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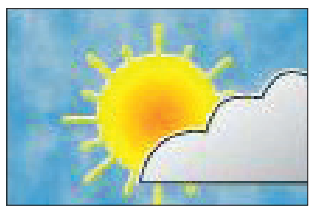


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# H BIG SPRING HERALD

**TUESDAY**

SEPTEMBER 22, 2009



VOLUME 104, NUMBER 250

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## Hay rides!

**Harvest Saturday set this weekend at the state park**

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

Local residents looking for fresh air and a very special view of the Crossroads' historic Scenic Mountain will get their chance, as the Big Spring State Park hosts its annual Harvest Saturday this weekend.

Set with hay rides ready to roll off at 3 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., Park Director Ron Alton said the fall event is a great way to usher in the autumn season.

"We've been doing this for about 13 years now," said Alton. "It's a fun family time. Of course, the kids like sitting on the hay bales and looking off the bluff, which is about a mile drop. We make a circle of the top of the mountain during the hayride and we'll have a speaker system set up so we can talk about the plants and the geology of the area."

"There's also a playground and if folks want to pack their supper, that's a really nice family thing to do at the park following Harvest Saturday. It's really an excellent chance to explore the park and enjoy time with the people you care about."

And although park officials expect to complete the

See **RIDES**, Page 3



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

**Monroe Casey, of Big Spring, works on a carving for the annual Mustang Draw Wood Carvers show and sale at the Dora Roberts Community Center. The group is giving carving lessons daily through Thursday. The show portion of the event, in which entries in a wide variety of categories will be judged and placed, will be held Friday, followed by the public sale Saturday beginning at 8 a.m.**

## City tax spat

**Group threatens rollback petition if council exceeds effective rate**

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

The Big Spring City Council is expected to adopt a tax rate 3 cents above the rollback rate tonight, a decision that will trigger a rollback petition — and possibly a tax election — if one local group has its way.

The council approved first reading of the 2009-2010 budget on a 5-1 vote — with Councilwoman Stephanie Horton dissenting and Councilman Manuel Ramirez Jr. absent — during the council's Sept. 1 meeting. Moments later, the council approved first reading of its ad valorem tax rate of \$1.0132 per \$100 valuation on an



McEwen Thomason

See **CITY**, Page 3

## Jensen family to be honored locally Oct. 1

By **JOHN A. MOSELEY**  
Managing Editor

Big Spring Fire Chief Brian Jensen and his wife, Debbie, have been named the 2009 Big Spring Family of the Year by the Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas.

The Jensens, the 15th Family of the Year selected by the counseling center, will be honored during a luncheon to be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 1, at Howard College's Hall Center for the Arts.

The Jensen's six children — Jeremy, Rian, Caressa, Hannah, Mica and Michael — will also be honored dur-

ing the luncheon.

Each year, the Samaritan Counseling Center honors three outstanding Permian Basin families who exemplify strong family role models and represent the communities of Big Spring, Midland and Odessa.

Jan Foresyth, a member of the Big Spring Family of the Year selection committee, stressed that the committee wasn't looking for perfect families when they called for nominations, but "families who love and care for each other, their churches and their communities."

See **FAMILY**, Page 3



**An e-mail circulating around Big Spring claims a dangerous Nile monitor was captured at a local residence. Big Spring Animal Control officers say it's a hoax.**

## E-mail grabs imaginations and that's it, authorities say

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

It's not exactly Godzilla, but officials with Big Spring Police Department's Animal Control division say the recent capture of a large lizard on the city's west side has been enough to throw imaginations — and e-mails — into overdrive.

Lt. Bob Fitzgibbons, the officer in charge of Animal Control, said an e-mail that has been circulating through Big Spring

See **LIZARD**, Page 3

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## Obituaries

### Gilbert Rodriguez

Gilbert Rodriguez, 59, of Big Spring died Sunday, Sept. 20, 2009, in a Lubbock hospital. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2009, at St. Thomas Catholic Church with Father Ariel Lagunilla officiating. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

A rosary will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2009, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel.

Gilbert was born Sept. 3, 1950, in Big Spring to Gus and Lila Rodriguez. He grew up in Big Spring and graduated from Big Spring High School in 1969. He worked as an auto mechanic most of his life and was an avid sports enthusiast. Gilbert had played for the Big Spring Cardinals Semi-pro Baseball Team.

He was a member of St. Thomas Catholic Church and also a member of the Chicano Golf Association.

Survivors include one son, Gilbert Rodriguez Jr. of Big Spring; two daughters, Anna Gutierrez of Irving and Marisela Rodriguez of Big Spring; and two brothers, Manuel Rodriguez of Big Spring and Bob Nunez of Odessa.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Anna Maria Rodriguez.

