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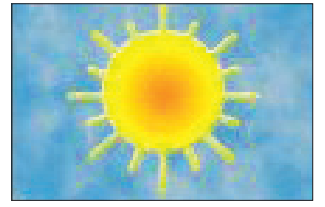
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# BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY  
NOVEMBER 4, 2008



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 290

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## Drug possession trial on hold

Defendant fails to appear in 118th District Court Monday to face charges

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

The drug possession trial of three Big Spring residents had to be postponed in 118th District Court Monday, as the primary defendant in the case was a no-show for the proceedings.

Corey Lee Harris, 27, failed

to appear in court Monday to face second degree charges for possession of a controlled substance, punishable by between two and 20 years in prison.

According to Assistant District Attorney Robin Orr, Harris was indicted along with 29-year-old Alisha Fay McGee and 25-year-old Angela Ann McGee on nar-

cotics charges and had their cases consolidated, meaning all three defendants would stand trial at the same time.

"The trial basically never got off the ground," said Orr. "The primary defendant in the case — Corey Harris — was a no-show. So now the whole thing gets put on hold."

Orr said the state is prepared to wait for Harris to turn up before moving forward with charges against the McGees.

"Everyone has been indicted, so we're not in a situation where time can run out," said Orr. "We'll simply wait until they can round him (Harris) up. And once we have him in custody, he'll get

to sit in jail until the trial. That way he will most assuredly be there. Time is on our side in that respect."

Harris and the McGee women were three of 11 people arrested during a drug sting operation May 2.

See TRIAL, Page 3A

## Fire threat builds

Officials urge residents to use caution

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

With brush and other vegetation slowly dying and drying out, Howard County's volunteer firefighters are already beginning to see an increase in the number of grass fires in the Crossroads area, a fact that Sullivan doesn't bode well going into the holiday season, according to officials.



Sullivan

"We responded to a 125-acre fire last week on W. County Road 34," said Howard County Volunteer Fire Chief Tommy Sullivan. "We also had a 15-acre fire on S. FM 821 and a small, 2-acre fire this past Saturday. Most of these fires have been caused

See FIRE, Page 3A

## VOTE TODAY!



A local resident arrives at the St. Thomas Catholic Church Parish Hall to cast his vote in today's general election. Officials said voting was light this morning but was expected to pick up as the day went on. Polls are open until 7 p.m. For a list of locations, see Page 3A.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

## Nix reunion set Saturday at Stampede

Celebrating 62 years of music in the family

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

Keepers of the flame. It's a title local country music legend Jody Nix and fellow musician Bobby Flores take very seriously, and they will once again bring the flame — traditional and classic country music — to the Big Spring area Saturday, as the pair celebrate more than six decades of performing.



Nix

"We're celebrating 62 years of music in the Nix family," said Nix. "The tradition started with my dad, Hoyle, and my uncle, Ben, right here in Big Spring in Nov. 11, 1946. They both had long careers and left a legacy and trail of music I've kept alive, and I plan to keep alive as long as I can.

"This has been a really big event for us the last several years. I started doing this in November of 1996 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of when this all started, and we've just kept it going. We had several reunions of the former West Texas Cowboys, and it finally got to where so many of them had gotten older and couldn't come anymore, so we had to let that go. But we've asked Bobby (Flores) to join us and keep the tradition alive, and it's gone pretty well."

See NIX, Page 3A

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

## Honors Seminar Series

Howard College is presenting the Phi Theta Kappa 2008 Honors Seminar Series, The Paradox of Affluence: Choices, Challenges, and Consequences.

The series of four lectures will be scheduled one per evening on the Howard College campus. They are recorded via live satellite and facilitated by Howard College.

The first is Lessons from Abroad: Opportunities in a Borderless World, featuring Dr. Richard Heinzl

It will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday in the Hall Center on the Howard College campus. Admission is free.

## Dine Out Day Friday

Carlos Restaurant, located at 308 N.W. Third, is this week's Dine Out Restaurant assisting the United Way for Big Spring and Howard County.



Proceeds from Friday's sales at Carlos will benefit United Way. You can also send a tax deductible donation to United Way of Big Spring, P.O. Box 24, Big Spring 79721, or call 267-5201 for more information.

## Exhausting experience

DES PLAINES, Ill. (AP) — Firefighters have rescued a 23-year-old suburban Chicago man who spent nearly 24 hours trapped in a restaurant exhaust vent.

Police would not say why the man was in the vent, which goes through the roof at the Little Amsterdam restaurant in Des Plaines. The restaurant closed in June.

An owner of the building says a landlord was checking the property on Monday morning when he was noticed a man's head and arms sticking from the vent over the restaurant's kitchen stove.

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## Obituaries

## Edna L. Owen



Edna L. Owen, 70, of Big Spring died Sunday, Nov. 2, 2008, at her residence. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Joey Bacon, associate pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, officiating. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

She was born May 1, 1938, in Wichita Falls to Grace and Eddie Owen. She moved to Big Spring from Jacksboro in 1957. She was a dispatcher for the Big Spring Police Department and Department of Public Safety in Midland for a number of years. She was a member of Trinity Baptist Church.

She is survived by two brothers, Eddie Owen Jr. and his wife, Toni, of Odessa, and Henry Owen and his wife, Deidra, of Mandeville, La.; two sisters, Sandy Wright and her husband, Dan, of Big Spring, and Loretta Owen of Graham; a number of nieces and nephews, and her extended family and friends at Canterbury.

The family will be at 1410 E. 14th St., and suggests memorials to the Building Fund at Trinity Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1448, Big Spring 79721.

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

## Helen M. McDonald

Helen M. McDonald, 93, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2008, in an Odessa hospice facility. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

## Kathleen 'Kitty' Ferguson

Kathleen "Kitty" Ferguson, 87, of Big Spring died Monday, Nov. 3, 2008, in a local Nursing Home. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

## Take Note

• Coahoma Elementary PTA will be hosting a Flu Shot Clinic from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday. The cost of the shots are \$30; nasal mist is also \$30. Anyone can register and pay online in advance at <https://www.flubusters.net/ClinicList.aspx>. Also, the elementary teachers are holding a Star Party that same night. The West Texas Astronomers will also be there, weather permitting.

• 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.

• 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.

## Police blotter

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

Note: An arrest log was not made available by the BSPD in time for publication in today's edition of the Herald. Several arrests from last week — as well as those from the weekend and this week — have gone unreported by the local law enforcement agency despite continued efforts to retrieve and publish them.

- THEFT was reported: in the 1200 block of 11th Place.
- INJURY TO A CHILD WITH INTENT TO CAUSE BODILY INJURY was reported in the 3200 block of Fordham.

## Sheriff's report

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 55 inmates at the time of this report.

- DAVID YANEZ, 40, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of order amending conditions of community supervision.
- DERRICK ALLEN YOUNG, 37, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- DENA COOK FRASER, 24, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana — two ounces or less.
- TIFFANY ROCHELLE DAWSON, 23, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of delivery of a controlled substance (two counts) and delivery of a dangerous drug.
- JOSEPH MELVIN FRASER, 33, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana — two ounces or less.
- CHRISTIAN DAVON GORDON, 26, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance.
- NICHOLAS GEORGE CEGELIS, 22, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of criminal mischief.
- BILLY WAYNE ALDRIDGE JR., 21, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of speeding, possession of drug paraphernalia, violation of a promise to appear and manufacture and delivery of cocaine — more than one gram, less than four grams.
- TERESA PIERCE, 44, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of possession of a controlled substance (two counts) and possession of a dangerous drug.
- JOSIE BALCAZAR, 50, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of theft by check.

## Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 6100 block of W. FM 846. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1400 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1700 block of Goliad. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of W. 17th Street. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of Fourth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of Denton. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1700 block of First Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

## 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.

## 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.

## Your Local Weather

Wed 11/5	Thu 11/6	Fri 11/7	Sat 11/8	Sun 11/9
80/46 Windy with a few clouds from time to time. High around 80F.	70/40 Sunshine. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 40s.	71/42 Mainly sunny. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 40s.	75/45 Mainly sunny. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the mid 40s.	79/49 Sunshine. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the upper 40s.

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## Bulletin Board

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

## TODAY

- 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.
- The Howard County Sheriff's Posse meets at 7 p.m. at the Sheriff's Posse building on the Andrews Highway. For more information, call Bert Sheppard at 263-4483 or Rose Armstead at 263-2769.
- Order of the Eastern Star No. 67 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

## WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Free blood pressure screenings from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., provided by InHome Care.
- Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.
- Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge at 703 W. Third.

## THURSDAY

- Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.
- Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- 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.
- Genealogy Society of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
- Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

## FRIDAY

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church. 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.

## Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 4-7-15-30. Bonus Ball: 5. Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 14-15-20-24-33. Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 1-1-1-8. Sum It Up: 11.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 2-8-6. Sum It Up: 16.



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**COWBOYS**

Continued from Page 1B

obviously in some areas. But that is not the answer. The answer, I told them after the game, is everybody doing their part in getting us where we need to be."

One thing the last few weeks cleared up is that Bollinger is less awful than Johnson. Phillips said Bollinger is now No. 2 on the depth chart and would start against the Redskins if Romo somehow isn't ready.

Dropping Johnson to No. 3 creates another problem —

who will hold on kicks? Phillips mentioned Crayton and punter Sam Paulescu as likely candidates; he also ruled out Romo, whose tenure in that role ended quite memorably in a playoff loss against Seattle.

After going 13-3 last season, then seemingly upgrading the roster, Dallas was the chic pick to rule the NFC this season. By late September, the Cowboys were doing exactly that.

A home loss to Washington began the tailspin. It's hard to say whether the offense or the defense has been the bigger disappointment for Phillips and owner Jerry

Jones. So the dream of closing out Texas Stadium with an NFC championship victory has pretty much vanished. At this point, the Cowboys need to get in gear just to claim a wild-card spot.

"As far as I'm concerned, we're just playing to win games right now," Jones said Sunday, postgame. "We know where we are and it's not where we planned to be at all by this point in the season. It's very disappointing."

There are seven games left to change that. It's almost as if the playoffs already have begun for this group.

"You make or break yourself in the second half of the season," Phillips said. "At least, with this team, that's where we need to go."

Phillips believes his players are up for the challenge.

"I got the feeling after the game they're going to come back strong," he said.

And what gave him that feeling?

"Thirty-one years of coaching," he said. "Just being around it and seeing how they react and I just get that feel. I think we do have a lot of high character guys that want to do well and they want to compete."

**TECH**

Continued from Page 1B

The ranking isn't important, defensive end Jake Ratliff said.

"We don't pay attention to it," he said. "It's just a number and it really doesn't matter."

Graham Harrell, who completed the game-winning, 28-yard pass to Michael Crabtree on Saturday, said the team's intensity has to continue.

"The road's not getting any easier for us," he said. The Texas game

"was a great win for us. It was big for the program. But, at the same time, in order for it to mean anything we need to do it again."

Building on Saturday's effort could be helped by the Red Raiders defense, which held Texas to 80 yards and leads the Big 12 in total defense (349.56 yards per game). That's a vast improvement from when Texas Tech played the Cowboys last season. Oklahoma State racked up 610 total yards in its 49-45 win in Stillwater, Okla.

**HOWARD**

Continued from Page 1B

second zone offense. We got a lot of good out of this regardless of what the score was. So often in a game like this, it can become a negative thing. This was very positive and we grew as a team."

Miesha Blackshear keyed much of Howard's big first half

run. She finished the game just two steals away from having a triple-double.

Instead, Blackshear finished with a double-double, scoring 23 points and grabbing 10 rebounds to go along with eight steals.

Patricia Malouff showed off her outside shooting ability, scoring 10 points, including two 3-pointers in the first half. Rachael Dryver finished with 15 points and Danielle Cota came off the bench to post 10 points.

Diddle felt he had an incredibly quick and athletic team going into the season. That quickness allowed the Hawks to come up with 13 steals. Howard ended up scoring 28 points off of 26 ACU turnovers.

"We're faster this season than we were last year. Last year, we took time outs. This season, we just make pit stops," joked Diddle. "That's how much faster we are."

The Hawks return to action at

5:30 p.m. Thursday, playing their first road game of the season at Lubbock Christian University.

The men's team will play LCU following the women's game at 7:30 p.m.

Howard College 76, Abilene Christian 31

ACU (31)

Chelsea Phillips 1-3 0-0 2, Lauren Ash 0-0 0-0 0, Alicia Copes 1-4 0-0 2, Sara Montgomery 5-9 0-0 11, Kristen Lewis 5-12 1-2 12, Missy Munoz 1-6 0-0 2, Omowunmi

0-1 0-0 0, Sarah Novack 1-5 0-0 2, Mary Haralson 0-4 0-0 0, Bailie Cata Leannee 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 14-45 1-2 31.

HC (76)

Miesha Blackshear 9-10 5-6 23, Patricia Malouff 4-5 2-3 10, Rachael Dryver 7-9 0-3 15, Chassidy Cole 0-6 2-2 2, DeAndra Thomas 1-5 0-0 2, Tynisha McDowell 0-3 1-2 1, Kassie Scott 2-7 1-3 5, Tamara Wallace 0-3 0-0 0, NaTalia Smith 0-0 0-0 0, Danielle Cota 5-8 0-0 10, Valerie Wood 3-5 0-0 6, Totals 32-62 9-16 76.

Halftime — HC 51, ACU 20. Fouled out — None. Rebounds — ACU 24 (Montgomery 8), HC 41 (Blackshear 10). Assists — ACU 3 (Ash, Novack, Copes 1), HC 14 (Cole 6). Total fouls — ACU 17, HC 10.

**SWIM**

Continued from Page 1B

**Girls team rankings**

1. Pecos 344, 2. Monahans 289, 3. Abilene Wylie 226, 4. Andrews 223, 5. Big Spring 177, 6. Fort Stockton 26.

**Boys team rankings**

1. Pecos 370, 2. Big Spring 243, 3. Monahans 233, 4. Abilene Wylie 169, 5. Fort Stockton 134, 6. Andrews 114.

**Girls 200 medley relay**

1. Pecos 2:06.04, 2. Andrews A 2:15.79, 3. Big Spring 2:17.28, 4. Abilene Wylie A 2:18.59, 5. Monahans A 2:23.55, 6. Monahans B 2:26.48, 7. Abilene

Wylie B 2:36.41, 8. Andrews B 2:43.46.

**Boys 200 medley relay**

1. Pecos A 1:51.20, 2. Big Spring 1:52.17, 3. Monahans A 1:57.04, 4. Fort Stockton 2:03.70, 5. Abilene Wylie 2:04.18, 6. Pecos B 2:10.61, 7. Monahans B 2:15.92.

**Girls 200 freestyle**

1. Kelly Sage, Big Spring 2:13.18; 2. Lauren Elliot, Pecos 2:13.65; 3. Alison Mohr, Andrews 2:15.05; **Notable: Audrey Hagland, Big Spring 2:55.93.**

**Boys 200 freestyle**

1. Deshae Green, Big Spring 1:53.12; 2. Edward Navarro, Pecos 2:02.59; 3. Frankie Morin, Pecos 2:08.51; 4. Joey Burdic, Monahans 2:21.80; 5. Tye Hegar, Pecos 2:22.68; 6. Johnson Johnson, Big Spring 2:31.84.

**Girls 200 individual medley**

1. Alyson Reynolds, Pecos 2:24.94; 2. Alexcia Mendoz, Pecos 2:31.63; 3. Anatalia Hernandez, Pecos 2:40.10; 4. Haley Popham, Monahans 2:59.62; 5. Brittney White, Monahans 3:05.74; 6. Jenni Walker, Big Spring 3:10.17.

**Boys 200 individual medley**

1. Josh Elliott, Pecos 2:11.01; 2. Gus Mendoza, Pecos 2:22.07; 3. Jacob Farmer, Andrews 2:22.15; 4. Brandon Spinks, Monahans 2:29.72; 5. Justin Dominguez, Monahans 2:38.09; 6. Caleb Chavez, Big Spring 2:39.14; **Notable: 9. Joe Garcia, Big Spring 2:56.33.**

**Girls 50 freestyle**

1. Nicole Tucek, Abilene Wylie 27.84; 2. Conner Armstrong, Pecos 28.41; 3. Adrianna Roman, Pecos 28.49; 4. Simone Rist, Big Spring 30.11; 5. Doris Brant, Big Spring 30.78; 6. Stormi Jackson, Andrews 30.87; **Notable: 13. Rebecca Loya, Big Spring 33.33; 17. Mari Carrillo, Big Spring 34.28.**

**Boys 50 freestyle**

1. Cameron Hughey, Big Spring 22.48; 2. Andrew Ureta, Fort Stockton 24.77; 3. Derek Teague, Pecos 24.99; 4. Cyle Lynch, Monahans 25.01; 5. Justin Powers, Abilene Wylie 25.92; 6. John McMahon, Big Spring 26.28; **Notable: 8. Caleb Chavez, Big Spring 26.43; 12. Johnson Johnson, Big Spring 30.13; 16. Tyler Steen, Big Spring 30.71; 23. Sean Baker, Big Spring 33.80.**

**Girls 100 butterfly**

1. Alexcia Mendoza, Pecos 1:09.53; 2. Anatalia Hernandez, Pecos 1:14.39; 3. Maggie Hernandez, Pecos 1:20.90; 4. Haley Popham, Monahans 1:25.30; 5. Jenni Walker, Big Spring 1:25.70; 6. Ksusha Emilianova, Andrews 1:27.70.

