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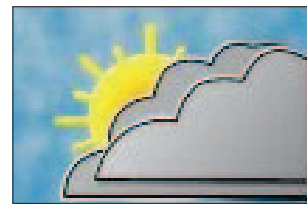


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BIG SPRING

# HERALD

**MONDAY**  
NOVEMBER 19, 2007



VOLUME 102, NUMBER 304

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

## Angel Trees in place now

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

As the holiday shopping season officially gets under way Friday with after-Thanksgiving sales all over the Crossroads area, the Big Spring Salvation

Army is asking shoppers to keep an angel in mind when they hit streets.

Salvation Army Capt. Linda Keeney said her office took applications from approximately 135 adults during the chari-

ty's application process, amounting to 378 children and 68 seniors being approved for the program, which provides Christmas gifts for area low-income residents who might otherwise wake up Dec. 25 to a

bare tree.

"We have more children on the Angel Trees this year than we've seen since we've been in Big Spring," said Keeney. "We're not sure what's to blame for the increase. With the oil

industry so strong this year, you would think the need would be less. However, we're seeing a lot of people out there who are still struggling to make

See **ANGELS**, Page 3A



From left, Diane Murphy, Gloria Ypina and Pam Steel serve up turkey and all the fixings at Bauer Magnet School Cafeteria Saturday night. Parishioners from First United Methodist Church served Thanksgiving dinner to area residents.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

## FUMC Hispanic ministry serves up Thanksgiving meal for citizens

By **STEVE REAGAN**  
Staff Writer

Parishioners from First United Methodist Church made sure those less fortunate weren't left out of Thanksgiving feasting.

Church members temporarily occupied Bauer Magnet School's cafeteria Saturday night, preparing more than 70 plates full of turkey and all the trimmings for

area residents.

Agustin Ypina, head of the church's Hispanic ministry, said 72 people were served during the first-time event.

Ypina said church members were simply reaching out to those less fortunate.

"We just want to be able to show God's love and help others," Ypina said. "The Bible tells us to love

others as we would love ourselves, so basically all we're trying to do is share our love."

Ypina said he spends much of his time on evangelical work, going to people's homes and trying to convince them to come visit the church. But he's also a believer in bringing the church to the people.

See **MINISTRY**, Page 3A

## Tax revenue up slightly for Big Spring

By **BILL MCCLELLAN**  
News Editor

Sales tax revenues for the city of Big Spring were up for November — if only slightly — compared to a year ago, according to the State Comptroller's Office.

The numbers show that Big Spring received \$524,840.36 this month. Compared to November 2006's receipts of \$514,020.44, that's an increase of 2.1 percent. The funds pushed total receipts to \$4,993,537.11 — an increase over the first 11 months in 2006 of 8.15 percent.

Coahoma, which has experienced triple-digit increases most of the year, witnessed a more modest percent increase this time around. The community received \$11,291.82 this month compared to \$9,960.66 a year ago. That's an increase of 13.36 percent. For the year, Coahoma has collected \$119,641.68, a substantial 54.5 percent increase over last year.

Forsan received \$7,374.15 this month, up 8.77 percent compared to the \$6,779.06 officials took in a year ago. For 2007, Forsan has banked \$78,899.55, up 1.52 per-

cent.

Abilene pulled in \$3,043,857.17 this month. Compared to the \$2,956,961.49 check received in November 2006, the Key City posted a hike of 2.93 percent. Abilene has brought in \$30,956,616.96 for the year, up 5.08 percent.

Brownfield, experiencing a bit of a tough year in sales tax receipts, claimed a 2.01 percent increase when comparing the \$98,492.17 received this month to the \$96,543.90 received in November 2006. For the year, Brownfield has received \$916,688.37, still 2.37 percent below 2006 totals to date.

Colorado City witnessed a 12.05 percent decrease this month. The Mitchell County seat took in \$54,059.23 this month compared to \$61,467.19 in November 2006. Through 11 months of 2007, Colorado City has received \$497,658.28, an increase over last year of 6.64 percent.

Fort Stockton continued to reap major dividends in sales tax receipts. That city took in \$246,854.71 this month, a whopping

See **REVENUE**, Page 3A

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



## Holidays prompt closings across county

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

Many area businesses and agencies will be closing their doors in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday this week.

Big Spring, Coahoma and Forsan Independent School Districts — as well as Howard College — will be closed Thursday and Friday,

resuming normal schedules Monday morning.

Big Spring ISD will dismiss its students early Wednesday, with bells set to ring at 1 p.m. Coahoma ISD students are expected to be dismissed for the holiday at 12:30 p.m., while Forsan students will get their holiday under way at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday

The Social Security office will be closed only Thursday, but will reopen Friday morning.

The Spring City Senior Center will be closed Thursday and Friday, resuming services Monday.

All city offices will be closed Thursday and Friday. The city landfill will be closed Thursday and Friday

but will be open Saturday, according to city officials.

However, for emergency service providers such as the Big Spring Police Department, Howard County Sheriff's Office and Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services, it will be business

See **CLOSING**, Page 3A

## South Mountain Realty

408 E. FM 700  
Big Spring, TX 79720  
432-714-4886

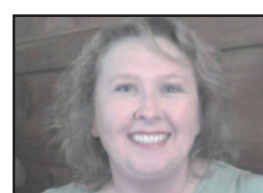
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## Welcomes New Agents



**Donna Love**  
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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  
Monday, November 19, 2007

## IN BRIEF

### Big Spring man sinks hole-in-one at country club

Ronnie Gilbreath of Big Spring made a hole-in-one at the Big Spring Country Club's seventh hole last week.

He used a six iron to ace the hole. C.G. Griffin, Joe Sharpnack and Jim Wright were witnesses to the feat.

### Crossroads region varsity sports weekly calendar

Here's a look at the upcoming Crossroads varsity sports schedule:

#### TUESDAY

Big Spring girls basketball at Greenwood, 7:30 p.m.

Big Spring boys basketball vs. Snyder, 7:30p.m.

Coahoma girls basketball vs. Wall, 6:30 p.m.

Forsan girls basketball vs. Robert Lee, 6:30 p.m.

Forsan boys basketball vs. Robert Lee, 8 p.m. (tentative)

Grady girls basketball vs. Borden County, 6:30 p.m.

Grady boys basketball vs. Borden County, 8 p.m.

#### NOV. 27

Big Spring girls basketball at Lamesa, 8 p.m.

Big Spring boys basketball at Lamesa, 8 p.m.

Coahoma girls basketball vs. Snyder, 6:30 p.m.

Coahoma boys basketball vs. Eldorado, 8 p.m.

Forsan girls basketball vs. Highland, 6:30 p.m.

Forsan boys basketball vs. Highland, 8 p.m.

Grady girls basketball vs. Wink, 6:30 p.m.

Grady boys basketball vs. Highland, 8 p.m.

#### NOV 29-DEC. 1

Big Spring girls basketball at Idalou Tournament.

Big Spring boys basketball at Andrews Tournament.

Coahoma boys and girls basketball hosting Coahoma Invitational Tournament.

Garden City boys and girls basketball hosting Garden City Tournament.

Forsan boys and girls basketball at Garden City Tournament.

Grady boys and girls basketball at Garden City Tournament.

### 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.

# Hereford knocks Steers out again



HERALD photo/Gary Don Hull  
Big Spring Steers quarterback Tyler Tannehill looks for an open receiver in the Steers' 34-20 loss to the Hereford Whitefaces in a Class 4A bi-district playoff game Saturday at Lowrey Field in Lubbock.

By JONATHAN HULL

Herald Sports Editor

The future might be bright for the Big Spring Steers football team, but presently the lights have been completely shut off.

The Steers lost their fifth game in three years to the Hereford Whitefaces, 34-20, Saturday afternoon at Lowrey Field in Lubbock.

Hereford scored touchdowns on four of their first five drives, jumping out to a 27-0 advantage by halftime. Sophomore quarterback Parker Bridwell had 203 passing yards in the first half. He finished the game completing 21 of 26 for 267 yards and three touchdowns. However, two fourth quarter interceptions thrown by Bridwell almost allowed Big Spring to mount a memorable comeback.

With the Steers down 34-7 midway through the final period, Big Spring senior Brandon Ontiveros picked off Bridwell at the Steers' 35 and returned the interception up the right sideline for a touchdown. The costly mistake by Hereford's sophomore signal caller cut the Whitefaces lead to 20 with 7:49 left to play.

On Hereford's next possession, Bridwell threw another interception to middle linebacker Cade Hollandsworth at the Steers' 30. Hollandsworth returned the pick to the 15, giving the Steers a chance to get within one score with 6:56 left to play.

Unfortunately, on Big Spring's first play of the drive, the snap went between quarterback Tyler Tannehill's legs. Tannehill picked the ball up under duress from two Hereford defenders at the 28 and chunked a pass down the field. The referees decided a Steers' receiver wasn't in the vicinity of the throw and called Tannehill for intentional grounding.

The penalty set the Steers back on a second and 23 they couldn't recover from.

"We can't make mistakes like that in big games," Big Spring Head Coach Mike Ritchey said. "We needed to play a clean game and we just weren't as polished as we had been the past few weeks. We felt good coming into this game, but we didn't make the plays to win the game. In big

See **STEERS**, Page 2B

# Buffs melt Blizzards, advance in playoffs

By JEFF LANE

Special to the Herald

The Forsan Buffaloes (6-5) won their first postseason game in nearly 20 years Saturday with a come from behind win against the Winters Blizzards in a Class 1A bi-district football playoff game Saturday night in San Angelo, 16-7.

The win advances the Buffs to the area round of the playoffs to meet the Valley Mills Eagles (7-3) next Saturday in Brownwood at Gordon Wood Stadium.

After giving up an early score, the Buffs' defense pitched a shutout for the final three quarters and junior quarterback Alex Huckabee threw a pair of touchdowns and kicked a field goal, figuring in on all of Forsan's scoring.

Winters drew first blood in this rematch of last year's bi-district championship on the strength of a 9-play, 50-yard drive capped off by Justin Medina going in from the 1-yard line, giving the Blizzards the early lead, 7-0.

Forsan answered back with their own 9-play march covering 52 yards, but came up short inside the Winters 5-yard line and settled for a Huckabee 21-yard field goal, closing the gap to 7-3 with 9:31 remaining in the first half.

"Our defense really came up big tonight", said Forsan senior linebacker Josh Daniels. "After that first score we stepped it up and did what we had to do to stop them and give our offense a chance."

The Buffs' defense earned its keep all night, but especially on Winters' first drive of the third quarter.

The Blizzards took the ball to

the Buffs' 5, however, sophomore linebacker Ryan Flores recovered a Medina fumble, thwarting Winters' most promising possession of the second half.

"That was a big, big play for us," said Huckabee. "We needed a big play to get us going, and we got it."

Forsan used that momentum to take a 10-7 lead as Huckabee found senior tight end Adam Bailey in the corner of the end zone with less than a minute left in the third quarter.

