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**Steers gear up for start of district play**  
 Page 1B

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BIG SPRING

# HERALD

**THURSDAY**  
OCTOBER 11, 2007



VOLUME 102, NUMBER 272

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## Stanton man found not guilty

By **STEVE REAGAN**  
Staff Writer

STANTON — A Martin County jury deliberated about 30 minutes before finding a Stanton resident not guilty of sexual assault of a child.

Rodolfo Hernandez, a native of Mexico currently living in Stanton, had been accused of sexually assaulting a 15-year-

old boy in Stanton on Dec. 27. If convicted, he would have faced a sentence of between two years and 20 years in prison.

Assistant District Attorney Robin D. Orr, lead state's attorney on the case, expressed disappointment at the verdict. "I was somewhat surprised at the verdict, because I thought the case pro-

gressed well from our side," Orr said. "But I haven't had a chance to visit with the jurors to see what their thought processes were in coming to this verdict."

The case included testimony from the 15-year-old victim and the nurse examiner who saw the victim during his trip to the hospital, as well as DNA evidence

that Orr said linked the defendant to the assault.

Israel Guardiola of Midland served as Hernandez's attorney during the two-day trial.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@big-springherald.com.

## Emphasis placed on fire safety

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

As the mercury begins to dip in favor of the autumn season, many residents will be looking to warm and decorate their homes, a prospect that offers a combination of coziness and possible danger.

Carl Condray, Big Spring fire marshal, said the number of fire-related calls tend to go up quickly when temperatures go down, thanks to ill-kept heating units, space heaters and other means of staying warm.

To commemorate National Fire Prevention and Safety Week, Condray has been busy this week giving young and old alike simple but

*"Candles are one of the largest causes of house fires in the nation, especially toward this time of the year."*

—Fire Marshal Carl Condray

effective tips to preventing a catastrophic fire.

He and other Big Spring Fire Department personnel have visited several local elementary campuses, but Condray has words of caution for area adults, also.

"Make sure that your heater is adequately prepared for the season,"

See **SAFETY**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan  
Big Spring Fire Marshal Carl Condray addresses a group of kindergartners and first graders at Kentwood Elementary Tuesday afternoon. Condray and Big Spring Fire Department personnel are visiting area schools this week to promote National Fire Prevention and Safety Week.

## Garden City High School set for homecoming weekend

By **STEVE REAGAN**  
Staff Writer

GARDEN CITY — Football pomp and pageantry takes one final bow Friday when Garden City High School becomes the final area school to celebrate

homecoming.

Festivities at GCHS began Monday with the first of several dress-up days and will conclude Friday when the homecoming queen and "Mr. Bearkat" are crowned at half-time of the Garden City-Sands

football game.

Principal Ken Hoskins said six GCHS seniors are vying for the homecoming honors.

Queen nominees are Mikela Barton, daughter of Richard and Dinette Watkins, Whitney Kellermeier, daughter of

Sammy and Charlotte Kellermeier, and Halie Schaefer, daughter of Doug and Karen Schaefer.

Mr. Bearkat nominees are Bo Eggemeyer, son of Billy and Diane Eggemeyer, Spencer Plagens, son of Connie Plagens,

and Nick Sanchez, son of Jose and Maria Salazar.

In addition, the GCHS band will crown its sweetheart and beau during Friday halftime festivities.

See **GCHS**, Page 3A

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Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 7 p.m. weekdays and noon Sunday.

## Angel Tree sign up begins Monday

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

The Big Spring Salvation Army will begin accepting applications for its annual Angel Tree Program this month, as the charitable organization gears up to put Christmas gifts under the trees of low income families.

The local charity will begin

accepting applications Monday, according to Salvation Army Social Worker Paula Lafler, the beginning of a two week effort to reach out to area low income families that may have trouble putting gifts for their children under the Christmas tree this season.

"This is really the start of the busy season for us," said Lafler.

"We have the Angel Tree program getting started, and we have all of the other programs we work on during Thanksgiving and Christmas coming up as well. So we certainly have to get a jump on things.

"We'll be accepting applications

See **ANGELS**, Page 3A



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# Sports

**BIG SPRING HERALD**

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Jonathan Hull at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

Page 1B  
Thursday, October 11, 2007

## IN BRIEF

### Big Spring foursome finishes second in golf tournament

The Permian Basin Ladies Golf Association held its end of the year tournament at Andrews Country Club Oct. 2.

The year's final tournament held an additional event featuring one 4-person team from each club competing for a traveling trophy.

Although, Green Tree Country Club took home the trophy, the Big Spring Country Club foursome of Pat Underwood, Tammy Depauw, Patsy Sharpnack and Linda Dewaters finished second with a combined low gross and low net score of 145.

On individual notes, Joan Daniel registered the lowest amount of putts (28) in the first flight.

Underwood finished with the lowest net score in the second flight with a score of 68. Depauw had the fewest amount of putts (28) in the second flight.

Sharpnack posted the second lowest gross (98) in the third flight.

### Howard College announces Hawk Buddies Program

The Howard College Women's Basketball team is tipping off its season with the Hawk Buddies Basketball Program for girls in kindergarten through eighth grade.

It starts Saturday, Nov. 17 at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum with a basketball clinic from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Each Hawk Buddy will receive an opportunity to learn how to play the game from Howard players and coaches for a fee of \$20. A T-shirt will be given to each participant that will also serve as a free family season pass when worn to Howard College home games.

A second clinic is scheduled for Jan. 12 to be followed by a pizza party with the women's basketball team.

Each Hawk Buddy will be recognized at halftime of the Hawks home game against Clarendon College Jan. 21.

For more information, contact Head Women's Basketball Coach Earl Diddle at 264-5043 or Assistant Coach Eric Rodewald at 816-4327.

### Area high school varsity sports weekly calendar

Here's a look at the area high school varsity sports' calendar:

#### FRIDAY

Big Spring football vs. Plainview, 7:30 p.m.

Forsan football at Miles, 7:30 p.m.

Garden City football vs. Sands, Homecoming, 7:30 p.m.

Coahoma football at Hawley, 7:30 p.m.

Stanton football at Colorado City, 7:30 p.m.

#### SATURDAY

Big Spring cross country at Georgetown

See **BRIEFS**, Page 3B

## Coahoma visits Hawley for second district win

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

COAHOMA — Sometimes it takes just one win to turn a football team's season completely around.

That's what the Coahoma Bulldogs are hoping happens following their 35-13 win over Anson's Tigers last week.

The Bulldogs had struggled to find any momentum on either side of the ball going into the game against Anson. However, a huge third quarter in which Coahoma had an interception to set up a quick score and then returned a blocked punt for a touchdown changed those fortunes quickly.

The momentum continued to snowball for the Bulldogs from there and they picked up their first victory of the season. Now, to build off of that win, Coahoma (1-1, 1-4) must travel to face Hawley's Bearcats (1-1, 2-3) — last year's District 5-2A runners up — at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The Bearcats are coming off of a narrow, 14-8, defeat from Stanton. The Bearcats had numerous chances to tie or beat Stanton, but couldn't capitalize

offensively. Close losses are familiar to Hawley this season as their three losses have come by a combined 16 points.

A year ago, it was Coahoma on the wrong side of a close game with the Bearcats. Hawley scored nine points in the fourth quarter to defeat the Bulldogs, 21-19, after trailing for most of the game.

However, Coahoma didn't have the type of momentum it has this year heading into last season's matchup.

Spurred by the return of starting quarterback Donnie Garcia, the Bulldogs threw for 190 yards — by far their highest passing total of the season. Garcia accounted for all of those yards on 10 of 17 passing. He had two touchdowns through the air and picked up another one on the ground.