**Boys 100 butterfly**

1. Deshae Green, Big Spring 57.82; 2. Brandon Spinks, Monahans 1:01.10; 3. Gus Mendoza, Pecos 1:04.98; 4. Jordan Oglesby, Fort Stockton 1:10.44; 5. Tanner Hardwick, Pecos 1:13.81; 6. Abraham Lujan, Pecos 1:16.22.

**Girls 100 freestyle**

1. Adrianna Roman, Pecos 1:02.14; 2. Dakota Hegar, Pecos 1:03.54; 3. Doris Brant, Big Spring 1:07.88; 4. Simone Rist, Big Spring 1:07.91; 5. Taylor Garcia, Monahans 1:09.61; 6. Ashley Pike, Big Spring 1:12.01.

**Boys 100 freestyle**

1. Chris Price, Abilene Wylie 51.22; 2. Cameron Hughey, Big Spring 51.39; 3. Carlos Navarro, Pecos 53.43; 4. Jacob Farmer, Andrews 55.57; 5. Jacob Robbins, Monahans 57.26; 6. Andrew Ureta, Fort Stockton 57.78; **Notable: 9. Lloyd Morgan, Big Spring 1:00.82; 10. Drew Drew, Big Spring 1:01.21; 11. John McMahon, Big Spring 1:02.11; 16. Tyler Steen, Big Spring 1:12.39; 20. Sean Baker, Big Spring 1:19.82.**

**Girls 500 freestyle**

1. Lauren Elliott, Pecos 6:07.31; 2. Aimee McBride, Monahans 6:16.88; 3. Maggie Hernandez, Pecos 6:41.37; 4. Estefana Galindo, Monahans 6:49.25; 5. Jayda Torres, Monahans 6:56.98; 6. Kelly Fisher, Andrews 7:24.43; 7. King King, Big Spring 7:31.02.

**Boys 500 freestyle**

1. Edward Navarro, Pecos 5:39.06; 2. Frankie Morin, Pecos 5:45.80; 3. AJ Richey, Big Spring 6:24.07; 4. Joey Burdic, Monahans 6:24.28; 5. Steven Cole, Monahans 7:11.78.

**Girls 200 freestyle relay**

1. Pecos 1:55.85, 2. Big Spring 1:59.12, 3. Abilene Wylie A 2:00.99, 4. Monahans A 2:03.92, 5. Andrews 2:25.28, 6. Monahans B 2:25.36.

**Boys 200 freestyle relay**

1. Big Spring 1:39.70; 2. Abilene Wylie A 1:47.31, 3. Monahans 1:47.58, 4. Andrews 1:48.26, 5. Pecos 2:04.71, 6. Abilene Wylie B 2:10.17.

**Girls 100 backstroke**

1. Kelly Sage, Big Spring 1:08.22; 2. Conner Armstrong 1:10.94; 3. Lyndsay Chowning, Monahans 1:19.72; 4. Crissy Wallace, Monahans 1:26.14; 5. Emily Campbell, Andrews 1:27.03; 6. Andrea Rocha, Abilene Wylie 1:27.21.

**Boys 100 backstroke**

1. Josh Elliott, Pecos 58.46; 2. Chris Price, Abilene Wylie 1:00.51; 3. Kyle Wardlow, Fort Stockton 1:10.24; 4. Colby Wendeborn, Andrews 1:10.93; 5. Justin Dominguez, Monahans 1:11.40; 6. AJ Richey, Big Spring 1:13.51; **Notable: 10. Matt Rodriguez, Big Spring 1:23.19; 11. Aaron Hanes, Big Spring 1:27.28; 12. Robert Barraza, Big Spring 1:28.01.**

**Girls 100 breaststroke**

1. Alyson Reynolds, Pecos 1:14.08; 2. Alison Mohr, Andrews 1:14.59; 3. Nicole Tucek, Abilene Wylie 1:18.77; 4. Brittney White, Monahans 1:25.24; 5. Ashley Pike, Big Spring 1:30.24; 6. Hayley Willis, Andrews, 1:31.36; **Notable: 9. Audrey Hagland, Big Spring 1:39.92.**

**Boys 100 breaststroke**

1. Carlos Navarro, Pecos 1:09.91; 2. Derek Teague, Pecos 1:13.59; 3. Joe Garcia, Big Spring 1:17.12; 4. Cyle Lynch, Monahans 1:17.77; 5. Lloyd Morgan, Big Spring 1:23.97; 6. Brandon Mcguire, Monahans 1:24.44.

**Girls 400 freestyle relay**

1. Pecos A 4:10.50, 2. Monahans A 4:32.04, 3. Andrews 4:32.21, 4. Pecos B 4:34.80, 5. Abilene Wylie 4:51.55, 6. Monahans B 5:03.51.

**Boys 400 freestyle relay**

1. Pecos A 3:39.80, 2. Fort Stockton 4:04.58, 3. Pecos B 4:07.39, 4. Monahans 4:08.40, 5. Big Spring 4:09.63, 6. Andrews 4:13.65.

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## State news in brief

### Texas secretary of state predicts record number of voters, 68-percent turnout

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas election officials say they are prepared for Tuesday's election even if a record number of voters cast ballots in the historic presidential race between Republican John McCain and Democrat Barack Obama.

Based on high turnout in early voting, Texas Secretary of State Hope Andrade predicted Monday that 9 million of the state's voters, an unprecedented number, will cast ballots in this year's election.

That would represent 68 percent of the state's 13.5 million registered voters, falling short of the turnout of 73 percent in 1992.

"There is a lot of energy across Texas regarding this

election. We have seen it in early voting and I think it will translate into heavy voter turnout on Election Day," Andrade said.

Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday.

Along with the presidential race, Texans are choosing a U.S. senator among Republican incumbent Sen. John Cornyn, Democrat Rick Noriega and Libertarian Yvonne Adams Schick. Also on the ballot are congressional and legislative races, several statewide offices, including Railroad Commission and Texas Supreme Court, and county offices.

Democratic and Republican activists hope voting in the presidential races boost their down-ballot candidates. Supporters of both Obama and McCain are believed to be driving turnout.

### Authorities send possible Ike victim's body to Jefferson County morgue

GALVESTON (AP) — The body of a possible Hurricane Ike victim has been uncovered by search dogs and been sent to the Jefferson County morgue for identification.

Justice of the Peace Tracy Woody said search dogs found the body about 1:30 p.m. Sunday in a large debris pile about four miles from East Galveston Bay.

The Houston Chronicle reported Tuesday in an online story that authorities believe Ike may have washed the from the Bolivar Peninsula into Chambers County.

Investigators could not give the gender or any description of the victim because of the extreme state of decomposition.

## Police investigate injury to child

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

Detectives with the Big Spring Police Department are investigating a report of injury to a child this week after a local elementary school contacted law enforcement officials regarding a student with a bruised face.

According to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer for the BSPD, the report was made by officials at Moss Elementary at approximately 10:30 a.m. Monday.

"The girl is 9 years old," said Everett. "One of the school officials noticed the girl had a

bruise on her face and contacted the police department."

Everett said no arrests have been made at this time.

"The investigation is just now getting underway, so there's still a lot of ground to cover," said Everett. "Child Protective Services have been notified. I'm not sure what action, if any, they have taken in the matter."

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

## TRIAL

Continued from Page 1A

As the result of a four-week investigation, Big Spring Police Department narcotics officers and SORT team members executed a search warrant at 710 E. 15<sup>th</sup> St. at about 7 p.m. that evening.

Inside the residence, officers discovered quantities of crack cocaine and marijuana, along with more than \$5,000 in cash.

Officials said the residence had been under surveillance for some time.

"The investigation revealed that

crack cocaine and marijuana were being sold from the residence," Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer for BSPD, said earlier this year. "The residence was also being used for prostitution (and) it was learned that numerous subjects were selling from the house ... with several subjects delivering curb side to vehicles."

Everett said some of the arrested individuals are suspected members of the a local street gang known as TBH (Texas Born Hustlers), whose main source of revenue is drug sales.

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

## NIX

Continued from Page 1A

Flores is no stranger to the Nix anniversary celebration, having been part of the performance for several years now.

