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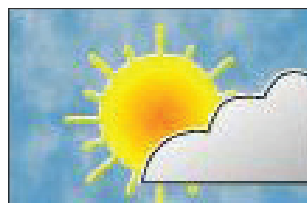
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TUESDAY

DECEMBER 16, 2008



VOLUME 104, NUMBER 13

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HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Miles Burkhart, a technician with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, releases more than 1,000 rainbow trout into Comanche Trail Lake this morning.

United Way just short of '09 goal

Herald Staff Report

United Way of Howard County and Big Spring has announced that the 2009 campaign drive yielded total contributions and pledges of \$213,622, just short of its goal for the year.

"It is expected that additional contributions and pledges will be received," said Timothy D. Yeats, local United Way campaign chairman.

The goal for 2009 was \$250,000, officials confirmed.

"Although the board is disappointed that we did not reach this year's goal, we are grateful to those in the community who continue to show their support for the 15 local agencies supported by United Way," said Yeats.

He added that while the amount received and pledged for the 2009 campaign was slightly less than 2008 figures, changes made during the past year as to how funds are administered and accounted for mean that the funds pledged this year will provide about the same support to the agencies as last

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year.

"The bottom line is that we expect the amount available for distribution to the member agencies will remain approximately the same," Yeats said.

The next step for the United Way of Howard County and Big Spring is the allocations process. The allocation committee, a group of approximately 20 individuals representing a cross section of the community, will hear presentations from the 15 United Way agencies. The committee will then make recommendations to the board as to how the available funds should be allocated.

"Once again, the board expresses its appreciation to the residents, businesses and employers in Howard County for their support of the United Way," Yeats added.

See **CAMPAIGN**, Page 3A

Grab your fishin' pole

Comanche Trail Lake stocked with trout

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

For the second year in a row, Comanche Trail Lake has seen an influx of rainbow trout, as the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department stocked the body of water with more than 1,000 of the fish this morning.

According to Debbie Wegman, director of the city's Conventions and Visitors Bureau, said the popularity of trout fishing following last year's stocking



Wegman

of the lake made the question of whether or not to do it this year a no-brainer.

Unfortunately, the cost of stocking has gone up significantly since last year, according to Wegman.

"Last year the fish were 91 cents each, which at 2,000 fish cost us a total of \$1,800," said Wegman. "This year, however, the fish are \$1.25 each, so

we're looking at \$2,500 for 2,000 of them. They will stock the lake with 1,000 now, and then they will come back and stock another 1,000 at a later date. They usually end up stocking with a few hundred more than ordered, so that will help bring the individual cost of the fish down some."

Wegman said the idea to have the winter variety of the fish came from a local minister.

See **TROUT**, Page 3A

9 Shopping Days Til Christmas



Medicine Center Pharmacy



Four-year-old boy breaks into Texas variety store

BEAUMONT (AP) — Texas police responding to a store's burglar alarm found a less-than-hardened criminal inside: He was 4, and playing with the toys.

Detective Randy Stevens says the child apparently unlocked a door at his nearby home, got out, then

crossed a street to reach the discount store.

Store surveillance video shows the unidentified boy trying one of the front doors to a Family Dollar store about 3 a.m. Monday, only to find it locked. But the second door was unlocked and the child went inside.

That triggered the silent alarm.

"When the officers got there, he was showing them his toys," said Officer Crystal Holmes.

Child Protective Services says the boy will be allowed to stay with extended relatives while they review the incident.



Courtesy photo

Howard College's newest trustee, Larry McLellan, took the oath of office as presented by Julie Bailey, administrative assistant, at the December 2008 meeting of the Howard College board of trustees Monday. Following the ceremony, McLellan joined the board and participated in carrying out the scheduled agenda.

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McNabb leads Eagles over Browns

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Written off last month, the resurgent Philadelphia Eagles are making a strong playoff push.

Donovan McNabb threw for 290 yards and two touchdowns, Asante Samuel scored on an interception return and the Eagles beat the struggling Cleveland Browns 30-10 on Monday night for their third straight victory. Philadelphia (8-5-1) remained a half-game behind three teams in the race for the two NFC wild-card spots. The Eagles have to win their final two games — at Washington and home against Dallas — and need Atlanta or Tampa Bay to lose once to secure a playoff berth.

“We put everything together and we’re playing some pretty good ball right now,” said safety Brian Dawkins, who set a team record by playing his 181st game with the Eagles. “We are a very confident group and we’re looking forward to this next game.”

The Browns (4-10) have lost four in a row. At least they finally scored a touchdown on Brandon McDonald’s 24-yard interception return in the fourth quarter. The Browns, who didn’t reach the end zone in the previous three games, could be looking for a new coach to replace Romeo Crennel after the season.

“Our guys tried but I don’t think we have enough ammunition to match up with them,” Crennel said. “We fought in there defensively. We gave up some yards and got some turnovers. We were ineffective running the ball.”

Jason Avant had five receptions for 101 yards — his first career 100-yard game. McNabb finished 26-of-35 before he was replaced by Kevin Kolb with more than 10 minutes remaining.

Just three weeks ago, the Eagles were in shambles. People were calling for coach Andy Reid to be fired and McNabb’s days in Philadelphia seemed numbered after he was benched for the first time in his career at halftime of a 36-7 loss at Baltimore.

But the Eagles answered with impressive wins over the playoff-bound Arizona Cardinals and New York Giants. They easily handled the Browns, despite squandering several opportunities.

“I don’t go back to the benching because I personally don’t agree with the benching,” McNabb said. “I tried not to let it affect me. I don’t have to prove anything. In my 10-year career, my body of work speaks for itself.”

The Eagles reached the red zone on all seven possessions with McNabb two touchdowns, but managed just two touchdowns and three field goals. They had a 17-3 lead at halftime that likely would’ve been bigger if it weren’t for two interceptions in the end zone.

Rookie wide receiver DeSean Jackson threw the first one after taking a direct snap at the 7. Sean Jones made a diving catch to pick off Jackson’s underthrown pass early in the sec-

See **EAGLES**, Page 2B



Philadelphia Eagles tight end L.J. Smith (82) runs with the ball as Cleveland Browns linebackers Alex Hall (96) and Andra Davis (54) move in for the tackle during the first quarter of an NFL football game Monday in Philadelphia.

AP Photo/Mel Evans

Woods ‘disappointed’ in caddie’s comments



AP Photo/Lenny Ignelzi

In this June 16, 2008 file photo, Tiger Woods smiles as he rides with his wife Elin Nordegren to the trophy presentation following his sudden death hole US Open championship victory following an 18-hole playoff round at Torrey Pines Golf Course in San Diego. Woods said Monday, Dec. 15, 2008, he was disappointed by Williams’ disparaging comments in New Zealand newspapers about Mickelson, whom Woods referred to as a “player I respect.”

By **DOUG FERGUSON**

AP Golf Writer

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP) — Tiger Woods’ caddie said Monday night he regrets his disparaging comment about Phil Mickelson at a charity dinner, saying he was making light of the Ryder Cup and his dislike for him.

“I don’t deny that him and I don’t get along,” Steve Williams told The Associated Press from his home in New Zealand. “I shouldn’t have said it, but no harm was meant. I was just having some fun.”

Williams was quoted in the Taranaki Daily News as saying he wouldn’t call Mickelson a great player “because I think he’s a (expletive).” In an interview the next day with another New Zealand newspaper, the Sunday Star Times, Williams confirmed making the comment and said it was no secret they don’t get along.

Woods criticized his caddie and said he would handle it privately.

“I was disappointed to read the comments attributed to Steve Williams about Phil Mickelson, a player that I re-

spect,” Woods said in a statement. “It was inappropriate. The matter has been discussed and dealt with.”

Mickelson’s management company issued a statement Sunday evening to respond to what it called “grossly inaccurate and irresponsible statements” by Williams. It included a comment from Mickelson.

“After seeing Steve Williams’ comments, all I could think of was how lucky I am to have a class act like Bones (Jim Mackay) on my bag and representing me,” Mickelson said.

Williams, who is coming up on the 10-year anniversary of working for the world’s No. 1 player, said he was speaking at a charity dinner for his foundation when he made the comment.

“I was on stage doing a Q & A with the crowd when the question came up about playing with Mickelson in the Ryder Cup,” Williams said, referring to the infamous Woods-Mickelson pairing at Oakland Hills in 2004. “It was a lighthearted conversation.”

See **WOODS**, Page 2B

Report: WBC opens probe into doping by Mosley

AP Sports — The World Boxing Council has opened an investigation of Shane Mosley following recent reports that Mosley testified under oath to taking performance-enhancing drugs in the lead-up to his 2003 title fight against Oscar De La Hoya, the New York Daily News reported in Tuesday’s edition.

Nearly three months after winning the WBC junior middleweight title with his victory over De La Hoya, Mosley told a grand jury he used steroids and EPO as part of his training regimen for the fight.

Mosley insists he didn’t know the drugs he took were banned or illegal.

“It was a real surprise to read that Mosley has confessed that he did take those medicines, those drugs that are totally prohibited by the WBC,” said the Council’s president, Jose Sulaiman. “The WBC rules



AP Photo/Damian Dovarganes

World Boxing Association welterweight world champion Antonio Margarito, left, from Mexico, and three-time world champion “Sugar” Shane Mosley, from Pomona, Calif., prepare for their recent bout. Mosley is currently under investigation for allegedly taking performance-enhancing drugs in the lead-up to his 2003 title fight against Oscar De La Hoya.

See **MOSLEY**, Page 2B

Obituaries

Donald Bennett McKinney

Donald Bennett McKinney, 82, of Big Spring died Sunday, Dec. 14, 2008. Funeral services will be held Thursday, Dec. 18, 2008, at 10 a.m. in the Nalley Pickle and Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Donita Lea officiating. Interment will follow at Mount Olive Memorial Park. The family will receive friends Wednesday from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Don was born in Big Spring Oct. 29, 1926, to Dutch and Katherine McKinney. A life long resident of Howard County, Don graduated from Big Spring High School and attended John Tarleton Agriculture College.

