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The PAMPA NEWS

TODAY IN SPORTS



Thursday, January 9, 2014

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Volume 109 • No. 194

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 Is America switching to pot? | **p4**

Lady Harvesters win first district game
 Soccer coaches comment on teams | **p7&12**

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The road to freedom



Photo by Timothy P. Howsare

Jerzy Bider's family left communist Poland in 1982 for political asylum in the United States. Bider's father was imprisoned for his involvement with Solidarity, a labor movement. Bider is now a senior officer with the Pampa Police Department. Below, protesters from the movement during the 1980s.

PPD officer and his family fled Poland during turmoil of the Cold War.

BY TIMOTHY P. HOWSARE
 thowsare@thepampanews.com

The recent death of Nelson Mandela has brought renewed attention to the hard fought battle for democracy and racial equality in South Africa.

Mandela literally changed the world when he unified the racially segregated nation and went on to become South Africa's first black president.

But at least a decade before Mandela rose to international fame, Lech Walesa, a Polish electrician and labor movement leader, made headline news across the globe as he led an anti-communist coalition called Solidarity. The labor union, which began as an underground movement in the late 1970s and grew to 9.4 million strong, is heralded for eventually bringing down communism in Eastern Europe by the late 1980s.

Walesa won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1983 and served as the first president of the democratic Poland from 1990-95.

Jerzy Bider (pronounced Beeder), a senior officer with the Pampa Police Department, didn't need to turn on the evening news to watch the latest developments with the Solidarity movement. All he had to do was look outside the front door of his family's apartment in Namyslow, Poland. That very front door was kicked down one night by a communist goon squad looking for Bider's father, who was a regional coordinator for the Soli-



File photo

darity movement, working directly under Walesa. His father, Ryszard, went into hiding when martial law was declared in 1981 in an attempt to destroy the movement.

"I was only 12 or 13 at the time," Bider said. "The secret police were looking for my father, who was in charge of a certain area of Poland, and would harass my mother while she was at work."

He suspects that most of the secret police were actually Soviets dressed in Polish army uniforms.

So that the authorities would stop harassing his family, Bider's father came out of hiding and was sent to an internment camp.

"They moved him around from camp to camp," said Bider, who has been a senior officer with the PPD for a year and a half.

Bider said whenever he visited his father in prison, his dad would always give him a tiny slip of paper with all the names of the labor movement members who were being held at the camp. Working as part of the movement himself, Bider would pass along the information.

Because of his celebrity status outside the Soviet Bloc, the charismatic Walesa was never imprisoned but was always under a state of "house arrest," Bider said.

Coming to America

The Bider family's journey to freedom in the United States began in December 1982 when the Red Cross — handing out toothbrushes and other hygiene items — visited his father and other prisoners and asked if they wanted political asylum to the United States or Canada.

Though his father was committed to the Solidarity movement, he decided that for the sake of his wife and two children it was best for the family to flee Poland.

"The communist party released him and we were given only three days to get our affairs in order and leave the country," Bider said.

They boarded a train to Frankfurt, Germany where they were met by officials from the U.S. embassy.

They stayed in Frankfurt for two months while their backgrounds were checked and to have all of

BIDER cont. on page 2

Pampa woman charged with kidnapping daughter

STAFF REPORT

A woman was arrested for kidnapping Tuesday by Pampa Police Department after she picked up her biological daughter after school at Lamar Elementary School.

Kamisha Grimes, 30, lost her custodial rights to her 10-year-old daughter through a Dallas County Court order. The child was in the custody of another relative, said PPD spokesman Officer Brian Massey.

School personnel and the child's family members advised police that at around 3:40 p.m. Grimes picked up the child from LES, located at 1234 S. Nelson

St. Due to the circumstances of why the child was removed from Grimes, officers believed she could be at risk of harm, and began a missing and endangered child response and investigation.

Officers immediately began following up on leads of past locations of the suspect, while other officers began working on an Amber Alert and media notification.

Just before making those notifications, officers located the child with the suspect in the 500 block of Harlem St. Grimes was taken into custody around 5 p.m. by the PPD on one charge of kidnapping. The child was unharmed.

Grimes was booked into the Gray County Jail on the kidnapping charge, along with an outstanding theft warrant from Potter County.



Kamisha Grimes

St.

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Xcel Energy proposing rate hike

Increased revenues would boost capacity and reliability, company says.

SUBMITTED

AMARILLO — Xcel Energy is seeking a base rate increase for Texas retail customers to support investments that improve electric reliability and capacity while providing area communities an economic boost from dozens of regional construction projects, the company said Tuesday in a released statement.

Between July 2012 and June 2013, Xcel Energy invested more than \$386 million on new and upgraded power lines, substations and generating units in and around communities across the region in response to continued growth in electricity demand, said David Hudson, president and CEO of Southwestern Public Service Company, an Xcel Energy company.

"Our customers and community partners expect us to invest wisely to meet this growing demand and provide the reliable service necessary to sustain economic growth," Hudson said.

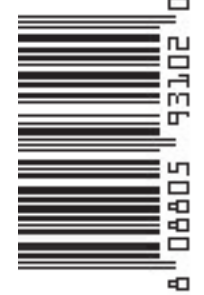
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Xcel

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"This case is largely driven by these investments, which provide great value to our customers over the long term."

These investments not only have boosted the value of power generation and delivery systems, they also support job growth in area communities, Hudson added.

A proposal presented Tuesday to the 80 Texas towns and cities served by the company, and to the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT), seeks to increase revenue by a net of \$52.7 million per year. Impacts on each customer class vary, but for residential customers using 1,000 kilowatt-hours per month, the increase would average \$10.94 per month, or 10.5 percent, with fuel costs fac-

tored in. For all customer classes combined, the total increase is 5.8 percent accounting for base rates and fuel costs.

Xcel Energy has asked that the increase be approved in two steps. Interim rates would go into effect March 1 that would increase a 1,000 kilowatt-hour monthly residential bill by \$5.07 per month, or 4.9 percent, with fuel costs factored in. The remainder of the increase would then be added in July.

Another factor affecting pricing is the gradual departure of wholesale customers such as rural cooperatives and municipal utilities. As these customers leave the system, remaining customers bear a larger portion of costs to supply power. However, the departure of wholesale customers also benefits retail customers because it frees up more resources for future retail growth.

A separate charge on customer bills known as the transmission cost recovery factor will go away once new rates go into effect.

Even with higher base rates, Xcel Energy continues to rank as one of the lowest-cost electricity providers in Texas, Hudson said. A key strategy in holding down rising costs is to manage fuel costs, which can account for up to half a of typical residential bill. The company maintains a diverse mix of generating resources, and new wind energy acquisitions will save an estimated \$590 million in fuel costs over the next 20 years.

Customers can realize further savings by taking advantage of energy-efficiency programs and tips offered by Xcel Energy that can reduce bills by as much as 10 percent or more.

Information on energy efficiency tips and programs can be found at www.xcelenergy.com on the "Save Money & Energy" tab.

Bider

Continued From Page 1

their paperwork processed, Bider said.

"They wanted to make sure nobody was a spy," he said.

The Biders and three or four other Polish families were relocated to Springfield, Mo., sponsored by the Catholic church there.

The Catholic church in Poland worked hand in glove with the Solidarity movement.

"Everybody in Poland is Catholic," Bider said.

As the country's economy sank into depression and morale declined, Poles found new hope when the Bishop of Kraków, Karol Wojtyła, was elected Pope John Paul II in 1978.

