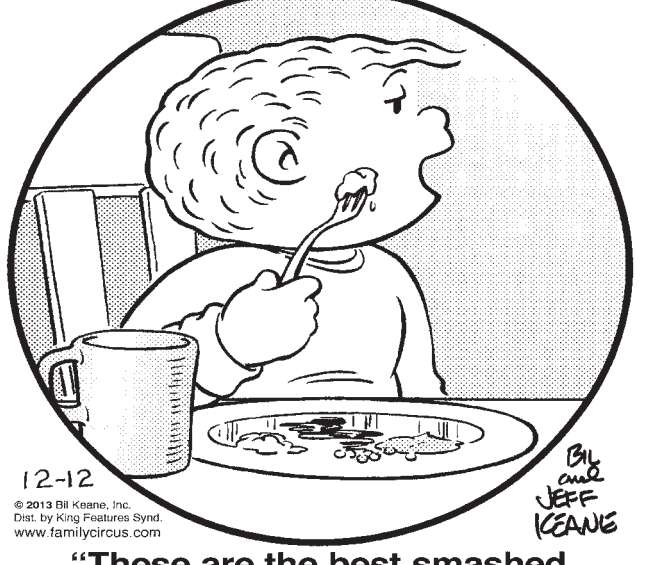
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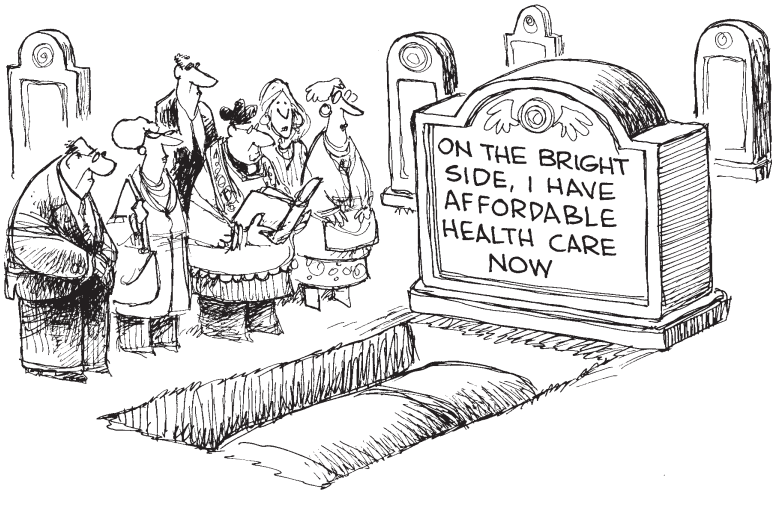
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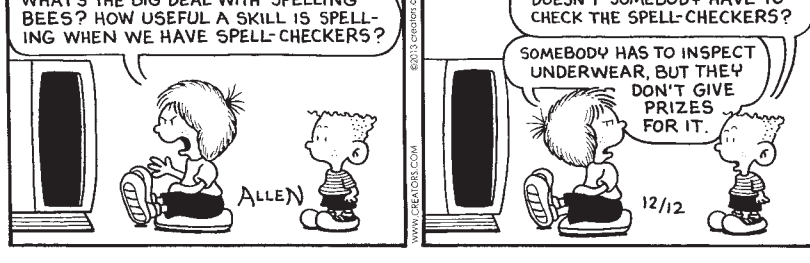
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#### THE ETERNAL OPTIMIST



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### Nest Heads



## daily horoscope

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Friday, Dec. 13, 2013:  
 This year you open up to new opportunities once you eliminate your resistances. A partner or a dear loved one encourages you to take grounded risks. If you are single, you could meet someone who feels like you've known him or her forever. The intensity could nearly overwhelm you. If you are attached, the two of you break tradition and attempt to get into a new sport, hobby or pastime together. Laughter often surrounds the two of you. TAURUS often adds to your workload.  
 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)  
 ★★★ An older relative could be changing, and this adds to your difficulty relating to him or her. Let go of your judgments and accept this person as he or she is. Get out at lunch or some other appropriate time and run some holiday errands. Tonight: Meet friends for some holiday cheer.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)  
 ★★★★★ You know when you hit a wall. Accept others as they are, especially if you can't get them to broaden their perspectives. Give up pushing them. When you do, many people will relax and open up because they won't feel challenged. Tonight: Join friends first.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)  
 ★★ The less said, the better, especially with what you might be thinking. Go off and do your thing, whether it is running errands or just getting your hair cut. Don't get so uptight about a money matter. Trust in your ability to find a solution. Tonight: Finish up holiday errands.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)  
 ★★★★★ Bring a morning snack for others, whether you go to the office or to the hair salon. Others naturally warm up with food. Express your love to people you care about. Make a point to spread good cheer with holiday cook-ies. Tonight: Whatever you choose, go with others.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
 ★★★★★ You will assume a leadership position. You might want to push a friend a little off his or her safe, rigid path so that he or she can function within the parameters of a project. Trust that this tactic will be successful. Tonight: Change your job description to leader of the gang.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)  
 ★★★★★ Your mind drifts to the possibility of going off and doing something new, probably involving the holiday. At the same time, a new friend might feel a bit put out. This person might be wondering if you will make time for him or her. Keep the peace. Tonight: Where the action is.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)  
 ★★★★★ Deal with a loved one directly who might have been touchy recently. Make plans to spend some quality time with this person in the very near future. Choose your time for a talk with care. You are a student in the art of diplomacy. Tonight: Share some eggnog with a loved one.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
 ★★★★★ Refuse to cause a problem. Don't try to manipulate or control someone else. Expect a backfire with that attitude. Try to understand this person's position first. Resist deciding that you already know where he or she is coming from. Tonight: Where there is Christmas music.