At the age of 17, he volunteered for service in the Army Air Corps. He served in the 20th Air Corps, 42nd Bombardment Squadron in the Philippines and on other islands of the Pacific Theatre. Don was honored as the Hanger 25 Museum's Veteran of the Month May of 2008.

Don married Frances Nan Sheedy of Coahoma in 1948, and together they farmed the original 1892 McKinney Family Homestead. Don was also an electrical foreman at the Cosden Refinery for 32 years.

Don was an active member of Coahoma Methodist Church and served the church in many ways, including as a Sunday School teacher and lay leader. He was also a 50-year member of the Staked Plains Masonic Lodge and past Worthy Patron of Coahoma Order of the Eastern Star No. 499.

Don was an advocate for education in Howard County, serving on the Howard College Board of Trustees for 35 years, acting as board president for many years. Don was dedicated to the advancement of Howard College campuses and passionate about making education accessible to all.

Don was an active pilot for 45 years and was also a member of the Big Spring Model Airplane Club. He particularly enjoyed teaching young people how to fly model airplanes.

He is survived by two children, Larry McKinney and wife Paula of Corpus Christi, Molly Foss and husband Mark of Orange City, Iowa; one brother, Hulen McKinney and wife June of Bellvue, Wash. Don had three grandchildren, Matthew Foss of Detroit, Mich., Kelcee Murphy and husband Matthew of Des Moines, Iowa, and Patrick McKinney of Corpus Christi. Other family includes brothers and sisters-in-law, Jack Sheedy, Paul Van and Charlotte Sheedy, and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Nan, and his parents.

Pallbearers will be Matthew Foss, Patrick McKinney, Keith Sheedy, Mark Sheedy, David Elmore, Carvin Keller, Neal Barbee and Clay Smith. Honorary pallbearers include the Howard College Board of Trustees and Dr. Cheryl Sparks, Jerry Rodgers, Cromwell Rhoton, Bill Patterson and Jesus Brito.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials to Coahoma Methodist Church or the Don and Nan McKinney Memorial Scholarship Fund at Howard College.

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

Paid obituary

Richard Hayes Jr.

Richard Hayes Jr., 70, of Big Spring and a former longtime resident of Colorado City, died Friday night at his residence. Services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2008, in the House of Hope Church in Colorado City with the Rev. Fay Ross officiating. Burial will follow in the Mitchell County Cemetery under the direction of Kiker-Seale Funeral Home.

Mr. Hayes was born March 17, 1938, in Colorado City to Richard and Frances Jones Hayes and had lived in Colorado City until he moved to Big Spring in 1997. He worked for years for the cotton compress in Colorado City and was a Baptist.

He is survived by two sons, Paul Ausbie and Tracy Ausbie, both of Big Spring; four step-sons, James Ausbie of Amarillo, Vernon Ausbie of Colorado City, Cornell Ausbie of Big Spring and Alton Ausbie of Fort Worth; four step-daughters, Marilyn Williams, Rosa Thompson, Della Ausbie and Shajarkel Wilbert, all of Big Spring; a brother, Ray Sledge of San Angelo; a sister, Willie Mae Sledge of Alamogordo, N.M.; 33 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Aloma Kay Koerber



Aloma Kay Koerber, 65, of Big Spring died Sunday, Dec. 14, 2008, in a Midland hospital. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2008, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel in Big Spring with Pastor Clint Collins of Lifechurch officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

Aloma was born Dec. 2, 1943, in Winters. She grew up in Phoenix, Ariz., where, at age 11, she met her childhood sweetheart Donald Koerber. Aloma, at 17, and Donald, at 18, were married June 10, 1960, in Phoenix. The couple spent some time in Phoenix and Bullhead City, Ariz., before they moved to Big Spring in 1988. She was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother and a homemaker.

She loved camping, going to movies, Elvis Presley, Rachel Ray and spending time with her family. She was a Christian. She was loved by everyone who met her.

Her surviving family includes her husband, Donald Koerber of Big Spring; three daughters, Debbie Storie and her late husband John of McCamey, Shelley Burrow and her husband Mike, and Brenda Tubb and her husband Brian, all of Big Spring; two sons, Don Koerber and Jim Koerber, both of Big Spring, and son-in-law Mike Roeber of McCamey; she had seven grandchildren, Becky Roeber, Jacob Roeber, Lane Storie and Jonathan Storie, all of McCamey, and Don Koerber III, Amy Koerber and Brelyn Tubb, all of Big Spring; one sister, Gloria Alexander of Big Spring; and one brother, Jim Graves, also of Big Spring.

Mrs. Koerber was preceded in death by her parents, Jim and Verba Graves; her granddaughter, Amy Koerber; and a son-in-law, John Storie.

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

Paid obituary

Edward Allen Welch



Edward Allen Welch, 54, of Big Spring died Sunday, Dec. 14, 2008. Graveside services will be held at 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18, 2008, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring with the Rev. Namiqa Shipman, District Superintendent of the Big Spring District United Methodist Church, officiating. Assisting will be Lay Pastor Jackie Mauch of North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church.

He was born Dec. 3, 1954, in Victoria and married Sheila Mae Fryar June 3, 1978, in Brownwood.

He served in the United States Army during Desert Storm. He worked at Scenic Mountain Medical Center as an LVN, and then went to work at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in 2004. He was a member of Northside United Methodist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Sheila Welch of Big Spring; his father and stepmother, Edward C. and Evelyn Welch of Tuscola; three brothers, Ronnie Welch of Port LaVaca, Walter Welch of Plano and Alfred Welch of Brownwood; one nephew and three nieces.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Dafonal Stennata Welch in 1983; and one sister, Linda Carol Welch.

The family suggests memorials be made to North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church, 2702 N. Birdwell LN., Big Spring 79720; or to the Methodist Children's Home, 1111 Herring Ave., Waco 76708.

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

Edman 'Ed' McMurray

Edman "Ed" McMurray, 71, of Big Spring died Monday, Dec. 15, 2008, in a Midland hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

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Albert 'A.C.' Pettus



Albert "A.C." Pettus, 91, of Big Spring died Sunday, Dec. 14, 2008, in a local hospital. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2008, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Rev. Steven King, pastor of Birdwell Lane Baptist Church, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends Tuesday from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

He was born Feb. 2, 1917, in Center Hill, Ark., and married Effie Norris Willborn Feb. 5, 1941, in Brownfield. She preceded him in death Sept. 14, 1996. He then married Bettie Dean Cross Dec. 21, 1996.

Mr. Pettus served in the United States Army Air Corps during World War II. He owned and operated Pettus Electric for more than 50 years and was a master electrician. He was a longtime member of Trinity Baptist Church, where he had served as a deacon and worked with Dr. L.J. Power.

He also pastored at Lockhart Baptist Church in Big Spring, Eastside Baptist Church in Abilene, and was associate pastor of Houston Baptist Temple in Houston, working with Rev. Jack Power Jr. Mr. Pettus was a member of Birdwell Lane Baptist Church of Big Spring.

Survivors include his wife, Bettie Pettus of Big Spring; one daughter and son-in-law, Jo Beth and the Rev. Jack Power Jr. of Spring; three grandchildren, Gina Gardiner and husband Terry of Abilene, Danielle Buffin and fiance Jared Bradshaw of Cache, Okla., and Jacquelyn Howard of Sanger; nine great grandchildren and one great granddaughter; six step children, Phillip Crow and wife Diane of Mansfield, Gayla Campbell and husband Barry, and Valarie Prather and husband David, all of Jacksonville, and Odys Crow and wife Lisa of Jefferson, Lajuan Sikes and husband Jerry, and Denise Whitley and husband David, all of Reno, Nev.; 15 step grandchildren; and six step great grandchildren.

He has also preceded in death by a daughter, Alberteen "Teena" Stornolo; one grandson, Jack Power III; a grand-son-in-law, Martin Parmer; and nine brothers and sisters.

The family suggests memorials be made to Birdwell Lane Baptist Church, 1512 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring 79720.

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

Paid obituary

Sotero 'Angel' Cerna Sr.



Sotero "Angel" Cerna Sr., 70, of Ackerly died Monday, Dec. 15, 2008, at the Stanton Care Center. A prayer service will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel, with pastors Ventura Martinez and Robert Rivera officiating. Burial will be at Ackerly Cemetery.

He was born Sept. 4, 1938, in San Antonio to Francisca and Pedro Cerna. He married Martha Ramos March 23, 1989, in Midland. He was a retired truck driver. He lived most of his life in Big Spring and was a member of Templo Centro De Alabanza.

He is survived by his wife Martha of Lakewood, Colo.; one son, Angel Sotero Cerna Jr. of Lakewood, Colo.; one step-son, Jesse Cuellar of Big Spring; three sisters, Elvira Martinez of Knott, Gloria Carrillo of Corpus Christi and Irene Hernandez of Big Spring; three brothers, Alfred R. Cerna of Knott, Baldemar Cerna of Lamesa and Martin Cerna of Big Spring.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersand-smith.com

Take Note

• Donnavan J. Silvas, 1, of Big Spring, died Friday, Dec. 5, 2008, in a local hospital. The parents are in need of help with burial expenses. All donations can be made at Nalley-Pickle and Welch Funeral Home and Crematory of Big Spring.

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WOODS

Continued from Page 1B

One guy asked me about the tee shot Phil hit on the final hole when I said it.”

Woods and Mickelson lost both their matches, with Mickelson hitting a 3-wood off the 18th tee into an unplayable lie that cost them the foursomes match against Darren Clarke and Lee Westwood.

