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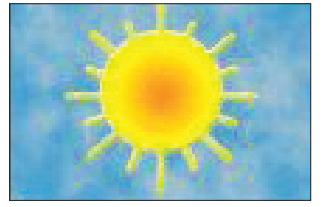


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BIG SPRING HERALD

WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 29, 2008



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 285

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

No fighting no more?

Two-fold program has reduced violence at Big Spring High School

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Big Spring High School administrators say that a new crack-down on student fighting is showing encouraging results. As long as there have been schools, there have been fights between students. But the problem reached serious proportions



Bancroft

last school year, BSHS officials said. "It was turning into a place I didn't want to work at," Assistant Principal George Bancroft said, noting that fighting and other disciplinary problems contributed to 25 teachers leaving the high

school last school year.

Led by Principal Mike Ritchey, high school administrators decided to readdress the school's response to fighting.

The result was the "We Won't Fight" program, which provided a carrot-and-stick approach to the problem.

The "carrot" of the WWF is a reward — in the form of a lon-

ger lunch break — to the student body if there are no reported fights within a three-week time frame.

On the other hand, the "stick" of the program is more severe penalties for fighting. Bancroft said the punishment for students involved in fights has increased from after-school suspension to a minimum of 10 days in the off-

campus Alternative Education Program.

Early results have been promising. While unable to provide statistics on fights during the previous school year, Bancroft said there have been only three altercations so far this term.

"I think that's pretty remarkable," Bancroft said. See **FIGHTING**, Page 3A

Aligator found, sent out of city

No word if owner charged

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

East side Big Spring residents can breathe a little easier today with the news that a missing alligator is no longer on the loose.

A 4-foot-long Caiman variety alligator briefly caused concern for residents and Big Spring Police Department officials when it turned up missing from its owner's home in the 1100 block of Lloyd Street Monday.

According to BSPD Lt. Robert Fitzgibbons, the alligator, which was being kept as a pet, was reported missing during the early afternoon Monday.

"The owner of the alligator contacted one of our animal control officers and notified him the alligator was missing," said Fitzgibbons. "It's unclear what actually happened to

the animal, but the owner seems to believe someone either stole the alligator or may have been in the process of making away with the reptile when it snapped at them, and they let it run off. Either way, it's possible the animal is running loose in that neighborhood or close by."

Fitzgibbons said the owner had a permit from the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife to keep the animal, but had failed to comply with the city ordinance on exotic animals.

"My understanding is he had the animal in Coahoma — where they don't have any ordinance on these types of animals — for some time, and city officials were unaware he had moved the animal

See **GATOR**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Ruth Nanny, a Big Spring State Hospital volunteer, left, visits with Lynda Elrod, a local businesswoman, and Kathy Laurence, a Big Spring State Hospital pharmacist, this morning during the open house for the facility's \$50,000 new Wellness and Activity Plaza. Approximately 150 people from the community attended the open house. The Plaza includes a covered area, a walking track, and a butterfly and meditation garden with a waterfall, surrounded by newly planted trees.

Sex offenders to be rounded up during trick or treat

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Area sex offenders will remain safely tucked away at the Howard County Courthouse this Halloween, according to officials with the District Adult Probation, as

the agency will hold mandatory meetings Friday night.

Kent Minchew, director of adult probation for the district, said sex offenders from Howard, Martin and Glasscock counties will gather for a probation meet-

ing at the Howard County Courthouse during traditional trick-or-treat hours.

"Most of these people are eager to comply with the meeting because it not only keeps the public safe, it keeps them safe as well,"

said Minchew. "They're all for it because they can't be accused of violating their probation because we know where they are and what they're doing."

"If they don't attend, I alert the Big Spring Police Department or

the Howard County Sheriff's Office and have them picked up. If they don't have an officer available, then I'll drive to their home and pick them up. Either way,

See **OFFENDERS**, Page 3A

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www.bigspringherald.com



Think safety first at Halloween

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

With Halloween just days away, many adults will find themselves looking for the perfect costume for their little ghouls and goblins, a search that could make — or break — the fun-filled night, local officials say.



Condray

According to Big Spring Fire Marshal Carl Condray, parents should prepare a "safety checklist" before deciding what costume to purchase or make for their children.

"You want it to be a

fantastic costume, but you shouldn't forget about safety," said Condray. "One of the most overlooked issues, especially with homemade costumes, is whether or not the costume is flammable. You need to make sure that the costume will not catch fire

See **SAFETY**, Page 3A

Elect



I am Joshua Hamby,
The Republican Candidate For Howard County Attorney
And I Am Asking That You Vote For Me On
November 4, 2008

It's Time For A Change!

Political Advertisement Paid For By Joshua Hamby

18106

Mavs hope to rebound with new coach, same players

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS —The posters harping on defense are gone from the practice court. So is the high-pitched, Cajun twang.

Otherwise, at first glance, the 2008-09 Dallas Mavericks sure look a lot like the group that got bounced in the first round of last season's playoffs.

There's Dirk Nowitzki, draining 3-pointers after 3-pointers.

There's Jason Kidd, 15 years into his career and still refining his jump shot.

There's Josh Howard, working on his game and, one incident-free day at a time,

his reputation.

There are a few new faces, mostly guys fighting for spots at the end of the rotation or the end of the roster.

There also are some old faces, like DeSagana Diop, traded away for Kidd in February, then brought back as a free agent over the summer; and Antoine Wright, acquired with Kidd but hardly used. He could've left as a free agent, but also signed over the summer and now is likely to start.

Whoa. There's a clue that something is different — and that leads us to the middle of the practice court, the biggest offseason

acquisition and the main reason the Mavs expect to rebound to the top tier of the Western Conference: their new coach, Rick Carlisle.

Carlisle brings a strong resume. However, his greatest attribute, to these guys, is simply that he's not Avery Johnson.

"Every coaching change brings fresh air," Nowitzki said. "It's been fun so far. He wants us to still have the same attitude Avery had here — be a tough, physical team — we're just trying to run a

See **MAVS**, Page 4B

World Series still on hold

Completion of Game 5 set for 7:37 p.m. today

By BEN WALKER

AP Baseball Writer

PHILADELPHIA — Fall Classic? More like the Rainfall Classic.

The threat of bad weather kept the World Series on hold Tuesday, leaving the Tampa Bay Rays stuck at a hotel in Delaware and the Philadelphia Phillies still close to a possible championship.

Sooner or later, the suspended Game 5 will resume in the bottom of the sixth inning with the score 2-all and someone will win this thing.

Just not yet. Besides, the baseball commissioner went home to Milwaukee.

They'll try again at 7:37 p.m. tonight with the Phillies leading three games to one in the best-of-seven matchup. Oh, the wind chill is expected to drop into the mid-20s — at least snow showers will be out of the forecast.

Already an odd Series, it'll get more weird whenever it starts up again — Phils ace Cole Hamels is set to lead off against Grant Balfour, and there's a chance both will be out of the game before the first pitch.

"It's kind of like overtime in a sense, I guess," Tampa Bay manager Joe Maddon said. "Or sudden victory."

The Phillies had hoped to wrap up their first title since 1980 on Monday night. But a steady downpour turned Citizens Bank Park into a quagmire, washing away the foul lines and turning home plate into a puddle.

It took a few innings before baseball decided it was time to call out the tarp and cover the field.

By then, every pitch and pop-up became an adventure as All-Stars were reduced to looking like Little Leaguers. The grounds crew kept putting down Diamond Dust to absorb the moisture, and it kept caking the infield.

"It's just the way it is," Maddon said. "There's no crying about it."

OK, no crying here. The manager who listens to Springsteen while filling out his lineup card was real calm — he'd already lost one game at 1:47 a.m., then saw this unexpected break force his Rays to relocate to a hotel 25 miles south in Wilmington.

Too late for complaining, anyway. A Series studded with big boppers such as Ryan Howard and B.J. Upton was no longer whacky — it was

See **SERIES**, Page 2B

Forced playoff

Lake View's straight sets victory presses Lady Steers into play-in game Saturday

By JONATHAN HULL

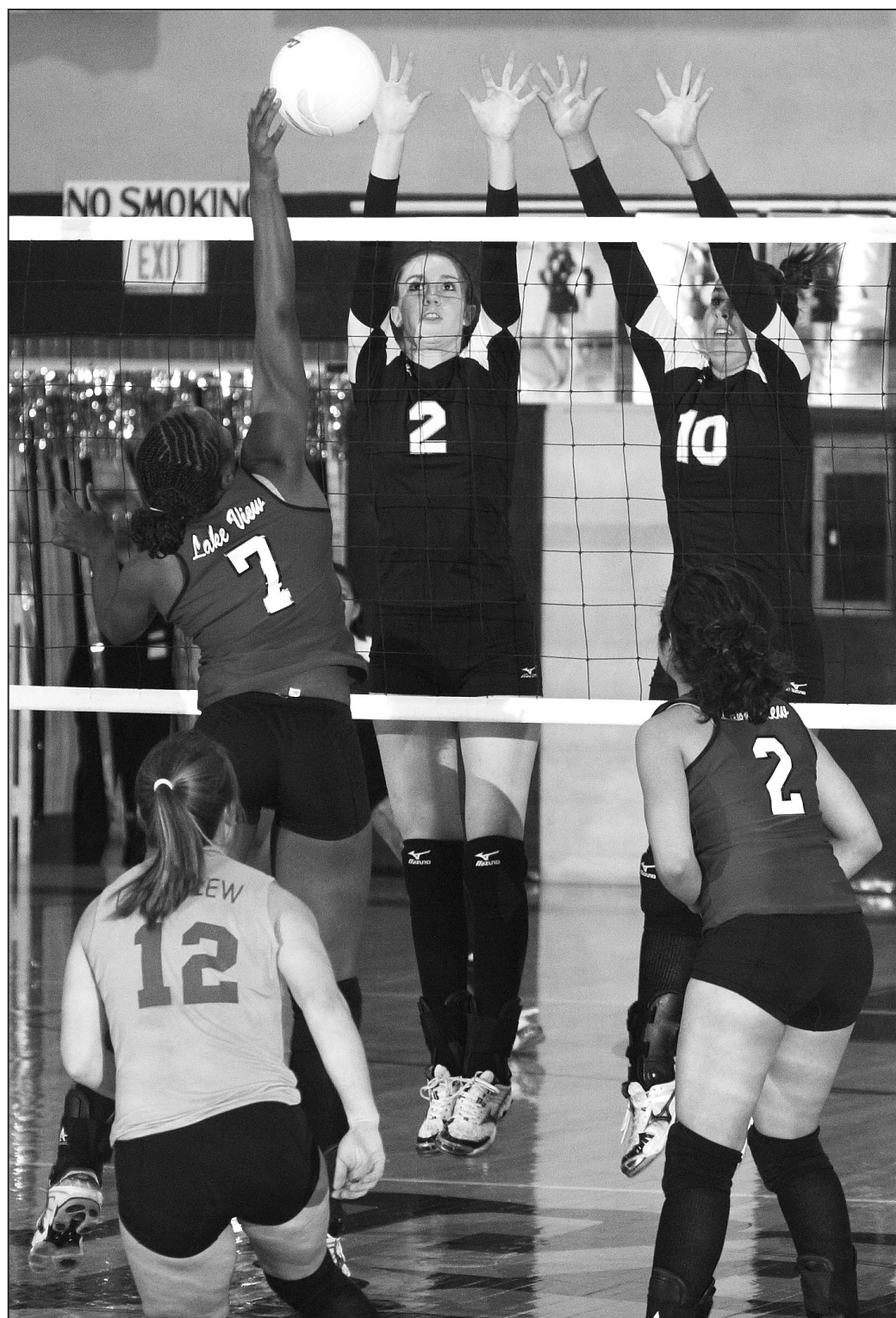
Sports Editor

It's not over yet.

