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BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY
OCTOBER 14, 2008



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 272

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY



Jimmy Stewart, left, and Monroe Casey of the Mustang Draw Woodcarvers Club hold a demonstration in front of Wal-Mart Supercenter Saturday. The club is hosting classes through Thursday, leading up to its annual Show and Sale Friday and Saturday in the Dora Roberts Community Center.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

County gives health center helping hand

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners agreed Monday to allot an additional \$38,500 for consulting services for the Howard County Health Center, a project that could eventually provide basic health care services to the county residents, regardless of their ability to pay.

According to Irene Dominguez, director of indigent health services for the county, the additional funding — which comes weeks after the county received an \$80,000 planning grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration — will allow the program to explore grants for the

health center.

“The funding would be used to contract with J. Sarkiss and Associates,”

said Dominguez. “We would be able to get almost half that — approximately \$15,000 — back, as well as at least a portion of \$7,500 (through grants and federal funding).”

According to Commissioner Bill Crooker, the health center project has also gotten the attention of officials with Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

See **COUNTY**, Page 3A



Crooker

U.S. stocks set to extend Monday's huge rally

By **MADLEN READ**
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Wall Street was gearing up for another surge following the Dow Jones industrial average's historic 936-point jump, with investors encouraged by the U.S. government's plans to spend \$250 billion on buying stock in private banks.

President Bush said Tuesday the government will use that portion of the \$700 billion bailout to inject capital into the nation's major banks, which have been slammed by souring mortgage investments. The move follows a similar one announced Monday by European governments to invest about \$2 trillion in their own troubled banks.

Ahead of the market's open, the Dow Jones industrial average futures rose 320, or 3.37 percent, to 9,828. Standard & Poor's 500 index futures rose 38.70, or 3.81 percent, to 1,055.50, and Nasdaq 100 index futures rose 35.00, or 2.40 percent, to 1,493.50.

The revised bailout plan differs from the old one in that it aims to recapitalize

banks, not just buy the troubled assets off their books at prices that could leave the banks with losses.

“This begins to penetrate the core of the problem,” said Peter Cardillo, chief market economist at New York-based brokerage house Avalon Partners Inc.

But, he said, “there will be a point in time where the euphoria of the bailout plan begins to wear off and the market begins to face reality. And that reality is likely to be a sour earnings season, and that the economy is in recession.”

Therefore, while the markets are enjoying a big rebound, stock trading may see ongoing volatility in the weeks and months ahead. The Dow remains 33.7 percent below its Oct. 9, 2007 record close of 14,164.53, and could vacillate around these levels for some time as investors wait for signs of stabilization in the slumping housing market and deteriorating job market.

Cardillo said he believes the worst lows are behind the stock market, but other analysts have shied away from saying

See **RALLY**, Page 3A



AP Photo/Richard Drew

Traders surround a post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Friday. Wall Street continued its rally as investors stormed back into the market, relieved that the government plans to restore calm to the financial system by rescuing banks from billions of dollars in bad debt.

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

Silver Wings Ball

The Silver Wings Ball, an annual fund-raiser for Hangar 25 Air Museum, will be held Saturday, Nov. 1, at the Big Spring Country Club. Cocktails will be served at 6 p.m., dancing begins at 7:30 p.m. Millennium Jazz will perform.

A silent auction will be held and appetizers served. Someone will win a weekend retreat to Fredericksburg.

Tickets are \$25 per person. Attire is Texas formal and military dress is encouraged. Call 264-1999.

October veteran

Neal Bryant has been named Hangar 25 Air Museum Veteran of the Month for October.

He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He was stationed off the Pacific coast in 1944.

A reception in his honor will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday in the hangar Briefing Room. Refreshments will be served.

For more information about the Veteran of the Month or any of the sumen's programs, call 264-1999.

Plumpest pumpkin of all

HALF MOON BAY, Calif. (AP) — Thad Starr's giant pumpkin really began putting on weight in August — a lot of weight.

The pumpkin gained about 30 pounds a day on its way to victory Monday at the Safeway World Championship Pumpkin Weigh-off in Half Moon Bay.

Starr's pumpkin finished at a record 1,528 pounds. Starr won last year with a pumpkin that that was four pounds lighter and also set a record.

Starr, of Pleasant Hill, Ore., bought a trailer to transport the pumpkin. It has a circumference of 15 feet.

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State Farm honors BSHS athlete Leubner



Courtesy photo/Bill Riggs

Big Spring High School senior Catherine Leubner was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship Friday morning, courtesy of the State Farm Texas Scholar Athlete Program. Representing State Farm was local insurance agent Larry Hollar. Leubner was one of only 50 athletes across the state to receive the honor. She carries a 4.0 grade point average and currently ranks sixth in her class of 233. She is the top female runner for the Big Spring cross country team and also runs distance races in track during the spring.

No reason to panic...yet

In the words of a frustrated Kansas City Chiefs ground-skeeper in a Snickers' commercial dating back around 10 years, "Great googly moogly."

A betting man has to be going crazy after this weekend's action of college and professional football. Dallas Cowboys fans are probably grief stricken, as are the Oklahoma Sooners faithful. If you're a diehard of both teams, which I know one or two in Big Spring, then you might want to find the number to one of those hotlines so someone can talk you down.



JONATHAN HULL

It currently seems very unlikely that any team could survive that many Top 10 battles unscathed, but work with me. Also, pretend Oklahoma doesn't drop another game, leaving them with one win. If Missouri — or Kansas, for that matter — is able to upset Texas in the Big 12 title game, then the Sooners could play for the national championship despite not even winning their division.

That is why it is far too early for OU fans to hit the panic button.

The same holds true for the Dallas Cowboys. Things are definitely looking grim.

Tony Romo is now out for at least three games. Dynamic rookie Felix Jones is done for two to four weeks. A once explosive offense is now producing nothing but red flags.

Just when everyone thinks they've got it all figured out — bam — the game sends out a reminder about how unpredictable it actually is.

Saturday was the first indication of a wild weekend. There was no way OU was supposed to lose to the overrated Texas Longhorns. Someone forgot to tell Colt McCoy, though.

Last season, I wrote a column criticizing Texas coach Mack Brown for the way he was using McCoy. Now I owe Brown some love. He has built a better offense for McCoy to shine in and, truth be told, the junior quarterback is really the only great threat the Texas offense has right now. Without a doubt, McCoy is the current frontrunner for the Heisman.

The upsets Saturday snowballed from what Texas achieved earlier in the day. It ended with Missouri being shot down by Oklahoma State, proving the Big 12 North Division still has a ways to go to catch up with the stacked South.

Now, four of the Top 10 ranked teams in the country populate the South. Move over Southeastern Conference, the Big 12 is coming in as the elite league this season.

Here's how funky things could get in the South though. Do not doubt that Mizzou still has the ability to knock off any of those four teams in the Big 12 Championship at the end of the season. Humor me with this theory for a minute.

Let's assume Texas is able to run the tables in

How much unhappier can Terrell Owens get with Brad Johnson at quarterback? How much of a pounding can Marion Barber actually take?

These questions will be answered within the next three weeks. Luckily, the Cowboys have a bye Week 10 and Romo should be good to go after that.

All of the questions produced by Romo's injury don't have negative answers.

Yes, the Cowboys lose a lot of their explosiveness with Johnson at quarterback. They also gain a player who will be guilty of far less turnovers as well.

It's the defense and the offensive line that must step up the most for Dallas. Over the next three weeks, the Cowboys must change to a ball control philosophy, picking their spots to hit teams with the deep ball, which Johnson will surprise many with his arm strength. Big plays must come through the running game and on the defensive side of the ball.

So politely remove your finger from the big red panic button you Cowboys diehards. Your lovable Cowboys can defeat the Rams Sunday. Johnson ought to have some karma due to him in the Tampa Bay game in two weeks.

As for the Giants Nov. 2, I think the Browns fans had it right Monday night as they chanted "Overrated" during Cleveland's surprising 35-14 drubbing of the G-Men.

See HULL, Page 2B

Romo out with broken pinkie

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — The already slumping Dallas Cowboys now must survive a few games without two-time Pro Bowl quarterback Tony Romo, who has a broken finger on his throwing hand.

There was indeed something wrong when Romo badly missed on his last two pass attempts to Terrell Owens in a 30-24 overtime loss at Arizona on Sunday, the Cowboys' second defeat in three games. Coach Wade Phillips said Monday that Romo broke his right pinkie on the first play of OT.

Brad Johnson, the 40-year-old backup whose last start was in 2006 for Minnesota, takes over Sunday when Dallas plays at St. Louis.

"Obviously, it's unfortunate for Tony to have to go through something like this. He'll recover quick; he has a great attitude about it," Johnson said. "At this time, it's really just important for the offense

especially to just kind of catch on to my snap count and the way we manage the huddle. ... I'm excited about the opportunity, worked hard to get here."

Johnson, who came to Dallas last year, won a Super Bowl with Tampa Bay during the 2002 season and is the only Cowboys player with a championship ring.

Phillips said Romo won't need surgery, and the timing of his return "depends on how fast that heals." The Cowboys have three games before an open date Nov. 9.

Romo wasn't in the locker room Monday when it was open to reporters, but Johnson described Romo as being in good spirits.

The Cowboys scored 10 points in the final 2 minutes of regulation Sunday. They got the ball to open overtime, but Romo fumbled and had two incompletions. He started flexing his hand after recovering his fumble.

Then Arizona blocked the punt and recovered it for a game-ending

touchdown — a play that also cost Dallas its punter, Mat McBriar.