"Bobby is a wonderful musician, singer and fiddle player," said Nix. "He's a keeper of the flame, like me, who plays the traditional country music, classic country and a little bit of western swing. We're very happy to have him back here this year. This is the third or fourth year he's played with us for this occasion."

Flores is a Grammy Award winning artist who has performed with Ray Price, Willie Nelson, Johnny Bush and Doug Sahm, showcasing his talents on the guitar, fiddle and

voice.

With his fair share of the Nix musical tradition under his belt, Jody Nix said little has changed over the years when it comes to his love for traditional country music.

"My love for the real country music hasn't really changed. It's grown deeper, but it hasn't changed," said Nix. "I feel like I'm helping to preserve something you don't hear everyday on mainstream country radio. There are classic stations out there, and XM Radio has done wonders for the old stuff we play, especially with XM channel 13, Willie's (Nelson) Place. They are one of the reasons I've sold CDs all across the nation and gotten national airplay, along with Bobby (Flores)."

Doors at the Stampede — located just off FM 700 on Texas Highway 350 — will open at 8 p.m., with perfor-

mances and dancing set to kick off at 9 p.m. Admission is \$15 per person, and while tickets will be available at the door, Nix said reservations for the celebration tend to go quickly.

"They come from all over the place to see this show, and we're more than appreciative of that fact," said Nix.

"My favorite part is the nostalgia. Remembering how all of this started and where it's come to today. We've kept a tradition alive all these years, and people have supported us. And it honors the men who started the whole thing."

For more information — or to make reservations — contact Nix at 267-2060.

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

## Poll locations

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Howard County</b><br>Precincts — 11, 12, 16 and 112: St. Thomas Parish Hall, 605 N. Main St. (Big Spring) | Salem Baptist Church, 8911 Old Colorado City Highway (Big Spring)   |
| Precincts — 13, 14: Senior Citizen Center, 1901 Simler (Big Spring)  | Precincts — 409: First Baptist Church of Sand Springs, 8517 N. Service Rd. (Sand Springs)                               |
| Precincts — 103, 104 and 105: Prairie View Church, 1000 W. FM 2230 (Big Spring)                              | <b>Glasscock County</b><br>Precinct — 1: St. Lawrence Catholic Church, 2400 FM 2401 (St. Lawrence)                      |
| Precincts — 205, 22, 24, 25 and 26: Big Spring Mall, 1801 E. FM 700 (Big Spring)                             | Precinct — 2: Church of Christ, 200 S. Main St. (Garden City)   |
| Precincts — 207 and 207C: Coahoma Community Center, (Coahoma)  | Precinct — 3: Drumwright Community Center, 2200 Drumwright Rd. (Glasscock County)                                       |
| Precincts — 208: Forsan Baptist Church, 201 Main (Forsan)  | Precinct — 4: Senior Citizens Building, 600 N. Main St. (Garden City)   |
| Precincts — 33, 34 and 35: First Baptist Church, 705 W. FM 700 (Big Spring)                                  | <b>Martin County</b><br>Precincts — 1, 2, 3 and 4 (Boxes 1, 2, 3 and 4): Community Center, 301 N. St. Theresa (Stanton) |
| Precincts — 304: Central Baptist Church, 501 Nichols Rd. (Elbow)   | Precinct — 3 (Box 3A): Grady School Building, 3500 FM 829 (Lenora)  |
| Precincts — 42, 44, 45 and 46: Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, 1001 Birdwell Lane (Big Spring)                     | Precinct — 4 (Box 4A): Flower Grove Gin, 4003 E. FM 2002 (Ackerly)  |
| Precincts — 404, 405 and 406: Jonesboro Fire Station, 142 Jonesboro Rd. (Big Spring)                         |   |
| Precincts — 407 and 408:   |   |

## FIRE

Continued from Page 1A

by downed power lines, so things are beginning to pick up again."

Sullivan said the fire danger index is currently "elevated," but without a good influx of moisture for the county in the next few weeks, it's expected to climb.

"Right now we still have a little bit of green in all that brush and fuel. After the first freeze of the season, however, all of that will be gone and we'll be at an extremely high level of danger," said Sullivan.

Sullivan and his crew know all too well what extreme conditions can mean, having faced similar situations — coupled with high winds — earlier this year, when firefighters were responding to two or more calls each day.

"We're going to wait until the end of the month and see what we can get in the way of moisture," said Sullivan. "If we can't get a considerable amount of moisture by then, I'll have to ask the county commissioners to place a burn ban in effect."

Sullivan said a burn ban during the holiday season will put a strain on many county residents.

"During the holidays is when most people in the county need to burn the most. They have so much extra trash, like wrapping paper and things like that," said Sullivan. "A burn ban will certainly be a hardship for them. However, it's even more of a hardship for someone who loses their home to one of these fires, so you just have to do the best you can."

Sullivan said the number of fires caused by people has been thankfully low in

the past few months, but he's not holding out much hope for that streak to continue once conditions worsen.

"We've only had one fire reported recently that was caused by a person," said Sullivan. "That was a 1/4-acre that burned over on Texas in Sand Springs. We really lucked out on that one because it was just a block-and-a-half from our fire station and we were able to take the call and respond in about 1.5 minutes. If we hadn't been so close, the fire would most likely have destroyed 20 to 25 acres."

While a burn ban isn't in place at this time, Sullivan said it's more important than ever for county residents be vigilant if they are going to burn trash or other items.

"Make sure you have a good, tightly-woven screen on the top of the burn bar-

rel, something the embers can't get through," said Sullivan. "And stay with it the entire time with a water hose or fire extinguisher handy. Also, be sure there's no dry brush or other fuel sources nearby. These fires can get away from you in the blink of an eye."

"The best answer, however, is to take your trash to the dump. It may cost a few dollars, but that's a lot less than the cost of a fire that gets away from you and destroys property."

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**Announcements**

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

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## EDITORIAL

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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## OTHER VIEWS

## Creditworthy shouldn't pay for ills of easy credit

Welcome to the U.S. Financial Crisis: Credit Card Edition.

Banks, already battered by bad mortgages, are now bracing for more bad news as squeezed consumers default on their credit cards. They are pulling back on new credit offers and putting stricter limits on existing accounts.

A tighter supply of plastic money was long overdue. But as banks pull back, responsible borrowers deserve some shelter from the fallout.

Lenders have reason to panic. Americans carry more credit card debt than Congress agreed to spend on its Wall Street bailout package in September. Banks already have written off an estimated \$21 billion in bad credit this year and could lose twice that between now and 2010.

The nation's nearly \$1 trillion credit-card balance pales in comparison to the amount owed on U.S. mortgages. But credit card debt is riskier. When a customer can't pay his Visa bill, there is no property for the bank to sell to recoup some of its losses.

It will only get worse as credit dries up and unemployment continues to rise.

Consumers who have been buying goodies with money they don't have will no longer be able to buy themselves more time by tapping home equity or transferring old balances to a new card. Meanwhile, families living on the margins could lose the battle to wean themselves from credit as companies lay off workers and cut hours.

Against that backdrop, banks are trying every trick in the book to reduce their risk and even good customers are feeling the pinch.

A borrower might see his credit limit slashed for no other reason than he lives in an area with a high rate of home foreclosures or he works in an industry wracked by layoffs. Cardholders who never carry a balance are getting notices that they better ring up some charges or risk a closed account.

Some of what the banks are doing might prove a healthy wake-up call for the American economy, which has become far too dependent on sky-high credit limits and credit card offers by the dozens.

The problem is that lower credit limits and canceled credit cards affect borrowers' credit scores, which in turn could hobble responsible borrowers' ability to get low-interest loans. Those are the very borrowers that banks need more of, not less.

Regulators and lawmakers should ensure that the nation's credit agencies hold harmless prudent consumers who see their accounts closed or credit limits rolled back through no fault of their own.

Responsible borrowers shouldn't have to pay twice for the reckless era of easy credit that the banks themselves helped spawn.

THE NEWS TRIBUNE (TACOMA, WASH.)

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• Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

# Race and today's election

All fair-minded Americans understand that race should not be a factor in choosing our next president, so why should race continue to play a role in deciding who gets into college or receives a government contract or is hired or promoted in a government job? It makes no sense to argue that we're supposed to be colorblind in the polling booth but color-conscious in so many other areas.

On Election Day, voters in Colorado and Nebraska will have the opportunity to end this racial double standard by approving amendments to their state constitutions that will outlaw racial preferences in state education, contracting, and employment. Polls suggest that these ballot initiatives will pass easily. It's about time.

For 40 years, we've maintained a kind of cognitive dissonance in our public policies when it comes to race. On the one hand, we have condemned — and made illegal — racial discrimination. On the other, we've condoned — even actively encouraged — racial preferences for favored minority groups.