“There was never any conversation about Tiger and Phil — it was me and Phil,” Williams said. “The whole thing has been taken way out of context. I shouldn’t have said it; I agree with that. People say funny things all the time at these things. It was not meant to be any harm. It was one of those lighthearted, funny things.”

Williams said he has spoken to Woods, but declined to discuss their conversation. He said he has not spoken to Mickelson, but would if he had his phone

number.

And what would he say?

“I’d just tell him the situation — that it was a charity event, a fun event, and it’s no secret me and you don’t get along,” Williams said.

The comments figure to bring even more intrigue to the Woods-Mickelson rivalry, and to a relationship that is hard to pin down.

They have never been particularly close, and they appeared to be even more distant when they lost both their matches as partners in the 2004 Ryder Cup, where they rarely spoke to each other.

But they exchange friendly barbs in the locker room, and both have paid each other compliments over the years.

Mickelson credits Woods with a spike in prize money, and when Mickelson had his worst season on tour in 2003, Woods said Lefty had too much talent to end his career without a major and that his wedge game was the best in golf. Mickelson went on to win a major

each of the next three years.

Williams told the Sunday Star Times that he was simply being honest.

“I don’t particularly like the guy myself,” he told the newspaper. “He pays me no respect at all and hence, I don’t pay him any respect. It’s no secret we don’t get along, either.”

Mickelson’s management also took issue with a story Williams told the Taranaki Daily News about a fan heckling Mickelson’s physique, saying the caddie plugged in Mickelson’s name to an incident that happened years ago.

That famous story involved Colin Montgomerie at Bethpage Black in the 2002 U.S. Open.

Woods is to speak Wednesday at the Chevron World Challenge, where he is the tournament host.

He has not played since winning the U.S. Open at Torrey Pines, where he and Mickelson played together the first two rounds.

What he discussed and how he dealt with Williams remains unknown.

MOSLEY

Continued from Page 1B

state that we must have a hearing. This is a matter of serious concern to us.”

Sulaiman has ordered the WBC’s legal counsel to gather evidence on Mosley to present to the Council’s 29-member board of governors. The board has the authority to vote on sanctions and can issue disqualifications or severe fines, even after the conclusion of a fight.

“Thus far the WBC has seen only press reports, and must therefore investigate any available evidence and review it, in terms of the WBC rules and regulations’ anti-doping provisions,” said Robert Lenhardt, an attorney for the WBC.

The investigation will coincide with a defamation lawsuit Mosley filed against BALCO founder Victor

Conte. The suit claims Conte told newspapers he watched Mosley inject himself with EPO and that the boxer knew what he was taking.

Conte, who is in possession of the grand jury transcripts because he was a defendant in the BALCO case, said he is “more than willing to cooperate with any investigation of Shane Mosley’s use of performance-enhancing drugs.”

The WBC rules include a prohibition that no boxer “shall be under the influence of any drug during the contest that will in any manner affect their performance in the ring.”

Mosley, a four-time world champion, is scheduled to meet current WBA welterweight title holder Antonio Margarito on Jan. 24 at Staples Center in Los Angeles.

Patsy's
sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

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

EAGLES

Continued from Page 1B

ond quarter.

McDonald then intercepted McNabb’s pass on the final play of the second and ran it back 98 yards to the Eagles 7. McDonald was chased by Brian Westbrook and finally caught from behind by Hank Baskett, who was the intended receiver on the play.

Cleveland’s Ken Dorsey, making his second straight start for the injured Derek Anderson and

Brady Quinn, was intercepted twice.

“I made two mistakes that cost us pretty good,” Dorsey said. “I can’t put the defense in that spot.”

Since his benching, McNabb has played like the guy who went to five Pro Bowls and led the Eagles to four consecutive NFC championship games and a Super Bowl. He has completed 72 of 104 passes for 741 yards, seven TDs and one interception in the last three games. His passer rating is 107.9 in those games.

“He’s playing confident, he’s being aggressive with the ball and he’s managing the game very well,” Reid said.

McNabb came out firing, completing all four of his passes

on the opening possession, including a 14-yard strike to Kevin Curtis that gave the Eagles a 7-0 lead. A 20-yard completion to Jason Avant on third-and-5 kept the drive going.

In the second, Samuel stepped in front of Dorsey’s pass intended for Donte Stallworth and raced 50 yards for a touchdown to make it 17-3. It appeared Samuel tossed the ball aside at the 1 just like Jackson did against the Dallas Cowboys in a Monday night game in Week 2. But Samuel quickly picked the ball up in the end zone. The Browns didn’t challenge, but it wouldn’t have mattered.

It was the first touchdown this season for Samuel, who signed a \$57.14 million, six-year free-agent contract in March.

“It was definitely overdue,” Samuel said. “I dropped a couple. It was time to finally get one.”

McNabb connected with Greg Lewis for a 10-yard TD pass that made it 30-3 in the fourth quarter.

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Police blotter

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

- KEITH ANDREW HILARIO, 24, of Fort Worth, was arrested Monday on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- MELISSA HUFF, 43, of 6321 Rural Road 33, was arrested Tuesday on charges of public intoxication and possession of drug paraphernalia.
- CRIMINAL TRESPASS OF A HABITATION/SHELTER CENTER was reported in the 800 block of Nolan.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 600 block of Sixth Street.
- ASSAULT BY THREATS was reported in the 600 block of State Street.

Sheriff's report

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 66 inmates at the time of this report.
- JOHNNY CANTU, 36, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of violation of parole.
 - DAVID LEE GOMEZ, 28, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon — family violence.
 - LANCE NORMAN MARTEL, 35, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.
 - RANDALL WAYNE CONNER, 44, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a motion to revoke probation for possession of marijuana — two ounces or less.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of Lexington. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Indian Hill. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of Ridgelea. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3100 block of FM 461. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 600 block of W. Interstate Highway 20. Service refused.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- RUBBISH FIRE was reported in the 1600 block of Gregg Street.

TROUT

Continued from Page 1A

"I was in Leadership Big Spring last year with Ken McIntosh, the minister of First Christian Church," said Wegman. "He told me about some of the trout fishing he had done in the Fort Worth area, and we both wondered if it would be popular here in the Big Spring area. I called the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and got us on the list for winter trout. It may sound

uncommon at first, but they actually stock several lakes in this area, including Midland and Odessa."

With the fish delivered to their new home in Comanche Trail Lake this morning, Wegman said there's just one ingredient left for the equation.

"We just need people to catch them," said Wegman with a laugh. "This particular species of trout won't survive the weather this summer, so the challenge here is to encourage people to get out there and catch

Texas briefs

Freezing conditions in some parts of Texas

AP — A shallow cold air mass slammed North Texas prompting officials to shutter some overpasses because of treacherous driving conditions.

The overpass west-bound Interstate 20 to Interstate 35 south-bound was closed early Tuesday until sand trucks arrive, said Stacie Abner, dispatch supervisor, Dallas County Sheriff's Office.

She said Dallas County had experienced at least 30 accidents since 10 p.m. Monday. A call to the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office early Tuesday was not immediately returned.

Motorists across North Texas found rush hour a little more harrowing Monday night as freezing rain and drizzle combined to create icy conditions on some roadways.

Traffic cams and television footage showed long lines of brake lights on freeways and highways in the Dallas area. Dallas police said they received at least 173 calls to 911 reporting accidents, with at least 93 regarding major accidents. It wasn't immediately clear how many might have been duplicate calls.

A winter weather advisory was in effect until 11 a.m. Tuesday in North Texas.

Collin County and points northeast toward the Red River may experience some icy spots on Tuesday, said Dan Shoemaker, meteorologist, National Weather Service, Fort Worth.

"A very cold arctic air

mass has gripped the entire state," said Jason Runyen, meteorologist, with the National Weather Service in Corpus Christi. He said motorists traveling to San Antonio or Austin should be mindful of freezing along some overpasses and bridges.

A winter weather advisory was cancelled for South Texas, Runyen said early Tuesday.

Texas prison officials nix jam of prison cell phones saying it violates law

AUSTIN (AP) — A scheduled demonstration of an electronic device that jams cell phone signals, rendering a phone inside a prison useless, has been canceled four days before it was to have been held, according to Texas prison officials.

The demonstration was scheduled at the state jail in Austin by Florida-based vendor CellAntenna but prison officials nixed it Monday, saying such a test would violate federal law. The decision drew fire from some Texas lawmakers.

"Through our ongoing dialogue with the Texas attorney general's office, we have come to the conclusion that proceeding with this presentation would violate federal law, and we are not willing to violate the law in the pursuit of protecting it," said Brad Livingston, executive director of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Attorney General Greg Abbott said that although he supports

jamming cell calls as a way to curb prison contraband, his office had no choice but to advise prison officials that the planned test would violate federal law, the AustinAmerican-Statesman reported Tuesday in an online story.

"They could be exposed to legal consequences" if the test had gone ahead, Abbott said.

Texas game wardens search lake for college student after celebration turns deadly

CORSICANA (AP) — Authorities are searching Richland Chambers Lake for the body of a 23-year-old Texas A&M University student who was the victim of an accident while on a boating trip celebrating the end of the school year, officials said.

A Texas Parks and Wildlife spokesman identified the missing student as Charles Andrew (Chase) Bergfeld, of Conroe, said to be the boat operator.

Ten college students had been on a boating trip early Saturday morning, Navarro County Sheriff Les Cotten. Their boat was returning from BullFrogs Restaurant to a private residence on the lake when it struck a submerged object near a bridge and sank. Nine students made it safely to shore, the Corsicana Daily Sun reported Tuesday for an online story.

Texas game wardens and rescue personnel from several agencies have been searching for Bergfeld. The search has been hindered by

adverse weather conditions, including strong wind, sleet and rain, officials said.

"We'll be here every day until we recover the victim," said Game Warden Capt. Gary Dugan.

The American Red Cross is also assisting.