The Big Spring Lady Steers Tuesday night District 4-4A match against the San Angelo Lake View Maidens was supposed to be the final contest of the season. The Maidens forced a change of plans, though.

After falling to Lake View in straight sets, 25-22, 25-18, 25-16, the Lady Steers now must face the Maidens in a play-in game to decide who receives the final postseason bid available out of District 4-4A. Heading into the match, the Lady Steers (6-31, 1-7) only needed to win to get into the postseason. Now the Maidens (13-28, 1-7) are tied with Big Spring

See **LADY STEERS**, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring's Macy Graves (2) and Halee Thomas (10) attempt to block a kill shot by Lake View Jaelyn Williams (7) in District 4-4A volleyball action Tuesday night at Steer Gym. Lake View won in straight sets, forcing a play-in game between the two teams to decide who gets the final playoff spot available in the district.

District 4-4A Volleyball Standings & Schedule

Team	District	Overall
Frenship*	8-0	32-5
Cooper*	6-2	21-16
Plainview*	4-4	13-21
Big Spring	1-7	6-31
Lake View	1-7	13-28

Tuesday's results: Lake View d. Big Spring, Frenship d. Cooper

* Clinched playoff spot

McCoy, Harrell duel in Shootout on the South Plains

By JIM VERTUNO

AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN — Call it the Shootout on the South Plains.

Big 12 football has become a weekly battle of gunslinging quarterbacks and only two — Texas' Colt McCoy and Texas Tech's Graham Harrell — are still undefeated.

That ends Saturday night in Lubbock, the No. 1 Longhorns (8-0) and No. 6 Red Raiders (8-0) meet.

If last year's 59-43 Texas win is any measure of what to expect

— McCoy and Harrell combined for 785 yards of total offense and 11 touchdowns — it could get wild in West Texas.

"They're both as good as any quarterbacks in the country," Texas coach Mack Brown said. "They both run their systems perfectly and they're as accurate as any quarterbacks I've ever seen."

There are plenty of crazy numbers to support a statement like that.

McCoy is the No. 2 passer in the country with 2,285 yards, 21 touchdowns and an uncanny

completion rate of 81 percent. His stellar play over the last three weeks in victories over No. 4 Oklahoma, No. 14 Missouri and No. 9 Oklahoma State have made him the front-runner for the Heisman Trophy.

Harrell could make his own claim for the Heisman with a victory that would put the Red Raiders in the national title hunt.

Harrell has riddled defenses for the last three years in coach Mike Leach's pass- and point-a-minute offense. This season he has 3,147 yards and 28 TDs.

His career numbers are staggering: He ranks No. 4 in NCAA history with 13,829 yards, and his 117 touchdown passes are tied at No. 3 with Hawaii's Timmy Chang (2000-2004).

But Harrell is sometimes dismissed as a product of Leach's system.

Since 2000, Tech quarterbacks have thrown for more than 42,700 yards, more than 24 miles. Three Red Raiders, Harrell, Kliff Kingsbury and B.J. Symons, rank among only six quarterbacks who have thrown for more than 5,000 yards in a season.

Those kinds of numbers impress McCoy regardless of the system. So do leadership and making plays to win games.

"I think every quarterback plays in a 'system,'" McCoy said. "You don't really think about that. You think about leading your team and what you have to do to make your team win."

These sons of high school coaches made a habit of winning under the Friday night lights in Texas, where both reached state championship games (Harrell

See **SHOOTOUT**, Page 4B

Sports in brief

MLB World Series schedule

Philadelphia Phillies vs. Tampa Bay Rays
(All games televised on Fox)

- Game 1: Phillies 3, Rays 2
- Game 2: Rays 4, Phillies 2
- Game 3: Phillies 5, Rays 4
- Game 4: Phillies 10, Rays 2 (Phillies lead 3-1)
- Game 5: Phillies 2, Rays 2 - Game suspended due to rain. Tentatively set for 7:37 p.m. today.
- Game 6: Wednesday at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m. (if needed)
- Game 7: Thursday at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m. (if needed)

Texas Shootout comes to Moss Creek Ranch

The Texas Shootout is a Tournament Hunter Bird Dog Challenge event being hosted by Moss Creek Ranch Saturday and Sunday.

This is a major event, offering an autobid into the Nationals with an opportunity to qualify for the World Championships.

There are different levels of competition for pointing and flushing dogs.

For more information on Bird Dog Challenge, visit www.nbdca.com.

Steers basketball boosters meeting Monday at ATC

The Big Spring Steers Basketball Booster Club is planning to meet at 8 p.m. each Monday for the next two weeks at the Athletic Training Center. All parents of boys basketball players for the junior high or high school are invited to attend.

Call Sam Segundo at 268-3025 with any questions.

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.

Take Note

• Midway Baptist Church at 6200 South Service Road is having its Community Wide Harvest Festival from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. tonight. There will be lots of prizes, candy and food — fFun for the whole family! Bring a friend and wear your costume (no scary ones, please). Come and enjoy Halloween in a Christian atmosphere.

• West Texas Pachyderm Club meets Thursday at noon at the Big Spring Country Club. The public is invited to attend and hear guest speaker Dr. Donald R. May of Lubbock. He will be speaking on "A Time for Courage." Please join us by phoning the country club at 267-8241 to make your lunch reservation. Cost of lunch is \$10 but is not mandatory for attending the meeting. We strongly urge everyone to come hear this very timely message.

• Big Spring High School Junior Class will meet at 6:15 p.m. Monday, Nov. 3 in the athletic training center. For more information, call Denise Carrillo at 816-1685.

• Confidential memory screenings are being offered by Accolade Home Care as part of National Memory Screening Day, a national initiative of the Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA). They will be held from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Nov. 18 at Room 214 at Scenic Mountain Medical Center, 1601 W. 11th Place. For information, call Accolade Home Care in Big Spring at 264-1164.

• The Eagles Lodge will offer chelos burritos from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 8, for \$8 per plate (includes drink and dessert). Takeouts will be available.

• Big Spring High School sweatshirts and hoodies are available by calling Denise Carrillo at 816-1685. Sweatshirts are \$20 each; hoodies are \$25.

• 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.

• A medical expense account has been established at Cosden Federal Credit Union for Kody Jackson, who was recently diagnosed with lymphoma in his right knee. He has no medical insurance and must start chemotherapy and radiation treatment as soon as possible. Kody is the son of Susan and Johnny Jackson. For more information, contact Cosden FCU at 264-2600.

• Mobile Meals needs volunteers to deliver meals Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. The organization delivers approximately 70 meals each day and needs drivers to donate just one hour per week. Mobile Meals also needs back-up volunteers to fill in when regular drivers can't make it. For more information, contact Macaria Cantu at 263-4016.

• Road to Recovery, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call Nancy Koger at 267-7809.

• The purpose of life is a life of purpose. Join Nurses' Hospice of Big Spring volunteer program and become an "Angel" or "Teen Angel" in someone's life today. Come by 1008 E. Third St. or call (432) 517-4073 to register.

• Bring joy and kindness to others by becoming a Compass Hospice volunteer. Help those at the end of life's journey. Make a difference in someone's life. Call 263-5999 to begin your journey.

• All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue has an account set up with Big Spring Salvage at 3608 N. Hwy. 87 for all types of metals and aluminum cans. Please tell them that your donations are for All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is also still taking weight circles off of all Purina brand dog foods. Send your Purina Weight Circles, to A.C.S. & R. at P.O. 871, Coahoma 79511. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is still accepting old and used cell phones and ink jet cartridges, for drop off locations in Big Spring and Coahoma, Call Melanie at 267-7387.

• Christ Community Fellowship is collecting infant car seats and carriers. These are given to new mothers who cannot afford them.

To donate your old or new car seats and carriers, call Karen Allen at 263-3517 or leave a message at Christ Community Fellowship, 263-love. All donations are appreciated.

• New Life Ministries Church of God In Christ is holding a soup kitchen every second and fourth Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 204 N.W. 10th. The meal is free. Call 264-0771 for more information.

• The Pet Patrol helps locate lost pets and owners of found pets.

To volunteer or for more information, call Melanie Gambrell at 267-PETS (7387).

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity Tuesday (Note: BSPD officials refused to provide an arrest report):

- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported in the 100 block of 21st.
- ASSAULT BY THREATS was reported in the 1900 block of Settles.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 1700 block of Yucca.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 1300 block of Madison.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 1700 block of Purdue and the 1500 block of Wood.
- FORGING OR ALTERING A PRESCRIPTION was reported in the 800 block of Scott.
- HARASSMENT was reported in the 700 block of 11th.

Sheriff's report

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity Tuesday (Note: Officials reported 55 prisoners in the Howard County Jail):

- SHANE THOMAS BATES, 25, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on charges of bail jumping and failure to appear.
- KYLE LEE BROWNFIELD, 18, was arrested by deputies on a motion to revoke probation for possession of marijuana.
- ARTHUR EARL CALLOWAY, 19, was transferred from BSPD after being arrested on a charge of theft of service.
- CHRISTOPHER ALTON RANEY, 36, was arrested by deputies on a charge of driving while license invalid.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service reported the following activity Tuesday:

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of Runnels. Service was refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of Runnels. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2800 block of Crestline. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 700 block of E. 15th. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported at the intersection of Sycamore and Settles. Two people refused service.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 3-4-21-33-37.
Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:
4-7-3-0. Sum It Up: 14

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:
0-5-2. Sum It Up: 7

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.

FRIDAY

• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY






• Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

MONDAY

• Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-5239.

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

Your Local Weather

Thu 10/30	Fri 10/31	Sat 11/1	Sun 11/2	Mon 11/3
 81/53	 81/53	 79/52	 78/54	 80/53
Mainly sunny. Warm. High 81F. Winds SSW at 10 to 15 mph.	Abundant sunshine. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the low 50s.	A few clouds. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the low 50s.	Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the mid 50s.	Mainly sunny. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the low 50s.

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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

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.
- 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.

FRIDAY

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Members bring their own lunch. 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.

MONDAY

- Keep Big Spring Beautiful meets at noon in the Cactus Room at Howard College.
- District Committee Lone Star of Big Spring meets at noon at 610 Scurry.
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 begins at 5 p.m. with weight-in at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.
- Evening Lions Club meets at 6:45 p.m. at Dragon China Buffet.
- Howard County ARC meets at 806 E. Third in the Bingo Hall. Call 264-0674 for more information.
- The Big Spring Cruisers club meeting at 7 p.m. in the Texas RV Park meeting room.
- Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.
- Big Spring Chapter No. 178 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

TUESDAY

- Coahoma Senior Citizen luncheon is set for 11 a.m. in the Coahoma Community Center.
- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Alzheimer's Association, the Greater West Texas Chapter meets at 2 p.m. in the Howard County Library conference room, 500 S. Main.
- VFW Post 2013 meets at 7 p.m. in the VFW Hall, 500 Driver Road.
- Gospel Singing in the Kentwood Activity Center at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

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 Ministries, 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.