Garcia's return as signal caller allows Josh Paniagua to move back to wide receiver where he proved to be a deep threat against Anson, catching a 40-yard touchdown pass.

The aerial outbreak came just in time last week as the Bulldogs



Herald photo/Bruce Schooler  
Coahoma Bulldogs' quarterback Donnie Garcia throws a pass while scrambling away from two Anson defenders last Friday in Coahoma's 35-13 win. The Bulldogs visit Hawley's Bearcats Friday night.

See **CHS**, Page 3B



Herald photo/Bruce Schooler  
Big Spring Steers wide receiver Terrance Clemons runs past an Andrews Mustangs defender during the Steers' 33-29 loss last Friday. The Steers open district play Friday night when they host the Plainview Bulldogs at 7:30 p.m. at Memorial Stadium.

## Steers open district play hosting Plainview

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

The start of district play in Texas high school football signifies the beginning of a new season and a chance for teams change their fortunes.

Big Spring's Steers (0-6) hope to do just that Friday night as they host Plainview's Bulldogs (0-6) in what is the District 4-4A season opener for both squads.

Both enter Memorial Stadium searching for their first victory of the season and the chance to get a

leg up on other teams in the district by starting 1-0 in league play.

"This should be an evenly matched football game," Ritchey said. "Whoever makes the least amount of mistakes will win Friday night. They do some things better and we do some things better. We both have comparable defenses. It's going to boil down to a turnover or two and hopefully Plainview is the one making the mistakes."

Big Spring is coming off of a heartbreaking loss to the unde-

feated Andrews Mustangs last week as the Mustangs scored two touchdowns in the final four minutes of the game to overcome a 10-point deficit and to win, 33-29.

However, Ritchey notes that the close loss still had a positive effect on the psyche of the players.

"I call it a confidence builder instead of a moral victory," Ritchey said. "That game let our players know that they can play with anybody. We've played some

See **STEERS**, Page 3B

## Streaking Forsan traveling to Miles

By JEFF LANE

Special to the Herald

FORSAN — Maybe the pre-season predictions about the Forsan Buffaloes' football season weren't wrong after all.

After starting the season 0-3 with a tough non-district schedule, Forsan is riding two-game win streak and a share of the District 16-1A lead.

With wins against Irion County and Sterling City under their belts, the Buffs set their sights on the Miles Bulldogs on the road at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

Miles (1-4, 0-2) has not had it easy this season, already losing to Irion County and Menard in district play. However, Buffs Head Coach Tommy Thompson is not deceived by the losing record.

"I have a lot of respect for Miles on both sides of the ball," said Thompson. "They are playing good football, but they have hurt themselves with some special teams breakdowns and turnovers. We cannot afford to take this game for granted or they can hurt us."

The Bulldogs use an aggressive 5-3 front with a cover 3 style defense that relies heavily on its defensive line and linebackers to apply constant pressure.

Overall, the Buffs have more team speed and some size advantages, according to Thompson, and will look to utilize that by spreading the field and creating mismatches while controlling the line of scrimmage.

"We will run out of both the Wing-T and our spread forma-

See **FORSAN**, Page 3B

## Area roundup: Garden City faces Sands for homecoming

By BRANDON HALLFORD

Special to the Herald

GARDEN CITY — In the immortal words of the classic cartoon characters Heckle and Jeckle, "Tally-ho and away we go."

The games count, the emotions are amped up and the consequences of a loss are even direr.

It's time for the six-man football District 1, Division 1 race to begin. With four of the five teams — Rankin (4), Grady (7), Garden City (12) and Fort Davis (14) — ranked in the states top 20 in the latest polls, this district race could be one of the best in the state. Even the one team — Sands — that isn't ranked holds one of the most storied histories

of six-man football.

The Garden City Bearcats (4-1) and Sands Mustangs (4-2) open up their district schedule Friday night as the Mustangs travel down to the Garden as the guest of the Bearcats' homecoming.

On paper this looks to be a mismatch with Garden City holding all the cards. The Bearcats are coming off of a 72-0 trouncing of El Paso Immanuel Christian. The 'Kats have been nothing short of dominant, averaging more than 70 points a game while giving up a scant 13 points a game since their week zero loss to the state's No. 3 ranked Calvert Trojans. Last year, Garden City simply destroyed the Mustangs 82-6 and

See **AREA**, Page 2B



Courtesy photo/James Schwartz  
Garden City's Jake Schwartz (33) returns a kickoff for a touchdown as Troy Barnes (45) and Ryan Alvarado (14) look to pick off blocks in Garden City's 72-0 win over El Paso Immanuel Christian last week.







**Jill Odom Spannous, left, Emily Boyd and Suzanne Smith all share the title of Coming Home Queen during the Big Spring Steers homecoming game Friday night at Memorial Stadium.**

HERALD photo/Lane Bond

## Silver Wings Ball coming

The Silver Wings Ball, an annual fund-raiser for Hangar 25 Air Museum, will be held at 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 3 at the Big Spring Country Club. Activities will include a silent auction, appetizers, desserts, dancing and live music featuring Millennium Jazz. Tickets are \$25 per person; reserved tables for eight are \$200. RSVP by Oct. 29 by calling (432) 264-1999 or e-mailing hangar25@crcom.net

## GCHS

Continued from Page 1A

Band sweetheart nominees are senior Elia Briseno, daughter of Manuel and Maria Briseno, junior Jessica Barnes, daughter of Cliff and Tracy Barnes and sophomore Shyla Curry, daughter of Alex and Cyndi Vara.

Band beau nominees are sophomore Adrian Arzola, son of Juan and Martha Delgado, sophomore Jesse Morales, son

of Jesus and Christina Morales and senior Pancho Zuniga, son of Juan and Gabriela Zuniga.

Other homecoming highlights at Garden City included Wednesday evening's bonfire and a community pep rally, scheduled for 2:20 p.m. Friday in the high school gymnasium, Hoskins said.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

## SAFETY

Continued from Page 1A

said Condray. "By that, I mean have it serviced by an air conditioning and heating professional. You can also have the gas company come out and check it over. Homeowners can also help reduce the risk of a fire by checking their filter. A clean filter will allow the unit to be more effective and the fan unit to operate better.

"It also doesn't hurt to go out and take a look at your burners before you fire them up. Make sure they're clean and free of debris. A lot of times,

when people don't have their heating unit serviced for several years, the burning will cause a lot of carbon build-up on the pilot lights and other important parts. If that happens, you're not going to get a good mixture, which is indicated by a yellow burning flame. A good, proper flame will be blue."

And while heaters may be one of the leading causes of house fires during the fall season, Condray said the holiday season can present a serious danger as well, thanks to decorations and candles.

"Candles are one of the largest causes of house fires in the nation, especially toward this time of

the year," he said. "Historically, December has twice the number of candle fires than any other month because of all the decorative candles. We also see quite a few around Halloween.

"The main thing people need to remember is to keep a good clear space around the candle, put them in a proper holder and never leave a candle burning unattended. If you're going to leave the room and not be there to enjoy it, put it out. Also, keep them off combustible surfaces such as table cloths."

Condray said many candles come in their own "holder," which may present their own kinds of

danger.

"Some of the candles you can buy these days are inside glass jars and such," he said. "Some of them aren't exactly the best quality and they can get really hot, especially as the candle burns down, and fracture the glass or jar. We've seen quite a few cases like that.

"Some people also like to put table decorations around them, some of which are made from dry fabrics or actual dried leaves, which makes for an excellent wick to help the flame spread."

Holiday dangers won't necessarily wait until the Christmas or Thanksgiving holiday, as many families decorate

their yards and porches for Halloween, according to Condray. However, there are alternatives to the more volatile decorations, such as candles.