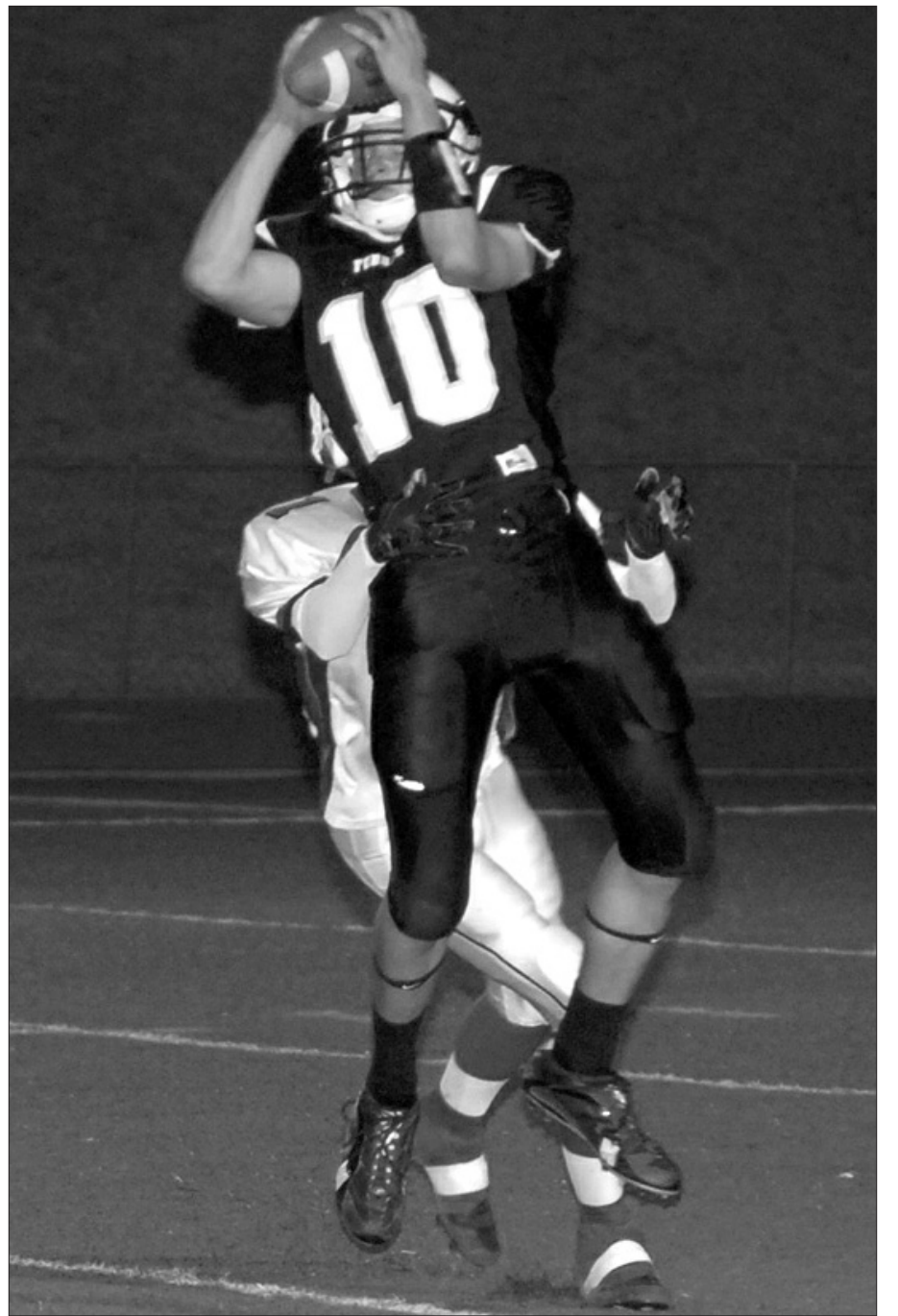
Huckabee later hit Jeremy Robbins for a 31-yard touchdown, putting Forsan up 16-7.

Robbins played the role of hero later in the game. The Blizzards mounted one last effort and were on the verge of scoring, but Robbins made an interception in the end zone to end the threat, and essentially the game, with just 4:30 to play.

Huckabee finished 8 of 19 for 159 yards and two scores and Blake Grantham helped fuel the fired up Buffalo defense with 2 sacks.

"We were a little frustrated that we couldn't do what we liked on offense," said Buffs' Head Coach Tommy Thompson. "We did what we had to do to win and the defense gets a ton of credit for how they played all night. We are very happy to be moving on and playing Valley Mills."

"We told the kids to enjoy the win for now," he continued, "but to be ready to get back to work on Monday. Valley Mills is another quality opponent and we will have to be prepared in all aspects of the game. Our confidence is high right now and we hope to carry that over into next Saturday."



Courtesy photo/Bob Fishback  
Forsan Buffaloes wide receiver Jeremy Robbins makes a leaping reception in the Buffs' 16-7 win over the Winters Blizzards Saturday at Bobcat Stadium in San Angelo. Forsan travels to Brownwood to face Valley Mills Saturday in the area round of the Class 1A playoffs.

# Cowboys hold on to edge Redskins, 28-23

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — Terrell Owens ran off the field cradling a ball under his arm: the one he batted down in the end zone to end the game, not one of the four he caught for touchdowns.

Even after his four-TD performance that tied a Dallas Cowboys record, T.O. wasn't finished with career firsts.

Owens was again in the end zone on the last play of the game Sunday, as a defender knocking down Jason Campbell's desperation final throw. That preserved the Cowboys' 28-23 victory over the Washington Redskins.

"They told me not to let anyone get behind me, knock the ball down. I wasn't going to risk that situation trying to do anything stupid," Owens said. "Interceptions are really not

going to do me any good. I'm not going to try to break any records."

While not the first time Owens has played defense in half-ending situations, it was the first time in his 12 seasons that he has been statistically credited with a pass defended.

But Owens will get his records catching passes from his own quarterback, like the TDs of 4, 31, 46 and 52 yards from Tony Romo that accounted for all the scoring the Cowboys needed to get to 9-1 for the first time since 1983. T.O. moved to No. 3 on the career list with 126 TDs, three more than Indianapolis' Marvin Harrison.

"This is one of the greatest games, really, that I feel like I've played in," said Owens, who finished with eight catches for 173 yards. "Just really me coming through in the clutch."

The only other Dallas receiver to have a four-TD game was Bob Hayes in 1970.

"T.O.'s doing his thing," Cowboys defensive end Marcus Spears said. "That's A-1, you expect him to do it."

With Green Bay also winning Sunday, the Packers and Cowboys remain tied atop the NFC with one game left before they meet at Texas Stadium a week from Thursday.

Dallas has already matched last season's win total with four straight victories. The past three came against NFC East rivals, with Owens having 24 catches for 472 yards and seven TDs in that stretch.

"I know (these games) are important, and I'm playing with a purpose," Owens said. "We've just got to win these division games."

The Cowboys are 4-0 against

the NFC East and hold the tiebreaker over the New York Giants, the only other club that can still finish with four division wins.

Washington (5-5) kept the game interesting until time expired.

Before T.O.'s game-ending play, Campbell got Washington inside the Dallas 20 but blew it with an interception right into the belly of Terence Newman with 1:39 left. The Redskins got one more chance after forcing a Dallas punt.

The problem was they couldn't defend Owens.

"We had multiple schemes back there and we tried to do the best we could," coach Joe Gibbs said. "He is a real talented guy and they found him a few times on us."

See **COWBOYS**, Page 2B

## Obituaries

### Frances Naneene McKinney



Frances Naneene McKinney, 79, of Big Spring died Saturday, Nov. 17, 2007. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 21, 2007, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Donita Lea, pastor of First United Methodist Church of Coahoma, officiating. Interment will follow at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

Nan was born June 28, 1928, in Breckenridge. She was raised in Forsan and Coahoma, and graduated from Coahoma High School and attended McMurray College. She married Donald Bennett McKinney on May 6, 1948, in Coahoma.

A long time member of the First United Methodist Church of Coahoma, she taught generations of Coahoma youth as a Sunday school teacher and superintendent, as well as a past MYF sponsor. She is a life-long member and past worthy matron of Coahoma Chapter No. 499 Order of the Eastern Star. She was the librarian at Coahoma High School for seven years and was a charter member of the Mary Jane Club.

Nan was a talented artist, well known for her creative endeavors and gracious hospitality. She loved antiques, gardening, and most of all, her many friends and family.

She is survived by her husband Donald; two children, Larry McKinney and wife Paula of Austin, Molly Foss and husband Mark of Orange City, Iowa; two brothers, Paul Van Sheedy and wife Charlotte of Big Spring and Jack O'Neil Sheedy and wife Sue of Benjamin. Nan has three grandchildren, Matthew Foss of Detroit, Mich., Kelcee Murphy and husband Matthew of Des Moines, Iowa, and Patrick McKinney of Austin; and a host of nieces and nephews who lovingly called her Nan Nan.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Paul Frances (Pat) and Aurelia Sheedy.

Pallbearers will be Cromwell Rhoton, Jerry Rogers, John Keller, Bill Patterson, Neal Barbee and Wendell Shive. Honorary pallbearers are James "Buddy" Barr, Dick Bartlett, Mike Niklasch and Howard College trustees.

The family suggests memorials to First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 50, Coahoma 79511.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com)

*Paid obituary*

### Virginia A. Moore

Virginia A. Moore, 78, of Big Spring died Friday, Nov. 16, 2007, at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Anson with the Rev. Doug Shelley, pastor of East Side Baptist Church, officiating.

She was born Feb. 25, 1931. She was a long time Big Spring resident. She married Bobby Gene Moore, Dec. 18, 1971, in Jal, N.M. He preceded her in death Oct. 9, 1998. She was a homemaker and a member of the Church of Christ.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com)

## Weather

Tonight...Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 50s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tuesday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 80s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tuesday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 40s. South winds 10 to 15 mph shifting to the west after midnight.

Wednesday...Mostly sunny. Much cooler. Highs in the mid 50s. West winds 10 to 15 mph shifting to the north 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon.

Wednesday night...Mostly cloudy. Colder. Lows around 30.

Thanksgiving day...Mostly cloudy. Colder. Highs in the mid 40s.

Thursday night...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of snow. Lows in the lower 30s.

Friday...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Highs in the lower 40s.

Friday night...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers or snow showers. Lows around 30.

Saturday...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain. Highs in the lower 40s.

Saturday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows around 30.

Sunday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 40s.

## Take Note

- The Big Spring High School junior class will meet Nov. 29 at the Big Spring High School library at 6:30 p.m. to form committees and vote on the 2008 prom theme. All juniors and their parents are encouraged to attend and all participation will be greatly appreciated. For more information, contact Carrie Fox at 816-9687, Karen Martin at 213-1388 or Bebe Johnson at 213-2105.

- Angel Food delivery is from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday at North Birdwell United Methodist Church. Orders for December delivery will also be taken at this time.

- A bake sale to raise funds for the Howard County Bible Class program will be held from 8 a.m. until noon Saturday at the St. Paul Lutheran Church parish hall, 811 Gregg. The event is sponsored by the Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

- Pediatric flu vaccinations for children ages 6 months to 35 months are now available at the Texas Department of State Health Services clinic in College Park Shopping Center. Cost is \$10, although no one will be turned away for inability to pay. For more information, call 263-9775.

## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 9 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today:

- LUPE CHAVARRIA**, 53, of 1210 Marijo, was arrested Monday on a local warrant.
- JOHNNY EDMONDSON**, 41, of 3224 Cornell, was arrested Sunday on two local warrants.
- TAMMY K. SILON**, 37, of 3224 Cornell, was arrested Sunday on two local warrants.
- ERNEST CLARK**, 67, of 4000 W. Highway 80, was arrested Sunday on charges of public intoxication and evading arrest/detention.
- ROBBY ATKINSON**, 35, of 110 South Hut Road, was arrested Sunday on a Mitchell County warrant.
- RONALD HOPE**, 35, of 110 Scout Hut Road, was arrested Sunday on a charge of disorderly conduct - language.
- DIDGET EDWARDS**, 41, of 2511 Chanute, was arrested Sunday on two local capias warrants.
- ROBERT ANKINS**, 44, transient, was arrested Sunday on a charge of solicitation by a pedestrian.
- RICKY LEE TATE**, 19, of 2302 Grace, was arrested Sunday on three local capias warrants and four local warrants.
- MAURICE NEAL**, 25, of 704 S. Bell, was arrested Saturday on 10 local capias warrants.
- VICTOR FIELDS**, 25, of 1604 11th Place, was arrested Saturday on a Nolan County warrant.
- JAMEY SCOTT JOHNSON**, 44, of 2621 Chanute, was arrested Saturday on a charge of disorderly conduct - language.
- CHRISTOPHER MILLER**, 22, transient, was arrested Saturday on a local warrant and a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.
- THEFT** was reported:
  - in the 1800 block of Gregg Street.
  - in the 1200 block of 11th Place.
  - in the 900 block of Willia.
  - in the 400 block of Birdwell Lane.
- THEFT OF A FIREARM** was reported in the 100 block of Lincoln.
- POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA** was reported in the 1700 block of Gregg Street.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported:
  - in the 500 block of Goliad.
  - in the 1000 block of Gregg Street.
  - in the 1400 block of Princeton.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE** was reported:
  - in the 1400 block of Lancaster.
  - in the 2500 block of Hunter.
  - in the 2600 block of Langley.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 300 block of Ninth Street.
- ASSAULT CAUSING BODILY INJURY - FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 3300 block of Airport Road.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported:
  - in the 1600 block of 11th Place.
  - in the 2500 block of Chanute.
  - in the 1900 block of Mittel.
- AGGRAVATED ASSAULT** was reported in the 1300 block of Elm.
- EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION** was reported in the 800 block of Interstate Highway 20.
- DEADLY CONDUCT** was reported in the 500 block of 18th Street.

