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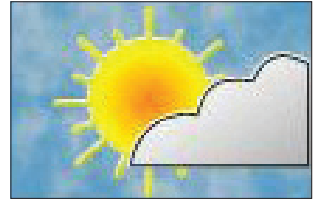
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BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 18, 2008



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 250

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Boot scootin'

Fair promises solid lineup of entertainment

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

More than 20 years ago, someone thought it would be a good idea to have a local musician — namely country music artist Jody Nix and the Texas Cowboys — entertain the masses attending the Howard County Fair.



And while many things about the fair have changed in more than two decades, Nix's involvement in the annual event is not one of them, as he and his band will take the stage Wednesday night to once again welcome fairgoers to another year of family fun.

"We want people to come out and support the fair and listen to us if they want to hear real country music, and we'll do our best to entertain them," said Nix. "We really look forward to this show each year, and this will be our 23rd year playing the fair. It's always nice to be able to come home and play for the folks at home."

"The fair is for everyone. It has a really country atmosphere, with the livestock and the ag exhibits, and the country music really brings it all together. It really is a good event for the entire community."

Nix and his band will perform twice Wednesday — at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. — but the fun won't end there, as the fair queen competition is set for 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 25. Gospel music will take center stage in the

See FAIR, Page 3A



HERALDE photo/Steve Reagan
Stanton Fire Department and Emergency Medical Service personnel responded to the scene of this one-vehicle rollover on Interstate 20 near the Howard-Martin county line Wednesday afternoon. No injury reports were available at press time.

The message from Ike-battered island: Stay away

By ANDRE COE and CHRISTOPHER SHERMAN
Associated Press Writer

GALVESTON (AP) — Officials were stung by an ill-fated attempt to let residents and business owners "look and leave" their hurricane-battered city, which only created frustrating traffic jams for two days. Now, their message is clear: Stay away from Galveston.

There is talk of opening the island in pieces, but that plan is not yet ready. An attempt to let evacuees return home all at once quickly devolved into a logistical nightmare that left traffic backed up for 20 miles. That only added to

"We could not accommodate that many people at one time. We were hoping to have more of a trickle of cars than a tidal wave."

City Manager Steve LeBlanc

the evidence that Galveston Island is far from ready to return to everyday life.

"We could not accommodate that many people at one time," city manager Steve LeBlanc said. "We left traffic backed up for 20 miles. That only added to

See IKE, Page 3A

A 'thank you' for years of support

Myra Robinson honored for Samaritan support

By LYNDEL MOODY
Features Writer

A long-time Big Spring business woman received a well-deserved pat on the back Thursday from Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas for her continued contribution to the organization.

"One of our reasons to be here tonight is celebrating our 35th year of providing services to the Permian Basin. We've been here a long time," said Margaret Jones, Samaritan Counseling Center executive director. "Myra Robinson has been one of our staunch supporters throughout the years. We owe a debt of gratitude to Myra because she has helped us grow and develop

the center. She's been involved for the last 20-plus years."

A reception was held Thursday evening in Robinson's honor at the home of Mr. and Mrs. David Foster. Robinson is the owner of Robinson Drilling.

Samaritan Counseling Center is a non-profit, faith-based outpatient counseling center.

"It began with a small group of community volunteers in Midland back in 1973," Jones said. "At that time we just had one therapist. Now, Tom (Wynn, clinical director) leads a team of eight therapist and we've expanded. We started off in Midland, then we went to

See HONOR, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

A reception was held Thursday evening for Myra Robinson for her long-time support of the Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas. Pictured from left are Margaret Jones, executive director of Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas; Todd and Jennifer Patterson, Samaritan Big Spring Family of the Year; Myra Robinson, owner of Robinson drilling; and Tom Wynn, Samaritan Counseling Center clinical director.

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Dine Out Day Friday

Pappa Georgios Pizza in the Coronado Plaza is this week's Dine Out Restaurant assisting the United Way for Big Spring and Howard County.



United Way

Proceeds from Friday's sales at Papa Georgios will benefit United Way. A live band will be playing at the restaurant Friday night. Future participating restaurants will include Cowboy's Steakhouse and Greg's Grill.

Feed the carp

LINESVILLE, Pa. (AP) — State conservation officials are delaying a ban on an odd "family tradition" in northwestern Pennsylvania: feeding bread to the carp at Pymatuning (py-muh-TOON'-ing) State Park.

The ban was to begin Jan. 1 but will be delayed a year for further study.

More than 300,000 people come to the park's Linesville Spillway each year because carp throng so thickly for the bread that ducks can actually walk on the fish.

e-waste collection

Keep Big Spring Beautiful will conduct an e-waste collection Saturday, Nov. 8, at a warehouse (300 E. First St.) in downtown Big Spring.

A list of e-waste to be accepted, such as obsolete computers, will be published prior to the event and made available at the Howard County Fair.

KBSB hopes to prevent e-waste from being discarded into the landfill, where it may cause serious ill effects if it eventually enters the groundwater and environment. Keep Big Spring Beautiful is an active civic organization.

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FRIDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Coahoma attempts to stay perfect on the road

By **BRANDON HALLFORD**
Special to the Herald

COAHOMA — Last year at this time, the Coahoma Bulldogs were suffering through injury after injury, leaving them with a defensive secondary with more holes than Swiss cheese.

What a difference a year and a little bit of confidence can do for a team.

The 2008 edition of the "Big Red" is off to one of the best starts in recent memory, prov-

ing they are capable of pulling out the close game, while closing out teams they have on the ropes.

"We are playing pretty good right now," first-year Head Coach Stacy Martin said. "We have done what we have needed to do to get the win. We still haven't put a whole game together where we have kept our focus throughout, but we are close."

Last week, the Bulldogs collected six interceptions on their way to a 19-0 victory over

the Seagraves Eagles.

"We showed a lot of intensity on the defensive side of the ball," Martin said. "The boys have really bought into the new system."

However, even in a shutout there are things Martin believes his charges must improve on if they are to challenge for the district crown.

"Our offensive line has to start being more consistent maintaining their assignments," Martin said. "So far they have done just enough to

get by, but they are going to have to improve if we are going to achieve our goal of a district title."

The main weapon in Coahoma's arsenal is senior running back P.J. Daylong. Through three games this year, Daylong has accumulated 336 yards averaging 4.9 yards per carry, including four touchdowns.

However, Martin notes Daylong is not the only

See **COAHOMA**, Page 2B

Area roundup

Sands to be tested by bigger Eagles

By **JONATHAN HULL**
Sports Editor

ACKERLY — For the first time this season, the Sands Mustangs will face an opponent from the large schools division.

New six-man Division I squad Sterling City (2-1) hosts the 11th-ranked Mustangs (3-0) at 7:30 p.m. Friday in Eagle Stadium. The Eagles make the move down to six-man after struggling to field a competitive 11-man team last season, finishing with an 0-10 record. Sterling City was forced to cancel all of its junior varsity games in 2007 due to the lack of athletes to put on the team.

Sterling City is coming off of two consecutive victories with the latest being a 46-14 drubbing of O'Donnell.

While the players at Sterling City are brand new to six-man, the Eagles have a veteran of the quicker form of football at the helm.

Clyde Parham, who is 17th all-time in Texas six-man with 111 wins, took over the startup program. Parham has a strong reputation in the state, having taken Strawn to the state semifinals in 1998 and Throckmorton to the state quarterfinals in 2006. Seven teams he has coached have advanced to at least the area finals.

He has been the recipient of several Coach of the Year awards from different news publications across the state.

By far, Parham and the Eagles represent the toughest challenge Sands has faced in 2008.

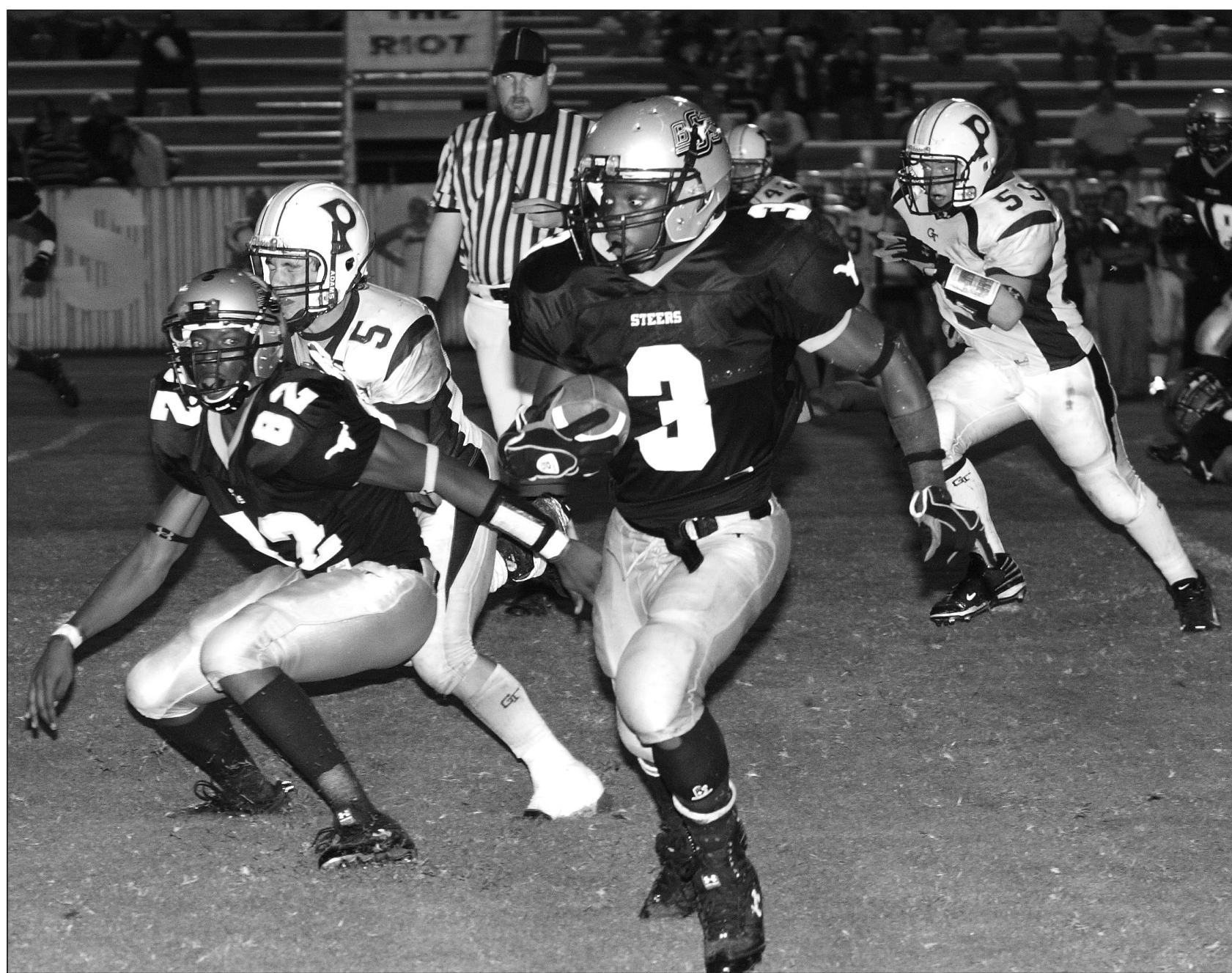
"They're new to six-man so they'll probably have more players on the sideline than we will," noted Sands Head Coach Wayne Henderson. "The question with them is how well will they have adjusted to the new game at this point. We can't go in thinking they're new to the game. That's an easy way for us to get beat."