"There are liquid candles out now that are a lot safer," he said. "There are a lot of new options out there, including electric lights in place of candles, which is an excellent idea coming up with the jack-o-lanterns and throughout the holiday season. What I'm encouraging people to do is use touch-lights that

are battery powered. They're cool to the touch. Your decorations or jack-o-lantern will last longer, and you don't have to worry about the fire hazard involved with candles. There are also chemical light sticks that people can use."

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

## ANGELS

Continued from Page 1A

Monday and continue through Friday, Oct. 19. We'll also accept applications the following week, from Oct. 22 until Oct. 26. All they have to do is come by the office between 9 a.m. and noon, or 1 p.m. and 3 p.m."

Lafler said the application process is simple, and for some area children it could be the difference between waking up with gifts under the tree Christmas morning and waking up to nothing.

"They need to come in and bring a picture ID for

all of the adults, social security cards for all of the household members living there, birth certificates for children 12 and under and proof of income," said Lafler. "That means check stubs from work, food stamps, AFDC, TANIF, HUD or any of those types of income. They need to bring those in with them, because we do verify them. They also need to bring in a copy of all of their expenses, as well as a list of what their children might want for Christmas, including clothes sizes and shoe sizes.

"The picture ID has to be a state issued ID, not

the kind you can get at certain convenience stores. That's a new requirement this year. Also, they need to be sure to bring either the social security card itself, or a print out from the Social Security Office. It has to appear on something official, even DHS (Department of Health Services) records."

Once the names and gift ideas are collected and put on the Angel Trees in the form of cards, area shoppers will have the opportunity to brighten a child's holiday by choosing one and purchasing items for them.

"If the activity through the year is any indica-

tions, we're looking for an increase in applications this year," said Lafler. "We've certainly seen an increase in the number of people seeking help, especially with utility bills, this year, and that's a pretty good indicator for the Angel Tree program."

The trees will be erected in area stores and shops, according to Lafler.

For more information on the Angel Tree program, call 267-8239 or stop by their office, located at 811 W Fifth Street.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

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# Weekend Forecast

## This week's games



Jonathan Hull



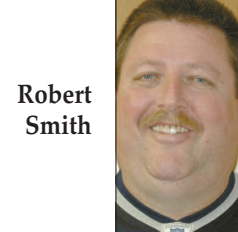
Thomas Jenkins



Bill McClellan



Steve Reagan



Robert Smith



Jeff Lane

Plainview at Big Spring  
Sands at Garden City  
Forsan at Miles  
Coahoma at Hawley  
Stanton at Colorado City  
Midland Lee at Odessa Permian  
Texas A&M at Texas Tech  
Texas at Iowa St.  
Baylor at Kansas  
Missouri at Oklahoma  
Oklahoma St. at Nebraska  
Colorado at Kansas St.  
LSU at Kentucky  
Auburn at Arkansas  
S. Carolina at N. Carolina  
Patriots at Cowboys  
Texans at Jaguars  
Redskins at Packers  
Titans at Buccaneers  
Panthers at Cardinals

Big Spring  
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Hawley  
Stanton  
Permian  
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Kansas  
Oklahoma  
Nebraska  
Colorado  
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South Carolina  
Cowboys  
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Cardinals

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South Carolina  
Cowboys  
Jaguars  
Redskins  
Titans  
Cardinals

Last Week  
Overall

17-3  
75-45

17-3  
81-39

16-4  
88-32

17-3  
88-32

14-6  
78-42

17-3  
81-39

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# New Vue

## Saturn crossover features European-inspired design

If you haven't driven a Saturn lately, you're missing out on a great automotive success story.

In the past year and a half, the GM division has launched four all-new models — each featuring the brand's new design character and performance.

This week I had the opportunity to spend time behind the wheel of the all-new Vue, Saturn's five-door, five-passenger crossover offered in front-, or all-wheel drive configurations.

Available in XE and XR trim lines (as well as the performance-oriented Red Line and the hybrid Green Line), I thoroughly enjoyed my week in the new Vue XR.

One of the most significant changes is the European-inspired design.

Throughout the division, the brand's new design character is a marked change from Saturn's early years of

producing consumer-friendly — yet Spartan — vehicles that delivered outstanding functionality but fell short on excitement.

Make no mistake; the new Saturns are extremely exciting. And yes, the division still prides itself on delivering functional, consumer-friendly vehicles with outstanding

customer service in haggle-free dealerships.

Bottom line, I expected the ride and handling to be impressive. But I was completely blown away by the new Vue's

styling and level of standard features.

One word sums up the Vue's styling: WOW!

This is truly a comfortable, extremely well equipped vehicle.

Let's talk safety for a minute. The new Vue features a high-strength steel structure to protect occupants in the event of a collision, as well as a number of safety features to help the driver avoid accidents.

One of the new features is Electronic



The 2008 Saturn Vue crossover.

Trailer Sway Control, which detects trailer sway that may be caused by improper trailer weight balance or excessive high speeds. When detecting trailer sway, the Vue's StabiliTrak system begins to apply the brakes, independent of the driver applying the brake pedal, to assist the driver in stabilizing the vehicle.

Other safety features include dual-stage front seat airbags, front seat side thorax airbags and head curtain airbags covering front and rear seating rows, disengaging collapsible pedals, active head restraints, tire pressure monitoring system, automatic power door locks and side turn signal lamps — as well as GM's OnStar safety and security system, including a one-year subscription to the Safe & Sound plan.

Buyers also have their choice of three engines, ranging from the 2.4-liter I-4 in the XE FWD and the Green Line; the 3.5-liter V-6 available in the

XE and the 257-horsepower 3.6-liter V-6 for the XR and Red Line.

Models equipped with the I-4 engine are mated to a four-speed automatic, while V-6 equipped models are mated to a six-speed automatic. Both feature a manual shift mode option.

As I mentioned before, if you haven't driven a Saturn lately, it's well worth a trip to the nearest dealership to see what all the excitement's about.

The new Vue is just part of that excitement. For those in the market for a crossover, the 2008 Saturn Vue is highly recommended for a test drive.

*Neal White has been covering the automotive industry for more than 15 years and is affiliated with the Texas Auto Writers Association and the Midwest Automotive Media Association. Comments may be sent to Neal at neal.white@waxahachiedailylight.com.*

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BY NEAL WHITE

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**MODEL:**  
2008 Saturn Vue 5-seat crossover  
Front-; all-wheel drive  
**Trim packages:**  
XE, XR, Red Line, Green Line

**PRICE RANGE:**  
\$18,000 - \$34,000  
**ENGINE:**  
2.4-L I-4 (169 hp/161 torque)  
3.5-L V-6 (222 hp/219 torque)  
3.6-L V-6 (257 hp/248 torque)  
**TRANSMISSION:**  
4-speed auto w/manual shift  
6-speed auto w/manual shift  
**EPA:** N/A  
**FUEL:** Regular unleaded

springs (rear).  
**TRACTION CONTROL:** All-speed traction control using engine torque reduction and brake intervention.

**BRAKES:** ABS  
**LENGTH:** 180.1 inches  
**WHEELBASE:** 106.6 inches

**WIDTH:** 72.8 inches  
**HEIGHT:** 67 inches  
**WEIGHT:** 3,789-4,325 lbs.  
**TRACK:** 61.4/61.8 (front/rear)  
**FUEL TANK:** 19.2/16.7 gallons (FWD/AWD)  
**TIRES:** 16-, 17-, or 18-inch  
**CARGO:** 29.2/56.4 cubic feet (behind second/first row)

## Texas news in brief

### Daycare building closed with baby left inside

DALLAS (AP) — A woman arrived at her child's daycare center to find the building closed with her 14-month-old daughter locked inside alone, authorities said.