## Sheriff's report

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 66 inmates at the time of this report.
- JUDY ANN CASTILLO**, 39, was arrested Friday by DPS on charges of driving while intoxicated - third or more offense and driving while license invalid with a previous conviction.
  - KEITH DARSELL CONNER**, 49, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on judgment/sentence (charge not provided).
  - JAMES PIERCE HOOVER**, 55, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid - DWI related.
  - DOYLE RAY MIEARS**, 33, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana.
  - CURTIS BOLTON MAXWELL**, 38, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on charges of bondsman off bond for tampering/fabricating physical evidence with intent to impair.
  - JABENIA SHANELL SUMMERS**, 31, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.
  - JOE CRUZ GUTIERREZ**, 20, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for burglary of a building and bail jumping - failure to appear.
  - CHAD ALLEN MUSGROVE**, 40, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of violation of parole.
  - KYLE LEE BROWNFIELD**, 17, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
  - JOHN WILLIAM SALAZAR**, 32, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of criminal trespass and harassment.
  - MICHAEL SHANE BAEZA**, 18, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of running a stop sign.
  - BERNARDO JACINTO HILARIO**, 20, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for evading arrest or detention.

## Support Groups

**MONDAY**

- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) TX. 21, weight loss support group meets at Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third St. at 5 p.m. TOPS provides members with information, motivation and fellowship in attaining and maintaining their physician-prescribed weight goals. For more information, call Alex at 264-6921 or 1-800 392-8677.

## Bulletin Board

If you have items for the Bulletin board, contact the Herald news room at 263-7331 or email [editor@bigspringherald.com](mailto:editor@bigspringherald.com)

- TODAY**
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third, for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.
  - Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets in the First Christian Church of Big Spring, 911 Goliad. A different program is offered every week. Enter through the south side door off 10th Street. Call 213-1342 for more information. Weigh-in starts at 5 p.m.; meetings begin at 5:30 p.m.
  - Evening Lions Club meets at 6:45 p.m. at Dragon China Buffett.
  - DAV and Auxiliary Chapter 47 meets at 6:30 p.m. at 610 Abrams St.
  - Christian Singles Fellowship meets from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Youth Hall. All singles in the community are invited for an evening of fellowship, food and table games.
  - Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

- TUESDAY**
- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
  - Big Spring Band Boosters meets at 5:30 p.m. in the high school band hall. All band parents are invited to attend.

## Fire/EMS

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

- TRAUMA** was reported in the 2100 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported near the intersection of FM 700 and Birdwell Lane. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA** was reported in the 1600 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA** was reported in the 800 block of W. Eighth Street. Service refused.
- MEDICAL** was reported in the 100 block of Hooser Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL** was reported in the 300 block of Veterans Blvd. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL** was reported in the 600 block of Washington. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL** was reported in the 1100 block of N. Highway 87. Service refused.
- TRAUMA** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. 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 500 block of Highland. Service refused.
- MEDICAL** was reported in the 400 block of N.E. Ninth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL** was reported in the 700 block of S. Bell. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL** was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA** was reported in the 7700 block of FM 205. Service refused.
- MEDICAL** was reported in the 2900 block of S. Anderson. Service refused.
- MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of E. 11th Place. Service refused. Service refused.
- MEDICAL** was reported in the 2600 block of Neil Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA** was reported in the 2000 block of Virginia. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL** was reported in the 700 block of Caprock. One person was transported to SMMC.
- GRASS FIRE** was reported in the 1200 block of Elm.

## Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night:  
Winning numbers drawn: 8-13-14-17-37  
Number matching five of five: two.  
Prize per winner: \$13,235.  
Winning tickets sold in: Dallas and Houston.

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night:  
Winning numbers drawn: 18-23-34-46-51-54  
Number matching six of six: none.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Saturday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 8-7-6-0. Sum It Up: 21.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 1-4-8. Sum It Up: 13.

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# Johnson wins second NASCAR championship

By JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

HOMESTEAD, Fla. — After 10 months, 36 races and endless questions about defending his Nextel Cup championship, Jimmie Johnson could finally relax.

"South Beach, here we come," said Johnson, who promised to "watch the sun come up and smile."

Another title was his, and he was going to savor it, too.

Johnson became the first driver to win consecutive championships since Jeff Gordon in 1997 and '98, wrapping up the title by finishing a trouble-free seventh in the season finale at Homestead-Miami Speedway. Matt Kenseth won the race.

When it was over, Johnson and crew chief Chad Knaus were already thinking about a third.

"We're just really hitting our stride," Johnson said. "I think that we have a lot of good years ahead of us and we'll be fighting for more championships and certainly winning more races as the years go by, and hopefully be a three-time champion in the near future."

This Sunday drive was a coronation, and Johnson knew it. Deep down, so did everyone else, too. NASCAR is changing eras next season, but the Johnson era atop the sport is just getting started.

Team owner Rick Hendrick was along for the ride when Gordon ruled the sport, and said it's clear this is Johnson's time now.

"Jimmie's just getting better and better, phenomenal,"

Hendrick said. "He's as determined as anybody I've ever seen sit down in a race car. I don't see anything that's going to slow Jimmie down. I hope that we can keep it together. We can do some phenomenal things in the future."

"Can we get 10, guys?" Hendrick asked, looking at Johnson and Knaus. "OK, we're going to get 10."

Johnson came into the event with a cushy 86-point lead over Gordon, his friend, mentor and teammate at Hendrick Motorsports. Although Johnson only needed to finish 18th or better, he refused to play it safe and Knaus gave him a pole-winning car.

Johnson led the first lap to earn a quick five-point bonus, then settled in for the 400-mile ride into the record books. At a time when no single team is supposed to dominate, the No. 48 crew did just that in leading Johnson to 10 victories and a stout 5.0 average finish during the Chase for the championship.

It put it out of reach for Gordon, who was hoping to add a fifth Cup title to his dream season. He became a father in June, won six races and his fourth-place finish Sunday was his NASCAR-record 30th top-10 finish of the year.

"It's an awesome year, but you know what? We wanted to win a championship and we got beat," said Gordon, who pulled alongside Johnson for a celebratory nudge and pumped his fist in excitement during Johnson's burnout.

Gordon was also terrific in the Chase, winning twice and

averaging a 5.1 finish. Yet it wasn't enough against Johnson, his hand-picked teammate who wound up surpassing him as the sport's dominant driver.

Johnson became the first driver since Gordon to win double-digit races, four in a row and the consecutive titles. His 77-point victory margin was the largest in the four years of the Chase.

"I'll be honest, I really thought that as aggressive as they were being, it was going to bite them," Gordon said. "I guess I was just a little bit too confident in the old consistency thing. ... Man, if they didn't pull it off. That's how good they are."

It was a far different approach from last year, when Johnson fretted over everything, especially the outcome. He had lost the championship in 2004 and 2005, and the stress of it made him unable to relax.

"Losing those two championships taught us a lot. It was painful," Johnson said. "And there were points there where we went back, looked at it and tried to adjust. And it's led to these two championships."

Finally winning last year chilled him out, and the California kid had a "no worries" attitude during the entire Chase. He packed a quick trip to Mexico into his schedule two weeks ago, spent time hanging out in New York City and even made plans for his championship party a week in advance.

"After what I experienced last season and coming into this season, and even this night, it just went so much smoother for

me," he said. "I was in the right frame of mind, was focused on the right things. I had great support from the crew guys, great support from my loving wife and everything came together. We're rocking."

The attitude was infectious for the entire team.

Before the Super Bowl in South Florida nine months ago, Colts quarterback Peyton Manning said he slept for 12 hours the night before the game, and knew that was a good sign.

Same thing here. This was Johnson's Super Bowl, and his team couldn't have been more relaxed.

Knaus — the sort of guy who frets over every detail — went to bed at 9 p.m. Saturday, awoke at 8 a.m. and couldn't have been calmer when he got to the track a couple hours later.

"I've got the best team and the best driver," Knaus said.

Who can argue? Certainly not NASCAR.

"He is having a run that in the modern era is maybe unmatched," NASCAR chairman Brian France said before the race. "He is just at a different level and I think it's hats off to him."

The sport has come a long way from the days when Richard Petty won 27 races in a season, and too many teams are competitive for any one driver to dominate. But Hendrick Motorsports did it, with its four drivers winning 18 of the 36 races and Johnson taking the lion's share while giving HMS its seventh Cup championship. It came in a season when

NASCAR phased in its Car of Tomorrow, a safer, cost-efficient car that was also designed to improve the racing. But teams had to flop back and forth between the current car and the CoT, and mastering both programs was a chore.

Sunday's finale was the last race for the current car, as a new era begins next season when NASCAR will use the CoT exclusively. The series name also is changing, from Nextel Cup to Sprint Cup.

And the dynamic at Hendrick also will be different, with Dale Earnhardt Jr. — NASCAR's most popular driver — set to replace the temperamental Kyle Busch on the four-car team. The addition will give Hendrick another championship-caliber driver and a colorful personality on a team often criticized for being a bit bland.

It's stretched to Johnson, who despite his success isn't embraced by a fan base that views him as a little too polished and a lot too nice. He proved he's not perfect last December, falling from the top of a golf cart and breaking his wrist in the process. Embarrassed by the incident and afraid of what it would do to his image, he initially lied about how it happened and was angry when the truth came out.

When it didn't harm him, Johnson realized he doesn't always have to be the consummate corporate poster boy and can show his wild side.

He did just that when he crossed the finish line Sunday, immediately radioing to his crew to get ready for the party.

## COWBOYS

Continued from Page 1B

Owens' last three scores came in a span of 11 plays. They were his only three catches after halftime, and came after a replay challenge that prevented the Redskins from taking control of the game.

Washington led 10-7 late in the third quarter and appeared poised to add to it following an interception return to the Dallas 3. But the play was wiped out on replay.

Dallas gained 51 yards on a pass-interference penalty on the next snap. A few plays later, Romo hit a wide-open Owens for the go-ahead 31-yard TD.

Owens capped the next two drives with TD catches of 46 and 52 yards. The first came down the middle of the field, and on the longer one he made the catch along the right sideline and eluded a defender diving at his feet around the 25.

"What can you say about a receiver who catches eight passes, four for TDs?" Cowboys coach Wade Phillips said. "You don't see many like that."

Campbell was 33-for-54 for 348 yards and the Redskins scored their most points in Dallas since 1995. Santana Moss, play-

ing with a specially rigged cleat to protect a bruised right heel, caught nine passes for 121 yards and a touchdown, all in the second half. Chris Cooley caught eight passes for 89 yards and a touchdown.

"We're moving the ball around, we spread the offense out," Campbell said. "It's been working with us scoring a lot of points. We have to find a way to finish."

**Notes:** Owens' 12 TDs are one less than his NFL-leading total last season. ... Gibbs is 15-16 in his career against the Cowboys. ... Romo has 27 TDs, third-most in team history.

