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HERALD

TUESDAY
NOVEMBER 13, 2007



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Senior Center negotiations to begin

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners voted unanimously Monday morning to begin negotiations with the city of Big Spring that could transfer control of the Spring City Senior Citizen Center over to the municipality.

According to Commissioner Bill Crooker, talks between the county and city on the matter have been going on for some

time and the transfer would benefit both parties.

“Jo Ann (Staulcup, Big Spring City Council member) and I have met several times, and one time we met with the mayor,” said Crooker. “And the mayor is in favor of transferring the responsibility for operating the Senior Center to the city. And I think this is something that will be very beneficial, as far as the county is concerned, and I believe it will lead to a better

operation, eventually, and an improved operation of the Senior Center. The city has the resources and they own the building.”

Crooker laid out the financial details of the transfer, explaining the county would still be responsible for the same fiscal totals through this budgetary year.

“I’ve given you (the commissioner’s court) a proposal for the transfer of management of

“And I think this is something that will be very beneficial, as far as the county is concerned, and I believe it will lead to a better operation, eventually, and an improved operation of the Senior Center. The city has the resources and they own the building”.



—Bill Crooker, county commissioner

the Senior Citizens Center,” for the 2007-2008 fiscal year the said Crooker. “There is the matter that we would guarantee See **SENIOR**, Page 3A

Burn ban in force

Sullivan says chance of California-type wildfire is ‘very real’

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners approved a burn ban Monday morning at the urging of Volunteer Fire Chief Tommy Sullivan, in hopes of preventing the same type of wildfires that have torn through parts of California.

“Well, ‘tis the season for wildfires,” Sullivan told commissioners. “We really need this burn ban, that way we will have at least something that will help us enforce (safety measures). The same situation they have in California is just waiting to happen here. It’s a dangerous situation out there.”

Sullivan said the ban allows county residents to burn trash only if the burn barrel — along with other safety items —

meets a strict list of requirements.

“We’re really hoping people will stop burning their trash altogether,” said Sullivan. “We’re strongly suggesting they don’t.”

County Judge Mark Barr agreed the burn ban was necessary, but asked that provisions be made to allow welding.

“I hope people out there understand just how dangerous the situation is right now,” said Barr. “I really hope we can impress that upon the people of Howard County, and remind them to please be very careful.”

Sullivan said he hopes the ban will help curb the

See **BAN**, Page 3A



Sullivan



Howard County Judge Mark Barr, center, reads a resolution establishing a county-wide burn ban while the rest of the commissioner’s court listens during Monday morning’s meeting. The court approved the ban by a unanimous vote. The ban came at the urging of Volunteer Fire Chief Tommy Sullivan, who said Howard County could see similar wildfires as those that have ravaged California.

Commissioners to seek reduced fee on pact with Dickens County

‘Misunderstanding’ may cost Howard County \$129,780

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners approved a number of routine items Monday morning, including the revocation of a two-year-old tax abatement that never came to fruition and held an executive session concerning a contract dispute with Dickens County Correctional Center.

The commissioner’s court, along with County Judge Mark Barr, met with County Attorney Mike Thomas in an executive session Monday concerning a miscommunication between the two counties regarding contracted jail space that

could cost the county \$129,000.

“We’re looking at mediation possibly after the first of the year,” said Barr. “Mike has been in contact with their attorney and they are working out the details right now.”

The charges center around Howard County’s alleged failure to notify Dickens County Jail 30 days in advance that they planned to terminate a contract for jail space that was made necessary when the Howard County Jail was shut down by the Texas Commission on Jail Standards in November 2006 for failing to meet several life safety issues.

“This happened back before I was

county judge,” said Barr. “We didn’t know where we stood with Dickens County. I was in court the day commissioners had somewhat of a verbal contract with them for four months, and after that it was just going to be a month to month deal. Nobody saw a written contract after that. The commissioners court never saw another written contract after that. And they (commissioners) assumed that’s the way we were doing business.”

“They sent us a contract, which was signed by Dale Walker and Judge (Ben) Lockhart, that said they had to give 30 days notice, and

See **FACT**, 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
Tuesday, November 13, 2007

IN BRIEF

Crossroads region high school football playoff pairings

FRIDAY
Coahoma vs. Ballinger, 7:30 p.m., Mustang Bowl in Sweetwater.
SATURDAY
Big Spring vs. Hereford, 2 p.m., Lowrey Field in Lubbock.
Forsan vs. Winters, 7:30 p.m., Bobcat Stadium in San Angelo.
See Page 2B for a full listing of the state's playoff pairings.

Youth B-ball league sign-ups have started at YMCA

Registration for the Big Spring Youth Basketball League for boys and girls are taking place at the YMCA through Saturday Divisions of play include separate boys and girls teams in grades 1-2, 3-4 and 5-6.

Outlying communities may form their own teams, but must have a mix of players from each grade in each division. Games are played on Saturdays beginning Dec. 8.

Practices start the week of Nov. 26. A coaches meeting is scheduled for 2 p.m. Sunday at the YMCA. Teams will be formed at this meeting. Players are not required to attend.

Registration fee is \$45 with an \$8 credit for those who will use the same game jersey as last season.

Call the YMCA at 267-8234 for more details.

Individuals needed to referee area basketball games

Individuals are needed to referee area subvarsity basketball games for the 2007-08 season.

Anyone interested should call Adam Rodriguez at 517-0300.

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 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 Jan. 21.

For more information, contact Assistant Coach Eric Rodewald at 816-4327.

BSHS swim team solid at Pecos

Herald Staff Report

PECOS — Results can be deceiving, when the only place we see them is on paper. The full story is never told.

Such is the case for the Big Spring High School swim team, which competed in the Pecos Invitational swim meet Saturday. Both the boys' and girls' teams finished well out of first place. However, both competed well against other teams from their district.

The girls' team finished 12th out of 19 teams, but was the second place finisher amongst district rivals Pecos, Andrews, Abilene Wylie and Monahans. Only Pecos finished ahead of the Lady Steers in fifth with 130 points. The Lady Steers finished with 42 points, which is seven more points than Andrews and 27 more than Wylie.

Leading the way for the Lady Steers were sisters Kelly and Lauren Sage. Kelly, a sophomore,

and Lauren, a senior, had a hand in all of the points scored by the girls' team.

Lauren picked up a seventh-place finish — worth seven points — in the 50-yard freestyle. She finished ninth in the 500-yard freestyle, picking up another four points for her team.

Kelly swam to a fifth-place finish in the 200-yard freestyle, earning her team 10 points. She also finished 10th in 100-yard backstroke for another three

points.

The sisters teamed with Doris Brandt and Ashley Oliver in the 400-yard freestyle relay for an eighth-place finish, gaining 10 more points of the team. The Sages and Brandt were also apart of a ninth-place finish, along with Jennifer Walker, in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

The boys' team finished seventh overall with 81 points.

See **SWIM**, Page 2B

Football playoffs take center stage

Can you feel it? It's in the atmosphere and definitely in the minds of coaches and young football players throughout the state.

That feeling is the beginning of the Texas high school state football playoffs with the first games kicking off Thursday.

From six-man Division II to Class 5A, 534 teams begin their quest for a state title this week.

Although I get excited around this time every year, I will agree the playoffs have become a bit watered down and lose some of its luster because of the amount of teams involved each season. However, the postseason still contains enough magic to keep me enthralled as I follow each classification's pursuit for a state championship.

This year feels different in the West Texas area, though. Maybe it's because this is my first dose of the playoffs while living in Big Spring in more than five years. Regardless, the playoffs in this region are set up to be something special.

It's already special for the teams in Howard County. Herald reader Pat Ray brought something to my attention. According to the records listed on www.texasfootball.com, this is the first time ever that all three Howard County teams — Forsan, Coahoma and Big Spring — have advanced to the playoffs in the same season.

That's special and something that we as Howard County residents should celebrate. Regardless of where your loyalties lie, support these three

teams. Each one has a great story about its season. Each team had to fight to get into the playoffs.

All three Howard County squads started the year with at least an 0-4 record. However, each one rallied late and put together enough wins at the end of the season to sneak in the playoffs.

Say what you will about the records of each team, all three overcame big odds to make the postseason and deserve to be rewarded by the community accordingly. Reward them with your support and enthusiasm and not just the team you generally cheer for. The Buffaloes and Bulldogs fought just as hard through tough pre-district and district schedules, overcoming adversity along the way.

Another reason the playoff atmosphere feels so different this year is the return of a West Texas power house to the upper echelon of the state's best. Love them or hate them, Mojo is back.

There hasn't been a state championship won by a Class 4A or 5A West Texas team since a Cedric Benson led Midland Lee Rebels won the state title in 2000.

However, the Odessa Permian Panthers have become a legitimate threat to do just that. A Region I title is well within the grasps of the undefeated Panthers as their bracket laid out beautifully for a deep post-season run. Their top challenger will be a Eules Trinity team Permian defeated 30-3 in the third week of the season. It was the only loss of the season suffered by Trinity.

If Mojo can get past the perennial 5A powerhouse again, then their toughest challenger could

See **PLAYOFFS**, Page 4B



JONATHAN HULL



HERALD photo/Bruce Schooler
Big Spring's LaRay Woodard returns an interception against Lubbock Estacado in the Steers' 33-27 overtime victory Nov. 2. The Steers are among one of three teams from Howard County to enter the postseason this week.

Phillips keeping division-leading Cowboys humble

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — Wade Phillips keeps telling everyone that his Dallas Cowboys "haven't done anything yet."

Their 8-1 record? Nice, but not enough to clinch a playoff berth.

That bulging, two-game lead in the NFC East? Great, but it could dissolve if the Cowboys stumble and another team wins six straight games, like the division rival New York just did.

OK, then. How about the fact Dallas is a win away from matching last year's win total, which was good enough to get it into the playoffs, and still has seven games left?

Yeah, that one's pretty good. Phillips liked it so much he brought it up himself Monday, calling it "important," then adding — of course — "It hasn't guaranteed anything for us."

Phillips finds himself in the envious position of trying to keep expectations down, both in his locker room and among fans of "America's Team." That's not an easy task after the last two games.

On Sunday, the Cowboys went to New York and ended the Giants' winning streak with a 31-20 victory that hardly was in doubt in the second half. There were all sorts of notable statistical feats in the game, but the

most important is that New York is 6-3 and two of those losses are to Dallas.

A week before, the Cowboys went to Philadelphia and throttled the Eagles badly. While some tried dismissing it as the end of an era for Donovan McNabb and a club that's won five of the last six NFC East titles, the way they pulled out a win Sunday against Washington proves the Eagles haven't given up.

So step back and consider Dallas' status this way: Following consecutive road wins over two tough division rivals, the Cowboys have only one loss all year, and that was to the team sparking talk of a perfect season; the Cowboys even had a rare second-half lead over them. Now, the biggest challenge left is against conference co-leader Green Bay, and that game is at Texas Stadium.

The Packers arrive at the end of a stretch of three straight home games. It starts Sunday against Washington, followed by a Thanksgiving Day game against the New York Jets. (Nothing like drawing a one-win team on a short week.) Dallas also has no significant injuries and has just added defensive lineman Tank Johnson to the rotation; he made his 2007 debut

See **COWBOYS**, Page 3B



AP photo/Bill Kostroun

Dallas Cowboys wide receiver Terrell Owens reacts as he comes off the field after the Cowboys beat the New York Giants 31-20 Sunday at Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J. Owens' sudden good behavior is partially due to Head Coach Wade Phillips' ability to keep his team humble.

Obituaries

Police blotter

Fire/EMS

Sarah Guthrie



Sarah Guthrie, 95, of Big Spring died Sunday, Nov. 11, 2007, at her residence. Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2007, at Trinity Memorial Park. Memorial Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the First Presbyterian Church with Rev. Flynn Long and Rev. Allan Guthrie officiating. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 6 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

She was born Jan. 26, 1912, at Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to Florence and William Malloy. She married G. T. Guthrie May 24, 1936. He preceded her in death March 23, 2001.

She had been a resident of Howard County for more than 70 years. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church and had held all offices in the church. She was one of the first women elders. taught Sunday School for a number of years and was active in the Presbyterian Women's Work. She was employed by Cosden for more than 10 years and had also taught briefly at Coahoma.

She is survived by a daughter, Betty Lee and husband, Buck, of Big Spring; three grandchildren, Carol Joy Lee, Glenn Scott Lee and wife, Dorothy, all of Victoria, and Craig Allen Lee and wife, Julie, of Lake Dallas; two great grandchildren, Brooke Lee and Jamie Peak; a sister, Virginia Olson and husband, Bill, of Houston; and several nieces and nephews, including Allan Guthrie and wife, Ethel, of Coahoma.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by five brothers.

The family suggests memorials to the First Presbyterian Church, P. O. Box 2222, Big Spring 79721-2222; or Home Hospice, 111 E. 7th Street Ste. A, Big Spring 79720.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Paid obituary

Maria F. Marin



Maria F. Marin, 90, of Big Spring, died Sunday, Nov. 11, 2007, in a local hospital. A vigil service will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2007, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 15, 2007, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with Rev. James Plagens, pastor, officiating. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

She was born Aug. 15, 1917, in Big Spring, marrying Frank Marin Sr. Oct. 11, 1934, in Big Spring. He preceded her in death Feb. 16, 1978.

Mrs. Marin was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and was a homemaker. She was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, the Curisillistas, Ladies Altar Society and the Guadalupanas.

Survivors include her children, Demetria Reyna of Big Spring, Alvino Marin of Dallas, Jimmy Marin of Big Spring, Frank Marin Jr. of Big Spring, Belinda Chabarria of Pecos, Rebecca Mendoza of Big Spring and Freddy Marin of Bedford; her siblings, Juan Flores Jr., Metilda Reyes, Herlinda Lujan, Antoinia Marquez, Paula Ocha, Aurora Laifiz and Maria Modesto; sixteen grandchildren; thirty-eight great grandchildren and five great great grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by two sons, Antonio Marin and Porfidio Marin.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Ethan Alexander Meek

Ethan Alexander Meek, infant son of Veronica Rodriguez and Justin Meek, died Sunday, Nov. 11, 2007, in a local hospital. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2007 at the St. Thomas Catholic Church with Deacon Johnny Arguello officiating. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

He was born Nov. 11, 2007, in Big Spring.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his paternal grandfather, Mel Meek; paternal grandmother, Amalia Canales; maternal grandfather, David Marquez Sr.; maternal grandmother, Pauline Hilario; paternal great grandparents, Millard and Teresa Meek and Lee Canales; and maternal great grandparents, Daniel and Benita Marquez and Juan Rodriguez.

He was preceded in death by his great grandmothers, Maria E. Rodriguez and Clara Canales; great grandfather, Mel Meek; and an uncle, Tony Rodriguez.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Monday and 7 a.m. today:

- **SCOTT FOWLER**, 50, of 1012 W. Third Street, was arrested Monday on a local capias warrant.
- **JESSICA M. RAMIREZ**, 25, of 1400 Stadium, was arrested Monday on four local warrants and a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **JESUS RODRIGUEZ**, 25, transient, was arrested Monday and held for immigration.
- **MARCOS MARTINEZ**, 42, transient, was arrested Monday and held for immigration.
- **THEFT** was reported:
 - in the 600 block of 10th Street.
 - in the 1100 block of Lamesa.
 - in the 1200 block of 11th Place.
 - in the 1800 block of FM 700.
- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 1400 block of Sixth Street.

Sheriff's report

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity:

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 64 inmates at the time of this report.

- **RICKY LOPEZ**, 17, was arrested Monday by DPS on charges of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less and no driver's license.
- **RICKY LEE TATE**, 18, was arrested Monday by DPS on charges of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **TRAVIS ALLEN MELTON III**, 27, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for motion to revoke probation for theft.
- **DENISE DEANDA**, 35, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of stealing/receiving stolen checks.
- **OLLIE MAE TEEL**, 43, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of theft by check.
- **JESSICA MICHELLE CHAVERA**, 26, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of no liability insurance, theft by check and possession of marijuana.
- **LINDA THIBODEAU**, 53, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of theft by check.
- **ALLISON REDDING EDMONDSON**, 35, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for theft by check.
- **MARIE ESCAJEDA**, 27, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **JERRICK DECOVA STRAUGHTER**, 35, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of bail jumping - failure to appear.
- **MICHAEL ANGELO GARZA**, 19, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of burglary of a habitation and possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **BRYSON ONEIL VANDERBILT**, 22, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on charges of bail jumping - failure to appear (two counts) and driving while license invalid.

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services reported the following activity:

- Note — this report includes calls from the weekend.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 500 block of Highland. Service refused.
 - **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1900 block of E. 25th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of W. 17th. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1600 block of Vines. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - **TRAUMA** was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported near the 195 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - **MEDICAL** was reported in the 300 block of E. Sixth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2200 block of Cecilia. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1600 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - **MEDICAL** was reported in the 600 block of Settles. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - **TRAUMA** was reported in the 700 block of S. Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1200 block of S. Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported near the intersection of Longshore Road and RR 33. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - **MEDICAL** was reported in the 800 block of FM 700. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2000 block of Virginia. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - **TRAUMA** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - **STRUCTURE FIRE** was reported in the 700 block of N.W. 10th Street.

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 50s. South winds around 10 mph.

Wednesday...Sunny. Highs in the mid 70s. Southwest winds around 10 mph shifting to the north 10 to 20 mph in the afternoon.

Wednesday night...Partly cloudy. Colder. Lows in the mid 30s. Northeast winds 20 to 25 mph decreasing to 10 to 20 mph after midnight.

Thursday...Partly cloudy. Cooler. Highs in the upper 50s. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

Thursday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s.