The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services and Dallas police are investigating how the girl was left alone for nearly two hours Tuesday night. She was asleep in a high chair and was not injured, according to state officials.

"I was so upset," said the girl's mother, Ashley Hunter. "I was never going to put my child in day care. She had only been there three weeks."

Hunter said she couldn't get past the gate blocking the driveway at L&S Early Childhood Learning Academy and called police. Rescue workers broke the door to get the girl, according to a police report.

Spokeswoman Marissa Gonzales said Family and Protective Services, which licenses child-care centers, has not determined whether it will take action against the center.

Depending on the agency's findings, sanctions might include temporarily closing the center, revoking its permit or excluding the responsible caregivers from working with children there, she said.

Shirley Ray, the center's owner, could not be reached for comment Wednesday.

The police report said the owners told police the last person left the facility at 6 p.m. and did not realize the child was still there.

Dallas police Sgt. Brenda Nichols said Wednesday that police hadn't decided whether to file criminal charges.

"It appears that it was just a communication breakdown in that nobody realized that that child was still there," Nichols said.

At a different daycare business that operated in the same building, an 8-month-old boy died in 2003 from heat exposure after being left in a vehicle. The state

closed that center. Gonzales said the center has new owners and operates under a different name.

L&S has been cited for six violations since February 2006, including record-keeping violations, using prohibited bumper pads and comforters in infants' cribs, and employing a caregiver without CPR or first-aid training.

### Survivor of apartment blast indicted on bomb-making charges

HOUSTON (AP) — The survivor of a deadly explosion at a Texas City apartment building has been indicted on three federal charges related to making bombs.

Curtis Lee Jetton, 22, appeared in Galveston federal court Wednesday on counts of conspiring to make and possess unregistered destructive devices, possessing an unregistered destructive device and unlawful storage of the explosive material triacetone triperoxide, or TATP.

Jetton's roommate, Matthew Robert Rugo, 21, died when bomb-making materials exploded in their apartment in July 2006. Officials have said Rugo was studying biochemistry at a community college in Texas City and the apartment was leased in his mother's name.

The indictment against Jetton, of La Marque, was returned two weeks ago, part of a winding series of legal actions since the explosion.

Two days after the blast, prosecutors filed a criminal complaint against Jetton, but one month later the government asked to have the case dismissed in order to investigate further.

In April, prosecutors filed a criminal information, which is not based on a grand jury indictment. In May, Jetton backed out of a deal to plead guilty.

The indictment accuses Jetton of conspiring with Rugo to build bombs using TATP. The duo learned about the material on the Internet. Jetton allegedly

provided metal shavings from his work to use in an explosive mix that they placed in pipes, beer bottles and sandwich bags. The makeshift bombs were detonated in fields and under vehicles, the indictment says.

### Complaint filed against appeals judge

AUSTIN (AP) — Twenty lawyers have filed a judicial conduct complaint against Texas Court of Criminal Appeals Presiding Judge Sharon Keller, accusing her of violating the rights of a condemned man by cutting off appeals once office hours ended.

The complaint to the State Commission on Judicial Conduct says Keller improperly cut off appeals that led to the execution of Michael Richard on Sept. 25 despite the fact the U.S. Supreme Court earlier that day accepted a case on the propriety of lethal injection.

The lawyers said the case the Supreme Court accepted had direct implications for Richard's execution.

Keller last week voiced no second thoughts about her actions. Instead she suggested that Richard's lawyers should have filed their request on time. She didn't immediately a phone call to her office.

### TXU officially turned over to private investors

DALLAS (AP) — TXU Corp., the biggest power generator in Texas, officially passed from public to private ownership Wednesday and got a new name as investors closed the \$32 billion buyout.

The new owners are investors led by private-equity firms Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. and TPG, formerly Texas Pacific Group.

TXU changed its name to Energy Future Holdings Corp.

Donald L. Evans, former U.S. commerce secretary, has been named non-executive chairman for Energy Future Holdings and will lead the company's board of directors.

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# News in brief

## Student gunman in Ohio warned classmates of attack

CLEVELAND (AP) — A high school student said Thursday that he and classmates had warned their principal about threats by a classmate who shot and wounded four people before killing himself, and believed the attack could have been prevented.

The student, Rasheem Smith, said on CBS' "Early Show" that despite their warnings about the student who opened fire Wednesday, Asa H. Coon, principal Johneta Durant told them she was too busy.

"I told my friends in the class that he had a gun and stuff," said Smith, 15. "He was talking about doing it last week. I don't know why they didn't say nothing."

"We talked to the principal. She would try to get us all in the office, but it would always be too busy for it to happen," Smith said.

Responding on the show, schools CEO Eugene Sanders said the district would investigate. "We're going to review the entire situation over the course of today and tomorrow, make a determination of what has indeed occurred, and then see what the appropriate recommendations are, so we can move forward on Monday morning," he said.

The Associated Press made several attempts to reach Durant at SuccessTech Academy after the shootings, but she did not make herself available for comment.

Armed with two revolvers, Coon opened fire at the alternative school, wounding two students and two teachers. He had a history of mental problems and was known for cursing at teachers and bickering with students.

Police found a duffel bag stocked with ammunition and three knives in a bathroom, but no suicide note, Police Chief Michael McGrath said.

People at Coon's home late Wednesday declined to comment.

All classes in the city school district were canceled Thursday, and school officials said counseling would be available for students at recreation centers throughout Cleveland.

Coon, who was suspended Monday for fighting with a classmate and was under suspension at the time of the shootings, had warned classmates of an attack, but none took him seriously.

"When he got suspended, he was like 'I got something for you all,'" said student Frances Henderson, who said she often got into arguments with Coon. "I guess this is what he had."

Coon, who was white, stood out in the predominantly black school for dressing in a goth style, wearing a black trench coat, black boots, a dog collar and chains, she said.

Henderson, who is black, said she didn't believe race played a role in the shootings.

"He's crazy. He threatened to blow up our school. He threatened to stab everybody," said Doneisha LeVert, 14. "We didn't think nothing of it."

Police believe Coon, wearing a Marilyn Manson shirt, black jeans and black nail polish, targeted the two teachers he shot Wednesday.

Coon's troubles seemed to come to a breaking point this week. Students said Monday's fight was over God — Coon told his classmates he didn't believe in God and instead worshipped rocker Marilyn Manson.

## Federal judge delivers blow to Bush plan to crack down on employers with illegal labor

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A federal judge has blocked a proposed rule requiring employers to fire workers whose names don't match their Social Security numbers, dealing a major blow to the Bush administration's crackdown on illegal immigration.

Under the rule, businesses with employees whose names and Social Security numbers didn't match would have three months to correct the mistakes or fire the employees. If not, they could face government prosecution.

Businesses had argued that enforcing the rule would be expensive and expose them to legal action either from the government, if they didn't comply, or from any employees fired unfairly because of a mistake not corrected in time.

U.S. District Judge Charles Breyer's temporary injunction, issued Wednesday, stopped the Department of Homeland Security proposal from going into effect, at least temporarily.

Breyer said the proposal would likely impose hardships on businesses and their workers. Employers would incur new costs to comply with the regulation that the government hasn't evaluated, and innocent workers unable to correct mistakes in their records in time would lose their jobs, the judge wrote.

The decision was disappointing, said Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff, but it wasn't more than a "bump in the road" in the agency's drive to vigorously enforce laws aimed at keeping illegal immigrants out of the work force.

The government will evaluate the "modest legal

obstacles" presented by the judge, addressing them in litigation or outside court, as it examines its options and determines whether to appeal the decision, Chertoff said.