Letter to Santa leads to man's arrest

PHARR (AP) — A 9-year-old girl's letter to Santa Claus asking that a relative stop touching her and her sister has led to the arrest of a 55-year-old Pharr man on charges of continuous sexual abuse of a young child, according to a newspaper report.

Andres Enrique Cantu, 55, of Pharr, remained in the Hidalgo County Jail Monday night after his arrest Friday. His bond was set at \$100,000. It wasn't immediately clear if Cantu had an attorney.

The girl wrote the letter Thursday and turned it in at Cesar Chavez Elementary School, The (McAllen) Monitor reported. It wasn't clear whether the letter was for a school assignment.

A probable cause complaint said a counselor at the school reported that the student turned in a wish list to Santa asking that the relative stop touching her and her sister. A day later she was interviewed at the Children's Advocacy Center in Edinburg, which works with abused children, and told authorities about the alleged molestation.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288
Sotero "Angel" Cerna, Sr., 70, of Ackerly, died Monday. A Prayer Service will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Ackerly Cemetery.

CAMPAIGN

Continued from Page 1A

ed.
Earlier this month, Nancy Foster was named the organizations executive director for the coming year. She will replace Jan Hansen, who was serving as interim executive director.

Anyone who would like to contribute can send a tax deductible donation to the United Way of Howard County and Big Spring, P.O. Box 24, Big Spring 79721. Call 267-5201 for more information.

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water fishing license is required to fish for trout. Youth ages 16 and younger are exempt from the fishing package requirement. For more information on fishing requirements and laws,

visit www.tpwd.state.tx.us on the Web.

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

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

Help Wanted

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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

The case for a higher federal gasoline tax

Consumers are enjoying the lowest retail gasoline prices in years, a welcome ray of light in an ever-darkening economic picture.

That's good news for financially strapped American families and for the domestic auto industry, which has struggled to produce the high-mileage vehicles consumers wanted when gas prices spiked at more than \$4 a gallon over the summer.

But in the long run — as difficult as this is to accept — low gasoline prices hurt America more than they help. They encourage continued reliance on gas-powered vehicles and harm the efforts to lower carbon emissions that contribute to global warming. They discourage research into new, nonpolluting transportation energy sources — the single greatest technological challenge of the 21st century.

Consider what happened during the early 1980s, when gas prices soared to the then-unheard-of price of \$1.38 a gallon. It triggered a surge of research into alternative energy sources such as solar power and electric vehicles. But as soon as prices began to drop, as they did in 1982, so did the rush of investment and research into alternative energy.

Adjusted for inflation, that previous average high gas price of \$1.38 was the equivalent of \$3.14 a gallon. We didn't see average retail prices that high again until this year.

But when gas prices and investment in alternative energy fell in this country in the 1980s, they didn't drop everywhere. In Europe and in Japan, high gasoline taxes kept fuel prices relatively high. That encouraged conservation and provided investors with greater confidence that the money they pumped into developing new technologies would earn an acceptable return.

The result was that Japanese car companies were the first to market new hybrid cars, and European companies led the way in producing new, cleaner diesel vehicles. American car companies, meanwhile, kept churning out large, gas-guzzling SUVs.

After years of failed attempts to increase mileage requirements for new cars — efforts steadfastly opposed by American auto manufacturers and their unions, Congress finally succeeded last year. As a result, U.S. cars must average 35 miles per gallon by 2020. European cars, in contrast, averaged 38 miles per gallon in 2006.

If increasing mileage standards has been difficult, hiking gas taxes has been unthinkable. Although the idea is floated occasionally (most incongruously by then-Rep. Dick Cheney in the 1980s, who supported a plan to tax imported oil), it never has received a serious airing. It should.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office reported in 2004 that increasing the federal gasoline tax — which has been 18.4 cents a gallon since 1993 — would reduce consumption faster and at less cost than increasing mileage standards.

Obviously, it would not be painless. Consumers would be paying significantly higher prices, and the federal Energy Information Administration predicts that as the global recession abates, gasoline prices will resume their upward climb.

But the impact of higher gas prices could be offset somewhat by reducing other taxes or through a federal income tax rebate. In the meantime, it would reduce gas consumption significantly.

That would help undercut the financial strength of such countries as Iran and Russia that, armed with a surplus of petrodollars, have been unfriendly to American interests. And combined with other tax incentives, it would encourage U.S. investment in energy alternatives.

The nation that succeeds in developing and deploying new, green technologies will have a major economic advantage in the decades to come. It's crucial that the United States be that nation.

Congress should raise the federal gas tax and push America toward innovation and energy independence.

THE ST. LOUIS POST DISPATCH

Obama learned from Dem's errors

Our financial system has been in a meltdown, the war in Afghanistan is not going well, the tension between two nuclear armed states, Pakistan and India, has dangerously escalated and the U.S. attorney has uncovered a shocking, blatant scandal involving the governor of Illinois.

Amid this sea of turbulence there is one island of calm, President-elect Barack Obama's transition team.

He is moving, as he himself predicted, with deliberate haste to put together a government.

His appointments have been almost universally praised. He is placing competence above ideology and, maybe most important, building a White House staff that knows Washington's ways and has the respect of congressional leaders.

The best example of why Obama is on the right track in his transition is his choice of a chief of staff, Rahm Emanuel. He has experience in the White House during the Clinton administration and had risen to a key leadership role in the House of Representatives over the last eight years. If nothing else, his appointment, announced immediately after the election, shows that Obama has given considerable thought and planning to how he must staff and run his government.

Just compare the past two Democratic presidents appointed as

chief of staff. Jimmy Carter made Hamilton Jordan, his top campaign official, his top White House aide in 1977. He had no Washington experience and let people know he was proud of it. Carter then proceeded to make a series of mistakes, in the timing of his priorities and alienating his potential allies on the Hill. Bill Clinton appointed Arkansas business executive Mack McLarty, a boyhood friend, as his first chief of staff. The result was a stumbling, bumbling beginning and then a loss of his majorities in the Congress.

What is impressive about Obama is, first of all, the thought he put into how to staff a government before the campaign was over.

Carter and Clinton seemed to fear that it would look presumptuous if word got out that they were planning a government even before they had been elected.

But even more important is Obama's recognition that he must build strong ties with the Congress if he is going to be effective.

It is one thing to talk about change during a campaign and quite another to implement it in our complex system of checks and balances. While some have complained that Obama is bringing old faces to the White House, the truth is that the best way to bring about change is to have a staff that has been there and done that.

Change is about implementing new ideas that Obama is bringing to the White House himself, not having a bunch of people around him who have no experience and no clue of how to get things done.

There is also grumbling from the

left that Obama is moving too much toward moderate, centrist appointments and ignoring the left wing of his party, especially in foreign policy.

But Obama seems to understand that he must try to rebuild a center coalition if he is going to be effective.

No doubt he will tack left and then right, but that is consistent with how he ran his campaign and how he said he would govern.

He wants to get away from the old labels and the old liberal versus conservative battles and find enough commonality with people from red states and people from blue states to have a governing coalition.

The trick will be not to compromise so much that he can't make any fundamental change. Obama isn't interested in "triangulating" in the manner of Clinton. With a Republican-controlled Congress, Clinton had to settle for incremental change, at best. That's clearly not where Obama wants to be.

The differences between what Carter and Clinton faced and what Obama will face, of course, are starkly different. The financial crisis will dominate Obama's first years in office. But, at the very least, he seems to have learned from Carter's and Clinton's early mistakes. That's an encouraging beginning.

James Klurfeld is a professor of journalism at Stony Brook University. His e-mail address is james.klurfeld@stonybrook.edu.

ADDRESSES

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• JOHN CORNYN

U.S. Senator
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• RANDY NEUGEBAUER

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• KEL SELIGER

State Senator
Texas 31st District
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BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL

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267-2649.

Jerry Kilgore — 263-
0724; Work (Jerry's
Barbers): 267-5471.

Bill Crooker — Home:
263-2566.

Gary Simer — Home:
263-0260.

Safety at the speed of life

We have all heard the saying "time is money." A few months ago,

I heard a senior executive of a major retail chain put it another way: "Speed is life." The faster he can get products into the United States and onto store shelves, the bigger the edge he'll have over competitors.

Of course, whenever you're in a hurry, you're tempted to take risks. The challenge is to keep trade moving at a competitive speed without sacrificing safety. We have seen safety sacrificed in recent years, but we have responded with a thorough examination of our present protections and a fundamental revision of our import-safety strategy.

Now we are moving a major step closer to implementing our new strategy by establishing - for the first time ever - a global presence for the Food and Drug Administration. A regional office opened in Europe this month. I opened three offices in China last month. Early next year, FDA will open an office in Central America and two offices in India. A regional office in the Middle East is scheduled for opening in the first half of 2009.

These offices are the anchors of FDA's new Beyond Our Borders initiative. By stationing FDA experts in producing countries and regions, we can work with foreign governments and producers to assure that

products exported to the U.S. meet our standards. We can also accelerate implementation of another key piece of our new import safety strategy: voluntary third-party certification.

Third-party certification is not a new concept. It already exists in many industries, and it works. Until now, however, we have not integrated this capacity for improvement into our regulatory work.

In the future, products from firms that meet U.S. standards and have been certified by a process we trust could receive expedited entry and access to U.S. consumers. Agencies like the Food and Drug Administration will be freer to focus enforcement resources on those suppliers that present a higher risk.

We recently announced a third-party-certification pilot program for farm-raised shrimp. This project is designed to help my department and the FDA learn how to evaluate third-party certification programs and to process certifications.

We are saying clearly to producers in other nations: "We want you to have access to American markets, and we want to have access to yours. To maintain your access, you must meet American standards of quality and safety. If you can demonstrate, through a process we trust, that your products meet our safety standards, we'll be your partners in speed."