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BSHS Speech & Debate Team sweeps events

Special to the Herald

The Big Spring High School Speech and Debate team continued its winning ways by winning first place sweepstakes award on back to back weekends in the Midland High School and Abilene Cooper tournaments. "This is a really good group of students," said Jennifer Adams, BSHS speech and debate coach. "They work really hard and each one of them wants to be the best they can be." At the Midland High School tournament, the team showed a dramatic

flair by placing four students (out of six) in the finals of Dramatic Interpretation. Leading the was Maurice Africh in first place, followed by Eric Valle in second, Rachel Overby in fourth, and Amanda Lopez in fifth. In debate, Pete Covarrubias and Erika Batten placed third in Cross-examination, while Africh and Overby reached the quarter-finals. In Lincoln-Douglas debate, Roger Kauss was a quarter-finalist, while Lopez placed third and Jacki Ranier was second in the novice category.

"This is a really good group of students. They work really hard and each one of them wants to be the best they can be."

—Jennifer Adams, BSHS speech and debate coach

Lopez and Rainer were sixth in Duet Acting. Others placing included: Kauss, first in Foreign Extemporatory, sixth in Oratory, and sixth in Humorous Interpretation; Africh, first in Prose; Overby, sixth in Domestic Extemporatory and fifth in

Oratory; Thad Loftis, sixth in Foreign Extemporatory; and Andrew Lewis, second in Oratory. A much smaller group traveled to Abilene Cooper this past weekend to win the first place trophy from much larger

groups of competition.

"Everyone who was on the bus came home with a trophy!" Adams said.

This time, debate was the marquee events for BSHS as Africh and Overby placed first in Cross-examination, Kauss brought home the gold in Lincoln-Douglas and Katie Cooper did the same in the Lincoln-Douglas novice division.

Not to be outdone, Covarrubias and Batten reached the quarter-finals in cross-examination and Marshal Van Pelt was a quarter-finalist in Novice Lincoln Douglas.

The team also did well

in Oratory with Africh placing first, Kauss third, Van Pelt fourth and Cooper sixth.

Africh also brought home the first place trophy in Dramatic and fourth place in Foreign Extemporatory. He was followed by Van Pelt, who was third in Dramatic and sixth in Foreign Extemporatory.

Kauss placed first in Domestic Extemporatory and seventh in Impromptu Speaking.

Batten placed fifth in Poetry and Overby sixth in Domestic Extemporatory.

SENIOR

Continued from Page 1A

\$108,000 we have in our budget for operational costs, and that we would turn over the funds from the grants — approximately \$84,000 — and all money and accounts held by the county for the Senior Center would be given to the city of Big Spring. "That would include all lawn and maintenance equipment, as well as the two vehicles that are being used to deliver meals. I visited with Jackie (Olson), and she's had a chance to review this proposal, and this is acceptable to her and we feel it pretty much covers the subject."

Crooker said he had hoped

the transfer could be completed by the end of the month, but time constraints from other agencies simply won't allow it.

"At one time we thought the transfer could be made by Dec. 1, but we have since learned from the Department on Aging and Disability Services they need to be notified of any transfer 60 days prior to the change," said Crooker. "So that would move this up to the first of the year. So, we're looking at sometime around Feb. 1."

Staulcup said city officials have simply been waiting on official word from the commissioner's court before moving forward with the issue, which was recently discussed by council members during a work session.

"The city is waiting to hear

your decision before they put it on the agenda," said Staulcup. "It was supposed to be on the agenda for Tuesday night, but most of the city management has been out of town for a week, and evidently it escaped the notice of the person who was making the agenda. The mayor has told me, however, that it will be on our future agenda, most likely our next meeting, so the council can vote on it."

"Is the anything you'd like to add?" Crooker asked Bebe McCasland, currently the president of the center's board of directors.

"Just gratitude," said McCasland. "I think the citizens of the county and city would tell you they are grateful, and you've earned it for all the

years you (commissioners) have supported the center. Frankly, I believe the city now has an opportunity as they develop programs to attract retirees, they can go ahead and assure the seniors now and the seniors in the future the existence of a center, and it is literally imperative to have one."

Barr said he supports the transfer of responsibilities, but opposed laying out the fiscal details in the proposal until negotiations between the city and county could be completed.

"I don't have a problem with transferring it (the center) from the county to the city. I think we might be a little premature getting into details right now," said Barr. "What I'd like to do right now is approve a resolution that we begin negotiations

with the city and fine tuning this and seeing who will be responsible for what. I think it can be worked out on agreeable terms for both sides and I don't see any problems, but I think we need to have just a little broader base here. This is a resolution from the commissioner's court that we are willing to get into negotiations with the city."

Commissioners approved Barr's incarnation of the resolution — which shows the court's intent to begin negotiations on the matter but does not provide for any financial details — unanimously.

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

BAN

Continued from Page 1A

recent tide of grass fires that have plagued the county.

"We're seeing a heavy influx of wildfires," he said. "We expected that

because of the rains this year. Rain is always good for our area, but the end result is always high fuels. We have the highest amounts of fuel this year than we've seen in the past 25 years.

"What happened in California over the recent weeks, the possibility of

seeing those kinds of fire in the Howard County area are very real right now. We're fixing to see high winds, and right now one of the most important things we can do is to impress upon the readers the importance of fire safety."

Sullivan said signs

located on county firehouses that normally track the risk-level of wildfires will now be marked with a different sort of sign.

"The signs will show there is a burn ban in effect," said Sullivan. "We're hoping that will help remind the citizens

and impress upon them the importance of the ban. This is serious stuff."

The ban will remain in effect for 90 days, according to Barr, at which time the court will have the option to renew it.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-

7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

PACT

Continued from Page 1A

that's where the hitch begins. No one knew. The sheriff's department was under the idea that after that four-month period they could do whatever they wanted. But eventually, it had a 30-day clause in the contract, and that's what they are basing their allegations on. They are saying we still owe them another \$129,780."

Barr said he's unsure what the outcome of mediations between Thomas and Dickens County officials will yield, but he's hoping the county can manage to save a sizable chunk of change.

"I don't know where it will go," said Barr. "We'll just have to see. Maybe we can cut the cost down considerably. I certainly hope so."

Commissioners also voted to revoke a tax abatement contract the county signed with Wind

Plus Inc. in 2005 for a project to be completed by January 2007.

According to Terry Wegman, executive director of Moore Development, which serves a liaison on tax abatements between businesses and local taxing entities, the contract never came to fruition.

"The project progressed to that point (the contract), then nothing happened," said Wegman. "The wheels kind of came off. Subsequent to that, we would ask that you approve the cancellation of the contract for failure to perform because the contract said it would be completed by Jan. 1, 2007, and of course, it's not. We have to get that abatement contract terminated before we can proceed with the new ones."

Several wind energy companies are interested in developing in the Howard County area, according to Wegman, and new reinvestment zones — which allow for tax abatements — have already been approved by

the commissioners court. The court voted unanimously to cancel the Wind Plus contract.

Also Monday, the court was given notice the west entrance of the county courthouse is not in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, giving the court 90 days to make repairs.

"The letter we received said the ramp on the west side, where the handicapped entrance is, is too steep," said Barr. "It also says the doors on the west side were too hard to open."

"I understand about the doors, and we know we'll have to do something about that. However, I'd really like for them to come back and look at the ramp. If it's the ramp by the curb, that's easy enough to fix, but the main ramp leading to the door... That's something

else." Barr told County Auditor Jackie Olson to begin the process to get bids on the electrical work for new doors on the west entrance.

Commissioners also agreed to call a special meeting of the court Friday at 1:15 p.m. to canvass votes from the Nov. 6 election.

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

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Sarah Guthrie, 95, died Sunday. Graveside services will be at 10:00 AM Wednesday at Trinity Memorial Park, followed by a Memorial Service at 11:00 AM at the First Presbyterian Church. The family will receive friends from 5:00 until 6:00 PM Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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EXTRA!

Hawk women go 2-1 in Pepsi Classic

By **ERIC C. RODEWALD**

Special to the Herald

GARDEN CITY, Kan. — The Howard College women's basketball team went 2-1 at Garden City Community College's Pepsi Classic recently. The Hawks defeated Sterling College's junior varsity and Garden City CC on back-to-back nights before falling to No. 18 Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College (NEO) on the final day.

Howard 85, Sterling College JV 41

After a sluggish start, leading 9-7 only four minutes into the game, Howard outscored Sterling College JV 44-12 to finish the first half with a 53-19 lead. The Hawks outscored Sterling 32-22 in the second half.

Candace Lambert led the Hawks with 23 points. Monica Jones and Cota each scored 10 points apiece. Also scoring for Howard were: Chassity Hill, three points; Amanda George, five; Shamika Jones, two; Aqueelah Watkins, seven; Jotosha McDonald, four; Veronica Wilson, four; Thomas, two; and Tinesha Jones, seven.

Howard 48, Garden City CC 45

The Hawks escaped the host team with a 3-point victory despite controlling the game throughout. They trailed only once in the second half, 31-28, with 8:59 remaining. Howard outscored Garden City, 20-14, to squeak out a victory.

Howard led at halftime 19-14 and was outscored 31-29 in the second half. For the game Howard shot 29.3 percent (17-58) from the field and 46.2 percent (12-26) from the free throw line to allow Garden City to stay in the game.

The Hawks had balanced scoring led by Watkins' 12 points and eight rebounds. Monica Jones had 11 points and seven rebounds, while

Lambert and Griffin scored 10 and nine points, respectively. Rounding out the scoring for Howard with two points each were Wilson, Danielle Cota and Rachael Dryver.

NEO 52, Howard 45

The Hawks got off to a rough start as NEO jumped out to an 11-0 lead. Howard trailed 13-3 with 13:15 remaining in the first half following a Kandace Griffin three-pointer for the Hawks.

Howard struggled to shoot the ball all night, shooting 26.8 percent (15-56) from the field and 50 percent (11-22) from the free throw line.

Trailing 28-14 at half-time, the Hawks fell behind 39-20 with 12:13 left in the game before mounting a late comeback. Howard pulled within five points in the final minutes of play by outscoring NEO 25-13 over the last 12 minutes of the game.

The Hawks were led in scoring by sophomore Lambert with 14 points. Watkins had nine points and eight rebounds, while sophomore Monica Jones pulled down 11 rebounds while scoring seven points. Also scoring for Howard were Griffin, six points; Wilson, three; Danielle Cota, two; DeAndrea Thomas, two; and Tinesha Jones, two.

Howard, 5-1, returns to the friendly confines of the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum tonight hosting Wayland Baptist University's Junior Varsity at 6 p.m.

Follow Hawks' hoops all season long only in the Big Spring Herald.

COWBOYS

Continued from Page 1B

against the Giants.

Maybe things will fall apart and it won't get any better than this.

But for now, this is very, very good, better than the Cowboys have had it since Troy, Michael and Emmitt were in their prime and headed to a third Super Bowl title in four years. That's not just a guess, either; 1995 was the last time Dallas was 8-1.

As the Cowboys' bandwagon fills up, a popular topic of discussion among fans has become who deserves the most credit for it: first-year coach Phillips or his predecessor, Bill Parcells.

Phillips voluntarily thrust himself into the discussion Monday in response to a question about how players are able to keep from looking ahead.

"The credit goes to, uh, umm" Phillips said, laughing and looking around to make sure everyone caught his drift. "The good thing is everybody is talking about who gets this credit, who gets that credit. That means you're doing well, so that's what I'm happy about. I have my opinion as far as who gets the credits and how we're doing. No. 1 it starts with the players."

There were many stars

against the Giants, from Terrell Owens to Tony Romo, from a defense that recorded five sacks against a quarterback who'd gone down only eight times all season to offensive lineman Flozell Adams holding Osi Umenyiora without a sack. At least, that's what the record eventually will show.

Umenyiora was credited with one Sunday, but Phillips insisted he tackled Romo after a botched handoff and the quarterback was running, not scrambling, so it should be changed to a tackle for a loss. The Cowboys will ask the league to make the switch.

Phillips added that once the change is made, Umenyiora will drop into a tie with Dallas' DeMarcus Ware with eight sacks.

It's moves like that — and like giving players Monday off for a second straight week — that have earned Phillips the reputation of being a player's coach. Owens said Sunday that it all starts with having fun on the practice field and then carries over into the games.

"Well, that's what you try to get, that kind of atmosphere, but you don't get it without winning," Phillips said. "We've gotten it because we've been successful, because I can tell you, if we were 4-5, I know who would be getting all the blame."

Peterson to miss time with injury

The Associated Press

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — As Adrian Peterson was prone on the Lambeau Field turf, his football future flashed before his eyes as a searing pain radiated from his right knee.

"That pain was horrible. I don't know if you've ever experienced pain where you don't want anybody to touch you. Just be still for a few minutes until it calms down. That's the kind of pain it was," Peterson said. "Not really knowing what to expect because it was my knee. I was just praying, 'God please, don't let it be anything serious.'"

He spent a sleepless Sunday night at his home in Eden Prairie, with the worry getting so great that he found himself doing a self-examination of both knees to see if he could detect any differences, all in the hope of finding some comfort.

After getting an MRI exam on Monday, Peterson should be sleeping much better now.

The rookie sensation, who just a week earlier set the NFL single-game rushing record with 296 yards against San Diego, will miss at least one game with a torn lateral collateral ligament. But

the injury is not deemed serious enough to require surgery or jeopardize Peterson's season.

"I was very relieved. It could've been a lot worse," Peterson said. "I just thank God. I'll be back soon."

Vikings coach Brad Childress ruled Peterson out for Sunday's game against Oakland, but wouldn't put a timetable on his recovery beyond that.

Team doctors told Childress that with ligament tears graded on a three-point scale, with three being the worst, Peterson's tear is "two-plus." It's not as serious as an anterior cruciate ligament tear.

"He's lucky," head athletic trainer Eric Sugarman said. "If he's 30 degrees in front with that foot fixed, we're talking about a very significant injury today. So he's very lucky that this is all he has."

Peterson was injured in the third quarter Sunday. Packers cornerback Al Harris hit him in the knee just as Peterson was about to make a cut downfield, and he writhed in pain for several minutes in a scary scene.

"I remember just making my cut, trying to beat

one guy, and he came out of nowhere," Peterson said.

Losing the only offensive star it has will be a devastating blow to a unit that has struggled in every game Peterson has not topped 200 yards rushing this season. It's been a one-man show in Minnesota, with Peterson accounting for 1,081 of the team's 1,551 yards rushing and eight of the team's 10 touchdowns.

In addition to making history two weeks ago against the Chargers, the No. 7 overall draft pick out of Oklahoma was on pace to smash Eric Dickerson's record for yards rushing by a rookie in a single season.

Peterson took over for veteran Chester Taylor as the starter after rushing for 224 yards in a victory over Chicago on Oct. 14. The Vikings scored 34 points that week, and the only other time they've topped 30 points in a game this season was in their 35-17 victory over the Chargers two weeks ago.

An unbalanced attack on offense is mostly to blame. The Vikings rank No. 1 in the NFL in rush offense, but are 31st in passing offense and have

played musical quarterbacks all season.

Brooks Bollinger became the third quarterback to start this season in Sunday's loss to Green Bay, and Childress said he will go with Tarvaris Jackson against the Raiders.

With the Packers keyed almost solely on stopping Peterson, the dazzling runner was limited to 45 yards on 11 carries before he was hurt. The Vikings had just 17 plays in the first half thanks to Bollinger's struggles in the passing game, and had no chance after falling behind 20-0 early in the second half.

"I would just say that I didn't see us play at the level that we played at the week before," Childress said.

For the immediate future, at least, the Vikings must find a way to get back to that level without the player who galvanizes them on offense.

Taylor will jump back into the starter's role until Peterson is ready to go again. He topped 1,200 yards in his first season as a starter last season and is averaging 5.0 yards in a backup role this season.

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Community Christmas Parade

5:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 1

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.

Mail, fax or hand deliver to:
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710 Scurry
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Fax (432) 264-7205



- Individual/Family Civic/church/school
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EDITORIAL

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

-FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

Ron Midkiff
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Managing Editor

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News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Let's help make 'Empty Bowls' a huge success

After three years of having taken advantage of Dine Out Day for United Way opportunities, many of us are familiar with satisfying our hunger in the process of helping raise money for United Way of Big Spring and Howard County.

But something new along those lines will be in the offing from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, as local United Way officials invite residents to help fill up empty bowls in a soup luncheon that will benefit this year's United Way campaign, which has a goal of \$305,000.

Students and others at Howard College and Big Spring High School art departments have crafted bowls — 150 of them — for the soup luncheon to be held at the First Christian Church. Tickets are \$15 each and allow the purchaser to attend the luncheon, pick out a handmade bowl and fill it with one of five soups that will be prepared by various cooks.

As Jan Hansen, the United Way's interim executive director, explained the event, "People fill their empty bowls, which in turn allows United Way fill the 'empty bowls' of the agencies it raises funds for.

The bowls will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis, meaning those planning to attend ought to get there early so they'll have a better chance of having their choice of the hand-decorated bowls that Hansen described as, "just beautiful."

BSHS Principal Bruce Wilson and 39 of his students made bowls for the event under the direction of art instructor Judy Tereletsky, while 21 Howard College students and 49 community members made bowls at the college with help from art director Stacy Slaton. All in all, 109 people gave their time to craft the 150 bowls.

BSISD Food Service Director Jo Ann Knox recruited five cooks who will create five different soups with materials provided by H-E-B Grocery.

"We're looking for this to be a good fund-raiser for us. If we can sell 150 bowls at \$15 each, that's significant," Hansen noted.

Tickets for the "Empty Bowls" fund-raiser can be purchased at the United Way office, 808 Scurry; the First Bank of West Texas at 607 Scurry; or at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, located at the corner of Gregg and Third streets.