Sands has been nothing short of dominant the past two weeks, defeating Wilson and Trent by a combined score of 95-0. Both games were called in the third quarter due to the 45-point mercy rule governing Texas six-man football.

Sands has depended heavily upon a junior class led by quarterback Johnny Rogers and running back/linebacker Daniel Armendariz. The duo combined to have a hand in all seven of the Mustangs' touchdowns last week.

Rogers threw for two — one to Ethan Zant and one to Seth Fry — ran for

See **AREA**, Page 3B



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring Steers running back Monte Anderson (3) picks up some of his 112 rushing yards as teammate Thaddeus Straughter (82) walls off a defender during the Steers 43-21 victory over the Pampa Harvesters last week at Memorial Stadium. The Steers improved their record to 2-1 and travel to Andrews to take on the rival Mustangs Friday.

Steers prepped for rival Andrews

By **JONATHAN HULL**
Sports Editor

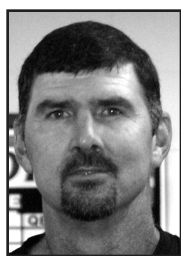
Current and former Big Spring Steers can attest to this: It's not hard to get up to play any football team nicknamed the Mustangs in this area, whether they're from Andrews or Sweetwater.

The Steers (2-1) begin a two-week span of playing against Mustangs at 7:30 p.m. Friday, when they travel to Andrews to

play in the first of two consecutive games happening in a stadium called the Mustang Bowl.

Big Spring makes a trip to Sweetwater Sept. 26 where there's a more historic Mustang Bowl and a more hated group of Mustangs waiting.

For now, Big Spring Head Coach Phillip Ritchey says getting the team hyped to face the Andrews Mustangs (0-3) hasn't



Ritchey

been a challenge.

"These kids definitely understand what these rivalries are about," Ritchey said. "They've been playing Andrews and Sweetwater since they were in seventh grade

See **STEERS**, Page 2B

Forsan searching for first win of season

By **JEFF LANE**

Special to the Herald

Nothing is certain when you are talking about football. That's why they play the game.

But Friday night in Forsan will be an exception to that rule. When the lights go out at Buffalo Stadium, one thing is certain: Someone is walking away with their first win of the season.

The Forsan Buffaloes (0-3) and the McCamey Badgers (0-3) have started their seasons in similar fashion. Both teams have started off losing its first three games, both teams have played very competitively at times and each squad has seen its share of poor play and misfortune.

It would be tough for any team, on any level, to keep the right frame of mind in the face of such

a dire start to a season.

But for the Buffs, hanging their heads and feeling sorry for themselves is not an option.

"We have to make our own good fortune," said Head Coach Tommy Thompson. "Things have not started the way we would have liked or intended, but our players rarely get down. They know, as well as the entire coaching staff, what they are

capable of, and what it will take to get on track and in the win column."

The Buffs and Badgers do not have much history to speak of, only meeting each other in the preseason to scrimmage. Each team, however, has already played Reagan County this year with the Buffs losing by a touchdown in a preseason scrimmage and McCamey losing to the Owls

last week, 35-28.

This week has the makings for a great game with both squads hungry for their first victory and Thompson said preparation will be a big key.

"They have a solid football team and they are looking to be consistent just like us,"

See **FORSAN**, Page 3B

CROSSROADS FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD

WEEK 3

Big Spring
(2-1)
at
Andrews
(0-3)

Coahoma
(3-0)
at
Tahoka
(1-2)

McCamey
(0-3)
at
Forsan
(0-3)

Stanton
(0-3)
at
Roby
(0-3)

Sands
(3-0)
at
Sterling City
(2-1)

Garden City
(2-1)
at
ACHS
(2-1)

Mid. Trinity
(0-3)
at
Grady
(2-1)

PIGSKIN PREDICTIONS

This week's games



Jonathan Hull



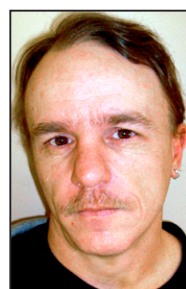
Jeff Lane



Robert Smith



Troy Hyde



Brandon Hallford



Art Barrera



Tim Knox

Big Spring at Andrews
Coahoma at Tahoka
McCamey at Forsan
Stanton at Roby
Sands at Sterling City
Midland Trinity at Grady
Garden City at Abilene Christian
Baylor at UConn
Miami, Fla. at Texas A&M
Rice at Texas
TCU at SMU
West Virginia at Colorado
Boise St. at Oregon
Florida at Tennessee
Wake Forest at Florida St.
LSU at Auburn
Georgia at Arizona St.
Cowboys at Packers
Texans at Titans
Panthers at Vikings
Cardinals at Redskins
Saints at Broncos
Steelers at Eagles
Jaguars at Colts
Jets at Chargers

Big Spring
Coahoma
Forsan
Stanton
Sands
Grady
Garden City
Baylor
Miami
Texas
TCU
Colorado
Oregon
Florida
Florida St.
Auburn
Georgia
Cowboys
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LSU
Arizona St.
Cowboys
Titans
Vikings
Cardinals
Broncos
Eagles
Colts
Chargers

Last week
To date

15-9 .625
51-23 .689

18-6 .750
52-22 .703

20-4 .833
50-24 .676

20-4 .833
51-23 .689

19-5 .792
52-21 .703

16-8 .667
48-26 .649

17-7 .708
46-28 .622

STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

and hear from former Steers how important those games are. You can tell by the fans in the stadium how much these games mean. There's just something extra in the air when the Steers take on the Mustangs."

As if the rivalry weren't enough to get the Steers hyped for the game, Andrews scheduled this week as their homecoming, adding a little more bad blood for Big Spring to feed on.

"To me when you're somebody's homecoming then it's always an extra motivating factor," Ritchey said. "We tell the players we're someone's homecoming because they believe they can put us in front of a big home crowd and beat us. It's a challenge to us to spoil their homecoming."

Last season, Big Spring led the Mustangs 29-19 with less than four minutes to play. However, Andrews managed two scores in the final minutes, giving them a 33-29 victory and robbing Big Spring of its first win of the season.

Andrews only returns three starters from that team, though, while Big Spring has more than five times that amount. After the success of the Steers' offense in the first three games of the season, Big Spring enters this week's contest as a heavy favorite. It's the first time this season

the Steers can make that claim.

"We've dealt with being the favorite this week by remembering last year's game with Andrews," Ritchey said. "Andrews came into Memorial Stadium undefeated and we were huge underdogs. We had a new coaching staff and a new system, still searching for our identity as a team and that first win. We played well enough to win that game."

"It's a complete reversal this year," he continued. "Andrews has a new coach and system. They're a young team that hasn't won a game yet. It's real easy to remember last year and tell our kids this is a trap game. If we walk into the Mustang Bowl thinking we are the heavy favorites and we're just going to win because of that then we'll lose. Andrews is hungry for a win and they've got a lot of pride over there. They'll beat us if we're not ready."

Much like the Steers were in 2007, Andrews is attempting to install a new offense under a new head coach. Jeff Cordell comes over from Class 4A Greenville where he was also the head football coach and athletic director. Cordell coached the Lions to consecutive 3-7 season in 2006 and 2007 before moving to Andrews. He did however, win a Class 3A state title as a head coach with Gainesville in 2003 and lost in the state finals in 2005 to Wimberley.

With Cordell comes a new

spread attack, which is a complete change to the traditional I-formation Andrews preferred to run before his arrival. The Mustangs are 0-3 in 2008 after finishing 10-3 last season and advancing to the state quarterfinals. Andrews lost to Fort Stockton last week, 26-21.

"Their system has changed tremendously," noted Ritchey. "Last season, they were a predominant run team kind of like what we saw in Denison. This year they play more like Pampa, but they do get into an I-formation more than Pampa did. I think they do that because their personnel doesn't quite fit the spread system they want to run yet."

In their 2007 matchup, the Steers caught the Mustangs off guard with a new offensive package called Jumbo. In the set, running back Monte Anderson lined up at quarterback in the shotgun, took the snap and simply ran to the left or right with a bevy of blockers in front of him.

The Jumbo package was incredibly successful as Big Spring jumped out to a commanding lead and Anderson rumbled for 202 yards — his largest output of 2007.

Ritchey said he wouldn't be surprised to see Andrews pull a few tricks out of its hat for this week's contest, but don't expect to see the Steers try anything new.

"I think we'll definitely see some tricks from Andrews, but

we're not going to surprise anyone in this game this year," confirmed Ritchey. "They're still looking for their identity on offense, much like we were last year during this game. We ran the Jumbo set to try and get something going for us offensively. This year, they're searching for something on offense that's going to get them turned onto some success."

The Steers are generally healthy at this point in the season. Last week, Big Spring was without linebacker Martin Yanez, who suffered a concussion during the Denison game. Yanez was given a clean slate of health and Ritchey said he is ready to go against Andrews.

Incumbent quarterback Tyler Tannehill is also a step closer to returning to the Steers' lineup. Tannehill, who had just recovered from a knee injury he suffered in the spring during baseball season, injured his other knee in Big Spring's final scrimmage against Lubbock High Aug. 22.

The junior quarterback has been cleared to participate in non-contact drills and is probably still a couple of weeks away from returning to live action, according to Ritchey.

Matt Ritchey has stepped in at signal caller and is currently second on the team in rushing. Last week, Ritchey ran for 86 yards and completed 13-of-15 passes for 162 yards and two touchdowns, both being hauled

in by Thaddeus Straughter.

Coach Ritchey says his nephew will continue to see time at quarterback even when Tannehill returns. The two juniors will alternate depending on the scheme the offense is wanting to use at that point in the game.

Big Spring did have a new, yet familiar face on the field last week when 2007 all-district safety Tyrone Clemons made his 2008 debut for the Steers. Clemons impacted the game with two interceptions.

"It means a lot to us to get Tyrone back," Ritchey said. "We were getting very thin in the secondary, especially with a lot of those guys having to play wide receiver as well. Tyrone coming back gives us a great safety with a nose for the ball. He's a real ballhawk that goes up and gets passes. It means a lot for us, especially depthwise. He would have been back earlier, but he had some problems with his shoulder. He took a couple of weeks and got healthy, but his presence on the field really made a difference for us last week against Pampa."

The Mustangs and Steers are tied in wins at 15, heading into the 33rd meeting on the football field between the two schools Friday. The two schools first played in 1954 — a 14-7 win for Big Spring — and have played every season since 1986. Big Spring has won two of the last three meetings.

COAHOMA

Continued from Page 1B

dependable outlet the Bulldogs have on offense. Seniors Corey Roberts and Ray Gutierrez have both emerged as favorite targets through the air for quarterback Josh Paniagua and Pete Acosta.

Acosta played in last week's contest against the Eagles due to starting quarterback Josh Paniagua suffering from a high ankle sprain. Paniagua is listed as questionable for this week's game, leaving Acosta to once again fill in for Coahoma.

Against Seagraves, it was the defense that did most of the damage, thwarting any hopes the Eagles had of an air attack by collecting six picks — three of them by Daylong, including a 30-yard return in the final quarter to put the game away.

"The boys were all over the place last week," a proud Martin said. "They were just reading and reacting. I think

we surprised them (Seagraves) and they just weren't prepared for it."

This week the Bulldogs continue their tour of district 6-1A as they take on the Tahoka Bulldogs (1-2), who were 25-20 winners over the Wink Wildcats last Friday.