McBriar was carted off the field, and an MRI on Monday showed he has a broken foot. He could be out two months, so the team will have to sign another punter.

The losses of Romo and McBriar added to an already trying time for the Cowboys, who before Arizona had a lackluster victory over winless Cincinnati and were beaten at home by NFC East rival Washington.

Romo's importance to the team could be seen in the stunned look on linebacker Greg Ellis' face when he heard about Romo's broken finger before a team meeting. "Wow!" Ellis exclaimed.

"Am I optimistic that we can win without Tony? Yes, truly I am," said Ellis, in his 11th season with the Cowboys — longer than anyone else. "I'm just disappointed in this organization right now, from the whole deal of it. Things just aren't going really good."

Home runs lift Rays, Phillies

By JIMMY GOLEN

AP Sports Writer

BOSTON — B.J. Upton, Evan Longoria and the rest of the Tampa Bay Rays have quickly become a playoff monster.

Upton hit a three-run home run and Longoria also homered off a suddenly shaky Jon Lester, then Rocco Baldelli and Carlos Pena cleared the Green Monster later Monday to give the Rays a 9-1 victory over the Boston Red Sox and a 2-1 lead in the AL championship series. Matt Garza held Boston scoreless

through six innings as Tampa Bay put the defending World Series champions in a postseason hole for the first time since they overcame a 3-1 deficit in last year's ALCS against Cleveland. Now the Rays right-hander, who thought he was sent to baseball purgatory when he was traded from Minnesota to Tampa Bay last offseason, has brought them within two wins of their first AL pennant.

"When I first got traded, yes, there was a doubt. But walking into the clubhouse in spring training, it was like, 'We could actually pull this thing off,'" said Garza, the only

Tampa Bay pitcher to lose in the first-round series against the White Sox.

"Everybody was on that one mission, and that was to win. We want to win now. We don't want to be the team that waits for later, we want to win now," he said.

Andy Sonnanstine will try to win Game 4 for the Rays when he faces knuckleballer Tim Wakefield in Game 4 of the best-of-seven series on Tuesday night.

See MLB, Page 2B

Sports in brief

MLB League Championship Series schedule

Boston Red Sox vs. Tampa Bay Rays (ALCS)

- Game 1: Red Sox 2, Rays 0
- Game 2: Rays 9, Red Sox 8
- Game 3: Rays 9, Red Sox 1 (Rays lead 2-1)
- Game 4: Today at Boston, 7:07 p.m.
- Game 5: Thursday at Boston, 7:07 p.m.
- Game 6: Saturday at Tampa Bay, 3:37 p.m. (if needed)
- Game 7: Sunday at Tampa Bay, 7:07 p.m. (if needed)

L.A. Dodgers vs. Philadelphia Phillies (NLCS)

- Game 1: Phillies 3, Dodgers 2
- Game 2: Phillies 8, Dodgers 5
- Game 3: Dodgers 7, Phillies 2
- Game 4: Phillies 7, Dodgers 5 (Phillies lead 3-1)
- Game 5: Wednesday at Los Angeles, 7:22 p.m.
- Game 6: Friday at Philadelphia, 7:22 p.m. (if needed)
- Game 7: Saturday at Philadelphia, 7:22 p.m. (if needed)

Coach Diddle and Hawk women set for Hawk Buddies Program

Howard College women's basketball head coach Earl Diddle, assistant coach Jamie Fisher and the Hawk women are announcing the start of the 2008-2009 Hawk Buddies Basketball Program for girls in kindergarten through eighth grade.

The first day of the program is Saturday, Nov. 8, from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Cost is \$20 and includes a T-shirt, free admission for all family members to Hawks home games, two clinics with lectures on goals and basketball fundamentals, a pizza party with the Hawk women's team and a buddies night, including autographs and photos with the team.

For more information, call Earl Diddle at 264-5043 or Jamie Fisher at 264-5155.

Hole-in-one at the Big Spring Country Club

Howard Stewart of Big Spring aced No. 13 at the Big Spring Country Club Friday, using a 7-iron on the Par-3 147-yard hole.

Witnessing the event was Pat Loya, Jim Wright, Larry Bob Conway and Kyle Ditto.

Big Spring Chicano Golf Association hosting monthly tournament Sunday

The Big Spring Chicano Golf Association is hosting their monthly tournament Sunday at Comanche Trail Park.

Cost is \$17 per person and participants must be registered by 10 a.m. Sunday. The tournament will be played in a 4-man scramble format.

For more information, contact Sammy Reyna at 267-5627.

Obituaries

Dennis Martin

Graveside services for Dennis William Martin, 45 of Lamesa will be held Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2008 at 10 a.m. at Ackerly Cemetery with Scott Davis officiating. Memorial services will follow at 3 p.m. at the First Baptist Church under the direction of Branon Funeral Home.

Dennis was born Feb. 25, 1963, in Big Spring and passed away Saturday, Oct. 11, 2008.

He grew up in Ackerly and attended Sands High School where he played football and basketball. He graduated in 1981 and attended East Texas State in Commerce, where he played football.

He worked for Basic for many years as an oilfield supervisor and had been a certified commercial pilot since 1984.

He married Tani Littlefield Dec. 8, 1991, in Ackerly. Survivors include his parents, G.W. and Vernelle Martin of Ackerly; wife, Tani Martin of Lamesa; four daughters: Kaci Taylor of Midland, Jade Martin of Gainesville, Chelsea Martin of Canyon and Seneca Martin of Lamesa; a granddaughter, Myra Renz of Midland; sisters, Elaine Rose and husband Tom of Dallas, Lisa Bailey and husband Curtis of Plainview and Susan Long and husband Roddy of Andrews; a brother, Paul Martin and wife Shannon of Decatur; and five nieces and one nephew.

The family suggests memorials to The Lupus Foundation and Animal Humane Society.

Paid obituary

R.E. Gregory

R.E. Gregory, 90, of Big Spring, died Sunday, Oct. 12, 2008, in a local hospital. No services are planned.

He was born May 13, 1918, in Rule and married Edith Powers in November 1933 in Eastland. She preceded him in death Sept. 19, 2008.

Mr. Gregory and his wife came to Big Spring in 1941. He started working for Texas and Pacific in 1942 as a brakeman and was a senior conductor when he retired after 30 years from Missouri and Pacific. He was a member of Staked Plains Lodge No. 598 A.F. & A.M. and had served as local chairman for the Brotherhood of Locomotive Trainmen.

Survivors include one son, Richard Gregory of Odessa; one daughter, Edith Carleson of Krum; seven grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded also in death by one son, Royce Gregory in November 2007 and one grandson.

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

Harold L. Davis

Harold L. Davis, 84, of Big Spring, died Monday, Oct. 13, 2008 at his residence. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Hazel Duggan

Hazel Duggan, 91, of Midland, died Monday, Oct. 13, 2008. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Support Groups

TUESDAY

• Grief share, sponsored by Home Hospice and the First Presbyterian Church, Seventh and Runnels (north end door), meets at 6 p.m.. Drop-ins are welcome. For more information, contact Sherry Hodne3tt at 264-7599.

• The Path, faith-based addiction recovery, meets at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Tabernacle Ministeries, 1209 Wright St.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. and closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

• RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

THURSDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.. women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

Police blotter

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

• ROBERTO CARDENAS, 22, of Odessa, was arrested Sunday on a charge of driving while intoxicated – open container.

• JUAN BARRERA, 51, of Lamesa, was arrested Monday on four local warrants and a charge of public intoxication.

• JUAN ACUNA, 24, of 4110 Parkway, was arrested Monday on charges of criminal mischief and assault Class C/family violence.

• CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 2400 block of Gregg Street.

• ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported:

in the 1000 block of Rosemont.

in the 2400 block of Gregg Street.

• ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported:

in the 200 block of Marcy.

in the 1900 block of Highway 87.

Sheriff's report

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 58 inmates at the time of this report.

• CODY DEJUAN HAWKINS, 26, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of no liability insurance.

• ROBERTO CARDENAS JR., 22, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated – open container.

• PAIGE MORGAN KENAS, 29, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on charges of bondsman off bond for theft by check and theft of property.

• KYLE LEE BROWNFIELD, 18, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of evading arrest or detention with a vehicle.

• PEDRO BERNAL CONTRERAS, 37, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.

Fire/EMS

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

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1200 block of College. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of Aylsford. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1100 block of Cypress. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAUMA was reported near the intersection of 24th Street and Scurry. Service refused.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of Birdwell Lane. One person was transported to SMMC.

Take Note

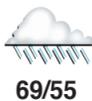
• The Permian Basin Foundation has awarded West Texas Opportunities Inc. \$130,000 through the Texas Resources for Iraq Afghanistan Deployment fund. WTO will assist current and former military personnel serving in Iraq or Afghanistan and their families. Funding will serve Howard, Martin, Andrews, Borden, Dawson, Ector, Fisher, Gaines, Glasscock, Midland, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry and Upton counties. For more information, contact Diana Martinez or Debbie Wilson at 110 Johnson in Big Spring or call (432) 267-9536.

• Scenic Mountain Medical Center's Relay for Life team is selling cookbooks to raise funds for the American Cancer Society. The cookbooks can be purchased at the PBX operator's booth for \$10 apiece. For more information, contact Beverly Grant at 268-4952.

• A fund has been established at Big Spring Education Employees Federal Credit Union for Sheena Hill, who lost most of her possessions in a recent house fire. Mail donations to Big Spring Education Employees FCU, 1110 Benton, Big Spring 79720 or call 263-8393.