### Browns 33, Ravens 30 OT

Baltimore (4-6) rallied from a 13-point deficit for a 30-27 lead on a 47-yard field goal by Matt Stover with 26 seconds left in regulation. But Dawson, who last missed a 52-yarder that would have forced overtime against Pittsburgh, got his fortuitous bounce — even if the officials needed almost five minutes to confirm that it went through.

Brodney Pool had a 100-yard interception return for a touchdown for Cleveland (6-4). Derek Anderson went 24-for-38 for 274 yards and a touchdown.

Another former Raven, Jamal Lewis, ran for 92 yards and a touchdown.

Ravens QB Kyle Boller was sacked six times and committed three turnovers. But he went 22-for-41 for 279 yards, passing Vinny Testaverde as the Ravens' career leader in passing yardage.

### Patriots 56, Bills 10

With touchdowns on their first seven offensive possessions and the eighth on a turnover, the Patriots once more looked unbeatable.

Tom Brady was 31-of-39 for 373 yards with five TD passes, four to Randy Moss, as New England became the 10th team since 1970 to start a season 10-0. Barring injury, the Patriots are an excellent bet to become the NFL's first perfect team since the 1972 Miami Dolphins.

Brady, who has yet to throw fewer than three touchdown passes in a game, increased his TD passes to 38, just 11 short of Peyton Manning's single-season record, set in 2004. Moss' four TD catches gave him 16 for the season, six short of the record set by Jerry Rice in 1987.

Host Buffalo (5-5) saw its four-game winning streak end.

### Eagles 17, Dolphins 7

At Philadelphia, the Eagles (5-5) improved to .500 for the first time this season by winning consecutive games for the first time. Backup quarterback A.J. Feeley led two second-half scoring drives in place of injured Donovan McNabb (sprained ankle). Brian Westbrook had a career-best 148 yards rushing, dropping the Dolphins to 0-10.

No NFL team has finished 0-16. Tampa Bay went 0-14 in 1976.

John Beck made his NFL debut for Miami, throwing for 109 yards. Ted Ginn Jr. returned a punt 87 yards for the Dolphins' only score.

### Packers 31, Panthers 17

At Green Bay, Brett Favre threw three touchdowns in the duel with fellow passing patriarch Vinny Testaverde. It was Favre's 62nd career game with at least three touchdown passes, tying yet another of Dan Marino's records.

The 44-year-old Testaverde and 38-year-old Favre formed the oldest starting quarterbacks duo in NFL history. Favre completed 22 of 30 passes for 218 yards. Testaverde was out of the league a little more than a

month ago, and played Sunday's game without injured receiver Steve Smith. He threw two second-half touchdowns, but was intercepted twice.

It was the first of three games in 12 days for the Packers (9-1), who play at Detroit on Thanksgiving and at Dallas the following Thursday. It was only the second road loss of the season for the Panthers (4-6), who are winless at home.

### Colts 13, Chiefs 10

At Indianapolis, Adam Vinatieri made a 24-yard field goal with 4 seconds left. The win ended Indy's two-game losing streak and kept the Colts (8-2) atop the AFC South.

Vinatieri was booed when he missed a 49-yard field goal, and the boobirds were even louder after Vinatieri pulled a 38-yarder wide left.

But he made two second-half kicks, including the winner.

Peyton Manning, struggling with a lineup decimated by injuries, finished 16-of-32 for 163 yards with one interception and his lowest passer rating (52.0) in a regular-season game since September 2005.

Kansas City (4-6) lost its third straight game in Brodie Croyle's first career start.

## STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

games, you have to make big plays. We didn't do enough of that."

"I think where we got beat was upstairs. Our mental focus wasn't there," continued Ritchey. "It's hard to surrender as many points as we did early and expect a positive outcome. We gave them a little scare and gave ourselves a little hope. We had the expectations of advancing in the playoffs so we're a little disappointed right now."

Still, Ritchey was proud of the heart the Steers showed in the second half.

"You have to have character to play this game," Ritchey said. "And we showed our character in the second half by fighting hard and almost coming back. This was a tough Hereford club and give them credit for doing what they had to do to put points on the board."

Tannehill finished with 174 yards and one touchdown on 11 of 27 passes. Sophomore Thaddeus Straughter was the benefactor of Tannehill's touchdown pass in the third quarter, catching a ball that ricocheted off of Sidney Parker's hands. The play accounted for 42 of Straughter's 50 receiving yards.

Parker led all receivers with 58 yards on three receptions. Terrance Clemons also had three catches for 38 yards.

Monte Anderson led with 66 rushing yards and one touchdown on 16 carries.

The Steers finish the season 3-8, but a 3-1 district record has the hopes and expectations for next year high. Only 12 seniors leave from this year's squad. However, Ritchey is making sure that those seniors get the full credit and praise he feels they deserve.

"We have a lot of good young kids, but today is all about the seniors,"

Ritchey said. "We're not going to even talk about next year until the off-season program starts. It's all about our seniors right now."

The seniors playing in their final game Saturday were Clayson Bates, Terrance Clemons, Brandon Ontiveros, Justin Amaro, Jon Smith, Jaime Salgado, Vaughn Medina, Brandon Skaggs, Matt Casteneda, Carlos Diaz, John Ybarra and Xavian Young.

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BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

Men are from Mars and women are from Venus?

Not so. Life experience is universal. If you've ever felt tension between asserting yourself and keeping the peace, you've had the Mars-Venus dilemma. As retrograde Mars in Cancer angles with Venus in Libra, we're tenderhearted about what we want — but that doesn't stop us from wanting it!

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your confidence is high, and you are up to any challenge — especially the ones that involve love. Capricorn plans to win your heart over time, while Gemini makes advances by the minute. TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Whether it's about work or play, appeals to rationality rather than emotions fall flat. Seemingly non-influential people are playing a larger role than you expect. Be nice to everybody — yes, everybody.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). People around you are overly sensitive today. Criticism, even constructive criticism, won't help at all. But acts of kindness and generosity have double the returns you expected. CANCER (June 22-July 22). When you're as certain as you are now, it only wastes time to ask for permission. Your intentions are good. And on the off chance that the outcome doesn't turn out exactly right, you can always apologize later. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). At work, there's a chance to advance by fixing a problem no one knows existed. Tonight brings surprises. For example, you could start a casual conversation and wind up falling deeply in love. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Have you lost control of a situation? Well, this is lucky. Relax. Be an observer. Let the chips fall where they may, and you're bound to wind up with the ones you wanted. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Instead of deciding what needs changing, it's more productive to figure out how to make peace with where you are. Tonight, someone asks you for forgiveness. SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Resolve a relationship issue. Go in with all of your defenses down. A fight won't help anyone, but if you are willing to be humble, it all gets worked out. Tonight: Turn a hip phrase, or wear a stylish new piece. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Get tough with someone who has let you down. It turns out this person wants to be held accountable. Anyhow, a lucky streak starts right after you stand up for yourself.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

Tomorrow's Horoscope

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your strength is in playfulness. Turn up the party music on the ride to work, or teach the kids a game you used to play. Run! Getting your breath quickening helps do away with problems too boring to hold on to. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Any job done well is noble work. You'll be cherished at work — something you shouldn't take lightly. Tonight, you take special notice of the frailty of the human condition. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Social issues come to the fore. It's easy to get into gossip mode or to find fault with those around you. Each friend represents a part of you. When you realize this, it takes the fun out of complaining. ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "Which guy is better for me — a Taurus, a Leo or a Scorpio? My birthday is Feb. 22, 1979."

When I came into the family and heard the gossip, I thought it was pretty ridiculous. It's such a childish way for a family to behave, and I don't know whether to say something or bite my tongue. When I met Sally, after hearing so many nasty stories, I couldn't understand why the in-laws were so bitter. I have never had any issues with her. She is a nice person and seems to be well-rounded. I hear the anti-Sally gossip even from my husband, and frankly, I don't want to be around it. It doesn't seem fair to Sally. Isn't a family supposed to support one another? — Frustrated Family Member from B.C. Dear B.C.: We don't know why Sally's in-laws despise her so thoroughly. And it's possible for someone to make a great impression while being manipulative, so the fact that you think Sally is nice may not mean much. Still, it's mean-spirited to blame Sally for everything and gossip behind her back. Tell your husband you want to have a friendly relationship with Sally. If he or anyone in his family should bad-mouth her in your presence, excuse yourself and leave. They may not stop, but at least you won't have to listen to it. Dear Annie: A group of my friends have started getting together on Saturday nights at a restaurant that offers entertainment. We always have separate checks. Occasionally, we invite friends and co-workers to join us and we all pay for our own meals. Recently, I learned some family members were going to be in town and thought it would be fun to include them. I told the regular members, as well as some additional friends, that I'd love it if they joined us so they could meet my family. One of the non-regulars responded by indicating she thought I would be paying for everyone's dinner. Does the person inviting people to a dinner party pay? Since this has never been the custom of my group, it may become awkward. How should I handle this? — Not Sure in Boston Dear Boston: If members of your group always pay their own way regardless of who shows up, that is the custom, and those you invite should be told in advance that they are responsible for their own meals. You do not have to treat. Dear Annie: Several moms in our little town were chatting about how our husbands never get anything done on their own, so we formed a building co-op for them so they could have buddies while they work. One Saturday a month, the guys get together at one of our houses to work on a big project, and the wives bring the food. Through this experience, we have developed incredible friendships, made memories, relied on each other when we needed support and have had wonderful adventures. Our kids have grown up with this and cherish these experiences. Meanwhile, huge household projects get done because the guys have learned to work well together. This past month we celebrated our 10th co-op anniversary. We've been calling it the "Balding" Co-op for a while, and we still have a ton of fun together, with many big projects on the horizon. — Living Real in Vermont Dear Vermont: This is a wonderful idea that makes those home projects more fun and much more likely to get done. We hope it catches on.

Dear Annie: My husband has a cousin, "Tim," who is married to "Sally." My in-laws frequently gossip about them, and whatever is wrong, they always say it's Sally's fault. Apparently, something happened between Sally and my in-laws before her marriage to Tim, and for whatever reason, they still hold a grudge. Some of my husband's family members will purposely exclude themselves from family gatherings when Sally and her family are there.

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style is keep-it-real, too. This provides the spice in your relationship. Try not to get angered by his flirtatious nature, and instead, find a way to love when others see how attractive he is and admire his accomplishments. Scorpio matches Pisces in passionate intensity. You're two water signs who don't need to say much in order to understand one another. You sometimes will even think the same thoughts and dream the same dreams.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: America's endearing sweetheart, Scorpio Meg Ryan, radiates vulnerability, openness and warmth. Scorpio's style is keep-it-real, giving Meg her relatable likeability. Like many Scorpios, she's chosen an aspect of humanity to elevate and change. Through helping disadvantaged women find their strength (Venus in Scorpio), Meg draws on the healing abilities of the scorpion. 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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### Talks between Broadway stagehands and producers break down; Thanksgiving performances canceled

NEW YORK (AP) — Broadway faces a gloomy Thanksgiving after the collapse of talks between stagehands and theater producers with more than two dozen shows now canceled through the end of the lucrative holiday week.

Negotiations broke down Sunday after a weekend of marathon meetings between Local 1 and the League of American Theatres and Producers.

"We are profoundly disappointed to have to tell you that talks broke off tonight, and that no further negotiations are scheduled," Charlotte St. Martin, the league's executive director, said in a statement.

"Out of respect for our public and our loyal theatergoers, many of whom are traveling from around the world,

we regret that we must cancel performances through Sunday Nov. 25," she added.

Bruce Cohen, a spokesman for Local 1, the stagehands' union, said that before the talks broke off, the producers informed the union that what the local had "offered was simply not enough."

The union declined further comment. The canceled performances of 27 plays and musicals during what is traditionally one of Broadway's best weeks represent millions of dollars of lost income.

Some of the biggest hits, such as "Wicked" and "Jersey Boys," regularly gross over \$1 million each week.

### ANGELS

Continued from Page 1A

ends meet."

Paula Lafler, social worker for the local Salvation Army, said the majority of the people applying for the program this year are single parents.