"We expect them to be a physically strong team," Martin said. "They have one of the best powerlifting teams in the state, so it only stands to reason that it carries over to the football field."

Tahoka's power is not the only thing about the Bulldogs that has Martin a bit concerned.

"All of their skill people are fast," he noted. "They have one wideout Antonio Baker who is extremely tall and fast, as is their quarterback Tyler Abell."

Last week against Wink Abell completed 6-of-19 attempts for 137 yards and three touchdowns with Baker leading the way for the Bulldogs, catching three passes for 71 yards. One of

those catches was a 29-yard touchdown late in the second quarter, giving the Bulldogs a 13-12 lead heading into the half.

Mitchell Chapa paces the ground game for Tahoka. Against the Wildcats, Chapa accounted for 189 of his teams 198 rushing yards on just 12 carries, including a 63-yard jaunt in the third quarter of the Wink contest.

"We keep telling the boys that even though we are 3-0 it doesn't mean a thing," Martin said. "The morale is really high right now, but if we don't keep improving and doing the things that we need to do to get better, then we are going to run into trouble when the district schedule starts."

"We are really happy with the start we have but it won't mean a thing if we can't win in district," he continued. "We have one goal and that is a district title. We would be happy to make the playoffs, but ultimately we want one thing and that is the district championship."



HERALD photo/Bruce Schooler
Coahoma Bulldogs defensive back Lupe Abrego defends a pass intended for a Seagraves receiver Friday at Bulldog Stadium. The Bulldogs won 19-0 and head to Tahoka this week in hopes of remaining undefeated for the 2008 season.

AREA

Continued from Page 1B

another and returned an interception for a score. Armendariz also had an interception return for a touchdown, ran one in from 2 yards out and capped the game's scoring off with a 56-yard punt return in the third quarter that ended the contest.

Defensively, Sands has held its last two opponents to 15 total yards.

The Mustangs might not find shutting down the Sterling City offense down as easy, though. The Eagles' are led by junior tailback Abel Rivas, who rushed for over 1,000 yards for last season's 0-10 squad.

Rivas rushed for 145 yards and two touchdowns and returned a kickoff 68 yards for another score two weeks ago in Sterling City's 40-34 victory over Loraine. The win was the Eagles' first since 2006.

Stanton tries for first victory against winless Roby

STANTON — The 2008 season hasn't gone as planned for the Stanton Buffaloes. A very inexperienced Buffs squad has found scoring difficult and has opened the year 0-3.

Stanton faces the similarly offensively-challenged and winless Roby Lions (0-3) at 7:30 p.m.

Friday in Roby. The Lions scored their first points of the 2008 season last week in a 21-14 loss to Miles. Before that, they had been outscored by Irion County and Bronte by a combined score of 55-0.

The Buffs have once again been heavily dependent upon their running game as their air attack continues to struggle. They were intercepted five times two weeks ago against Reagan County in a 21-6 loss.

Last week, Stanton fell to an undefeated Colorado City squad, 26-13.

Tailback Robbie Noland ran for 130 yards and a touchdown on 26 carries. The Buffs had 229 total rushing yards on 51 carries in the game, while throwing just five passes and completing one for 16 yards.

Grady hopes to get on track hosting Midland Trinity

LENORAH — After going 11-2 and advancing to the state quarterfinals in 2007, this year's version of the Grady Wildcats (2-1) haven't found getting victories so easy.

Last week, Grady was challenged by New Home for four quarters.

Joe Cook scored on a 17-yard run with 4:56 remaining in the game, giving Grady the 50-46 victory.

Cook also had two touchdown receptions from quarterback



HERALD photo/Bruce Schooler

Stanton Buffaloes running back Robbie Noland (center) carries two Colorado City defenders in Stanton's 26-13 loss to the Wolves Friday.

Dylan Cox, who finished 20-of-29 for 251 yards in his second week back after missing the team's season opener with a knee injury.

That win came on the heels of a humiliating 50-point loss to Meadow, 70-20.

Midland Trinity comes into Lenora winless at 0-3. Trinity lost to Balmorhea, 46-44, last week, fell in a competitive game, 34-13, with Rankin two weeks ago and was blown out by fifth-ranked Fort Davis to open the season, 46-0.

Garden City building momentum against Abilene Christian Friday

GARDEN CITY — Garden City's Bearkats (2-1) travel to face Abilene Christian High School at 7:30 p.m. Friday, coming off a memorable win.

Last week's win for Garden City is the type of victory capable of turning a team's season around. The Bearkats rallied from a 38-16 first quarter deficit to Robert Lee, outscoring the Steers 50-22 over the final three

periods for a 66-60 win.

The Bearkats led by two scores in the final four minutes of the game, but Robert Lee cut the margin of victory to 6, scoring its final touchdown with no time left on the clock.

Honorable mention all-state utility back Jack Schwartz lived up to his billing, scoring three touchdowns in three different ways — rushing, receiving and on a kick return.

ACHS (2-1) won its second game of the season last week, blowing out Lohn, 58-8.

FORSAN

Continued from Page 1B

Thompson said. "They are physical on defense and have a big, speedy quarterback behind a big offensive line. I expect them to

be prepared and we will have to do the same if we intend to compete."

Thompson said the Buffs will utilize the 4-3 defense this week in an effort to counter the spread offense of the Badgers. McCamey likes to open up running lanes for their backfield and Thompson

hopes that filling the gaps with four down lineman will create problems for the Badgers and their game plan.

Offensively, the Buffaloes will count on their offensive line to lead the way for their talented backfield, as well as to slow down the aggressive nature of

the McCamey defense. The Badgers have solid linebackers that make good reads and run well.

Thompson said the Buffs' young line will have to pick up any stunts or blitzes in order to be successful.

"We think we can create some

mismatches on both sides of the ball," Thompson said. "We simply need to maintain our focus on defense and keep the chains moving on offense. If we can also create some turnovers, we can really help our cause even more."

Romo headed home for first start at Lambeau

By **STEPHEN HAWKINS**
AP Sports Writer

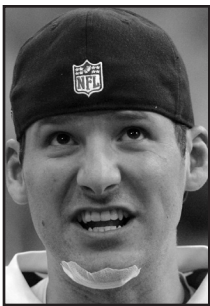
IRVING — Tony Romo grew up in Wisconsin rooting for Brett Favre and the Green Bay Packers. Yet, the Cowboys quarterback has been to Lambeau Field only twice in his life.

The only time he went to watch the Packers play was as a teenager, when he and his father made the 150-mile trip from Burlington for a pre-season game. Four years ago, Romo was in the game, then the No. 3 quarterback who was holding kicks for the Dallas Cowboys.

So going home this weekend as a two-time Pro Bowl quarterback to start a game at Lambeau Field, with family and friends in the stands, certainly has to be the fulfillment of a childhood dream. Right?

Well, not exactly. "I don't think about the stadium like that, like well I wanted to play there. I probably dreamt about playing in the National Football League," Romo said Wednesday. "You have to understand I was also a Bronco fan, I liked John Elway. I liked Joe Montana. That wasn't the pinnacle."

Instead, Romo looks at Sunday night's matchup between the Cowboys and Packers — two of the NFC's five 2-0 teams — as "another game" that is going to



Romo



AP photo/Gregory Shaver/The Journal Times

Jeffrey Kulinski cheers for Brett Favre as his wife, B.J. Kulinski, wearing a Tony Romo jersey, boos Favre as they watch the Green Bay Packers-Dallas Cowboys game at Fred's Parkview Nov. 29, 2007 in Burlington, Wis. Tony Romo, the Cowboy's quarterback grew up in Burlington. Romo is going home to face the Packers on their legendary field on Sunday.

be fun to play. Like they all are for him.

"It will be an enjoyable experience to go out to dinner with my parents the night before the game, stuff I might have done when I was younger," Romo said. "But they've seen me play. They've seen me play against the Packers in a pretty big game. A lot of people have been down here, so I don't know that it will

be a big difference."

Except that it will be in Wisconsin and close to home, where Romo hasn't started a game at quarterback since his senior season at Burlington High 10 years ago.

"I'm sure he's a guy that's not going to allow distractions, or going back home, disrupt his game plan or his mental frame of mind," said Terrell Owens,

who has caught three of Romo's four TD passes this season. "He's going to go in there and obviously want to play well. We are going to go in there and help him make that happen."

Romo got to start against Favre and the Packers last November, at Texas Stadium in another prime-time game.

With Romo completing 19 of 30 passes for 309 yards and four

touchdowns, the Cowboys won 37-27 in that matchup of 10-1 teams that wound up as the top two seeds in the NFC playoffs. Favre didn't finish that game after getting hurt in the second quarter, and isn't with the Packers anymore. Instead, it was Aaron Rodgers who finished that game — and is now the starter.

"It was fun to go against a good football team, it was fun to go against the Packers, a team you watched growing up, and fun to go against Favre," Romo said. "But I'm getting a little older now, so you've been around certain different situations."

Vinny Testaverde was the Cowboys' starter when the Cowboys went to Green Bay in 2004, and lost 41-20. Romo was on the field for four plays, holding on two field goals and two extra points, in one of six games he appeared during his second NFL season.

When Romo went to Lambeau Field as a Packers fan as a teen, he doesn't even remember who they played, or exactly what season it was. But he said he didn't put a Cheesehead on his head, and never has.

"It was a neat atmosphere," Romo said. "It was enjoyable to get up there."

Still, it's going to be a lot more fun for Romo to be playing and throwing passes on the legendary field.

"I'm a nostalgic person in a sense that I enjoy traditional things. I enjoy watching great players or great sporting events at a great atmosphere," Romo

See **ROMO**, Page 4B

Sports in brief

Sharpnack represents BSCC well at playday in Odessa

Patsy Sharpnack was the lone representative of Big Spring Country Club to place on the leaderboard at the Permian Basin Ladies Association Playday at the Sunset Country Club in Odessa Tuesday. Sharpnack posted the lowest amount of putts in the second flight with 27.

BSCC hosting over-80 scramble Oct. 11-12

The Big Spring Country Club has scheduled an over-80 scramble where the combined ages of the two-person

team must be 80 or higher.

Entry fee is \$60 per player plus golf cart fee, however, private carts are welcome. The event is scheduled for Oct. 11-12 with a 1 p.m. shotgun start both days, and it benefits the Big Spring Shrine Club.

Entry also includes barbecue on the course both days. The field will be flighted by first round scores.

Call the pro shop at 267-5354 for more information or to enter a team.

Howard College schedules mini-cheer camp and Battle

Howard College is preparing to host its annual mini-

cheer camp as well as the Battle of the Cheerleaders Saturday.

The cheer camp is for girls from kindergarten through sixth grade. Registration is from 8-9 a.m. Saturday with the actual camp lasting from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost is \$25.

All campers will then perform at the Battle of the Cheerleaders set to begin at 6 p.m. Saturday. The Battle is open to any organized cheer squad at the high school or junior high levels.

Beginning this year, a traveling trophy will be awarded to the winner.

Admission is \$3 with students, cheerleaders and sponsors being admitted free.

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.

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OTHER VIEWS

Government should be open and accountable

Excessive secrecy makes government less trustworthy and the public less safe. But it's on the increase in Washington.

The accelerating push to hide government workings from the public is detailed in the "Secrecy Report Card," produced by a coalition of more than 70 groups that advocate open government.