Agencies helped by the United Way include the Red Cross, Boys Club, Boy Scouts, CASA of West Texas, Council on Aging, Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, Humane Society, Girl Scouts, Isaiah 58, North Side Community Center, Salvation Army, West Side Community Center, West Side Day Care Center, Victim Services of Big Spring and the YMCA.

So set aside Thursday's lunch hour for an opportunity for a little home cooking that will help the neediest in our community.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions. In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

- The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.
- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we use our talents given by You, Lord, to honor You.
Amen

Bloody American vampires

When Malaka, an Indian tsunami refugee, agreed to sell her kidney, the organ broker told her she would receive \$3,500. But after the operation, he gave her only \$700 — for an organ that a wealthy foreigner likely paid \$40,000.

"She got what she deserved," the broker told the National Geographic Channel in an "Explorer" episode, "Inside the Body Trade."

Later, when Malaka's son's kidneys were failing, the doctor told her, "You gave away your kidney. Now your child needs a kidney. Who will give it to him?"

While free-market types have talked up Transplant Tourism as a nifty way for the world's poor to barter their way out of poverty, National Geographic Channel reporter Lisa Ling told me that after visiting organ donors from two villages in India — one known as Kidneyville — "the overwhelming majority of them did not get the money they were promised."

Director of the Center for Bioethics at the University of Pennsylvania Art Caplan told me, "We may feel we can still justify this by saying we're leaving them better off than they were — minus a kidney, but at least they've got some change in their pocket." In a sense, it is "the equivalent of the neighborhood thug comes to town and says, 'You owe me money, and I see you have two kidneys.'"

At least Malaka is alive. In China, officials have admitted that

they have sold the organs of executed prisoners to foreigners. And China executes convicts, not just for violent crimes, but also for crimes like embezzlement — perhaps even, according to allegations denied by the government, for being an adherent of Falun Gong.

"Nobody really told me about these things that I'm hearing about now. ... I had no idea," Eric De Leon of San Mateo, Calif., told Ling. Diagnosed with terminal liver cancer so advanced that he did not qualify for a transplant in America, De Leon bought a liver in China last year.

China has since announced new restrictions on its organ trade. For his part, De Leon continues to blog on his "Transplant Tales — to China and Back." The "No. 1 crime punishable by death, the most common crime committed, is drug smuggling," De Leon blogged last year. It seems the odds are good that his liver did not come from a dissident.

De Leon told Ling that when he informed his doctors he was going to China for a liver, they told him, "In your shoes, I'd probably do the same thing," and they would be happy to treat me when I came back."

"I find that hard to believe in this sense," Caplan noted. "It's difficult to find doctors who will treat you post-transplant if they weren't involved in the transplant." Given the ethical state of the organ trade, Transplant Tourism often involves unhealthy organs and poor surgical procedures. And some doctors won't treat patients like De Leon for ethical reasons.

Stanford University professor Bill Hurlbut, a member of the

White House bioethics advisory council, noted that doctors should "not be encouraging at any level" the trade of organs from dubious sources. He fears "the commodification of human body parts."

When I talked to De Leon last year, he told me that if I needed a healthy liver, "Let's see how fast you're in line."

That's not a standard. Maybe during a fire, a man might panic and claw his way past children to get to an exit. But who wants to encourage such behavior?

As Caplan noted, he can conceive of the scenario in which Transplant Tourism might work for both donor and recipient — but by and large, it is immoral.

Every year more than 6,500 people die in America waiting for transplants. Ling closes by noting, "If we all signed up to become organ donors, no one would die waiting for an organ." Organ donations do save lives.

But just as it is wrong for Americans to die waiting for organs, it also is wrong for prisoners to die because an American needs a liver, or for a child to die because his mother sold her kidney.

And it is beyond reason that in a country that passes numerous regulations on the feeding and care of livestock, people don't want to judge those who, like vampires, troll for organs in the Third World.

And if the donors complain, we'll just sneer and say: They got what they deserved.

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Surprise! Gambling really is us

As America wallows in its fulltime entertainment stupor, it endlessly stages one mindless spectacular media event after another. In sports the Super Bowl, World Series, NCAA, U.S. Open and NASCAR constantly seek to expand their adoring audiences.

Plus rock concerts, TV premiers, Academy Awards and NASA liftoffs each enthral us at some given moment each year.

Equally entertaining, but a lot more continuous, is gambling. It knows no season, simply running 365/24. But its players don't sport bumper stickers to show fan support. They fear being thought embarrassingly addle-brained or immoral, though the mental difference between regular gambling and rooting for the Cubs or the WWE is not awfully clear.

Nonetheless, gambling grows, feeding on that corner of our brain attuned to excitement, addiction, and glamour. Religious objections have been largely outflanked by an understandable public desire to grab all that profit away from the mob and from other states, and to deposit it into our own state's treasury. Further, those supposed divine objections were always compromised anyway by the hypocrisy of the church basement bingo game.

And now, thanks in part to the

dignity of its many Native American proprietors, gambling enjoys an ever-rising popularity. It's no longer so freighted with the scummy images of Las Vegas and Atlantic City. Of course even the Indians must still partner with the scam investors, but at least they keep them judiciously in the background.

Or they did. Now the Mashentucket Pequots are shamefully partnering with MGM Mirage to bring the highest levels of glitz to Connecticut's quiet hills.

This baleful alliance may do for the sanctified image of Native Americans much of what Jimmy Swaggert did for the sacred reputation of Christendom.

Plainly, many legal barriers to gambling are already down. More and more states and local jurisdictions, tired of painfully watching their potential revenues seep away to less finicky sisters, are finally coming on board. Smart ones prudently leave that politically volatile industry in the hands of the somewhat more decorous Indians. Others abandon themselves to more tawdry elements, of which there is no shortage. But it's the Indians who still occupy the steadily eroding moral high ground of aggrieved parties. For centuries they've been denied access to most gainful employment, other than hunting guides, beading and the hosting of toxic waste dumps. Now, for a few, it's payback time.

Meanwhile gambling's impact on society is not limited to shimmer-

ing new casinos, though Macau has just opened the world's largest in terms of floor area. Still, the most pernicious side of the business is the state lotteries. They steal from the poor to give to the rich. While we appropriately lament the personal addiction that casinos nurture, it's really the lottery tickets at our neighborhood convenience store that fuel the basic disease. Wagering so close to home is more than recreation, it's human prayers and dreams being dashed.

And nowadays, joined at the hip with the gaming tables, are conventions. Las Vegas has always been America's convention capital, but Atlantic City and others are catching on. That's bad news for existing non-wagering complexes. They may ask for slots soon.

Gambling is good news, though, for unions. Vegas has long been America's leading center of organized labor, and other convention halls had better plan for that wrinkle in their new gaming-oriented projects as well.

Even the Indian casinos have been opened up by court ruling to collective bargaining.

And just to complete the integration of gambling into modern life, slot machines are now displaying pop-up ads. How mainstream can you get?

Columnist William A. Collins is a former state representative and a former mayor of Norwalk, Conn.
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WILLIAM A. COLLINS

PLAYOFFS

Continued from Page 1B

be a 9-1 Flower Mound Marcus squad also thinking state title.

There's another reason to be excited for all the area and regional teams advancing to the postseason and it is probably the most important.

Exposure. It's not about exposure for the programs or the schools, although that is important as well.

It's more about the exposure of these athletes. Year after year, several talented players are overlooked by college recruiting staffs.

However, each one of those staffs are looking for a diamond in the rough. The postseason gives that kind of exposure. It's always a good thing when a kid can find a way to have his schooling paid for.

I personally witnessed an example of the exposure the Texas high school playoffs can provide in 2004. I was living in Wichita Falls, going to school and doing some sports talk radio on the side.

I had the great fortune

of following a terrific Wichita Falls Rider Raiders team quarterbacked by a senior named Blake Szymanski.

The Raiders appeared to be primed for a deep playoff run, but there was one problem. They had to face powerhouse Stephenville in the second round.

Stephenville came into the matchup considered a legitimate state title contender and the Raiders looked like another speed bump on its road to the championship game. However, Szymanski and the Raiders weren't going down without a fight.

The senior quarterback made the most of the spotlight the game was receiving in Texas Stadium and led the Raiders to a 62-42 upset victory. Szymanski accounted for eight touchdowns in the contest. He finished the game with 447 yards and six touchdowns, completing 24 of 39 passes. He also ran in a 7-yard score. As if that wasn't enough, he took an interception back 82 yards for another touchdown.

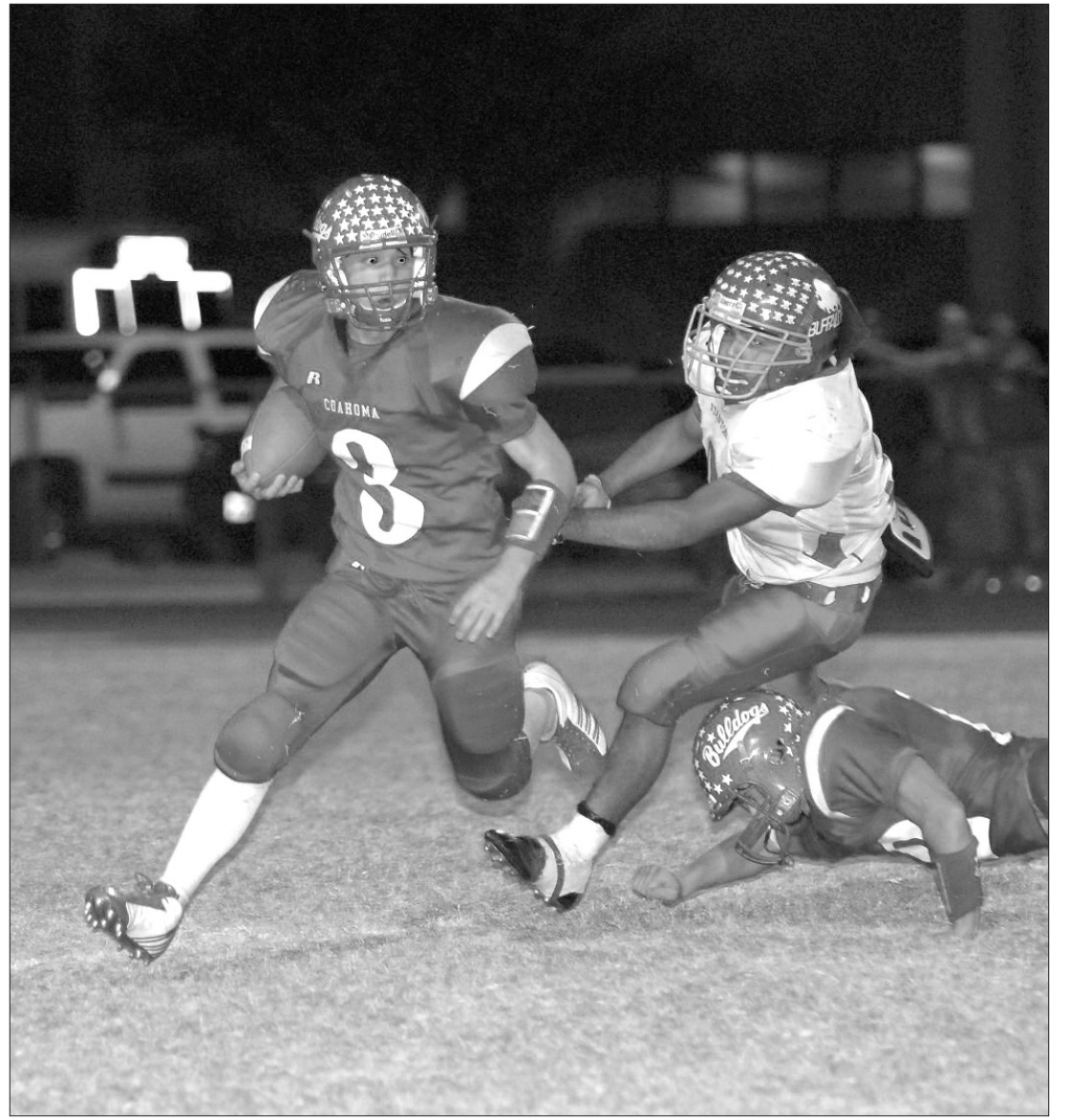
The 6-4, 195 pound quarterback wasn't on the radar of any Division

I-A schools before the game. However, with several college scouts in attendance watching Szymanski's teammate and favorite target David Nelson — now being coached by Urban Meyer at the University of Florida — the scholarship offers started to pour in.

It wasn't as if Szymanski wasn't producing before the Stephenville game. He had already topped 3,000 yards passing and had close to 40 total touchdowns. He was overlooked because he didn't play close enough to a big city. It's something that occurs often in the college recruiting world.

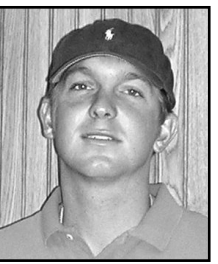
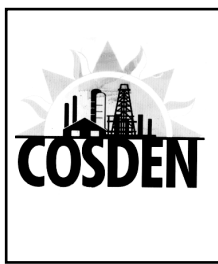
Szymanski has started all but one game in his sophomore season for the Baylor Bears this season. He's thrown for 20 touchdowns and 2,618 yards while completing 56 percent of his passes.

More importantly, he now has the chance to get a degree from a quality 4-year university. An opportunity he might not have received had it not been for his performance in the Texas high school football playoffs.



HERALD photo/Bruce Schooler
Coahoma Bulldogs' running back P.J. Daylong runs away from a Stanton Buffaloes' defender in the Bulldogs' 15-14 win Nov. 2. The Bulldogs play their first playoff game at 7:30 p.m. Friday against Ballinger at the Mustang Bowl in Sweetwater.

Pigskin Pics Football Contest



Cosden Federal Credit Union	First Bank Of West Texas	Howard County Feed & Supply	Jazzy's	87 Auto Sales	Wal-Mart	Blum's Jewelers	Sonic Drive In	Representative Sales, LLC
1. Ohio State	1. Ohio State	1. Ohio State	1. Ohio State	1. Ohio State	1. Ohio State	1. Ohio State	1. Michigan	1. Michigan
2. Kentucky	2. Georgia	2. Georgia	2. Georgia	2. Georgia	2. Kentucky	2. Georgia	2. Georgia	2. Kentucky
3. Cincinnati	3. West Virginia	3. West Virginia	3. West Virginia	3. West Virginia	3. West Virginia	3. West Virginia	3. Cincinnati	3. West Virginia
4. Boston College	4. Clemson	4. Boston College	4. Boston College	4. Clemson	4. Boston College	4. Boston College	4. Boston College	4. Clemson
5. Texas Tech	5. Oklahoma	5. Texas Tech	5. Oklahoma	5. Oklahoma	5. Texas Tech	5. Texas Tech	5. Oklahoma	5. Oklahoma
6. Cleveland	6. Cleveland	6. Baltimore	6. Cleveland	6. Cleveland	6. Baltimore	6. Cleveland	6. Baltimore	6. Cleveland
7. San Diego	7. Jacksonville	7. San Diego	7. San Diego	7. Jacksonville	7. San Diego	7. San Diego	7. Jacksonville	7. Jacksonville
8. Tennessee	8. Tennessee	8. Denver	8. Denver	8. Denver	8. Tennessee	8. Denver	8. Denver	8. Denver
9. Detroit	9. New York	9. New York	9. New York	9. New York	9. New York	9. New York	9. Detroit	9. New York
10. Oakland	10. Minnesota	10. Minnesota	10. Minnesota	10. Minnesota	10. Minnesota	10. Minnesota	10. Minnesota	10. Minnesota

Pigskin Picks Entry Form

Team

1. _____ Name: _____

2. _____ Address: _____

3. _____

4. _____ Phone Number: _____

5. _____

6. _____ Tie Breaker - Circle the winner and note total points scored

7. _____

8. _____ **Louisville at South Florida**

9. _____ Total Points _____

10. _____

Enter To Win \$50 At These Participating Merchants

Rules: Find this week's games in the merchants' ads on this page. Choose the teams you think will win. Clip and fill in the official entry blank on this page with your team choice. The entry with the most correct picks will win \$50. You must be 18 to enter. Only official entry forms accepted. In the event of a tie, the tie breaker will determine the winner. Guess the winner and the combined scores for the total points. Decisions of the judges are final. Employees and families of employees of the *Big Spring Herald* are ineligible. All entries must be received at one of the participating merchants by 1 p.m. Friday of the week played. Winners will be announced in the *Big Spring Herald* the Tuesday following the games.

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For additional information, contact Melony Bennett at (432) 571-4132. EEO/ADA.

32007

Help Wanted

BUFFALO COUNTRY FINA taking applications for full time sales clerk. Experience preferred but will train. Apply at 4911 South Hwy 87. No Phone Calls.

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FARM HAND Wanted! Experience only apply. Call after 7:00 p.m. (432)684-5418.

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HELP NEEDED. Howard College Bookstore. Part-time starting Jan. 2nd. Come to the bookstore to apply Monday-Thursday from 8-5.

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(432)268-1987 Fax
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NEED Transport Driver for fuel deliveries. Excellent starting pay with benefits. Must have CDL & good driving record. Come by 1st & Johnson, Park Fuels/ Chevron, Big Spring.

NEIGHBORS CONVENIENCE Store now hiring cooks, cashiers, stockers. All Shifts. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700.

NOW HIRING Mental Health Aide, M-F 12:00am-8:00am Weekends 8:00pm-8:00am for assisted living facility. Come by 2607 Chanute and pick up application.

NOW SEEKING Part time LVN position for Martin County Home Health. If interested please contact Allison Williams, RN @ (432)756-3259 or fax resume to (432)756-4510.

PARKVIEW NURSING & Rehabilitation Now Hiring For The Following Positions:
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Please apply in person at 3200 Parkway Rd.