CHANGING DATES

• The local National Alliance on Mental Illness group meets every two weeks in the basement of the Howard County Library. For dates and times, contact Ramona Blassingane at 263-9748.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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Special Occasion
October is
National Breast Cancer
Awareness Month.

SERIES

Continued from Page 1B

downright wacky.

Since the Phillies will come to bat in the sixth, fans won't have to wait long for the seventh-inning stretch. They might not even have time to buy a hot dog, or a cup of hot chocolate.

Hard to tell how many people will tune in even if — for once — a World Series wraps up before kids have to go to bed. The TV ratings for the first four games dipped by 25 percent from last year.

Tickets from Game 5 are good for the resumption, provided everyone can scramble back with their soggy stubs. The Phillies' ballpark holds nearly 46,000 people

and surely logistics will prevent some of them from returning.

Then again, a \$160 seat in the upper deck is suddenly more valuable for someone eager to see the Phillies try to win their first championship since 1980, and the city's first major sports title since the NBA's 76ers in 1983.

By Tuesday evening, over 50 tickets were available for resale on StubHub.com, spokeswoman Joellen Ferrer said. The prices ranged from \$599 to \$3,500.

Commissioner Bud Selig, who flew home for a day, was ready to return to Philly for as long as necessary.

"We'll stay here if we have to celebrate Thanksgiving here," he said in announcing the suspension.

If the Phillies win a battle of the bullpens when Game 5 resumes, they'll soon parade up Broad Street. If they lose, time to fly to Tampa Bay.

Delays in the World Series are rare. There has never been a rain-shortened game and this was the first suspension.

There were three straight washouts in 1962 with the Yankees and Giants, and a series of rainouts set up the

classic 1975 game between Boston and Cincinnati that Carlton Fisk won with a home run off the foul pole. In 1989, an earthquake interrupted Oakland and San Francisco for a week.

Rain intruded in Game 3 Saturday night, with the first pitch pushed back to 10:06 p.m. — the latest start time in Series history — and the last pitch coming shortly before 2 a.m.

Despite a shaky forecast, baseball tried to play Monday night. It was raining lightly at the start. Within a few innings, it was clear the showers weren't going to quit.

"You're not going to win against Mother Nature," Phillies pitcher Cole Hamels said.

With the wind chill dropping into the 30s, several players wore caps with ear flaps attached. Mud flaps would've been more appropriate.

"I was upset with some of the things that went on," Phillies manager Charlie Manuel said. "But I definitely was agreed with everything that happened, and I also agreed that the game definitely had to be stopped. The conditions were definitely unplayable."

LADY STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

for fourth place in the league standings.

"The biggest difference between Lake View and us tonight was Lake View came out to win. They were absolutely determined not to lose," said Big Spring Head Coach Meghan Blake. "We didn't play with the intensity and fire we needed to. We absolutely quit in the middle of the last set. We seriously just stopped trying to win once everything started going Lake View's way."

No official time and location has been set for Saturday's play-in game, however, Blake says the contest will most likely be played in Bronte or Sterling City.

Unfortunately, for the Lady Steers, it means they're forced into a play-offs scenario a few days earlier than they wanted to be.

"We've got to play much better defensively Saturday than we did today or the season is over," Blake said. "The girls have to realize how important these games are. We've had several opportunities over the past couple weeks to not be in this

situation and haven't been able to secure a playoff spot. We've got to get out on the court and want to win this one."

The reward for the winner of Saturday's play-in game is a date with top-ranked Hereford Tuesday. The Lady Steers have agreed to play Hereford in Levelland if they defeat Lake View.

Against the Maidens Tuesday, the Lady Steers were unable to capitalize on several opportunities to take over the match. The Maidens were guilty of more than 15 service errors. However, the Lady Steers returned the favor and never put together more than 4-point run in the entire match.

"I don't know how many serves Lake View missed, but it was a lot," said Blake. "They gave us opportunity after opportunity to win this match and we never took advantage. We'd either miss a serve in return or have another unforced error. Our focus just wasn't there."

Big Spring was either tied with or led the Maidens midway through each set. That's when Lake View turned it up a notch and put together a run the Lady Steers couldn't recover from.

Before the match, seniors Andrea

Claxton, Baylea Fox and Mirella Torres were each recognized as they played their final match at Steer Gym.

"These girls are going to be missed," said Blake. "Baylea has been terrific from us defensively and we're going to miss her a lot this year. She's the team leader in digs and hustles more than anyone. Andrea is a great hitter and has led us in kills all season. She's going to try and put the ball exactly where you tell her to. Mirella works her butt off in practice. She's always showing up and pushing her teammates even when she's not getting a lot of playing time. She's never taken a practice off."

"It's hard when you lose seniors, but this is a young team," she continued. "We have to move on without them, but they definitely had an impact on this squad."

San Angelo Lake View
defeats Big Spring
25-22, 25-18, 25-16

Kills — Andrea Claxton 8, Halee Thomas 7, Macy Graves 4, Desiree Anderson 2, Cerbi Ritchey 1.
Assists — Ritchey 19.
Blocks — Anderson 1, Claxton 1, Thomas 1.
Block Assist — Graves 1.
Aces — Ritchey 1, Anderson 1.
Digs — Baylea Fox 5, Valerie Ross 4, Claxton 3, Sloan Davis 3, Ritchey 2, Thomas 1.

In **Sunday's**
Big Spring Herald



Making lemonade from lemons

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American Profile

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- 2007 Chevrolet C1500 Crewcab SL - Lt. Blue w/Gray Cloth, One Owner, Nice Truck, Has Only 29,000 Miles. Was \$24,995 **Sale Price \$23,995**
- 2006 Chevrolet Avalon - Black w/Tan Leather, All Power, On-Star, Local One Owner. Was \$27,995 **Sale Price \$23,995**
- 2007 Ford F150 Supercrew 4X2 XLT - Silver w/Gray Cloth, Local One Owner, Like New, Has Only 28,000 Miles. Was \$21,995 **Sale Price \$20,995**
- 2007 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT 4X2 - Black w/Gray Cloth, Ford Certified Unit, 6 Year 100,000 Mile Warranty, Has Only 27,000 Miles. Was \$24,995 **Sale Price \$23,995**
- 2006 Ford F250 Crew Cab Lariat Powerswtroke - Black w/Gray Leather, Local One Owner. Was \$28,995 **Sale Price \$25,995**
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- 2005 Ford F250 Crew Cab 4X4 Powerstroke King Ranch - Maroon And Tan w/Leather, All Power, One Owner. Was \$30,995 **Sale Price \$28,995**
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- 2004 Ford Ranger Supercab XLT - Tan w/Tan Cloth, Great Little Truck, All Power, CD, Low Miles. Was \$12,995 **Sale Price \$11,975**

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- 2007 Ford Expedition Edge - Brown w/Tan Leather, Loaded, DVD, 6 Disc CD, Radio, Camera. Was \$28,995 **Sale Price \$27,995**
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- 2004 Chevrolet Tahoe LT - Gray w/Leather, All Power, Local One Owner w/57,000 Miles. Was \$21,995 **Sale Price \$18,995**
- 2004 Honda CRV LX 4X4 - White w/Cloth, V-6, All POWER, DVD, Local One Owner. Was \$13,995 **Sale Price \$10,995**
- 2004 GMC Yukon XL SLT - Maroon w/Leather, All Power, One Owner. Was \$18,995 **Sale Price \$17,995**
- 2004 Nissan Xterra SE - Silver w/Cloth, All Power, One Owner w/36,000 Miles. Was \$19,995 **Sale Price \$13,995**

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- 2008 Ford Focus SE - Silver w/Gray Cloth, All Power, Great MPG, Bought At Ford Program Sale, Only 19,000 Miles. Was \$18,995 **Sale Price \$16,995**
- 2008 Ford Focus SE - White w/Tan Cloth, All Power, Great MPG, Bought At Ford Program Sale, Only 12,000 Miles. Was \$18,995 **Sale Price \$16,995**
- 2007 Nissan Versa SL - Dark Stone, Cloth, Beat Gas Prices, Like New, Well Taking Care Of. Only 30,000 Miles. Was \$15,995 **Sale Price \$14,995**
- 2007 Chrysler Sebring - Dark Stone, Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner, Like New, Great Looking. Only 30,000 Miles. Was \$14,995 **Sale Price \$13,995**
- 2007 Lincoln TownCar Signature LTD - White Silk, w/Tan Leather, Lincoln Certified 6 Year 100,000 Mile Warranty, Great Looking Towncar, Must See. Only 12,000 Miles. Was \$31,995 **Sale Price \$29,995**
- 2007 Ford Fusion SEL - Silver, w/Gray Cloth, Bought At Ford Program Sale, Like New, All Power, Great MPG, Only 24,000 Miles. Was \$17,995 **Sale Price \$16,995**
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- 2004 Nissan Maxima SL - Silver w/Leather, Moonroof, All Power, One Owner w/50,000 Miles. Was \$23,995 **Sale Price \$17,995**
- 2003 Cadillac DeVille. - Tan w/Leather, All Power, One Owner. Was \$14,995 **Sale Price \$12,995**

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Angel Food orders for Nov. 22 Delivery

Orders for the Nov. 22 delivery will be taken at the following times

North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church, 2702 N. Birdwell

10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday, Oct. 31 & Nov. 7
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1 & No. 8
Big Spring Mall
10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 1 & 8

Regular Box - \$30

- 1.5 lb. New York strip steak
- 3 lb. IQF split chicken
- 2 lb. baby back pork ribs
- 2 lb. chicken chunks
- 28 oz. jumbo charbroiled beef patties with gravy
- 1 lb. smoked sausage
- 1 lb. ground turkey
- 1 lb. green beans
- 1 lb. diced sweet potatoes
- 10 oz. peanut butter
- 15 oz. cranberry sauce
- 7 oz. beef-flavored rice & vermicelli
- 20 oz. shoestring fries
- 32 oz. reduced fat shelf-stable milk
- 6 oz. pancake mix
- one dozen eggs
- one dessert item.

Senior/Convenience Box - \$28

10 nutritionally balanced, fully cooked meals-heat & serve and contain 3 oz of protein, a starch and two vegetables or fruit: Sweet & Sour Chicken, Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Chicken Ala King; Beef Cabbage Casserole; Chili Con Carne; Chicken with Creole Sauce; Ground Beef Teriyaki Stir Fry; Chicken Rice Pilaf, Turkey Tetrazzini; Chicken Stew.

Thanksgiving Dinner Box - \$30 (feeds avg. of four)

7 lb. (avg.) Perdue Roasting Hen; 2 lb. heat and serve mashed potatoes; 2 lb. heat and serve corn; 2 lb. heat and serve green beans; 17 oz. cornbread stuffing; 4.5 oz. brown gravy mix; 15 oz. cranberry sauce; 8 oz. dinner rolls; one dessert item.

With the purchase of any of the above boxes you may order any or all of the below listed specials.