If it is wrong for an employer to refuse to hire someone because of his or her skin color or ancestry, why is it right to require that same employer to achieve and maintain a certain racial and ethnic balance in the workforce?

How can race and ethnicity be impermissible bases on which to deny admission to students but be perfectly acceptable factors in deciding which students to admit?

Welcome to the Alice-in-Wonderland world of affirmative action. Proponents used to argue that such programs were necessary to overcome the effects of historical discrimination. Now, they claim affirmative action isn't about remedying past discrimination, it's about promoting diversity. Whatever.

No matter how you try to rationalize it, picking winners and losers based on skin color is ugly. And it's especially pernicious when government itself is the culprit, which is why the ballot initiatives in Nebraska and Colorado specifically restrict government-sponsored racial preferences.

Race is frequently the deciding factor in determining who gets into the University of Nebraska law school, for example. This month, the Center for Equal Opportunity (CEO), a public policy research organization that I chair, released a study (<http://www.ceousa.org/content/view/full/628/100/>) of admission practices at the state's College of Law. Analyzing admissions data from 2006 and 2007, the study shows that a black non-resident applicant is 20 times more likely to be admitted to the law school than a Nebraska resident who happens to be white. Overall, the odds favoring the admission of a black applicant with the same grades and test scores as a white applicant were an astonishing 442-to-1.

In defending the practice, the dean of the law school said that it was necessary "to admit a class with a diversity of experiences and viewpoints to ensure vigorous and enlightening classroom discussions," arguing, "we can better discuss alleged race-based police practices if African Americans are in the room."

But what lessons do students learn

when they discover that the LSAT scores of the top 25 percent of black students at the law school are actually lower than the scores of the bottom 25 percent of their fellow white students?

And Nebraska isn't alone in admitting less qualified black and Latino over white applicants. CEO has studied racial preferences in admissions at dozens of colleges, law schools, and medical schools across the country, including a study that looked at undergraduate admissions at all state schools in Colorado a decade ago. (Unfortunately, Colorado's higher education commission would not provide admissions data to update the study this year.)

The pattern was the same virtually everywhere: In order to achieve "diversity," colleges and universities routinely admit black and Latino students with lower grades and test scores than their white and Asian peers. In a few cases, the differences were small. But at many more schools the disparities were huge. At Arizona State University law school, CEO found that the odds favoring admission for black applicants over whites were 1,115-to-1, the worst for any school we have studied.

Approval of the Colorado and Nebraska civil rights initiatives on Tuesday would bring to five the number of states that have banned racial preferences in state programs.

Discriminating against or granting preference to anyone because of skin color has no place in America — and the polling booth is the perfect place to demonstrate it.

To find out more about Linda Chavez, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).



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## Time for this to be over

It is time for this election to be over. It is time because it has been going on for what feels like a lifetime, because the final days have been full of noise and fury and very little light, and because we need to start solving problems rather than just debating them.

It is time because we all know how it should turn out and because thinking about what could happen if it doesn't is too upsetting.

Are Democrats in danger of being too confident? The short answer is no.

It's no because we've lost too many times when we were supposed to win. It's no because it's easier to convince people to go to a wedding than a funeral, to show up at a party instead of a wake.

The California Democrats I've talked to, even the tired and cynical ones, are heading off to Colorado and Nevada and New Mexico, leaving nothing to chance, eager to be part of celebrations across the country.

And the truth is that no matter what the polls say — and they

couldn't be much better — we're all still holding our breath. We're holding our breath because as many times as we tell each other that with the economy the way it is, with the wrong track numbers the way they are, with consumer confidence as low as it is, race shouldn't matter, it really shouldn't matter enough in enough places to make every single poll wrong.

It shouldn't. It really shouldn't. Because, let's face it, God forbid if it does.

This is the unspoken what-if, the whispered fear.

It's not just that Barack Obama should win because he's ahead and the economy stinks and he's run a disciplined and well-financed campaign while John McCain struggled for a message and chose a running mate whose inability to answer easy questions has left women embarrassed and fuming. It's what it will say if he doesn't. And what will happen if he doesn't.

There is only one reason the polls could be this wrong. There is only one reason a contest that is not even close, that is somewhere between clobbered and landslide, could wind up with the other guy on top.

Every pollster in America is not incompetent. Every pollster in

America is not failing in precisely the same way when it comes to pulling a sample, screening for voters and assigning weights to the various groups.

The only way all these polls could be that far off is if people are lying in numbers never before seen in American politics.

Why would they do that?

You tell me it has nothing to do with race. I'll laugh. What else could it possibly be?

It is too awful to think about, for reasons having nothing to do with what kind of president McCain would be and everything to do with what it would say about us, how we would see each other, the distrust and the anger that it would unleash. Obama could say all the calming words in the world — and I have no doubt he would — but it wouldn't matter.

It's time for this election to be over so we can stop worrying about what could go wrong and how bad things would be if it did. We need to think better of each other. After today, hopefully we will.

To find out more about Susan Estrich and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).



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# BIRD POOP: Visitor from the north country

To watch the seasons change from atop the park was a favorite aspect of the manager's job. From this lofty vantage point, he noticed trees turning from a subtle yellow to gold. Followed by the deepening reds and browns of oaks in the distance, his hilltop view announced the arrival of fall.



**BEBE**  
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Slowly driving the narrow road that coursed upward toward his home and the public viewing areas, he noticed the buckeye leaves gradually turning and withering. Soon, their bare limbs would display the cinnamon colored pods filled with dark brown seeds. The plants' spring blossoms had guaranteed a bountiful decoration of the otherwise over-looked shrub.

Against the straw-colored grasses that lined the road were junipers filled with berries for migrating birds and hungry mammals. The dried yucca pods on their ram-rod stems awaited the tiny heralds of spring as they searched for hidden insect larvae.

Turning into his drive, the manager saw his wife waiting outside for him. Before he could open the door, she advised, "There's a young boy and his family waiting for you at the picnic area." His lunch would have to wait.

Upon seeing the family she had described, he wondered about the large box in the background. "Found it in the woods," was the beginning of an explanation. Since the bird had "looked poorly," the family had decided to bring it back with them from vacation. Having used the park for family outings and not knowing what to do for the bird, they decided to ask the manager for help.

As we drove into the park, we noticed how much it had changed from summery greenery to a late autumn motif. The acreage offered a scenic reminder of winter's expected arrival. Stepping from the vehicle we were

greeted by a cold blast of wind from the northeast.

Inside the manager's office, we saw the box he had described. Lifting the owl out of the container, I noticed the lack of resistance as I laid the bird on its back. Body fat that should have been on either side of the breast bone was gone. Beneath the skin, the keel felt like a razor's edge. The owl was starving.

From the couple and their son, the manager learned that while hiking, the family had found the owl standing among some rocks. When it did not fly, they sensed something was wrong. Even as they approached it, the bird did not move. Taking his coat, the father wrapped it around the bird and carried it back to their car.

At the motel, they were able to get a box. Since the family planned on going home the next morning, a decision was made to take the owl with them. Instead of a two-day trip, the drive was made in one day.

"Where were they vacationing?" I asked. "Colorado." Telling the manager that could explain the difference in coloration and feathering, I added, "Crossing state lines with wildlife would have been costly if they had been stopped."

After tube feeding the bird, Art and I agreed it was a great horned owl, but not like any we had ever handled. Immature, the owl had no "horns" or ear tufts. Whereas most of the great horned owls that we had seen were a mottled brown above, with accents of black, dull white, and pale buff, this bird was graced with an ochre or brownish orange coloration. The raptor could easily have blended into the background of a state known for mineral oxides of iron in its clay and sand.

The deep barring of its lower parts was striking. Throughout its entire plumage, the owl was darker. Most noticeable, however, was the dense growth of feathers on both legs and feet. Only the tips of its talons were evident.

After being able to swallow a pile of small mice, the owl showed improvement the next day. Eager to hear the comments of Midge Erskine of the Midland wildlife sanctuary,



Courtesy photo

**Weighing three pounds, with a four-foot wingspan, the great horned owl is adaptable in both diet and nesting areas. While skunks, rabbits, squirrels, rats and mice are a mainstay, the bird doesn't hesitate to attack porcupines, snakes, and other birds. Although it hunts mostly at night, the owl will seek prey in the daytime, especially when feedings its young.**

we delivered the bird that afternoon. Calling to say we were coming, I did not comment upon the bird's unusual appearance or locale.

Lifting the owl from our container caused Midge to glance between us and the owl several times. Finally, she offered her opinion. "This owl had to have come from Colorado or some cold, northern state." She added that the feathers covering its feet are typical for a bird in those parts of the country.