• HATS (Hope After The Sadness), an American Cancer Society Resource Room is now available at First Methodist Church. This center provides information and valuable resources for those affected by cancer. This HATS ministry, established in memory of the late Rev. Dr. Shane Brue, maintains a room with free hats, wigs and head coverings available for check-out by those dealing with hair loss due to cancer treatment. Other services and resources are also available. Contact the "Hat Lady," Marci Lykken at 267-2915.

Your Local Weather

Wed 10/15	Thu 10/16	Fri 10/17	Sat 10/18	Sun 10/19
				
69/55	72/56	79/55	78/54	78/56

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Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

• The Powwow Committee of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church annex, 809 Scurry, or the fellowship hall at 810 Scurry. Call Robert Downing at 263-3255 for information.

WEDNESDAY

• Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• Free blood pressure screenings from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., provided by InHome Care.

• Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.

• Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third St.

THURSDAY

• Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.

• Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association meets at 5:30 p.m. in the Big Spring City Council Chambers, 307 E. Fourth.

• League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC Chapter 4791 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. The public is invited.

• American Legion Post 506 meets at 6 p.m. Call 263-2084 for more information.

• Rackley-Swords 379, Vietnam Veterans of America meets at 7 p.m. in the Sparenburg Building, 309 S. Main St.

• Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

FRIDAY

• Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.

• AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.

• Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.

• Dance at the Senior Center, 1901 Simler, from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

• Big Spring Shrine Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Goliad and First streets for a meal with a meeting to follow.

• Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.

• Big Spring Squares. Call 267-7043 or 263-6305 for more information.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 3-6-8-9-30.
Number matching five of five: 0.

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 4-7-16-30. Bonus Ball: 10.
Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 1.
Prize: \$200,000.

Winning ticket(s) sold in: Dallas.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 0-4-7-1. Sum It Up: 12.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 7-3-2. Sum it Up: 12.



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MLB

Continued from Page 1B

The four homers in a game tied the ALCS home run record last matched by Boston in Game 2 against Tampa Bay on Saturday.

Phillies 7,
Dodgers 5

LOS ANGELES — Shane Victorino and the Philadelphia Phillies struck back with long balls rather than beanballs to move within one win of the World Series.

That's the way they've played it all year.

After ducking a pitch thrown over his head the

previous day, Victorino and much-traveled pinch-hitter Matt Stairs delivered two-run homers in the eighth inning Monday night, lifting the Phillies to a 7-5 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers for a 3-1 lead in the NL championship series.

Left-handed ace Cole Hamels, who won the series opener, can pitch the Phillies to their first World Series since 1993 in Game 5 on Wednesday night. He'll be opposed by Game 2 loser Chad Billingsley.

"This was the biggest game we've won so far," Philadelphia manager Charlie Manuel said. "But the next one is even bigger. That's kind of how we look at it."

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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Big Spring black belts



Courtesy photo

Big Spring's Toby Kennemur (front left) and Tucker Durham (front right) show off their black belts they recently earned through participation in the American Taekwondo Association's school Do-Jang. Kennemur is an 11-year-old sixth-grader at Goliad and is the son of Paul and Monika Kennemur. He started his training in Oct. 2006 and wants to continue with it and become a leader/instructor later on. Durham is a 13-year-old seventh-grader at Big Spring Junior High and is the son of Jay and Debbie Durham. He began training in Sept. of 2006, but has decided to concentrate on school activities rather than pursue higher degrees of black belts. Joining the boys in the back row of the picture is Jarrod Barnes of Midland from Barnes ATA Academy, Robin Wood from Wood ATA Academy and Christy Barnes also from Barnes ATA Academy.

HULL

Continued from Page 1B

This league is as unpredictable as it gets. The most certain thing going into Week 6 was the NFC East was the class of the NFL. Instead, the heavily favored Cowboys, Redskins and Giants lost with only Philadelphia able to pull out a victory. Remember, Atlanta was

supposed to be battling for the first pick in the 2009 draft this season, not go 4-2 over the first six weeks.

Every team in the NFL has obvious weaknesses. The goal is to try and cover up those weaknesses, while not allowing anymore to rear their ugly heads.

The Giants are a great example of this. Their secondary is a huge weak-

ness and is very dependent upon a great pass rush in order to sustain coverage of an opponent's receiving corps. The Browns held the Giants to no sacks, something not done this season. The results was a 300-plus yard passing game for a struggling Derek Anderson and more than 150 receiving yards for a forgotten Braylon Edwards.

Now, the G-Men will try to cover that up. The team most successful preventing its weakness from being exposed will be the team to win the Super Bowl. It's a simple equation.

The team most successful at doing this six weeks into the season? The Tennessee Titans.

However, stay tuned. That could change next week.

HOWARD COUNTY TEACHER'S GUIDE

featuring photos and bios
of teachers from
LOCAL SCHOOLS

Publish Date:

Sunday, Oct. 26th

Ad Deadline:

FRIDAY, OCT. 20TH

Full tab page: \$665

Half tab page: \$365

Quarter tab page: \$205

Eighth tab page: \$115

You'll want to advertise in this section that will be read by parents with school-age children and all the teachers, so call your ad rep today ...

BIG SPRING **HERALD**

432-263-7331

In This Season Of Hope

23rd Annual

BIG SPRING **HERALD**

Community Christmas Parade

5:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 6

Parade theme:

"Star Of Bethlehem"

Entry deadline - Noon, Friday, Nov. 14th

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

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

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

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

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

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

PARADE RULES

1. The parade's official Santa Claus will be provided by the Herald **NO OTHER SANTA WILL BE PERMITTED IN THE PARADE**
2. Floats should not exceed 55 feet in length, 8 feet in width and 14 feet in height.
3. Antique vehicles will be the only undecorated vehicles permitted without special permission from Parade Committee.
4. Vehicles of a strictly commercial nature will not be permitted.
5. Parade entries not in line by the start of the parade will be placed at the end of the parade and will not be eligible for awards.
6. For safety, do not throw candy from your float. Small children run up under the tires. Please have someone walking beside your float if you want to throw candy.

2008 Christmas Parade Entry Form

Name of organization: _____
 Name of contact person: _____
 Mailing address: _____
 Telephone number: _____

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

Individual/Family Civic/church/school
 Commercial Industrial Mounted

Mail, fax or hand deliver to:
 Parade Committee
 Big Spring Herald
 PO Box 1431
 710 Scurry
 Big Spring, TX 79721
 Fax (432) 264-7205
 E-mail:
 advertising@bigspringherald.com

National, world news in brief

World markets soar after U.S., Europe move to shore up banks

HONG KONG (AP) — World markets soared for a second day Tuesday, led by a record 14 percent jump in Tokyo, after Wall Street rallied from its worst week ever on optimism that government rescue efforts will heal the crippled global financial system.

Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 index surged 1,171.14 points, or 14.15 percent, to close at 9,447.57, its biggest single-day gain in history. That's a stunning reversal after the index plunged 24 percent last week. Tokyo financial markets were playing catch-up to recent developments because they were closed Monday for a holiday.

European markets followed Asia higher in early trading, with benchmarks in Britain, Germany and France opening up more than 4 percent.

Hong Kong's key index gained 3.2 percent, while South Korea's market jumped over 6 percent. The Philippine market surged more than 7 percent and Indonesia's market — shut half of last week due to dramatic declines — was up more than 6 percent.

Only China's main market index fell — sliding 2.7 percent.

Wildfires burn homes, force evacuations near Los Angeles, cause 2 fatalities

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Two huge wildfires driven by strong Santa Ana winds burned into neighborhoods near Los Angeles on Monday, forcing frantic evacuations on smoke- and traffic-choked highways, destroying homes and causing at least two deaths.

Around sunset, residents were warned to stay on alert during the night and winds more than 60 mph were forecast. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger declared a state of emergency in Los Angeles and Ventura counties.

More than 1,000 firefighters and nine water-dropping aircraft battled the 4,700-acre Marek Fire at the northeast end of the San Fernando Valley, and the 5,000-acre Sesnon Fire at the west end.

Winds blew up to 45 mph with gusts reaching 70 mph at midday. They were forecast to diminish in the evening before roaring over 60 mph after 11 p.m.

Residents downwind were warned to remain alert into the night. "It can go from here to the ocean in a matter of two to three hours," said Los Angeles County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky.

Syrian president issues decree establishing diplomatic relations with Lebanon

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — Syria's president issued a decree Tuesday establishing diplomatic relations with Lebanon, and a foreign ministry official said the country will have an embassy in Beirut by the end of the year.

The two countries have not had formal diplomatic relations since they gained independence from France in the 1940s.

Lebanon and Syria agreed earlier this year to establish diplomatic ties and demarcate their contentious border. The West and Lebanese anti-Syrian politicians have long demanded Syria recognize Lebanon's sovereignty by establishing official relations.

The landmark agreement, which came during an official visit by the Lebanese president to Damascus in April, and Tuesday's formal decree reflect Syria's efforts to break with past isolationist policies and resolve tensions with its neighbors.

Syrian President Bashar Assad's decree, carried by the official Syrian news agency SANA, said that a "diplomatic mission for the Syrian Arab Republic at the embassy level will be established in the Lebanese capital." It did not provide details or say when the embassy would open.

North Korea to resume dismantling its nuclear program for first time in 2 months

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea planned to resume dismantling its nuclear program Tuesday for the first time in two months, days after the United States removed the communist regime from a terrorism blacklist as a reward under a disarmament pact.