A year later, during his first pilgrimage to Poland, Pope John Paul II's masses were attended by hundreds of thousands of his countrymen. The Pope called for the respecting of national and religious traditions and advocated for freedom and human rights, while denouncing violence. To many Poles, the Polish pope represented a spiritual and moral force and an important symbol — and supporter — of changes to come.

The Biders moved from Missouri to California, but his mother didn't like living in the Golden State because of the earthquakes. The family had a friend

who was a priest in Rhode Island, so they headed to the East Coast.

Bider said when he first came to the U.S. he could only speak a few words of English. When he attended high school in America, he only needed to study English because he tested out of all the other subjects.

How Bider became a police officer

Bider said his interest in law enforcement began as a child, playing cowboys and Indians.

"I was always the sheriff," he said.

His law enforcement career began in Rhode Island, where he was a police constable.

But it is mainly in the great state of Texas, where he has lived mostly since 1995, where he has worn the uniform.

While working as a correctional officer in Brownsville, he attended the police academy.

Before moving to Pampa, he worked in Iowa Park, a small town near Wichita Falls, as a police officer.

He said he has planted roots in Pampa and plans to work for PPD until he retires.

"I love it here; this is the best department I have worked for," he said. "Chief Rushing is very wise, very firm but very fair."

Plus, he has a penchant for the menudo at Mejia's Mexican Bakery, where he frequently eats breakfast.

Poland versus the U.S.

Bider has never returned to Poland since leaving in 1982 but would one day like to visit, where he still has relatives.

He is a dual citizen of Poland and the United States.

"It's not a requirement with political asylum to become an American citizen, but we became citizens," he said.

Both of his parents are now deceased and his sister lives in Rhode Island, where she works as a nurse.

In Poland, his father was an electrical engineer for a car manufacturer and his mother was an economist and an accountant.

In the United States, the Biders would have likely been an upper-middle class family but in Poland they were just "average," Bider said.

Asked if his family owned a car, Bider laughed and said no.

"It would take about 12 or 13 years for the average family to save up to buy a car," he said. "My parents were both very well educated but we had no vehicle."

He said he has no regrets about leaving his homeland for the United States.

"Looking back, I knew I didn't have a future in Poland because of who my father was," he said. "In America you can fulfill your dreams with no limitations."

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Fast-moving erosion threatens Hawaii coastal homes

HALEIWA, Hawaii (AP) — Alice Lunt didn't worry too much when she saw waves splashing close to her home on Oahu's North Shore on Christmas Eve. She had seen the ocean edge close before. But before dawn, a neighbor woke her with a call.

"Everything was washing away," she remembered the neighbor saying.

The water claimed Lunt's deck that day, and washed away a concrete slab the next night — part of a fast-moving collapse of the shore that also ripped out a neighbor's backyard and forced another to cut away rooms to save the rest of

their house.

The Christmas swell damaged at least five oceanfront properties in the neighborhood, rekindling a decades-old debate about how best the state and homeowners should respond to beach erosion and the increasingly rising waters of the Pacific Ocean.

Some property owners want to be able to install a seawall or something similar to protect their property. Doing so, scientists say, could lead the sand on the nearby coastline — including Sunset Beach, home to some of the world's top surfing contests — to dis-

appear.

"Do you build a seawall and potentially condemn the beach to extinction in front of the seawall but at the same time buy a lot of time for homeowners on the nearby land to figure out how to move away from that situation?" asked Chip Fletcher, a University of Hawaii coastal geologist.

"Or do you not build a seawall, condemning the homes and the developed land to extinction, but allow the beach to survive?"

Fletcher said building seawalls always comes to mind wherever severe erosion occurs.

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2014 PHOTO CONTEST

a special publication of
The PAMPA NEWS

The Pampa News is looking for "Pampa's Best Couple"

Send your photo of yourself & your sweetheart or a couple you would like to nominate with Names, Phone Number, & Reasons Why the couple is **Pampa's Best Couple** to codell@thepampanews.com

All submitted photos will be posted on The Pampa News' Facebook Page for voting & may be published in The Pampa News Paper.

The Winner will receive a Fabulous Valentine's Day Prize. All Photos need to be submitted by 12 (noon) January 15th. For information and details, please call The Pampa News front Office - **Callie Odell (806)669-2525**.

"Let Me Call You Sweetheart" 2014 Couple Photo Contest

16758

Family Reunions

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The PAMPA NEWS

16753

PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Friday	Saturday
High 47 Low 32	High 50 Low 29	High 56 Low 38

Today: Mostly sunny with a high of 47. Chance of rain: 10 percent. Winds south at 13 mph. Sunrise at 7:54 a.m.

Tonight: Showers with a low of 32. Chance of rain: 70 percent. Winds south at 16 mph. Sunset at 5:49 p.m.

Friday: Light morning rain with a high of 50. Chance of rain: 70 percent. Winds west at 13 mph. Sunrise at 7:54 a.m.

Friday night: Mostly clear with a low of 29. Winds northwest at 10 mph. Sunset at 5:50 p.m.

Saturday: Sunny with a high of 56. Winds west at 14 mph. Sunrise at 7:54 a.m.

Saturday night: Clear with a low of 38. Winds southwest at 14 mph. Sunset at 5:51 p.m.

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Obituaries

Paul James Hulsey

Paul James Hulsey, of Amarillo, went home to be with his Lord, on Tuesday, Jan. 07, 2014, in Amarillo.

Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 9, 2014, at Memory Gardens Cemetery in Pampa with Rev. Charles Lowry, pastor of Cross Pointe Church in Pampa, officiating. Military honors will be accorded by the U. S. Army, Fort Hood, Texas. Arrangements are by Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Hulsey was born May 22, 1929 in Pampa and attended Pampa High School and Amarillo Barber College. He married Margaret Louise Matlock on June 3, 1957 in Pampa. Paul was a barber in Pampa for 50 years before moving to Amarillo. He was a lifelong member of Fellowship Baptist Church in Pampa. He enjoyed reading the Bible, country gospel music, and fishing.

Survivors include his wife, Margaret, of the home; two sons, Donny Hulsey of Pampa and Jamey Hulsey of Florida; two daughters, Paula Bradshaw of California and Terry Staab of Pampa; two brothers, Bill Hulsey of Pampa and Bob Hulsey of Perryton; 14 grandchildren, including one loving granddaughter who took care of him; and several great grandchildren. Paul was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Bertha Hulsey, a sister, Vernice Shouse, and a brother, Jack Hulsey.

Memorials may be made to IntegraCare Hospice, 2005 S. Coulter, Amarillo, TX 79106.

There will be no viewing or visitation. Sign the online register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.



Paul James Hulsey

10, 2014 at Oakwood Methodist Church.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be made in Rick's name to any Plains National Bank location.

Frances M. Moen

It is with deep sorrow and heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend, Frances M. Moen, 59, of Las Cruces on Thursday, Dec. 19, 2013 at Mountain View Regional Medical Center.

She was born July 14, 1954 in Alvin, Texas to William and Zona Florence Sanders Talley. Frances attended elementary, middle school and high school in Alvin. On Aug. 4, 1972 she married John Moen and relocated to Las Cruces, N.M. in 1987. Frances and John own and operate Trophy Country, a business that they bought in 1988 from Dale and Joann Gantz. Frances was very active with her children's and grandchildren's activities and was a member of the Booster Club under former coach of Mayfield Football Team Mike Drapper and Basketball Coach George Maya.