"I don't think there's anything in the judge's ruling that is insurmountable," Chertoff told The Associated Press in a phone interview. "The key is to move forward. We're committed to using every tool available to enforce our immigration laws."

But plaintiffs, including the AFL-CIO, the American Civil Liberties Union and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, saw the decision as a significant victory against a program they believe would foster discrimination on the work site, lead to job losses by lawful employees, and expose businesses to additional expenses and the fear of prosecution.

"Judge Breyer's decision today reassures authorized workers and U.S. citizens that their rights will be protected," said Marielena Hincapie, with the National Immigration Law Center, an attorney on the case.

The plan to issue Department of Homeland Security warnings was announced in August. The government had about 140,000 letters ready for employers by September, when they were scheduled to be released.

Each contained the names of 10 or more employees with mismatches in their records. About 8 million employees would be affected, according to court documents.

"This would cost a lot of money for employers to comply with," said Angelo Amador, director of immigration policy for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, a party to the suit. "This was drafted and published in haste, and now the administration is paying for it."

The letters were held after labor groups and immigrant activists filed a federal lawsuit, and asked the judge to block the regulation until its legal merits could be evaluated in court.

## Police investigate where noose on professor's door came from

NEW YORK (AP) — Hundreds of Columbia University teachers and students voiced outrage Wednesday over a noose found hanging from a black professor's office door, while police investigated if it

was the work of disgruntled students or a colleague.

The 4-foot-long twine noose was found Tuesday on Madonna Constantine's door at Teachers College, a graduate school of education affiliated with Columbia. At a raucous rally Wednesday, Constantine said it was a "blatant act of racism."

"I'm upset that our community has been exposed to such an unbelievably vile incident," she told the crowd.

Police were testing the noose for DNA evidence, said Deputy Inspector Michael Osgood, commander of the NYPD Hate Crime Task Force.

Constantine, 44, told police there was "ill will" between her and another professor, a police official said. But the official, speaking on condition of anonymity because the investigation had not been completed, stressed that the dispute was only one possible lead, and that police were also looking into whether "disgruntled students, anyone upset with grades" were involved.

Teachers College held a community meeting to discuss the incident, which has roiled the Ivy League campus.

"This is an assault on African-Americans and therefore it is an assault on every one of us," university President Lee C. Bollinger said in a statement. "I know I speak on behalf of every member of our communities in condemning this horrible action."

The state Attorney General's office has sent lawyers from its civil rights bureau and investigators to look into the incident, said spokesman Jeffrey Lerner.

Derald Wing Sue, an adjunct professor at Teachers College who does research with Constantine, said he was at work Tuesday morning when another colleague spotted the noose hanging on the door. She wasn't in her office at the time.

Constantine has written about race, including a book entitled "Addressing Racism: Facilitating Cultural Competence in Mental Health and Educational Settings." Students said Constantine teaches a class on racial justice.

"Clearly, it was a symbolic act of racial hatred that was intended to intimidate," Sue said. "I felt outraged and angry that this was directed at such a close colleague and friend of mine."

# In This Season Of Hope

## 22nd annual **HERALD** Community Christmas Parade

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Parade theme:

### "Peace On Earth"

Entry deadline — Noon, Friday, Nov. 16

The parade will begin promptly at 5:30 p.m. and head north on Gregg Street toward downtown, arriving in time for the downtown Christmas celebration.

- \$100 Herald's Best of Show Award:** for best interpretation of theme.
- \$75 Mayor's Trophy:** for best use of lighting.
- \$50 Grand Marshall's Award:** for best costuming.

First-place plaques will be awarded in the following categories:

1. Individual or family
2. Civic group, school or church
3. Commercial
4. Industrial

In addition, certificates of commendation will be awarded to the second- and third-place entries in each of those categories.

Also, a special award will be presented to the best sheriff's posse, riding club or other mounted entry.

### PARADE RULES

1. The parade's official Santa Claus will be provided by the Herald. **No other Santa Claus will be permitted in the parade.**
2. Floats should not exceed 65 feet in length, 8 feet in width and 14 feet in height.
3. Antique vehicles will be the only undecorated vehicles permitted without special permission from Parade Committee.
4. Vehicles of a strictly commercial nature will not be permitted.
5. Parade entries not in line by the start of the parade will be placed at the end of the parade and will not be eligible for awards.
6. For safety, do not throw candy from your float. Small children run up under the tires. Please have someone walking beside your float if you want to throw candy.

### 2007 Christmas Parade Entry Form

Name of organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

You will receive by return mail, your float number and a map showing where to go to line up.



- Individual/Family
- Commercial
- Civic/church/school
- Industrial
- Mounted

QUESTIONS? CALL (432) 263-7331, Ask for Elizabeth Flores or Rick Nunez

**Pediatrician**  
**Dr. Kimberly Saenz**  
*Board Certified In Pediatrics*

**1501 West 11th Suite 206**  
(In The Malone Hogan Clinic)

**432-714-4950**

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**Calcet**  
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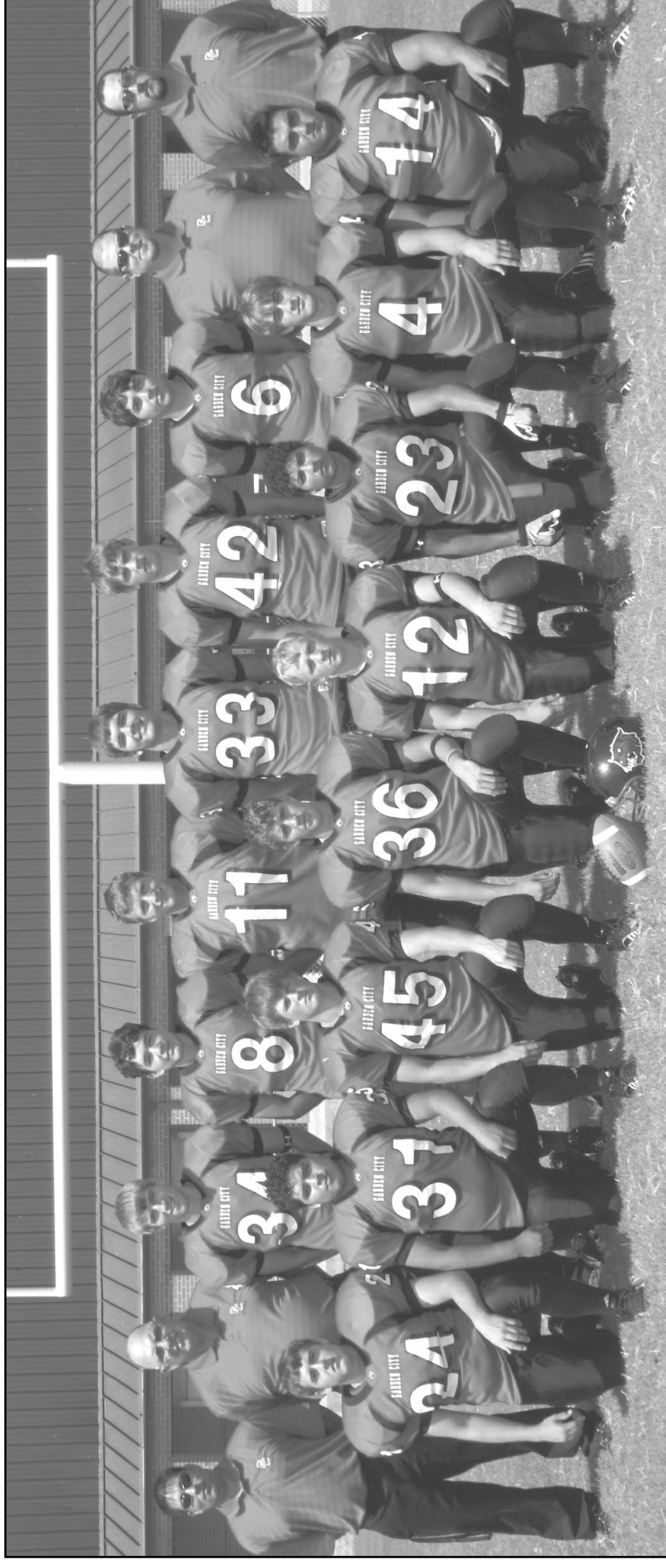
**Mission PHARMACAL**