Pyeongyang has told the International Atomic Energy Agency that it would restart work to disable the Yongbyon nuclear reactor and allow international inspectors to resume their activity. The plans were outlined in a restricted document to the agency's 35 board members that was obtained by The Associated Press.

Separately, IAEA spokeswoman Melissa Fleming said agency inspectors "will also now be permitted to reapply the containment and surveillance measures at the reprocessing facility." That meant agency seals taken off the plant and monitoring cameras recently removed at the North's orders would be restored.

The country's official Korean Central News Agency had given no word by Tuesday afternoon if the work had

gotten under way. South Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman Moon Tae-young said he had no information whether the work had begun.

North Korea also said Sunday it would restart work to disable Yongbyon, though it did not specify a date.

Ohio death row inmate who says he's too fat to be executed humanely is set to die

CINCINNATI (AP) — A double murderer who says he's too fat to be executed humanely has passed a pre-execution exam and is cleared to receive a lethal injection Tuesday.

Richard Cooley, 41, was given a visual examination by the state when he arrived at the death house on Monday, and officials found nothing that should cause a problem in delivering the deadly chemicals.

The 5-foot-7, 267-pound Cooley had tried to avoid execution by arguing that his obesity would prevent humane lethal injection because viable veins in his arms are hard to find.

A more detailed examination was to be conducted Tuesday morning, when he is scheduled to die for killing two college students in 1986.

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday denied one of two pending appeals to stop the execution. It turned down without comment Cooley's claim that his obesity was a bar to humane lethal injection.

The argument also had been rejected by a federal appeals court in Cincinnati and the Ohio Supreme Court, with both courts ruling that he missed a deadline for filing appeals.

Efforts made to help the hard-to-transplant get a new kidney, and revamp the wait

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nearly one in three patients who need a kidney transplant may never get one because their bodies are abnormally primed to attack a donated organ. Now doctors are trying new ways to outwit the immune system and save more of those so-called "highly sensitized" patients — often with kidneys donated by living donors, considered the optimal kind.

"I feel very lucky. Our son saved my life," said Cynthia Preloh of Arlington, Va., after an unusual combination of blood cleansing and a cancer drug allowed her to receive a kidney from her son that her body otherwise would have destroyed.

It's promising work that comes as the nation's kidney distribution system is beginning a major overhaul.

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1A

"We've met with George Parsley, CEO of Scenic Mountain Medical Center, and he's very supportive of this program," said Crooker. "He told us he's currently looking into ways to help fund the center. He also told us we should be prepared to hire

a second nurse practitioner after the first six months because of the expected workload."

Dominguez said the center could help alleviate some of the burden on the SMMC emergency room.

"A lot of people who have no health insurance or are under-insured simply use the emergency room as a doctor's office," said Dominguez.

"They wait for the condi-

tion to become chronic before they seek medical attention. That puts a real burden on the emergency room."

Dominguez said Joanni Sarkis will work hand in hand with the project manager — who has yet to be named — of the program. The project director's biggest task, she noted, will be securing necessary funding for the health center.

"The biggest hurdle will be finances," Dominguez said.

"We'll be examining grants, fundraising efforts and other means of funding. And we have to start working on that soon. Right now, we're just in the planning stages."

Commissioners also approved a \$3,500 purchase request from Howard County 911 Director Tommy Sullivan for the

installation of communications equipment for emergency situations.

"This is for the emergency management system," Sullivan told the court. "This will allow us to give a different frequency to the county judge, the mayor's office and others in an emergency situation. We've already bought the equipment, we just need to have it installed on our tower. We'd like to get it

finished before the wind starts getting bad."

The court approved the request — which was within Sullivan's current budget — with local communications business Basin 2-Way expected to complete the task.

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



Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Necessity: The Mother of Invention

West dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH			
♠ 10 9 8 7 2			
♥ 7 5 3			
♦ A J			
♣ A K Q			
WEST		EAST	
♠ A K Q J 4		♠ 6	
♥ 9 8 4 2		♥ 6	
♦ 10 6 4		♦ K 9 8 7 5 3	
♣ 3		♣ 10 9 6 4 2	
SOUTH			
♠ 5 3			
♥ A K Q J 10			
♦ Q 2			
♣ J 8 7 5			

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	2 NT	Pass	4 ♥

Opening lead — king of spades.

Some contracts that initially appear very easy to play turn out, for one reason or another, to be much tougher than was originally anticipated. In such cases, declarer may have to use a little ingenuity to help him get home safely.

Consider the present deal from a rubber-bridge game where South landed in four hearts instead of an ice-cold three notrump (he was trying to score his 150 honors). West started with the K-A of spades, East signaling with the nine of diamonds

on the second spade. West then continued with the queen of spades, ruffed by South with the ten.

At this point, the contract seemed very easy to make. But when South next cashed the A-K of trumps and East showed out, the previously promising picture changed drastically. Declarer realized that if he continued with the Q-J of trumps, discarding a spade from dummy, he would then have no way to score the game-going trick with the jack of clubs.

The alternative — a successful diamond finesse — seemed highly unlikely under the circumstances, given that West had started with the A-K-Q-J-x of spades and had passed initially.

But our hero, South, was not born yesterday, and found a way out of his difficulties. Faced with the hard reality of the situation, declarer did play the Q-J of trumps, but, on the last trump, he discarded the ace of diamonds from dummy!

The rest of the play was simple enough. South next cashed dummy's A-K-Q of clubs and then exited with the jack of diamonds. East won with the king, but had to yield the last two tricks to South's queen of diamonds and jack of clubs.

And so it was that South, by very good play, made four hearts and scored his 150 honors.

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RALLY

Continued from Page 1A

Wall Street had reached a bottom. The Dow has not yet fallen below its low during the last bear market, the closing level of 7,286.27 on Oct. 9, 2002.

Following the Columbus Day holiday, the U.S. government bond markets are opening again Tuesday and indicating that investors' desire for safe assets is still strong, but letting up slightly. The three-month Treasury bill's yield rose to 0.55 percent from 0.21 percent late Friday.

Banks appear to be growing somewhat more willing to lend to one another. The London interbank offered rate, or Libor, for three-month dollar loans fell to 4.64 percent from 4.75 percent, after a 0.07 percentage point dip on Monday. Libor is important because many consumer loans, including about half of all adjustable-

rate mortgages, are tied to it.

Asian and European markets shot higher, after Wall Street on Monday propelled the Dow to its largest one-day rise ever. The Dow's advance Monday by far outpaced its previous record for a one-day advance, 499.19, scored during the last days of the dot-com boom in 2000.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng index rose 3.19 percent, after a more than 10 percent increase on Monday. Japan's Nikkei index, catching up from the country's market holiday Monday, jumped 14.15 percent — the largest increase ever. The Bank of Japan said it will hold an unscheduled policy board meeting Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. local time, or 9:30 a.m. Eastern time, to study recent developments in global markets.

And in morning trading in Europe, Britain's FTSE 100 jumped 5.63 percent, Germany's DAX index rose 5.57 percent, and

France's CAC-40 rose 5.75 percent.

The U.S. stock market has been rebounding from a gruesome week that obliterated about \$2.4 trillion in shareholder wealth. The Dow came off an eight-day losing streak that amassed point losses of just under 2,400, or 22.1 percent.

The recent sell-off in stocks arrived amid a seize-up in lending, as banks and investors around the world grew fearful about the credit-worthiness of other institutions following the bankruptcy of investment bank Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. and thrift bank Washington Mutual Inc.

NORMAN HARRIS, M.D.

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NEXT CLINIC VISIT 10-16-08

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can cause death or severe injury. Some child seats are defectively designed or manufactured, causing severe injury or even death to children who use them. If your child or other loved one has been injured while in a child safety seat, call us today for professional insight.

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Timothy R. Cappolino, P.C.
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Announcements

DR. JOHN S. FARQUHAR Announces His departure to participate in the care of soldiers and their dependents at Irwin Army Community Hospital. This change is effective October 31st, 2008 and extends to October 30th, 2009. The Physicians and Staff of Family Medical Center will provide continuing services to our patients. Dr. Barkley is newly established and a member of Scenic Mountain Medical Group. Records may be transferred on receipt of written request. Regulations allow thirty days for this service. The fee established in state regulations may be charged. It has been a Privilege to Serve this Community. It is an Honor to Serve the U.S. Army.

OFFICER SEEKS a house in country to rent/lease. Could be interested in purchase after 1st of year. Send any information to kband635@yahoo.com

Cemetery Lots

ADJOINING BURIAL Plots Save \$300 on two plots in the "Garden of Machpelah" at Trinity Memorial Park. \$3150.00. Call (432)263-7436 or 213-3027.

CEMETERY LOTS. Payout plans available. No interest or carrying charges. \$10.00 down. The Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. 432-264-7722.

SAVE \$\$\$\$\$\$ on monuments/markers. We deliver to all cemeteries. Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. Mt Olive Monuments. 432-264-7722.

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SPECIAL SALE. Two grave spaces for the price of one. Pay-out plan available. \$50.00 Down. The Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. 432-264-7722.

Help Wanted

Ameri-Tech Building Systems

DRUG FREE WORK PLACE

Immediate openings!!!

CDL Driver
Must have clean driving record.
Local hauls / home most evenings!
Excellent pay and full range of benefits.

Apply in person at Ameri-Tech Building Systems

5212 S. Service Rd / E I-20 Big Spring, Texas 79720

AMERICAN LIMESTONE at the Air Park in Big Spring is looking for plant and quarry workers. Experience preferred, but will train the right individual. Insurance provided after 90 days. 40 hours Mon-Fri. See Jeff for an interview.