Those left to mourn her passing include her loving husband, John Moen of the family home; a son, Thomas Glenn Moen and wife Sarah and their daughter, Ashley Lauren Moen of Amelia Island, Fla.; Amy Garcia and husband Ruben and their children, Emily Robin Garcia and twins, Andrew Thomas and Matthew Joseph Garcia; sister, Ann Cason and husband Dick of Huntsville. Other survivors include a cousin, Patricia Drachenberg of Allen; her father-in-law, Donald Moen; brothers-in-law, James Moen and Gayla Gillespie of Lubbock, Haldane Moen and wife Deda of Grandberry as well as numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents.

At Frances' request, cremation has taken place and a Celebration of Life Service will be held on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2014 at 11 a.m. in Las Cruces Church of Christ, 2050 N. Valley Drive with Pastor David Harrelson officiating.



Frances Moen

Rick Stephenson

Rick Stephenson of Lubbock passed away on Monday, Jan. 6, 2014 at the age of 54. He was born Oct. 31, 1959 to RuDon and Bonnie (Lott) Stephenson. Rick worked as a maintenance supervisor at Southern Specialty Rehabilitation and Nursing Home. He married Kathy Gee on May 30, 1993 in Oklahoma City.

Those left to cherish his memory are his wife, Kathy; two sons, Anthony Baston of Pampa and Kye Stephenson of Lubbock; two daughters, Sarah Baston and Tori Stephenson, both of Lubbock; three brothers, Randy Stephenson of Canyon, Robbie Stephenson of Oklahoma City, and Shawn Stephenson of Dallas; one sister, Mandy Stephenson of Pampa; and four grandchildren.

Rick was preceded in death by his grandparents and parents, as well as a niece, Hannah Stephenson.

Memorial services are scheduled for 2 p.m. Friday, Jan.



Rick Stephenson

Ian Michael Robbins

Ian Michael Robbins, 62, went to be with his newly found savior on Dec. 4, 2013 while living in Denton.

Mike was born on March 21, 1951 in Lansing, Mich. He attended schools in Pampa and worked at Peggy's Cafe until it closed.

He was preceded in death by his father, Danford Dale Robbins.

He is survived by his mother, Agnes Dorman of Annan, Scotland; his stepmother, Doris Robbins of Pampa, his brother Bill Robbins and wife Allyson of Annan, Scotland; three sisters, Donna Brown and husband Jim of Frisco, Carol Alexander of Oklahoma City and Kathy Cota and husband Harold of Pampa.

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Cinema 4

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Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones Rated R Fri/Sat - 2:00 4:30 7:30 9:45 Sun - 2:00 4:30 7:30 Mon - Thurs. 7:30	Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones Rated R Fri - 8:00 10:00 Sat - 8:00 10:00 Mon - Wed. 8:00
Walking With Dinosaurs (in realD 3D) - PG Fri/Sat - 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30 Sun - 2:00 4:30 7:00 Mon - 7:00 Wed - 7:00	American Hustle - R Fri - 7:15 9:45 Sat 2:00 4:30 7:15 9:45 Sun 2:00 4:30 7:15 Mon - Wed 7:15
Frozen 2D PG Fri - 2:00 4:30 Sat - 2:00 4:30 Sun - 2:00 4:30 Tue - 7:00 Thurs. 7:00	Frozen 2D PG Fri - 6:00 Sat - 2:00 4:00 6:00 Sun - 2:00 4:00 6:00 Mon - Wed - 6:00
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty - PG Fri/Sat - 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30 Sun - 2:00 4:30 7:00 Mon - Thurs. 7:00	Saving MR. Banks - PG-13 Fri - 7:00 9:45 Sat - 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:45 Sun - 2:00 4:30 7:00 Mon - Thurs. 7:00

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For the record

Pampa woman arrested for theft

STAFF REPORT

Mistie Michelle Kemp, 34, Independence, Mo., was arrested Tuesday by the Gray County Sheriff's Office for theft of property by check, theft by check — Hale County.

Kamisha Grimes, 30, Pampa, was arrested Tuesday by the Pampa Police Department for kidnapping, failure to serve weekends — theft.

John Wyatt Roe, 44, Le-fors, was arrested Tuesday by PPD for capias pro fine — nonpayment of court fees.

Jeremy Logan Wilson, 26, Skellytown, was arrested Tuesday by GCSO for theft of property, insufficient bond — burglary of a habitation.

Bryan Phillip Custer, 40, Amarillo, was arrested Tuesday by GCSO for forgery of a financial instrument.

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Viewpoints

The PAMPA NEWS
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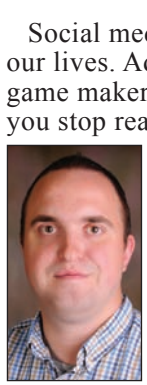
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Tales from the Final Frontier

■ The pros and woes of social media.



JOHN LEE

Social media has taken over our lives. Advertisers and indie-game makers know it, too. Before you stop reading this to beat that next level on Candy Crush, or find out who wants to be your friend, whether you know them personally or not, take a moment to truly think about the pros and cons of our beloved online communities.

Social media, especially Facebook, is truly great. I love it. I have kept up with friends from high school whom I haven't seen in eight years now. Not only that, I know who they married and where they work now. I have cousins in New York who, had I not had Facebook, I

would not have known what they were up to.

I love Twitter, also, I am practically a Denver Broncos second-hand insider because if there is anything written or photographed about the Mile-High team, I am getting it in my Twitter feed.

The rise of memes, those funny pictures of movies or celebrities that have captions, has become my primary source of humor because now it is so niche, there are sports humor and NFL meme pages. If I am watching a game and something ground-break happens (like Colts' quarterback Andrew Luck's bad first 33 minutes), there is suddenly a funny picture on my page of Peyton Manning saying, "Hey Indy, miss me yet?"

Even better, websites like Instagram and Flickr have come out and let you upload your own photo galleries. There is a social media sight for everything now. This is not a bad thing. When you are

looking for a recipe, you can find it on Pinterest, share it on Facebook or Tweet it on Twitter and then take a picture of it cooked and post it to Instagram. If you start doing this as a hobby, then you can start a blog on Tumblr or StumbleUpon. You can even create groups on Facebook focused on a special topic, or nothing at all. I have one for my old job's fantasy football league.

But with all these pros, there are definitely some woes that are associated with social media. I am guilty of many of these as well. They are major time-wasters at the workplace. Some people also take social media as a platform for political debate and can hurt people's feelings. Then there is the problem with cyber bullying.

I was fortunate enough that Facebook and MySpace (remember MySpace) were barely taking off my last couple years of high school so I still had to deal with getting stuffed in lockers. I jest, of course, but cyber bullying is no laughing matter. If bullies think their words don't hurt saying it face-to-face, imagine it online. It is much easier to be mean over a computer than it is to do it in person. But on

TFFF cont. on page 5

Minimum wage and welfare: The tradeoff

The Democrats have selected raising the minimum wage as THE issue to protect them from public opposition to the Obamacare fiasco, which is dimming their prospects for retaining the Senate in the 2014 elections. But raising the minimum wage may actually be worth considering if it has the side benefit of cutting the gigantic total of our hidden welfare programs.

Yes, hidden. We call the welfare state "hidden" because most people have no idea it has grown to nearly a trillion dollars a year. And most people think "welfare" goes all or mostly to the unemployed, whereas the truth is that most of it goes to working families whose income is below a government-designated poverty line.

The hidden welfare state has mushroomed into a massive complex of at least 79 means-tested programs, doled out by at least nine federal agencies, plus state funds. Included in this welfare total are food stamps (for which spending has doubled since 2007), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, the earned-income tax credit, housing aid, energy assistance, childcare and supplemental security income. This doesn't even count the new subsidies in Obamacare.