As for no ear tufts, she mentioned that some juveniles have "horns," some do not. Finishing her examination of the owl, she noted that the bird was definitely feathered for cold climates. Youth and inexperience probably contributed to its plight.

Given the time to regain its strength and flight ability, the great horned owl seemed to relish the cooler days and cold nights of late fall. Having regained a healthy weight, and exercising daily, it managed

to secure a return to the high country. Crossing borders this time, however, had been arranged by both state and federal

agencies.

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

## Comfort Store

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## One of Our Best. One of Our Own.

State Representative Joe Heflin

# IN TOUCH

*With West Texas*

*"The Democratic incumbent, Joe Heflin of Crosbyton, has earned re-election as state representative, District 85, for putting partisanship aside and voting for his constituents' best interest on all issues."* – Lubbock Avalanche-Journal

*Rep. Heflin "is better-educated on the issues, has more concrete plans for what he wants to do and how he wants to get things done and his values seem to be in line with those of his...district."* – Abilene Reporter-News

*"Unlike too many of our politicians today, Joe puts his personal interests aside, and still understands that he represents the people back home."* – Hale Center American

*"He understands our needs and is not afraid to express his opinions to the leaders of either party."* – Abernathy Star

► **Rep. Heflin Protected Our Water and Property Rights, Stood Up to the Special Interests in Austin and Opposed the Trans-Texas Corridor**

*"He proved...to be his own man who represented his constituents above the partisan turmoil and lobby saturated atmosphere of Austin."* – Brownfield News

► **Member of House Committee on Ag & Livestock and Ag, Environment & Energy Committee of National Conference of State Legislatures**

*"Rep. Heflin has...worked skillfully to keep the issues important to farmers and ranchers on the front burner."* – Kenneth Dierschke, Texas Farm Bureau president

► **Member of House Select Committee on Property Tax Relief and Appraisal Reform**

*"Rep. Heflin's appointment ensures that West Texas taxpayers have strong representation on this committee. He is a well-respected lawmaker who will work hard with the other committee members as they come up with a solution to this issue."* – Texas House Speaker Tom Craddick

► **A Strong, Independent Voice for Business and Rural Economic Development**

*"Rep. Heflin is a common sense fiscal conservative."* – John Leonard, Lubbock city councilman and Lubbock Apartment Association president

► **A Former County Judge, Rep. Heflin is supported by Law Enforcement**

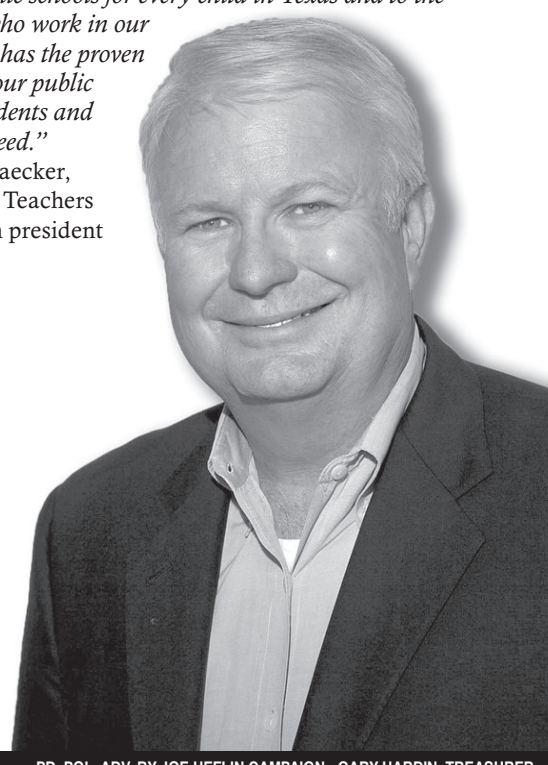
*"During the Session, Joe managed to take his very practical political knowledge and experience right to work on the floor of the House of Representatives in Austin, without forgetting his rural roots back in West Texas."* – Crosby County News

► **Awarded Texas Medicine's Champion of Rural Health**

*"Rep. Heflin has demonstrated his commitment and leadership to ensure rural patients get the healthcare they need, when they need it."* – Dr. Ben Edwards, Post

► **Honorary Legislative Star of Texas Classroom Teachers Association**

*"Over and over again, Joe Heflin has proven his commitment to great public schools for every child in Texas and to the educators who work in our schools. He has the proven experience our public schools, students and educators need."* – Rita C. Haecker, Texas State Teachers Association president



## RE-ELECT

**Joe Heflin**  
State Representative  
District 85

*The Right Choice for West Texas.*

## Contact the Herald at 263-7331



To family, friends & supporters of  
**C. E. (Mike) Thomas, III**  
Please join us Tuesday, November 4, 2008  
on the 3rd floor of the  
Howard County Courthouse at 7 o'clock  
in the evening.

*We welcome everyone to be with us  
as the Election votes come in!!!  
Refreshments will be served*



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Wacky Facts

Nov. 14 is National American Teddy Bear Day. The Teddy Bear got its name in 1902 from a political cartoon of President Theodore Roosevelt refusing to shoot a tethered bear on a hunting trip. The cartoon inspired Morris Michtom to create a little stuffed bear cub and call it Teddy's bear.

**KID NEWS**

Chatter Box



"In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing"  
— Theodore Roosevelt,  
on thinkexist.com

In The News

Poet talks about rhythm, rhyme and really loving poetry

Children's author Mary Ann Hoberman learned in June that she would be the next children's poet laureate. But she couldn't tell anyone other than her family until the Poetry Foundation announced the award in October. How does a woman who loves words keep such exciting news to herself? "I was sworn to secrecy," she says.

Hoberman will hold the post for two years. Here, she tells Time For Kids her poetic plans for the nation.



**TFK:** How did you come to love poetry?

**HOBERMAN:** I can't remember when I didn't love poetry and words. I wanted to be a writer for as far back as I can remember, but I didn't think at all of being a children's writer. Universities didn't have programs back then. I was going to work for a newspaper and write a novel. I was always making up little rhymes and poems and songs for my little brother. I adored fairy tales. To me they were and are the most magical form of writing. I didn't have many books as a young person; I grew up during the Great Depression. I had three books



LOIS DREYER/MCT

of fairy tales. Those three books I read again and again and again. They really meant the world to me, and convinced me I would want to write when I grew up. When I had family, that's when

I started writing for them.

**TFK:** You've been writing books for more than 50 years. How have your readers changed?

**HOBERMAN:** Basically, young children are pretty much the same. Their attention spans might be a little shorter. I've changed: I have hundreds of reference books around the house. Now I find myself Googling everything.

**TFK:** What do you like so much about rhythm and rhyme?

**HOBERMAN:** Writing rhymes just brings me a lot of joy. It's hard to put into words what words do for me — the sound, the way they look on the page, the way they're spelled, the way they're put together to form meaning.