APARTMENT ASSISTANT needed. Good with detail, paperwork and people. Good benefits. Come by Bent Tree Apartments, 1 Courtney Place or Call JoAnne at 432-267-1621.

Help Wanted



ATTENTION DISPATCHERS!

Well established fuel distributor in Big Spring needs you! Will be dispatching drivers, taking orders and answering phones. Apply in person Mon-Fri 9AM-4PM at United Fuel & Energy, 3112 N. Hwy 87, Big Spring or e-mail resumes to jobs@ufeonline.com or call (432)267-9438.

CAP ROCK Energy is seeking qualified applicants for Meter Reader, Groundman and Lineman in our Stanton Division. Minimum qualifications include a valid driver's license and a good driving record. Please apply on line at www.caprockenergy.com EOE



Seeking CNA's and Sitters to work for our private duty division. Must be available to work any hours and on-call. If interested please Call: 1-800-201-5904 E.O.E

COASTAL TRANSPORT is now hiring LP licensed drivers and fuel haulers to deliver in and around Big Spring. Come by our office @1200 Hwy 176 and apply. Requirements:
1. Clean Driving record
2. Must be 23 years of age or older.
3. Must have 1 year verifiable tractor/trailer experience.
4. Hazmat and Tanker endorsement on license.

DRILLER with CREW to work for West Texas Energy Services, LLC. Located in Big Spring. Will drill approx. within 80 miles of Big Spring. Must be able to pass drug test. Competitive salary and benefits. Wells will be drilled for Sharp Image Energy Inc. Please Call (432)425-3351.



DRIVERS WANTED. We need drivers now and get hired on the spot, subject to qualifications. We have best delivery compensation in the business. Make cash every day. Great part time and full time shifts. Health Insurance plan. Great starting wage- \$7.00 an hour, plus delivery compensation, plus tips. We more than compensate for high gas prices. Got experience? Work for Papa or the Hut? Come on over and get an additional hiring bonus. Senior citizens and stay at home Moms always welcome. Apply at Domino's Pizza.

HADDAD UROLOGY CLINIC is currently taking applications for a Billing Specialist/ Receptionist. People skills a must, insurance knowledge and computer skills needed. For the position call 432-714-4600. Benefits included in package.

Help Wanted

DUNCAN DISPOSAL - Now hiring a driver for the Coahoma area. Need at least a Class B CDL. Experience Preferred for a driver's position. Must be able to pass mandatory DOT and corporate drug testing requirements. No phone calls please. The job includes 40+ hours weekly Mon- Fri., with some Sat. mornings. An hourly rate with benefits package is available. Equal Opportunity Employer. Call our Office at (432)563-5060.



ESTATE LIQUIDATOR looking for anyone interested in clean-up after Estate Sale in Big Spring (Friday, October 17th 10-6 and Saturday, October 18th 10-4). If interested, please contact Bruce at (210)274-5571.

EZ PAWN, Now Hiring Sales and Loan Representatives Full-time & Part-time. Must have High School/GED, pass background & drug test. Apply online at www.ezpawnjobs.com

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

FULL-TIME position with excellent benefits. Office experience required. Apply in person at Trinity Memorial Park, 5 miles south on Highway 87, Big Spring.

GARTMAN REFRIGERATION need Certified HVAC and experienced plumber. Apply in person, 3206 E. FM 700.

GENERAL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY now hiring experienced mechanic/ truck driver must have own tools and CDL. Drug test and physical required. Starting pay 31K per year, 401K insurance and paid vacation offer. Apply at 2800 Windecker, by Midland Airport. Send Resume to: PO Box 60708 Midland, TX 79711 or call 432-638-2920.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR now hiring Concrete personal. Drug test required. Must be able to travel. Prediem Included. Offering insurance, 401K and paid vacation. Apply at 2800 Windecker, by Midland Airport. Send Resume to: PO Box 60708 Midland, TX 79711 or call 432-638-2920.

HOUSEKEEPING NEEDED- above average wage. Must be hard working and dependable. Pick up application at Holiday Inn Express, 1109 N. Aylesford.

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR/ Operator now hiring Workover Unit Operator and floor hand. Competitive pay, insurance, 401K. Fax resumes to 432-687-2853.

INDEPENDENT OIL Company looking for an Operator for a Double/Single Pulling Unit for more information please call 432-517-0250.

NEED CDL Driver- Home Nightly, Local Run. Part-time or full-time. Call (432)267-4700 for directions or come by 1700 Rickabaugh.

Help Wanted

INSURANCE SALES / Service Representative needed. Computer Skills necessary. Must be pleasant with a good work ethic. College helpful. Experience preferred, but will train the right individual. Send resume to P.O. Box 2947, Big Spring, TX. 79721 or call 432-263-3756.



JOIN OUR TEAM! WE WILL PAY FOR EXPERIENCE!

Drivers needed for Big Spring & Snyder areas. Must have CDL w/Hazmat, good driving record. We offer competitive pay and excellent benefits. Apply in person, Mon-Fri 9AM-4PM at United Fuel & Energy 3112 N. Hwy 87, Big Spring or call (322)573-5722.

Journeymen & Apprentices Apply at Job Site 3611 West Hwy 80 in Big Spring Freeman Electric Co. Inc. 817-306-9060.

LANDMAN WITH at least 7 years experience to work for independent Big Spring oil company. Competitive pay with benefits. Please mail resume to: P.O. Box 1431/183, Big Spring, TX 79721-1431.

LOCAL COMPANY now Hiring Labor Workers. Must be able to read tape measure and pass drug test. Pick up application at 1700 Rickabaugh or call (432)267-4700 for directions.

LOCAL INSURANCE office has an opening for an entry-level staff position. If you are a pleasant and personable, career-minded, ambitious self-starter with good work habits, please fax resume to (432)267-3920 or apply in person at 408 E. FM 700. No phone calls.

NEEDED: TRUCK DRIVER with three yrs experience. Must know how to operate a winch truck, how to get permits & maintain log book, and how to perform regular maintenance on truck. 40-50 hrs/wk. Phillips Fabrication, Inc., 6600 E. Airport Drive 432-264-6600.

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

NOW HIRING: Repair and maintenance supervisor for local Laundromat business. Will train and provide tools. Mechanical experience a plus. Fill out application at 1208 Gregg St.

OTR TRUCK Drivers Needed. Must have a CDL Class A with 12 months experience. Company offers excellent pay and benefits. Quality home time. For more information call 1-800-624-5919 ext. 116.

WANTED OIL and Gas Drilling Engineer with at least 7 years experience and Reservoir Engineer experience would be helpful in their job application. For Sharp Image Energy Inc. Please send resumes to P.O. Box 1888, Big Spring, TX. 79721.

Help Wanted

PARKVIEW NURSING and Rehab is now hiring Certified Nurse Assistants for all shifts. If you are not certified but have a passion for the nursing field, we will send you to school! Come by today or fill out an application online at www.parkviewnursing.net 3200 Parkway, Big Spring, Texas.

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EARN \$12-\$14 PER HOUR DELIVERING PIZZA'S. \$100 HIRING BONUS. MUST BE 18YRS. OLD WITH CLEAN DRIVING RECORD. ALSO TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR MANAGEMENT POSITIONS. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG. NO PHONE CALLS.

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REGIS HAIR Salon Big Spring Marketplace, now hiring a full time Hair Stylist. Benefits include guaranteed wage or commission whichever is greater. Incentive program, 401K, stock purchase plan, medical insurance, and advanced training. All tool supplies furnished except shears. Call now for an opportunity to join our team ask for Diane Arsiaga, 432-263-1111.

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Position: Entry Level
Entry level requirements: 1-2 years experience in electrical and mechanical trouble shooting, must be able to read electrical schematics must be able to climb towers and must have a clean personal and driving record. Starting Salary \$18.00-\$21.00 per hour + benefits.
E-mail resume to jmorgan@encorepower.com
Encore Power Services
800 Rockmead Drive, Suite 214
Kingwood, Texas. Contact Jim Morgan @ 281-312-0123 or Russell Jayne @ 832-797-3243.

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FIREWOOD. SEASONED OAK FIREWOOD. Satisfaction Guaranteed. \$325.00 Full Cord & \$180.00 Half Cord. Delivered and Stacked. Call 325-648-2818 or 512-913-8297.

FUTURE STEEL Building W-30'XL-40'X18'H Gauge- 22. Must be taken down. Removed from property. Asking \$25,000.00. Will take bids for 14 days. See at 4011-1/2 Gail Hwy. Send bid to: 214 Tubb Loop Rd., Big Spring, TX. 79720.

Miscellaneous

100% LEATHER 5 pc. living SOFA love, table set. Warranty. NEW. BOXED \$625. 806-549-3110.

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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OTHER VIEWS

1,000,001
Chihuahuas
is not good

Twelve years after "101 Dalmatians" unleashed a spotted plague on an unsuspecting public, the folks at Disney have stepped in it again. "Beverly Hills Chihuahua" debuted at No. 1 last weekend, spiking the demand for big-eared, bug-eyed, pocket-size dogs.

Animal welfare groups are working hard to counter that effect. They warn that a Chihuahua is not a toy, not an accessory and not even a good pet for some people — particularly the kids at whom the film is targeted. Chihuahuas are already among the most commonly surrendered breeds in California, where it's fashionable to have one to match every outfit. (Thank you, Paris Hilton.)