Since the end of the Reagan administration, our \$937 billion in welfare handouts has expanded beyond any relation to actual need. So-called welfare has grown faster than growth in our economy, our population increase, the rise in the poverty rate and annual federal expenditures on defense, education, Social Security or Medicare.

Seventeen years after former President Bill Clinton said "we are ending welfare as we know it," welfare spending as a percentage of our national output has nearly doubled, from 2.2 percent of gross domestic product in 1989 to 4.3 percent in 2013. People who earn wages near the poverty level supplement their

incomes with an array of federal benefits, including food stamps, Medicaid, childcare, and cash-wage subsidies, plus school lunch (and breakfast) for their kids.

All these programs and handouts are based on someone's income level. If raising the minimum wage raises an individual above the government-prescribed poverty level, raising the minimum wage could benefit taxpayers.

Robert Rector of the Heritage Foundation, the country's expert on welfare statistics, concludes: "Since the beginning of the War on Poverty, government has spent \$19.8 trillion (in inflation-adjusted 2011 dollars) on means-tested welfare. In comparison, the cost of all military wars in U.S. history from the Revolutionary War through the current war in Afghanistan has been \$6.98 trillion (in inflation-adjusted 2011 dollars). The War on Poverty has cost three times as much as all other wars combined."

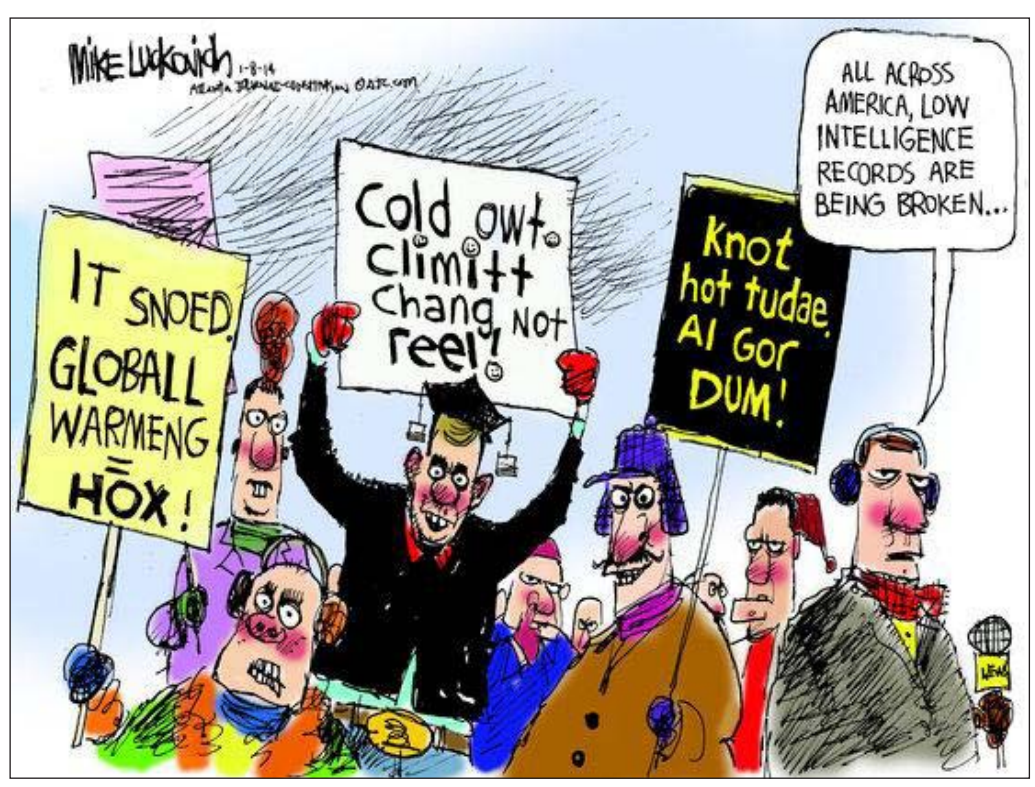
Rector says that 100 million Americans now receive benefits from at least one of the 79 programs. The bipartisan welfare reform of 1996 actually reformed only one of the 79 programs, and President Barack Obama gutted the heart of this reform by illegally eliminating the "work" requirement.

The temptation to cheat is always present. The Census Bureau reported that one-quarter of single moms receiving generous taxpayer money and benefits actually have a partner living in the house whom they don't marry (and don't report) because marriage would reduce their government handouts.

The earned-income tax credit lifted 5.7 million wage earners above the poverty line in 2011, but the EITC is full of all sorts of fraud. The Treasury's inspector general reports that more than \$110 billion in payments were given out during the past decade to people who were not qualified.

Welfare pays more than a minimum wage job in 35 states, according to a Cato Institute study, and welfare in 13 states pays more than \$15 an hour. Remember, welfare benefits are tax-

WELFARE cont. on page 5



How To Write Us

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

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Is America switching to pot?

Smoking Marlboros is now forbidden in Irish bars in New York City.



PATRICK BUCHANAN

But buying, selling, and smoking marijuana is legal in Colorado. It doesn't take a weatherman to know which way the wind is blowing.

But where are we going? One certain result of the legalization of marijuana is that there are going to be more potheads, more dropouts, and more deaths on highways from those high or stoned — and more rehab centers.

Scores of thousands of Coloradans may relish the freedom they have voted for themselves. But the costs will be borne by society and the families of future victims of potheads behind the wheel.

So it has been with alcohol. All of us can recall classmates injured and dead in auto accidents, jobs lost by friends, lives destroyed, and families smashed because of booze.

Just as beer opens the door for the young to bourbon, scotch, gin and vodka, marijuana is the gateway drug, the escalator drug, to cocaine and heroin.

And if marijuana sales bring in the revenue Colorado envisions, other states will follow suit, and some state will become the first to decriminalize cocaine.

Undeniably, the cultural revolution is gaining converts and picking up speed. The haste with which some Republicans are deep-

sixing the social issues to focus on tax cuts testifies to this.

It was half a century ago that pot first began to replace alcohol as the drug of choice for baby boomers arriving on campuses in 1964. Yet not until the boomers began moving onto Social Security rolls did the first state legalize marijuana for personal enjoyment.

Yet, as with same-sex marriage, now legal in 16 or 17 states, the legalization of marijuana appears to be an idea whose time has come.

What does this tell us about our country? America is not only diversifying racially, ethnically and religiously as a result of continuous mass immigration, legal and illegal.

We are diversifying, and disuniting morally, culturally, and politically.

Not so very long ago, the U.S. government enforced Prohibition, pronounced smoking a menace to the national health, punished gambling as organized crime and declared a war on drugs.

Now the government has shouldered aside organized crime to take over, tax, and regulate the rackets. At federal, state and local levels, the government rakes off vast revenues from taxes on booze, bars, cigarettes, casinos and, coming soon, online poker.

Government lotteries have crowded out the old numbers racket.

As the poet Alexander Pope wrote three centuries ago: Vice is a monster of so frightful mien,

As to be hated needs but to be seen; Yet, seen too oft, familiar with her face, We first endure, then pity, then embrace.

In the 1965 decision *Griswold v. Connecticut*, the Warren Court discovered a constitutional right to privacy and overturned a state law prohibiting the sale of contraceptives.

Contraceptives are now handed out to high schoolers and a right to contraception has been written into Obamacare.

Abortion and homosexuality used to be scandalous. Now they are constitutional rights and popular social causes, and same-sex marriage is the civil rights cause of the 21st century.