Among the highlights:

- Competitive bidding of federal contracts has dropped by almost 25 percent since 2000. More than \$114 billion worth of contracts were given out without competition in 2007.
- Secrecy is especially acute in the Department of Defense, where 18 percent of the acquisition budget is classified.
- Scientific and technical advice is increasingly hidden from the public. A 1972 act of Congress required that federal advisory committees meet in the open. But last year the government used exemptions to close 64 percent of the advisory committee meetings.

This kind of secrecy in government encourages cronyism, drives up costs to taxpayers and worsens the national debt.

But it's becoming harder for the press and watchdog groups to ferret out abuses.

At 25 key federal agencies, the government spent \$7 million less in 2007 to process Freedom of Information Act requests.

Overall, last year saw a continuing trend of the federal government classifying more information, keeping patents secret and invoking the "state secrets" privilege.

Some confidentiality is necessary. But the administration's insistence on executive power and secrecy has eroded public confidence in government.

Fortunately, some in Congress acknowledge the problem.

The House has passed a reform bill called the Over-Classification Reduction Act. Among other things, it would require more justification for classifying documents, and create a process to reward employees and contractors for challenging improper classification decisions.

Senate passage of the act would be a step forward.

But the public and press must keep up the pressure for a more open government.

THE KANSAS CITY STAR

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- In person at 710 Scurry St.
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- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

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- The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.
- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
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- 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

Hey, we are all Americans

Perhaps I had not been paying attention, but now that I'm in the midst of writing a series of columns on the Latino contributions to North American society, I see a history column everywhere I look.

When Sen. John McCain reminded us that a Latina daughter of migrant workers is just as "American" as a boy whose ancestors were on the Mayflower, most people rightfully read it as a subtle message on U.S. immigration policy.

I did, too. But I also saw a Latino-history column in the making. Hurricane Ike devastated Galveston and most people rightfully worried for the safety of our fellow Americans in the stricken area.

I did, too. But I also saw another Latino-history column waiting to be written.

It happens almost every week. There's always something in the news that suggests that I should write a new chapter on "America's Hidden Hispanic Heritage."

When McCain accepted the Republican nomination for president and courageously said, "We're all God's children, and we're all Americans," many Latinos read much more than a message about immigration.

After all, for many years, we have been arguing that you can be an American even if you never have visited the United States. In Central America and South America, as well as the Caribbean and Canada, we are all Americans!

Since the 16th century, long before the term "Americans" was used to describe the people of the United States, it was used to denote the indigenous people of the New World. Even the word "America" comes from south of the border. Long before it was used to describe the United States, it applied mostly to South America, the part of the hemisphere discovered and explored by its namesake, Amerigo Vespucci, an Italian who sailed for Spain.

I was getting ready to write a column on the origin of the word "America" — and how it was a German cartographer, Martin Waldseemuller, who Latinized "Amerigo" into "America" and first used the word on a 1507 map of the New World — when I realized that there was another Hispanic-history column that had to be written this week.

As Ike devastated Texas' east coast and Galveston Island, I kept wondering how many Americans know that "Galvez-town" was named in honor of Bernardo de Galvez, a general who led the Spanish army and scored major victories against Britain in places such as Pensacola, Fla., during the Revolutionary War.

It was Galvez and his men, mostly Hispanic Americans, who kept the British away from George Washington's flanks and helped the 13 Colonies win their independence.

This is Hispanic Heritage Month — Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 — a time that should be used to recognize the accomplishments of people such as Galvez. It should be a time to remind our fellow North Americans that, like Galveston, seven U.S.

states — as well as hundreds of landmarks, rivers and cities — have Spanish-origin names because they were first explored and settled by our Spanish ancestors.

Unfortunately, between now and Oct. 15, Latinos will attend many fiestas and parades that have little to do with Hispanic-American history, and great opportunities to teach that history will be lost.

Yet this is the month when Latinos should stock up on historical ammunition so they can defend themselves from those who would treat them disparagingly, as if they were recently arrived and unwelcome foreigners.

When some U.S. citizens call themselves "Americans" and look down on their hemispheric neighbors, let's remind them that in the Caribbean and from the U.S.-Mexico border to the tip of South America, there are millions of Latinos who are just as "American" as they are. When they ask Latinos to "Americanize" their names, let's remind them that our Spanish surnames are as American as any other and that they arrived in North America long before any other European family name.

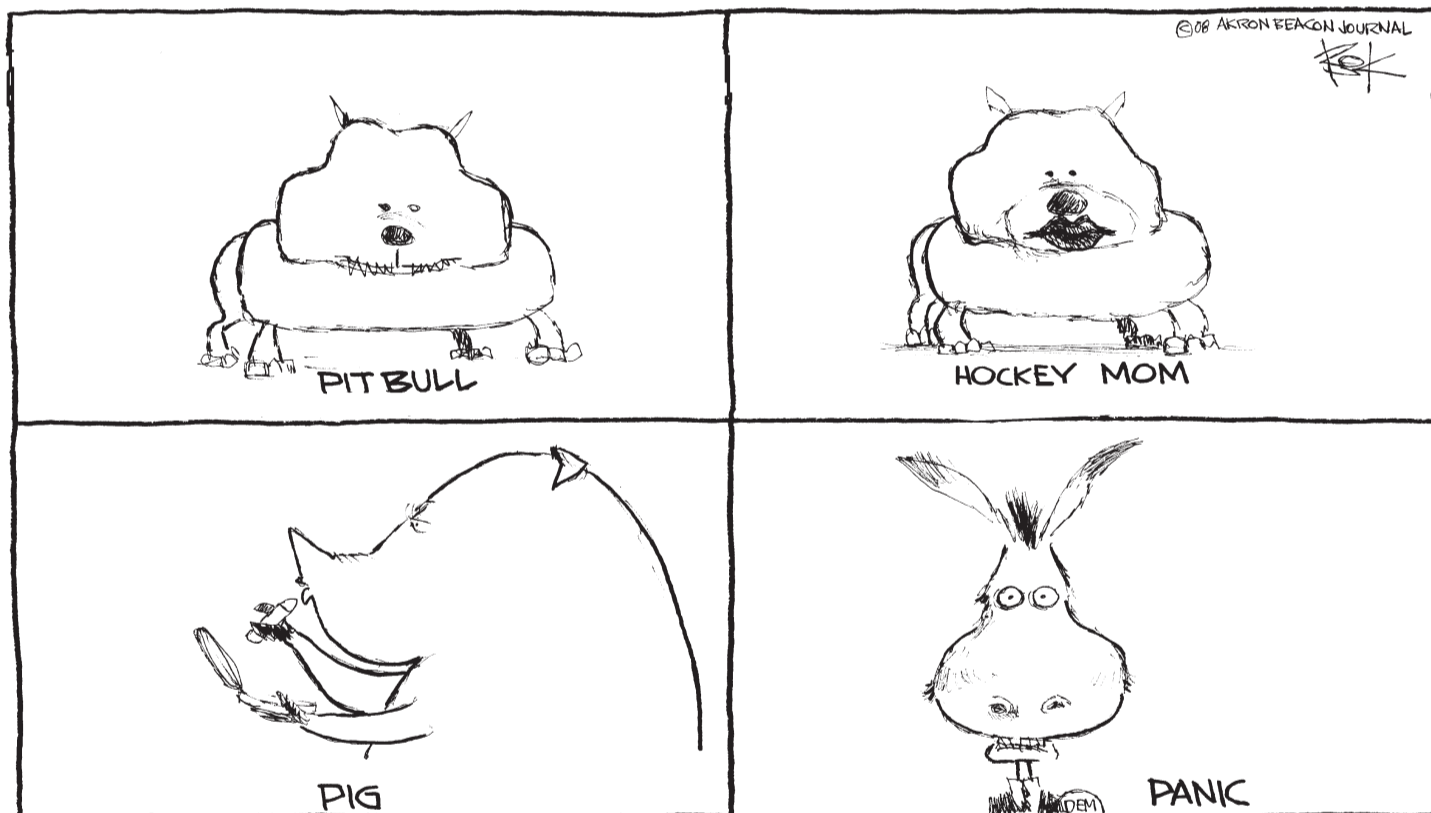
When they ask you how long you and "your people" have been in this country, tell them, "Several hundred years." And when they ask you how long you have been an American, even if you arrived in the United States last week, there is only one accurate answer: "All my life."

To find out more about Miguel Perez and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.



MIGUEL PEREZ

POLITICAL TERMS



They call him the First Dude

First Dude. That's what they call him in Alaska. It's OK. Todd's OK. Whatever. He smiles at Greta Van Susteren. Not a touch of noblesse. More like plan old politesse. I always laugh a little when I see people who are very much not ordinary Americans in any respect (pay, fame, education or overall wealth, for starters) try to speak for them. "This is what ordinary Americans want," says someone whose only contact with them may be while his face is getting powdered for TV.



SUSAN ESTRICH

The truth is George W. Bush was not an ordinary American, nor was John McCain, nor was Joe Biden been one for 40 years (which is long enough to not be one) nor is anyone who graduates from Harvard Law or Princeton or Columbia. Maybe once, but not now. Heiresses who buy easily forgotten numbers of houses aren't regular.

There may be only one truly regular guy, a guy regular enough that he doesn't begin to have the arrogance to believe he speaks for anyone other than himself, in this race. And therefore, of course, he does.

He is not fancy. He is not elite. He is not a single one of the things that Barack Obama has been criticized for. He is from a town even smaller than the one he grew up in. He was secure enough to marry a smart and ambitious girl, a girl he has always thought had great things in her.

A Beverly Hills dinner with 300 best friends at \$2,850 apiece is not where you would ever place him, much less ever imagine him to be. The Democrat is the guy in Beverly Hills, as comfortable as he could be, even if he didn't grow up there. He has the pedigrees. So does his wife. So does his opponent, and his opponent's wife. So ultimately does a 36-year member of the Senate wherever he is from. It is the Republican guy who is real not rich, hard-working not fancy, so All Alaskan that he is in fact much more in touch with what he is, which is a whole lot easier for a very lot of he voters who are likely to decide this election.

A funny thing is happening on the way to this election. Actually, I am not laughing. The Palins are out there rolling their eyes at people who actually get protected in all these various banking bailouts, because it certainly seems that ultimately the only people who made out and then got bailed out were the big-money guys. Lehman and Bear

Stearns don't just pop out when you're thinking about what the modern American dream means today.

Obama is in Beverly Hills, cavorting with Barbra Streisand not because he'd rather do that than snowmobiling, but because in fact he must. But the mere fact that he can is damning, not to mention time-consuming.

So the Republican are the populists on billionaire bailouts and the Democrats are debating the fundamentals of the economy. Why not blame the Republicans for the deregulation that led to the crisis? Why not point out who has been president for the last eight years, as things have gotten out of control and fallen apart?

First Dude sounds like the kind of guy many girls in this country aimed to marry, and some of them actually did, and even those who didn't (or aren't) think well of him anyway. He's a regular guy in a posse of anything but.

Of course, I should officially report, Greta isn't quite so sure. She's waiting to find out if he can bowl.

To find out more about Susan Estrich, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

Short Takes



2009 Jaguar XKR

By NEAL WHITE The XKR convertible (also available in coupe body style) is without question one of my all-time favorite vehicles.

A 420-horsepower 4.2-liter V-8 engine that absolutely flies powers the XKR.

The XKR convertible (driven for this review) has a 0-60 mph time of 5 seconds with an electronically regulated top speed of 155 mph.

Rated as a Low Emissions Vehicle, it has an EPA fuel economy average of 15 mpg city, 23 mpg highway.