Special 1: 7 lb. Grilled Box - \$21

- 2 lb. choice cut beef roast
- 2 lb. St. Louis Style pork ribs
- 2 lb. hamburger beef steaks (4x8 oz)
- 1 lb. mild Italian sausage with mozzarella cheese

Special 2: 4.5 lb. Meat Combo - \$21

- 1 ½ lb. bone-in Ribeye steaks (2x12 oz)
- 1 ½ lb. Kansas City strip steaks (2x12 oz)
- 1 ½ lb. boneless center-cut pork chops (4x6 oz)

Special 3: 4.5 lb. Flavored Boneless/Skinless Chicken Breast - \$18

- 1 ½ lb. rotisserie Flavored (4x6 oz)
- 1 ½ lb. lemon-fajita flavor (4x6 oz)
- 1 ½ lb. sun-dried tomato flavor (4x6 oz)

Special 4: Fresh Fruit and Veggie Box - \$21

- 3 lb. North Carolina new crop Red Rome apples
 - 3 lb. Washington State new crop Granny Smith apples
 - 4 lb. new crop Florida navel oranges
 - 1 stalk California celery (in sleeve)
 - 4 lb. premium Idaho baking potatoes
 - 3 lb. new crop North Carolina sweet potatoes
 - 2 ruby red Florida grapefruit
 - 1 lb. premium California carrots (cello wrapped)
 - 2 lb. large-medium yellow onions
- Visit our Web-site, angelfoodministryofbigspring.org or call

Rice and Baylor med school discuss merger

HOUSTON (AP) — Officials at Rice University and Baylor College of Medicine, one of only nine stand-alone medical schools in the United States, are discussing a possible merger.

It would enhance the reputation of Rice, a top private university, and bring Baylor the security of a university affiliation, which is often necessary to keep medical schools afloat financially, the Houston Chronicle reported Tuesday for its online edition. Baylor has been a free-standing medical school since cutting ties with Baylor University in 1969.

“Rice and Baylor have a long history of valuable collaborations and are exploring the possibility of a closer affiliation,” the schools said in a joint statement. “Preliminary talks are under way.”

The statement said the schools would provide no further details at this time.

Baylor’s ability to balance its budget while building a hospital during the economic downturn brought the merger talks to light.

In November, Rice President David Leebron is sched-

uled to make presentations to faculty in Rice’s different schools. He has begun meeting with key faculty to gauge their interest.

Water-logged Brazos Belle riverboat being scrapped

WACO (AP) — A once popular riverboat in Waco is being sold for scrap.

The new owners of the water-logged Brazos Belle have decided the cost would be too high to restore the riverboat, which formerly featured a restaurant.

Some Waco businessmen, including Jim Hawkins, recently acquired the 160-foot vessel for \$10,000.

Hawkins says an engineer advised the group that renovations were not feasible.

The Waco Tribune-Herald reported in its online editions Wednesday that the Brazos Belle, once a fixture along the Brazos River, will be sold in pieces.

The Brazos Belle was damaged in 2007 spring flooding. The bow of the riverboat dipped below the surface of Lake Brazos last November.

OFFENDERS

Continued from Page 1A

they have to attend.”

Minchew said the meeting consists of counseling, as well as a presentation by Victim Services, and marks the fourth consecutive year the probation office has held the mandatory gathering, which was based on a similar program used in San Angelo.

“In the past, we would just drive to their homes

and make sure their porch lights were off and they weren’t doing anything to encourage trick-or-treaters,” said Minchew. “It is much easier just to have them all at one central location.”

The District Adult Probation Office won’t be the only local agency looking out for children this Halloween.

“Officers from the street crimes division of the Big Spring Police Department and those out on patrol

will be checking on the homes of all convicted sex offenders throughout the evening,” said BSPD Lt. Terry Chamness. “Not just the ones that are still on probation. Unfortunately, if they aren’t on probation anymore, all we can really do is warn the children and strongly discourage the offenders.”

Chamness said the best weapon parents and area residents have against sexual predators is information.

“There is a list of the sexual offenders in Big Spring on the BSPD Web site, located at www.bigspringpd.net as well as a link to the DPS Web site, which also has a list,” said Chamness. “That’s the best way for people to protect themselves and their children in a situation like this.”

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

FIGHTING

Continued from Page 1A

able considering where we were at last year,” Bancroft said. “It’s a testament to the kids policing themselves as well as teacher involvement ... Anytime you get 1,000 teenagers together, if you can keep fights down to that degree, you’ve got to consider the program a success.”

But the WWF program goes beyond simply stop-

ping fights, he added.

“We are just trying to be very proactive about things,” Bancroft said. “Part of the problem last year was that we weren’t paying attention to the little things early and often and that led the way to ... fights.”

The “little things” Bancroft mentioned, things like dress code violations and tardiness, have been addressed as well. That “bottom-up” approach is a major reason for the re-

duction in fighting.

“We didn’t do anything dramatic, we just did the right thing,” Bancroft said. “Showing up to class on time is not a novel concept. Dressing as you’re supposed to is not a novel concept. Being respectful to a teacher is not a novel concept.”

“Mr. Ritchey was looking for a way to reward positive behavior, rather than just penalizing incorrect behavior,” Bancroft said. “We just want to do

the right thing for people doing the right thing.”

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

GATOR

Continued from Page 1A

to Big Spring,” Fitzgibbons said.

A brief news release from

the police department this morning stated that the missing gator had been found “alive and well” and returned to its owner, who has relocated the animal outside Big Spring city limits. No other informa-

tion was available at press time.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

SAFETY

Continued from Page 1A

if the material comes in contact with a flame, even for a very brief period.

“Keep in mind that your children will be going up on porches with pumpkins that have a lit candle. Children can brush against a pumpkin with long, flowing costumes. Using a non-flammable material is really essential.”

Condray said comfort and visibility are also important.

“Make absolutely sure that the child can move freely and see well. Remember that children will be climbing steps and walking through yards,” said Condray. “Make sure your child can be seen. Select costumes that are bright colored. If that is not possible, be sure to decorate the costume with reflective tape or reflective fabric paint.

“Reflective tape can be incorporated into the costume. For instance, if your child wants to be a witch with a black cape, cut stars out of reflective tape and put them all over the cape.

Having an authentic-looking costume is nice, but it’s never worth it to sacrifice the safety of our children.”

While being seen by others is a major concern come Halloween night, Condray said it’s important to consider how well the children can see, as well.

“You can avoid a lot of scrapes and bruises by making sure your child can see well,” said Condray. “A lot of times that means cutting larger eye holes in mask. Also keep in mind it’s much harder for children to breath with a mask on, so you may want to cut mouth holes as well.

“Face paint is a really good alternative to masks because it doesn’t impair the children’s vision like a mask does. However, some face paints with a lot of petroleum product in them can cause the children to break out or develop a rash. Be sure to test the paint on the child a few days before the holiday to be sure they won’t have a reaction to it.”

Condray also suggests sewing a name tag into your child’s costume, giving their name, address and phone number.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission suggests these guidelines for avoiding problems during the Halloween evening:

- For greater visibility during dusk and darkness, decorate or trim costumes with reflective tape that will glow in the beam of a car’s headlights. Bags or sacks should also be light colored or decorated with reflective tape. Reflective tape is usually available in hardware, bicycle and sporting goods stores.
- To easily see and be seen, children should also carry flashlights.
- Costumes should be short enough to prevent children from tripping and falling.
- Children should wear well-fitting, sturdy shoes. Mother’s high heels are not

a good idea for safe walking.

• Hats and scarfs should be tied securely to prevent them from slipping over children’s eyes.

• Apply a natural mask of cosmetics rather than have a child wear a loose-fitting mask that might restrict breathing or obscure vision. If a mask is used, however, make sure it fits securely and has eyeholes large enough to allow full vision.

• Swords, knives and similar costume accessories should be of soft and flexible material.

For more from the USCPSC on Halloween safety, visit <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpubs/pubs/100.html>

Contact Staff Writer

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Early voting ends Oct. 31
Election Day is Nov. 4

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10. Cowboys



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Bowlarama**

1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Forsan
4. Stanton
5. Grady
6. Sands
7. Garden City
8. Texas Tech
9. Texas A&M
10. Cowboys



**Tank & Roxie
Buffalo Country Fina**

1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Forsan
4. Stanton
5. Grady
6. Sands
7. Garden City
8. Texas Tech
9. Texas A&M
10. Cowboys



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1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Seagraves
4. Stanton
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10. Giants



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4. Stanton
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6. Sands
7. Garden City
8. Texas Tech
9. Colorado
10. Cowboys



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1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Forsan
4. Stanton
5. Grady
6. Sands
7. Garden City
8. Texas Tech
9. Texas A&M
10. Cowboys



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4. Plains
5. Loraine
6. Sands
7. Garden City
8. Texas
9. Colorado
10. Cowboys

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6. Sands
7. Garden City
8. Texas Tech
9. Texas A&M
10. Cowboys

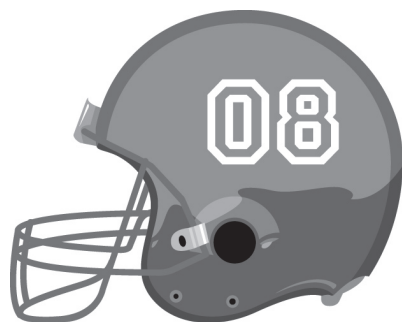


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1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Seagraves
4. Stanton
5. Grady
6. Sands
7. Garden City
8. Texas Tech
9. Texas A&M
10. Cowboys

Enter To Win \$50 At These Participating Merchants

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



THIS IS FOOTBALL SEASON!! WEEK #13

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
PublisherJohn A. Moseley
Managing EditorBill McClellan
News Editor

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

I guess I just don't understand politics. We have one person running for the office of President of the United States who associates with numerous people/organizations of questionable background. Some of these people publicly spew their hate of this country but yet this man, who has worked with them, could be elected to lead our country.

Over the summer, the House, Senate and President signed a bill that actually gives ACORN 4 percent of our mortgages. If you sign a new mortgage, 4 percent goes to fund ACORN. In the past, ACORN has admitted to voter registration fraud and yet they continue to do it to this day. Why are these people not in jail? You and I would be if we did something fraudulent. We send former President Jimmy Carter, and others, to developing countries to observe elections to certify they are legitimate, yet we have such corruption here in the U.S. Again, this man has done business with them.

This person says he's not going to raise taxes for those making \$250,000 or less but where is he going to get the money to pay for all of these free, "The government will take care of all your needs" programs? He says he'll tax big business who will, of course, just pass on those added expenses to the consumer — you and me. Another possibility is that some of these big businesses will go out of business because they can't afford the extra taxes. This puts many more people out of a job.

If I work hard and become successful he also wants to redistribute the wealth that I make because many people are too lazy to get off their behinds and care for themselves and their families. Part of the reason they won't get a job and make something of themselves is because the government is doing too good of a job of paying for many of their needs — again, paid for by the taxes you and I pay. I am sick and tired of having worked sometimes two jobs to get ahead while others sit around with their hands out for others to take care of them. And many of these same people will vote for this man because of all the "free" things he says he's going to give them.

Soon I just might have to

"spread the wealth" that I worked for, and so will many of you. If I wanted to live in a socialistic country I'd move to Russia.

This "We must share and redistribute the wealth" person, showed on his 2006 income taxes that he gave 6.1 percent to church/charity. Many hard-working people tithe and give 10 percent to their church while also giving to charities. And, his contributions only started to increase just before deciding to run for president. Guess he thought he should start practicing what he will mandate the rest of us to do.

Some people are now pointing out that one VP candidate recently spent \$150,000 for clothes and make-up. If she hadn't done this they would have pointed out how backwoods and dowdy she looked. Why aren't these same people concerned that one candidate is currently spending eight times more than his opponent to buy this election. Why isn't anyone concerned about the money spent by all the candidates, starting a year and a half ago, to win this coveted position. We probably could have paid most of the recent bailout with this money.