As Justice Antonin Scalia noted, if tradition, religious beliefs, or a community animus against conduct is insufficient to restrict private behavior, upon what legal ground do we stand upon to outlaw polygamy, adult incest, or prostitution?

Yet traditional America is not rolling over and playing dead.

"Abortion rights" face new restrictions in state after state, as a new generation appears more pro-life than its parents.

And as the A.E. network discovered when it sought to suspend "Duck Dynasty" patriarch Phil Robertson for his biblical reflections, the silent majority remains faithful to the traditional morality.

And while a libertarianism of the left appears ascendant, there is also a rising and militant libertarianism of the right.

We have seen it manifest

in the explosion of "stand your ground" and concealed-carry laws, opposition to federal background checks for gun owners, and ferocious resistance to the outlawing of assault rifles and 30-round magazines.

In that Colorado where pot is now legal, state senators have been recalled for insufficient devotion to Second Amendment rights. And there are bubbling secessionist movements in states like Colorado, of folks who would like to separate themselves from places like Denver.

The triumph of the sexual revolution has not been without its casualties, e.g., an endless supply of new HIV/AIDS and STD cases and a national illegitimacy rate of more than 40 percent of all births.

And the correlation between that illegitimacy rate and the dropout rate, drug use rate, delinquency rate, crime rate, and incarceration rate is absolute.

Undeniably, the claims of the individual to maximum autonomy and freedom appear triumphant over the claims of community. The clamor of me is prevailing over the claims of us.

But in yielding, America has not only tossed overboard the moral compass that guided us for two centuries. We no longer even agree on what is "True North" anymore.

Patrick J. Buchanan is the author of "Suicide of a Superpower: Will America Survive to 2025?" To find out more about Patrick Buchanan and read features by other Creators writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators webpage at www.creators.com.

TFFF

Continued From Page 4

the complete flip-side of that, sexting is also another issue people, particularly teenagers' parents, have to deal with.

Another woe, and this is more of a pet peeve of mine, false news that circulates.

Let me give you an example. With the first few legal days of marijuana sales in Colorado, a report circulated with the headline: Marijuana overdoses kill 37 in Colorado on first day of

legalization. Now my journalistic training tells me to find more sources on something that drastic. I did and found out it was false. But other people might not take the time to do so and share. It is very common with celebrity deaths.

Do you know how many times Bill Nye the Science Guy has died? It is sad that with Paul Walker's and James Avery's deaths I had to look them up to confirm it.

To wind up. Have fun with your Facebook, Twitter and other social media, folks. But don't have fun at the expense of others. Use it for what

it was intended, to keep in touch with family and friends. If you don't want people knowing your business, don't post it, because chances are they don't want to know either.

For more information on social media etiquette, go to <http://huff.to/KwRIBZ>. That abbreviated URL is called a bitly by the way, bitly.com is a website that shortens URLs for easier use on Twitter and, quite frankly, to look better.

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

Forklift accident in Amarillo leaves 1 dead

AMARILLO (AP) — A forklift and truck accident at a wrecker service in the Texas Panhandle has left one worker dead and another seriously hurt.

Amarillo police say the accident happened Tuesday afternoon at HD Wrecker service when a pickup truck being worked on fell on the victims. Police say a forklift had been used to lift the truck, which then fell from the industrial equipment.

The man was dead at the scene. The woman was trapped

but used her cellphone to call for help.

Amarillo police say the woman has injuries that are life-threatening and she was taken to a hospital.

Her name and further details on her condition were not immediately released.

The name of the man who died wasn't immediately released.

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Welfare

Continued From Page 4

free, so their dollar value is even greater.

Legislation to raise the minimum wage would elevate many low-wage earners above the income threshold that qualifies them for benefits and should result in reduced welfare spending. This is a tradeoff Republicans could support.

A good example of how our so-called welfare program is subsidizing and incentivizing bad behavior was illustrated

on Sean Hannity's May 11, 2013, TV interview with a young man who fathered 22 children with 14 different mothers. U.S. taxpayers, of course, are supporting them all.

The man was proud of his achievement, didn't have a job, didn't pay child support, believes it is the duty of the taxpayers to support all of them and defiantly looks forward to creating more kids with more women. Our welfare system makes this travesty possible; it's much worse than the famous "welfare queen," who became notorious back in 1976.

In order to reduce our

slide into massive dependence on government, Congress should restore effective work requirements, tighten eligibility requirements, aggressively go after fraud and make large cuts in total spending on handouts. Raising the minimum wage might make it possible to legislate fair and sensible improvements.

Phyllis Schlafly is a lawyer, conservative political analyst and author of 20 books. She is the co-author, with George Neumayr, of the New York Times Best-Seller titled "No Higher Power: Obama's War on Religious Freedom." She can be contacted by e-mail at phyllis@eagleforum.org.

Just 1 in 4 young teens meet US fitness guidelines

CHICAGO (AP) — Young teens aren't exactly embracing the government's Let's Move mantra, the latest fitness data suggest.

Only 1 in 4 U.S. kids aged 12 to 15 meet the recommendations — an hour or more of moderate to vigorous activity every day.

The results are based on about 800 kids who self-reported their activity levels and had physical exams as part of the 2012 National Youth Fitness Survey.

Government researchers won't call the results disappointing, but lead author Tala Fakhouri of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said, "There's always room for improvement."

The CDC released partial results Wednesday from the fitness survey, which involved kids aged 3 to 15. Other results from the same survey are pending and include fitness data based on more objective measures including treadmill tests.

Fakhouri said the nationally representative results provide useful information for initiatives that aim to increase kids' fitness, including the Let's Move anti-obesity cam-

paign launched by first lady Michelle Obama in 2010.

Kids in the survey reported on which physical activities they did most frequently outside of school gym class — basketball for boys and running for girls.

While few met guidelines established in 2008 for activity that raises the heart rate and makes you breathe harder, most said they did at least an hour of exercise at that level during the previous week. Overall, about 25 percent said they got an hour of that kind of exercise every day.

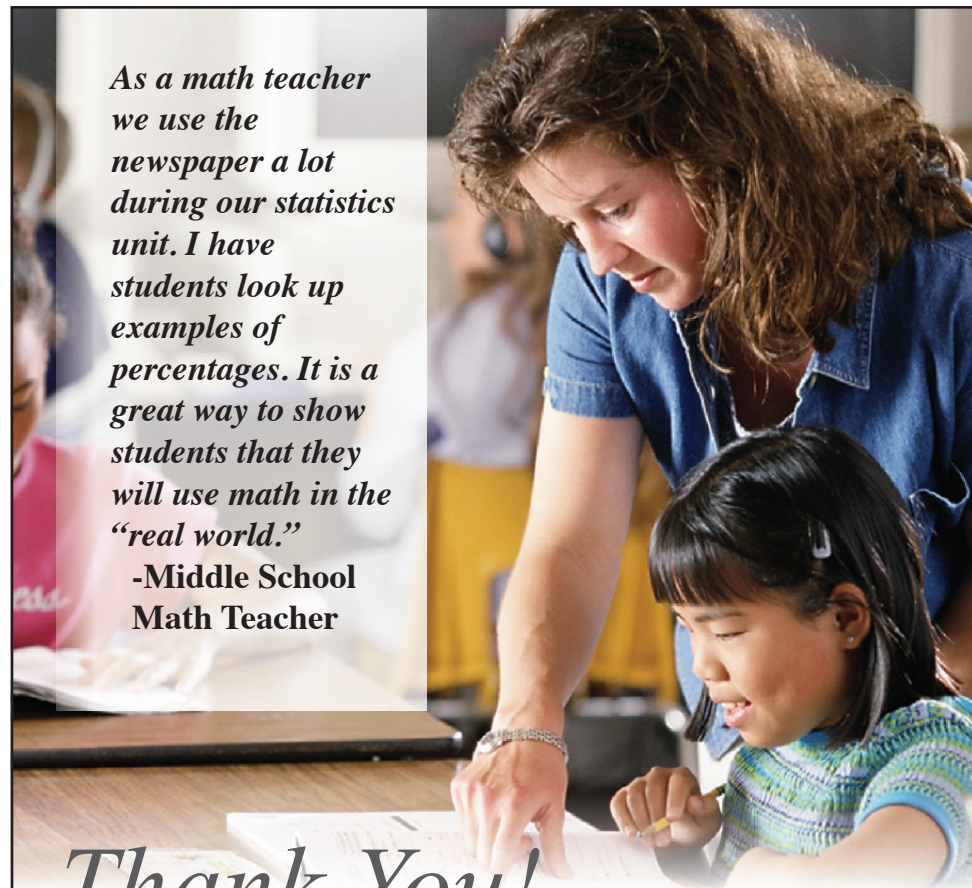
Obese kids were less active than normal-weight girls and boys. Overweight girls were slightly less active than normal-weight girls, but lev-