Not too shabby for 420 horses. Graceful, agile and loaded with luxury, the four-passenger, rear-wheel drive 2009 XKR adds a number of new features including a premium Pro Logic II Bowers & Wilkins surround sound audio system, power-fold side mirrors and front park control system.

For the first time with the '09 model, the XKR also features iPod and USB connectivity.

If drivers want to take luxury to the next level, Jaguar also offers an XKR Portfolio edition that gives new meaning to performance luxury.



2009 MINI JCW

By NEAL WHITE MINI has some big news for the 2009 model year, which includes a new performance-oriented John Cooper Works model, available in both the three-door and Clubman body styles.

The 2009 John Cooper Works is available for the first time after making its world debut at the 2008 Geneva Motor Show.

Derived directly from the MINI John Cooper Works Challenge racing model, the '09 JCW is powered by a 208-horsepower four-cylinder engine with twin-scroll turbo-charger and direct gasoline injection.

Riding on extra-light 17-inch light-alloy rims, the JCW MINI features more powerful brakes, a model-specific exhaust system and a modified six-speed manual transmission.

It is an absolute spitfire and it requires a little getting used to handling because the twin turbo packs a lot of torque.

With a 0-60 mph time of 6.2 seconds and a top speed of 147 mph, the performance-oriented MINI still delivers an EPA fuel economy average of 25 mpg city, 33 mpg highway.



2009 Lexus LX 570

By NEAL WHITE For those needing to carry eight passengers in absolute luxury, the 2009 Lexus LX 570 is the vehicle of choice.

While there are a few options (a 450-watt Mark Levinson sound system upgrade with hard drive that stores 2,000 songs, refrigerated "cool box," Intuitive Park Assist system, pre-collision system with Dynamic Radar Cruise Control, rear seat entertainment system and heated second row seats), everything else imaginable is on this vehicle.

Equipped with a full-time four-wheel drive system, the LX 570 is powered by a 5.7-liter V-8 engine generating 383 horsepower and mated to a six-speed automatic transmission. Rated as an Ultra Low Emissions Vehicle, it has an EPA fuel economy average of 12 mpg city, 18 mpg highway.

Based on the Toyota Land Cruiser, the LX 570 has a number of off-road capabilities, all designed to blaze new trails while riding in the lap of luxury. With a base price starting at \$75,705, it can tow up to 8,500 pounds and features 83.1 cubic feet of cargo with rear seats folded.

THE NUTS AND BOLTS



MODEL: 2009 Jaguar XKR
4-seat coupe/convertible
Rear-wheel drive
PRICE RANGE: \$87,000-\$104,000
Trim packages: XKR, XKR Portfolio
ENGINE: 4.2-L V-8 (420 hp/413 torque)
TRANSMISSION: 6-speed auto/with Jaguar Sequential Shift
EPA: 15 mpg city, 23 mpg

highway
FUEL: Premium unleaded
SUSPENSION: R-tuned with enhanced Computer Active Technology, fully independent twin wishbones, coil springs with telescopic dampers, anti-dive geometry providing longitudinal stability under heavy braking, anti-roll bar.
TRACTION CONTROL: Dynamic stability control with traction control system.
BRAKES: ABS with yaw control, passive brake booster, independent front/rear split hydraulic circuits, electronic parking brake.
LENGTH: 188.6 inches
WHEELBASE: 108.3 inches
WIDTH: 81.5 inches
HEIGHT: 52 inches
WEIGHT: 3,814-3,924 lbs.
TRACK: 59.2/59 (front/rear)

THE NUTS AND BOLTS



MODEL: 2009 MINI JCW
4-seat coupe/wagon
Front-wheel drive
PRICE RANGE: \$29,000-\$32,000
ENGINE: 1.6-L turbo I-4 (208 hp/192 T)
TRANSMISSION: 6-speed manual
EPA: 25 mpg city, 33 mpg highway

FUEL: Premium unleaded
SUSPENSION: Sports suspension featuring firmer dampers and stronger anti-roll bars both front and rear. A special suspension is optional that lowers the car by 10 millimeters to enhance firmness and extra stability.
TRACTION CONTROL: Dynamic stability control, dynamic traction control
BRAKES: Disc
LENGTH: 146.2/155.8 inches*
WHEELBASE: 97.1/100.3* in.
WIDTH: 66.3 inches
HEIGHT: 55.4/56.4 inches*
WEIGHT: 1,225-1,310 lbs.
TRACK: 57.2/57.2 (front/rear)
*MINI John Cooper Works/Clubman

THE NUTS AND BOLTS



MODEL: 2009 Lexus LX 570
8-seat sport utility
Full-time four-wheel drive
PRICE RANGE: \$76,000-\$82,000
ENGINE: 5.7-L V-8 (383 hp/402 torque)
TRANSMISSION: 6-speed automatic
EPA: 12 mpg city, 18 mpg highway

FUEL: Premium unleaded
SUSPENSION: Coil spring-type double wishbone independent (front); 4-link coil spring lateral rod-type (rear). Electro-hydraulic suspension with 4-wheel active height control and automatic load-leveling adaptive variable suspension.
TRACTION CONTROL: Vehicle stability control, active traction control, hill-start assist control and crawl control
BRAKES: ABS with brake assist and electronic brake force distribution.
LENGTH: 196.5 inches
WHEELBASE: 112.2 inches
WIDTH: 77.6 inches
HEIGHT: 73.4 inches
WEIGHT: 5,995 lbs.
TRACK: 64.6/64.4 (front/rear)
FUEL TANK: 24.6 gallons
TIRES: 20-inch

Not too old for the road

By JIM WARREN
McClatchy Newspapers

PARIS, Ky. — Today's cars are so complicated that changing spark plugs almost requires six engineers, two MIT computer-science professors and maybe four NASCAR pit crewmen.

But if you want the points adjusted on a 1949 Buick; if the front suspension of your 1910 Model T has gone all knock kneed; if your 1931 Model A Ford needs an engine rebuild, the solution is simple: Pick up the phone and call Jerry Baker.

Among antique car fans, the word is that, if it has four wheels and a motor, Jerry Baker can fix it — especially if it was built before World War II.

"I never met an old car I didn't like," Baker says. "After nearly 50 years, I guess I've developed a feel for them."

Baker's little shop in Paris — Antique Auto Parts of Kentucky — attracts folks who fancy old cars. Some want to have Baker repair or restore their cars. Others come looking for hard-to-find parts for automobiles that left the assembly line long before their current owners were born. A few drop in to see whether Baker knows where they might buy a choice old car, and many

just want to pick his brain for advice on ways to keep their prized antiques running.

One typical recent day, Baker had eight prewar Ford engines in various stages of repair, some being put back together, others waiting to be taken apart.

Aspotless 1930 Ford Model A rumble seat coupe was

up on the lift, waiting for some delicate surgery. The owner had brought it in for carburetor work, but an examination revealed that the brakes, transmission and front end also needed attention. So, the car was going to be a patient for the next few days.

Of more immediate

See **ANTIQU**, Page 6A

Rosalind Kress Haley Estate Auction

Proudly Presented by
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Saturday Sept. 20 10am
1009 W Industrial Midland Texas
Preview 10 AM Friday September 19th

Rosalind Kress Haley, widow of Southwest Historian J Evetts Haley lived in Midland & Lubbock, Texas, Savannah Georgia, South Carolina, New York as well as Azores. Some of the art is from the Samuel H Kress Art Collection. This Estate Auction throws open the doors to a wide variety of unusual and fun items for everyone's enjoyment.

Auction includes
Fine Art and Sculpture: Artist include DeWitt Lockman, HD Hugbee, Melvin Warren, G. Harvey, Tom Ryan, Doris Spires, Merle Burleson Taylor, Stephen Deveyins, Paul Wylie, Several 16th & 17th Century Oil Portraits from Samuel H Kress Collection, and more

Antique and Contemporary Furniture: 15th Century Cupboard, Davenport desk, Antique Dining Furniture, Antique and Contemporary Bedroom Furniture and Antique and Contemporary Occasional Furniture - some handmade in Portugal, Large Floor Safe, Piano, Organ, Large Crucifix with Ivory Christ figure, Polychrome and Gift Cherub Relief, Antique Slipper Chair from Ft. Worth Kress Store, and more.

Fine Jewelry: Important 15 Ct Tiffany Diamond Bracelet, Antiqu2ue Watches, Pearl Rings, Custom Gold Watch, Diamond and Emerald Pin, Antique Reverse Painted PIN, Native American Silver and Turquoise

Native American pots and weavings
Sterling Silver, China, Porcelain and Pottery: Sterling Tea Service, Sterling Water Pitcher, Pickard China, Cobalt Blue, Fine Figurines, Waterford Crystal, Portuguese ceramics, and more

Books: Texana, J Evetts Haley books, Political Books, Samuel H Kress Collection Art Books, Antique books
Civil War: Autograph Album belonging to Robert E Lee's Niece containing signatures of several Confederate Generals, Battle of Gettysburg Print dated 1869

Other Items of Interest: Letters signed by Groucho Marx, Advertising, Fredrick Remington Prints, Micro Mosaic Pill box, Sampler, Writing Slope, Antique Oriental Items, Costume Jewelry, much more.
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17258

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17047

Ike's littlest evacuees find comfort in playing

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Grown-up evacuees among a sea of cots anxiously chatter on cell phones, figuring out what comes next. But arranged in a nearby corner are hula hoops, toy cars and crayons — a reminder that many of those chased out by Hurricane Ike are old enough to feel fear but too young to really understand. One crayon drawing tacked to the wall of the play area has a meticulously drawn white clapboard house under dark gray clouds. A black oval in the sky is labeled “eye.” More than a million Gulf Coast residents were displaced by Ike. Officials haven’t counted how many are children, but in some of the largest evacuation centers, volunteers say they may represent as many as half the evacuees curled up on the seemingly endless rows of cots. “I have never seen so many children in shelters,” said Kathleen Whalen, a program manager for nonprofit Save the Children. “It’s really surprising.” Whalen was an evacuee herself — she fled her New Orleans home for Hurricane Gustav and stayed in San Antonio to help evacuees from Ike over the weekend. At the largest shelter in

San Antonio, where more than 4,000 people were housed at one time, Save the Children gave out roughly 400 portable cribs and more than 2,000 packets of children’s books in just four days. The nonprofit, which had mostly done disaster aid internationally until Hurricane Katrina hit three years ago, works with the Red Cross to provide supplies like diapers and set up play areas in shelters. “It’s overwhelming for an adult. You can imagine how scary it is for a child,” said Whalen, who saw some children melt down when they lost sight of their parents. “It’s a really big building with so few landmarks.”

concern was Perry White’s bright yellow Buick convertible, looking sleek and slick even though it was built in 1949, when Harry Truman was president. White, who is from Bourbon County, Ky., wanted the idle set and the points checked, so naturally he brought the car to Baker. “He’s the only one I’d trust to work on it, besides me,” White explained while Baker labored under the hood. After about 20 minutes of work, Baker announced that the Buick’s points were in good shape, and a relieved White drove away. Baker then went back to “lapping” the valves on a Model A Ford engine he is rebuilding, using a small

Get ready, set, WALK!