Part of the reason for the mess our country is in right now is because the government mandated that everyone is entitled to the American dream of owning a house. My husband and I worked hard, saved money and had a good down payment when we bought our first house — 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 800 square feet. Too many people today are starting with 4 bedrooms, 2½ baths, 2,700 square feet and they put nothing down. Both the people buying a house and the mortgage companies got greedy and now we all have to pay for it.

People get discouraged listening to the one-sided news they hear on TV about how bad the "recession" is, but, Wal Mart's parking lot is still full and Red Mesa Grill and many of the other eating establishments' parking lots are full every night. When I go to Midland to shop the stores are full of people spending money.

Think about this: "A government big enough to give you everything you want, is big enough to take away everything you have." — Thomas Jefferson

RITA M. BROWN
BIG SPRING

Put aside faults and ponder qualities

After three months of negative ads, you might think that both John McCain and Barack Obama were monsters bent on destroying America.

That's probably not true. Certainly, our two nominees are highly imperfect candidates. But they also have much to recommend them.

So it's worth putting aside their faults for a moment and considering the best case for each man, on his own merits.

Let's start with Obama. You can't have an honest discussion about his candidacy without mentioning race, because the simple fact is — in the most abstract sense — it would be a moral good to have an African American president.

That doesn't mean one should vote for Obama primarily, or even partially, because of his race. It means that whenever an African American does ascend to the White House, it will be a proud moment for our country. There are a lot of hucksters and bigots who exaggerate and exacerbate America's racial problems, but that doesn't mean the country doesn't have those problems.

Obama has been criticized for abandoning certain positions in a calculated fashion. For instance, he voted for the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act renewal after saying he would filibuster it; he declined public financing for his

campaign after promising to take it; and he recently adopted Hillary Clinton's proposed moratorium on foreclosures, which he mocked during the primaries.

In each instance, Obama saw advantage in making a promise and then breaking it. That doesn't bolster confidence in Obama's promises.

But, really, who trusts politicians anyway? Seen in another light, Obama's ruthless repositioning is reassuring. One concern about his candidacy is his limited foreign policy experience. But if he's as calculated in dealing with Kim Jong Il as he has been in the campaign, he'll be a tough, canny head of state.

Obama's biggest selling point is his temperament — not the same as judgment, by the way — which appears to be genuinely first-class. He's a pretty cool customer.

Obama seems to start by giving people the benefit of the doubt. He isn't prone to snap decisions or shooting from the hip. And he thinks about the medium and long term.

In short, he's deliberative.

And you could make a case that temperament is the single most important quality of a good president.

Then there's McCain. For starters, McCain's legislative record suggests that not only does he know how to work with Democrats, but he also enjoys doing so. Better still, McCain has made a career of tweaking his own party — always a sign of good character.

McCain's experience in the military and as a longtime member of the Senate Armed Services Committee has helped him understand

the limitations and merits of hard power.

He also understands that a great power should reward its friends and punish its enemies. In the long run, this realist outlook is likely to net more friends, because there is no greater provocation than perceived weakness.

As for McCain's temperament, it's very different from Obama's. The Democrat's campaign has called McCain "erratic," which isn't quite right, but it does get at something. McCain has a tendency to freelance — for instance, in his meandering proposals on the financial crisis over the last month.

His decision-making is more intuitive than analytical on big-picture items, such as immigration and the Russian invasion of Georgia. (He's actually quite analytical when it comes to policy details, such as budgets and military tactics.) But this tendency could be a substantial deterrent to America's enemies.

Uncertainty creates problems for our adversaries. If the bad guys can't game out how a President McCain would respond to provocation, they're likely to be more tentative in their hostilities. Which is probably why some of America's enemies, including Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and Hamas, have openly rooted against him.

And now back to our regularly scheduled campaign.

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.

JONATHAN
V.
LAST

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• **KEL SELIGER**
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BIG SPRING
CITY COUNCIL

Russ McEwen, Mayor — Home: 263-0907; Work (Russ McEwen Insurance): 267-1413
Greg Biddison — Home: 267-6009; Work (Greg's Grill): 267-7121.

Manuel Ramirez Jr. — Home: 268-9692; Work (VAMC): 263-7361.

Stephanie Horton — Home: 264-0306; Work (VA Medical Center): 263-7361.
JoAnn Staulcup — Home: 263-4980.

Gloria McDonald — Home: 263-4835. Work: 263-7615.

Troy Tompkins — Home: 267-8769. Work: 263-0180.

Making government more efficient

During all three presidential debates, the candidates faced a question about how the rapidly growing budget deficit would impact their tax policies and spending plans. The moderators were right to inquire about the rising deficit, but they were asking the wrong question.

When it comes to our long-term budgetary outlook, the most immediate and important concern our next president will face is not deciding which campaign promises to put on hold, it's figuring out to make our government run more efficiently and effectively so that it can do the work of the people with increasingly limited means.

In this regard, our next president has his work cut out for him. The federal bureaucracy he will inherit is not even close to operating on all cylinders. It's struggling to keep pace in our increasingly complicated world. Our failure to adequately regulate new financial products like derivatives and credit default swaps contributed to our current economic crisis. We import more and more products from abroad, but struggle to keep toxic toys and tainted food out of U.S. homes.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates has talked about how our enemies abroad are better at using new media to get out their message than our government is.

Many of government's operational problems come from a tendency of federal leaders to talk policy and forget operations. The emphasis on policy is understandable, but it is also a recipe for failure.

There are two fundamental reasons why operational issues are prone to be overlooked: First, it's hard to change what you don't measure, and our government operates

in an environment with very few meaningful measurements for performance and operational health.

Second, and perhaps more significantly, it is run by short-term political leadership that has little incentive to focus on long-term issues.

Here are six things our next president should do as a starting point to improve government effectiveness:

Get the people piece right. Congress usually tries to fix government by reshuffling the organizational charts. As the Sept. 11 Commission said, "The quality of the people is more important than the quality of the wiring diagrams."

The president should focus on getting the right talent into government both in our civil service and in the 4,000 political appointments you will make.

He should start by issuing a call to service during your inauguration. He then needs a plan to engage our federal workers to better use their talents.

The key to an engaged workforce is strong leadership, and he should invest in training and developing the managerial skills of senior government leaders.

Pick professionals, not politicians. Some of the most important posts the president will fill are senior management posts such as chief financial officers, chief information officers and chief human capital officers.

These are non-ideological positions that should be filled with management experts, and to be effective, they'll need to be a core part of the president's leadership team.

Engage the civilian workforce early. The 1.9 million members of our civil service will be the president's greatest asset. He needs to use them. That starts with having the president's appointed leaders reach out immediately to career employees to let them know that they are integral to achieving your plans.

—Don't throw the baby out with

bath water. It's become standard operating procedure for every president to propose his own, new and improved government reform plan. Nothing ever really gets fixed, because it's also common practice to wipe out all the work the previous guy did. As a result of starting over from scratch every four or eight years, everyone involved — from employees to Congress — has change fatigue and grows skeptical. The next president's early wins should come from an assessment of what is working, and building and improving on those efforts.

Develop measurements to promote accountability. To be effective, our next president must develop meaningful metrics to identify what's working and what isn't. Best practices can be replicated across government, and exposed trouble spots can be confronted before they become public problems of Katrina proportion.

Take ownership of the management issue. Federal managers will not see government reform as a priority unless it is a priority for the president. The next president must make it clear to political appointees and civil servants that management issues are integral to achieving his goals.

Rather than worrying about how to keep a particular campaign promise that requires a spending increases, our next president should be focusing on his broader and more important commitment to revitalize our federal government. Improving the way our government functions won't be easy and it isn't likely to grab headlines, but it is essential to achieving the goals of the next administration.

Max Stier is President and CEO of the Partnership for Public Service. Readers may contact him at the Partnership for Public Service, 1100 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 1090 EAST, Washington, DC 20005 or www.ourpublicservice.org.

How To Contact Us

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

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

SHOOTOUT

Continued from Page 1B

won; McCoy didn't). Harrell played in Ennis, a town of about 16,000 just beyond the reach of the Dallas-Fort Worth suburbs but still within a hotbed of big school recruiting. Harrell was attracted to Tech by Leach's brand of offense that goes for it on fourth down when conventional wisdom says to kick

and will let a quarterback throw and throw and throw. McCoy grew up in Tuscola, just the sort of tiny West Texas farming town that the Red Raiders typically mine for talent and where love of Texas Tech runs deep. "Basically, my whole high school goes to Texas Tech," McCoy said, before quickly adding that he always wanted to be a Longhorn.

MAVS

Continued from Page 1B

little more." Johnson's tenure went from story-book start to a finish that was more like Greek tragedy, with critics pointing to hubris as a big part of his downfall. Despite getting Dallas to its first finals, against the Heat in 2006, and winning a club-record 67 games the following season, he'll be remembered most for blowing a 2-0 lead over Miami and the colossal first-round knockout by eighth-seeded Golden State in 2007. Add in a first-round ousting by New Orleans in '08 and Johnson lost his final three playoff series, making for an obvious divorce a few days later. When Mavs owner Mark Cuban and front-office boss Donnie Nelson went hunting for a coach for the first time, they quickly zeroed in on Carlisle, whose Xs and Os are similar to Johnson's. They also left the core of the roster intact.

That sent a clear message: The mix of players was good, the formula decent; the problem was the coach. "We'll have to wait and see if (a coaching change) is what we needed or if it was the players," Nowitzki said. "It should be a fun, exciting year." Carlisle comes in with strong credentials from two years in Detroit and four in Indianapolis. He has a Coach of the Year trophy for his bookshelf, two trips to the conference finals and playoff berths in every year but his injury-ruined finale with the Pacers. After taking over in May, Carlisle spent his summer traveling — to Germany to spend time with Nowitzki, to New York to see Kidd, to North Carolina for Howard, and so on. He got more out of it than frequent-flier miles. "It's just spending time with guys, establishing the rapport and the relationship," Carlisle said. "When I went to Indiana, I didn't sign my contract until Sept. 3 of '03, so I didn't have a summer. It's very challenging if you don't have that period of time."

Part of Carlisle's message was for players to get in the best shape of their lives. That's a must to handle his "playoff style" defense and the Kidd-led fast breaks it's meant to produce. There weren't many of those under Johnson, who called nearly every play. Maybe it made sense for Jason Terry or Devin Harris to look to the bench every trip up the court; but with Jason Kidd? "I thought we were going to get him and run more, not have him spot up and shoot 3s on the weak side," Nowitzki said. "I think by opening up the game, making it faster, it will help him make everybody around him better. That's what he's been doing his whole career — run and get guys open looks, get guys open layups."

Johnson's explanation for the tight leash was that Kidd didn't know the system. There was constant chatter about needing a training camp together to get things right. Now Carlisle has used that luxury to install the up-tempo approach and a free-flowing, Princeton-esque system for the time they don't get running. And, Carlisle notes, "We don't have a playbook." "I'm excited about it because there's so many different options and it puts guys in so many different places," Kidd said. "Reggie (Miller, who played for Carlisle in Indiana) said that Coach is going to put you in a place to be successful and that's all you can ask for." Kidd is in the final year of a \$103.6 million, six-year contract. There may be no better incentive than a guy trying to up the bidding on the last big contract of his career. Because of his rocky performance during his short time with the Mavericks, and because he'll be 36 by season's end, Kidd had no leverage to push for an extension during the summer. Cuban didn't offer one, either. But make no mistake — both sides would love for Kidd to prove he deserves to stay. "I'm not really playing for a contract because I love to play," Kidd said. "More or less, I'm playing for a chance to win a championship."