"We're also seeing something of a trend with people who are currently unemployed or between jobs," she said. "That's also made up a big part of the need this year."

"We also got quite a few applications from single moms who are currently attending classes at Howard College. Many of them are going on a grant, and that's the only money they have coming in. And once you pay for your classes and books, there's not much left over for Christmas."

Keeney said the gifts donated to area needy children through the annual program can make an amazing difference in their lives and the lives of those who give.

"It's everything," she said firmly. "A child who has everything they need provided for them has no concept of children out there that do without. If we, as parents, don't show our children to share and to give back, then they won't learn those things. That's why it's important, as a parent, to show these children there are others out there who are much worse off, who do without things that we take for granted everyday. If we show that to our children, I think it makes them a kinder, more giving person as they grow."

Keeney said the Angel Tree locations will be slightly different from years past, but hopes that won't stop area shoppers from participating in the pro-

### REVENUE

Continued from Page 1A

54.38 percent increase when compared to the \$159,900.58 received in November 2006. For the year, the home of Paisano Pete has taken in \$2,002,964.56, up 25.31 percent.

Dawson County's largest community, Lamesa, pulled in \$120,656.27 this month, up 7.09 percent compared to the \$112,667.04 it received in November 2006. Thus far for 2007, the community has received \$1,052,898.63, up 11.95 percent.

Lubbock, home of Texas Tech University, received \$4,280,415.95, an increase of 2.57 percent when compared to the \$4,172,993.49 taken in during November 2006. For the

year, Lubbock has pulled in \$43,070,090.57, up 4.75 percent.

Midlanders enjoyed an increase of 10.58 percent in sales tax revenues, comparing the \$3,322,823.74 received this month to the \$3,004,748.88 taken in for November 2006. For the year, the Tall City has pulled in \$31,306,546.91, up 13.95 percent.

Monahans saw a 14.94 percent increase in sales tax revenue. The Ward County seat received \$140,186 this month compared to \$121,961.58 a year ago. For 2007, Monahans has taken in \$1,297,621.32, up 8.47 percent.

Odessa received \$2,124,235.15 this month, up 5.02 percent increase compared to the \$2,022,592.48 taken in a year earlier. For 2007, Odessa has received \$20,387,761.97, up 12.37

percent.

Pecos, home of the Texas Rodeo Hall of Fame, has been recording high scores out of the chute all year. This time, the Reeves County seat posted a 70.15 percent increase in revenue, comparing receipts of \$165,767.11 to \$97,419.08 a year ago. For the expanse of 2007, Pecos has collected \$1,398,849.42, up 52.55 percent.

Recording an 0.53 percent increase comparing last November to the present was San Angelo. The city received \$1,672,785.98 this month and \$1,663,859.19 in November 2006. For the year, the home of Angelo State University and a Howard College campus has

### CLOSING

Continued from Page 1A

as usual all week.

Trash will not be picked up Thursday or Friday — normal routes will resume Monday.

Howard County offices will be closed Thursday and Friday, and will reopen Monday morning.

The county library will close for the holiday Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and will reopen Monday morning, as normal.

The Big Spring Post Office will be closed Thursday in observance of the holiday, with mail delivery and the post office set to pick up on Friday.

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

### MINISTRY

Continued from Page 1A

"We have Saturday Fun Days in the summer for children ... so we thought, 'Why not Thanksgiving dinner?'" Ypina said.

Ypina, who called Saturday's event a great success, said even more outreach programs are planned by the church in coming months.

"We don't just want to give them a dinner," he said. "We want to put together a program for young mothers and children to help them find a better life."

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

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Virginia A. Moore, 78, died Friday. Graveside services will be at 2:00 PM Monday at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Anson, Texas.

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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  
Publisher

John A. Moseley  
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan  
News Editor

## OUR VIEWS

### Salvation Army needs help with holiday dinner

Thanksgiving. Perhaps no other word is more effective than conjuring up visions of families gathered together, not only in prayer, thanking God for the blessings he's bestowed on them, but around an impressive larder of homemade foods.

Unfortunately for many, Thanksgiving is not such a time. Some find themselves along and homebound. Others are too far from family and do not have the time off or money available to long-distance travel. And still others simply don't enjoy having plenty of anything and find themselves in need.

And that's why the local Salvation Army is in the process of preparing to serve up approximately 500 Thanksgiving dinners from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday.

Capt. Russ and Linda Keeney say their office is already getting calls inquiring about the local charity's annual Thanksgiving dinner — most, so far, from homebound people in the community asking for delivered meals.

And that means the Salvation Army is currently seeking local residents willing to take a little time from their holiday to volunteer and help others.

"This is a pretty frantic time of the year for us," Linda Keeney explained. "We need volunteers to come in and give a little bit of their time, especially on the morning before, because that's going to be our really big work day. On Thanksgiving Day we need people to come in at about 10 a.m. to start getting the meals ready to go and start getting the room ready for the walk-ins. We'll also need people to stay until after 1 p.m. and help us wash all of these dishes."

Volunteers are also needed to help the local Salvation Army staff the day before, "prep day."

"A lot of work has to be done the day before and we start about 10 a.m. on Wednesday," explained social worker Paula Lafler. "We're always needing all the help we can get. That's just the way things are with the Salvation Army."

That's right, the Keeneys and their staff need lots of volunteers.

They are also seeking people willing to make pumpkin or pecan pies and other types of deserts. Volunteers are an integral part of the Salvation Army's Thanksgiving feast, providing everything from kitchen help to delivering meals.

And there's nothing difficult about volunteering — you simply show up and help out.

Anyone needing additional information about how they can help, or wanting to schedule a meal delivery on Thanksgiving, should call the Salvation Army's corps office at 267-8239.

We here at the *Herald* encourage those who can to lend the Salvation Army a hand.

As the Keeneys noted, "the Thanksgiving meal is a wonderful way for families to realize there are those out there who are much less fortunate than they are."

In other words, what better way could there be to realize just what you have to be grateful for this Thanksgiving?

## 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

*When we feel confused, Lord, may our lines of communication with You stay open.*

Amen

# On strike from a mean business

You've probably never heard of my friend Katherine. She's been working in Hollywood for 25 years now, and with the exception of one six-month period years ago, she's managed to make enough every year to keep her health and pension benefits current — no small thing in a town where you can stop any person on a street corner and ask them how their screenplay is coming and almost no one will tell you they don't have one.



SUSAN ESTRICH

What they don't have is someone paying them to write it, which is what makes Katherine's history of steady work so unusual. What's even more unusual is that she manages to actually get some of the screenplays made into movies, from "Flashdance," a few decades ago, to "I Dream of Jeannie," which is scheduled to start filming this spring.

But that doesn't mean you'll see her name in the credits. The way Hollywood works, it's common for writers to be hired one after another because they're cheap compared to the escalating costs of production.

Studios hire and fire them with impunity in the hopes that whoever is next may have a few new jokes, or a character or plot twist, or some other brand of polish in them. The more and fancier writers you have, the easier it is to justify spending tens of millions of dollars on yet another teen comedy/alien abduction/gangster shootout.

You'd think this would be good for writers, since it would provide more opportunities for them to be hired, but it rarely works out that way. What it does is pit writers against each other in the agonizing process of determining who contributed more first, which determines not only who gets their name on the screen, but who collects the "back end" of the deal.

That kind of competition hardly breeds collegiality in a town known for its lack of it. When I first moved here, my then-boyfriend's job at a studio required us to frequently attend screenings and openings, and I was amazed at the mean-spiritedness I confronted. Schadenfreude Central.

I had come from the world of politics, where it seemed to me the stakes were quite a bit higher and the impossibility of mutual success was built into the system. Yet, at least in those days, there was more generosity of spirit in our fights for the fate of the free world than in the competition for credits and box office. Not only were writers pitted against each other, but their fights occurred at the low end of the food chain. The Polish joke, if you'll pardon me, was that she slept with the writer. How dumb could you be?

Of course, there are a few writers who make a lot of money. A very few. Most don't work at all. And the rest consider themselves lucky to move from project to project, rarely their own ideas, often doing rewrites that will again be rewritten only to become mired in endless development.

It's not exactly a recipe for creating a cohesive force of committed activists, given the enormous disparities, the inherent competitiveness, the lack of a general sense of good will or community that characterizes the way business is done in this city.

Which is what makes the current strike so remarkable. My friend Katherine is on the picket lines every day. She is marching with writers 20 years older and 30 years younger, with the giants who have made it and the kids who are still dreaming, with people who are considering jobs at Starbucks and people who in truth never have to work again.

And she is finding a second wind, renewing her creative voice, recommitting herself to both the creative process and the creative community. Something is happening in this strike that hasn't hap-

pened in past strikes, and that may change the way business is done in this usually nasty town.

Part of it is the 4 cents business. When you buy a DVD, the writer gets 4 cents. They wanted 8 cents. Big deal. The studios said they couldn't afford it. So, at least this is what is being reported, the writers at the last minute said, we'll take the 4 cents issue off the table if you'll at least negotiate on the issue of whether the writer gets anything at all, and how much, when you watch a TV show (and the commercials that surround it) online. And the studios and producers still said no. And it became clear that not only did many of the studios want this strike, they really didn't have any respect for the work of the writers. That wasn't a bargaining tactic. It was the truth.

When you finally become convinced that people you have spent your life trying to please, people who are much richer than you'll ever be, don't respect what you do, there are two ways you can go. You can be depressed and despondent; you can, at some fundamental level, start to agree with them. You can let them turn you into something less than you thought you were. You can become prisoners of war.

Or you can find it within yourself to define your worth and value without regard to them. You can accept that the real mirror is the one you hold, the measure you take of yourself, not the one they impose.

Maybe it was just old-fashioned greed that spurred the producers and studios to take the hard line they have, but what they've communicated in the process is such a fundamental lack of respect that many writers — neurotic, insecure, competitive and individualistic though they may be as a breed — have had no choice but to find the strength, security and dignity that lies at their core and flourishes in a community.

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# Now look who's out to get DiFi

The new Democratic-led Congress has a 16 percent approval rating — no better than the rating of the Republican-led Congress a year ago — no doubt because voters see members clamoring to score points in the never-ending game of partisan gotcha, instead of working to do what is best for the country. When a politician does try to do what is right, there is too often more downside than upside.



DEBRA SAUNDERS

Consider the cheap shots that have come the way of Democratic Sens. Dianne Feinstein of California and Chuck Schumer of New York because they voted to confirm the nomination of now-Attorney General Michael B. Mukasey last week. New York Times columnist Frank Rich compared the Feinstein and Schumer vote to Pakistani strongman Pervez Musharraf's arrests of judges, lawyers and human-rights activists. A group of Democrats from the left wing of the party is trying to get the California Democratic Party's executive board to censure Feinstein for the Mukasey vote, as well as her vote to confirm federal judge Leslie Southwick in October.

No good deed goes unpunished. Understand that DiFi is no pushover when it comes to confirming the picks of George W. Bush. Feinstein voted against Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Samuel Alito. She was an early and vocal critic of Attorney General Alberto Gonzales before he resigned.

When Bush first nominated Mukasey, Feinstein and Schumer joined other Democrats in hailing

Mukasey as about the best Bush nominee they could get — a solid improvement over Gonzales. Schumer explained that while Mukasey, a fellow New Yorker, "is certainly conservative," Mukasey also "would put the rule of law first and show independence from the White House." The National Journal's legal eagle Stuart Taylor Jr. wrote that Mukasey was "a superbly qualified man who has clearly repudiated Bush's previous claims of near-dictatorial powers."

Bush had given the Democrats what they wanted — a more independent top lawman — and still it was not good enough. In these hyper-partisan times, that small slice of harmony could not last. When Mukasey told senators that he found waterboarding, the simulated drowning during interrogation, to be "morally repugnant," but refused to classify waterboarding as torture in a legal sense, Democrats went into high-dudgeon mode.