**TFK:** Do you have a favorite word?

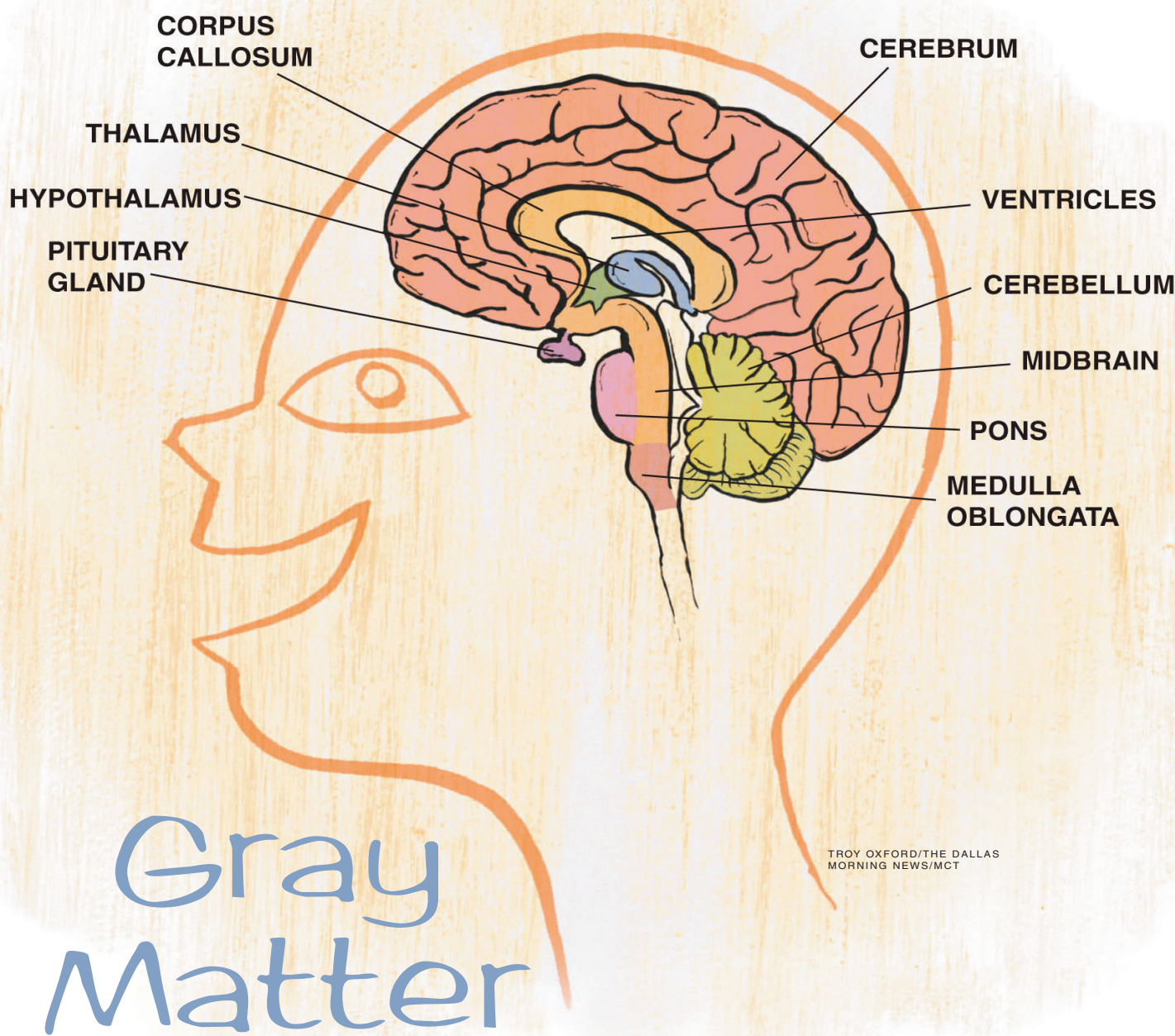
**HOBERMAN:** I wrote a book called "The Cozy Book." In it, there is a whole list of cozy words, including sarsaparilla and pachysandra. I also like words and the way they fit together.

**TFK:** What words of wisdom do you share with young poets?

**HOBERMAN:** Read, read, read. I don't think there are really great writers who aren't ardent readers. Read a lot of poetry, make up your own and say your poems out loud. They need to sound right. Memorization is just an absolutely wonderful thing. Open a dictionary at random and pick a word, or five words, and put them together. ... Keep a list of words or phrases that really impress you. And find someone who encourages you. Encouragement means a lot.

— Kathy Satterfield

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TROY OXFORD/THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS/MCT

Gray Matter

It's a great time to learn about the brain

BY NANCY CHURNIN  
The Dallas Morning News

Every day you wake up with a powerful instrument at your command: It's your brain. When you want to run or jump or tell your friend a joke, your brain sends messages to the parts of the body that make it happen. Your brain is so amazing that it takes care of things you need when you're not even paying attention. Your brain controls body temperature by making you sweat when you get too hot or shiver when you get too cold. Your brain even tells you when you're hungry or thirsty or hurt, and it keeps you breathing.

We talked to Dr. John A. Gillespie, medical director at Pfizer Inc. and the spokesman for a traveling exhibit called "Brain: The World Inside Your Head," to learn more about the different parts of the brain. (Check out <http://www.pfizer.com/brain/dates.html> to see if the exhibit is coming to a museum near you.)

**CEREBRUM:** This "thinking" area of the brain contains two parts — a right lobe and a left lobe — and makes up 85 percent of the brain's weight.

The right lobe, which controls the left side of the body, helps with creativity and abstract thinking.

The left lobe, which controls the right side of the body, helps with math, logical thinking and speech.

**HYPOTHALAMUS:** Your body's thermostat. It keeps you from getting too hot by telling you to sweat. It keeps you from getting too cold by telling you to shiver. It controls the body when you're sleeping. It tells you when you're hungry and thirsty.

**PITUITARY GLAND:** It's only the size of a pea, but it releases the hormones that make you grow and keeps your metabolism going. It's attached to the hypothalamus.

**PONS:** It's a relay station for messages between the cerebrum and the cerebellum.

**MEDULLA OBLONGATA:** It controls body functions such as breathing and heartbeat.

**CORPUS CALLOSUM:** A bridge that connects the right and the left lobes of the cerebrum and helps them communicate.

**VENTRICLES:** Like a liquid helmet, these hollow spaces hold the cerebrospinal fluid that supports, bathes, protects and nourishes the tissue of the brain.

**THALAMUS:** Perched just above the hypothalamus, the thalamus relays messages from the brain.

**MIDBRAIN:** The nerve centers in the midbrain help control head and eye movements. It also regulates waking, sleeping and blood pressure.

**CEREBELLUM:** The part of the brain most responsible for balance and movement.

**BRAIN STEM:** This is made up of three parts: the midbrain, the pons and the medulla oblongata. Each of these parts sends messages to different parts of the body.

Help!

Peace and quiet, please

**DEAR AMERICAN GIRL:** My brother makes noise nonstop! I'm the type who likes peace and quiet. I tell him to stop, but he says, "You're not the boss of me."

— I want to be an only child!

Your noisy brother might be trying to get attention from you. Spend time doing something fun with him before you need some silence. Then go to a "quiet zone" where you find peace and quiet. Ask your brother to stay out of that place while you're there. With a little luck, he just might! You could also call a family meeting and ask your parents to set some ground rules.



**DEAR AMERICAN GIRL:** I am always the one to make peace when I have a fight with a friend. I wish I wasn't, but I don't want my friendships to end.

— Peacemaker

It doesn't matter who starts to make things right again. In fact, it speaks volumes about your character that you are the first one willing to make peace. However, it takes two to fight, and it can't always be 100 percent your fault.

You can accept responsibility for the things you did wrong, but you can also ask your friends to do the same.

Visit "Fun for Girls" at [americangirlmagazine.com](http://americangirlmagazine.com) to get or give advice.

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Hidden in the leaves

Do you notice hidden things on the way to school? Take a look in the drawing for these items:

- Bird house
- Comb
- Deer face
- Duck face
- Folder
- Giraffe
- Glove
- Hawk
- Ice cream cone
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Sleeping owl

MARTY WESTMAN/MCT

	WFAA 2 Dallas	KMID 3 Midland	UNI 4 Spanish	KPEJ 5 Odessa	KOSA 7 Odessa	KTLE 8 Telemundo	KWES 9 Midland	WTBS 11 Atlanta	KMLM 12 Odessa	KPBT 13 Odessa	DISC 20 Discovery	AMC 21 Classics	SPIKE 22 Spike TV	TNT 23 Atlanta	BET 26 Black Ent.	DISN 27 Disney	ESPN2 28 Sports	ESPN 29 Sports
5 :PM	News ABC	News ABC	Locura	Lopez	News CBS	Noticias NBC	News NBC	Raymond Friends	Scrivner Uri Harel	BBC Business	Cash Cab	Rocky, Burgess Meredith	Unsolved Mysteries	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas and Ferb	Horn Interrupt	SportsCenter
6 :PM	ABC News: Vote 2008	ABC News: Vote 2008	Destino	Two Men	Campaign '08: Election Night	Se Anunciara	Millionaire 2008 Election Night	Seinfeld	Dr. Young	News-Lehrer	Made	Movie: Rocky II, Burgess Meredith	CSI: NY	Law & Order	What's at Stake?	Suite Life	Football	E:60
7 :PM	ABC News: Vote 2008	ABC News: Vote 2008	Destino	Two Men	Campaign '08: Election Night	Se Anunciara	Millionaire 2008 Election Night	Seinfeld	Dr. Young	News-Lehrer	Made	Movie: Rocky II, Burgess Meredith	CSI: NY	Law & Order	What's at Stake?	Montana	College Football: Miami-Ohio at Buffalo.	NFL Live NBA Coast-to-Coast
8 :PM	ABC News: Vote 2008	ABC News: Vote 2008	Destino	Two Men	Campaign '08: Election Night	Se Anunciara	Millionaire 2008 Election Night	Seinfeld	Dr. Young	News-Lehrer	Made	Movie: Rocky II, Burgess Meredith	CSI: NY	Law & Order	What's at Stake?	BET	Wizards	Series of Poker
9 :PM	ABC News: Vote 2008	ABC News: Vote 2008	Destino	Two Men	Campaign '08: Election Night	Se Anunciara	Millionaire 2008 Election Night	Seinfeld	Dr. Young	News-Lehrer	Made	Movie: Rocky II, Burgess Meredith	CSI: NY	Law & Order	What's at Stake?	MAN	Wizards	NFL's Greatest Game
10 :PM	ABC News: Vote 2008	ABC News: Vote 2008	Destino	Two Men	Campaign '08: Election Night	Se Anunciara	Millionaire 2008 Election Night	Seinfeld	Dr. Young	News-Lehrer	Made	Movie: Rocky II, Burgess Meredith	CSI: NY	Law & Order	What's at Stake?	MAN	Wizards	NFL's Greatest Game
11 :PM	ABC News: Vote 2008	ABC News: Vote 2008	Destino	Two Men	Campaign '08: Election Night	Se Anunciara	Millionaire 2008 Election Night	Seinfeld	Dr. Young	News-Lehrer	Made	Movie: Rocky II, Burgess Meredith	CSI: NY	Law & Order	What's at Stake?	MAN	Wizards	NFL's Greatest Game
12 :AM	ABC News: Vote 2008	ABC News: Vote 2008	Destino	Two Men	Campaign '08: Election Night	Se Anunciara	Millionaire 2008 Election Night	Seinfeld	Dr. Young	News-Lehrer	Made	Movie: Rocky II, Burgess Meredith	CSI: NY	Law & Order	What's at Stake?	MAN	Wizards	NFL's Greatest Game
1 :AM	ABC News: Vote 2008	ABC News: Vote 2008	Destino	Two Men	Campaign '08: Election Night	Se Anunciara	Millionaire 2008 Election Night	Seinfeld	Dr. Young	News-Lehrer	Made	Movie: Rocky II, Burgess Meredith	CSI: NY	Law & Order	What's at Stake?	MAN	Wizards	NFL's Greatest Game