Your help is needed. This year we will have the Memory Walk 2008 at 9 a.m. Saturday. We will gather at the Old Settler’s Pavilion in Comanche Trail Park for a nice walk in the park, hot dogs and prizes. Many will come with a team named to memorialize someone who had the disease and others will come to honor someone who has the disease. A person is diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease every 71 seconds in this country right now. More than 1,217 people will be

struck by Alzheimer’s in the next 24 hours — I checked the math three times. in the United States alone. Last year it was every 72 seconds so we are losing ground. There is hope, hope for future generations. Research for a cure, medication and a preventative measure are ongoing. But the sobering fact is that until that time 1,217 people are being diagnosed each day. And those are just the ones who are reported. The physical and mental effects ravage more than just the patient. Spouses, children, families and friends are affected. You will be touched by this disease. What do we do in the meantime? Walk, donate and educate — all of us are capable of doing one of these things. The walk will occupy about 2-and-a-half hours of one day,

enough time for 127 people to be diagnosed with Alzheimer’s. Your involvement demonstrates your willingness to stand up for those who are not able to stand for themselves. Give your loving support to those you know who have Alzheimer’s and their loved ones who brave isolation, depression and desperation for those they love. We all have time, sometimes we think we don’t, but what is two-and-a-half hours to most of us? If you think your small donation will not count, think again. Children raise hundreds of dollars for Alzheimer’s one penny at a time. It is not too late to become involved. Call Nancy Jones at 264-1220 or 264-1228 for more information on how you can help.



NANCY JONES

sudoku

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.

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

ANTIQUE

Continued from Page 5A

hand tool to seat each individual valve. You might think that business would be slow at a shop catering exclusively to cars built 50, 60 or 70 years ago. But there are more than enough old-car fanciers around his area to keep Baker hustling. “I stay about six months behind all the time,” he said. Baker, 60, can’t remember when he didn’t love cars. He remembers the first vehicle he ever bought: a 1941 Chevy pickup. Baker was 14, growing up in



MCT photo/David Stephenson

Jerry Baker works on a 1949 Buick Super at his Antique Auto Parts of Kentucky.

Monticello, Ky. “I spent a month negotiating the purchase price with the owner, and we finally agreed on \$22,500. I think I paid at least \$5 too much,” he said. Baker has no idea how many cars he’s actually owned, since he often kept them only a few days before swapping for something else. He does know that most of them were old. He’s always loved those, particularly Model T and Model A Fords. “They were the first really reliable and comfortable

family cars that the average person could afford,” he said. “Millions of them were made. They changed everything; those cars put America on wheels. People still love them today.” In the course of owning and restoring numerous old Fords and other makes, Baker did his own mechanic work and over the decades developed a vast reserve of knowledge and skills. He also worked in several automotive-related businesses, doing things like selling high-performance parts. But sales kept him on the road and away from his family for up to 20 weeks a year, and he finally said enough. Two years ago, he bought a small antique car parts business. Last year, he added a car repair and restoration business to the mix. Car enthusiasts — a very fussy bunch when it comes to the care of their vehicles — soon learned that Baker not only knew his stuff, but wouldn’t let go of a car until it was fixed properly. “He’s unique,” says Dr. Jay Zwischenberger, chief of surgery at the University of Kentucky Hospital and an unabashed Baker fan. Zwischenberger owns six antique Fords and calls Baker whenever they need special attention. “You take a car to most people, and they work on whatever you tell them is wrong with the car,” Zwischenberger said. “Jerry will say, ‘Do you want me to fix what you think is wrong, or fix the car as if it were mine?’ Then, he’ll tighten some spring shackles and replace some tie rods, and all of a sudden the car drives like a miracle.” Baker and his wife, Martha, regularly drive their own 1931 Model A Ford town sedan on 1,000 and 2,000-mile antique car tours over back roads all over the country. He says that when he fixes a car he wants the owner to be able to do the same. “Honestly, there is nothing practical about owning any antique car,” he says. “But they are great fun, and you get to meet a lot of nice people driving them.” Not surprisingly, Baker’s son, Grant, has been an antique car lover for years. Now, Baker is training a third generation. He says his granddaughter, Kate, age 8 months, loves riding in the backseat of his old Ford and that his 3-year-old grandson, Andrew, is rapidly catching the old car fever. “He already knows the difference between a Model T and a Model A,” Baker said.

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EAST
♠ 10 4 3
♥ 3
♦ 10 9 7 5 4
♣ 9 8 7 6

SOUTH
♠ A 6
♥ A J 10 8 5
♦ A Q J
♣ K 5 3

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 1♠ Pass
2 NT Pass 3♥ Pass
4♥ Pass 6♥ Pass
Pass Dble
Opening lead — two of spades.

continued to pass throughout. But West let the cat out of the bag by doubling six hearts. A spade was led, and declarer reasoned that the only sensible explanation for West’s double was that he expected to score two trump tricks. South therefore formulated a line of play designed to do West out of one of these tricks. He cashed the A-K of spades and then — acting on the assumption that West had the 4-3-3-3 distribution that would allow the slam to be made — ruffed a spade in order to reduce his trump length. Next he cashed three club tricks, followed by the K-A of diamonds and a diamond ruff in dummy. Finally, declarer ruffed dummy’s queen of spades. At this point, 10 tricks had been played, and South still had the A-J-10 of trumps while West had the K-Q-9. The jack-of-hearts lead then settled West’s hash. He could win one trump trick but no more. Declarer thus scored 1,660 points for making the doubled slam. Had West remained silent during the bidding, as he should have, he would have wound up plus 100. In attempting to gain an extra 100 points by doubling, West cost himself 1,760 points. Such foolhardiness can be very expensive indeed.

It rarely pays to double opponents who voluntarily undertake a slam unless you feel certain of defeating it. This is particularly true in cases where declarer may be able to alter his play to take advantage of the information furnished by the double. Consider this classic example where declarer got to six hearts as shown. It is certainly unlikely he would have made the slam had West

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Slipping the Knots of a Bad Boyfriend

Dear Margo: This is a new problem for me, but it may be more common than I realize. I have been in a great relationship for a year and a half. We're both very happy.

In fact, my problem is not with him. Before we started dating, I was involved in an on-again, off-again relationship with a manipulative, controlling, possessive man. Although it never got physical, he had every sign of an abuser.

When we finally broke up for good, he essentially had another woman lined up and ready to go. (We're talking the next day!) That made the breakup a lot easier to take because it was immediately clear that he hadn't cared for me as much as he had professed.

I feel like I dodged a bullet. However, two years later, I'm still looking for his car and trying to glean every little morsel of gossip about him I can find.

I don't know where my head is with this mild obsession. My questions: Why am I so interested in what this toxic person is up to after what he put me through and why do I even care? What do I do to cut the strings and forget about him? — *Wanting To Feel Apathetic*

Dear Want: Your obsessive curiosity about Toxic Person is somewhat "normal" in situations such as yours. This is the same

dynamic that caused you to first fall for such a lout and then stay with him.

Time will dim your interest in him. A little mind trick you might try when you find yourself looking for his car or ferreting around for information about him is to make yourself review all the ratty things he did to you and how lucky you are to have escaped. You are by no means the only woman to have fallen into the Bad Boy trap. — *Margo, disconnectedly*

OK, Your Dog Died. So?

Dear Margo: I'm at a loss as to how to deal with my husband's behavior. He's never been an animal person, and I get that, so when our family pet suddenly died I knew he wouldn't mourn much.

What shocked me was his blatant disregard for my grief. I flat-out told him I needed some comfort, I'm in tears, and he said, "I'm not in a comforting mood." Basically, he left me alone to deal with the vet, the remains and the children.

I tried writing him a letter saying that I know he does not understand my grief, but as my husband I expect him to be there when I need him.

He ignored my letter and appears to think that if he ignores this it will go away. Is there any hope or any way that he'll see that while we won't always agree on something, some-

times I'm going to need his support anyway? Or should I just find another support system? — *Still Quite Sad*

Dear Still: It is one thing to be indifferent to animals, but quite another to be unresponsive to a person you care about... especially if it's your wife.

Making an effort to comfort you should not have been determined by how he ranked the importance of your sorrow, but by the fact that you needed his solace.

It would seem that this man is missing the compassion gene, and I don't really know how you can remedy this. I'm assuming he has some good qualities, so I would recommend that you acknowledge that he is brain dead in the emotional support department and, as you mentioned, find another support system. — *Margo, regretfully*

Nice Work If You Can Get It

Dear Margo: When I married "Phil" two years

ago, I was in heaven. It was the culmination of several wonderful years of living together.

But at the time we were married, my husband was unemployed. He'd had a not-so-rewarding experience in his last position and wanted to take some time to reevaluate his path in life and his spiritual purpose. Being the supportive wife and knowing he had substantial savings, I said fine, take the time you need. Now, two and a half years later, the savings are gone and there is no motivation on Phil's part to get a job.

He says he cannot spend his life being "miserable" in a 9-to-5 job seeing how disappointed I am in my current job, and he feels "something big" is coming up spiritually.

Now my savings, the money I had put away for a house, has dwindled by the thousands in an effort to maintain some semblance of the life we once enjoyed. Phil meditates all morning, then walks

around town or goes to lunch with his friends while I work to pay the bills.

I have no sex drive anymore, which is taking another toll on our relationship. He says that if I feel that disappointed in him I should divorce him, but wishes I would stick with him through this "tough time."

I feel that he is not fulfilling his obligations as a husband, either financially or emotionally. I feel more depressed and alone than ever before, but do I have the right to tell Phil to give up his spiritual quest because I don't have the money to support him anymore? — *Directionless*

Dear Dire: You may not have the right to tell Phil to give up his spiritual quest, but you do have the right to mandate that he seek employment and end these "tough times." You

might also throw in that there are multitudes of spiritually questing people who are gainfully employed.

It seems to me that in two-plus years this man has run through your savings and his in exchange for not doing a day's work. The lunching with friends and walking around town is a nice touch, too. Unless the "something big, spiritually" involves the lottery, you need to inform Phil that your chakras are aligned in such a way that he must either be miserable in a 9-to-5 job, or single 24/7. — *Margo, determinedly*

Dear Margo is written by Margo Howard, Ann Landers' daughter.

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Legals

INVITATION FOR BIDS
Sealed proposals addressed to Mr. John Grant, General Manager of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, will be received at the office of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, P.O. Box 869, 406 East 23rd Street, Big Spring, Texas, 79721, until 3:00 PM, Thursday, October 2, 2008, for the rehabilitation of a **Byron Jackson Vertical Turbine Pump No. 3 at Spence Intake Pump Station.**
At this time and place the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bid received after closing time will be returned unopened.
This project consists of the complete rehabilitation of one Byron Jackson Vertical Turbine Pump. Vendors shall be responsible for picking up the pump and related parts then delivering finished product F.O. B. to Spence Pump ST. 1390 Cedar Cove Rd. Robert Lee, TX 76945. Specifications are available and may be examined without charge in the office of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, 406 E. 23rd Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720 during normal business hours.
Inquiries regarding the scope of work to be performed and equipment specifications are to be directed to **John Womack, Field Operations Superintendent**, telephone, (432)267-6341, email: jwomack@crmwad.org. #5890 September 4, 11 & 18, 2008

INVITATION FOR BIDS
Sealed proposals addressed to Mr. John Grant, General Manager of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, will be received at the office of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, P.O. Box 869, 406 East 23rd Street, Big Spring, Texas, 79721, until 3:00 PM, Thursday, October 2, 2008, for the purchase of **Air and Vacuum Relief Valves**
At this time and place the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bid received after closing time will be returned unopened.
This project consists of supply and delivery of six 2-inch and ten 3-inch air and vacuum valves. Specifications are available and may be examined without charge in the office of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, 406 E. 23rd Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720 during normal business hours.
Inquiries regarding equipment specifications are to be directed to **John Womack, Field Operations Superintendent**, telephone, (432)267-6341, email: jwomack@crmwad.org. #5891 September 4, 11 & 18, 2008

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
The double earth combination of the Virgo sun and Taurus moon places our attention and efforts firmly on the physical world. There's a laundry list of things to take care of: the trees need pruning, the closet cleaning. Procrastination may be an issue, although with a little elbow grease, progress is virtually guaranteed.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). As the warrior of the zodiac, it always catches you a little off guard when you hit a passive mood. Sometimes you just don't feel like putting up a fight. Your rebelliousness kicks in later, when it's more appropriate.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You are busy and getting busier. You no longer can accommodate inadequate systems or inconveniencing friends. Try and keep relationships extremely casual.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You have so much energy that it behooves



HOLIDAY MATHIS

you to burn off some of it in exercise or adventuring. As far as your career goes, there's a puzzle to be solved. Answers come to you when you're not thinking about work.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Family and children are on your mind. You are willing to make personal sacrifices in order to teach someone else. But you also need to know that your guidance is being followed. You'll get evidence tonight.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your entrepreneurial spirit emerges. You have so many good ideas now that you could easily hit on the next big thing. Of course it's your follow-through that matters most.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Dealing with your nearest and dearest takes great emotional intelligence these days. Luckily, you've got that and plenty of it. There's a knowing way about you. Others won't question your authority.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Where people disagree, you can help. You're just a genius when it comes to dreaming up compromises. You see where each person can give in the name of healing and harmony.

and your reflexes sharp. You'll get the chance to excel quickly where others have toiled away for years.