Our old strategy for ensuring import safety was to stop products at the border in the hope of catching the few that were defective. Entry-point inspections are still an essential part of the process. But the

immense volume of imports means that there is no way we can inspect our way to safety. Attempting to do so would bring global trade to a screeching halt.

Instead, we need to roll back our borders and ensure that growers and manufacturers build safety and quality into products from the beginning. Third-party certification and the FDA's new global presence will help us do that.

There's still work to be done, still some details to be worked out. But I'm confident things will move ahead as planned under the next administration. There's just no other way to keep the products we buy safe without slowing down international trade. And in our current economic situation, the last thing we would want to do is slow down trade. Now more than ever, we need to keep the gates of trade open to outside producers, while still ensuring the safety of imports.

We can have both speed and safety — by rolling back our borders, establishing a forward presence for FDA, collaborating with foreign governments and the private sector on science-based standards, and working with independent, third-party certifying agencies to see that products meet those standards.

Products certified to meet high standards can receive expedited entry into our country. Those that don't will receive enhanced scrutiny. The result will be faster but safer trade.

Mike Leavitt is secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services.



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Bird Poop: Best hunting trip the man ever had

The season had passed. For three days, the man hiked and climbed over some of the most rugged terrain in Texas. In the arroyos, where rains had become torrents in the narrow gullies, he had walked on small pebbles and stepped over rocks to check the fine, gritty deposits from the arid mountains.



BEBE McCASLAND

There, the mule deer would have left their tracks and pellets when coming in to drink at the desert's spring-fed pools.

Nothing. In a country filled with game, he had not had the opportunity for even a shot. The only time he had seen the "mules" was on the dusty drive back to the main road. Out of range, a stag and two does watched him leave.

With a day left to roam the lease, the man decided to backtrack near an area with huge cottonwoods and a small watering hole. Having seen numerous birds there, he could sit in the shade and watch for whatever might come.

Approaching the stately trees, he heard in the distance the familiar keerrrr of a red-tailed hawk. As it soared above, the large bird of prey continued to circle and call.

Having seen the hawks hunt the desert plains to the south of the Chinati mountains, the man was thrilled to see this one overhead. Again, the almost plaintive cry broke the quiet of an autumn morning. What the man did not expect was to hear an answer.

Not moving, he waited. The raptor above called

again. From some distance down the creek bed was a response. "Each knows where the other one is," he thought.

As their cries continued, the man decided to see if he could locate the hawk on the ground. To be quiet in a rock-filled outlet from the mountains was going to be an effort. Listening for the calls, and watching where he placed each foot, he started his search. When he had walked about twenty feet, he froze. Near his boot was the fresh indentation of a large cat in the fine particles of sand unleashed from the hills.

Squatting down to take a closer look, he judged the print might have been made in the last hour or two. "That's all I need," he grimaced. Hopefully, the mountain lion had heard his arrival and had left to return later.

Still, the cry from ahead answered the one from above. The man continued his slow approach. Ahead was a barbed wire fence crossing the gully to mark the property line. On the other side of the fence were dense foliage and scrubs.

About six feet in front of the fence stood the downed redtail. "If it gets under there and in that growth, I'll never get to it," he thought. Fortunately, the remains of "gully-washers" had piled up at



Courtesy photo

Perched atop a bare tree limb, a rocky ledge, or telephone pole, the red-tailed hawk seeks its prey as it frequents high rugged mountains, rangelands, deserts, and the plains.

the bottom of the barricade. With the broken limbs and scattered leaves from the cottonwoods were also twisted wires from numerous repairs caused by cattle scratching an itch.

Not flying and unsure of what the stranger might do, the raptor paced in front of the dam created by nature. Easing his hunting vest off his shoulders behind his back, the man thought he might be able to corner the bird. If it spread its wings and reared back to use its feet and talons for defense, the vest could protect his hands.

Extending its wings and unable to go further, the

hawk decided to protect itself. As a set of talons pierced the quilted material, the man quickly reached around the raptor. Pinning its wings to its body, he held the bird facing away from him. It took him several attempts before he successfully grabbed the other leg. Having control of both feet and legs, he realized what the discarded barbed wire and rocks had done to his knees as he had hurriedly fallen to the ground to catch the bird.

"Found one because of the other one," the man related as he recapped his encounter. "I put it in the dog carrier for the ride home." When he delivered the hawk, we noticed his torn and stained khakis. "It was worth it for that experience," he said.

Not finding any breaks in the wings was an indication of a soft tissue injury, or bruising. With two to three weeks at a wildlife center, the raptor could be released.

Dark brown above with whitish and rufous mottling, the red-tailed hawk was in the light phase of

coloration. Above, the tail was the typical rufous, or rusty hue.

From the ground, the bottom side of the tail would appear to be a light cinnamon, with a blackish band and dull white tip accenting the end. The raptor's underparts were creamy with the tell-tale brownish streaks across the belly.

During our earliest days of bird rehabilitation, we had been told wisely that we could tell a redtail not only by its posterior, but by the top of its head. "Flat as an anvil," had been the key. With its slate black bill, the bird's head was an imposing sight.

Thanking the man for his rescue and delivery of the red-tailed hawk, we reveled in his enthusiasm for what had happened.

"Thought I'd be coming home empty-handed. Instead, it was the best hunting trip I've ever had."

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR COMMERCIAL OIL AND GAS WASTE DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT

McDonnold Operating, Inc., 505 N. Big Spring, Suite 204, Midland, TX 79701, is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to commercially dispose of produced salt water or other oil and gas waste by well injection into a porous formation not productive of oil or gas. The applicant proposes to dispose of oil and gas waste into the San Andres, the Rogers B Lease, Well Number 1. The proposed disposal well is located 1 mile West of Coahoma, TX in the Caverna (Leonard) Field, Howard County, Texas. The wastewater will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2,440 feet to 4,046 feet. Legal Authority: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rule of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, TX 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792). #6013 December 16, 2008

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

The moon in Leo mingles with the Sagittarian solar energy in a heady mix of enthusiasm and raw nerve. Jumping into the thick of the action is potentially painful, though not nearly as injurious as missing your chance. Don't hold your talents back from opportunity because you're not ready yet. Dive in and take the lessons as they come.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Life is not a popularity contest. You're realizing that you have to do what's right for you even if it's not the choice that others would find pleasing. Ultimately they will respect you for standing up for yourself.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're generous. It feels good to let people have some of the things they want from you. So you give in on smaller issues. Once those are out of the way you can really focus on winning in the big picture.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). When you say the name of your loved one, do it only in a loving way and under heavenly circumstances. The utterance of those words can cast a magic spell today, as your attention is all this person craves.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You live in a bubble of mystery and it would be a shame to let anyone pop it. So refuse to be swayed by the persuasive elements around you now. Don't let anyone push you into revealing too much about yourself too soon.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You have been accepting

scraps of attention from someone when the truth is you deserve all kinds of love -- passionate, platonic, respectful, desiring, reverent, and above all, unconditional.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're working so hard that in your private thoughts you may wonder how much longer you can keep this up. Do what you can. You'll amaze yourself with your fortitude -- you have already amazed others.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Move quickly. Be breezy in all things. There will be small losses along the way, but you're better off not to dwell on any of it. Even if you have to start over again from scratch you'll still be ahead of the game.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're like a kid now with large powers of imagination. Think of yourself in various roles -- a pilot, an acrobat, the ringleader of a circus. By stretching your self-definition, you will bolster your confidence.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You will make unusual choices. They don't make sense to anyone, least of all you. But there is a strange intelligence at work here, so go with it. At the end of this week you'll look back and be proud of yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your positive energy can make an impact if you protect it and keep it pure. You're sensitive and impressionable now, so insulate yourself from chronic whiners and complainers.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You automatically assume that everyone is talented in the same way that you are. Actually, practically no one is. So do what you do, knowing it's as rare and valuable a gift as the world has ever received.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You've put your order in and you know that it's going to take some time for the universe to deliver. Don't wait around until things happen, though. Hustle. Then when your order finally arrives, you'll be fully ready.

LOW-BUDGET HOLIDAY GIFTS BY SIGN: ARIES: Demonstrate your deep caring with poetry or a handwritten letter from your heart. TAURUS: Give a toast. Practice well beforehand to make it as touching and personal as possible. GEMINI: Make artsy magnets out of glue and photographs, buttons or bottle caps. CANCER: Bake! Whether it's from a box or from scratch, you're about as good as it gets. LEO: Perform for your loved ones. Dedicate a song, the reading of a special passage or a dance to them. VIRGO: Go on a nature walk and gather up branches, flowers, seeds, etc., to make and present a festive arrangement. LIBRA: Create personal cards. Your visual style is stunning. SCORPIO: Frame special pictures of your loved one or of a time you had together last year. SAGITTARIUS: Create a tour and take your loved one on it. It can be of common places you usually go, but the information you impart makes it special and interesting. CAPRICORN: Go organic. A creative vegetable or fruit arrangement will be gratefully received. AQUARIUS: Paint a portrait or draw a doodle -- your handiwork is divine! PISCES: Execute a full-out effort to clean, organize or fix up something in a loved one's environment.

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CHRISTMAS COLORING CONTEST

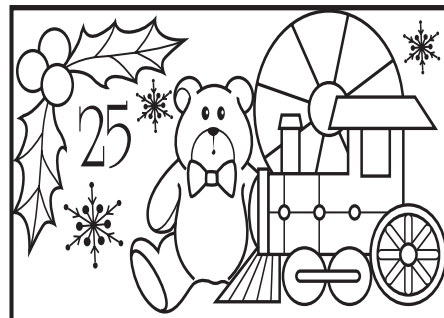
**Kids Submit Your Entry
Color 1 Block & Bring To
The Big Spring Herald
By**

**Monday, Dec. 22, 2008
5:00 p.m.**

**1ST PRIZE: \$50.00 GIFT CARD
2ND PRIZE: \$35.00 GIFT CARD
3RD PRIZE: \$25.00 GIFT CARD**

COLORING CONTEST RULES:

1. Contest open to children ages 10 and under. Relatives of newspaper employees or contest sponsors are not eligible to win.
2. Contestants may use crayons, colored pencils or markers. Adults may assist in completing the contest entry form, but not in the coloring.
3. Limit one entry per child. Entries will not be returned.
4. All entries must be turned in by Dec. 22, 2008, 5 p.m.
5. Submissions are considered property of this newspaper and may be printed by this newspaper.
6. Decision of the judges is final.