The linchpin to Dallas' success might be Howard, the athletic small forward who was an All-Star two seasons ago but whose career has been sinking ever since. Expected to blossom playing with Kidd, he withered instead. During the playoffs, Howard went on local radio to talk about how much he enjoys smoking marijuana then, two days later, went to a party a few hours after losing Game 4. All that turned out to be a prelude to a summer that included an arrest for drag racing (police clocked him going 94 mph in a 55 mph zone) and landing on YouTube saying he doesn't celebrate the national anthem because he's black. Howard apologized at the start of training camp. The best way to distance himself from it all is by living up to expectations as a great wing man for Kidd on the fast break and by again becoming the team's most versatile defender.

"He's one of our really important guys, without question," Carlisle said. "He's a guy that's going to have a lot of motivation to play well, too." There are other key players for Dallas, such as the center tandem of Diop and Erick Dampier, a crowded swingman rotation featuring Jerry Stackhouse and Devean George, and Terry. Brandon Bass is coming off a breakout season and the Mavs would love for Wright or former slam dunk champion Gerald Green to be this year's breakout player, although they're part of that crowded swingman rotation, too. How Dallas does, Carlisle said, comes down to whether they can be patient on defense and frenetic on offense. It's a challenge, but he believes the Mavericks can be "a special team." To outsiders, it comes down to whether he can take Johnson's leftovers and win right away. "My style is to help players get better and to coach the things that lead to winning basketball in the playoffs," Carlisle said. "It's a learning process every day." In the end, maybe we'll all learn how much the old coach was to blame.



By Steve Becker

Common-Sense Defense

East dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 6
♥ 7 4
♦ 9 5 2
♣ J 10 9 7 6 3

WEST
♠ Q 10 7 2
♥ J 10 3
♦ A 8 4 3
♣ 5 2

EAST
♠ J 9 5 4
♥ Q 9 8 2
♦ 7 6
♣ A 8 4

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

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 2 NT Pass 3 NT
Opening lead — two of spades.

Most players learn very early on that, on defense, it is often correct to hold up an ace in a suit declarer is trying to establish — particularly at notrump. There are exceptions to every rule, however, and a defender must constantly be on the lookout for them lest he allow declarer to steal an unmakeable contract. Take this case where South was in three notrump and West led a spade. Declarer won the first spade in his hand, preserving dummy's ace as an entry, and led the king of clubs.

suit school, did exactly that, whereupon South continued with the queen. East had no choice but to duck again in order to kill the rest of dummy's clubs. However, this was a classic case of the successful operation in which the patient died. After the second club held, declarer drove out the ace of diamonds and wound up with nine tricks — two spades, two hearts, two clubs and three diamonds. As can be seen, if East had taken the first club and returned a spade, the contract would have failed. With the clubs blocked and the spade ace no longer in dummy, declarer could not have come to more than eight tricks. How can East know to win the first club? By applying ordinary common sense. East should reason that if South has the K-Q-x of clubs, declarer cannot be prevented from enjoying dummy's clubs regardless of when East takes the ace. East must therefore assume that South has either the K-Q or K-x of clubs. In either case, it is right to take the first club and return a spade to kill dummy's entry. Observe that it does not help South in the actual deal to lead the club queen first rather than the king. East should still win the queen with the ace and return a spade on the assumption that declarer has either the K-Q or Q-x of clubs.



List of Women Killed Statistics

Year: 2006

The Texas Council on Family Violence (TCFV) researches, to the best of its ability, the stories of women who were killed by their intimate partner in Texas. This list names these victims and gives brief accounts of their deaths. Details are gathered from public records, including the Texas Department of Public Safety's Uniform Crime Report-Supplemental Homicide Report, media articles and Texas law enforcement agencies. There are, undoubtedly, other victims of domestic violence who remain uncounted. Authorities will sometimes refer to the offender as an "acquaintance" or "unknown" because the relationship was not determined at the time of death. The list below reflects the most accurate information available to TCFV researchers at the time of compilation.

Age	Victim Gender
Minimum Age 14	Female 120
Maximum Age 68	
Average Age 36.13	

Children	Cause of Death
Children Killed 6	Beaten with Hands 9
Children who Lost Parents 77	Shot 76
	Stabbed 17
	Strangled 12
	Weapon Used 2
	Other 3

Perpetrator Relation to Victim	Victim Race
Common law wife 15	African American 21
Estranged wife 12	Anglo/Caucasian 51
Ex-girlfriend 9	Asian 4
Ex-wife 4	Hispanic 40
Girlfriend 29	Unknown 4
Wife 51	

Nature of Death	Police Deaths and Injuries
Homicide 77	Police Killed
Murder-suicide 43	Police Injured

Victim Services
263-3312
All Calls Confidential

18251

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

17199

Why not check this out? At the library

While the library is not actively purchasing books recorded on cassette tapes, occasionally we come across some excellent buys. Some books on cassette that we have recently purchased are: "Mojave Crossing," "The Day-breakers," "Ride the River" and "Jubal Sack-ett" by Louis L'Amour; and Sidney Sheldon's "The Best Laid Plans" can be found in the BOT area. The library also has on CD "The Choice," by Nicholas Sparks.



HOLLIS MCCRIGHT

It is getting to be that time of year when new books are very slow in coming. I have reached back in the vault for some interesting books that have been previously reviewed. They are still here and an excellent read.

Have you ever been confronted by a medical decision and was unsure what to do? "Port in the Storm: How to Make a Medical

Decision and Live to Tell About It" (782.421 GIL C) by Cole A Giller M.D., might be of assistance. Loaded with down to earth, practical easy to understand information and written in a clear, concise way, it will be invaluable. Facts, opinion and guidelines for making choice are discussed openly and freely. This is an excellent resource and is well worth reading.

We have a series written by Ben Rehder, a Texas writer, who writes mysteries with a game warden as the main character. The library has about four or five on his books and each one has been checked out more than 20 times. The debut mystery was "Buck Fever" and Rehder sets the scene for opening day. With deer season only a week away, Game Warden John Marlin has his hands full trying to ride herd on poachers who just can't wait to start hunting. The last thing he needs is someone shot in a field, especially someone wearing a deer suit. While investigating, he finds a buck that is acting just plain loopy. Meanwhile, a body is found in

a nearby dam. As Deputy Bobby Garza begins to investigate this mysterious death, other strange things start to happen. Can the two lawmen piece the puzzle together? There are more: "Bone Dry" (MYS REH B), "Flat Crazy" (MYS REH B) and "Guilt Trip" (MYS REH B). These are so funny to read.

Have you been sneezing and rubbing your itchy, burning eyes? Well, folks, it is that time of year again — fall! Allergens are in the air, aimed directly at your eyes and nose. Here is a resource that can help to calm the air: "The Allergy Sourcebook" (616.97 ZEL M) by Merla Zellerbach. In her book, she describes common allergic reactions, finding a health care professional, treatment and test choices, and simple steps that can be taken to alleviate allergic retains. This is an excellent resource, especially for dusty, windy West Texas.

Better Homes and Gardens published a series of do-it-yourself books. Titles on the shelves are: "Decorative Painting" (698.14 BET H), "Tiling" (693.3

BET H), "Fences and Gates" (717 BET H), "Wiring Step-by-Step" (621.319 BET H) and "Plumbing Step-by-Step" (696.1 BET H). If you need help with dry walling, Stanley has the "Complete Drywall" (790.12 MER B). Go have fun!

Lauren Bacall is a leading lady of classic movies. Hollywood does not have many roles for older women (only older men) and yet she was able to attain superstar status. On the silver anniversary of her first biography, she has written another. "By Myself and Then Some" is the story of life before and after Bogie's death.

Seems like I read in the paper that nose art is the drawings/paintings that pilots painted on their aircraft. By painting their airplanes with shark's teeth, a skull and names like "Killer" or "The Flying Undertaker," these pilots were letting their enemy know that they were the hunted rather than the hunter. It was designed to intimidate the enemy. The library has received two books: "War Paint: Fighter Nose Art from WW II and Korea" (358.418

CAM J), compiled by John M. Campbell and Donna Campbell and "Vintage Aircraft Nose Art: Ready for Duty" (358.418 VAL G), by Gary M. Valant. These two books can be found in the New Book Area. Be sure to visit the Commemorative Air Force Museum in Midland. They have an excellent collection of nose art.

We will be closed Tuesday, Nov. 11 for Veteran's Day and will close at 3 p.m. Nov. 26 for the Thanksgiving holidays. We will reopen Monday, Dec. 1 at 10 a.m. For the Christmas holidays, we will close at 3 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 24 and will reopen Monday, Dec. 29. We will also be closed Jan. 1.

The library is located at 500 S. Main St. Our phone number is 264-2260. The Web site is www.howard-county.lib.tx.us. If you have a reference questions, we now offer (during library hours) response by e-mail. You may e-mail us at hclref@hotmail.com. It is checked several times a day and a prompt (hopefully) response will be forthcoming.

Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County

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Some foods can make your pets very ill

Shared Knowledge From Animal Control

By **TRELLIS LUCAS** and **LINDA PEREZ**

We need to be aware of some of the foods that can make our pets sick and can even cause death.

Some foods considered good for people can be very dangerous for pets. This is not an exhaustive list and any decision to provide your pet with food not specifically intended for animals should be discussed with your veterinarian or pet nutritionist. For more information on foods that could be dangerous to pets, visit the American Animal Hospital Association Web site. The following foods, plants and chemicals can be dangerous to your pet:

Alcoholic beverages. Anti-Freeze (ethylene glycol) The Day-Glo green colored and sweet smelling fluid often seen on the pavement near curbs and at service stations is often lethal, even in small quantities. Poisoning by anti-freeze is considered a serious medical emergency which must be treated by a qualified veterinarian immediately.

Cocoa bean and bark mulch. Apricot, avocado, peach, cherry pits and apple and plum seeds.

Mistletoe, holly, oleander, larkspur, lantana, vinca, poinsettias and wisteria plants.

Candy particularly chocolate which is toxic to dogs, cats and ferrets. Any candy or foods containing Xylitol, this includes

sugar free breath mints and sugar free chewing gum.

Tea and coffee, this includes grounds and beans, chocolate covered espresso beans.

Bulbs of most of the lily family.

Potato and tomato leaves and stems, which are mainly the green part of the plant.

Pampas grass, rhubarb leaves, mushroom plants, walnuts, macadamia nuts, mustard seeds.

Raisin and grapes, onions and onion powder.

Hops, (used in home beer brewing)

Yeast dough.

Any moldy or spoiled food.

Garbage/Food Poisoning

This is primarily a problem of dogs and cats that roam freely around

the farm or neighborhood with easy access to "road kill," garbage cans, etc.

However, any animal that eats decaying, rotten carcasses or other food material (i.e., left-over hamburger) that has been contaminated by bacteria and bacteria-produced toxins is susceptible to this poisoning. The toxicity of the rotten food lies largely in toxins produced by bacteria in the food material. Clinical signs can include vomiting, diarrhea (which may be bloody), fever, abdominal pain and weakness. Severely affected animals can go into shock and even die as a result of the absorbed bacterial toxins.