All four senators running in the Democratic presidential primary announced their opposition to Mukasey. Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, Joe Biden and Chris Dodd were unbowed by the fact that Congress has the power to explicitly ban waterboarding, but has failed to do so. The Senate was in danger of self-righteously rejecting a nominee because he refused to say that waterboarding was illegal because Congress failed to pass a law making it so.

Fortunately for the Dems, Schumer and Feinstein came to the rescue. As members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, they voted for Mukasey — which paved the way for a full Senate vote and, thus, confirmation.

If they had not done so, Bush might have made good on his threat not to name another nominee, leaving acting AG Peter

Keisler on the job. "It was a choice between Mukasey and an acting appointment who wouldn't be independent of the Bush administration," Feinstein spokesman Scott Gerber explained. "To her, Mukasey was the better alternative."

This is about more than Democrats versus Republicans. Gonzales was a poor attorney general whose political activities undermined the Department of Justice and led to 10 months of scandal and resignations. Failure to confirm Mukasey would have left the Department of Justice rudderless, with 10 top positions vacant and low morale. That's great news for would-be terrorists and those who would flout civil rights laws.

California Democratic Party adviser Bob Mulholland dismissed the Feinstein censure motion as "ridiculous, going nowhere."

Nonetheless, this "censure Feinstein" movement shows how little upside there is for any politician to work with the other party. Put one toe over the partisan divide, and the political fringe police whip out their whistles.

What voters should be angry about, they remain silent on. The House can pass a pork-filled farm bill, and there was little noise about pork. The four Democrats running for the White House skipped voting on Mukasey — an important vote — and that posed no problem.

On the flip side, President Bush probably watched the Schumer-Feinstein pile-on and figured: Why even try to work with Democrats? It's not as if he'll get any credit for it.

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsanders@sfchronicle.com.  
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# Medicare Part D changes include new coverage gap

By JANE GLENN HAAS

The Orange County Register

Now is the time when everyone on Medicare gets to make choices about prescription-drug coverage.

Beginning last Thursday, until the end of the year, Medicare Part A and B recipients may choose from among 57 prescription-drug plans offered by 23 organizations.

Sound daunting? Let's make it simple. Or, at least, simpler.

If you are part of a Medicare Advantage Plan or HMO plan for your medical coverage, chances are you already have prescription coverage through these plans. But those who are in Medicare supplemental insurance plans or have certain types of retiree policies or other coverage face a "puzzling" time, says Julie Schoen, legal counsel and community education specialist for the Health Insurance

Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP), a service of the Council on Aging of Orange County, Calif.

"The average person (signing up for a Medicare Part D plan) will pay about \$20 a month premium," she says.

**Q: Doesn't sound too bad. What's the confusion?**

A: For most people, there is none. Medicare Part D is a prescription-drug benefit for Medicare recipients. But the policy offerings change annually.

The average this year in Orange County (Calif.) is a \$20 premium, a deductible of \$275, and prescription-drug coverage of 25 percent of Medicare costs up to \$2,510.

But for the first time, there is no coverage after you reach that limit in drug costs.

**Q: Whoa! Why the limit in drug coverage?**

A: There's a gap — called the doughnut hole — for drug costs from \$2,511 to \$5,726. In other words, if you're in the gap, you pay out of pocket — with no reimbursement — \$3,215. After you pay that out, 5 percent of your costs are then covered.

For the first two years of Medicare Part D, there were plans covering the gap. None are available this year.

**Q: How much do most people spend on prescription drugs annually?**

A: Most people seem to stay close to the limit of Medicare Part D coverage of \$2,510. And if you are taking generics, this can work well. But for someone who takes brand-name drugs for a specific illness, for example, there is no avoiding paying through the "gap." You just have to get through it.

**Q: Easier said than done for some of us.**

A: There are patient-assistance programs. HICAP can help you with these and other questions.

**Q: What should people do first?**  
A: People with Medicare should reassess their plan to make sure that it's still the right one and that it will continue to meet their needs for 2008.

Gather the list of medications you take, review your current plan, research other plans that service your area and do some comparison shopping. Be sure to make a decision before Dec. 31.

**Q: The National Council on Aging, through their Web site, www.Medicare.gov, says to change by Dec. 7 to make sure you receive all your prescriptions by Jan. 1.**

A: That makes sense. But be careful. Remember, if you are in an HMO do nothing or you can disenroll yourself from your plan.

# All women face high risk of heart disease

By MELISSA CASSUTT

The Gazette

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — A woman dies of heart disease about every minute in the United States. Only 13 percent of women view it as a threat.

Stephanie Hammar-Samuels sure didn't. On a hike up Mount Herman in fall 2005, she was the one nagging her buddies to go faster.

The next morning, she woke up nauseated.

She assumed she'd come down with the flu, but the urge to vomit persisted for more than a week and was sometimes so strong she had to pull her car to the side of the road. She thought she might be pregnant, but the home test came back negative. Then she noticed she was short of breath walking up a flight of stairs.

Hammar-Samuels was 39 and healthy; a non-smoker with no history of heart problems in her family. But coronary heart disease, the No. 1 killer of women older than 25, doesn't discriminate.

That's what the American Heart Association wants women to know. It's trying to get women — especially those who have deemed heart disease a fat old man's problem — to pay attention to their tickers. One in 2.6 female deaths in the U.S. are from cardiovascular disease, according to the American Heart Association.

"What most women don't know is they will most likely die of heart

disease," said Dr. Kimberly Dulaney, a cardiologist at Pikes Peak Cardiology in the Springs.

The American Heart Association is "targeting women to take care of themselves. We understand that you're busy, we understand that you're caretakers . . . but don't forget about your own health," said Katie Farlow. "It doesn't matter if you're in great shape or not, you still need to be getting checked."

Because it can happen to anyone. Even to someone who did everything right.

Even someone who practices yoga a few times a week, plays volleyball and stocks her kitchen with fresh veggies, whole grains and soy milk. Hammar-Samuels was diagnosed with coronary artery disease in October 2005.

She was scared, but mostly furious.

"I exercise, I eat healthy," she said. "I went all these years living a healthy lifestyle, thinking everything was fine."

In reality, her left anterior descending artery was 99 percent blocked. The LAD artery is responsible for supplying the heart's left ventricle, which pumps blood to the rest of the body. Its occlusion often leads to death, earning the artery the nickname "widow maker."

Hammar-Samuels displayed the symptoms of a heart problem — shortness of breath, nausea — but went undiagnosed for two weeks while her doctors ruled out other possi-



Stephanie Hammar-Samuels, right, attends a Hot Yoga class in Colorado Springs, Colo.

bilities such as acid reflux, thyroid problems and pregnancy. One doctor diagnosed her with an anxiety disorder and prescribed medication. No one mentioned her heart.

She started to think she was a hypochondriac. She'd call her best friend Betsy Cole five times a day to reassure herself she wasn't crazy.

"She just doesn't make up stuff like that," said Cole, who once got a call from Hammar-Samuels as she was sitting on the sidewalk, exhausted from

walking her dogs. "It really started to bother me because it was associated with activity."

Cole, a nurse, pushed Hammar-Samuels to take a stress test and pulled a few strings to get her into a friend's cardiology office. During the second part of a treadmill test, Hammar-Samuels' blood pressure dropped and she collapsed. After a coronary catheterization, a procedure that examines the heart's arteries with a catheter, a stent was inserted into her blocked

LAD artery to open blood flow.

"I wouldn't have guessed my heart, and she did," Hammar-Samuels said. "She really validated that I was not crazy. If it wasn't for her, I don't know what would have happened."

Two days later, her nausea returned. Three more stents were placed in two smaller arteries in

Hammar-Samuels' heart. Several months later, a fifth stent was inserted to repair one that was failing. The relapses keep her on edge. If she's nauseated, she starts to panic. If she's tired, she worries it's her heart. She takes a handful of vitamins and cholesterol medications, and stays militant about her diet. She shops at health-food stores, never sets foot in fast-food restaurants and doesn't eat red meat.

She's still a little scared, but she's not angry anymore. She's more thankful — for a good friend, and good instincts.

"Women have really good instincts, but we cover them up," said Hammar-Samuels, now 41. "We just are more apt to think, 'Oh, why can't I do more?'"

It's a common complaint among busy women, who tend to put themselves low on the priority list in lieu of balancing relationships, careers and kids, said Lauve Metcalfe, associate director for the Center for Physical Activity and Nutrition at the University of Arizona.

"We need to start working smarter and not harder," said Metcalfe, a scheduled speaker at the "Go Red for Women" luncheon. "If you're not in tip-top shape to handle life, how are you going to expect to do the things that you need to do?"

In observance of  
**Thanksgiving**  
These Financial Institutions  
Will Observe These Holiday Hours:

**BIG SPRING BANKING CENTER**  
Closed Thursday, Nov. 22nd

**BIG SPRING GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES FCU**  
Closed Thursday, Nov. 22nd

**FIRST BANK OF WEST TEXAS**  
Closed Thursday, Nov. 22nd

**BIG SPRING EDUCATION EMPLOYEES FCU**  
Closed Thursday, Nov. 22nd

**THE ELECTRIC UTILITIES CREDIT UNION**  
Closed Thursday, Nov. 22nd

**CITIZENS FCU**  
Closed Thursday, Nov. 22nd

**WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.**  
Closed Thursday, Nov. 22nd

**STATE NATIONAL BANK**  
Closed Thursday, Nov. 22nd

**su | do | ku**  
© Puzzles by Pappocom

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box. Solution, tips and computer program at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

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

**Contract Bridge**  
By Steve Becker  
**Famous Hand**

North dealer.  
East-West vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ A J 10 7 6  
♥ K Q 3  
♦ 7 5  
♣ 9 8 5

**EAST**  
♠ 8  
♥ A J 9 7 4  
♦ K J 9 4  
♣ Q J 7

**SOUTH**  
♠ K Q 9 5 3  
♥ 8  
♦ A Q 8 6  
♣ K 6 3

The bidding:  
North East South West  
Pass 1♥ 1♠ 2♥  
2NT 3♦ 4♣

Opening lead — two of diamonds.

The 2006 McConnell Cup, emblematic of world women's team supremacy, was won by a U.S.-Russian combine, who defeated an all-U.S. team in the 60-deal final. The two finalists were the survivors of an original entry of 39 teams that had traveled to Verona, Italy, for the world championship.

The winners were Janice Seamon-Molson, Marina Letizia, Tobi Sokolow and Carlyn Steiner, who drafted Victoria Gromova and Tatiana Ponomareva from a Russian squad that had defeated them in the Women's Olympiad in Istanbul two years earlier. The McConnell Cup does not require team members to be citizens of the same country. The runners-up were Jill Levin, Debbie Rosenberg, JoAnna Stansby, Jill Meyers, Hansa Narasimhan and Irina Levitina, herself a former Russian who immigrated to the U.S. many years ago.

Before the eventual victors could capture the title, they first had to survive their semifinal match against a strong Chinese team. Going into the final board of the 64-deal match, the U.S./Russian squad trailed by 7 IMPs when the deal shown unfolded.

When Gromova and Ponomareva sat North-South, the bidding went as shown. North's two-notrump bid indicated interest in a spade game, and South happily accepted.

West led a low diamond, and the Chinese East failed to make the normal discovery play of the jack. When she played the king instead, declarer won with the ace, drew trumps and led a heart to the king. East won and, having complicated her position by not knowing who had the diamond queen, returned a diamond. Gromova won, crossed to dummy with a trump and discarded a club on the queen of hearts to make four spades.

At the other table, the Chinese North became declarer at four spades after opening the bidding with one spade, and East led a trump. North won, played a second trump and led a heart to the king. East won and, with dummy's A-Q of diamonds and king of clubs in plain view, had no trouble finding the killing queen-of-clubs return to set the contract.

The American/Russian squad thus gained 470 points, or 10 IMPs, to win the match by 3 IMPs, and then went on to win the title. Of such stuff are world championships made.

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# Texas briefs

## Police say officer killed while cleaning his gun

HOUSTON (AP) — A 24-year veteran of the Houston Police Department was killed in what appeared to be a gun-cleaning accident in his home, police said.