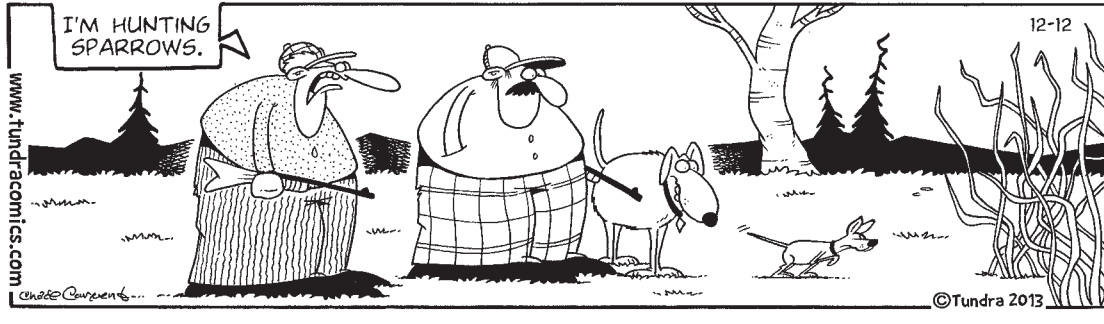
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)  
 ★★★★★ You'll be driven to get your to-do list done. Consider whether the fast pace is worth it; you don't want to be too exhausted to enjoy Christmas. You'll feel good when you can scratch an item off your list. Tonight: Meet a friend for munchies in between doing some shopping.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
 ★★★★★ Where others' resourcefulness falls flat, you'll save the day with a wonderful idea. Use your creativity well. You can delight friends and loved ones by expressing your originality. Several people will meet you halfway. Tonight: Let the intensity build with a partner.

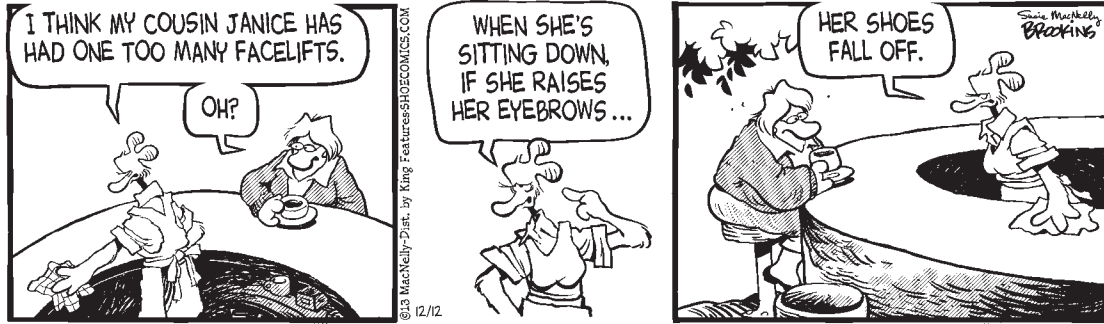
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
 ★★★★★ A personal matter could demand more attention than you are ready to give. You understand that this issue might need to be resolved quickly. Consider handling it first, if you want to be effective. A family member or roommate can be as stubborn as you are! Tonight: Head home.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)  
 ★★★★★ You'll draw others toward you, but you might not want to hear everything they're saying. Distance yourself gently from someone who feels as though he or she is bombarding you. Do not take a loved one for granted; you won't appreciate the outcome. Tonight: Use your imagination!