For those animals unrestricted in their activity, it is impossible to prevent possible

garbage poisoning (as well as the all too common "hit-by-car" injuries which are a much more common and deadly risk). However, if your animal has "escaped" and you suspect he or she has gotten into something which was infected with such bacteria frequently the odor of the meal is obvious even before the pet throws it up. Be aware that this type of poisoning can be quite serious and follow up with

your veterinarian if you see any signs of illness (repeated vomiting, lethargy, depression).

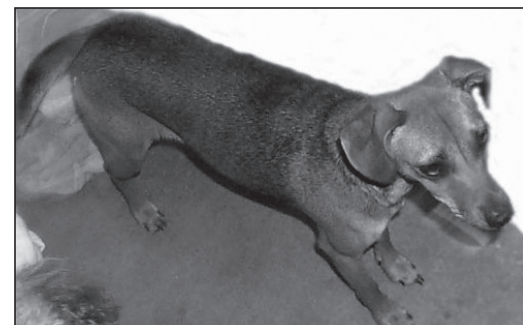
For additional information consult your veterinarian or A Pet Owners Guide to Poisons from AVMA, at www.avma.org.

If you have questions about pets or animal regulations in Big Spring, contact Animal Control at AC@bigspringpd.net

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1					5			7
5			6		3	1		
	5			3		9		7
9		6		4				2
		7	8		9			1
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News in brief

Calif. man killed by police in mistaken identity

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — A newlywed killed by police after he stepped outside his home to confront suspected burglars was shot in a case of mistaken identity, police said.

Julian Alexander died after being shot twice in the chest by a police officer who was chasing four burglary suspects early Tuesday morning.

Police Chief John Welter said the officer ran into Alexander, mistook him for one of the four juvenile suspects and shot him.

“The last thing we ever want to do, No. 1, (is) take somebody’s life,” he said. “And we certainly don’t want to take the life of someone who is mistakenly believed to be involved in some criminal activity.”

“He was a good kid, trying to protect his house,” said Alexander’s mother-in-law Michelle Mooney. “And the police, instead of asking questions, they just shot first. Somebody has to be held responsible for this.”

Welter would not release the officer’s name, but said he was a 10-year veteran of the department. The officer was placed on paid leave pending an investigation.

“It’s mistaken identity, but that doesn’t bring my son back,” said Alexander’s father Jerry.

He said Alexander got married last weekend and his 19-year-old wife is expecting a baby in December.

Alexander’s wife said she heard the gunshots and tried to go into the yard, but the officer told her to stay inside. From the window they saw Alexander handcuffed and bleeding in the front yard. Paramedics treated him at the scene and took him to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

The four burglary suspects were detained and interviewed, but no arrests were made.

Welter said investigators would interview the officer to determine what commands he gave to Alexander before he fired. Investigations will be conducted by the FBI, the Orange County Office of Independent Review and the district attorney’s office, Welter said.

‘America’s sheriff’ faces corruption trial

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP) — Six years ago, Orange County Sheriff Michael Carona looked into national television

cameras and told the abductor of a 5-year-old girl not to eat and not to sleep: Deputies were right behind him.

The abductor was quickly caught and the way Carona handled the case propelled him into the national spotlight and prompted CNN’s Larry King to nickname him “America’s sheriff.”

Now, Carona is grappling with legal woes of his own. The square-jawed, three-time sheriff goes on trial Wednesday in a federal public corruption case charging him with conspiracy, mail fraud and witness tampering. Carona, 53, has vigorously denied the charges.

Also charged are his alleged mistress, who has pleaded not guilty to conspiracy, mail fraud and bankruptcy fraud; and his wife, who has pleaded not guilty to a single count of conspiracy.

Deborah Carona will stand trial after her husband, but his alleged mistress — an attorney — will be tried with him.

The trial is expected to last two months and a series of conversations secretly recorded by one of Carona’s former assistant sheriffs and closest friends promises to figure prominently in the case.

In court papers, the government accuses Carona, who has since stepped down, and his friends of accepting nearly \$700,000 in cash, gifts, kickbacks and questionable loans in exchange for political favors beginning in 1998.

Prosecutors say many of those bribes came from Don Haidl, a wealthy businessman.

In exchange, authorities

say, Carona made Haidl an assistant sheriff and put him in charge of a new reserve deputy program that allowed him to hand out badges and concealed weapons permits in a pay-to-play scheme.

Haidl pleaded guilty last year to tax fraud and agreed to become an undercover informant.

Prosecutors expect to present Haidl as a witness, as well as another former assistant sheriff and an attorney who allegedly provided kickbacks for legal referrals.

It’s unclear if Carona will testify in his own defense, and his legal team has declined to comment on the case or the secret recordings.

Charges possible in boy’s death

BOSTON (AP) — A prosecutor said Tuesday he is investigating whether criminal charges should be filed after an 8-year-old boy accidentally killed himself while firing an Uzi submachine gun at a gun fair in western Massachusetts.

Christopher Bizilj (Bah-SEAL) of Ashford, Conn., shot himself in the head when he lost control of the 9mm micro submachine gun as it recoiled while he was firing at a pumpkin. Police have said the shooting at the Machine Gun Shoot and Firearms Expo at the Westfield Sportsman’s Club on Sunday was an accident.

Hampden County District Attorney William Bennett said he is investigating whether the gun fair violated the state’s firearms law by allowing the boy to fire the machine gun, and also whether it was “a

reckless or wanton act to allow an 8-year-old to use a fully loaded automatic weapon.”

“At this point in the investigation I have found no lawful authority which allows an 8-year-old to possess or fire a machine gun,” Bennett said.

Daniel Vice, senior attorney with the Washington-based Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, said his interpretation is that Massachusetts law specifically prohibits “furnishing a machine gun to any person under 18.”

“It is unconscionable that the gun fair allowed and encouraged young children to fire machine guns,” he said in a statement.

On Monday, Westfield police Lt. Hipolito Nunez said it is legal in Massachusetts for children

to fire a weapon if they have permission from a parent or legal guardian and they are supervised by a licensed instructor.

The section of the statute that mentions that exception, however, only lists rifles, shotguns and ammunition — and is silent on the use of machine guns.

Gay marriages to begin next month in Connecticut

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — Officials are gearing up for the day next month when gay and lesbian couples can begin tying the knot in the state of Connecticut.

Attorneys involved in the gay marriage case said Tuesday that couples can begin picking up marriage license applications sometime on or after Nov. 10. A judge at the New

Haven Superior Court, where the case began in 2004, still must decide the precise date.

The state Supreme Court’s decision allowing same-sex marriages became official Tuesday with its publication in the Connecticut Law Journal. The publication triggered a 10-day period when motions for reconsideration can be filed.

Attorney General Richard Blumenthal said after that period ends on Nov. 10, the Superior Court judge can act on the high court’s ruling.

The judgment may come later that week because Nov. 10 is a Monday, a busy day for the Superior Court, and Tuesday is a state holiday.

The state Department of Public Health is having new marriage applications printed that reflect the change.



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Skinhead plot news sweeps suspect's hometown

By **WOODY BAIRD**
Associated Press Writer

BELLS, Tenn. — In a rural Tennessee county where you can't buy alcohol or even find a Wal-Mart, residents of tiny Bells stopped each other to ask if anyone knew the pale-skinned young local accused of plotting to kill dozens of black people, including Barack Obama.

It was a jolt to find out on Monday that a 20-year-old who grew up among them was one of two white supremacists accused of plotting a national killing spree that would ultimately target Obama, the Democratic candidate for president.

The town surrounded by fertile cotton fields is safe and certainly not known for breeding neo-Nazis, they agreed.

"If we had any skinheads in this county I wasn't aware of it. We hardly know what they are," said Sam Lewis, who lives across the street from the mother of suspect Daniel Cowart. Cowart, he said, grew up in the comfortable, well-maintained neighborhood and wasn't known as a troublemaker.

"His mother is a real sweet, nice girl, and this comes as a shock and a surprise," Lewis said.

Cowart is charged along with Paul Schlesselman, 18, of Helena-West Helena, Ark., with planning a killing spree to shoot and decapitate black people and top it all off by attacking Obama. The charges were made public Monday.

Cowart and Schlesselman are charged by federal authorities with possessing an unregistered



AP photo

This undated photo obtained from a MySpace webpage shows Daniel Cowart, 20 of Bells, Tenn. holding a weapon. Federal agents have broken up a plot to assassinate Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill. and shoot or decapitate 102 black people in a Tennessee murder spree, the ATF said Monday.

firearm, conspiring to steal firearms from a federally licensed gun dealer and threatening a candidate for president. They were being held without bond.

Authorities describe the two as neo-Nazi skinheads, and an affidavit from a federal agent says they devised a plot to kill 88 people — beheading 14 of them. The numbers 88 and 14 are symbolic in the white supremacist

community.

The killing spree was initially to target a predominantly black school, which was not identified in court documents. It was to end, authorities said, with the two suspects — dressed in white tuxedos and top hats — blasting guns from the windows of a speeding vehicle aimed at Obama.

The young men said they expected to die in the

attack, the affidavit said. Obama's campaign had no immediate comment on the alleged plot.

In Helena-West Helena, on the Mississippi River in east Arkansas' Delta, Schlesselman was described as a "troubled child" by a woman who works with his adoptive father, Mark Schlesselman.

The father works as a parts manager at Riddell Flying Service, said Marty Riddell, a co-owner of the company located in one of the nation's poorest regions, trailing even parts of Appalachia in its standard of living.

Riddell said she tried to offer Paul Schlesselman a pet lizard she couldn't care for, but was warned by his family that "he would hurt it."

"They might have done that man a favor picking that kid up," Riddell said. "He was a troubled child already."

On the other hand, a former high school classmate of Cowart's in Bells said he was quiet but friendly. But it took Lacy Doss a minute to recognize the young man in the news photo brandishing a large rifle.

"I was shocked to think I was sitting in class with this guy and now he's being charged with some crazy stuff," said Doss, 18.

"He was a nice person, to me anyway. He was quiet. He really didn't talk much."

Joe Byrd, a lawyer representing Cowart,

said he was reviewing the charges against his client "as well as the facts and circumstances of his arrest" and was not yet prepared to comment.

No one answered the door at Cowart's mother's house, and no lights were on inside.

Matt Hawkins, 21, the clerk at a filling station-convenience store in the center of the town of 2,300 residents about 70 miles northeast of Memphis, said customers asked each other about Cowart, looking for people who might know him.