Family members told investigators they returned to their home in southwest Houston about 11 a.m. from an errand and found the body of Donald Lynn DeBlanc, 47.

"There are multiple weapons, cleaning equipment and so forth all laid out on a kitchen table where the officer was found," police Sgt. Nate McDuell said. "It's likely that this could be just a tragic accident."

DeBlanc served as a military policeman in the Army before joining the Houston department in 1983. He earned a law degree from Texas Southern University and was considering practicing law after retiring from the police force, said his friend, Clarence Walker, 45.

"Even when he wasn't working, he loved to go to court, loved the law," Walker said.

DeBlanc was involved in the fatal shooting of a Hurricane Katrina evacuee in May 2006 during an undercover drug investigation. He shot William Petty, 29, in the stomach after Petty showed a gun that later turned out to be toy gun.

"He told me that he actually talked to (Petty) before he died. It really shook him up," Walker said.

McDuell said firearms are dangerous even for experienced

users.

"We handle weapons on a day-to-day basis," McDuell said. "Even a veteran officer such as this can be victimized by what is apparently a tragic accident."

## Man killed in shootout with Wichita Falls police

WICHITA FALLS (AP) — Police said a suspect was fatally shot and an officer was wounded in an exchange of gunfire.

Officers were responding to a report of gunshots early Sunday when Juventino Maldonado Suarez, 44, of Wichita Falls, fired at the officers, police said.

The officers returned fire and hit Suarez, who died at the scene.

"Upon locating the source of the gunfire, the officers were approaching on foot when Suarez fired at them from between two houses," Sgt. Joe Snyder said in a news release. "One officer was hit."

Police said the officer's wounds were not life-threatening. His name has not been released. The department's Office of Professional Conduct was reviewing the incident, which is routine for officer-involved shootings, police said.

## Whistleblower loses appeal against taxes

AUSTIN (AP) — A former state employee who was awarded the state government's largest ever whistleblower settlement has lost his appeal against taxes on most of the money.

A panel of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled this month that George Green owed the federal government \$3.2 million in taxes and penalties stemming from the agreement.

Green said the Internal Revenue Service already has taken \$3.5 million of his assets.

He said he will seek a rehearing of the court's decision and at least try to win back the \$300,000 that makes up the difference between the court judgment and the amount of assets seized. The case stems from a 1991 lawsuit Green filed against the Texas Department of Human Services, where he had worked as an architect.

## Perry finds \$3 million for border cameras

EL PASO (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry's proposal to broadcast live video footage from the border over the Internet should be up and running again by January now that new funding has been secured, a spokeswoman said.

Perry spokeswoman Allison Castle said the governor has found \$3 million in federal grants to install about 200 mobile cameras along the Texas-Mexico border.

The cameras were pitched during Perry's 2006 re-election campaign as a way for anyone via the Internet to become a border patroller and help root out border crime and illegal crossings.

A \$200,000 test run that lasted about a month last year, but earlier this year lawmakers rejected Perry's request for \$5

million to restart the program and add more cameras.

## Two Texans among students named Rhodes Scholars

WASHINGTON (AP) — Thirty-two men and women from across the United States — including two in Texas — have been selected as Rhodes Scholars for 2008, the scholarship trust announced Sunday.

The scholars were selected from 764 applicants endorsed by 294 colleges and universities. The scholarships, the oldest of the international study awards available to American students, provide two or three years of study. The students will enter Oxford University in England next October.

The winners from Texas were Dallas resident Sarah H. Miller, who attends the University of Texas at Austin, and Edinburg resident Shayak Sarkar who is studying at Harvard University.

## Abandoned horses pose dilemma for ranchers

LA GRANDE, Ore. (AP) — Ranchers in the old West saw their horse herds depleted by rustlers. Today people are abandoning unwanted domestic horses on ranches and public lands.

High hay prices and the closure this fall of the nation's last domestic horsemeat processing facility in Illinois may be partly to blame.

At least nine horses have been turned loose on Wannie

MacKenzie's ranch north of Jordan Valley in the past 18 to 24 months and the Malheur County cattleman is bracing for more old and hungry horses as cash-strapped owners in Idaho's Treasure Valley run out of winter hay.

"We are hearing stories from all over of people abandoning horses" at livestock sale yards, said Gary Conway, spokesman for the Texas-based American Quarter Horse Association.

## Equipment problem at DFW delays flights

DALLAS (AP) — Radio communications were disrupted at both the towers at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport early Monday, delaying flights up to an hour as one of the busiest air travel weeks of the year was just getting under way.

Airport spokesman Ken Capps said in an e-mail that the problems was repaired at both the towers on both the east and west side of the airport after about 30 minutes. Flights were expected to be delayed for between 30 minutes and an hour, Capps said.

The outage at about 7 a.m. affected both incoming and outgoing flights, according to the Federal Aviation Administration's Air Traffic Control System Command Center. The FAA had declared a "ground stop," which cuts incoming flights by holding planes on the ground at their previous airport stop.

# Food pantries nationwide are running short amid higher costs

By LISA CORNWELL

Associated Press Writer

CINCINNATI — Diana Blasingame has lately found herself having to go to a free food pantry once a month to feed herself and her teenage daughter.

"I'm pretty good at making things stretch as far as I can, but food is so high now and I have to have gas in my car to do my job," said Blasingame, 46, who earns \$9 an hour as a home health aide. "I work full time, but I don't have health insurance and sometimes there just isn't enough to pay bills and buy food."

Operators of free food banks say they are seeing more working people like Blasingame needing assistance.

The increased demand is outstripping supplies and forcing many pantries and food banks to cut portions.

"We have food banks in virtually every city in the country, and what we are hearing is that they are all facing severe shortages with demand so high," Ross Fraser, a spokesman for America's Second Harvest — The Nation's Food Bank Network, the nation's largest hunger relief group, said Friday. "One of our food banks in Florida said demand is up 35 percent over this time last year."

Demand is being driven up by rising costs of food, housing, utilities, health care and gasoline, while food manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers are finding they have less surplus food to donate and government help has decreased, according to Lisa Hamler-Fugitt, executive director of the Ohio Association of Second Harvest Foodbanks.

"I've been doing this for 20 years, and I can't believe how much worse it gets month after month," she said.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's annual hunger survey released Wednesday showed that more than 35.5 million people in the United States were hungry in 2006. While that number was about the same as the previous year, heads of food banks and pantries say many more people are seeking their assistance.

Tony Hall, vice president of the Food Bank of Southwest Georgia, estimates a 10 percent to 20 percent increase in demand for food in the 20-county area the organization serves. He cites cutbacks by local companies, rising fuel costs and the lingering impact of a March tornado that tore

through Americus, Ga., destroying or damaging hundreds of homes.

"We really didn't rebound from that," Hall said Friday. "We're definitely down in donations. Each year the demand gets bigger and bigger."

Supplies are down to a little over 8 million pounds of food from a peak of about 12 million pounds two years ago at Hocking-Athens-Perry Community Action, which provides food bank services in 10 counties in southeast Ohio.

"We've lost factory jobs and many service jobs don't pay a livable wage," said Dick Stevens, director of the organization's food and nutrition division. "We see a lot of desperation in families who are trying to figure out how to pay higher fuel and utility costs and still put food on the table."

Most food banks and pantries aren't optimistic about the coming winter.

"November weather has been relatively mild, and you haven't seen the cost of home heating fuel added to what a family has to deal with," said Evelyn Behm, associate director of the Mid-Ohio Food Bank, which supplies food to pantries, soup kitchens and other charities in 20 central and eastern Ohio counties. "Those prices, we all know, are going up substantially this year."

At the Society of St. Vincent de Paul food pantry in Cincinnati, clients now get three or four days' worth of food instead of six or seven.

"We are trying to stretch our resources to help more people," said Liz

Carter, executive director of the society. "But it's so difficult when you see the desperation and have to tell them you just don't have enough to give them what they need."

Officials with the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York, which serves nearly 1,000 agencies in 23 counties, also are worried.

Through the end of August, the food bank was down almost 700,000 pounds of USDA commodities that include basic

essentials such as canned fruit and vegetables and some meat — food that is very difficult to make up in donations, Executive Director Mark Quandt said.

"We're bracing ourselves for a very tough winter, especially with home heating fuel prices at record highs in the Northeast," Quandt said. "People living in poverty or near poverty just can't sustain those types of increases."

**Operators of free food banks say they are seeing more working people ... needing assistance.**

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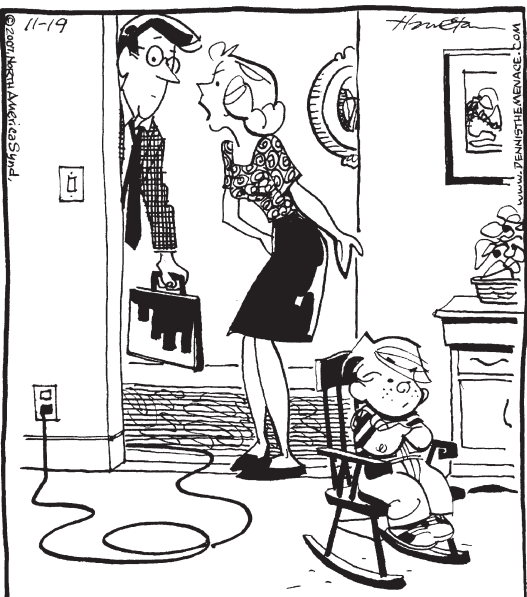
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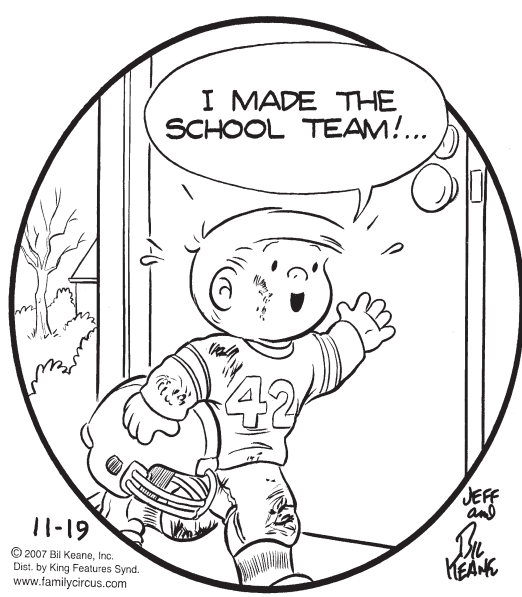
	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports	SCIFI (64) Science Fic.
6:30	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)		Tomorrow Never Dies	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live (CC) Access	Han, Montana Zack & Cody	College Basketball: Countdown	Monday Night Countdown	Star Trek: Enterprise
7:30	Dancing With the Stars	Dancing With the Stars	Amar sin Limites	House (CC)	How I Met My Big Bang Th	Madre Luna	Chuck (CC)	Family Guy Family Guy	Update Israel Charles Scott	Antiques Roadshow	Futureweapons	Movie: Lara Croft Tomb Raider: The Cradle of Life	Movie: The World Is Not Enough (CC)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Movie: Body Call (CC)	Movie: Beethoven's 4th (CC)	CBE Classic Semifinal	NFL Football: Titans at	Star Trek: Enterprise
8:30	(CC) Samantha	(CC) Samantha	Destilando Amor	K-Ville (CC)	Two-Half Men Engagement	La Esclava Isaura	Heroes (CC)	Ellen's Really Big Show	Light of the Southwest	Athens: Dawn of Democracy	Futureweapons	Raider: The Cradle of Life	Movie: The World Is Not Enough (CC)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)		College Basketball: That's-Raven	Tennessee Titans at	Star Trek: Enterprise	
9:30	The Bachelor (CC)	The Bachelor (CC)	Cristina Amor	TMZ (CC)	CSI: Miami Raymond	Pecados Ajenos	Journeymen (CC)	Ellen's Really Big Show	Update Israel Y. Salamanca	Athens: Dawn of Democracy	MythBusters (CC)	Movie: Meet Charlie Rose (CC)	Joe Black	Saving Grace (CC)	Movie Special Life Derek	That's-Raven Han, Montana	Duke vs. Princeton	Denver Broncos	Star Trek: Enterprise
10:30	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noliciero Univ.	Two-Half Men Raymond	News Late Show-	Noticias Decisiones	News Tonight Show	Big Show	Update Israel Y. Salamanca	Charlie Rose (CC)	Dirty Jobs (CC)	Joe Black	Saving Grace (CC)	Hell Date Hell Date	Zack & Cody Han, Montana	Gamenight College	SportsCenter	Virus Buster Virus Buster	
11:30	The Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	La Hora de la Risa	Law & Order: Criminal Intent	Letterman Late Late	¡Al Rojo Vivo!	Late Night-Conan O'Brien	Sex and-City Sex and-City	Uri Harel Scrivner	Tavis Smiley Tavis Smiley	Futureweapons		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgn.	Without a Trace (CC)	Jamie Foxx Jamie Foxx	Replacements Kim Possible	Basketball: Arizona State vs. Illinois	NFL Primetime	Noel (CC) Street Fighter
12:30	AM Live (CC) News (CC)	Extra (CC) Paid Program	Salome (SS)	Reno 911! George Lopez	The Insider	Programa	Conan O'Brien News	Hills Ninja	Update Israel Rico Cortes	Sign Off	Futureweapons		Movie: The Spy Who	Without a Trace (CC)	Comicview American Drgn	NASCAR Now		Alpha Gener. Yellow Brick	

DENNIS THE MENACE



"YOUR SON WAS USING MY HAIR DRYER AS A LEAF BLOWER!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"... They liked my end zone touchdown dance!"