### Tundra



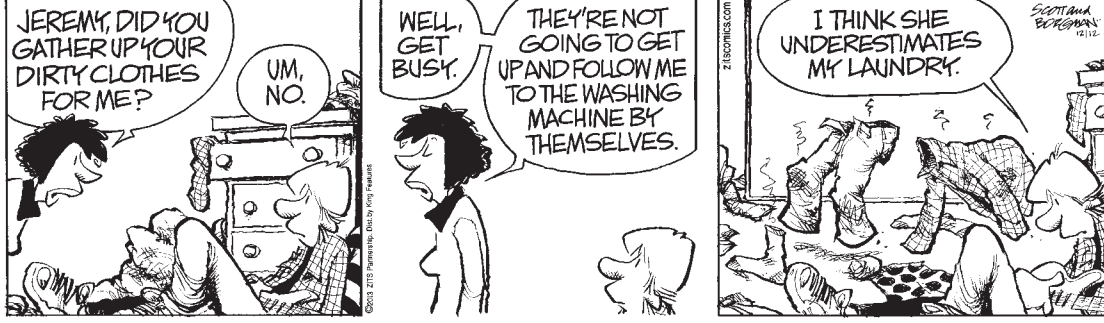
### Shoe



### Mother Goose and Grim



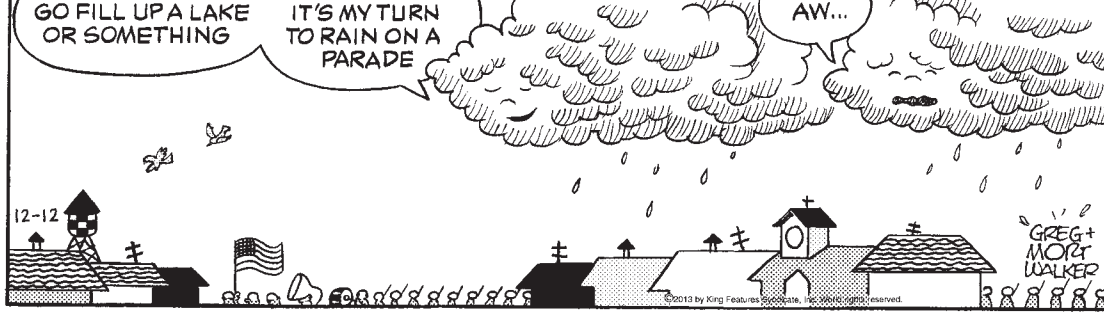
### Zits



### Garfield



### Beetle Bailey



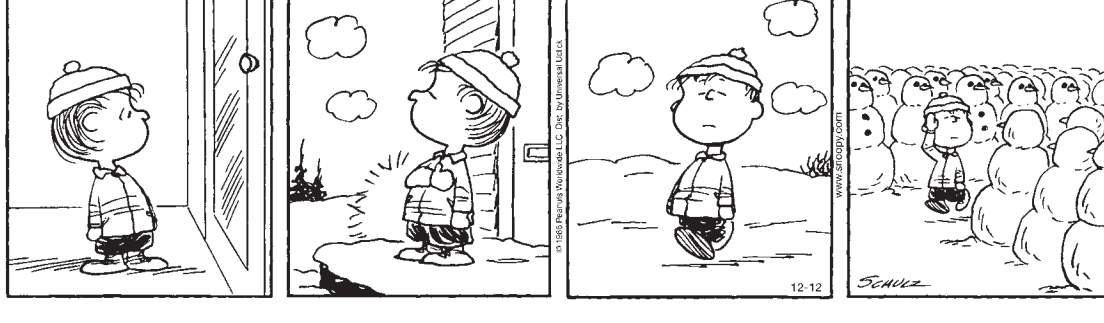
### Marvin



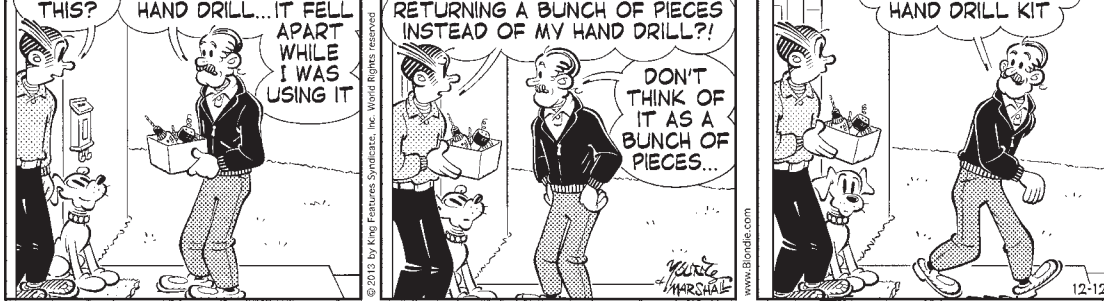
### Hagar The Horrible

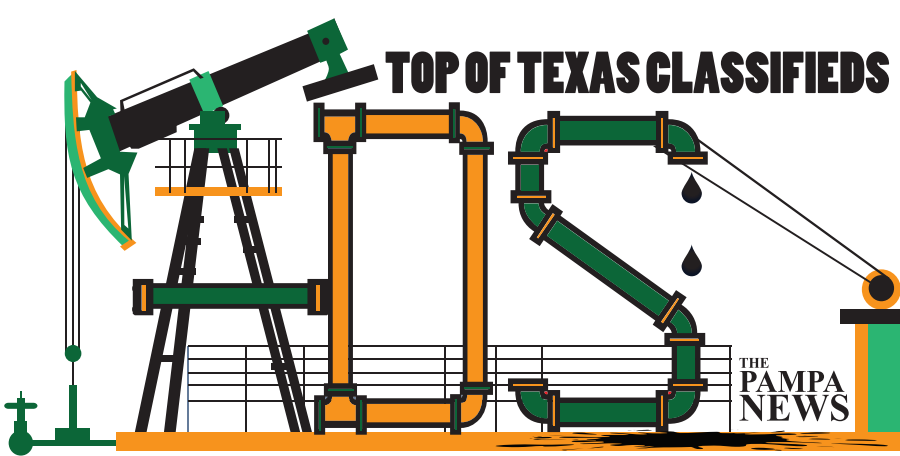


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Must have valid Driver's License. Apply at 800 N. Nelson. 665-1875</p> <p>Verona Italian Bistro is hiring for wait staff and kitchen help. Apply in person, 1203 N. Hobart Ste. #14.</p> <p><b>Household</b></p> <p>REGENCY Fireplace insert with blower, \$1000; 2 bar stools, couch, TV &amp; curio cabinet. 806-662-7421</p> <p><b>Miscellaneous</b></p> <p>FOR SALE: Double Lawn Crypt in Memory Gardens. Call 806-898-2451</p>	<p><b>Miscellaneous</b></p> <p>HAY For Sale Fertilized, protein tested @ 9% Lovegrass Hay. \$70 at McLean, delivered up to 100 miles for \$80. Discount on large orders. 806-664-3245</p> <p>SALE on mattresses. Queen set \$246, Full \$180-236, King \$436. 1424 S. Barnes. Country Red Barn 665-2767</p> <p><b>Garage Sale</b></p> <p>Moving Sale! Everything Must Go! New stove, frig., living room set, patio set, lawnmower, bed, dresser, T.V.'s, portable fireplaces, wall decor, misc. household items. Call 806-886-3358 or stop by 401 S. 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Houston, Pampa.</p>	<p><b>Business Rent. Prop.</b></p> <p>FREE RENT! Downtown Properties: Service Station, Retail, Restaurant / Bar, etc. 665-1875, 881-8518</p> <p>OFFICE space for rent. Ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841</p> <p><b>Homes for Sale</b></p> <p>3 BEDROOM remodeled, hardwood, steel siding, bank financing available. 1906 N. Nelson, \$69,500. 662-7557</p> <p>FSBO 2631 Seminole. 3 bdr, 1.75 ba., 2 car gar. Completely remodeled. Austin sch. distr. No owner finance. Not for rent. 662-4206, 662-2977.</p> <p>TRUSTAR Real Estate for all your complete real estate needs. Show, list, property mgmt. 665-4595</p> <p><b>Commercial Property</b></p> <p>RETAIL and Garage Space. Centrally located. Great value! 665-1875 or 881-8518.</p> <p><b>Recreational Vehicles</b></p> <p>2009 KOMFORT travel trailer. 32 ft. w/2 slides, solar panel. \$24,000 OBO. 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Call 662-3497</p> <p><b>2007 HARLEY SPORTSTER 1200</b> 4900 Miles White Gold Pearl Excellent Shape!! \$7500 Call 663-6317</p> <p><b>General Services</b></p> <p>CERAMIC tile work, stucco, cement, remodeling, floor, shower, kitchen. Texture, painting, dry wall. Free estimate. New # 440-0239, leave msg, Jesus Baraza.