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PART-TIME CUSTOMER Service Rep. needed for busy office. 11:30am-4:30pm., M-F. Holidays and Weekends Off. Phone and computer skills required. Good attitude a must. Please send resume to P.O. Box 2157, Big Spring, Texas 79721.

PART-TIME SALVAGE Truck Driver Position Available. Apply at The Salvation Army, 811 West 5th. Tue.-Sat., 9-12 & 1-3. No phone calls.



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1	2	5	5	9	5	8	7	4
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7	9	1	6	5	6	4	2	3
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BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

As true trendsetters recognize, the stars color our attitudes toward the season. On the Scorpio sun's



HOLIDAY MATHIS

catwalk, ambition makes a comeback and success is the new black. Today, the moon in Capricorn plays stylist to the stars, accenting our ambitions with complementary accessories of achievement and resolve. The overall look: competent.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). In many ways, today is just about enjoying the view. When you look into the world, what you see are all the complexities inside you. Tonight: Don't forget to look up at the sky.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Every winner's life is fraught with mistakes. You'll make a few, but don't worry your head about them. When you make a mistake, admit it, learn from it and do not repeat it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Want to take up a cause? How about waving a banner in protest against the extreme under-appreciation of whimsy? You're the perfect poster child for the cause of imagination and wonder.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). By definition, there are already enough

people in the majority. Some of your opinions are not popular. Dare to be a happy minority member who doesn't care a lick about who is in agreement.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You spot a phony even quicker than a child does. Sound the alarms! But do so internally. You're clever to avoid confrontation and move on quickly to more honest company.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). To be tolerant of others requires great strength of character. You must be absolutely secure in who you are not to be threatened by the differences you observe.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). At a very core level, everyone is strange. So stop trying to hide your feelings, and share them instead. You're likely to come up with a unique, artistic expression.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll unlock a puzzle you've been struggling with for weeks now. This afternoon presents a chance not to be missed — give love to your fullest, and receive it in the same spirit.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'd like to be gentle and kind, but at certain points of the day, you'll sense that what's most called for is the drill sergeant in you. You're right. The direct order from you starts business rolling.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). When love seems like a quagmire that keeps getting quaggier, ask for a little

extra guidance from someone you admire. Virgo could change your life and job for the better.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your focus is on building satisfying, empathetic and deep relationships. Emotions such as resentment, jealousy and anger are finally let go. Maybe the bad feelings were caused by a simple misunderstanding.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're in a position to criticize and may even be asked or paid to give your opinion. But remember that what you judge in others you might find inside yourself. Apply your moral compass.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: I am in the middle of tremendous uprooting in my personal and professional lives. My birthday is March 7, 1967, and I was born in Provo, Utah. My relationship of more than eight years just ended, and I am hearing that my job is being eliminated. Is something going on? I can handle change, but this is getting a little overwhelming!

Buckle up. That's the universe speaking. Here's what I've learned about change: A memo is always issued first, meaning that you were given the heads-up from upstairs months or even years ago. Think about it: At one point, you had the inkling that you were outgrowing your relationship, and maybe you began worrying about cutbacks and

dreaming of a new job. Aside from your gut feelings, consider listening to your synchronicities, intuitions and dreams to inform better self-listening. If you haven't been using your psychic tools, it's time. You're a clairvoyant Pisces with a gift for seeing into the future. Ever since Uranus in Pisces began dancing the can-can on your sun (April 2007 to February 2008), accelerated growth is your motto. Develop your psychic awareness, Pisces. Learning to read the signs takes the "sudden" off change.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Scorpio Demi Moore was born under a full moon in Taurus, marking her personal relationships with dramatic twists and turns. She's worked long and hard to follow her own instincts. Full-moon babies fully flower after 40. She's still hitting her stride! Demi uses her mystique and allure in surprising new ways this year.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Annie's Mailbox ®: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: My husband and I have been married for 15 years, and he has worked at the same company for the last five. In all that time, I have never been to his office during working hours. On occasion, I've been in the area and have called to see if I should stop by for lunch, but he's always said no, he is too busy.

Recently I have had some suspicions, so I looked through his cell phone and found several numbers with initials only. I called them and got different women's voicemails. When I then innocently asked my husband what those initials stood for, he said one was a guy named "Larry" and one was "Chip." I told him I knew that wasn't true. Finally, he admitted they were women he worked with and said he didn't tell me because he knew I'd be upset. These are personal cell phone numbers, by the way, not office numbers.

Maybe I'm just not used to this office co-worker stuff. I mean, I understand talking at work in general, but it seems to me that having their personal cell phone numbers and talking outside the office can lead to other things. What do you think about all this? — Just Wondering

Dear Wondering: We think just like you. Some co-workers need to get in touch with each other at home, but your husband obviously was hiding these phone numbers from you. Combine this with the fact that you are not welcome to visit his office, and it's clear he doesn't want you to meet his co-workers. You deserve to know what's going on. Ask him to come clean or go for counseling.

Dear Annie: Several years ago, I became good friends with "Louise," with whom I worked. When she married, I



**KATHY MITCHELL
 MARCY SUGAR**

attended her wedding. Shortly after, I moved 600 miles away, but we continued to keep in touch. Whenever I visited my sister, who lives near Louise, we would get together at her place. On a couple of occasions, she traveled to see me when her kids were small. I saw her children grow up through our visits and photos.

We always had a good time whenever we were together. However, three years ago, we met for lunch, and I haven't heard from her since. I have sent Christmas cards and a letter, and still nothing. I know she hasn't moved away because my letters have not been returned. I really thought we'd be friends for life. Why would someone simply end a 30-year friendship for no reason? — Totally Baffled in Canada

Dear Canada: Friendships don't always last a lifetime, especially over a long distance. Life gets busy, and it's possible Louise simply became caught up in her own family and let the friendship lapse to the point where it was easier to let it go altogether. It's also possible Louise was ill and could not respond to your letters. Ask your sister or a mutual friend to find out if Louise is OK, and then write again and give the friendship one more chance. If she still doesn't respond, she isn't interested.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Horrified in the Midwest," the young woman who is the victim of nasty rumors that she is having affairs with every man she smiles at. It shows the terrible problems gossip can cause.

Your readers should be aware that every state has civil laws against defamation. If someone says or writes something untrue about you and causes you harm, you can sue. You might have suggested to the young woman that she contact a lawyer. A letter from a lawyer to the person spreading lies often can solve the problem. — Vermont

Dear Vermont: Anyone is free to file a lawsuit, and we agree that often the threat is sufficient to get someone to back off. However, such accusations are difficult to prove in a court of law and we are in no hurry to tell people to sue one another. But thanks for the suggestion.

Dear Annie: My widowed mother-in-law has five grown children. One, "Pat," is 42 and still single, and has lived the life of Riley because of great looks and the ability to cultivate friends with money who almost wholly support her.

Mom spends practically every waking moment with Pat. She calls her several times a day when they aren't physically together, travels extensively with her and entertains Pat's friends to the exclusion of her other children. Whenever we do have the opportunity to be around my mother-in-law, she talks and brags incessantly about Pat. On her last birthday, we gave Mom a gift certificate to her favorite store. She immediately went to a drawer and pulled out a certificate for the same store but for a larger amount and announced,

"Here's the one Pat gave me, and it's for more!"

Honestly, we love Pat, but my wife and I would like to share time with Mom. Before joining us, Mom always has to check to see what Pat has going on. People have told me they were not even aware that my mother-in-law had any other children because she rarely speaks about them.

How can I help my wife accept the treatment she gets from this woman? There's no point in asking Pat for help because it's in her best interests for Mom to be alienated from her other children. Then she will get the entire inheritance. The house is already in Pat's name. Any ideas? — Husband of NOT Mother's Favorite

Dear Husband: Mom is overly close to Pat because her daughter has become her spousal equivalent — she is always available to do things as a couple. Mom's other children, married with families of their own, cannot compete, nor should they beat themselves up trying. The best thing you can do for your wife is help her lower her expectations about her relationship with her mother and be glad that Pat is willing to be a companion to her. Mom no doubt loves all her children, but she is dependent on Pat and that is the difference.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Found on inland lakes, reservoirs and salt water bays, the ring-billed gull, with a four-foot wingspread, goes through many changes in plumage before reaching maturity. Raucous and posturing during courtship, the male gray and white sea bird bows and struts with swollen throat to impress his intended.

Bird Poop: Rescuer's persistent effort not enough to save a gull

After chasing the bird for two blocks, he knew he needed help. Nearly out of breath, he used his cell phone to give us the address. When we arrived, he was standing next to a carport attached to the back of a house. Fortunately, when the covering was installed, it was placed against two sides of the structure, with a third side consisting of a fence. Since there was only one exit, he hoped the three of us could corral the injured bird.

"That sucker can run," he said admiringly as he pointed toward a seagull. With one wing held lower than the other, the bird paced back and forth at the furthest end of the parking area. Having seen the gull for several days, he decided that morning to try and catch it. Without a net, he realized it was nearly impossible to grab the elusive bird as it led him away from his neighborhood.

Not wanting any part of our efforts at rescue, the agile bird was ducking every attempt at our slipping a pole net over its body. Content to walk, run and jump, it had the advantage. After each evasive action, the three of us felt rather helpless. Our tactics had to change.

Kneeling in the dust of the dirt floor, I moved slowly, then stopped, as I progressed toward the ring-billed gull. Waiting at the opening of the carport, Art and the man were my only hope of stopping the quick-witted, rapid-moving bird. Because I was nearly on its level, the gull's inquisitive nature prevailed. Its running slowed, then stopped.

When I moved two knees forward, the gull took two or three steps. Then it was my turn to move. With three knees

ahead, it took two steps. With each move, I was getting closer to the bird. Then I remained motionless. Expecting me to move again, the gull seemed perplexed that I had frozen in place. When it glanced aside to peck at something in the dirt, I had enough pole to try a capture.

Under the net, the flailing bird created its own dust storm. With both men now by my side to help hold the net over the struggling gull, I reached under the mesh and grabbed for its body.

Suddenly, mingled with the cloud of dust created by the bird was a blueish-gray, acrid smelling substance. Looking up toward the back of the home, we saw smoke billowing around the edges of the back door. "The house is on fire," was my first thought.

At that moment, the door was opened by a woman who looked totally puzzled by the three adults kneeling in her carport. She was even more amazed by the gull that was clinging by its beak to my arm.

Not overly perturbed by three strangers and a bird, she said she had left a greased skillet on the stove longer than she had planned. Wanting to rid the house of smoke, she left the door open. As the smoke rushed through the screen door, the woman returned to her kitchen and the aftermath.

"Didn't she know we were coming?" I asked the man.

"Didn't have time to tell her," was his reply.

We couldn't help but smile and shake our heads as we brought the gull out from under the net. Carefully, Art pried its beak apart and I gained my freedom. Invariably, birds strike above any loved hand.

Holding our captured patient, we

See GULL, Page 6A



**BEBE
MCCASLAND**

Parent's Corner:

Reaching adulthood requires support

The rite of passage means different things to different folks. My genealogy includes many groups including English, Irish, Scottish, Welch, German, French and Choctaw.

I have found great pleasure delving into my heritage but I haven't really searched a lot into my Choctaw background until recently. I have learned that the rite of passage from childhood to adulthood for Native American children was an educational process that began as early as when a child learned to walk.

Native American families were often small because many children died at birth or at a very young age. Therefore, the children who survived were greatly loved by their parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and older siblings and the village took pride in "raising" the child.

Boys and girls in most tribes learned how to do men and women's work by helping their parents and older family members. This taught them how to do many things that they would need to survive.

Very few tribes had schools, so storytelling was a main part of their education. From their tribe's elders and their family, they learned about their tribal history, cultural traditions and spiritual beliefs.

When Native American boys reached their early teens, it was time for a test of bravery called an initiation ceremony. This was the true rite of passage from childhood into

adulthood for all boys. Many boys were sent out to stay alone in the wild for a long time without eating to wait for visions of a Great Spirit which could even appear as an animal and could help him understand what kind of person he would become. The boy would paint the animal he saw onto his teepee cover and warrior shield to remind himself of its power.

There is a legend of the Choctaw Indian youth's rite of passage. A boy's father would take him into the forest, blindfolds him and leave him alone. He would be required to

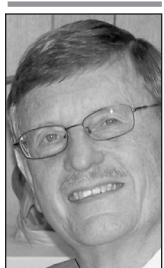
sit on a log the whole night and not remove the blindfold until the rays of the morning sun shine through it.

He could not cry out for help to anyone. Once he survives the night, he is a man. He cannot tell the other boys of this experience, because each lad must come into manhood on his own. The boy is naturally terrified. He can hear all kinds of noises. Wild beasts must surely be all around him. Maybe even some human might do him harm. The wind would blow the grass and earth, and shake his log, but he sat

stoically, never removing the blindfold. It would be the only way he could become a man!

Finally, after a horrific

See RYAN, Page 6A



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Laura on Life: Who says men and women should really live together?

Whose idea was it that, after marriage, men and women had to live in the same house? Whoever made up that rule must've been a real idealist. Either that or maybe he was stoned.

I have met lots of couples who say they still love each, in spite of sharing the same house for years, but think how much the divorce rate would decline if we didn't have



LAURA SNYDER

to do that.

Women could have their perfectly decorated house with beautiful accents, tasteful furniture and matching towels and bed linens. There would not be single stuffed head of a dead animal hanging over the fireplace.

A woman would be perfectly content with a small discreet TV screen hidden away in a cabinet to be revealed at her convenience. There would never be a TV the size of a Humvee taking up most of the living room with a collection of woofers and tweeters strategically placed throughout the room for the best audio effects. The remote would never be found between the

cushion of a La-Z-Boy either. In fact, there would be no La-Z-Boy in her house...and I do mean the chair, here.

Women would have bathrooms that magically stay clean for more than a day, because unless she is somehow deformed, a woman doesn't stand up and treat the whole bathroom to a shower while using the commode. Liquid splashes. It's simple physics. The higher the height it falls from, the bigger the splash. People don't pour milk into a glass by holding the jug three feet above the glass, do they? I'm talking about adults, here.

Towels could be used more than once, because a woman will dry herself off in the shower and hang her towel back up to save herself extra laundry. She doesn't throw the towel on the floor and stomp all over it because the floor became wet. Again, simple physics. Water will, unerringly, go to the

See LAURA, Page 7A

BIG SPRING NAVY FAMILY RECEIVES \$500 FROM VETERANS FAMILY FUND



Courtesy photo

Christopher and Katerah Kelly, pictured here with their two children Christopher and Isabella, recently received a \$500 check from Dr. Gale Kilgore, who oversees the Veterans Families Fund, a charitable effort to help local military families make ends meet. Kelly, who is currently serving in the U.S. Navy, left for Iraq in August and is expected to return home in April. Donations to the fund can be made at Woodforest National Bank under fund No. 5901848.



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GULL

Continued from Page 5A

admired the contrast of its soft and bold colors. With its white underparts, tail and head, it was three or more years old and an adult. The soft gray mantle, or feathers covering the tops of its wings, led our eye to the primaries tipped in black with white spots. Its yellow bill with a broad black band had earned it the "ring-billed" identification.

A common and abundant specie, the bird had migrated with a large flock that claimed Comanche Lake as its wintering home. Seen on the dam and in the water, the gulls were as timely as any watch in their daily activities. For years, we had seen their daily travels to and from the landfill. These scavengers dined on garbage, mice and grasshoppers provided by the warmer days of autumn. Grubs and worms were easy pickings for these beneficial birds and any dead

or live fish at the lake were also on their menu.

As we placed the gull on its back to examine its injured wing, we were saddened to see the extent of damage caused by a cruel and willful shooter. Compound fractures vividly displayed the absence of bone in parts of the wing. With strong yellow legs, it pushed against us in defiance as we completed our examination.

The previous day, we had stopped to watch the gulls returning during late afternoon. Gliding

downward over the dam with their long, narrow wings extended, each had for a brief moment become stationary in the air. Then with their wings held high above, their webbed feet broke the calm of the lake. Only memories of one man's persistent attempt to help the gull could compensate for the loss of a graceful being both in the air and on the water.

Bebe McCasland is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.

RYAN

Continued from Page 5A

night, the sun would appear and he could remove his blindfold. It was then that he discov-

ered his father sitting on the log next to him. He had been at watch the entire night, protecting his son from harm.

In America today, there are many different cultures and religions mixed together. There are many

ideas about rites of passage into adulthood such as getting a driver's license, graduating from high school or college, registering to vote, getting married or turning 21 years old.

These are all today's rites of passage into adulthood. They are filled with anticipation and excitement but they are still emotional experiences that need the support of loved ones.

Darrell Ryan is director of federal programs for the Big Spring Independent School District.

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News in brief

Bird watcher on trial for animal cruelty

GALVESTON (AP) — Prosecutors in the trial of a prominent bird-watcher charged with animal cruelty for allegedly shooting a cat said they will try to show that the stray cat had become the pet of a tollbooth employee.

Testimony was scheduled to begin Tuesday in the trial of Jim Stevenson, 54, a founder of the Galveston Ornithological Society. He is accused of shooting to death a feral cat with a .22-caliber rifle in November 2006 near the San Luis Bridge Pass in Galveston.

To convict Stevenson of animal cruelty, prosecutors must prove that the cat had an owner. A revision of the cruelty law that took effect Sept. 1 broadens protection to stray animals, but the law came too late for Stevenson's case.

Defense attorney Tad Nelson said Stevenson was ready to defend himself.

Fort Bliss soldiers return from Iraq after year in combat zone

BIGGS ARMY AIRFIELD (AP) — About 200 soldiers from 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division arrived home Monday night after spending a year in Iraq.

The group was the first to return of about 4,000 4th BCT soldiers who deployed to Iraq last fall. The soldiers spent just over a year in the combat zone during what has become the deadliest year on record for U.S. soldiers since the 2003 invasion of Iraq.