els were similar among overweight and normal-weight boys.

"It's definitely very concerning to see that our kids are engaging in such a limited amount of physical activity each day when we are still battling" an obesity epidemic, said Dr. Stephen Pont, an Austin, Texas, pediatrician and chairman of the American Academy of Pediatrics' section on obesity.

Data suggest obesity may have decreased slightly among some kids but the overall rate for children aged 2 to 19 is 17 percent, or about 12.5 million obese kids.

Pont said schools can do more to help by not cutting recess and giving kids more time for physical activity.



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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PampaSports

Coaches comment on their soccer teams following alumni scrimmage

STAFF REPORT

The Harvesters and Lady Harvesters hosted an alumni soccer game this past Saturday, and both coaches feel like they came away with some experience and knowledge on where their teams are heading this upcoming soccer season.

Boys' soccer head coach Byron May was very pleased with what he saw from his squad, which was only a few days removed from a scrimmage with Caprock.

"This was another opportunity to improve. Our passing was better, and we showed some more cohesiveness in general," May said.

"We only had two practices since our last scrimmage, so we had to focus on a specific area of improvement. The good news is we saw the improvement in the areas we were looking for. I told the boys that we need to keep climbing the mountain, and right now that means winning the possession battle, and improving our on-the-field communication."

Girls' head coach Hugo Aguillon's squad played both his junior varsity and varsity squads on Saturday during a cold and windy scrimmage.

"Although the wind played a big factor in being able to control the ball, we managed to keep them from

scoring," Aguillon said. "Our mid-fielders Karoley Villareal, Madison Young and Denisse Morales controlled the game very well resulting in us having possession most of the game. I'm excited to start our first game against Brownwood at the Abilene Tournament Friday."

His squad returns 13 starters as well as some new faces this season.

"I have a great group of girls who are very disciplined and determined. Our seniors Jade Smiles, Alexis Arreola and Vanessa Ramirez, juniors Karoley Villareal, Jaycee Devoll, Denisse Morales, Olga Garcia, Bennett Cambern, Taylor Bolton, Laura Zu-

bia, Leslie Quezada, Samara Villanueva, Karen Duarte and sophomore Cecilia Vasquez are all returners from last year," Aguillon said.

"They bring in a lot of skill and talent. This year I have three freshmen playing for varsity. Maddison Young will be helping us out in the midfield, Nique Johnson in defense and Ariel Cambern in offense. Also, junior Allison Noble will be playing her first year and helping out the defense and protecting our goal with Karen Duarte."

The girls return to action on Friday for a tournament in Abilene; the boys participate in a tournament next week in Blackburnett.

Pampa wrestling senior night



Photo courtesy of Della Moyer

The Pampa Harvesters had their senior night Monday night against River Road High School. The Harvesters won the duals and will compete again this weekend in Hereford. Pictured, in no particular order are Jon Cryer, Zach Stephenson and Isidro Estrada.



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Broncos' Von Miller to have surgery on right knee

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP) — Von Miller is set to have surgery to repair his torn right ACL in Florida on Thursday.

Miller's rehab is expected to take six to nine months, meaning he could miss the start of the Denver Broncos' training camp next summer.

Miller's right knee buckled

when he was blocked cleanly by Texans tight end Ryan Griffin in Denver's 37-13 win at Houston on Dec. 22.

That ended a rough season for the 2011 NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year, one that began with him serving a six-game drug suspension. He finished with five sacks in nine games.

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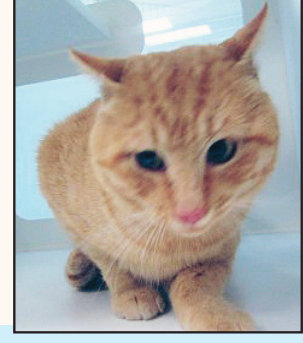
Basketball
Oklahoma City Thunder at Denver Nuggets....TNT 9:30 p.m.
Miami Heat at New York Knicks.....TNT 7 p.m.

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

Correction

In the story over the Pampa Pin-Down that ran on Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2014. The name should have read Austin Hernandez, not Aaron Hernandez.

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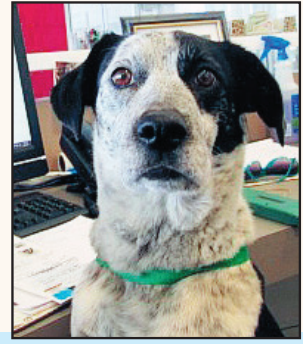
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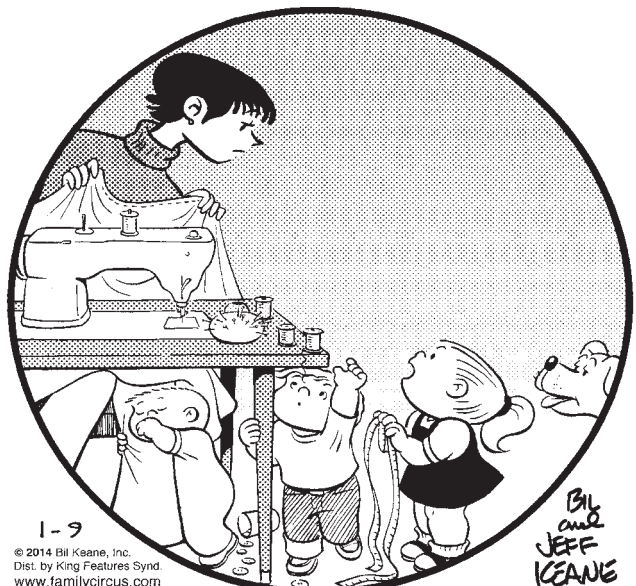
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Nest Heads



NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS
PROGRESS REPORT

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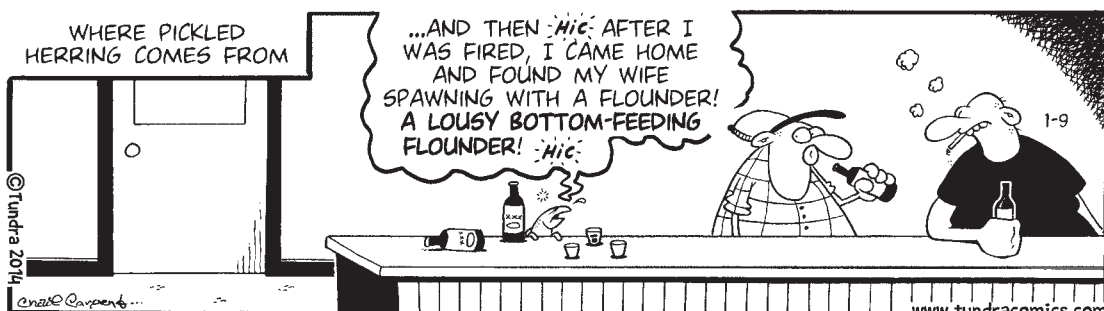
daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, Jan. 10, 2014:
This year you sometimes question yourself. Some of you might develop a friendship with a person who is overly stern, which will release you from having to be your own disciplinarian. A friendship could end because you are transforming. Know that not all friendships last forever. If you are single, the person you choose to date this year could be a lot different from the person you choose next year. Let time play a strong role in any relationship you have. If you are attached, the two of you seesaw back and forth about what you want to do. You will be changing so much that your significant other might be floored by your suggestions. TAURUS appears to be independent, but his or her values tend to be conservative. 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)
★★★ A positive attitude helps, but you might need to seize the pulpit in order to be heard. Others tend to respond to your way of thinking, and most likely that will be the case again. When push comes to shove, people will be on your side. Tonight: Take charge.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You will know exactly what you want to do. A complication from someone else or from your schedule could force you to change your plans. Try not to be a perfectionist; be willing to accommodate the alterations in your life. Tonight: All smiles.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Know when to pull back and do some much-needed thinking. You don't always need to have the right answer at the right time. Realize the power in allowing others to come up with solutions, too. You might reach a consensus that way. Tonight: Time to relax.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Zero in on what you want. When sharing your plans with family members, you might meet some resistance. Don't assume that others want the same things you do. You have time to make an adjustment and keep everyone happy. Tonight: Where the action is.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You could be overwhelmed by what you need to do in order to have a situation go the way you want. You can come up with a solution if you tap into your creativity. You might

have little choice but to go with the most obvious answer. Tonight: On center stage.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ When others' frustrations take over, you will try to find a solution. What you arrive at might not please everyone, but it certainly will be a lot better than the present problem. Make it OK if someone wants to add his or her two cents. Tonight: Let the fun begin.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Deal with someone special in your life on a one-on-one level. This person can be quite difficult at times, but you can handle his or her energy. Relate individually and not in crowds. Your perspective on this person seems to be quite accurate. Tonight: Dinner for two.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Your intensity is met by a partner's endurance. You are equals, but you both demand control. Make a point to juggle different aspects of your personalities, and realize that you will have to meet this person halfway. Tonight: Go along with a suggestion.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Pace yourself, and if you screen calls from friends, you might be able to have your day go as you had planned. You might have mixed feelings about someone close to you, as the issue of trust keeps arising. Try to remain levelheaded. Tonight: Choose a favorite way of relaxing.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Your imagination tends to be quite active, but rarely do you express it fully. You could find opposition from others, as they likely will catch on that you are holding back. Try to express this facet of your personality more often. Tonight: Have fun.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Listen to news more openly. You could feel like you are dealing with someone who is a stick in the mud. Changing your attitude might make your interactions with this person a little easier. Tonight: Be sure that you really want to go out; home might feel more comfortable.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You might wonder what the results would be if you were to remain positive no matter what. Add a comment or two to enrich a project or an interaction. Others might be more receptive than you realize. Your sunny disposition means a lot. Tonight: At a favorite haunt.

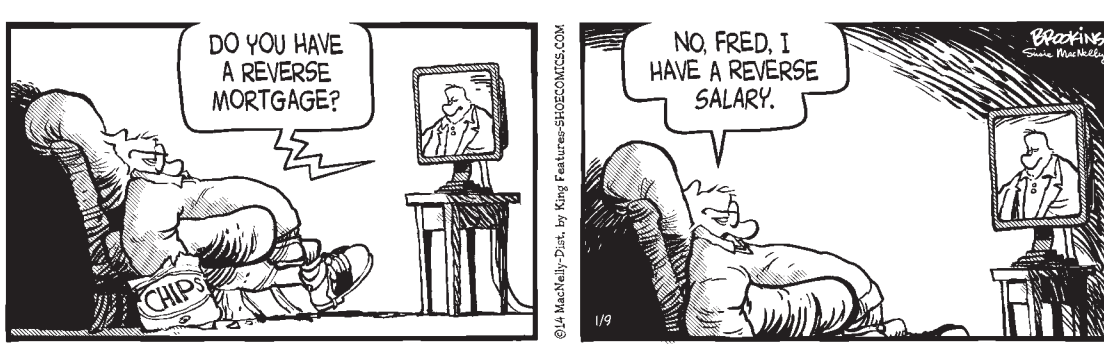
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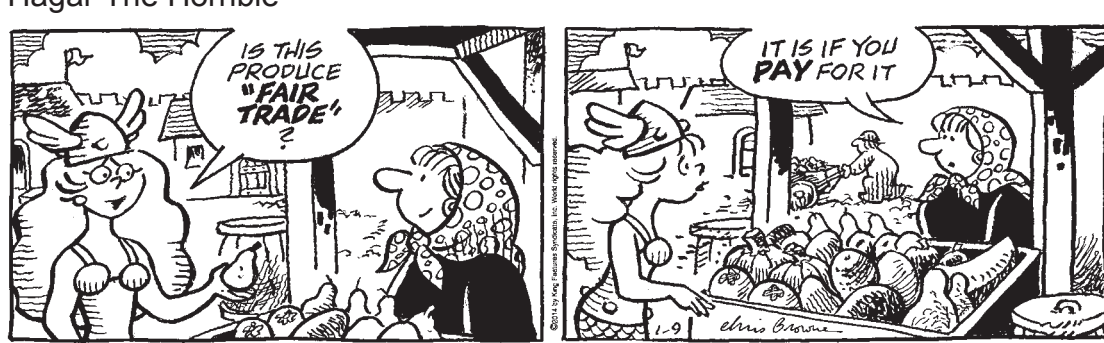
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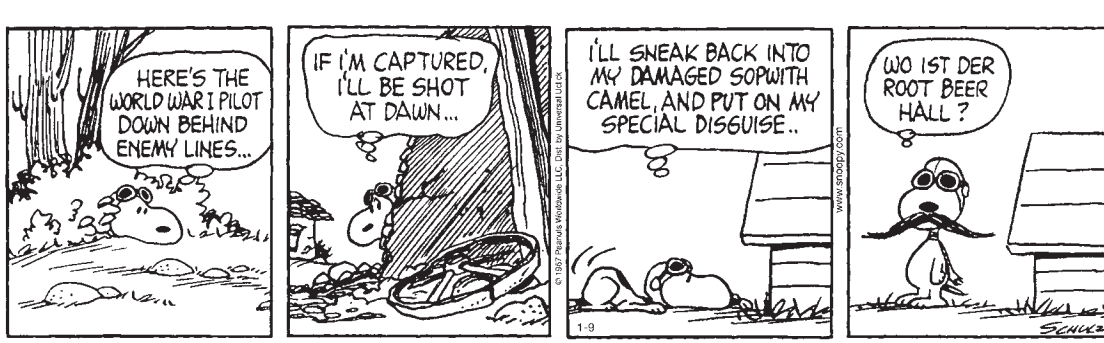
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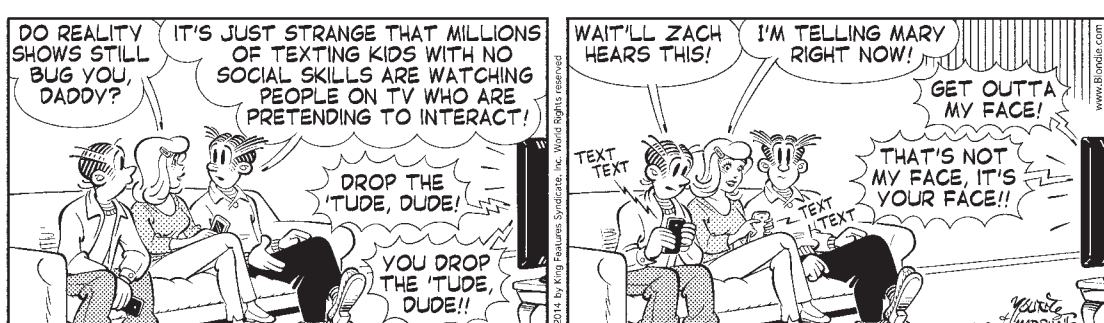
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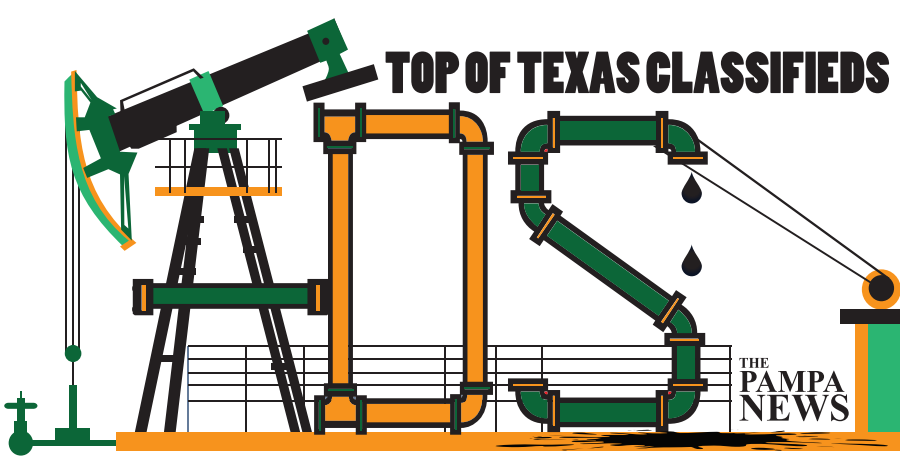