</p> <p>COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769</p> <p>HOUSE cracking? In bricks or walls? Childers Brothers, Inc. 800-299-9563, 806-352-9563.</p> <p>JOHNSTON Handyman Service. Give the gift of a new room! Painting, texturing, garage door service! Remodeling, Repairs. References. Doug 440-9100.</p> <p>Ogle Fence Company Free Estimates Repair &amp; New Const. 665-1712</p>	<p><b>Public Notices</b></p> <p><b>NOTICE OF ESTRAY County of Gray State of Texas</b> On the 3rd day of December, 2013 the following estray was reported to the Gray County Sheriff's Office: Kind of Animal: (2) Ponies Breed: Shetland Color: (1) Sorrel (female), (1) Black (male) Sex: (1) Male, (1) Female Age: Unknown Brands, Marks, Identifying Characteristics: Sorrel female has a "snip" Black male has 2 hind cornets WITNESS my hand this 3rd day of December, 2013. Don Copeland, Sheriff Gray County, Texas By: Steven White, Deputy F-18 Dec. 5, 12, 2013</p>	<p><b>Legals / Pubic Notice</b></p> <p><b>NOTICE TO CREDITORS</b> Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Roy Julian Parsons, Deceased, were issued on Dec. 9, 2013, in Cause No. 10,080, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas, to: <b>Lonny Robbins</b>. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. <b>Lonny Robbins</b> 2338 Beech St. Pampa, Texas 79065 <b>DATED</b> the 9th day of Dec., 2013. J.A. Martindale Attorney for Lonny Robbins State Bar No.: 13127000</p>	<p><b>Legals / Pubic Notice</b></p> <p>P.O. Box 1017 114 West Kingsmill Avenue Pampa, TX 79065 Telephone: (806) 665-0714 Facsimile: (806) 665-2915 F-21 12/12/13</p>
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Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

7	2	4	1	9	3	5	6	8
6	1	3	7	5	8	9	4	2
8	5	9	4	6	2	3	1	7
1	8	5	2	4	6	7	3	9
4	3	6	8	7	9	2	5	1
2	9	7	3	1	5	4	8	6
9	6	8	5	2	4	1	7	3
5	7	2	6	3	1	8	9	4
3	4	1	9	8	7	6	2	5

8	5			1				
							4	
		9	8	5				
1	7			4				
		2						
						1		5
		4	5					1
7		6			8	2		
	2	5	3			7		

Level: Intermediate

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONG FELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

**12-12 CRYPTOQUOTE**

SLDB VCEINZ OTE T JDLCNDE  
VTG NR LBXB TACYU SN  
GNDLEBAR GNDL NVY SLDB  
CUYNLTYJB. — YBCA IBULTEEB  
SGENY

**Yesterday's Cryptoquote: IF YOU EVEN DREAM OF BEATING ME YOU'D BETTER WAKE UP AND APOLOGIZE. — MUHAMMAD ALI**

## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips



DEAR ABBY: As the education director of the East Bay Bicycle Coalition, I work hard to encourage safe and courteous cycling for everyday transportation in Northern California. There are a number of points I would like to address to "Caring Reader, Sacramento, Calif." (Sept. 13).