To date, 31 soldiers from the Fort Bliss-based unit have been killed in Iraq.

The rest of the 4th BCT is expected to return over the next month. Army officials hope to have the entire brigade home for Christmas.

Immigration panel rejects appeal by Albanian man

DALLAS (AP) — A member of a federal immigration panel refused to reopen the case of an Albanian man who fears deportation will put his life in jeopardy, his attorney said Monday.

Rrustem Neza fears he will be killed if he is returned to Albania because of what he knows about the 1998 assassination of a Democratic leader in the European country of 3.6 million people.

However, Board of Immigration Appeals panel member Edward Grant ruled "there is no indication that witnesses to that event are in danger or subject to persecution."

Attorney John Wheat Gibson contended media cov-

erage in Albania publicizing the potential deportation made Neza more vulnerable. An affidavit also said Neza's parents went into hiding following articles about him in Albanian newspapers.

Rep. Louie Gohmert, a conservative Republican from Tyler in eastern Texas, has introduced a private bill that would halt Neza's deportation until 2009 and allow him to reapply for asylum.

School board member wants curriculum to include more Hispanics

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — A Texas State Board of Education member said Monday that upcoming revisions to the state's core public school curriculum must include lessons on historical contributions made by Hispanics, women and American Indians.

When the curriculum, known as the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, was last revised in 1997, board member Mary Helen Berlanga said she was told that significant contributions made by Hispanics would be included in textbooks used by the schools. But 10 years later, the history segment that Texas fourth graders and 11th graders study doesn't mention Hispanics, she said.

"Each subject area has its own TEKS and contributions by Hispanics, women, Native Americans and other minorities must be included for the TEKS to be accurate," Berlanga said in a story for Tuesday's editions of *The Brownsville Herald*. "We're trying to prevent what happened in the past from happening again."

Highland Park bans cell phones for drivers near schools

DALLAS (AP) — Highland Park has approved a law restricting drivers from talking on cell phones near schools, becoming the first local government in Texas to take action in the talking-while-driving debate.

Drivers caught using handheld cell phones while passing through school zones will be fined \$75 under the ordinance passed Monday. The ban takes effect next month and will apply only when school zones are active, normally during the morning and mid-afternoon.

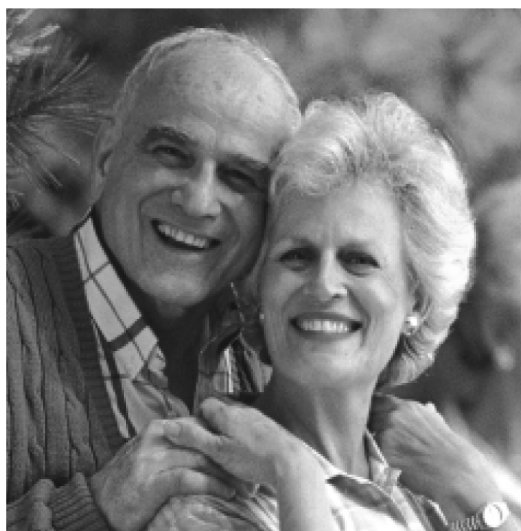
Town Council members said they expect to review the issue within six months with an eye toward expanding the ban citywide. The neighboring enclave of University Park is considering a similar ordinance.

No other Texas city has enacted limits on drivers' cell phone use. Under a 2005 state law, teenage drivers are restricted from cell phones during the first six months after they receive their license.

Darrell Fant, Highland Park's public safety director, said officers reported that most people driving through the town's school zones were talking on the phone.

Fant said he has received interest from a few North Texas police chiefs who wanted to take a look at Highland Park's proposed ordinance.

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety in New York found that a ban on handheld cell phone use while driving in that city had a short-term effect. Drivers complied with the law to begin with, but within 16 months started using cell phones again.



LAURA

Continued from Page 6A

place you least want it, if left on the body too long. Well, OK, this rule probably was not taught in any school, but given the last lesson in physics, there will be other liquids on the floor besides water, too. So the towel now needs to be washed.

Kitchen towels will never be used to wipe up a chocolate milk spill as long as there is a single paper towel in her house. Of course, there will always be paper towels in the house, because she will never take the whole roll out to the garage to clean engine parts. If she was to clean engine parts, which would be rare, she would only take the towels she needs and leave the roll where it belongs.

If women and men had separate houses, we would not need a bazillion cable channels because after "Mythbusters," "Survivorman," "Dirty Jobs" and "ESPN," what else is there? I don't know. I never get to watch anything else.

If men had their own

man cave, they could stomp in there with their size 14 mud collectors without anyone raising a single eyebrow, because obviously that rule is only for the kids.

If men had their own man cave, they could collect pizza boxes by the door and delude themselves for months that they'll "take them out tomorrow morning." If they kept them in a closet somewhere, no one would ever know, but instead they'll stack them right next to the entrance of their man cave like a modern art doorstopper.

Unfortunately, most women need men close by to clean those engine parts and most men need women close by to make sure they don't wear anything inside-out to work. That's what marriage is all about; helping each other. But I don't think Mother Nature ever intended us to live together.

After all, you've never heard of a Father Nature, have you?

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MONDAY

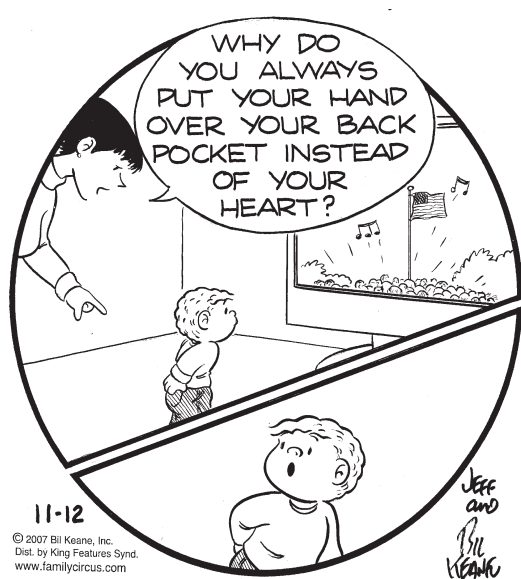
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6:PM :30	News (CC) Entertainment	Jeopardy! Wheel-Fortune	Yo Amo a Juan	The Simpsons Two-Half Men	News Entertainment	12 Corazones	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond Raymond	Jack Van Impe John Hagee	News-Lehrer	MythBusters (CC)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live (CC) Hell Date	Han. Montana Zack & Cody	College Basketball: State at Duke	Monday Night Countdown	Star Trek: Enterprise
7:PM :30	Dancing With the Stars	Dancing With the Stars	Amar sin Limites	Prison Break (CC)	How I Met Big Bang Th	Madre Luna	Chuck (CC)	Friends (CC) Friends (CC)	Update Israel Charles Scott	Antiques Roadshow	Dirty Jobs (CC)	Movie: The Dirty Dozen (CC)	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Movie: Holiday Heart (CC)	Movie: Sky High	New Mexico State at Duke	NFL Football: San Francisco 49ers at Seattle Seahawks	Star Trek: Enterprise
8:PM :30	(CC) Samantha	(CC) Samantha	Destilando Amor	K-Ville (CC)	Two-Half Men Engagement	La Esclava Isaura	Heroes (CC)	Family Guy Family Guy	Light of the Southwest	Billy Crystal: The Mark	Dirty Jobs (CC)		Movie: Predator	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)		College Basketball	San Francisco 49ers at Seattle Seahawks	Star Trek: Enterprise	
9:PM :30	The Bachelor	The Bachelor	Cristina Amor	TMZ (CC) Raymond	CSI: Miami Raymond	Pecados Ajenos	Journeymen (CC)	Family Guy Family Guy		Twain Prize Ga Aquarium	Dirty Jobs (CC)			The Closer (CC)	Girlfriends Girlfriends	That's-Raven Life Derek		Seattle Seahawks	Star Trek: Enterprise
10:PM :30	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	Two-Half Men Raymond	News Late Show-	Noticias Decisiones	News Tonight Show	Sex and-City Sex and-City	Update Israel Y. Salamanca	Charlie Rose (CC)	Dirty Jobs (CC)	Movie: Heartbreak Ridge (CC)		Saving Grace (CC)	Hell Date Hell Date	Zack & Cody Han. Montana	College Basketball: CBE Classic	SportsCenter	Virus Buster Virus Buster
11:PM :30	The Insider Jimmy Kimmel	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	La Hora de la Risa	Law & Order: Criminal Intent	Letterman Late Late	¡Al Rojo Vivo!	Late Night- Conan O'Brien	Puppet Up! Uncensored	Uri Harel Scrivner	Tavis Smiley Tavis Smiley	Dirty Jobs (CC)	Ridge (CC)	UFC 78 Countdown	Without a Trace (CC)	Take the Cake (CC)	Replacements Kim Possible	CBE Classic	(CC)	Noem (CC) Noem (CC)
12:AM :30	Live (CC) News (CC)	Extra (CC) Paid Program	Salome (SS)	Reno 911! George Lopez	Show The Insider	Programa	Conan O'Brien News	Update Israel Fico Cortes		Sign Off	Dirty Jobs	Movie: Force	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Without a Trace (CC)	Comioview (CC)	Emperor New American Drgn	NASCAR Now (CC)	NFL Primetime (CC)	Twilight Zone Twilight Zone

DENNIS THE MENACE



"Wow! Why would anybody throw this stuff away?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



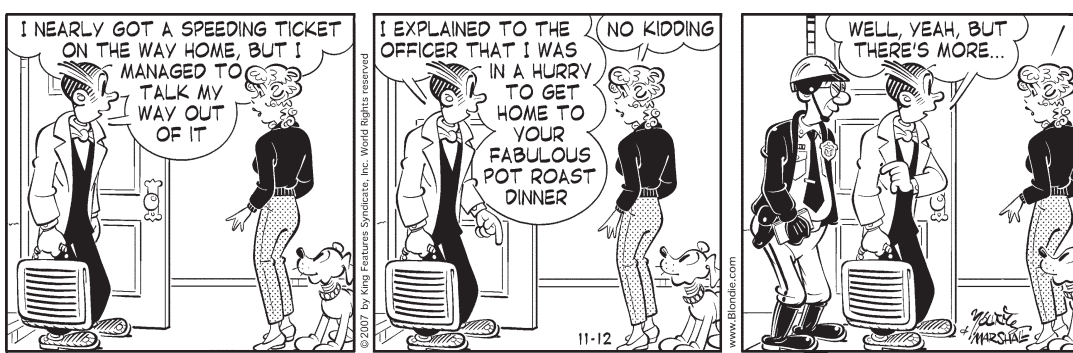
"Grandma always pats me there and says, 'Bless your little heart.'"

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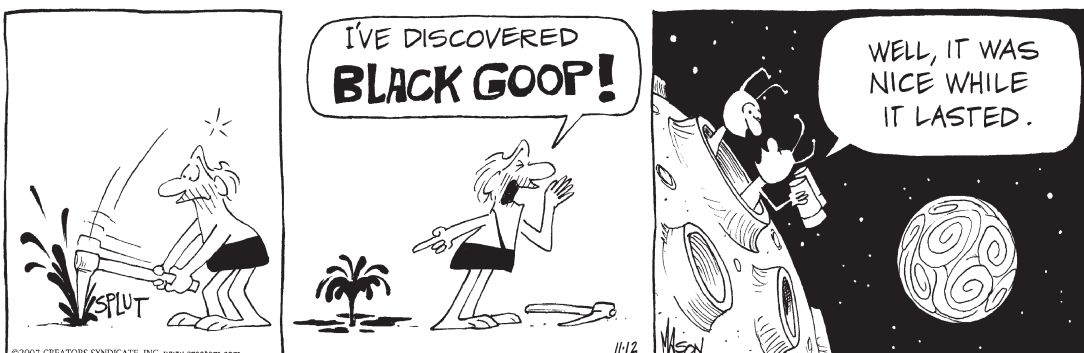
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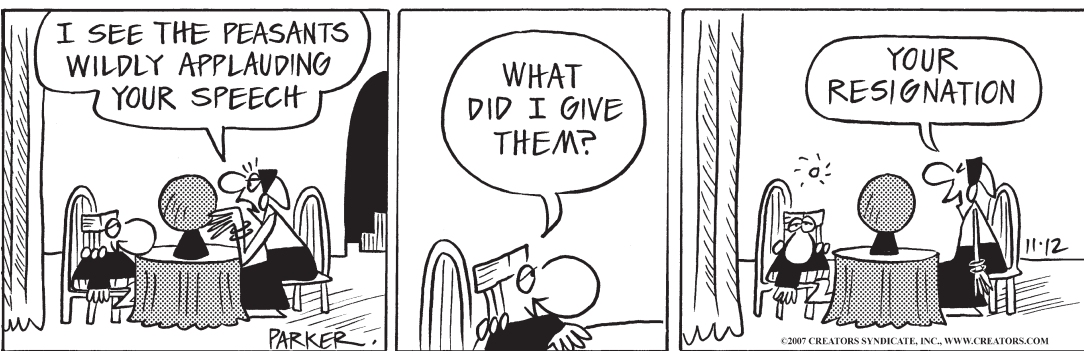
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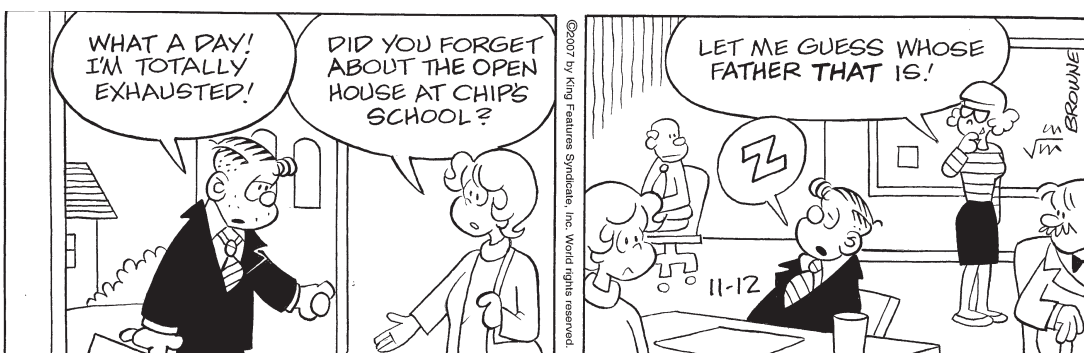
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AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Monday, Nov. 12, the 316th day of 2007. There are 49 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 12, 1942, the World War II naval Battle of Guadalcanal began. (The Allies ended up winning a major victory over the Japanese.)

On this date:

In 1815, American suffragist Elizabeth Cady Stanton was born in Johnstown, N.Y.

In 1927, Josef Stalin became the undisputed ruler of the Soviet Union as Leon Trotsky was expelled from the Communist Party.

In 1948, former Japanese Premier Hideki Tojo and

several other World War II Japanese leaders were sentenced to death by a war crimes tribunal.

In 1977, the city of New Orleans elected its first black mayor, Ernest "Dutch" Morial, the winner of a runoff.

In 1982, Yuri V. Andropov was elected to succeed the late Leonid I. Brezhnev as general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee.

In 1987, the American Medical Association issued a policy statement saying it was unethical for a doctor to refuse to treat someone solely because that person had AIDS or was HIV-positive.

In 1990, Japanese Emperor Akihito formally assumed the Chrysanthemum Throne.

In 1996, a Saudi Boeing 747 jetliner collided shortly after takeoff from New Delhi, India, with a Kazak Ilyushin-76 cargo plane, killing 349 people.

In 2001, American Airlines Flight 587, en route from New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport to the Dominican Republic, crashed after take-off, killing 265 people.

Today's Birthdays: Rhythm-and-blues singer Ruby Nash Curtis (Ruby and the Romantics) is 68. Actor-playwright Wallace

Answer to previous puzzle

R	A	S	C	A	L	M	O	N	A	L	I	S	A	
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C	E	N	S	O	R	E	D							

Newsday Crossword

ALL WET by Sally R. Stein
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Burns slightly
 - 6 Sports cable network
 - 10 Right away, in memos
 - 14 Charged towards
 - 15 Nile queen, for short
 - 16 Nothing, in Mexico
 - 17 Scarlett of *Gone With the Wind*
 - 18 Inning ends
 - 19 "___ well that ends well"
 - 20 Home gardener's device
 - 23 Use a couch
 - 24 Zodiac lion
 - 25 Forty thieves' adversary
 - 27 WWII turning point
 - 30 "Please send a letter"
 - 33 Large coffee brewer
 - 34 ___ in the neck (pest)
 - 35 Lightweight wood
 - 39 Miss America contestants, for instance
 - 43 Be a burglar
 - 44 Historical times
 - 45 Hawaiian neckwear
 - 46 Pleasingly thin
 - 49 Workout centers
 - 50 Street driving hazard
 - 53 Tic-tac-toe win
 - 55 Anger
 - 56 Water-softener chemical
 - 62 Well-ventilated
- DOWN**
- 64 Public-sch. auxiliaries
 - 65 Cowboy, often
 - 66 Sneeze site
 - 67 Blood components
 - 68 Vote into office
 - 69 Change for \$5
 - 70 Whirlpool
 - 71 They're worn under shoes
 - 9 Cash-register key
 - 10 Santa __, CA
 - 11 Nacho-chip dip
 - 12 Speak without a script
 - 13 Ziti or spaghetti
 - 21 Person from Des Moines
 - 22 Rain cloud
 - 26 Play, as a drum
 - 27 Gives a name to
 - 28 "Darn it!"
 - 29 Penny-___ poker
 - 31 Rearrange, as an outcome
 - 32 Retired for the night
 - 34 Sofa cushion
 - 36 Easter flower
 - 37 Appear to be
 - 38 Sale condition
 - 40 Corned-beef creation
 - 41 Poetic "before"
 - 42 Brother of Moses
 - 47 Tick by
 - 48 Got snug
 - 49 Fly alone
 - 50 Spinnet or baby grand
 - 51 Hunter constellation
 - 52 To the point
 - 54 Mean people
 - 57 Difficult
 - 58 British exclamation
 - 59 Oil cartel
 - 60 Playing-card pack
 - 61 Creative pursuits
 - 63 "I'd be happy to!"