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# GARDEN CITY BEARKATS VS. SANDS MUSTANGS

**FRIDAY**

**October 12, 2007 • 7:30 pm**  
**Bearkat Stadium - Garden City**



**GARDEN CITY HOMECOMING**  
**2007**

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**AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING**  
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**Funeral Home**  
**& Chapel**  
 301 E. 24th  
**267-8288**


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**& Hardware**  
**Inc.**  
 1515 E. FM 700  
**267-8206**


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**Dell's Cafe**  
  
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 Nothing But The  
 Best For Big Spring*  
**1608 E. 4th** **(432) 267-9223**

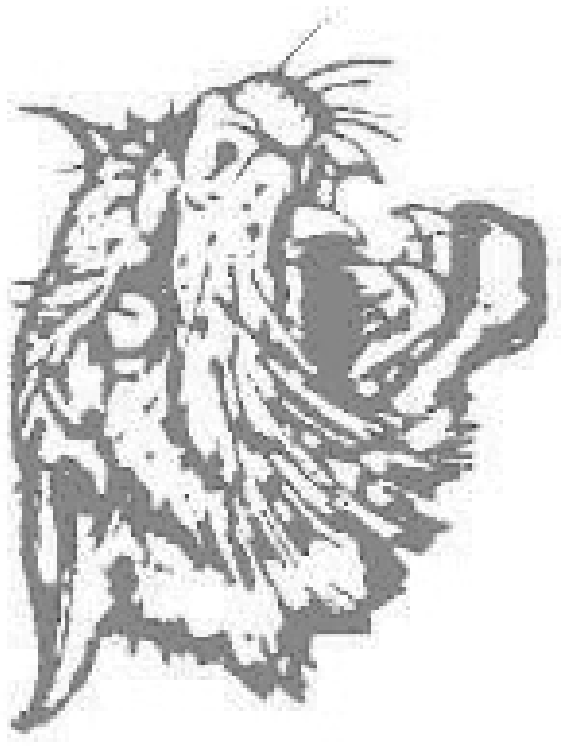
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**Implement Co.**  
  
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12813

**GO**

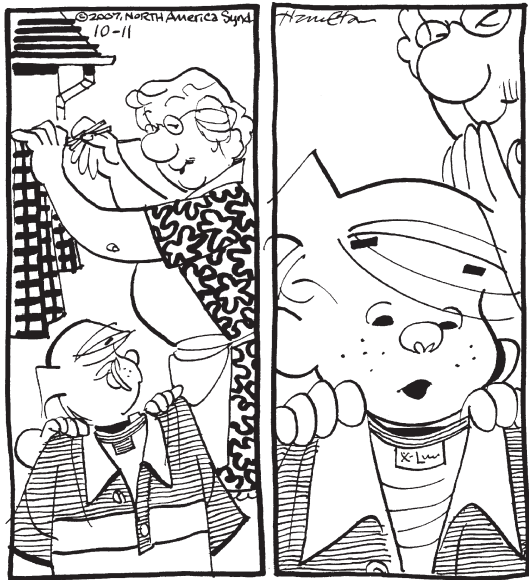


**BEARCATS**

THURSDAY

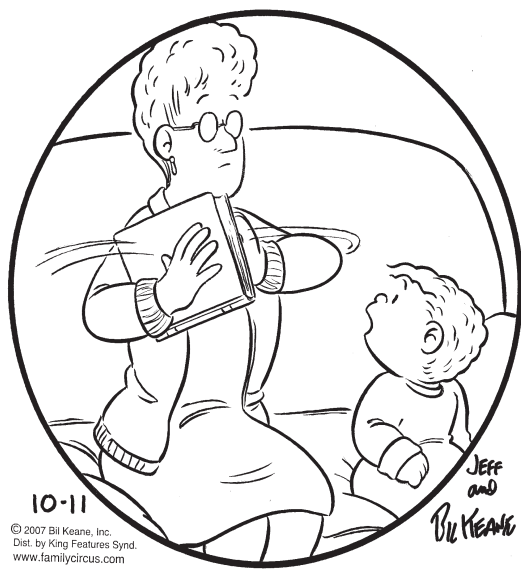
Table with 24 columns representing different TV stations and their programming schedules for Thursday, October 11, 2007.

DENNIS THE MENACE



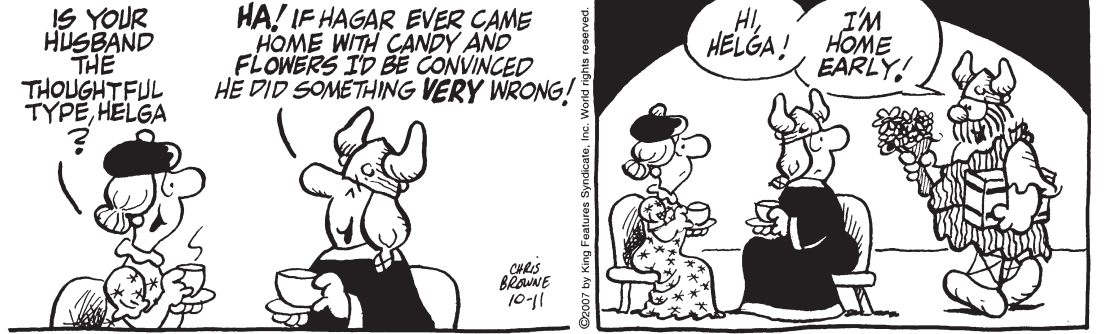
THAT'S RIGHT, DENNIS. MR. WILSON WEARS KING-SIZE SHIRTS. NOW! THAT'S THE SAME SIZE AS MY MOM AN' DAD'S MATTRESS!!

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



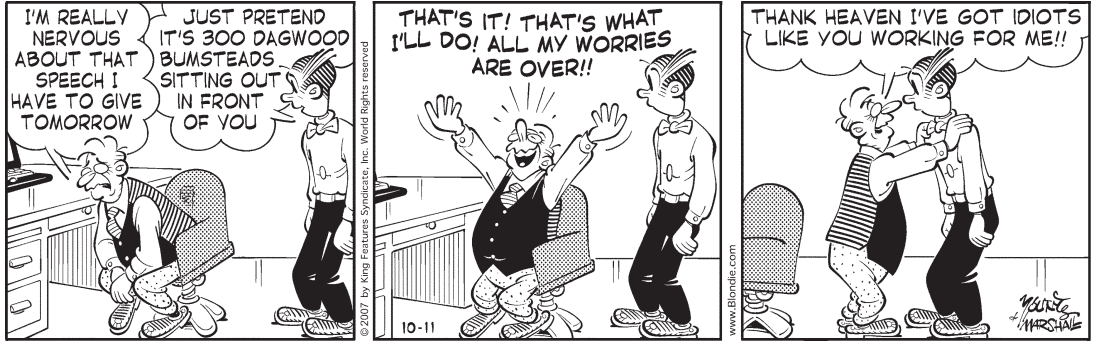
Happily ever after? Is that longer than a week?