"Caring" described seeing bicyclists run stop signs, not wear protective gear, texting/talking on cellphones, and suggested a greater enforcement of the law. Rolling through stop signs is, indeed, just as illegal as it is while driving a vehicle, except in Idaho where cyclists may treat stop signs as yields. I encourage all cyclists and drivers to come to a complete stop at signs and signals, even when turning right, and especially when pedestrians are present.

Talking or texting on a cellphone while biking isn't currently illegal in the state of California. I feel that using cellphones while biking is an unsafe practice, and I encourage cyclists (or drivers) to simply pull over before making or taking a call.

Helmets are required gear only for bicyclists under the age of 18 in California. As an adult, I choose to wear one when I'm biking. However, it is not illegal for an adult to bike without a helmet.

You said in your response that people who cycle at night should avoid wearing dark clothes to increase their visibility, but clothes color alone has been shown to have little or no effect on visibility in dark conditions. During low-light times of day like dawn or dusk, wearing bright or fluorescent clothes is a good strategy, but at night bicyclists should rely on lights and reflectors to be seen.

The law in California stipulates that bicyclists must

have a white headlight, a red rear reflector and yellow or white reflectors on their wheels or spokes as well as on their pedals, shoes or ankles. However, I also recommend adding to these required items: a red rear light, and additional lights and reflectors at the front, rear and sides of the bike, or on one's clothing or helmet. High-lighting one's silhouette with lights and reflectors, and applying them to moving parts of one's bike or body, will increase visibility substantially after dark.

Abby, thanks for your attention to these issues. — ROBERT PRINZ, OAKLAND, CALIF.

DEAR MR. PRINZ: You're welcome. And thank you for kindly sharing your expertise with my readers.

DEAR ABBY: Last year, my 40-year-old stepson, "Rod," gave his father a beautiful robe for Christmas. The problem is, we had given the robe to Rod

for Christmas several years ago. I didn't say anything at the time, but, of course, I recognized it because I was the one who had bought it for him.

Should I have said anything? Or was I right to have played dumb (which is what I did)?

Rod has "saved" other presents we have given him and regifted them to us years later. This man has a high-paying job and isn't hurting for money. I think what he's doing is insulting. I have suggested not exchanging gifts, but he ignores me. What can I do about this in the future? — "RECYCLEE" IN THE SOUTH

DEAR "RECYCLEE": Rod may have forgotten that he got the robe from you. As I see it, you have two choices. You can be offended, or you can turn it into a joke. For this Christmas, give him the robe back.

**BANANAGRAMS!**

Rearrange the letters of each word below and place them in the blanks so that, together with the two letters that have already been placed, they form a new word.

LEVEL

REELS

T \_ \_ \_ \_ Y

VINES

P \_ \_ \_ \_ E

UNTIL

O \_ \_ \_ \_ E

Yesterday's Answer: VIRTUE, UNSAFE; UPTOWN, LEAGUE; INJURY, GASKET

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 More polite
  - 6 Bayou native
  - 11 Skater Ohno
  - 12 Tickle
  - 13 Mike holders
  - 14 Intolerant sort
  - 15 Contract winner
  - 17 Swerve, nautically
  - 19 Long time grazer
  - 20 Farm
  - 23 Defend
  - 25 "Damn Yankees" role
  - 26 Cartoon penguin
  - 28 Refer to
  - 29 Supply, as data
  - 30 Citrus quaff
  - 31 Dyeing place
  - 32 Tiny scones
  - 33 Drink with "Be quiet!"
  - 38 Spare
  - 41 Similar unit
  - 42 Asparagus
  - 43 Chorus songs
  - 44 Rich dessert
- DOWN**
- 1 Collar
  - 2 Wall St. debut
  - 3 Light bulb choice
  - 4 Sesame Street youngster
  - 5 Alien landing spot
  - 6 Rustic home
  - 7 In the heart of
  - 8 Moonshine holder
  - 9 GI-enter-taining org.
  - 10 Court divider
  - 16 Gym patron's concern
  - 17 Desert plant
  - 18 Garden pest
  - 20 Washer choice
  - 21 Stan's buddy
  - 22 "Hondo" star
  - 24 Bullring call
  - 25 Tell tales the most
  - 27 Having rain
  - 31 Campaign goal
  - 33 Walk in the woods
  - 34 Trade fair
  - 35 Turn sharply
  - 36 Suffering
  - 37 Diner dessert
  - 39 Nogoodnik
  - 40 "— we there yet?"