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
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TUESDAY

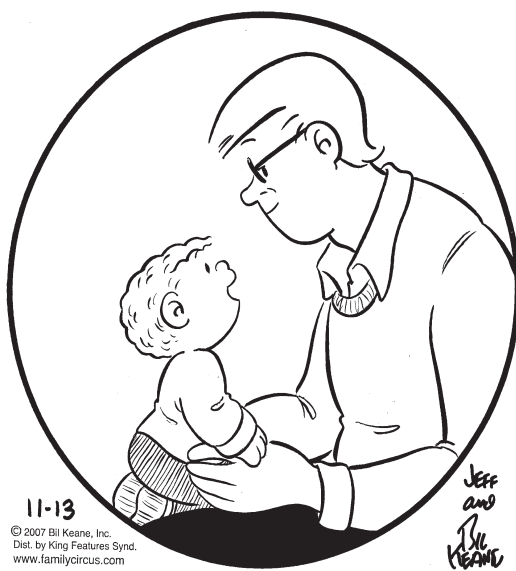
	WFDA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports	SCIFI (64) Science Fic.
6:PM :30	News (CC) Entertainment	Jeopardy! Wheel-Fortune	Yo Amo a Juan	The Simpsons Two-Half Men	News Entertainment	12 Corazones	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond Raymond	Dr. Young John Hagee	News-Lehrer	Futureweapons		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn. (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live (CC) Hell Date	Han. Montana Zack & Cody	Football Live College	College Basketball:	Eureka (CC)
7:PM :30	Cavemen Carpoolers	Cavemen Carpoolers	Amar sin Limites	Bones (CC)	NCIS (CC)	Madre Luna	The Biggest Loser (CC)	Family Guy Family Guy	Update Israel Dr. Booker	Nova (CC) (DVS)	Dirty Jobs (CC)	Movie: Fear Window	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn. (CC)	Cold Case (CC)	Sunday Best (CC)	Confessions of a Teenage	Football: Toledo at Ball	NIT Season Tip-Off	Eureka (CC)
8:PM :30	Dancing With the Stars	Dancing With the Stars	Destilando Amor	House (CC)	The Unit (CC)	La Esclava Isaura		Family Guy Family Guy	Light of the Southwest		Dirty Jobs		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn. (CC)	Cold Case (CC)	Keyshia Cole College-Interns	Drama Queen That's-Raven	State (CC)	College Basketball:	Eureka (CC)
9:PM :30	Boston Legal (CC)	Boston Legal (CC)	Como Ama una Mujer	TMZ (CC) Raymond	Cane (CC)	Pecados Ajenos	LAW & Order: SVU	The Office The Office	Independent Lens (CC)	Everest: Be- yond the Limit	Movie: Vertigo		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn. (CC)	Cold Case (CC)	College-Interns Keyshia Cole	That's-Raven Life Derek	College	NIT Season Tip-Off	ECW
10:PM :30	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	Two-Half Men Raymond	News Late Show-	Noticias Decisiones	News Tonight Show	Sex and-City Sex and-City	Update Israel Keith Miller	To Be Announced	Dirty Jobs (CC)		CSI: NY (CC)	Cold Case (CC)	Hell Date Hell Date	Zack & Cody Han. Montana	Basketball: CBE Classic	SportsCenter (CC)	Flash Gordon (CC)
11:PM :30	The Insider Jimmy Kimmel	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	La Hora de la Risa	Law & Order: Criminal Intent	Letterman Late Late	¡Al Rojo Vivo!	Late Night- Conan O'Brien	Movie: American Pie	Joe McGee Biblical Israel	Tavis Smiley Tavis Smiley	Dirty Jobs (CC)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn. (CC)	Without a Trace (CC)	Take the Cake (CC)	Replacements Kim Possible	Regional Final Basketball:	NFL Live NBA Fastbreak	Stargate SG-1 (CC)
12:AM :30	Live (CC) News (CC)	Extra (CC) Paid Program	Salome (SS)	Reno 911! George Lopez	Show The Insider	Programa	Conan O'Brien News	Presents: Band Camp (CC)	Update Israel J.R. Church	Sign Off	Dirty Jobs (CC)	12:15 Movie: Cheyenne	Star Trek: Voyager	Without a Trace (CC)	Comoview (CC)	Emperor New American Drgn	Boost Mobile Classic	SportsCenter (CC)	Twilight Zone Twilight Zone

DENNIS THE MENACE



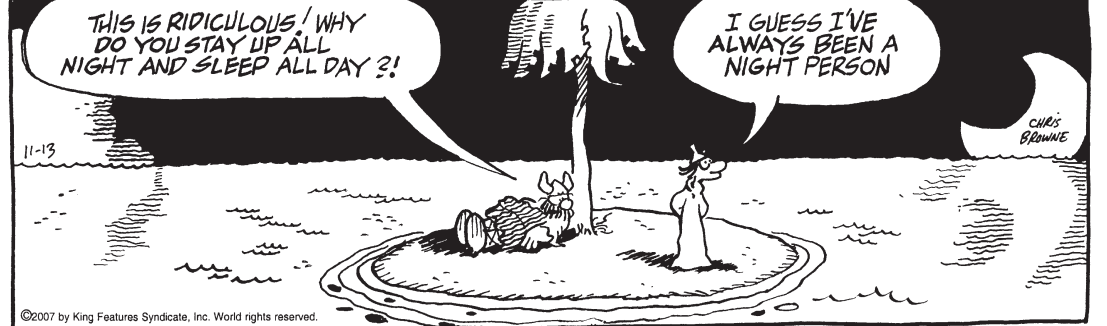
"DON'T WORRY, DAD, I'LL WAKE YOU IF YOU FALL ASLEEP."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

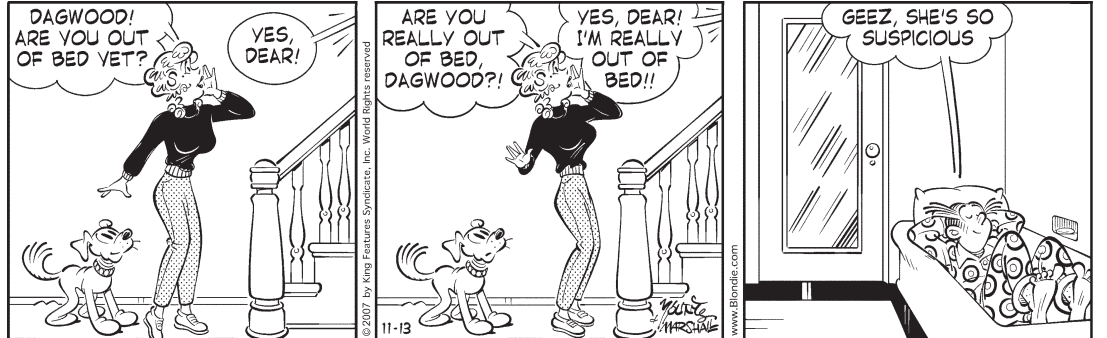


"When I get to college, what toys will they have for me to play with?"

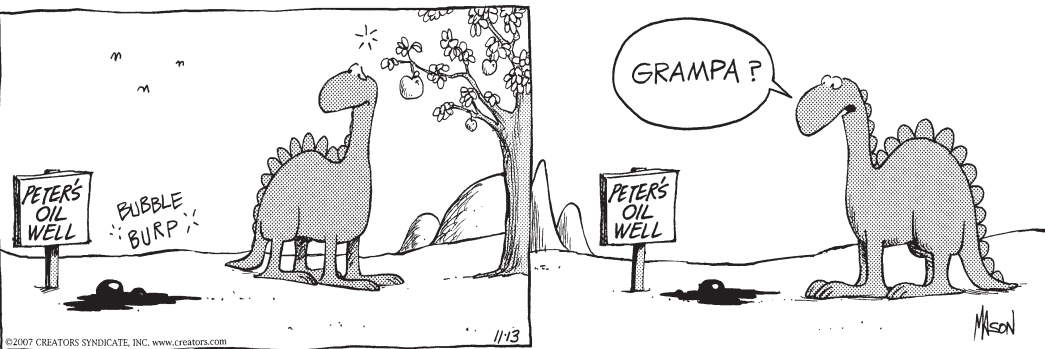
HAGAR



BLONDIE



BC



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Nov. 13, the 317th day of 2007. There are 48 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 13, 1982, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial was dedicated on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

On this date:

In 1775, during the American Revolution, the Continental Army captured Montreal.

In 1789, Benjamin Franklin wrote in a letter to a friend, "In this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes."

In 1927, the Holland Tunnel opened to the public, providing access between lower Manhattan and New Jersey beneath the Hudson River.

In 1942, President Roosevelt signed a measure lowering the minimum draft age from 21 to 18.

In 1956, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down laws calling for racial segregation on public city and state buses.

In 1971, the U.S. space probe Mariner 9 went into orbit around Mars.

In 1974, Karen Silkwood, a technician and union activist at the Kerr-McGee Cimarron plutonium plant near Crescent, Okla., died in a car crash while on her way to meet a reporter.

In 1977, Al Capp's comic strip "Li'l Abner" appeared in newspapers for the last time.

In 1985, some 23,000 residents of Armero, Colombia, died when a gigantic mudslide buried the city.

One year ago: Bush led a ceremonial groundbreaking on the National Mall for a memorial dedicated to civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Madeleine Sherwood is 85. Journalist-author Peter Arnett is 73. Producer-director Garry Marshall is 73. Country singer-songwriter Ray Wylie Hubbard is 61. Actor Joe Mantegna is 60. Actress Sheila Frazier is 59.

Actress Frances Conroy is 54. Musician Andrew Ranken (The Pogues) is 54. Actress Tracy Scoggins is 54. Actress-comedian Whoopi Goldberg is 52. Actor Chris Noth is 51. Actor Rex Linn ("CSI: Miami") is 51. Actress Caroline Goodall is 48. Rock musician Walter Kibby (Fishbone) is 43. Comedian Jimmy Kimmel is 40. Actor Steve Zahn is 39. Rock musician Nikolai Fraiture is 29. Actress Monique Coleman is 27.

Thought for Today: "Don't be a pal to your son. Be his father. What child needs a 40-year-old for a friend?" — Al Capp, American cartoonist (1909-1979).

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Answer to previous puzzle

CHARS	ESPN	ASAP
RANAT	CLEO	NADA
OHARA	OUTS	ALLS
WATERING	CAN	SIT
LEO	ALIBABA	
DDAY	WRITEME	
URN	PAIN	BALSA
BATHING	BEAUTIES	
STEAL	ERAS	LEI
	SLENDER	GYMS
POTHOLE	OOO	
IRE	WASHING	SODA
AIRY	PTAS	ROPER
NOSE	SERA	ELECT
ONES	EDDY	SOCKS

Newsday Crossword

ABLE-BODIED by Gail Grabowski
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ACROSS | 56 "That's a shame!" | 7 In the near future | 30 Roof overhangs |
| 1 Clothes-dryer buildup | 58 Followed a curved path | 8 Student's reading | 31 Small songbird |
| 5 Kid around | 59 Suffix for differ | 9 "Relax, soldier!" | 32 Paid athletes |
| 9 Farm units | 60 Land surrounded by water | 10 Monotonous song | 34 Elbow room |
| 14 Once more | 61 Borscht vegetables | 11 Rough hiking trail | 36 Dogwood, for example |
| 15 Woodwind instrument | 62 Sandwich breads | 12 Part of EMT: Abbr. | 37 Car with a rumble seat |
| 16 Heavy knock | 63 Melts | 13 Agile | 41 The third planet |
| 17 Container for valuables | | 18 Hammers' targets | 43 Coarse wool fabrics |
| 19 Raring to go | | 23 Uses a stopwatch | 44 Traces of color |
| 20 Lawn material | | 25 Citrus drinks | 46 Beginning stage |
| 21 Insurance broker | | 26 Loose outer garment | 47 Low poker card |
| 22 Furious | | 27 Hoarse speaker's sound | 48 Dull-colored |
| 23 Not winning or losing | DOWN | 28 "Bravo!" or "Hurrah!" | 49 Steak preference |
| 24 Moist, as a turkey | 1 Scottish girl | | 51 Small horse |
| 26 Youngster | 2 Long-division word | | 52 Cluster of shrubs |
| 28 Secret writing | 3 Geek | | 53 West Coast school: Abbr. |
| 29 Morning moisture | 4 A pair of | | 54 Veer off course |
| 32 Purple fruits | 5 Ran at a slow pace | | 57 Ignited |
| 33 Garden tool | 6 Receded | | |
| 34 Practice boxing | | | |
| 35 Thorny flower | | | |
| 36 Difficult journeys | | | |
| 38 Cover with tar | | | |
| 39 Acorn producers | | | |
| 40 Fish eggs | | | |
| 41 All gone, as food | | | |
| 42 Cloud's place | | | |
| 43 Pull apart | | | |
| 44 Dashboard devices | | | |
| 45 Made a solemn promise | | | |
| 47 Disastrous | | | |
| 48 Male bee | | | |
| 50 Paid out | | | |
| 52 School transport | | | |
| 55 Salary increase | | | |

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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WEDNESDAY

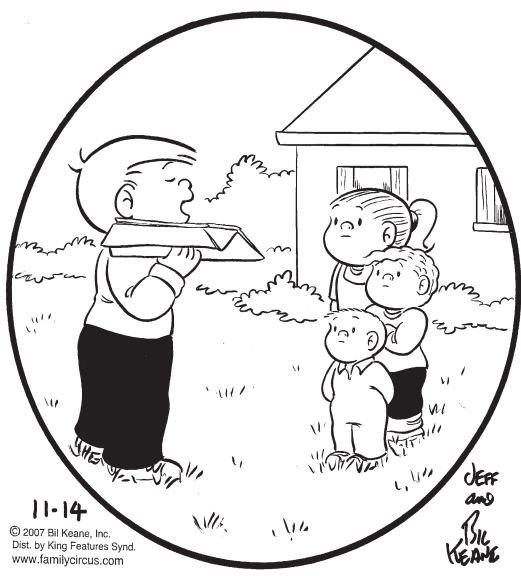
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DENNIS THE MENACE



"I'M WORKIN' ON MY TABLE MANNERS. DO YOU HAVE SOME CAKE I CAN PRACTICE ON?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

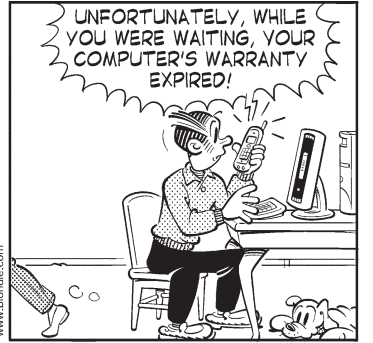
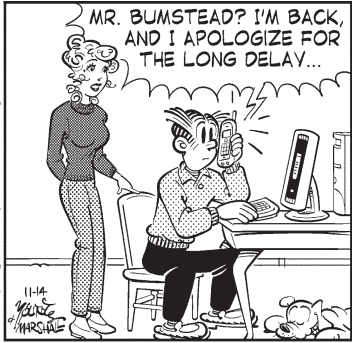


"Take off your shoes, empty your pockets, have your ID and boarding pass out..."

HAGAR



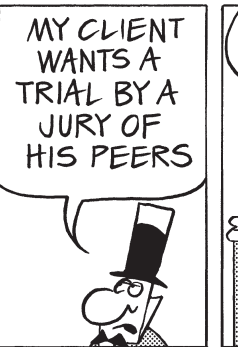
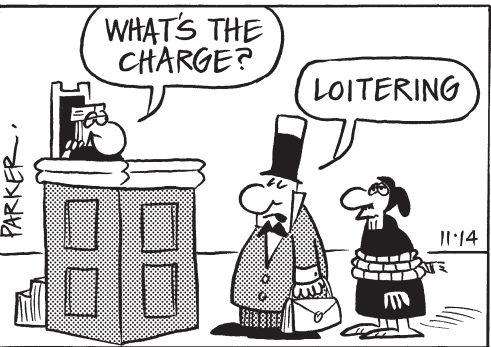
BLONDIE



BC



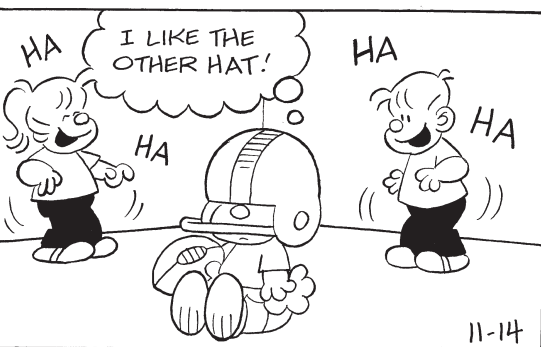
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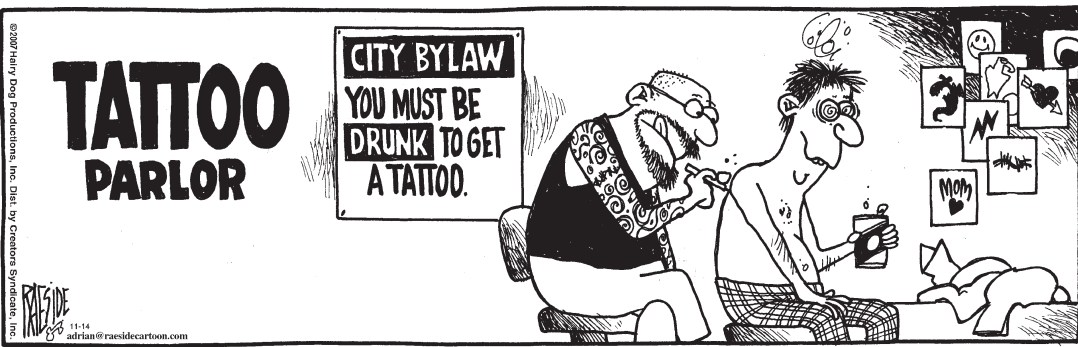
AGNES



HI AND LOIS



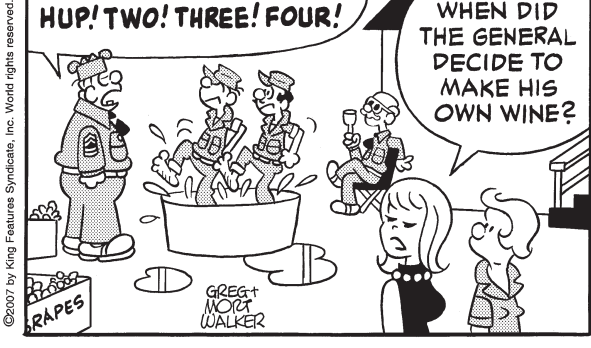
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Nov. 14, the 318th day of 2007. There are 47 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Nov. 14, 1889, inspired by Jules Verne, New York World reporter Nellie Bly set out to travel around the world in less than 80 days.