HAGAR



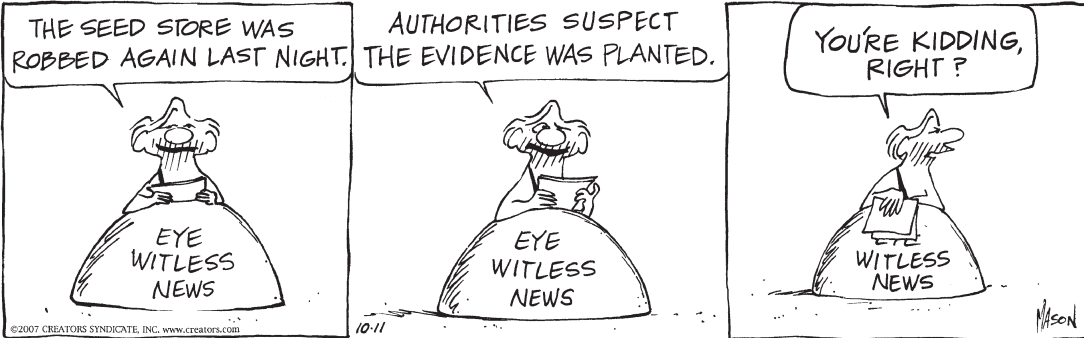
IS YOUR HUSBAND THE THOUGHTFUL TYPE, HELGA? HA! IF HAGAR EVER CAME HOME WITH CANDY AND FLOWERS I'D BE CONVINCED HE DID SOMETHING VERY WRONG!

BLONDIE



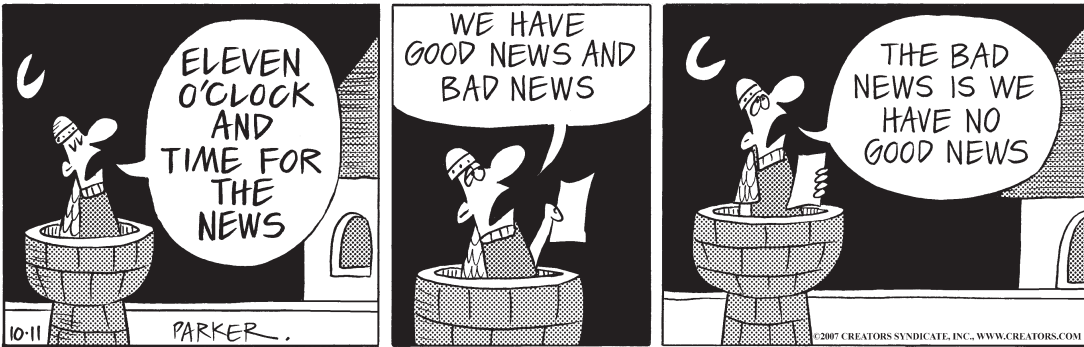
I'M REALLY NERVOUS ABOUT THAT SPEECH I HAVE TO GIVE TOMORROW. JUST PRETEND IT'S BOO DAGWOOD BUMSTEADS SITTING OUT IN FRONT OF YOU. THAT'S IT! THAT'S WHAT I'LL DO! ALL MY WORRIES ARE OVER!! THANK HEAVEN I'VE GOT IDIOTS LIKE YOU WORKING FOR ME!!

BC



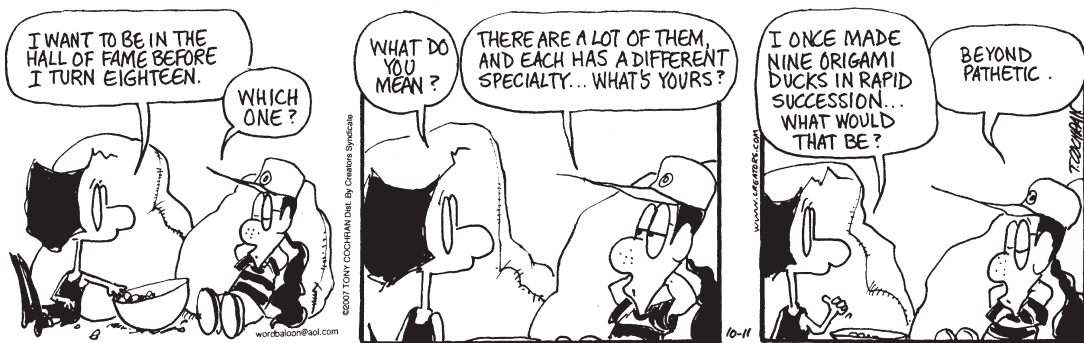
THE SEED STORE WAS ROBBED AGAIN LAST NIGHT. AUTHORITIES SUSPECT THE EVIDENCE WAS PLANTED. YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?

WIZARD OF ID



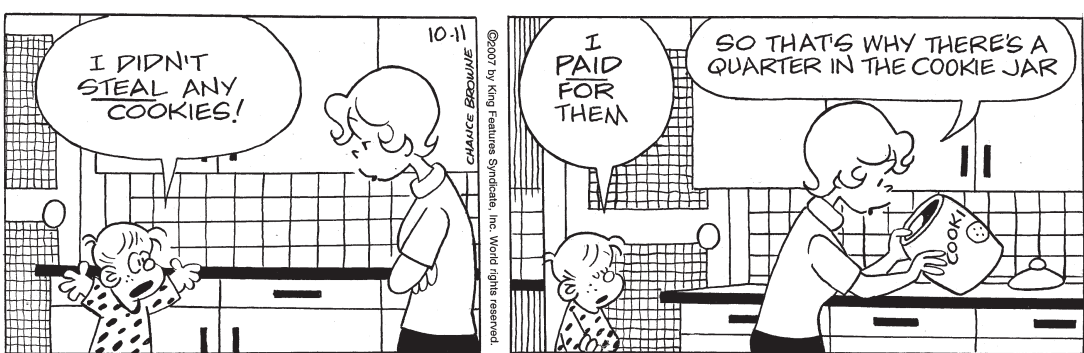
ELEVEN O'CLOCK AND TIME FOR THE NEWS. WE HAVE GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS. THE BAD NEWS IS WE HAVE NO GOOD NEWS.

AGNES



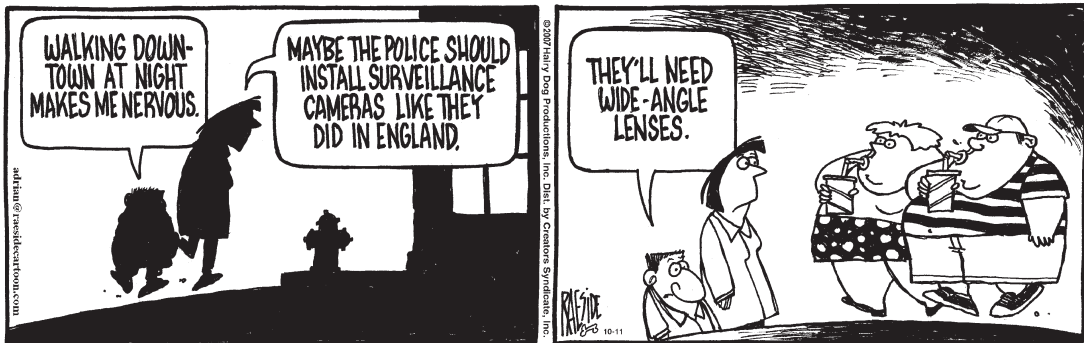
I WANT TO BE IN THE HALL OF FAME BEFORE I TURN EIGHTEEN. WHICH ONE? WHAT DO YOU MEAN? THERE ARE A LOT OF THEM, AND EACH HAS A DIFFERENT SPECIALTY... WHAT'S YOURS? I ONCE MADE NINE ORIGAMI DUCKS IN RAPID SUCCESSION... WHAT WOULD THAT BE? BEYOND PATHETIC.