That's the downside of falling for a movie star instead of a mutt. Thousands of families who just had to have a Dalmatian learned the hard way that they're not always a good fit. They're chewers, diggers, climbers and surprisingly bad shedders. They're prone to skin trouble and deafness. They need about five times as much exercise as the average couch potato is willing to provide. But, hey, you wanted spots, you got spots.

Now that the Dalmatian population is back down to a sustainable level, we're about to be overrun by Chihuahuas. Puppy mill operators are thrilled, because Chihuahuas can be bred in about the same space as gerbils. That means we'll be seeing more of the genetic anomalies common to Chis: seizure disorders, joint problems, heart ailments. Chihuahuas are also prone to eye infections and need medical assistance when delivering pups — something they're not likely to get in a puppy mill.

The Chihuahua is a big dog in a small package. Energetic and fearless, it can't resist menacing the neighborhood Rottweiler. Some rescue groups refuse to place them in families with pre-teenagers because Chihuahuas can be snappish with children and fragile when stepped on. They have a tendency to become devoted to one family member and shun everyone else. They don't do obedience, and they are, believe it, shameless bed hogs.

If you're up for all that, great. Go to the shelter, and take your pick. But if you're not, then please don't fall for those big eyes.

Aware of what it wrought with the last doggy flick, Disney this time has added an on-screen message urging viewers to research a breed before getting a dog and promoting shelter adoptions. Coming at the end of an irresistible 90-minute Chihuahua romp, the disclaimer is likely to have the same deterrent effect as a Viagra commercial's sober warning about four-hour erections. People will happily take their chances.

Before you know it, the retrievers, boxers and shepherds so popular will be displaced by yapping rodents that think they own the sidewalks. Watch out underfoot.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

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- Sign your letter.
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- 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

Subsidized firms must cut back on perks

Should I ever be fortunate enough to be bailed out from the rigors of my workaday life, look for me at St. Regis Monarch Beach.

The resort, on a Pacific Ocean bluff midway between Los Angeles and San Diego, made news last week as the site of a weeklong meeting that a subsidiary of the American International Group Inc. hosted for about 100 of its top insurance agents at a cost of \$440,000.

The timing was inconvenient, and not only because attendees just missed out on the October "Vino al Vino" special in the resort's Spa Gaucin, where a \$300 package includes, among other things, a 60-minute "Chardonnay sugar scrub."

There was also the matter of the \$85 billion taxpayer-subsidized bailout received by AIG days before the meeting.

The getaway was described in a congressional hearing on Tuesday as an "executive retreat." The idea of the just-reprieved brass golfing and enjoying pedicures brought denunciations from the White House, which called the behavior "despicable," and from Barack Obama, who called the event a "\$400,000 junket."

By Wednesday, company CEO Edward M. Liddy had issued a hasty clarification, in the form of a letter to U.S. Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson.

"The vast majority of the attendees

were independent business people and their guests, not AIG employees," he said. "Indeed, of the more than 100 attendees, only 10 were employees of one of our insurance subsidiaries who attended to represent their company. Not a single corporate executive from AIG headquarters attended."

OK, my faith in the executive branch of the human species has been restored. Somewhat.

Corporate execs have pulled some atrocious stunts. There was one a few years ago who, among other things, spent \$6,000 of company money on a shower curtain. The Enron Corp. spent \$20 million on contemporary art months before its collapse. The disgraced CEO of Westar Energy in Topeka, Kan., installed a gourmet kitchen at company expense.

But AIG executives did not jet off to St. Regis Monarch Beach in the wake of the federal bailout, and so did not ensure permanent membership in the CEO hall of shame.

Good. But about the same time Liddy was clearing up the matter of exactly who enjoyed a week at the resort, the New York Federal Reserve lent an additional \$37.8 billion to AIG so that the insurer could have access to cash.

With the hot seat getting more searing by the minute, AIG announced it was canceling another scheduled gathering for insurance brokers, this one at the Ritz-Carlton in California's Half Moon Bay.

Most of us are aware — even if dimly — that the corporate world offers perks are not enjoyed by employees of your local convenience

store. Or newspaper, for that matter. Firms routinely schedule incentive trips to reward top salespersons.

But appearances matter, and what appeared this week was the invoice from the St. Regis, which showed that the post-bailout party cost AIG \$23,000 at the Spa Gaucin, \$1,500 at the Salon Vogue, \$140,000 on rooms and \$7,000 on the golf course.

It could have been worse. There is no indication that any AIG attendees took advantage of the resort's "pooch package," which welcomes pets of guests with a personalized letter and other amenities.

AIG is working with taxpayer dollars now, and other corporate free-wheelers will join them shortly.

Many Americans are cutting back on entertainment budgets.

The companies we are subsidizing should do the same.

"Let me assure you that we are re-evaluating the costs of all aspects of our operations in light of the new circumstances in which we are all operating," Liddy, the AIG executive, wrote to Paulson.

That sounds promising. While he is re-evaluating, I shall return to my Internet perusal of the St. Regis, a "Tuscan-inspired" resort. It looks lovely.

Should unforeseen circumstances deliver me there, however, I'll take a pass on the Chardonnay sugar scrub. Sounds scary.

Barbara Shelly is a member of the Kansas City Star editorial board. Readers may write to her at: Kansas City Star, 1729 Grand Blvd., Kansas City, Mo. 64108-1413, or by e-mail at bshelly@kcstar.com.

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McCain ticket has one chance left

On Monday, Barack Obama led John McCain by 6 points in the Real Clear Politics poll average.

The average isn't a perfect indicator of the state of the race, but it does show trends, and this was Obama's largest lead since the beginning of September.

It was close to the largest lead he's held in the race, which was a 7.5-percent margin in late June.

With only four weeks left, can McCain catch up? Maybe.

We've seen lots of volatility in this election cycle. During his primary campaign against Hillary Clinton, Obama experienced five large swings, each compacted into a few weeks' time.

Obama gained a total of 15 points during the first three weeks of January and 10 points during the first three weeks of February. He picked up an additional 10 points in April, followed by an equally big swing to Clinton. Two weeks after that, Obama enjoyed a 13-point gain.

Obama's campaign against McCain has been less volatile, but it has seen some rapid swings, too. Again using the Real Clear Politics average, Obama gained 6 points in June. Over the next nine weeks, he lost and then recaptured 5 points. There was a big, 10-point swing against him during the two weeks around the conventions, and then, beginning with the Lehman Bros. meltdown, he picked up 6 points in just three weeks.

The upshot is that, for Obama, large swings can, and already have,

taken place in short periods of time.

This is good news for McCain: Swings of 5 points or more have often occurred in less than four weeks. And Obama's leads have often been fleeting. He has become the clear front-runner before, only to watch voters turn away from him again.

Unfortunately for McCain, that's where the good news ends. As Election Day approaches, the electorate becomes less fluid. Undecided voters begin to decide, and decided voters typically harden in their decisions.

In this cycle, the "undecideds" are still hovering around 8 percent. That's almost double what they were at this point in 2004, but it's down from about 12 percent just five weeks ago. (For some perspective, the electorate was 8 percent undecided at this point in 2000, when Al Gore made up a 5-point deficit in the last four weeks of the race.)

The other bit of bad news for McCain is that Obama finally seems to be performing in sync with Democrats on the generic congressional ballot. The generic ballot — polling on whether voters prefer to send an unspecified Democrat or Republican to Congress — is a good indicator of the country's opinion of the political parties.

For most of the cycle, Democrats held a solid, double-digit lead over the GOP in this measurement, but Obama was locked in a tight and volatile race with McCain. The Democrats' generic lead shrank when Sarah Palin became McCain's running mate.

But when the financial crisis came to a head in late September, Democrats gained ground in close parallel with Obama's progress against

McCain.

All of this suggests that McCain's options going forward are limited.

At the start of the race, McCain had three potential paths to victory. He could make the election a referendum on Obama, hoping voters would hesitate to elect the least-experienced and least-qualified president since the Civil War. He could follow the Nicolas Sarkozy model, distancing himself from the GOP while portraying Bush, the Democrats and Obama as part of the same establishment. Or he could run an affirmative campaign as a reform Republican.

To some degree, McCain's campaign has tried out each of these narratives during the last four months. However, two of those paths are now closed to him.

McCain's brief attempt to run on a positive message of reform after the conventions only kept him even with Obama. And the numbers show that, fairly or not, voters have allocated most of the blame for the financial meltdown to McCain and the Republicans. That means McCain's attempt to separate himself from the Republican brand and link Bush with the Democratic Congress, Sarkozy-style, has failed.

Which leaves one strategy: "Not Obama." If McCain is to have any chance of a comeback, he'll have to refocus the public's attention on his opponent and force Americans to take one last, clear-eyed look at Obama's views, associations and experience.

Jonathan V. Last is a columnist for the Philadelphia Inquirer. Readers may write to him at: Philadelphia Inquirer, P.O. Box 8263, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101, or by e-mail at jlast@phillynews.com.



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Bird Poop: Diesel and the redheaded stranger

With static interrupting constantly, the conversation was limited. Not only was the man's voice garbled, but comments from others in the background left me confused. "Redhead ... Moss Creek ... caught him ... several officers ... on my way," were the only distinct clues as to what might happen next.



BEBE MCCASLAND

When the caller had said, "Redhead," cold shivers had run down my back. Remembering a fifth grader who several years previously had suddenly decided to walk away from our school, I shuddered at the thought that one of our three, red-headed students might have chosen the same action. Hurriedly, I checked their classrooms. One boy and girl were on campus. The other boy was supposedly home.