S	T	A	R	S		F	L	A	T
P	O	S	I	T		G	L	I	D
R	E	A	D	Y		R	U	M	O
I	N	R	E		B	O	X	E	R
T	A	U		M	O	W		S	E
Z	I	L	L	I	O	N	S		
	L	E	A	N		O	K	R	A
			P	I	L	L	I	O	N
M	O	N		G	O	D		M	A
A	N	A	L	O	G		S	A	P
R	I	V	A	L		A	K	I	R
S	C	A	R	F		D	I	N	A
H	E	L	D			S	T	E	M

**Yesterday's answer**

**NEW CROSSWORD BOOK!** Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10
11						12				
13						14				
		15			16					
17	18			19				20	21	22
23			24				25			
26						27				
28						29				
30				31				32		
			33				34			
35	36	37				38			39	40
41						42				
43						44				



# Special effects, cast shine in '90s monster flick

Kevin Bacon, Fred Ward and Reba McEntyre star in "Tremors" (1990). This cleverly written horror-comedy directed by Ron Underwood cost \$11 million to make and made \$16.7 million at box office.

**SPIKE HARVILLE**

Two drifters, Valentine McKee (Bacon) and Earl Bassett (Ward), are hard working handymen

in the small Nevada town of Perfection. They tend sheep, drive cattle, pump out sewers, fix broken fences; whatever anyone needs done they will do. Eventually they decide to head for greener pastures, turning down free beer to stay.

Just outside of town they find an old friend who has climbed a powerline tower and has died. They take his body back to town, where the doctor tells them the old man died of dehydration, not a heart attack.

Meanwhile a woman from

the seismology department is tracking what she believes to be a series of small earthquakes. She is wrong. They are earthworms not earthquakes; giant carnivorous 40-foot-long and 5-foot-wide worms that swim through dirt like sharks swim through water, and with the same intent; find food, which the worms use vibrations to locate.

That means things like walking, tapping the ground or riding a pogo stick will attract them.

The worms burrow up

from beneath their victim's feet with sharp-fanged teeth and wide open, gaping jaws. It's not pretty.

Kudos to the special effects team.

The man-eating worms in this movie look real. Never once did I notice anything that seemed puppetry or fake.

The effects are all practical models, that means they are puppets, miniatures, animatronics or guys in worm suits. These worms are some of the best monsters I have ever seen.

They are beautiful! Except

that they are hideously ugly, slimy, creepy and scary.

So how does it rate? I asked my actor and filmmaker friends to rate the movie on a five-star scale. I asked the same of my non-filmmaker friends and family.

Actors and filmmakers give it an average of 4 1/2 stars. That's right up there with Oscar winning films. But then my friends and family only gave it 2 1/2 stars. That's the definition of average on a five-star scale.

I liked this movie a lot. It reminds me of horror mov-

ies when horror meant monsters, ghosts, zombies and so forth. Lots of people today relate horror to movies where some crazy guy has a knife. For me, not so much.

"Tremors" is definitely one of my favorite monster movies but, I mark it down because there is a constant stream of harsh and foul language in the movie, so my score is 3 1/2 stars.

Please visit my blog [www.MyFriendsCallMeSpike.com](http://www.MyFriendsCallMeSpike.com) and follow me on twitter @SpikeHarville.

## Pampa resident to graduate from University of Central Oklahoma

**SUBMITTED**

Pampa resident Jordan Philip Klaus will graduate from the University of Central Oklahoma with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Management along with

approximately 1,179 fall 2013 graduates from throughout the country and world during Central's Commencement Ceremonies Dec. 13-14.

Located just north of Oklahoma City in Edmond, Okla., the Uni-

versity of Central Oklahoma is the state's largest metropolitan university, serving more than 17,000 students pursuing degrees in 115 undergraduate and 58 graduate major areas of study, and is accredited by the Higher

Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

Central prides itself as a smart investment for success, preparing future

leaders in an opportunity-rich environment, with access to more than 200 student organizations and the internship, employment, entertainment and cultural offerings of the

rapidly growing Oklahoma City metropolitan area.

For more information about the University of Central Oklahoma, visit [www.uco.edu](http://www.uco.edu).

## DPS to increase DWI enforcement during holidays

**SUBMITTED BY DPS**

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) will increase DWI patrols for a 21-day period that includes both the Christmas and New Year holidays. From December 13 - January 2, DPS troopers will focus DWI patrols in high-risk locations at times when alcohol-related crashes are most frequent.

"Historically, the holiday season brings an increased potential for drinking and driving incidents, and these enhanced DPS patrols will help save lives," said DPS Director Steven McCraw.

"Impaired driving can easily turn a holiday celebration into a tragic situation. By designating a sober driver or finding alternative transportation if drinking alcohol is expected, Texans can do their part in keeping our roadways safe and making the holidays memorable for the right reasons."

The increased patrols that target impaired driving are funded through a grant from the Texas Department of Transporta-

tion (TxDOT). During the Christmas/New Year holiday enforcement effort last year, DPS troopers made more than 1,200 DWI arrests, and approximately 303 were the direct result of the increased patrols. DPS enforcement also resulted in more than 17,600 speeding citations and more than 2,000 seat belt/child safety seat citations. DPS patrols also resulted in 258 fugitive arrests and 211 felony arrests during the same time period.

DPS offers the following additional tips for safe travel during the holidays:

- Don't drink and drive. Designate a driver or take a cab.
- Eliminate distractions,

including the use of mobile devices.

- Buckle up everyone in the vehicle — it's the law.

- Slow down — especially in bad weather, construction areas and heavy traffic.