The family suggests memorials be made to the Chicano Golf Association Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 362, Big Spring 79721.

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

### Charlotte 'J.J.' Fritsch

Charlotte "J.J." Fritsch, 66, of Big Spring died Monday, Sept. 21, 2009, at the Stanton Care and Rehabilitation Center. Her body will be in state from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. Tuesday, and her family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

She was born July 4, 1943, in Hutchinson, Kan., to Charlotte and Ralph Lindsey. She was a homemaker, worked at Rip Griffin Truck Stop, and was a resident of Big Spring for more than 30 years.

She is survived by her husband, William Fritsch of Big Spring; three children, John Wilhelm and wife, Christi, of Snyder, Tammy Shults and husband, Scott, of Big Spring, and Melinda Hines and husband, Cory, of Waxahachie; eight grandchildren; one sister, Kay Dean of California; and four brothers, Douglas Lindsey, Ralph Lindsey Jr., Tracey Lindsey and Rufus Lindsey, all of California.

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

### Mary Mathews

Mary Mathews, 72, of Big Spring died Sunday, Sept. 20, 2009, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Private family services will be held at a later date.

She was born Nov. 9, 1936, in Big Spring to Nancy and Otis Lawson. She was a retired waitress, having worked a number of years at Rip Griffin Truck Stop. She was a Pentecostal and a lifetime resident of Big Spring.

She is survived by one daughter, Charlise Lopez of Big Spring; and several cousins.

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

### Carroll James Brown

Carroll James Brown, 89, of Copperas Cove, formerly of Big Spring, died Sept. 17, 2009, in a Lampasas nursing home. Graveside services were held Monday at Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery in Killeen.

He was born Dec. 21, 1919, in Stigler, Okla. He was a resident of Big Spring for more than 30 years, moving from Colorado City. He was a veteran of WW II, serving in the Marines on Iwo Jima. He worked at Fina. He had been a very active member of Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

### Joyce Grigg

Joyce Grigg, 77, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2009, at her daughter's home at Forney. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## Support Groups

#### TUESDAY

• The Path, faith-based addiction recovery, meets at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St. Tuesday, Jan. 6, Teen Challenge will be held at The Path. They will present a Rally for Jesus.

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## Police

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

• DARNICE VALENTINE, 23, of 1106 N.W. Seventh St., was arrested Monday on a warrant from another agency and a charge of failure to identify as a fugitive from justice.

• OLIVIA BALLIN, 30, of 3006 Cherokee, was arrested Monday on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

• MARTIN ALVARADO, 28, of 1603 Cardinal, was arrested Monday on a local warrant and charges of tampering with/fabricating physical evidence and credit/debit card abuse.

• CASEY SMITH, 17, of 1200 Johnson, was arrested Monday on charges of tampering with/fabricating physical evidence and credit/debit card abuse.

• WILLIAM WARNER, 33, of 1208 Mulberry, was arrested Monday on a charge of resisting arrest.

• JEFFERY WILLIAMS, 53, transient, was arrested Monday on a charge of consuming alcohol on premises.

• THEFT was reported in the 1100 block of Seventh Street.

• RESISTING ARREST, SEARCH OR TRANSPORTATION was reported in the 1200 block of Mulberry.

• POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA was reported in the 600 block of Interstate Highway 20.

• FRAUDULENT USE/POSSESSION OF IDENTIFYING INFORMATION was reported in the 1200 block of Lloyd.

• CRIMINAL TRESPASS WITH A DEADLY WEAPON was reported in the 800 block of Interstate Highway 20.

• CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 2900 block of Highway 80.

• BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 1000 block of Bluebonnet.

• ASSAULT CAUSING BODILY INJURY – FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 1200 block of Mulberry.

• AGGRAVATED ASSAULT was reported in the 600 block of Ridglea.

## Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 80 inmates at the time of this report.

• MARTIN ALVARADO, 28, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of harassment and credit/debit card abuse.

• OLIVIA TALIETHA BALLIN, 30, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

• SHANE GREGORY BASSETT, 23, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on charges of public intoxication and possession of a dangerous drug.

• CASEY SMITH, 17, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of credit/debit card abuse and tampering with/fabricating physical evidence with intent to impair.

• DARNICE CHRYDE VALENTINE, 23, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of bond revocation for possession of a controlled substance – more than 4 grams, less than 200 grams and possession of a controlled substance – more than 1 gram, less than 4 grams and a new charge of failure to identify as a fugitive from justice – giving false information.

• WILLIAM OTTO WARNER, 33, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of resisting arrest, search or transportation and assault causing bodily injury – family violence.