HI AND LOIS



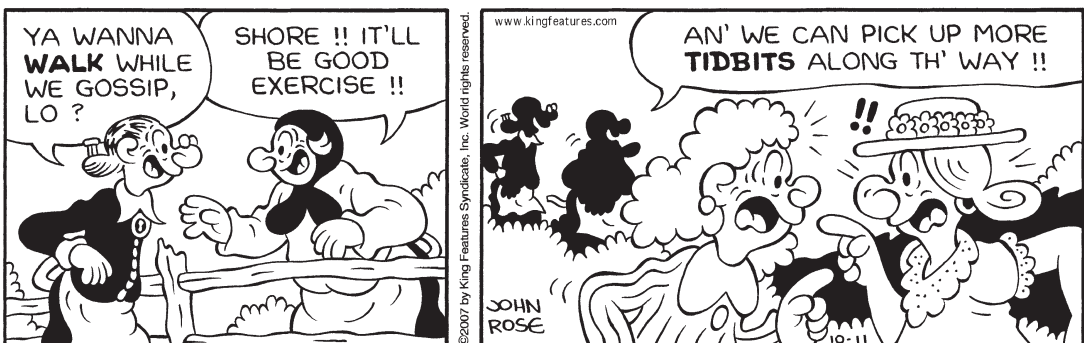
I DIDN'T STEAL ANY COOKIES! I PAID FOR THEM. SO THAT'S WHY THERE'S A QUARTER IN THE COOKIE JAR.

THE OTHER COAST



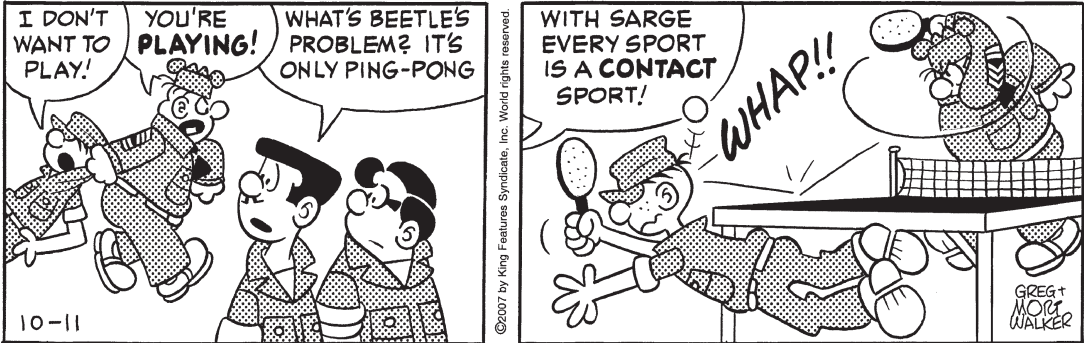
WALKING DOWN-TOWN AT NIGHT MAKES ME NERVOUS. MAYBE THE POLICE SHOULD INSTALL SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS LIKE THEY DID IN ENGLAND. THEY'LL NEED WIDE-ANGLE LENSES.

SNUFFY SMITH



YA WANNA WALK WHILE WE GOSSIP, LO? SHORE !! IT'LL BE GOOD EXERCISE !! AN' WE CAN PICK UP MORE TIDBITS ALONG TH' WAY !!

BETLE BAILEY



I DON'T WANT TO PLAY! YOU'RE PLAYING! WHAT'S BEETLE'S PROBLEM? IT'S ONLY PING-PONG. WITH SARGE EVERY SPORT IS A CONTACT SPORT! WHAP!!

This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Oct. 11, the 284th day of 2007. There are 81 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Oct. 11, 1776, the naval Battle of Valcour Island on Lake Champlain took place during the American Revolution. American forces led by Gen. Benedict Arnold suffered heavy losses, but managed to stall the British. On this date: In 1779, Polish nobleman Casimir Pulaski, fighting for American independence, died two days after being mortally wounded during the Revolutionary War Battle of Savannah, Ga. In 1890, the Daughters of the American Revolution was founded in Washington, D.C. In 1932, the first American political telecast took place as the Democratic National Committee sponsored a pro-

gram from a CBS television studio in New York. In 1942, the World War II Battle of Cape Esperance began in the Solomon Islands, resulting in an American victory over the Japanese. In 1958, the lunar probe Pioneer 1 was launched; it failed to go as far out as planned, fell back to Earth, and burned up in the atmosphere. In 1962, Pope John XXIII convened the first session of the Roman Catholic Church's Second Ecumenical Council, also known as Vatican II. In 1968, Apollo 7, the first manned Apollo mission, was launched with astronauts Wally Schirra, Donn Fulton Eisele and R. Walter Cunningham aboard. In 1975, "NBC Saturday Night" (later "Saturday Night Live") made its debut with guest host George Carlin. In 1984, space shuttle Challenger astronaut Kathryn Sullivan became the first American woman to walk in space. In 1991, testifying before

the Senate Judiciary Committee, law professor Anita Hill accused Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas of sexually harassing her; Thomas reappeared before the panel to denounce the proceedings as a "high-tech lynching." Today's Birthdays: Author Elmore Leonard is 82. Actor Earle Hyman is 81. Actor Ron Leibman is 70. Country singer Gene Watson is 64. Singer-musician Daryl Hall is 58. Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., is 57. Rhythm-and-blues musician Andrew Woolfolk is 57. Actress-director Catlin Adams is 57. Actor David Morse is 54.

Answer to previous puzzle: A crossword grid with words filled in.

Newsday Crossword

PRINCIPAL SOUNDS by Randall J. Hartman Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS: 1 Apt. manager, 5 Sentry's place, 9 Type of convent, 14 Norwegian port, 15 Not for, 16 Incite, 17 Peruse (through), 18 Spotted, 19 Land of the Sphinx, 20 Eastern capital, 23 College in Troy, NY, 24 \_\_ Aviv, 25 Deny, 29 Gung-ho, 31 Utensils for Emeril, 33 School grp., 34 Kitchen cover, 36 Scorch, 37 Ship's personnel, 38 Chinese restaurant order, 41 Skyline obscurer, 42 32 Down bash, 43 Chestnut horses, 44 Compass reading, 45 Gemini, for one, 46 Follow the orders of, 47 Cherub's superior, 49 Claimed the blue ribbon, 50 Actress Longoria, 53 Sea, 57 Cabinet department, 60 \_\_ Lang Syne, 61 "Great Caesar's ghost!", 62 Wide awake, 63 Dracula portrayer, 64 Vogue competitor, 65 Fender-bender results, 66 Leave in stitches, 67 Mrs. Dick Tracy, 8 Fey of 30 Rock, 9 Hockey venues, 10 One over par order, 11 Wall Street order, 12 Uncommon sense, 13 To date, 21 Public outcry, 22 Emcee's remarks, 26 Emblem of the United States, 27 Had dinner at home, 28 Looks bored, 30 Sotto \_\_, 31 State tree of Texas, 32 Home of Diamond Head, 34 Signs of soreness, 35 Terrible twos, e.g., 36 Close-fitting, 37 "Let's go!", 39 Yale who helped found Yale, 40 Dry with a twist, 45 Has on, 46 Calendar column heading, 48 Cancel, as a mission, 49 Author Cather, 51 Small bottles, 52 Llama habitat, 54 Pinches, 55 Two-person contest, 56 Comply with, 57 Young fellow, 58 Microbrewery product, 59 Oscar winner as Mohandas

A crossword grid with numbers 1 through 67 indicating starting positions for words.