- Slow down or move over for police, fire, EMS and Texas Department of Transportation vehicles and tow trucks that are stopped on the side of the road with emergency lights activated — it's the law.

- Don't drive fatigued.
- Drive defensively, as holiday travel may present additional challenges.

- Make sure your vehicle is properly maintained before your trip begins.

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# The PAMPA NEWS



## A Travis Tribute

KAYLIN BURR AND HOPE MCCOLLUM

Travis Elementary wants to honor their very special music teacher, Mrs. Kay Pittman. Mrs. Pittman has been teaching for twenty-two years. She taught at Baker Elementary for six years before it closed. She has been the music teacher at Travis Elementary for sixteen years. She is devoted to helping her students understand the sacrifices of our armed forces. She teaches them the history of Veteran's Day and puts on a program every year on Veteran's Day. All students at Travis Elementary are part of the program held at M.K. Brown.

At the fifteenth annual Veteran's Day Program this year, Tayler Guerra wore the flight jacket of Mrs. Pittman's proud father and read the story called, "The Jacket." It told the story of

her father wearing the jacket in the war, and his close encounters with death. Tayler made Mrs. Pittman proud because it reminded her of her father. Mrs. Studebaker, the Principal at Travis, said of Mrs. Pittman, "Mrs. Pittman is such a blessing to Travis Elementary! She teaches her students with great passion and enthusiasm. She instills in them a love of music, but more importantly, a love for our country and the men and women who serve this great nation."

**Right: Tayler Guerra and Mrs. Pittman** sit on the Veteran's bench at Travis Elementary. Tayler is wearing the flight jacket that Mrs. Pittman's father wore during WWII. Photo by: Sherry Seabourn



## Flags Fly To Honor Veterans

D'LAYTIS ESPARZA AND JACK STUDEBAKER

Travis Elementary hosted their Veteran's Day Program at M.K. Brown on November 8th. Outstanding students are chosen each year to be the flag bearers. The Branch Flags were held by Seth Reppart, D'laytis Esparza, Marcee Troxell, Hanna Boland, and Noah Johnston. These kids held the Coast Guard, Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines. The flags were waved during the "Branch Song" in the program. Mrs.

Kay Pittman said "The students who carried the Branch Flags represented the Armed Forces with great pride."

The American and Texas flags were held by Jack Studebaker and Blane Robbins. They came in while "This Flag We Fly" was playing. They held the flags through the Pledge to the United States flag, and the "Star Spangled Banner." The American and Texas flags were paraded with dignity and honor," said Mrs. Kay Pittman.



**Above: Jack Studebaker** brings in the American flag, followed by Blane Robbins. Photo by Lacey McClendon.



**Above: Keria Donehue** reads her essay at KGRO. Photo taken by Sarah Hollis

## Radio Station Visit

TAYLER GUERRA AND MARCEE TROXELL

On November 8th, fourth and fifth graders from Travis Elementary went to the radio station of Pampa, KGRO. These kids were chosen by their teachers to read their essays they wrote about what Veteran's Day means to them.

The kids who were chosen in 4th grade are; Scotty Mclatchy, Kaylyn Tidwell, Keria Donehue, Bailey Collier, Jason Estes, and Jamey Cook. The 5th graders who were chosen are Brandon Jimenez, Hannah McPherson, Tayler Guerra, Seth Reppart, Jaylene Montes, and Lacey Bilyeu. When asked about their experiences at the radio station, Brandon Jimenez said, "It was a cool experience. I enjoyed it because many people were hearing it."

## Special Gift

RAEGAN BECKHAM AND LACEY BILYEU  
5TH GRADERS AT TRAVIS ELEMENTARY

Mr. Gene Jeffers is a veteran and was formally in the Coast Guard. He is also a member of the VFW post 1657. He made Travis about 500 green and white beaded necklaces with help from his caretaker. He made them for Travis because they honored all veterans in the Veterans Day

Program. His gift to the students took him many long hours.

He also has two great-great grandchildren that go to Travis. Their names are Christian and Baileigh Lemons. Christian is in 2nd grade and Baileigh is in kindergarden.

Travis would like to thank you Mr. Jeffers!



**Students** show off the necklaces made for them by Mr. Jeffers. Photo by Sherry Seabourn

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Jennifer Studebaker, Principal

# PampaSports

## Harvesters fall in worst loss of the season

■ After being outscored 19-2 in first quarter, Harvesters fall 79-56.

BY JOHN LEE  
jlee@thepampanews.com

AMARILLO — In sports it is important to remain competitive in the entire allotted amount of time. After being outscored 19-2 in the first quarter, the Pampa Harvesters (5-4) lost to the Randall Raiders 79-56 in Amarillo Tuesday evening.

“We got off to a really slow start and when you play a team as good as Randall it’s going to be hard to overcome,” head coach Matt Embry said.

“The final score was a 23-point loss, we were down 17 after one quarter. So you take those other

three quarters we are right there playing with them. But when you play teams like that you can’t afford to take a quarter off, you have to put together four good quarters. I am proud of the resiliency of the guys. They easily could have laid down and died, but they fought to the very end.