### DENNIS THE MENACE

"DECISIONS, DECISIONS!"

### THE FAMILY CIRCUS

"For homework I just hafta make sure you and Daddy vote!"

### HAGAR

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?  
LUCKY EDDIE

NO, SERIOUSLY... WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

### BLONDIE

I'M KNOCKING OFF EARLY SO I CAN GO VOTE, BOSS

BUT IT'S ONLY 10:30 IN THE MORNING!!

HEY, CAN I HELP IT IF I'M A SLOW VOTER?

### BC

ALL THE VOTES HAVE BEEN COUNTED.

THIS IS IT, GUYS...

AND WE NOW HAVE THE RESULTS.

THE BIG MOMENT...

MILLIE - YOU ARE OFF THE ISLAND!

YEA!... PAY UP, FELLAS!

### WIZARD OF ID

I'D LIKE TO VOTE

WHAT PROOF DO YOU HAVE THAT YOU'RE A RESIDENT OF ID?

I HAVE NO MONEY, NO JOB AND NO HOME

VOTE

### AGNES

TODAY IS ELECTION DAY! MAKE SURE THAT YOU VOTE ME IN AS YOUR NEXT CLASS PRESIDENT!... DO I HAVE YOUR VOTE?

AGNES: ONLY IF I SUSTAIN MASSIVE BRAIN DAMAGE TODAY.

VOTE

ALSO, YOU WOULD HAVE TO PROMISE NEVER TO TALK OUT LOUD AGAIN... EVER... PLUS, I'M GOING TO NEED A HUGE BRIBE... IN SMALL BILLS.

DONE... EUROS OR DOLLARS?

UH-OH... YOU TALKED... SORRY

### HI AND LOIS

CLINK CLINK

THE EMPTY BOTTLES ARE SAYING GOODBYE

CLINK CLINK

REFUS

RECYCL

### THE OTHER COAST

SCRATCH SCRATCH

SAKURA SURE LOOKS COMFORTABLE.

SHE SHOULD BE... THAT'S YOUR CASHMERE SWEATER.

### SNUFFY SMITH

WHO'RE YOU VOTIN' FER PREZZ'DENT, SNUFFY?

NOBODY !!

I FIGGER ENNYONE WHO WANTS THAT JOB IS TOO CRAZY TO HAVE IT !!

HOOTIN' HOLLER ZETTE

### BEEBLE BAILEY

YOU WANT FRIES WITH THAT?

WILL YOU STOP SAYING THAT?!

I FIGURE IF THE ARMY IS TRAINING ME FOR A CAREER, I SHOULD START PRACTICING

GREG + MOET WALKER

## This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Nov 4, the 309th day of 2008. There are 57 days left in the year. This is Election Day.

Today's Highlight in History:  
On Nov. 4, 1979, the Iran hostage crisis began as militants stormed the United States Embassy in Tehran, seizing its occupants. For some of the hostages, it was the start of 444 days of captivity.

On this date:  
In 1884, Democrat Grover Cleveland was elected to his first term as president, defeating Republican James G. Blaine.  
In 1922, the entrance to King Tutankhamen's tomb was discovered in Egypt.  
In 1924, Nellie T. Ross of Wyoming was elected the nation's first female governor to serve out the remaining term of her late husband, William B. Ross.  
In 1942, during World War II, Axis forces retreated from El Alamein in North Africa in a major victory for British forces commanded by Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery.

In 1952, Dwight D. Eisenhower was elected president, defeating Democrat Adlai Stevenson.  
In 1956, Soviet troops moved in to crush the Hungarian Revolution.  
In 1980, Ronald Reagan won the White House as he defeated President Carter by a strong margin.  
In 1988, in a ceremony at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago, President Reagan signed a measure providing for U.S. participation in an anti-genocide treaty signed by President Truman in 1948.  
In 1991, Ronald Reagan opened his presidential library in Simi Valley, Calif., with a dedication attended by President Bush and former Presidents Carter, Ford and Nixon — the first-ever gathering of five past and present U.S. chief executives.  
In 1995, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated by a right-wing Israeli minutes after attending a festive peace rally.

First Lady Laura Bush is 62. Actress Markie Post is 58. Rock singer-musician Chris Difford (Squeeze) is 54. Country singer Kim Forester (The Forester Sisters) is 48. Actress-comedian Kathy Griffin is 48. Actor Ralph Macchio is 47. "Survivor" host Jeff Probst is 47. Actor Matthew McConaughey is 39. Rapper-producer Sean "Puffy" Combs is 39. Rhythm-and-blues singer Shawn Rivera (Az Yet) is 37. Actress Heather Tom is 33. Rhythm-and-blues/gospel singer George Huff is 28.  
Thought for Today: "I know nothing grander, better exercise, better digestion, more positive proof of the past, the triumphant result of faith in human kind, than a well-contested American national election." — Walt Whitman, American poet (1819-1892).

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## Newsday Crossword

THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT by Gail Grabowski  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

**ACROSS**

- 1 Family
- 5 Like a useful knife
- 10 Rental units: Abbr.
- 14 Hotel price
- 15 Electrical lines
- 16 Plumlike fruit
- 17 Hand-cream ingredient
- 18 Call off the romance
- 19 Lengthy story
- 20 Circus-parade vehicle
- 22 Of a king or queen
- 23 Not right now
- 24 Angelic instrument
- 25 Narrows gradually
- 28 Portable computers
- 31 Highway
- 32 Garment with a collar
- 34 That girl
- 35 Be incorrect
- 36 Fence post
- 37 Female pig
- 38 Lawyer: Abbr.
- 39 Antlered animal
- 40 Sand hill
- 41 Summer place for kids
- 43 Appeared to be
- 45 Artificial bait
- 46 Hold in one's hand
- 48 Thin openings
- 50 Beautifully furnished home

**DOWN**

- 1 Lobster relative
- 2 Singing syllables
- 3 Like \_\_\_ of bricks
- 4 Teased
- 5 Workout clothes
- 6 Door attachment
- 7 Zeal
- 8 Harness strap
- 9 Seattle hours: Abbr.
- 10 Classify
- 11 Feign sleep
- 12 Ancient Roman robe
- 13 Close tightly
- 21 Armed conflict
- 22 Fully attentive
- 24 Rabbit relative
- 25 Tire pattern
- 26 Main artery
- 27 Political platforms
- 28 Enjoy
- 29 Place a call
- 30 Altered a hem
- 32 "Knock it off!"
- 33 Is the owner of
- 36 A few of
- 39 Planet beyond Earth
- 40 Disapprove of
- 42 Most adorable
- 43 Became enraged
- 44 Sixth sense: Abbr.
- 46 Halloween costume
- 47 Auto-club suggestion
- 48 Staircase part
- 49 Not prerecorded
- 50 Look over quickly
- 51 General vicinity
- 52 Baseball hats
- 53 "So what \_\_\_ is new?"
- 55 Health resort

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