On this date: In 1851, Herman Melville's novel "Moby-Dick" was first published in the United States.

In 1881, Charles J. Guiteau went on trial for assassinating President Garfield.

In 1907, two renowned children's authors were born: William Steig ("Shrek") in New York, Astrid Lindgren ("Pippi Longstocking") near Vimmerby, Sweden.

In 1922, the British Broadcasting Corp. began its domestic radio service.

In 1935, King Hussein of Jordan was born in Amman.

In 1940, during World War II, German planes destroyed most of the English town of Coventry.

In 1969, Apollo 12 blasted off for the moon.

In 1970, a chartered Southern Airways DC9 crashed while trying to land in Huntington, W.Va., killing all 75 on board.

In 1972, the Dow Jones Industrial Average closed above the 1,000 level for the first time, ending the day at 1,003.16.

In 1973, Britain's Princess Anne married Capt. Mark Phillips in Westminster Abbey.

Today's Birthdays: Former U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali is 85. Actress Kathleen Hughes is 79. Jazz musician Ellis Marsalis is 73. Writer P.J. O'Rourke is 60. Zydeco singer-musician Buckwheat

Zydeco is 60. Britain's Prince Charles is 59. Actor Robert Ginty is 59. Rock singer-musician James Young (Styx) is 58. Singer Stephen Bishop is 56. Blues musician Anson Funderburgh is 53. Pianist Yanni is 53. Actress Laura San Giacomo is 46. Actor D.B. Sweeney is 46. Rapper Reverend Run (Run-DMC) is 43. Actor Patrick Warburton is 43. Rock musician Nic Dalton is 43. Country singer Rockie Lynne is 43. Pop singer Jeanette Jurado (Exposé) is 42. Rock musician Brian Yale is 39. Rock singer Butch Walker is 38. Actor Josh Duhamel is 35.

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Answer to previous puzzle crossword grid with words: LINT, JEST, ACRES, ANEW, OBOE, THUMP, STRONGBOX, EAGER, SOD, AGENT, ANGRY, TIED, BASTE, CHILD, CODE, DEW, PLUMS, HOE, SPAR, ROSE, TREKS, PAVE, OAKS, ROE, EATEN, SKY, TEAR, TACHS, VOWED, DIRE, DRONE, SPENT, BUS, RAISE, TOUGH, LUCK, ARCED, ENCE, ISLE, BEETS, RYES, THAW.

Newsday Crossword

PIECEWORK by Fred Piscop Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS: 1 Radar reading gadget, 6 Razor sharpener, 11 Salary max, 14 Colonel insignia, 15 Bearlike beast, 16 Single device, 17 Physics-lab device, 19 Criticize, slangily, 20 Fancy footwear, 21 Scarlett's husband, 23 Blaster's need, 26 Rink surface, 27 Single-celled critters, 29 Bother continually, 31 Roofing pro, 32 Draw forth, 33 Board-game turn, 34 Most August babies, 37 Heed the alarm, 38 Small canyon, 39 Spanish snack, 40 Actor Damon, 41 Not "fer", 42 Soap units, 43 No-goodnik, 45 Proof of pedigree, 46 With intensity, 48 -relief, 49 Bit of sunshine, 50 CD-player device, 51 Execs, slangily, 53 Make a choice, 54 Butcher's gadget, 60 Smelter input, 61 Divas' deliveries, 62 Spoiler, 63 Popular Christmas tree, 64 King of talk shows, 65 Fell back, 8 Stadium cheer, 9 Stadium cheer, 10 Mimicking bird, 11 Cryptographer, often, 12 Singer Baker, 13 Gnats and moles, 18 Some Apples, 22 Shoe lift, 23 Heat unit, 24 Gymnast Comaneci, 25 Monopolist's foe, 27 Set straight, 28 Leonine locks, 30 Overlay material, 31 Bit of parsley, 33 Waterlogged, 35 La Scala offering, 36 Fresh-mouthed, 38 Highlander, 42 Queen Isabella's realm, 44 Skin-related, 45 Socks set, 46 Cool in manner, 47 Blue Grotto isle, 48 Warren Beatty film, 51 Play the lead, 52 Snooty sort, 55 Notable time, 56 Run on TV, 57 Confer knighthood on, 58 Language suffix, 59 Deficit color.

Newsday Crossword grid with numbers 1-65 indicating starting positions for words.

THURSDAY

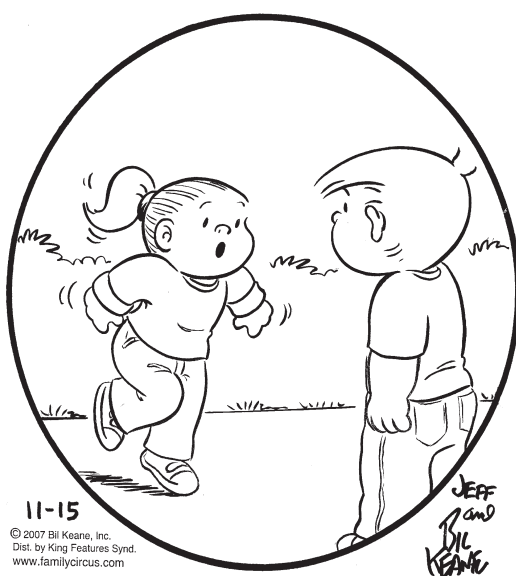
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DENNIS THE MENACE



"YOU BEHAVE YOURSELF!" "IF I BEHAVE, YOU'LL BE OUT OF A JOB!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

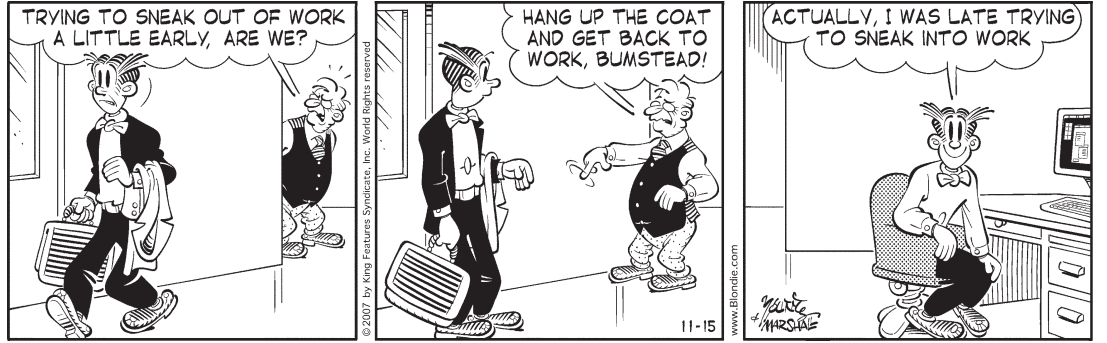


"I didn't hurt my foot. I'm practicing for hopscotch."

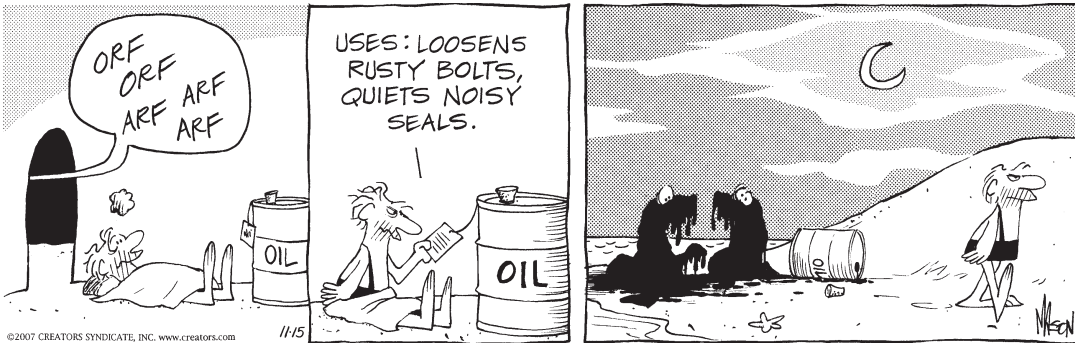
HAGAR



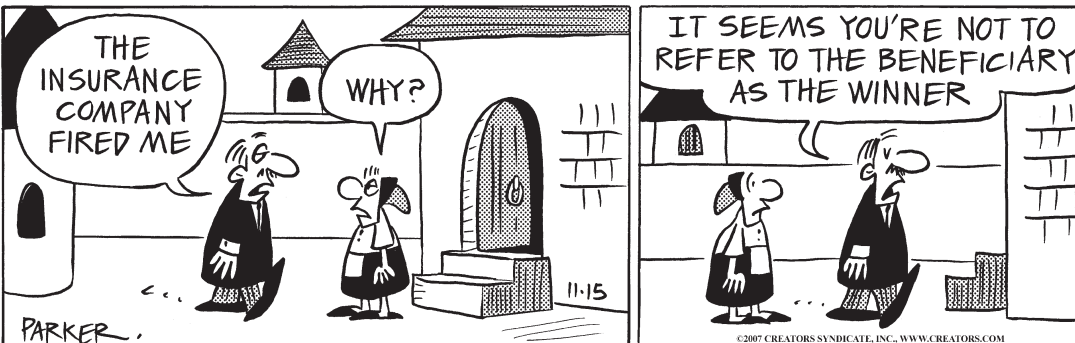
BLONDIE



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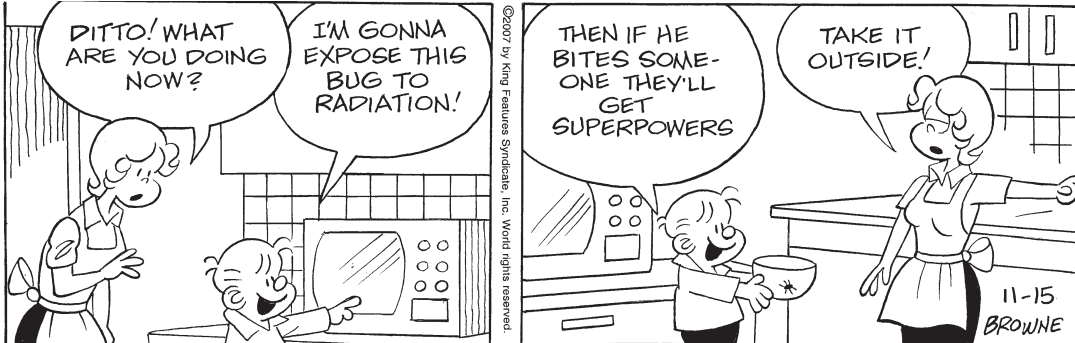
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AGNES



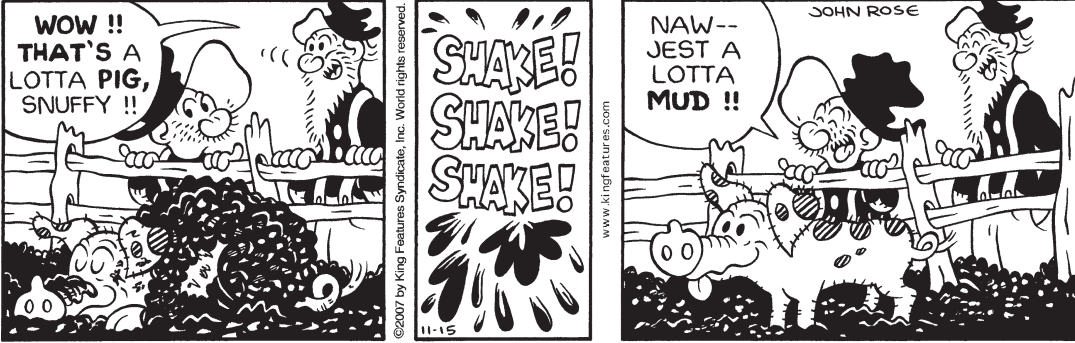
HI AND LOIS



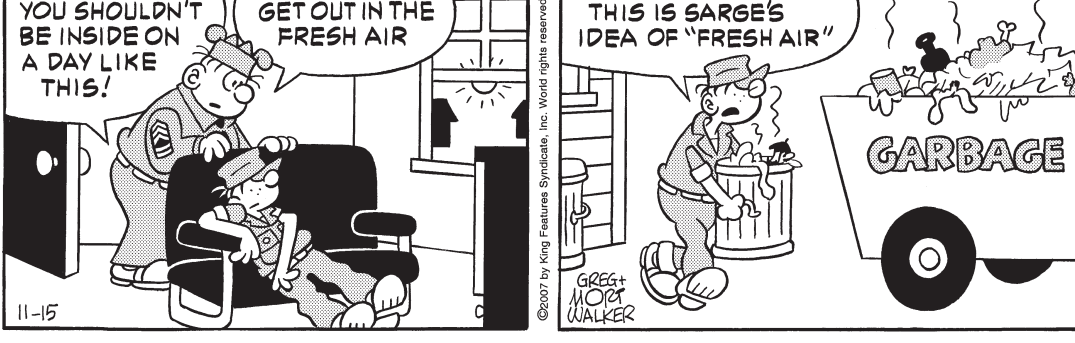
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Nov. 15, the 319th day of 2007. There are 46 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 15, 1806, explorer Zebulon Pike sighted the mountaintop now known as Pikes Peak in present-day Colorado.

On this date: In 1777, the Second Continental Congress approved the Articles of Confederation, a precursor to the Constitution of the United States.

In 1889, Brazil was proclaimed a republic as its emperor, Dom Pedro II, was overthrown.

In 1926, the National Broadcasting Co. debuted as a radio network.

In 1939, President Roosevelt laid the cornerstone of the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, D.C.

In 1948, William Lyon Mackenzie King retired as prime minister of Canada after 21 years; he was succeeded by Louis St. Laurent.

In 1966, the flight of Gemini 12 ended successfully as astronauts James A. Lovell and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin Jr. splashed down safely in the Atlantic.

In 1969, a quarter of a million protesters staged a peaceful demonstration in Washington against the Vietnam War.

In 1979, the British government publicly identified Sir Anthony Blunt as the "Fourth Man" of a Soviet spy ring that included Guy Burgess, Donald Maclean and Kim Philby.

In 1982, funeral services were held in Moscow's Red Square for the late Soviet President Leonid I. Brezhnev.

In 1987, 28 of 82 people aboard a Continental Airlines DC-9, including the pilot and co-pilot, were killed when the jetliner crashed seconds after taking off from Denver's Stapleton International Airport.

Today's Birthdays: Judge Joseph Wapner is 88.

Statesman Howard H. Baker Junior is 82. Actor Ed Asner is 78. Actor John Kerr is 76. Singer Petula Clark is 75. Comedian Jack Burns is 74. Actress Joanna Barnes is 73. Actor Sam Waterston is 67. Pop singer Frida (ABBA) is 62. Actor Bob Gunton is 62. Director-actor James Widdoes is 54. Rock singer-producer Mitch Easter is 53. Actress Beverly D'Angelo is 53. CNN anchor-reporter John Roberts is 51. "Tonight Show" bandleader Kevin Eubanks is 50. Comedian Judy Gold is 45. Rapper E-40 is 40. Actress Rachel True is 38. Country singer Jack Ingram is 37. Actor Jonny Lee Miller is 35.