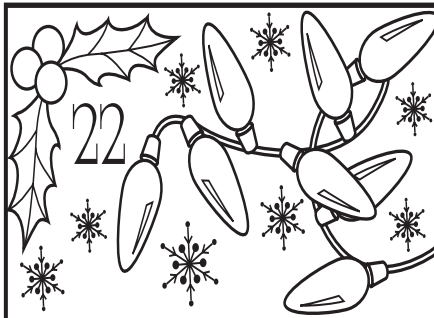
Spanky's Coffee House
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A-Bob's Bail Bond
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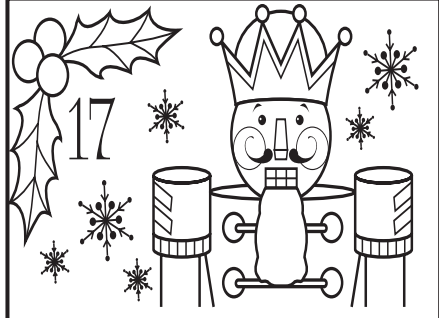
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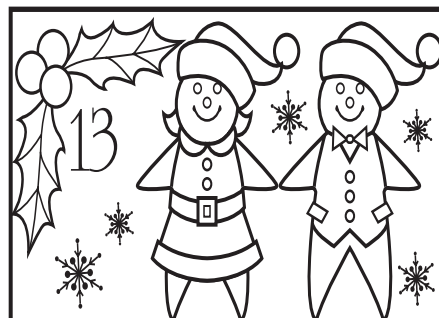
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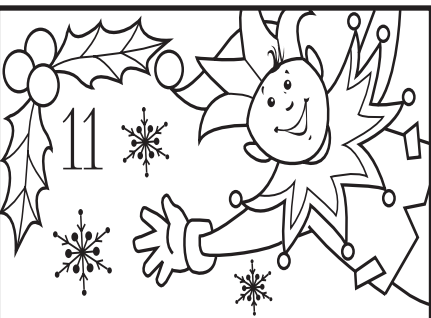
Blum's Jewelers
Inside The Big Spring Mall
267-6335



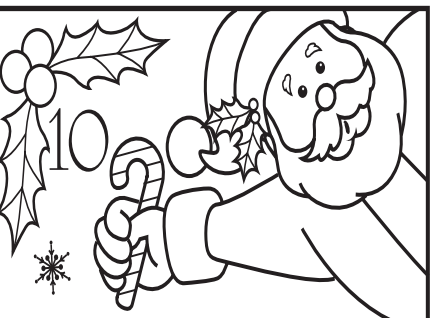
**Big Spring Community
Federal Credit Union**
503 E. FM 700 **263-1361**



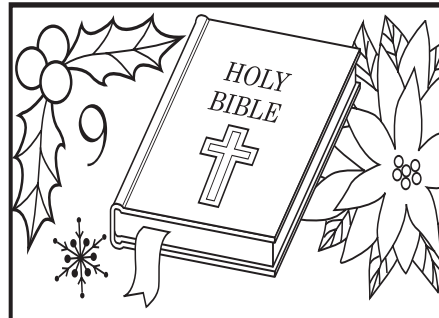
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CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN COLORING CONTEST ENTRY FORM

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Mail to: THE BIG SPRING HERALD
710 SCURRY ST.
BIG SPRING, TEXAS 79720
Merry Christmas and Good Luck!
DEADLINE: MONDAY, DEC. 22ND

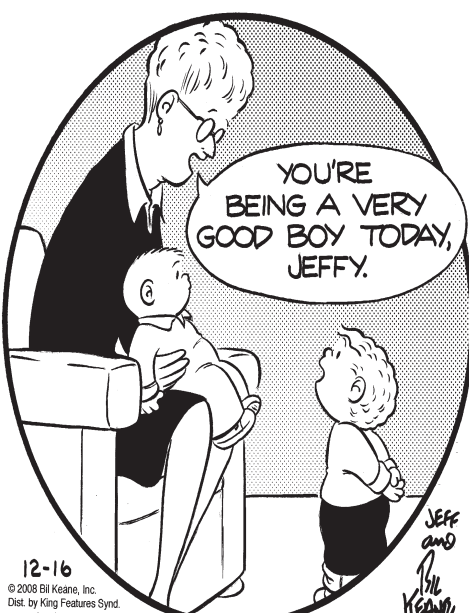
	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney
5 :PM	News	News	Locura	Lopez	News	Noticias	News	Raymond	Scrivner	BBC	Cash Cab	Mystery Men, William H. Macy	CSI: NY	Impossible 2, Thandie Newton	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas
6 :PM	News	Jeopardy!	Tontas Cielo	Two Men	News	12 Corazonas	Millionaire	Friends	Uri Harel	Business	Cash Cab	CSI: NY	CSI: NY	Movie: Mission: Impossible III, Ving Rhames	Keyshia	Montana
7 :PM	Charlie Brown	Charlie Brown	Cuidado-Angel	House	NCIS	Doña Barbara	The Biggest Loser: Families	Fam. Guy	Israel	Nova (DVS)	Dirty Jobs	Movie: Reign of Fire	CSI: Crime Scn	UFC Unleashed	Movie: The Polar Express	Phineas
8 :PM	Jim	Jim	Fuego en la Sangre	(:01) Fringe	The Mentalist	El Rostro de Analia	Momma's Boys	Fam. Guy	Light of the Southwest	Independent Lens	Dirty Jobs	UFC Unleashed	UFC Unleashed	Leverage	Cole	Wizards
9 :PM	Eli Stone	Eli Stone	Aqui y Ahora	TMZ	(:01) Without a Trace	Sin Senos	Office	Office	Office	Digital	Speed Capital	Movie: Terminator 2: Judgment Day, Edward Furlong	UFC Unleashed	Leverage	Brother	Life De
10 :PM	News	News	Impacto	Raymond	News	Noticias	News	Frank TV	Israel	Charlie Rose	Made	MAN	MAN	Bones	Hatchett	Suite Life
11 :PM	Nightline	Nightline	Noticiero	King-Hill	Late Show	Decisiones de	Tonight Show	Sex &	Cortes	Smiley	Made	CSI: NY	CSI: NY	Leverage	Hatchett	Montana
12 :AM	Insider	Jimmy Kimmel Live	La Hora de la Risa	Law Order: CI	Late Late Show	Decisiones de	Late Night	Get Smart's Bruce and Lloyd	Israel	Smiley	Dirty Jobs	Star Trek: Voyager	Without a Trace	Without a Trace	Movie: Soul Plane, Method Man	So Raven
1 :AM	Save	Basco	Clasicos	Friends	Entertain	Programa Pagado	Poker After Dark	Frank TV	Light of the Southwest	Speed Capital	Mystery Men, William H. Macy	Deep Space 9	Without a Trace	The Deal	Emperor Dragon	

DENNIS THE MENACE



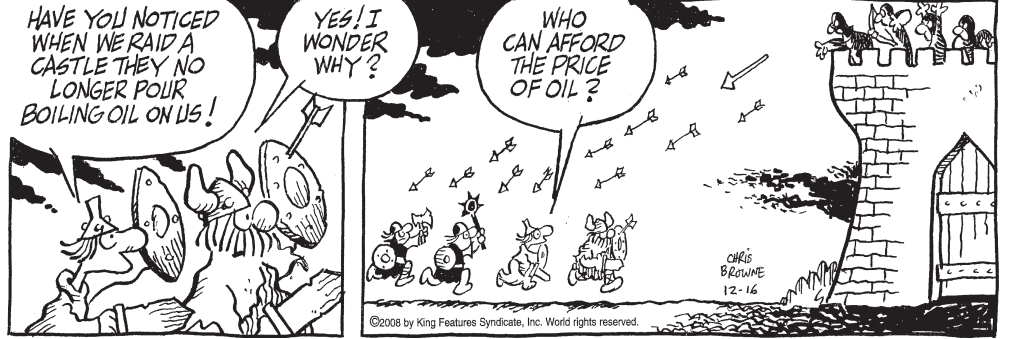
"I DIDN'T GET ALL I ASKED FOR LAST YEAR, SO I BROUGHT JOEY ALONG AS A WITNESS."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Be sure to tell Mommy."