The Harvesters started their rally attempt in the second quarter, with junior Jonathan Stevens hitting a 2-pointer. The Harvesters went on a 5-1 run, with a 2-pointer and 3-pointer from senior Gabe Garcia, trying to close the gap at 29-13. The Harvesters outscored the Raiders 20-17 in the second quarter, with sopho-

more Cade Engle hitting two 3-pointers in the quarter. The score at the half was 36-22, cutting the 17-point deficit by three.

Senior Blayne Troxell came off the bench in the third quarter and provided the Harvesters with a presence inside the paint. He scored two 2-pointers in the third quarter, one of them coming on a second-chance points opportunity.

“Blayne is a constant for us. Blayne and Alex limit their mistakes and do their job,” Embry said.

“That’s why they deserve to be here. They are great quality kids and they do everything that’s

asked of them and I would coach them all day.”

Senior Ryan Powell, who had a 3-pointer in the second quarter, connected with another one in the third quarter to pair with a 2-pointer. Senior Alex Maruffo also had a three-pointer in the third quarter. The Raiders continued to pile points on the Harvesters, however out-scoring them 25-17 in the third quarter, forcing the Harvesters to face a 22-point deficit at 61-39 to start the fourth quarter.

Engle started the fourth quarter red-hot, hitting two more 3-pointers. Junior Kambrin Scott also had two 3-pointers to try and pull the Harvesters within 18 points at 67-49, but the Raid-

ers outscored the Harvesters 18-17 in the final quarter to win the game 79-56. Had the Harvesters been able to muster any offense in the first quarter, one can only speculate how the game might have ended.

The Harvesters return to the court for another road game Friday in Canadian. Game time is at 7:30 p.m. after the junior varsity play.

“They just lost in football so that will be their first game of the season unless they played tonight,” Embry said. “So I look forward to going out there and challenging them. I know they are ranked in the top 25 in 2A. I am sure they will be pretty good.”



Photo by John Lee

Left, Randall High School basketball coach Leslie Broadhurst was honored pre-game after recently earning his 500th win. Harvesters coach Matt Embry played under Broadhurst at Randall, wearing 00. Middle, Ryan Powell (12) attempts a 3-pointer. Right, Jonathan Stevens (15) pushes through the defense.

## Texas AD: ‘No decisions’ made yet about Mack Brown

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas Athletic Director Steve Patterson says no decision has been made about the future of Longhorns coach Mack Brown.

Texas released a statement by Patterson several hours after Orange-

bloods.com reported, citing two unidentified sources, that Brown will announce he is stepping down by week’s end.

“We continue to discuss the future of Texas Football,” Patterson said. “Mack Brown has not resigned. And, no decisions have been made.”

Joe Jamail, Brown’s longtime friend and attorney, told the Associated Press on Tuesday: “Mack Brown has not resigned.” He says Brown’s future with Texas



Mack Brown

is still up to the coach.

Horns247.com, a Texas recruiting website, reported that Brown denied the report in a text from Florida, where he was recruiting.

Brown wrote to Horns247: “I have not decided to step down.”

Texas just completed another regular season that didn’t meet expectations. The Longhorns went 8-4, recovering from a 1-2 start and beating Oklahoma, but still finishing with lopsided late-season losses to Oklahoma State and Baylor.

There has been speculation about Brown’s future in Austin since even before the season started, and it became rampant after blowout losses to BYU and Mississippi in September.

## Jerry Jones eyes tricks after firing gimmicky Ryan

IRVING (AP) — Jerry Jones fired Rob Ryan last season because his former defensive coordinator’s scheme was too gimmicky.

Now the Dallas owner says gimmicks are what the Cowboys need with a defense that may go down as the worst in franchise history.

Monte Kiffin’s new 4-3 alignment and the

players trying to run it simply couldn’t stop backup quarterback Josh McCown in Chicago’s 45-28 win over Dallas on Monday night.

McCown had four touchdown passes and a rushing TD and the Bears scored on their first eight possessions before McCown took a knee to end the game.

## Watch the Pros

**Football**  
San Diego Chargers at Denver Broncos.....NFLN 7:25 p.m.

**College Basketball**  
Maryland at Boston College.....ESPNU 6 p.m.  
Florida Atlantic at DePaul.....FOX5 8 p.m.

**Hockey**  
Columbus Blue Jackets at N.Y. Rangers.....NHLN 6 p.m.  
Montreal Canadiens at Philadelphia Flyers.....NHLN 6 p.m.

**Basketball**  
L.A. Clippers at Brooklyn Nets.....TNT 7 p.m.  
Houston Rockets at Portland Trailblazers.....TNT 9:30 p.m.

\*\*Check your local listings for channel number\*\*  
\*\*\*Times may vary and blackouts may apply\*\*\*

## Thursday Night Football picks

Everyone on The Pampa News’ picking group selected the Denver Broncos to defeat the San Diego Chargers and clinch the AFC West division title for the third straight year.

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## JV BASKETBALL AT RANDALL



Photos by John Lee

The boys junior varsity basketball team took on the Randall Raiders Tuesday evening. The team lost 60-35, but provided plenty of entertainment for on-lookers. Above, Bryson Burrell (25) makes a shot. Below, Colton Thompson (33, right) shoots past defenders. Bottom, Jett Gibson (middle) moves past defenders to make a layup.



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