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Answer to previous puzzle

Grid of crossword puzzle answers: SPEED, STROP, CAP, EAGLE, KOALA, ONE, ATOMSMASHER, DIS, SPATS, RHETT, TNT, ICE, AMOEBA, HARASS, SLATER, EDUC, SPIN, LEOS, RISE, GORGE, TAPA, MATT, AGIN, CAKES, BADEGG, PAPERS, ACUTELY, BAS, RAY, LASER, SUITS, OPT, MEATGRINDER, ORE, ARIAS, LOUSE, FIR, LARRY, EBBED

Newsday Crossword

CONDUCT YOURSELF by Shirley Soloway Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

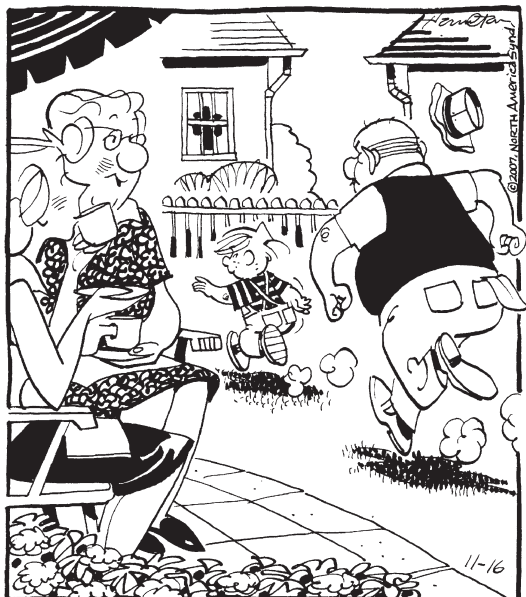
- ACROSS: 1 Sounds of delight, 5 Obliterate, 10 Loose-limbed, 14 Reputation spoiler, 15 Becker or Badenov, 16 Ballet bend, 17 The Alienist author, 18 Dress ornamentation, 20 Mideast region, 22 Bolt holder, 23 Breadth, 24 Rendered unreadable, 26 Keats creations, 27 Barbed remark, 29 Wait, 30 Barely defeat, 31 Silent screen star?, 34 When Operation Overlord began, 38 Ring great, 39 Ring-shaped reef, 40 Wish undone, 41 Optometric object, 43 Lasso feature, 44 Knitting stitch, 45 Ceramic flaw, 47 Nominal, at NASA, 49 Schieffler successor, 52 King of Queens, e.g., 54 Really get to, 55 Publicity, so to speak, 56 Pipsqueak, 59 Transparent plastic, 62 Singer Adams, 63 Greet with acclaim, 64 Element #5, 65 Eats in the evening, 66 Some amb. drivers, 67 Casts forth, 68 Small scrap, 9 Compass reading, 10 Caught with a fork, 11 Preparations, 12 High-pressure system, 13 Assents, 19 Raised, 21 Water cooler, 25 Branch of chemistry, 26 Tempestuous, 27 Enthusiastic emotion, 28 Taking it easy, 29 OPEC amts., 32 Surmounting, 33 Milne marsupial, 35 Got by hard work, 36 Mystic glow, 37 Cheerleading routine, 42 Moves through a computer file, 44 Great skill, 46 Lone Ranger exclamation, 48 Start of the fourth qtr., 49 Storehouse, 50 Very early in the day, 51 Darkened, 52 Entangle, 53 "No need to remind me", 55 Waffle House alternative, 57 Morning TV host, 58 Irritant, 60 American Masters network, 61 Recent USNA grad

13x13 crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-68 indicating starting points for clues.

FRIDAY

	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports	SCIFI (64) Science Fic.
6:PM :30	News (CC) Entertainment	Jeopardy! Wheel-Fortune	Premios TV y Novelas	The Simpsons Two-Half Men	News Entertainment	12 Corazones	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond Raymond	John Hagee	News-Lehrer	Dirty Jobs		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live (CC) This Christmas	Han, Montana Zack & Cody	Basketball	NBA	The Dresden Files (CC)
7:PM :30	Men in Trees (CC)	Men in Trees (CC)	Premios TV y Novelas 2007	Next Band	Ghost Whisperer	Madre Luna	Deal or No Deal (CC)	Raymond Raymond	Camie Davis Alan Granger	Wash. Week NOW (CC)	Planet Earth (CC)	Movie: Bull Durham	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Movie: Titanic (CC)	Movie	Han, Montana Wizards-Place	College	NBA Basketball:	Flash Gordon (CC)
8:PM :30	Women's Murder Club	Women's Murder Club		Don't Forget the Lyrics!	Moonlight (CC)	La Esclava Isaura	Friday Night Lights (CC)	Funnier Commercials	Light of the Southwest	Bill Moyers Journal (CC)	Man vs. Wild		Ultimate Fighting			Movie: Ice Princess	Basketball: 2K Sports	Houston Rockets at San	Stargate Atlantis (CC)
9:PM :30	20/20 (CC)	20/20 (CC)		TMZ (CC)	NUMB3RS (CC)	Pecados Ajenos	Las Vegas (CC)	Frank Cali- endo: All Over		Do You Speak American?	Man vs. Wild (CC)	Movie: Firefox	Championship 70: Nations		College-Interns Keyshia Cole		Coaches vs. Cancer Classic	Antonio Spurs NBA	Stargate Atlantis (CC)
10:PM :30	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	Two-Half Men Raymond	News Late Show-	Noticias Boxeo	News Tonight Show	Sex and-City Sex and-City	J.R. Church How Can I	Charlie Rose (CC)	Everest: Be- yond the Limit		Collide		Hell Date Hell Date	Zack & Cody Han, Montana	College Football:	Basketball: Detroit Pistons (CC)	Flash Gordon (CC)
11:PM :30	The Insider Jimmy Kimmel	Final Score Jimmy Kimmel	La Hora de la Risa	Law & Order: Criminal Intent	Letterman Late Late	Telemundo	Late Night-	Movie: When Harry Met	In Touch-Dr	Tavis Smiley Tavis Smiley	Planet Earth (CC)		MXC (CC) MXC (CC)	Cellular (CC)	Take the Cake (CC)	Replacements Kim Possible	Hawaii at Nevada (CC)	at Los Angeles Lakers (CC)	Stargate Atlantis (CC)
12:AM :30	Live (CC) News (CC)	Live (CC) Extra (CC)	Salome (SS)	Reno 911! George Lopez	Show The Insider	Just Laugh Programa	Conan O'Brien News	Sally... (CC)	Camie Davis CCM Ministries	Sign Off	Man vs. Wild	Movie:	Game Head Game Head		Comicview (CC)	Emperor New American Drgn		SportsCenter (CC)	Stargate SG-1 (CC)

DENNIS THE MENACE



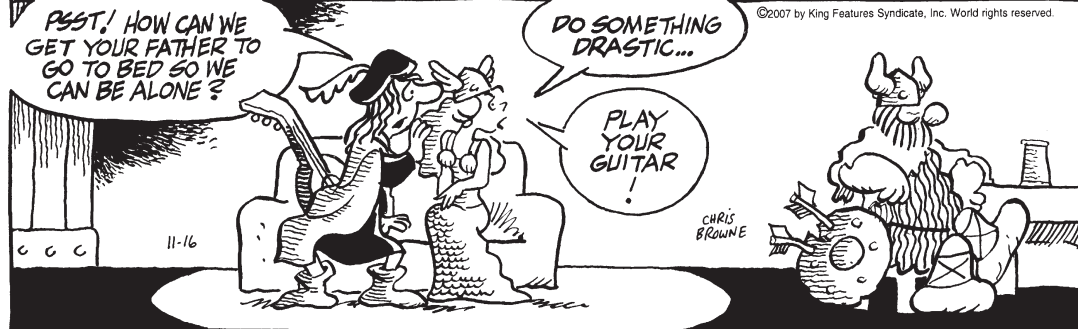
"DENNIS IS LIKE JUMPER CABLES. HE CAN ALWAYS GET GEORGE'S ENGINE RUNNING."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

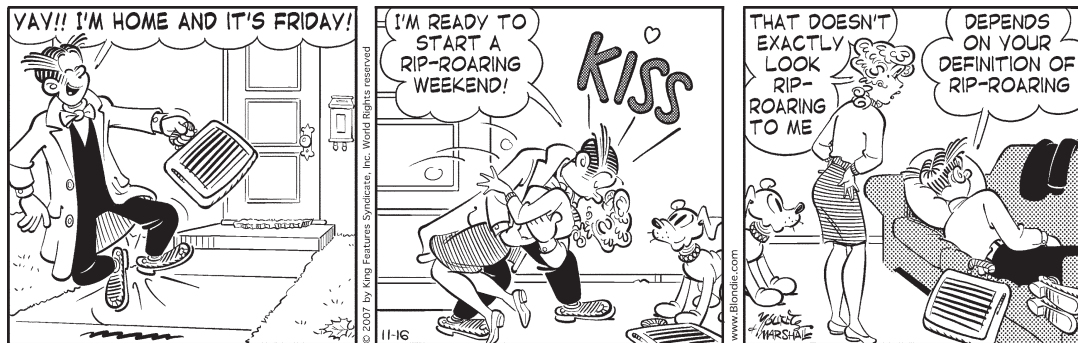


"But that's a teacher's punishment, not a mother's."

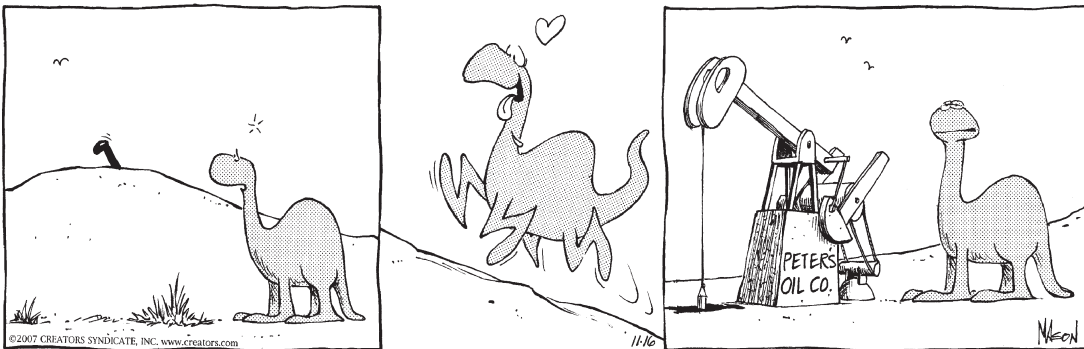
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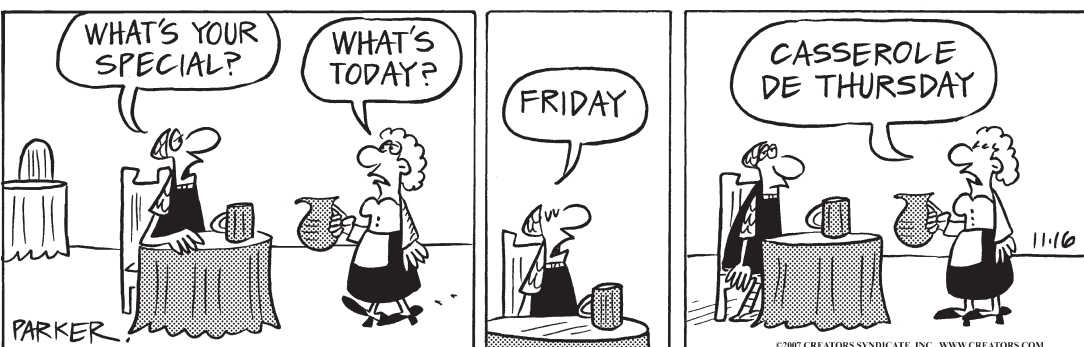
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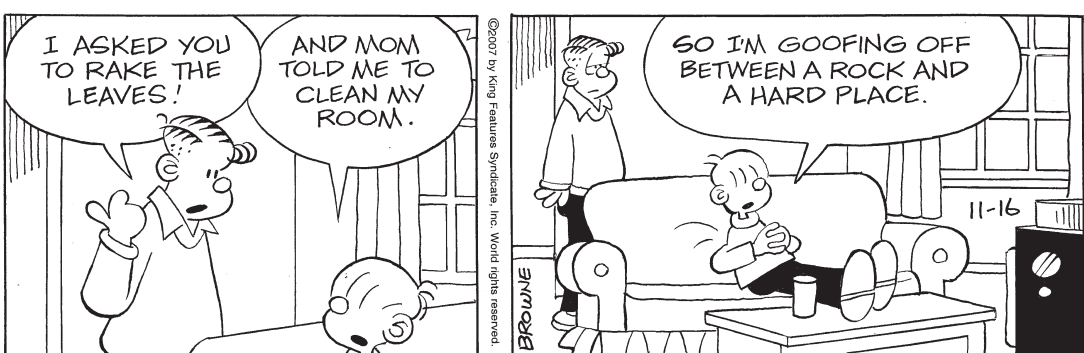
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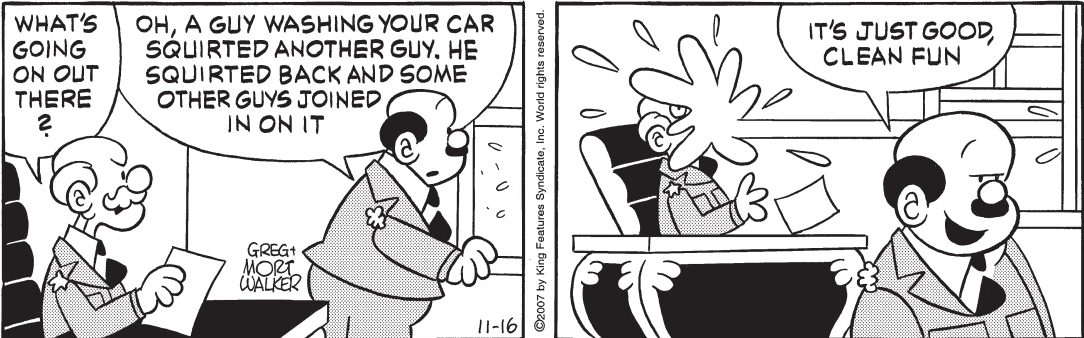
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Friday, Nov. 16, the 320th day of 2007. There are 45 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

One hundred years ago, on Nov. 16, 1907, Oklahoma became the 46th state of the union.

On this date:

In 1776, British troops captured Fort Washington in New York during the American Revolution.

In 1885, Canadian rebel leader Louis Riel was executed for high treason.

In 1917, Georges Clemenceau again became prime minister of France.

In 1933, the United States and the Soviet Union established diplomatic relations.

In 1961, Sam Rayburn died in Bonham, Texas, having served as Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives since 1940 except for two terms.

In 1966, Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard was acquitted in

his second trial of charges he'd murdered his pregnant wife, Marilyn, in 1954.

In 1973, Skylab 4, carrying a crew of three astronauts, was launched from Cape Canaveral, Fla., on an 84-day mission.

In 1973, President Nixon signed the Trans-Alaska Pipeline Authorization Act.

In 1982, an agreement was announced in the 57th day of a strike by National Football League players.

One year ago: Democrats embraced Nancy Pelosi as the first woman House speaker in history, but then selected Steny Hoyer as majority leader against her wishes.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Clu Gulager is 79. Blues musician Hubert Sumlin is 76. Journalist Elizabeth Drew is 72. Blues musician W.C. Clark is 68. Actor Steve Railsback is 62. Actor David Leisure is 57. Actress Marg Helgenberger is 49. Rock musician Mani is 45. Country singer-musician Keith Burns (Trick Pony) is 44. Former tennis player Zina Garrison is 44. Former baseball player Dwight

Gooden is 43. Jazz singer Diana Krall is 43. Actor Harry Lennix is 43. Actress Lisa Bonet is 40. Actress Tammy Lauren is 39. Rhythm-and-blues singer Bryan Abrams (Color Me Badd) is 38. Actress Martha Plimpton is 37. Olympic gold medal figure skater Oksana Baiul is 30. Actress Maggie Gyllenhaal is 30. Pop singer Trevor Penick is 28. Actress Kimberly J. Brown is 23. Actor Noah Gray-Cabey ("My Wife and Kids") is 11.

Thought for Today: "An American who can make money, invoke God, and be no better than his neighbor, has nothing to fear but truth itself." — Marya Mannes, American critic (1904-1990).

Answer to previous puzzle

AAHS	ERASE	SPRY
BLOT	BORIS	PLIE
CARR	BUGLE	BEADS
SINAI	NUT	RANGE
	INC	VERSES
ZINGER	BIDE	
EDGE	GARBO	DDAY
ALI	ATOLL	RUE
LENS	NOOSE	PURL
	CHIP	NORMAL
COURIC	SITCOM	
ANNOY	INK	TWERP
CELLOPHANE	EDIE	
HAIL	BORON	SUPS
EMTS	SPEWS	SPAT

Newsday Crossword

ALL THE WAY by Rich Silvestri
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| ACROSS | DOWN | DOWN |
| 1 Almost a majority | 1 Monopolizes | 10 Duration |
| 5 Abound | 2 Minimally | 11 House site |
| 9 Bernie's songwriting partner | 3 Judy's eldest | 12 Cookie cooker |
| 14 Theater award | 4 Intrepid | 13 Social outcast |
| 15 The A of TAE | 5 Gelcap alternative | 21 <i>What's Love Got to Do with It</i> name |
| 16 Start a set | 6 <i>Time Machine</i> people | 22 Oscar actress |
| 17 Great Pyramid site | 7 Long jump, e.g. | Rainer |
| 18 Transvaal settler | 8 Cantina concoctions | 25 Student's choice |
| 19 Show contempt | 9 Basic nature | 26 Threatened layer |
| 20 Surprising folk tale | | 27 Toned down |
| 23 Be situated | | 28 Made a mess, in a way |
| 24 Jeer at | | 30 Long-snouted mammal |
| 25 Points in time | | 31 Skip, as a syllable |
| 29 American seismologist | | 32 Sized up |
| 33 City near Los Angeles | | 35 Paternoster beginning |
| 34 Model's asset | | |
| 36 Like | | |
| 37 Makes a memo | | |
| 38 Tootler's need | | |
| 39 Cape Cod, essentially | | |
| 40 Early afternoon | | |
| 41 Bewitched aunt | | |
| 42 Derisive | | |
| 43 Beef or lamb | | |
| 45 Stuck with a stick | | |
| 47 Hand and foot | | |
| 49 Foul caller | | |
| 50 Captain Kirk's pay | | |
| 57 French river | | |
| 58 Criticizes | | |
| 59 "Now ___ me down..." | | |

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