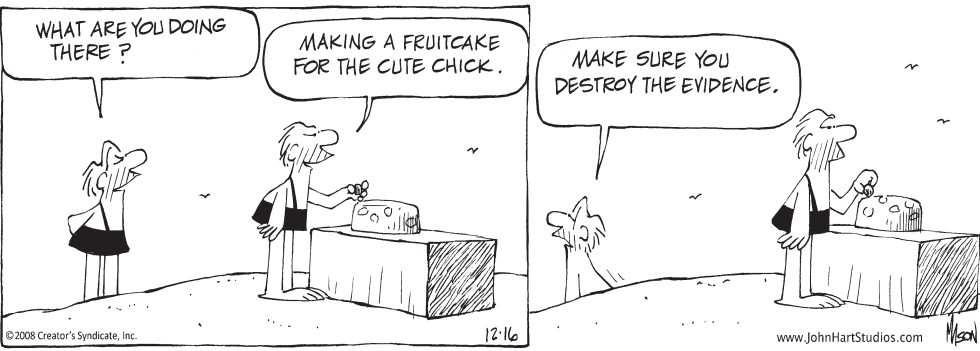
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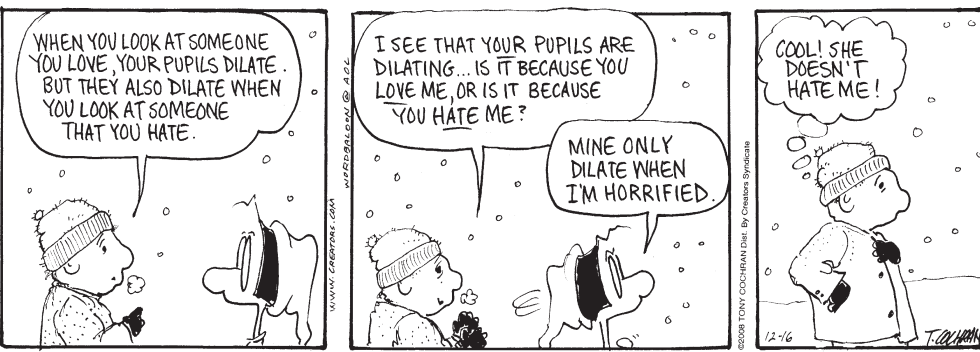
BC



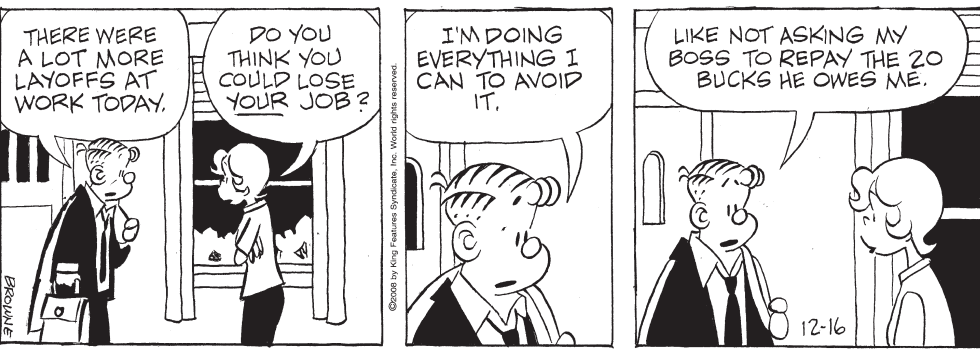
WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



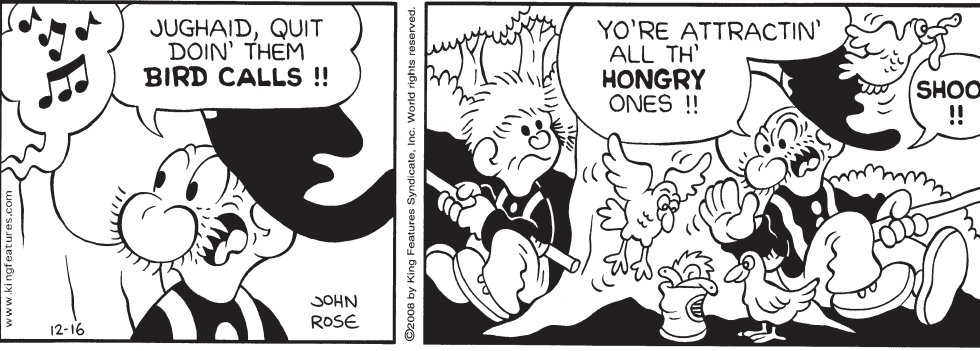
HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Dec. 16, the 351st day of 2008. There are 15 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 16, 1773, the Boston Tea Party took place as American colonists boarded a British ship and dumped more than 300 chests of tea overboard to protest tea taxes.

On this date: In 1653, Oliver Cromwell became lord protector of England, Scotland and Ireland. In 1770, composer Ludwig van Beethoven was born in Bonn, Germany.

In 1905, the entertainment trade publication Variety came out with its first weekly issue.

In 1907, 16 U.S. Navy battleships, which came to be known as the "Great White Fleet," set sail on a 14-month round-the-world voyage to demonstrate American sea power.

In 1944, the World War II Battle of the Bulge began as German forces launched a sur-

prise attack against Allied forces in Belgium (the Allies were eventually able to beat the Germans back).

In 1950, President Harry S. Truman proclaimed a national state of emergency in order to fight "world conquest by Communist imperialism."

In 1960, 134 people were killed when a United Air Lines DC-8 and a TWA Super Constellation collided over New York City.

In 1976, the government halted its swine flu vaccination program following reports of paralysis apparently linked to the vaccine.

In 1991, the U.N. General Assembly rescinded its 1975 resolution equating Zionism with racism by a vote of 111-25.

In 2000, President-elect George W. Bush selected Colin Powell to become the first black secretary of state.

Five years ago: President One year ago: British forces formally handed over to Iraq responsibility for Basra, the last Iraqi region under their control.

Today's Birthdays: Civil rights attorney Morris Dees is 72. Actress Joyce Bulifant is 71. Actress Liv Ullmann is 70. CBS

news correspondent Lesley Stahl is 67. TV producer Steven Bochco is 65. Pop singer Benny Andersson (ABBA) is 62. Actor Ben Cross is 61. Rock singer-musician Billy Gibbons (ZZ Top) is 59. Rock musician Bill Bateman (The Blasters) is 57. Actress Alison LaPlaca is 49. Actor Sam Robards is 47. Rhythm-and-blues singer Michael McCary is 37. Country musician Chris Scruggs is 26. Actress Hallee Hirsh is 21. Actress Anna Popplewell is 20.

Thought for Today: "Somewhere in the world there is an epigram for every dilemma." — Hendrik Willem Van Loon, Dutch-born journalist and lecturer (1882-1944).

© 2008 The Associated Press.

Answer to previous puzzle

BONE	ALARM	ATMS
ADOS	RATED	BRIE
ROTC	OBOES	HULA
BREADMOLD	NOELS	PEARL SORT
BAGELS	TWOSOME	ALES
OCEAN	FED	TOT
TWIST	OLE	CHI
GREAT	WREN	HANDLED
THEMES	SEEK	STERN
ASHEN	HAIRSTYLE	CLAP
SIGNS	BOAR	ROPE
OFAGE	ARIA	EWER
WISER	DENS	

Newsday Crossword

SLIM PICKINGS by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Rock groups | 1 Luggage |
| 6 Japanese wrestling | 2 At the peak |
| 10 Misplace | 3 Close by |
| 14 Consumed eagerly | 4 Hoodwinks |
| 15 Use an eggbeater | 5 Pipes up |
| 16 Sailor's greeting | 6 Police-team acronym |
| 17 Flip out | 7 "This doesn't look good!" |
| 18 Top-notch | 8 Short skirts |
| 19 Midevening | 9 First game of the season |
| 20 On too many projects | 10 Painting of natural scenery |
| 22 Boxers and bloodhounds | 11 Cleveland's state |
| 23 What to do in Aspen | 12 Ballad, for one |
| 24 Stitches together | 13 Looks at |
| 26 L.A. school | 21 "Me, too!" |
| 29 Bring to an end | 25 Armed conflicts |
| 32 Tennis player's need | 26 Shows to a seat, slangily |
| 36 Mix together | 27 No longer fresh |
| 38 Early afternoon | 28 Municipal |
| 39 Stovetop | 30 Hold the title to |
| 40 Be unable to share | 31 Rhyme writers |
| 44 Privileged few | 33 Scoundrel |
| 45 ___-tac-toe | 34 Marsh bird |
| 46 Neck-and-neck | 35 Most high-schoolers |
| 47 Hush-hush | |
| 49 Ooze | |
| 51 Sci-fi characters, for short | |
| 52 Makes mistakes | |
| 54 Pie ___ mode | |
| 56 Daddy | |
| 59 All set for competition | |
| 65 Highway off-ramp | |

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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71					72				73			

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Laugh Lines

Who sings "Love Me Tender" and makes Christmas toys?
Santa's little Elvis!

What does Santa have for breakfast?
Mistle-toast!

— "ODDLES OF RIDDLES"

KID NEWS

Wacky Facts

■ On Christmas Day in 1914, during World War I, some British and German soldiers met peacefully in the "no man's land" between their trenches. They shook hands, shared stories and gifts, and buried their dead.
— *World Almanac for Kids*

**CHRISTMAS IN
SCANDINAVIA**

Forget the cookies for Santa
— just leave porridge for the goat



BY NANCY CHURNIN
The Dallas Morning News

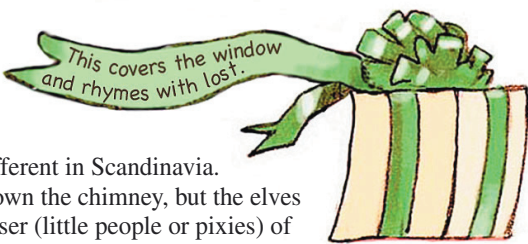
Christmas looks different in Scandinavia. Santa doesn't come down the chimney, but the elves of Sweden and the nisser (little people or pixies) of Denmark and Norway visit. And you better not forget to leave porridge for them, or they may not leave you presents or stick around to look after your home!

Christmas traditions in Sweden, Norway and Denmark vary, but there are also some similarities. See if you can spot them:

SWEDEN

Don't even think of giving a present without coming up with a rhyming riddle to put on it, says Tina Klintmalm, vice consul of the Swedish Consulate in Dallas and president of the Dallas chapter of the Swedish Women's Educational Association. The person who gets the present is supposed to read the riddle and guess what the present is before opening.

And on the night before Christmas Eve, families make porridge and put some in a bowl for the elves. Christmas Eve morning, everyone looks for an almond hidden in the remainder of the porridge (the one who finds it must make a rhyme). Santa hands out



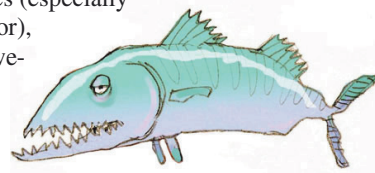
This covers the window and rhymes with lost!

presents Christmas Eve after asking children about their good deeds. Presents are opened after dancing and singing around the Christmas tree.