ASTROLOGICAL TOPICS: Your Egyptian zodiac sign -- In the Egyptian zodiac, a deity, totem animal, a combination of the two, or the Nile River describe one's character.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). People seem to get more dramatic when they are around you. Loved ones give you a show to remember. When they release their inner clown or tragedian, you're there to support.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're becoming more aware of the many planes of existence simultaneously affecting your life. In quiet moments, you'll be amused by how clearly you can see what you didn't see before.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You've figured out how to get into an exclusive situation that you used to want so badly to be a part of. And now you're wondering why you thought it would be so great. Some things look better from the outside.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're experienced. What you learned in the past makes you quick and wise. Keep your eyes open

and rites of death. This may sound macabre, but for Egyptians, death was a glorious invitation into eternal life. Anubis people hold the tension between light and dark, so they have powerful personalities. Anubis gifts are: psychological understanding, realism and compassion.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Fashion icon and Virgo Leslie "Twiggy" Lawson once embodied the paragon of perfection. She was also scrutinized for her weight, but this was likely a side effect of being an ideal, rather than real. Virgo-born are abstemious, but they're also unusually health conscious. Twiggy, like many Virgos, is capable of putting off today's gratification for tomorrow's reward, which is great for dieting!

Holiday Mathis is the author of "Rock Your Stars." If you would like to write to her, 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.

Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: For 18 years, I had a great relationship with my mother-in-law, but last year she did something totally out of bounds. During my daughter's last year of high school, she talked about getting dreadlocks. I didn't want her to graduate looking like a freak and spoil her chances of finding a decent job, not to mention that getting rid of dreads can be nearly impossible. My mother-in-law was well aware of how I felt and also knew I had told my daughter she was not to dread her hair while living under my roof. Three days before my daughter turned 18, she got dreadlocks at my mother-in-law's house.



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

Annie, in the past, I have allowed my daughter to get some crazy haircuts and color her hair pink. Against my better judgment, I have also permitted her to dress like a weirdo and put holes where they don't belong. I am well aware that if her grandmother hadn't allowed her to do the dreads at her house, she would have done them somewhere else.

The point I keep trying to make to my husband is that I feel completely betrayed by his mother, who knew my daughter was doing this and didn't tell me. She has never apologized, and worse, my husband thinks she didn't do anything wrong. Therefore, we fight about it all the time. The more he defends her, the more I resent her. I now refuse to attend family functions if she will be there. Last week, he said, "If something happens to my mom and you are still not talking to her, I won't forgive you."

to hold a grudge, you will alienate your husband, your marriage will suffer and your daughter will still have dreadlocks. You can't force others to behave the way you wish. You can only decide how you will respond. Take a deep breath, understand that your mother-in-law is not trustworthy, and then let it go. As for your husband, at least you know where you stand -- and it's somewhere behind his mother.

Dear Annie: Where can I donate unused frequent flyer miles to servicemen? I have paid off two credit cards and plan to cancel them, and at the same time donate the miles to the people who could really use them the most. Thanks. -- Bobby

Dear Bobby: Bless you for asking. The Fisher House Foundation administers the "Hero Miles" program for the Department of Defense to assist service members and their families. Contact them through their website at fisherhouse.org or at 1401 Rockville Pike, Suite 600, Rockville, MD 20852.

Dear Annie: I am an avid reader of your column and impressed with your common sense approach to people's problems. But I disagree with the advice given to "Silent in Seattle." You recommended she not tell her daughters that their father is a miserable cheater who also patronizes prostitutes. She is planning to divorce him after the girls complete high school. What will they think when Mom finally leaves? She says he is a great father and they will hate her for breaking up their family. Please rethink that advice. -- Perplexed in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

child, you should remove the girl from her presence and inform Mom that there will be no more visits with her granddaughter unless she can behave.

Dear Annie: A very close relative is a kleptomaniac. She has stolen items from us, as well as from others in our family. I have caught her going through drawers and cabinets.

It would be very awkward not to have her visit with the rest of the family, even though it upsets us every time she leaves and we find things missing. We would appreciate any suggestions you might have. -- Ripped Off

Dear Ripped Off: Your relative has a mental health issue and should be evaluated by a professional. In the meantime, you can have family gatherings outside your home -- at a restaurant, park, community center, etc. And if you insist on entertaining her in your house, lock your cabinets and move your valuables into your bedroom and lock the door. We hope that helps.

I've learned that Mom has cried to the rest of my family about how horrible my husband is, never missing an opportunity to badmouth him. I don't see the rest of my family very often, and I hate to think they believe my mom. She can be very convincing. My main concern is that she'll talk that way around my 6-year-old daughter, and I don't think that would be good.

It's a shame that honest discussion has never helped and avoiding her is what works best. Should I suggest she talk to a therapist, or are some people just naturally unpleasant to be around? -- Midwest Mess

Dear Midwest: Oh, absolutely, some people are just naturally unpleasant, which doesn't mean therapy won't help them, but they are unlikely to recognize the need for it and do the necessary work to make it successful. You could ask your mother to go to therapy with you, together, to work on your problems. Still, it will help to keep in touch with the rest of the family so they can get to know your husband the way you do. And if Mom says one negative thing about your husband to his

with their spouses and make an effort to keep the love alive.

Did he ever give her compliments? Little gifts for no reason? Did he ever tell her he appreciates all she does for the family? Did he spend time doing things she enjoyed? Did he help her around the house when it was obvious she was tired or overloaded? Did he ever give her a hug and tell her that he loves her? My guess is probably not.

I'm in a similar situation and seriously thinking of leaving after 30 years. The kids are grown, and if all I'm good for is cooking, cleaning and laundry, I can do that as a single woman and be much happier. -- Feeling Unappreciated

Dear Feeling: Please give this letter to your husband and tell him you wrote it. These are words he needs to see in writing.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com. © 2008 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

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News in brief

Asian stocks fall on financial fears, cut losses as central banks move to boost confidence

HONG KONG (AP) — Asia stocks tumbled further Thursday, tracking declines Wall Street as investors feared more companies could succumb to the financial crisis that forced the U.S. government to bail out insurer American International Group Inc.

But many of the region's benchmarks recovered from steep early declines in afternoon trade, as the European Central Bank said it was banding together with major central banks around the world to flush more dollars into global markets to ensure liquidity and shore up confidence.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index, which sank more than 7 percent at one point, actually turned positive before closing virtually unchanged, down about 0.03 percent, at 17,632 points. Tokyo's Nikkei 225 index slid 2.2 percent to 11,489.30, a three-year low.

Investors were shaken by the Federal Reserve's \$85 billion emergency loan to AIG, the huge U.S. insurer that lost billions in the risky business of insuring against bond defaults and became the latest victim of the historic financial turmoil that's engulfed Wall Street over the last year.

The crisis, a result of problems with souring mortgage debt and restricted credit, has already brought down Wall Street giants Lehman Brothers, Merrill Lynch and Bear Stearns. The two independent investment banks left standing — Morgan Stanley and Goldman Sachs Group — remained under scrutiny.

Israeli foreign minister wins election; could be country's first female leader in 34 years

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel's foreign minister declared victory Thursday in a tight race to replace Prime Minister Ehud Olmert as the head of the governing party, getting a chance to be the country's first female leader in 34 years.

Tzipi Livni, 50, said she would immediately turn to the task of trying to cobble together a new government.

"The national responsibility (bestowed) by the public brings me to approach this job with great awe," Livni said.

Official results showed Livni winning by a 1.1 percent point margin in the Kadima Party primary elections

— a far narrower victory than the double-digit romp polls had predicted.

Livni, a political moderate, barely edged out hawkish rival Shaul Mofaz, a former defense minister, in a contest that could have far-reaching implications for peace-making with the Palestinians and Syria.

Minneapolis highway span set to open for traffic — and a new era of bridge technology

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — More than a year after a key Minneapolis bridge collapsed and killed 13 people, state troopers prepared to lead motorists in a slow procession Thursday morning across the new span that reconnects Interstate 35W over the Mississippi River.

Crews were scheduled to remove barricades that have stood since the old bridge fell Aug. 1, 2007, reopening a major artery leading in and out of Minneapolis that carried 140,000 trips a day.

The new bridge contains hundreds of sensors that will collect a stream of data. The purpose of the "smart bridge" technology isn't to warn of another impending disaster; it's to detect small problems before they become big ones, said Alan Phipps, design manager for the project with Figg Engineering Group Inc. of Tallahassee, Fla.

"What these sensors are for, it's like going to your doctor for your health checkup," Phipps said. "It's to ensure you're maintained in top shape so you never get close to having a serious problem."

The \$234 million bridge was completed on budget and more than three months ahead of the Dec. 24 deadline. That means the contractors — led by the team of Flatiron Construction Corp. of Longmont, Colo., and Manson Construction Co. of Seattle — should get a bonus close to the contract maximum of \$27 million, though the actual amount hasn't been determined.

Defense secretary says Iraq experience has shown value of apologizing first, probing later

LONDON (AP) — When facing allegations of U.S. airstrikes killing or injuring civilians in Afghanistan, it is better to apologize first and investigate later, Defense Secretary Robert Gates says.

Gates was in London on Thursday for a NATO meet-

ing that was expected to include a discussion among allied defense ministers of the struggles to turn the tide of insurgent violence in Afghanistan and to train Afghan security forces.

He flew here Wednesday night after spending a day in Afghanistan to discuss with Afghan leaders and American commanders the issue of inadvertent civilian casualties from U.S. airstrikes. At a news conference at the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, Gates said it was time to take a new approach to responding.

"I think the key for us is, in those rare occasions when we do make a mistake, when there is an error, to apologize quickly, to compensate the victims quickly and then carry out the investigation," Gates told reporters later at Bagram airfield, where he received a briefing from an Air Force general on the rules and restrictions U.S. pilots must follow when providing aerial support to U.S. and allied troops engaged in ground fighting.

In Kabul, Gates offered the people of Afghanistan his "personal regrets" for U.S. airstrikes that have killed civilians and said he would try to improve the accuracy of air warfare, the imperfect fallback for U.S. commanders who say they don't have enough ground forces for the deepening Afghanistan war.