Walking back to my office, I noticed the game warden's pickup in the parking lot. In his early years in our county, he had been in the right place at the right time to apprehend a bank robber. Surely he couldn't have one of our students.

As I entered the outer waiting area, I heard the officer say, "He's in there," as he motioned towards the teachers' lounge. With a queasy stomach, I entered the room. Not seeing the boy, I turned toward the warden as he pointed toward a cardboard box on the floor

in an adjoining room. My relief was overwhelming.

Telling the officer I had not known it was he who was calling, I thought perhaps the police or sheriff's departments had caught an errant student. Laughing together, we opened the box. Nestled inside was a remarkably colored duck.

Mostly, we had dealt with raptors and songbirds, but few water fowl, in our early years of bird rescue efforts. "This is a first. You mean it's really called a redhead?" I could see why.

The handsome creature stirred as I touched its back. In its breeding plumage, the drake had a bright, red head and upper neck. Its blue-gray, black tipped bill, and yellow eyes were a striking contrast. The lower neck, chest, rump, and tail were black. A soft color of gray adorned its back and sides. Extending its wings, I noticed the gray continued and was accented by a broad, gray stripe.

Having had a call from the manager of a concession/bait stand at Moss Creek Lake, the game warden had learned of a water bird that could not fly. A call for assistance brought two other officers from neighboring counties. Together, the men had chased and corralled the duck. Handling it, they discovered it was coated with diesel fuel.

After consulting with the Midland wildlife sanctuary, Art and I prepared for our first attempt at removing a petroleum product from a bird. In the kitchen, water reached an appropriate temperature for the duck's bath. With Art holding the bird, Blue

Dawn was used to cut the oil.

As the water on one side of the double sink turned brownish, we moved the duck to a fresh rinse on the other side. Emptying the dirty sink, the process of bathing and rinsing continued. Feeling reassured that the process was succeeding, we relaxed only slightly our hold on the bird. As it sensed an opportunity, the redhead decided to take flight.

Throwing suds and water in every direction, the willful drake flapped his wings and tried to jump upward. Although we stopped his escape, everything within five to six feet was splattered thoroughly. Drying our glasses one at a time while the other held the bird, we could finally see how to finish this task.

After absorbing as much moisture as possible with towels, and covering its face to protect its eyes, we used a hair-dryer on low setting and held at a distance to add warmth for evaporation. Only in later years would we discover the advantages the wildlife centers had over our make-shift attempt. With their extremely deep sinks, and incubating facilities with thermostats, rehab volunteers were far better equipped to handle a growing problem.

Removing the initial coating of fuel, we had given the bird a much cleaner feather mass until he could be transported. At the wildlife facility, the drake encountered several more baths and a waiting period before release. In the company of other water birds, he was comfortable in his new environment.



Courtesy photo

Wintering in Texas, Baja Calif., and Mexico, the redhead is often called a "red-headed raft duck" because of the floating nest it builds on water and secures to living plants.

Saying good-bye to our brief guest, and on the drive home that cool October morning, we noticed the V-shaped, rapid flight of ducks crossing the interstate. We could imagine a flock of redheads seeking inland lakes and prairie potholes to feed and rest. With their webbed feet propelling them through the water, these gifted divers would dine on underwater growth, algae, insects and their larvae. Further south, tadpoles, frogs, small fish, wild celery and rice would be added to their menu. Knowing the drake would some day join such a flock, we wished them well.

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from
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ARIES (March 21-April
19). Your mindset has
evolved and now you are
the master of the very
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Your confidence feels

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Abilene District
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Abilene, Texas 79604-0150
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criminated against on the grounds
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gin.
#5943 October 14 & 21, 2008

Tomorrow's Horoscope

amazing. Your allies are
inventive Aquarius and
soulful Pisces.

TAURUS (April 20-May
20). You are as steady and
consistent as ever,
though you won't be able
to say the same for the
other people with whom
you'll be dealing. If
you're not expecting
anyone to do as they said
they would, you'll be
adequately prepared.

GEMINI (May 21-June
21). Flexibility of thought
is your forte. You won't
get thrown by the
opinions of others. If they
don't think like you they
are all the more fun to
have around. You're
tolerant and don't need to
be perpetually in the
right.

CANCER (June 22-July
22). Focus on making
relationships meaningful.
If you know what's
coming up next, you lose
interest. As much as you
like routine, you're ready
to sacrifice some of that
comfort in favor of a few
surprises.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).
Though of course your
worth has nothing to do
with the number of
dollars you own, it's hard
for you to keep smiling
under conditions of
financial instability. Sort
out the money stuff so
you can return to your
good mood.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept.
22). You are what you
think. So go on, think
you're great. No one will
negate it if you don't. Try
this exercise on for size:
Breathe in "I am great"
and breathe out anything
to the contrary.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct.
23). You're on a roll.
Everything you touch
gets a green light. You're
having an easy time
creating the life you
want. You imagine what
needs to happen and then
you make it happen.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov.
21). Traditions that didn't
matter to you before

matter now. People
around you are invested
in seeing history
preserved. Consider going
"old school," especially in
matters of etiquette,
fashion or finance.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov.
22-Dec. 21). The task you
took on now morphs into
something different. New
and unforeseen pressures
loom. Of course, they are
only real if you buy in.
You can also decide not
to let anything bother
you and soldier on.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-
Jan. 19). You'll prove
yourself to be more
versatile than even you
thought you were. You
can multitask like the
wind, having a positively
refreshing effect on an
ever-expanding radius of
people.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-
Feb. 18). Your loved ones
have their own ideas
about what you should be
doing. As well intended
as they may be, only you
know where you need to
be focusing your energy.
Do what feels right.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March
20). Community service is
important now, especially
on a small, person-to-
person scale. Take the
time to be neighborly,
even if you're in a hurry.
A smile and a friendly
acknowledgement are an
important contribution.

ASTROLOGICAL
QUESTIONS: "I have an
astrological compatibility
question for you: Am I a
good astrological match
for the company I work
for (and visa versa)? I am
a sun in Taurus, moon
Leo and Sagittarius
ascendant.

The company I work
for is an Aries, with a
moon in Capricorn, by
the incorporation date."

Aries corporations
have a pioneering quality
to them, and often by
virtue of being the "first"
in an industry, they do
end up on top — if they
haven't stepped on too

many toes to get there.

Competition is the
nature of Aries, a clear
asset in the business
world. That moon in
Capricorn suggests profit
and bottom lines, over
looking out for the little
guy. However, this may
change — Pluto has
recently entered
Capricorn, and big
business will be working
to meet the increasing
demand for ecological
and community-friendly
practices for years to
come.

That's great news for
tree-hugging, earthy
Taurus! Hopefully they
step up to the plate, so
you can ride this wave
and hop on that green
bandwagon. Do it soon,
because come October
you're feeling like a plant
outgrowing her pot. If
you choose, you can find
a better match.

CELEBRITY
PROFILES: Of the many
resources Librans use to
slick the wheels of
agreement, being smooth
as silk is one of them.

And some do this so well
you may not realize what
you just agreed to! Sacha
Baron Cohen is an odd
bird: making nice, then
pulling the old one-two
knockout punch.
Mercurial Uranus and
Mercury flank Sacha's
Libra sun, so he's
unafraid to start
conversations that
challenge the status quo.

Holiday Mathis is the
author of "Rock Your
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Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: My
husband and I have two
wonderful daughters, ages
5 and 6. We have always
wanted to adopt a child
and have decided it's time.
We are well into the
process of adopting
through our local foster
care system, and our girls
are thrilled to be getting a
brother.

We are open to adopt a
child of any race.
Everyone is supportive of
our decision, with the
exception of my husband's
stepfather. "Bruce" has
been married to my
mother-in-law for four
years.

He told her that he if we
adopt an African-
American child, he will
not allow the boy into his
home. He says he can't
help the way he feels. He
also went on to tell her
that if we do adopt a child
of another race, it will be
the last stake driven into
their marriage.

Annie, my husband and
I are furious about his
attitude. My mother-in-law
is supportive of our
decision. How do we
handle his ignorance? —
Colorblind

Dear Colorblind: You

ignore it. Bruce has no say
in your decision to adopt.
He also should not
interfere in your mother-
in-law's desire to have a
relationship with her new
grandchild. If his marriage
means so little to him that
he would use the adoption
as a reason to throw it
away, it was already on
shaky ground.

In some cases, over time
and with encouragement, a
baby can overcome such a
resistant grandparent's
attitude. We hope that's
the case, but either way,
please let Mom handle her
racist husband.

Dear Annie: I have a
wonderful 21-year-old son
who is handsome and
smart. He has a stable job
and a good relationship
with his live-in girlfriend.
Yet on three holidays this
year, I made plans with
him months in advance,
and all three times he
never showed or called.

I found out later he
went to his girlfriend's
parents or his dad's
instead. I told him
it hurt to be treated this
way. I also said I am tired
of being fourth priority
when it comes to such
things and I will not allow
it to happen again. Am I
being too harsh to do the
same to him and promise
to help out and then not
show up — just so he
knows how it feels?

Is it OK to not buy him
Christmas presents this
year? I gave him a home
when his place burned
down. I put tires on his car
when he didn't have the
money. — Tired of Being
the Giving Tree

Dear Tired: It's OK not
to buy him Christmas
presents, if that's what you

want to do. But please
don't stoop to his level and
make promises you don't
keep.

That is spiteful and will
only escalate the
animosity. Your son may
have a problem
remembering plans he
made months in advance
and you might need to
remind him.