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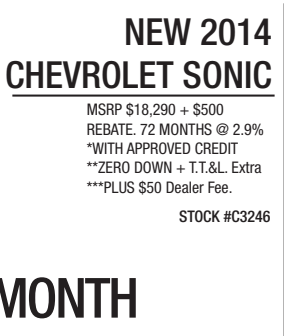
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PampaSports

Lady Harvesters down Lady Cats for first district win

BY JOHN LEE
jlee@thepampanews.com

The Lady Harvesters hosted the Lady Cats of River Road for their first home game in District 1-3A basketball play Tuesday night. The Lady Harvesters won the contest 51-36, improving them to 10-12 on the season and 1-1 in District 1-3A.

"The beginning of the game we were excited, it was a little slow-starting it seems. I didn't show them any film on River Road. I didn't want to fill their minds with 'we got to do this, we got to do that,'" head coach Gene Valentine said.

"I wanted them to focus on how WE play. We were a little slow to start at the beginning, but the second half, we kind of got into a rhythm, forced some turnovers. It was good for the confidence, we've got this one now we've got another big one on Friday."

The game started out very back-and-forth. With Pampa leading 8-6, the Lady Harvesters tried to pull away after a lay-up from senior Hayley Burnett.

Following consecutive 2-pointers from Lady Cat Aubrey England, Burnett hit a 3-pointer followed by a 2-pointer from Madison Brown to put the Lady Harvesters up at 15-12.

Burnett and Brown continued to be the only scoring players through the second quarter, amassing 23 points in two quarters. By the half, Burnett already had 13 points and Brown had 10.

After leading 23-21 at the half, the Lady Harvesters started to pour the points on. Following 2-pointers from Brown and Burnett, junior Ty'Randa Johnson joined in on the scoring, hitting a 2-pointer from inside the paint. Not to be upstaged by a 3-pointer from River Road's Amy Farrow, junior Risa Rodriguez hit a 3-pointer for the Lady Harvesters to put them up 32-26.

While the Lady Harvesters did have four 3-pointers, it was noted that Coach Valentine would like them to try to get points from the inside first, then it would open up their perimeter shooting.

"That first half we were two-of-twelve. We had a two-point lead and I was like 'we have got to get the ball inside and if you get the ball inside then maybe that will open up some stuff for you on the outside,'" Valentine said.

"We were just going down there and shooting from the perimeter, good thing they were 0-for-five and we were two-for-twelve. Once we were working the ball inside we didn't need to go for threes. The lead got away from them (River Road) because of free throws and easy shots and we didn't need to go for threes, it wasn't necessary."

The Lady Harvesters cooled the jets some in the fourth quarter, already leading 46-33. The Lady Harvesters scored 10 points in the fourth, eight in free throws, compared to the Lady Cats' 3. The Lady Harvesters finished with 73 percent from the free throw line.

"Well we finally got to the free throw line," Valentine said. "The first half we weren't hitting anything. I told them we've got to put some pressure on them so we can get some free throws. So we started rebounding a little bit, penetrating. Once we got in there we started getting some fouls on them."

The Lady Harvesters will look to get a district winning streak going on Friday when they travel to Borger to take on their rivals.

"Borger's kind of like tonight (River Road)," Valentine said. "They do what we call a 'double-drive,' they do a lot of moving around. The hardest part is playing them there, they always play us hard there. It's going to be tough because it is at Borger."

"And we are so familiar with each other and that makes it even tougher. If we'll be patient, take what they give us early and use our size we'll be ok. They are going to have to hit some perimeter shots on us."

Hayley Burnett had 25 points Tuesday night, followed by Madison Brown with 16.

Notes: The freshmen and junior varsity teams each won their games. The freshmen won in a thrilling overtime game 37-34. Cynthia Ramirez led the team in scoring with 20 points, and went eight-for-13 in free throws.

Junior varsity won their game 39-31 in a game that was not as close as the scoreboard lets on. Darian Harkcom's presence in the paint made her a threat as she scored 10 points. Elise Kennedy had six points, three coming off of a 3-pointer. Cameron Shaub's points all came in the first quarter where she hit a 3-pointer and a 2-pointer. Gracie Brown also had five points.



Photos by John Lee

Above, Risa Rodriguez (20) captures a rebound. Below, junior varsity player Elise Kennedy (12) makes a layup. The Lady Harvesters return to action Friday in Borger.



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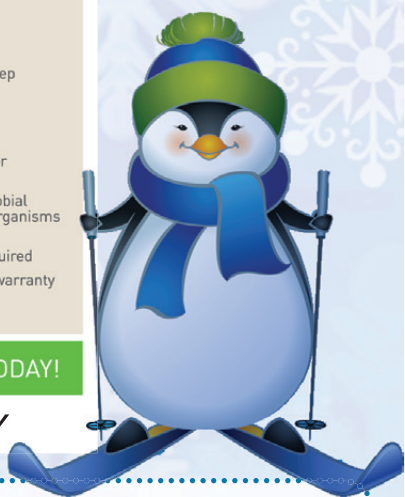
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