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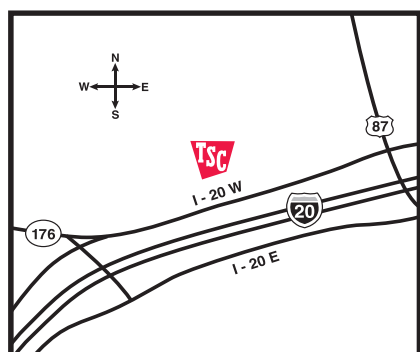


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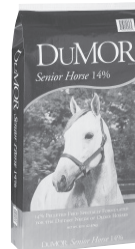
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5 :PM	News ABC	News ABC	Locura Noticiero	Lopez Lopez	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	Raymond Friends	Cortes Israel	BBC Business	Cash Cab Cash Cab	Movie: Jeepers Creepers, Creepers, Jonathan	Unsolved Mysteries	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Wizards of Waverly Hills	Horn Interrupt	SportsCenter
6 :PM	News ABC	Jeopardy! Fortune	Querida Enemiga	Two Men Two Men	News CBS	12 Corazones	News NBC	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Israel Prophecy	News-Lehrer News-Lehrer	Made Made	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order		Suite Life Montana	Football NFL Live	NBA Shoot-around	
7 :PM	Pushing Daisies	Pushing Daisies	Cuidado-Ángel	Obama Obama	Entertain Christine	Doña Barbara	Deal or No Deal	Payne Payne	Israel Scott	Ride Along	Time Wrp Time Wrp	Jason Goes to Hell: The Final Friday	CSI: NY	Law & Order	Movie: Holla, Michael Bergin	Madden Madden	NBA Basketball: Phoenix Suns at San Antonio Spurs	
8 :PM	Private Practice	Private Practice	Fuego en la Sangre	MLB Baseball: World Series Game 6 -- Phillies at Rays	Criminal Minds	El Rostro de Analia	Lipstick Jungle	Payne Payne	Light of the Southwest	Great Performances	MythBusters	Movie: Wilard, Jackie Burroughs	Law & Order	Comic Blk Car	Life De	Madden Madden	NBA Basketball: Lakers at Clippers	
9 :PM	News ABC	News ABC	Impacto Noticiero	King-Hill	News CBS	Noticiero	News NBC	Sex & Dr. Young	Israel	Charlie Rose	Prototype This!	Movie: The Ultimate Fighter	Law & Order	Comic Blk Car	Life De	Madden Madden	NBA Basketball: Lakers at Clippers	
10 :PM	Nightline	Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	King-Hill	News CBS	Noticiero	News NBC	Sex & Dr. Young	Israel	Charlie Rose	Prototype This!	Movie: The Ultimate Fighter	Law & Order	Comic Blk Car	Life De	Madden Madden	NBA Basketball: Lakers at Clippers	
11 :PM	Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live	Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live	La Hora de la Risa	Law Order: CI	Late Late Show	Decisiones	Late Night	Movie: Pay It Forward, Haley Joel Osmont (DVS)	Israel	Smiley Smiley (Off Air)	Time Wrp Time Wrp	Movie: Christine, Alexandra Paul	CSI: NY	Without a Trace	Movie: Holla, Michael Bergin	So Raven	Baseball Cory	
12 :AM	News Paid	News Paid	Amarte-Pecado	RENO 911	Insider	Programa Pagado	News	News	Sanchez	Light of the Southwest	Prototype This!	Movie: Pet Sematary	Star Trek: Voyager	Without a Trace	The Wire	Emperor Dragon	Series of Poker	
1 :AM	Foreclose Paid	Light Paid	Humor	Humor	Humor	Humor	Humor	Humor	Humor	Humor	Humor	Humor	Humor	Humor	Humor	Humor	Humor	Humor

DENNIS THE MENACE

"CAN WE SKIP RIGHT TO THE SEQUEL?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

"The best thing to learn first is how to learn."

HAGAR

HONI, I'VE TRIED TO SHIELD YOU FROM THE HARSH REALITIES OF LIFE OVER THE YEARS... BUT NOW YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO LEARN THE ONE BASIC AND INESCAPABLE FACT OF LIFE... MEN DON'T PICK UP THEIR DIRTY CLOTHES!

BC

ARE YOU GONNA DRESS UP FOR HALLOWEEN THIS YEAR? NAH - I DON'T CONDONE ALL THAT HOO-HA.

WIZARD OF ID

WHAT DAY AM I SUPPOSED TO VOTE? TO VOTE FOR THE KING, IT'S NOVEMBER 4. I'M VOTING FOR HIS OPPONENT. THEN IT'S THE 5th.

BLONDIE

WHAT'S THE HARDEST PART ABOUT RUNNING YOUR BUSINESS? WELL, MY BOSS IS A REAL JERK SOMETIMES. BUT YOU'RE THE BOSS! I KNOW. THAT'S THE ONLY REASON I CAN TALK SO CANDIDLY ABOUT IT.

AGNES

GREAT MOTHER OF ALL YIKES! WHAT HAPPENED? I WAS PERFECTING MY COSTUME. AMY THE LIBRARIAN GAVE ME A PICTURE OF SAMUEL B. KROTTY, A FAMOUS MASS MURDERER FROM THE TWELFTH CENTURY WHO SUPPOSEDLY STILL HAUNTS BROWN COUNTY. UM... HIS HEAD ISN'T SHAVED. POPE JOHN THE TWENTY-THIRD WAS ON THE OTHER SIDE AND I FORGOT WHICH WAS WHICH.

HI AND LOIS

WHAT WAS THE NAME OF THAT GUY I MET AT THE PARTY LAST WEEKEND? I DON'T KNOW, WHY DON'T YOU GOOGLE HIM?

This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Oct. 29, the 303rd day of 2008. There are 63 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Oct. 29, 1929, "Black Tuesday" descended upon the New York Stock Exchange. Prices collapsed amid panic selling and thousands of investors were wiped out as America's "Great Depression" began.

On this date: In 1618, Sir Walter Raleigh, the English courtier, military adventurer and poet, was executed in London.

In 1901, President McKinley's assassin, Leon Czolgosz, was electrocuted.

In 1923, the Republic of Turkey was proclaimed.

In 1940, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson drew the first number - 158 - in America's first peacetime military draft.

In 1956, "The Huntley-Brinkley Report" premiered as NBC's nightly television newscast, replacing "The Camel News Caravan."

In 1956, during the Suez Canal crisis, Israel invaded Egypt's Sinai Peninsula.

In 1966, the National Organization for Women was formally organized during a conference in Washington.

In 1967, Expo 67 in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, closed after six months.

In 1979, on the 50th anniversary of the great stock market crash, anti-nuclear protesters tried but failed to shut down the New York Stock Exchange.

In 1994, a gunman fired more than two dozen shots from a semi-automatic rifle at the White House. (Francisco Martin Duran was later convicted of trying to assassinate President Clinton and was sentenced to 40 years in prison.)

Today's Birthdays: Writer-producer Dominick Dunne is 83. Bluegrass singer-musician Sonny Osborne (The Osborne Brothers) is 71. Country singer Lee Clayton is 66. Rock musician Denny Laine is 64. Singer Melba Moore is 63. Musician Peter Green is 62. Actor Richard Dreyfuss is 61. Actress Kate Jackson is 60. Interior Secretary Dirk Kempthorne is 57. Actor Dan Castellana ("The Simpsons") is 51. Country musician Steve Kellough (Wild Horses) is 51. Comic strip artist Tom Wilson ("Ziggy") is 51. Singer Randy Jackson is 47. Rock musician Peter Timmins (Cowboy Junkies) is 43. Actress Joely Fisher is 41. Rapper Paris is 41. Actor Rufus Sewell is 41. Rock singer SA Martinez (311) is 39. Musician Toby Smith is 38. Actress Winona Ryder is 37. Actress Tracee Ellis Ross is 36. Actor Trevor Lissauer is 35. Actress Gabrielle Union is 35. Actress Milena Govich is 32. Actor Brendan Fehr is 31. Actor Ben Foster is 28. Rock musician Chris Baio (Vampire Weekend) is 24.

Thought for Today: "Moral indignation is in most cases 2 percent moral, 48 percent indignation, and 50 percent envy." - Ai Vittorio De Sica, Italian movie director (1901-1974).

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Answer to previous puzzle

T	H	I	S	B	L	A	B	C	O	A	T			
O	A	T	H	L	A	T	E	A	P	L	U	S		
E	V	E	R	A	T	T	N	R	E	S	T	S		
S	E	M	I	C	H	I	C	K	E	N	O	U		
E	L	K	C	H	I	T								
M	U	S	K	E	T		T	O	U	S	L	E		
E	S	T		S	I	N	A	I		N	C	A		
C	H	E	E	S	E	I	T	T	H	E	C	O	P	S
C	E	E	S		P	O	S	E	S		U	S	E	
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P	A	P	A		I	N								
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A	R	D	O	R		C	O	D	A		J	A	I	L
D	I	G	I	N		E	V	E	N		A	L	A	S
E	E	L	S		S	E	A	T			M	E	R	E

PHARMACY

HEY, WHAT GIVES WITH THIS PROFESSIONAL DISPENSING FEE YOU'VE ADDED TO MY MEDICATION? AS A PHARMACIST, I HAVE TO BELONG TO MANY PRICEY PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. OTHERWISE KNOWN AS GOLF CLUB MEMBERSHIPS. AH, OF COURSE.

SNUFFY SMITH

MAW, FETCH ME TH' BATH BRUSH, NAIL CLIPPERS AN' LILAC WATER !! WHAT'RE YOU GITTIN' ALL FANCIED UP FER, PAW?

Newsday Crossword

NO CHOICE by Kevin Donovan
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 Syrup flavor
- 6 Unscrupulous schemes
- 11 Lady's address, maybe
- 14 Orchestra instruments
- 15 Visitor from afar
- 16 Feel poorly
- 17 Cops, formally
- 19 Hockey surface
- 20 Actress Longoria Parker
- 21 Stepped on it
- 22 Got better
- 24 Banquet workers
- 26 Singer Guthrie
- 27 Feeling of wonder
- 28 Forest feature
- 32 Goes on and on
- 35 Fanatical
- 36 Crime-lab evidence
- 37 Misfortunes
- 38 Of a metropolis
- 39 Scarlet and carmine
- 40 G-man employer
- 41 Appraises
- 42 Witch's bestowal
- 43 Toads-to-be
- 45 Part of the family
- 46 List ender
- 47 Linear measurements
- 51 Fine fiddles, for short
- 53 Prepare, as a piano

DOWN

- 1 Sulks
- 2 More than
- 3 Of the Arctic or Antarctic
- 4 Hawaiian welcome
- 5 Stays away from
- 6 Secure locations
- 7 Clumsy one
- 8 Ventilate
- 9 Garage pro
- 10 Looked with contempt
- 11 One way to buy
- 12 Potato alternative
- 13 Winter vehicle
- 18 Limerick land
- 23 Keyboard key
- 25 Big wine vessels
- 28 Installs a road
- 29 Wading bird
- 30 Extremities
- 31 Make simpler
- 32 Hoist
- 33 Fantastic Four actress Jessica
- 34 Obsolete math-class tool
- 35 Wedding, for one
- 38 Radio identification
- 39 Ladder level
- 41 Bad-mannered motorist
- 42 Places for premieres
- 44 Org. interested in education
- 45 Casino game
- 47 "Filthy" money
- 48 Highbrow headdress
- 49 Sharpened
- 50 Like a bubble bath
- 51 Plumlike fruit
- 52 Burg
- 53 Not us
- 57 Day-__ paint
- 58 Speedometer fig.

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THE OTHER COAST

WHAT THE HECK... IT'S WORTH A SHOT

BEETLE BAILEY

CAPT. SCABBARD'S HAIR IS TURNING GRAY. YEAH, SOME SNOW ON THE ROOF.

DAWG SHOW !!

DAWG SHOW !!

LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE'S ATTIC NEEDS SOME INSULATION!

LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE'S ATTIC NEEDS SOME INSULATION!

BEETLE BAILEY

CAPT. SCABBARD'S HAIR IS TURNING GRAY. YEAH, SOME SNOW ON THE ROOF.

LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE'S ATTIC NEEDS SOME INSULATION!

LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE'S ATTIC NEEDS SOME INSULATION!