Julklapp, the Swedish word for Christmas gift, literally means "Christmas knock" because people used to knock on your door, throw in the gift and run away.

NORWAY

For Gwen Workman, owner of the Wooden Spoon, a Scandinavian gift shop in Plano, Texas, it's just not Christmas without lots of cookies (especially her homemade pepparkakor), lefse, which is a soft Norwegian flatbread made with potatoes, and lutefisk, a processed cod.



In Norway, children believe the nisse or the straw goat (the jul bock) bring them presents. Why goats? "It is the only animal that could survive in the mountains of Norway," Workman says.

Children also believe each house has a nisse that protects their home. They leave porridge in the bowl in the evening for the nisse. If the porridge is still in the bowl in the morning, the nisse has left to watch another household. If it is gone, the nisse will stick around to protect the house for another year.

DENMARK

In Denmark, burning candles are used to decorate Christmas trees. Children also enjoy making paper hearts for decorations. Hearts are hung on the trees, from windows and in the streets.



ILLUSTRATIONS BY CHRIS WARE/MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

Try This



3-D greetings

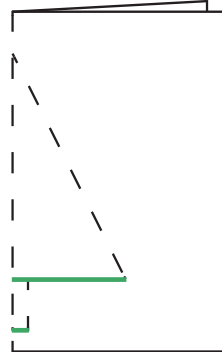
A few simple snips and folds send these cards hurtling into the third dimension.

For each card, you'll need two letter-sized sheets of card stock, or other heavy paper, in coordinating colors. Trim one sheet a half-inch all around so it measures 8 by 10½ inches. Fold the sheet in half, then mark the cut and fold lines as shown on the diagram.

Cut and fold your paper as marked, bending the creases back and forth a couple of times so the tree or dreidel will unfold easily when the card is opened. Draw letters with marker on the dreidel or add ornaments (we used stick-on rhinestones) to the tree. Fold the second piece of paper in half to mark the center, then open it flat. Use a glue stick to secure the first piece to the second, being careful not to put glue on the sections that will be popping up. As you close the card, make sure the dreidel or tree pieces fold outward.

Go to FamilyFun.com/magazine for a template that makes creating multiple cards a snap.

— *FamilyFun Magazine*



IMAGES COURTESY OF FAMILYFUN MAGAZINE

DECEMBER WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words that have something to do with the month of December?

BLIZZARD	F H T X C W S T O D L C O Z
BOOTS	S N A P R E S E N T S H L B
CHRISTMAS	R Z O T J S T X M F C R L T
ELVES	M A S E E O T E L T S I M O
ICICLES	N C D T L S A F T V Z S E M
HANUKKAH	S E L C I C I V E Z S T N W
KWANZAA	B L I P R E G S A E T M A A
NOEL	L D I S A T D R J Z Z A M O
MENORAH	H E O R R L D D R D N S O A
MISTLETOE	A S A R E D R W E B G Q I A
PRESENTS	R K T H A N U K K A H R N Z
SNOWMAN	O A R O Z Z R I V B E E P N
	N M S N O W M A N A T W F A
	E E I D W B L E A O J T I W
	M L H G K H T W T B G U P K
	B K O A K Z E L V E S A L D

MARTY WESTMAN/MCT

Help!

Get organized!

DEAR AMERICAN GIRL: I can't keep my locker organized. When I open it up, things fall out. Because it takes a long time to find things, I'm always late for class. How can I be more organized? — *Disorganized*

■ Start by taking out every book, sweater, project, folder and handout. Put back only the things you know you'll need, and take home the rest. To keep your locker clutter-free, get in the habit of removing old stuff. You can also color-code your books and folders to make them easier to find. For example, put a red cover on your math book and use a red folder for math papers. With a little effort, you'll keep your locker clean — and be on time for class!



DEAR AMERICAN GIRL: I play soccer for a club. For the past two years, I've made my club's top team. But this year they cut me and sent me down to the second-best team. It really hurts. — *Cut*

■ Being a good athlete means playing hard and having fun wherever you are. Instead of thinking you don't measure up, focus on the positive. Your new coach might also have different teaching skills, which could be good for you. Let her know you want to play your best, and ask her to help you improve.

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Try This

Secret snowman



This game involves lots of pats on the back and laughs, so it's perfect for family gatherings. Players try to stick a paper snowman (ours is made of card stock with a loop of painter's tape to attach it) on a person's back without her noticing. When that person realizes the snowman is on her, she has to stick it on someone else's back. Don't worry about the snowman staying on just one back for hours — giggling kids are sure to give the person a clue before too long. Try to have the snowman visit everyone's back by the end of the day.

— *FamilyFun magazine*



IMAGES COURTESY OF FAMILYFUN MAGAZINE

► News in brief

Prospect of impeachment now looms over embattled

Illinois Gov. Blagojevich

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — Illinois lawmakers were unanimous on how they should handle disgraced Gov. Rod Blagojevich — potential impeachment. And the embattled Democrat signaled he isn't going down without a fight.

Lawmakers Monday quickly shelved the idea of setting a special election where voters would fill the vacant Senate seat of President-elect Barack Obama — the seat the governor is accused of trying to sell before his arrest last week on federal corruption charges.

The Illinois House then voted 113-0 late Monday to create a bipartisan committee that will recommend whether Blagojevich should be impeached. The House reconvenes Tuesday.

"We ought to move as quickly as possible to correct our problems and to get ourselves on a track where we can do what we're supposed to do for the people of Illinois," said House Speaker Michael Madigan, a Chicago Democrat and former co-chairman of Blagojevich's re-election campaign who has become one of the governor's fiercest critics.

Senate Democrats dropped any discussion of a special election, for now

leaving any decision about the Senate seat in Blagojevich's hands.

Money manager at center of scandal once advised government on protecting investors from scams

WASHINGTON (AP) — The money manager accused of duping investors in one of Wall Street's biggest Ponzi schemes once boasted to the Securities and Exchange Commission about how much money he earned and formally advised the U.S. government on ways to protect investors from scam artists.

Now Bernard Madoff stands accused of being one.

The 70-year-old Madoff (MAY-doff), well respected in the investment community after serving as chairman of the Nasdaq Stock Market, was arrested last week in what prosecutors say was a \$50 billion scheme to defraud investors, including the world's big banks, the rich and the famous.

Alleged victims include the family charitable foundation for Sen. Frank Lautenberg, D-N.J.; a trust tied to real estate magnate Mortimer Zuckerman; and a charity of movie director Steven Spielberg. The Wall Street Journal reported that the foundation of Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel also took a hit.

As the scale of the alleged scheme

was realized, attention turned quickly to Madoff's connections to Washington regulators responsible for monitoring investment funds like the one Madoff operated. He knew everyone, former SEC chairman Arthur Levitt said in an interview with The Associated Press. Levitt said he did not invest any money with Madoff.

Fed ready to slash rates as deepening recession leaves more unemployed, nest eggs in shambles

WASHINGTON (AP) — As unemployment rises painfully higher and nest eggs are shattered, the Federal Reserve is prepared slash a key interest rate — perhaps to an all-time low — in a desperate bid to stem the country's economic slide.

With the Fed's key rate dropping ever closer to zero, the central bank is moving into uncharted territory.

Nonetheless, Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke has made it clear the Fed isn't running out of ammunition to fight the worst financial crisis since the 1930s. It is exploring using tools — other than rate cuts — to revive the economy. New insights on that front could be revealed when Bernanke and his colleagues wrap up a two-day meeting Tuesday.

"The message is simply the Fed stands ready to do everything in its power to stop the economy's free fall," said Richard Yammarone, economist at Argus Research.

In its battle against a recession that started last December, the Fed already has cut the target for the federal funds rate, its main tool for influencing economic activity, to 1 percent, a level seen only once before in the last half-century.

White House discussing 'way forward' for troubled auto industry; aid could reach \$15 billion

WASHINGTON (AP) — Detroit automakers, teetering on the brink of collapse, are receiving strong signals from the White House that short-term help is on the way while a key senator says the relief package could reach \$15 billion for GM and Chrysler.

President George W. Bush said a bankruptcy in the U.S. auto industry would hurt the economy while the U.S. deals with the recession. General Motors Corp. and Chrysler LLC have said they could run out of cash within weeks without support from the government.

"An abrupt bankruptcy for autos could be devastating for the economy," Bush told reporters Monday aboard Air Force One during a surprise trip to Iraq and Afghanistan. He said they were "now in the process of working with the stakeholders on a way forward."

In Detroit, Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich, said he expects GM to get \$8 billion and Chrysler \$7 billion. He said the Treasury secretary likely would be tapped as a "car czar" to oversee restructuring of the companies.

Bush wouldn't give a precise timetable but said, "This will not be a long process because of the economic fragility of the autos."

Sources: Obama chooses chief of Chicago schools to be education secretary

WASHINGTON (AP) — President-elect Barack Obama intends to name a big-city schools chief, Chicago's Arne Duncan, to help fix the country's ailing schools as education secretary, people familiar with the decision said.

Duncan has run the country's third-biggest school district since 2001, pushing to boost teacher quality and to improve struggling schools and closing those that fail. Student test scores have risen significantly during Duncan's tenure.

One of the schools Duncan turned around — Dodge Renaissance Academy, which he shut and then reopened on Chicago's West Side — was chosen as the backdrop for Obama's announcement Tuesday. Obama and Duncan visited the school together in 2005.

The individuals who confirmed the selection of Duncan on Monday spoke on condition of anonymity because Obama had not made the decision public.

A 44-year-old Harvard graduate, Duncan has played pickup basketball with Obama since the 1990s.

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