Also, enlist his
girlfriend in the process so
she doesn't pre-empt you
with plans of her own. If
he still flakes out on you,
stop inviting him and
make other arrangements.

Dear Annie: I read the
letter from "Tired of Being
Tired." I just want to let
her know that I also have
the Epstein-Barr virus. I've
had it for 14 years. I
used to feel tired all the
time, too. I was
discouraged because my
doctor gave me the same
advice he gave her — all
you can do is eat healthy,
exercise and rest. But I
want her to know there is
hope. I started doing all
the things the doctor
recommended. I exercise,
eat healthy and go to bed
early in order to get at
least eight hours of sleep
every night. I don't drink
or smoke. Amazingly,
I feel better now than
when I was younger. My
Epstein-Barr virus is still
there, but I have learned
how to manage it. — C.

Dear C.: Thanks for the
suggestions. We hope your
letter will help others stay
healthy and strong.
Annie's Mailbox is written
by Kathy Mitchell and
Marcy Sugar, longtime
editors of the Ann Landers
column.

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KID NEWS

Laugh Lines

During which age did mummies live?
The Band-Age!

Where do monsters go on vacation?
Death Valley!

— "MORE DUMB JOKES FOR SMART KIDS"

Chatter Box

"I've never personally had a ghostly experience. I'm plenty arrogant but not nearly arrogant enough to think that there's no possibility."
— Actor Joshua Jackson, on his belief in the supernatural after filming the ghost thriller "Shutter," in *People* magazine.



In The News

Picking 'Igor' actor Sean Hayes' brain

The choice to be in "Igor" was a no-brainer for actor Sean Hayes. In the animated film Hayes plays Brain, the not-so-brainy friend of a hunchback named Igor. They live in the kingdom of Malaria, a dark land ruled by mad scientists. Igor longs to become a scientist. But in Malaria, if you're a hunchback, your only career option is to become a lowly lab assistant.

Time For Kids chatted with Hayes about "Igor" and what it was like getting into the brain of Brain.

TFK: What made you take the role of Brain?
HAYES: I liked the character. It was pitched to me like this: "It's a brain in a jar, and he's so dumb that he misspells his name 'Brian.'" I was like, I'm in! I thought that was hilarious. And I thought it was a really interesting world that we hadn't seen yet. I'm a big fan of stories where the outcast, or the little guy, actually wins in the end.

TFK: What makes Brain tick?
HAYES: Brain constantly wants to be Igor's right-hand man. But he's his worst helper because he screws everything up. It's always with good intention though.



Hayes

TFK: How did you get into character?
HAYES: Brain is a scatterbrain. He's all over the place. So the rules can be broken a little bit with him. You just kind of have to let go and have fun.

TFK: What do you enjoy about voice work?
HAYES: It's fun and it's less pressure than being in front of a camera. I love the fact that there's no hair and makeup. There're no lights or cameras or anything like that. It's just you in a small, dark box with your voice. One of the most important things an actor has is his or her voice. I like just relying on that and nothing else.

TFK: What do you think kids will like about "Igor"?
HAYES: That it's different. It's a little darker, which I think is kind of cool because it's coming out before Halloween. And you haven't seen these characters before. There's nothing like it. They can expect a fast, good time.

TFK: What was your favorite cartoon growing up?
HAYES: I loved "Tom and Jerry" because nobody spoke. I would love it if life were like that! And I liked the early Disney movies. I just felt like those looked cool. They still look cool. Now, I'm a big fan of Pixar.

TFK: Now that you've played a brain in a jar, what creature would you want to voice next time around?
HAYES: Yes, the only way is up! What character would I like to play next? I would like to play a paper shredder! ... It's the first thing I thought of because that's what I looked at here in my office. I want to play an inanimate object. Oh, I know what I want to play. A piece of food — or another organ! I want to put a voice to a spleen — a spleen, a liver, or an appendix.

— Vickie An

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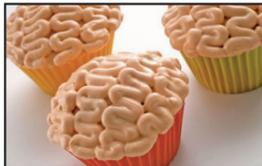
A grab bag of Halloween tricks and treats for a GHOULISH GATHERING

Coming up with new tricks to wow Halloween visitors and party guests every year can be a monstrous challenge. But don't be scared. We've got a treat for you: a grab bag of spooky decorations and frighteningly easy refreshments to get you in the spirit of the holiday.

— FamilyFun magazine

BRAIN CUPCAKES

Here's a treat to put you in a Halloween mindset. Spread a coat of light orange icing (we stirred drops of yellow and pink food coloring, and just a touch of green, into 2 cups of buttercream frosting until we had a hue we liked) on a dozen cupcakes. Then use a pastry bag fitted with a number 10 round tip to top them with fat zigzags. It works best to first pipe two zigzags down the middle and then fill in the sides.



SPIRIT JUGS

Stationed on a walkway or porch, these homemade lanterns will extend a



ghostly greeting and goodbye to all your holiday visitors.

YOU WILL NEED

- Clean plastic gallon milk jugs
 - Black permanent marker
 - Craft knife
 - String of 50 clear low-wattage holiday lights
1. Draw ghost eyes and mouths on the jugs. Tip:

Leave the caps on while you do this, so the jugs don't dent.

2. Use the craft knife to cut a half-dollar-size hole in the back of each jug (a parent's job).
3. Arrange the ghosts near each other and string the lights between them, stuffing several bulbs into each of the jugs.

BLACK BEAN CAT CRUDITÉS

Looking for a Halloween night snack that's both healthy and festive? This skeletal array fits the bill, no bones about it — just assorted fresh vegetables and a bowl of dip arranged in the shape of a spooky cat.

SPIDER HATCHLINGS

This is one egg that trick-or-treaters will scramble to get away from: an orb of hatching spiders hanging from an entryway ceiling or a door frame.

YOU WILL NEED

- White glue (we used a 7⁵/₈-ounce bottle)
- 2 bowls
- Plastic spoon
- 11-inch balloon
- Cheesecloth cut into 12 or so 3- by 18-inch strips
- Pin
- Clear fishing line
- Plastic spiders

1. Empty the glue bottle into a bowl. Then fill the bottle halfway with water, shake it to dilute any re-

maining glue, and add the contents to the bowl. Stir the mixture well.

2. Inflate the balloon to about 9 inches tall and set it aside in another bowl.
3. Individually dip the cheesecloth strips into the glue, gently squeeze out the excess fluid, and spread the strips flat on the balloon. Cover the balloon this way, leaving 3 or 4 small gaps and a 1½-inch opening around the knot for tying on the spiders later. Let the glue dry, rotating the balloon occasionally to speed the drying process.
4. Pop the balloon with a pin and remove it.
5. Tie a loop for hanging

the egg at one end of a long piece of fishing line. Near the top of the egg, insert the other end of the line through the cheesecloth, then reach inside and pull it out through a nearby gap and tie a spider to it. Gently pull the line back until the spider comes to rest against the inside of the egg, securing the line.

6. Use more fishing line to create strings of spiders. To tie them to the egg, thread one end of the line through the cheesecloth and out a gap, knot the line and pull the knot back inside the egg. Attach more spiders directly to the egg simply by poking two or three legs through the cheesecloth.

How old is too old to collect candy on Halloween?

Costume? Check. Bag for collecting several pounds of candy? Check. Proof of age? Whoa.

Many neighborhoods don't allow kids of all ages to trick or treat. In Lafayette, La., for example, some parishes only allow kids 12 and

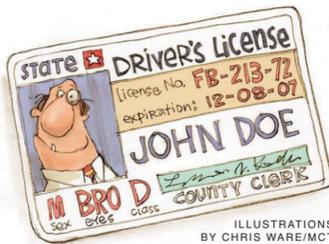
younger to collect candy on Halloween.

While some kids are told when to hang up their trick-or-treating bags, other kids have to make the decision on their own. And many kids and teens might be wondering, how old is too old to trick or treat?

You're never too old, said Willi B., 14, of Glen Ellyn, Ill. He plans to trick or treat until he leaves for college but he no longer wears a costume. "It's just a waste of money for a new costume every year," Willi said. "Just go out in your normal clothes."

Willi said he plans to head out with friends and collect a few pounds of candy. He admits that

In Your Face



ILLUSTRATIONS BY CHRIS WARE/MCT

some candy-givers have made comments about his lack of costume. "They'll say, 'Aren't you supposed to be dressed up?'" he said.

Hannah L., 14, of Chicago, said she will dress up but doesn't know

if she will be going trick or treating. Instead, she is hoping that one of her friends will throw a Halloween costume party.

"Ever since I turned 12, I'd rather go to a party like they do in the movies than go trick or treating," Hannah said.

Hannah plans to dress up as the television character Ugly Betty and said there shouldn't be an age limit on trick or treating. "Personally, I think teenagers who are too embarrassed to go trick or treating are insecure," she said.

Too embarrassed to wear a Piglet costume and ask strangers for candy? There are plenty of other cool ways to enjoy Halloween. Hannah recom-

mends renting a scary movie with friends and eating popcorn.

"I always like to watch the Halloween versions of episodes of TV shows that I know," Hannah said.

Another option is to dress up and pass out candy to trick-or-treaters. This means having complete power over the candy bowl without having to tromp around the neighborhood.

Kids also can attend Halloween parties in costumes, which is popular with adults, too. Or skip the costume and head to a haunted house — definitely not a babyish way to spend Halloween.

"I've always been too afraid to go to one of those," Hannah said.

— Emilie Le Beau



... So, you can't go either, huh?