Obama tells voters McCain is not a moderate on abortion despite perception

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican John McCain, an abortion rights opponent with a conservative Senate record on the issue, seems content with the public's perception that he's more moderate on the issue.

Democrat Barack Obama, who supports abortion rights, is only too happy to remind voters where McCain stands, but he tries to make his case without attracting too much attention.

Both candidates are gingerly trying to strike the right chord on abortion as they reach out to a critical voting group — independents and moderates, primarily women in swing-voting suburban regions of crucial states such as Pennsylvania, Michigan and Ohio.

The candidates' carefully targeted ads on abortion and stem-cell research, topics that enflame passions among both abortion-rights proponents and opponents, illustrate how Republicans and Democrats alike are tailoring their messages to specific groups of voters.

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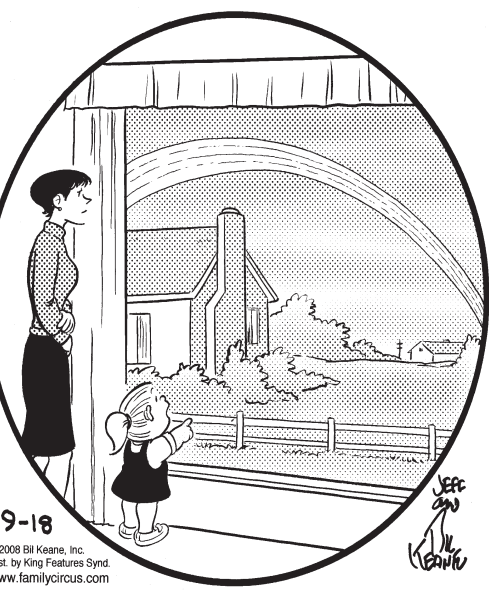
Table with 29 columns representing TV channels (WFAA, KMID, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN) and rows for different time slots (5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 12:30, 1:30) listing programs and their networks.

DENNIS THE MENACE



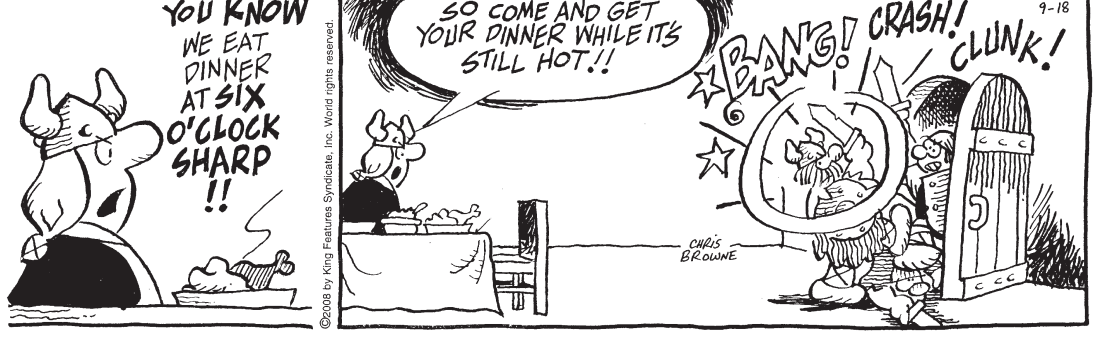
"DON'T WORRY, JOEY... WE'LL KEEP PLAYIN' TILL YOU WIN!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

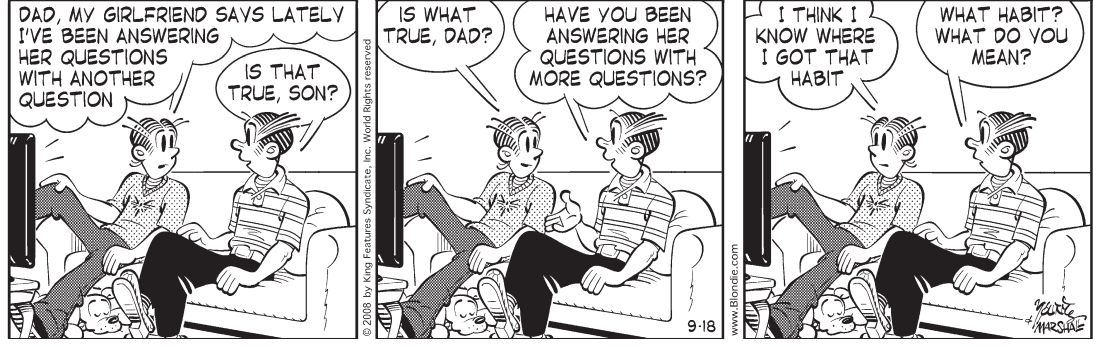


"How did God decide what colors to put in the rainbow?"

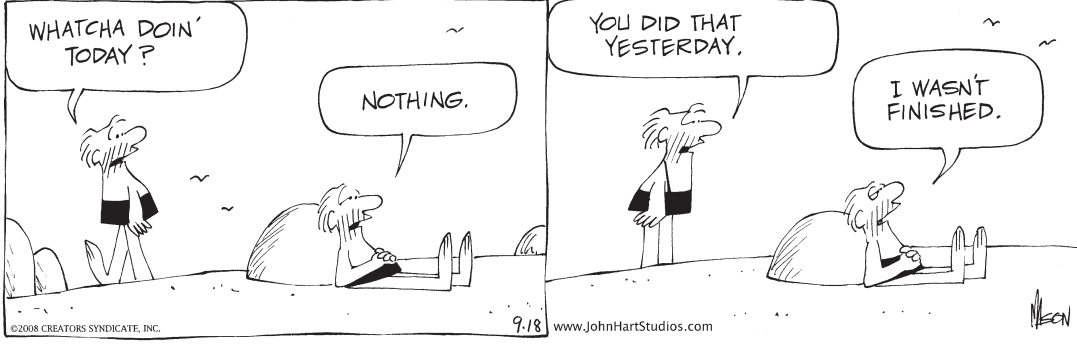
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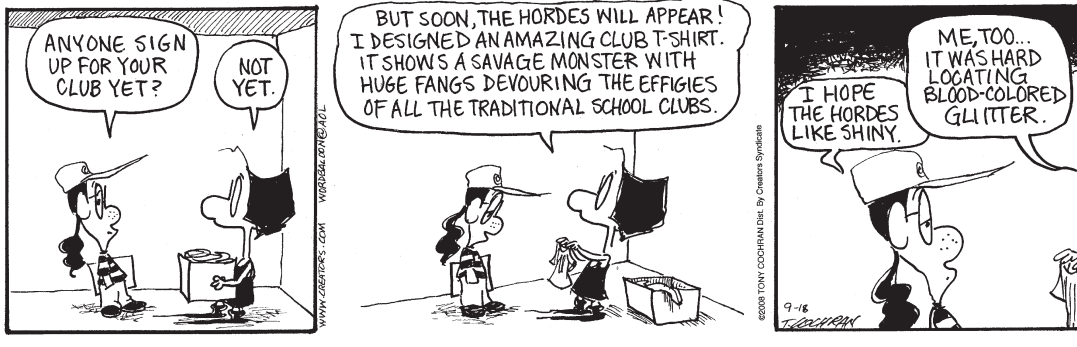
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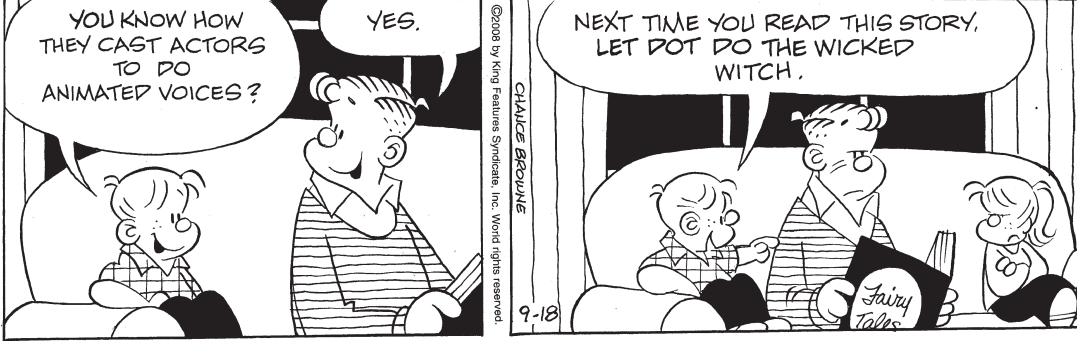
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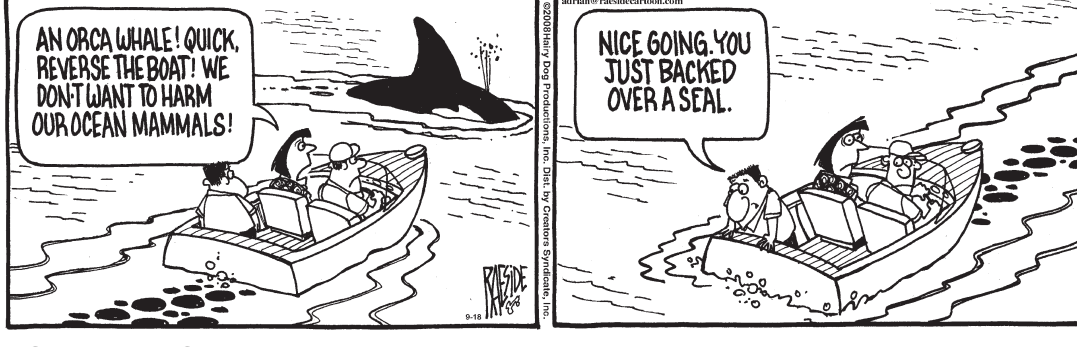
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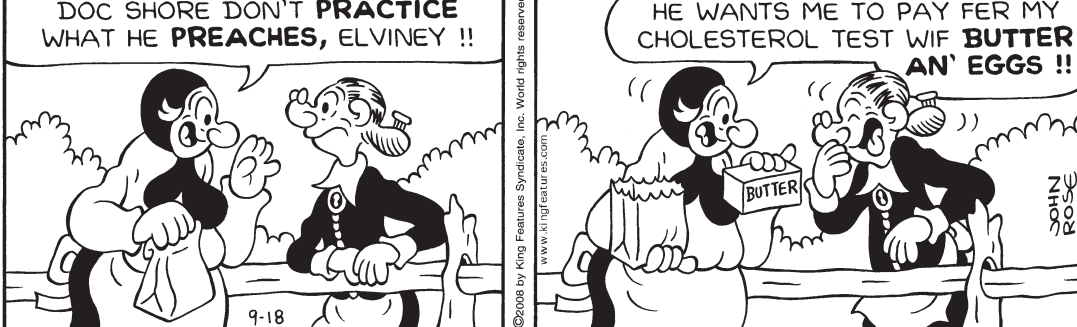
HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Sept. 18, the 262nd day of 2008. There are 104 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Sept. 18, 1793, President Washington laid the cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol.

Act, which created a National Military Establishment, went into effect. In 1961, United Nations Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold was killed in a plane crash in northern Rhodesia. In 1970, rock star Jimi Hendrix died in London at age 27.

Newsday Crossword

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words. Includes a 'GOOD LOOKING' section with a list of words and a small crossword grid.

Answer to previous puzzle grid showing a crossword solution with words like CANAL, DARE, IDEAS, ASTRO, ASARE, RESULT, etc.