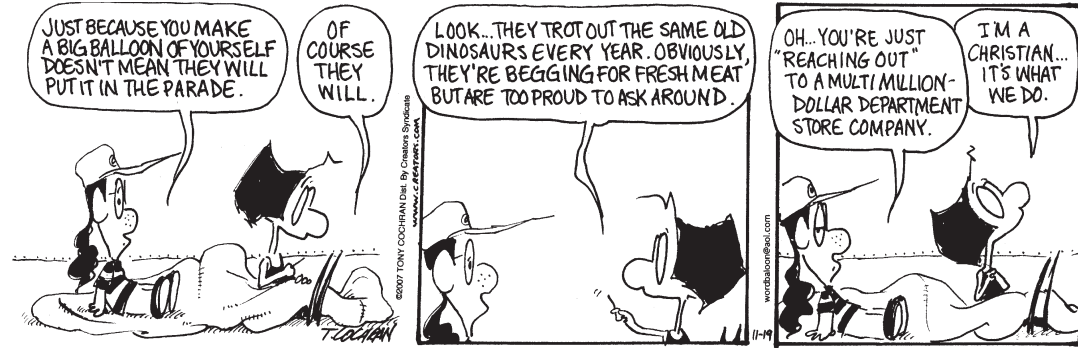
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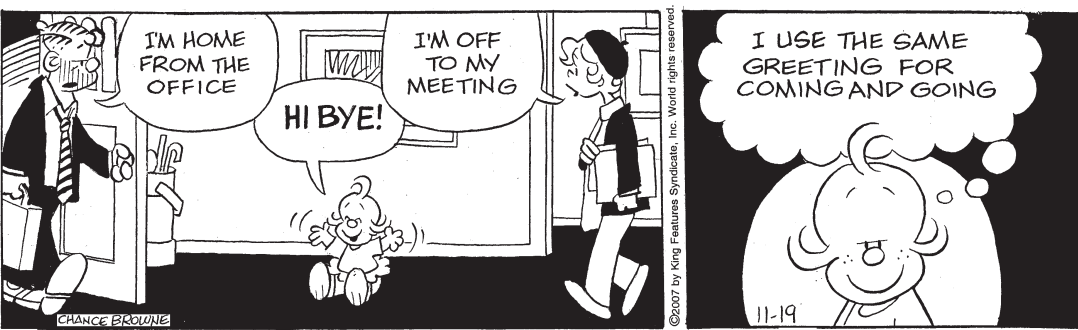
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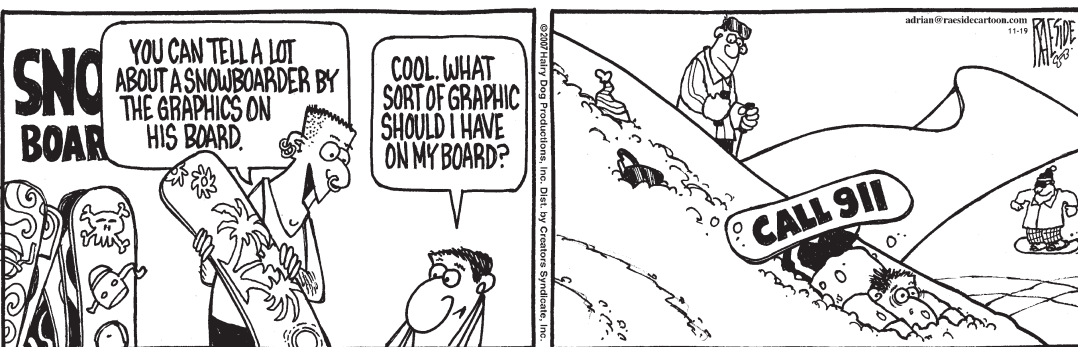
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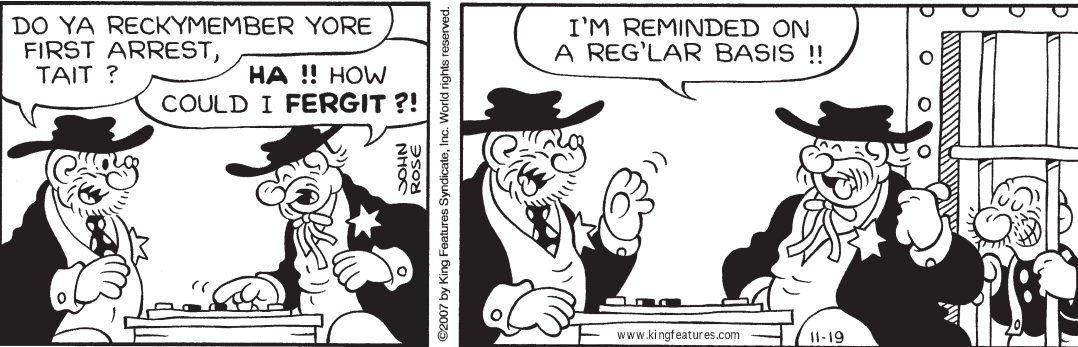
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THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH

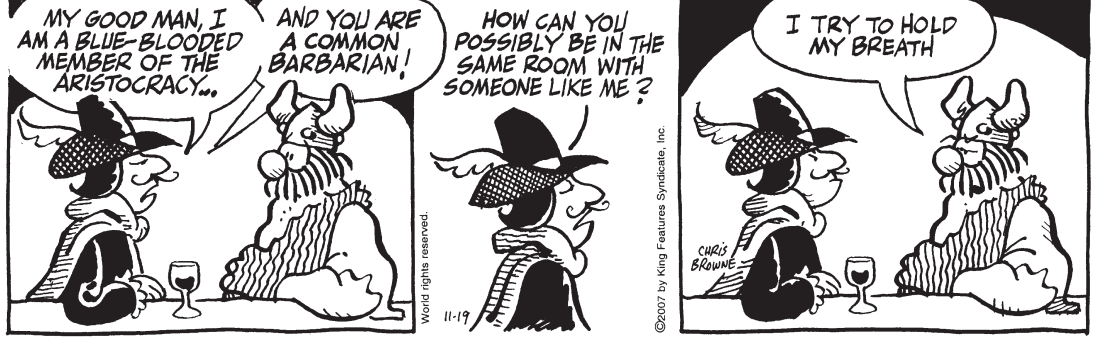


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This Date In History

Today is Monday, Nov. 19, the 323rd day of 2007. There are 42 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 19, 1863, President Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address as he dedicated a national cemetery at the site of the Civil War battlefield in Pennsylvania.

On this date:

In 1794, the United States and Britain signed Jay's Treaty, which resolved issues left over from the Revolutionary War.

In 1831, the 20th president of the United States, James Garfield, was born in Orange Township, Ohio.

In 1917, Indian Prime

Minister Indira Gandhi was born in Allahabad.

In 1919, the Senate rejected the Treaty of Versailles by a vote of 55-39, short of the two-thirds majority needed for ratification.

In 1942, during World War II, Russian forces launched their winter offensive against the Germans along the Don front.

In 1959, Ford Motor Co. announced it was halting production of the unpopular Edsel.

In 1969, Apollo 12 astronauts Charles Conrad and Alan Bean made the second manned landing on the moon.

In 1977, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat became the first Arab leader to visit Israel.

In 1984, some 500 people died in a firestorm set off by a series of explosions at a petroleum storage plant on

the edge of Mexico City.

In 1985, President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev met for the first time as they began their summit in Geneva.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Alan Young is 88. Talk show host Larry King is 74. Talk show host Dick Cavett is 71. Broadcasting and sports mogul Ted Turner is 69. Singer Pete Moore (Smokey Robinson and the Miracles) is 68.

Answer to previous puzzle

S	N	A	P	A	L	I	M	S	C	H	I	S	T	
P	O	P	U	L	A	R	I	C	E	P	R	O	N	T
U	N	T	R	A	C	E	D	L	E	A	G	E		
R	O	S	E	R	E	D		Y	E	A	R	E	N	
								B	E	D	L	A	N	
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T	O	L	D	I	N	O	P	E	N	C	O	C	O	
C	R	I	S	T	A	L	D	E	T	E	C	T	O	
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Newsday Crossword

FOND FOUR by Gail Grabowski  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

- |                                |                                 |                         |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>                  | <b>DOWN</b>                     | <b>DOWN</b>             |
| 1 Network that covers the NYSE | 1 Hairo                         | 21 Shril bark           |
| 5 Take a bite of               | 2 Nothing, in Mexico            | 22 Needing washing      |
| 10 Health resorts              | 3 Bingo call                    | 24 You, in the Bible    |
| 14 Solemn vow                  | 4 Latin dances                  | 25 Fizzy drink          |
| 15 "... happily ever _"        | 5 Hair knot                     | 26 _ de menthe          |
| 16 Part of the foot            | 6 Under way, to Sherlock Holmes | 27 Party veggie platter |
| 17 Creative thought            | 7 Loads, as cargo               | 28 Camp shelter         |
| 18 Not a soul                  | 8 Where Nashville is: Abbr.     | 29 Synagogue scroll     |
| 19 Caveman's discovery         |                                 | 31 Winter coaster       |
| 20 Elegant prom dress          |                                 | 32 Term of endearment   |
| 22 Knocked for a loop          |                                 |                         |
| 23 Ceases                      |                                 |                         |
| 24 Bicycle part                |                                 |                         |
| 25 Remove, as paint            |                                 |                         |
| 28 Frugality                   |                                 |                         |
| 30 Rocks that are mined        |                                 |                         |
| 31 Mattress covering           |                                 |                         |
| 33 Debtor's letters            |                                 |                         |
| 35 Penna. neighbor             |                                 |                         |
| 36 "Nonsense!"                 |                                 |                         |
| 38 Doberman's warning          |                                 |                         |
| 39 French friend               |                                 |                         |
| 40 Actor's representative      |                                 |                         |
| 41 Thick carpet                |                                 |                         |
| 42 Caught sight of             |                                 |                         |
| 44 Acquire molar               |                                 |                         |
| 46 Makeshift dwellings         |                                 |                         |
| 47 Coward's lack               |                                 |                         |
| 49 Light-bulb units            |                                 |                         |
| 51 Tomato                      |                                 |                         |
| 55 Money in Italy              |                                 |                         |
| 56 Place of safety             |                                 |                         |
| 57 Diva's solo                 |                                 |                         |