• JEFFREY KEITH WILLIAMS, 53, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of consumption of alcohol on prohibited premises.

## Fire/EMS

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

• MEDICAL was reported in the 2500 block of W. 17<sup>th</sup> Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of E. 16<sup>th</sup> Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

## Take Note

• The Ackerly Lunch Bunch will be meeting Saturday at 10 a.m. at the 14th & Main Church of Christ fellowship room, 1401 Main St. in Big Spring. A catered barbecue lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. Everyone is invited. Please RSVP to Betty Pitts at (432) 267-1449.

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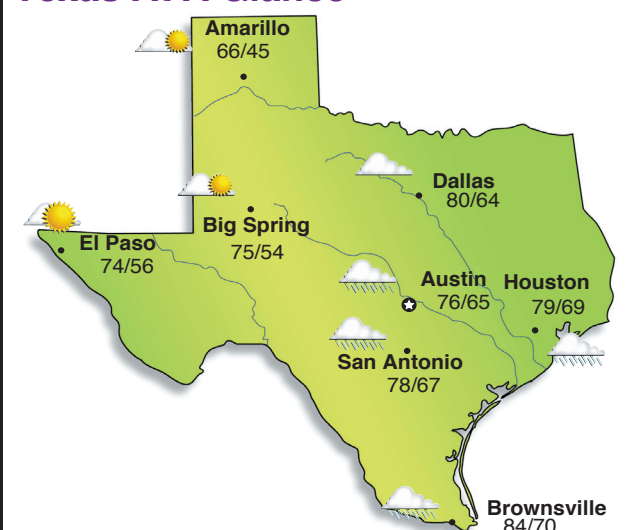
## Today's Weather

### Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 9/23	Thu 9/24	Fri 9/25	Sat 9/26	Sun 9/27
<b>75/54</b>	<b>73/58</b>	<b>85/61</b>	<b>87/62</b>	<b>91/61</b>
Intervals of clouds and sunshine. High near 75F. Winds ENE at 10 to 15 mph.	Chance of showers. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the upper 50s.	Partly cloudy with a stray thunderstorm.	Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the low 60s.	Mainly sunny, Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 60s.
<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:35 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 7:41 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:36 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 7:40 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:36 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 7:38 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:37 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 7:37 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:38 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 7:36 PM

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## Texas At A Glance



### Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	75	55	pt sunny	Kingsville	85	69	rain
Amarillo	66	45	pt sunny	Livingston	77	67	rain
Austin	76	65	rain	Longview	76	66	rain
Beaumont	81	70	rain	Lubbock	72	48	mst sunny
Brownsville	84	70	rain	Lufkin	74	69	rain
Brownwood	77	59	cloudy	Midland	74	55	pt sunny
Corpus Christi	83	71	rain	Raymondville	85	70	rain
Corsicana	79	63	rain	Rosenberg	80	70	rain
Dallas	80	64	cloudy	San Antonio	78	67	rain
Del Rio	76	64	rain	San Marcos	77	65	rain
El Paso	74	56	mst sunny	Sulphur Springs	78	64	cloudy
Fort Stockton	73	56	pt sunny	Sweetwater	75	55	pt sunny
Gainesville	79	60	cloudy	Tyler	75	64	rain
Greenville	78	62	cloudy	Weatherford	78	60	cloudy
Houston	79	69	rain	Wichita Falls	78	56	pt sunny

### National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	84	68	t-storm	Minneapolis	77	61	t-storm
Boston	82	62	rain	New York	81	66	t-storm
Chicago	77	61	t-storm	Phoenix	91	66	sunny
Dallas	80	64	cloudy	San Francisco	87	57	sunny
Denver	48	37	rain	Seattle	82	55	sunny
Houston	79	69	rain	St. Louis	78	65	t-storm
Los Angeles	94	64	sunny	Washington, DC	84	69	t-storm
Miami	88	79	t-storm				

## Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 8-16-22-32. Bonus Ball: 13.

Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 14-16-17-25-30.

Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 7-9-4-2. Sum It Up: 22.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 6-7-9. Sum It Up: 22.

## BIG SPRING HERALD

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**RIDES**

Continued from Page 1

autumn spectacle in two rides, Alton said no one will be turned away. "We expect we'll be able to get everyone that wants to go on the hay rides at 3 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.," said Alton. "However, if people don't make it in time and still want to ride, we're not going to turn them away. We'll hold a third ride."

Alton said there are other activities for area residents to take advantage of before or after the hay rides. "We also have a nature trail, which is about a two-third mile walk," said Alton. "It's on a bit of a slope, but even kindergarten students and first graders can make it. It's a good way to wear them down at the end of the day as well." Alton said park officials will be waiving the normal entrance fee to the facility, opting to collect donations in-

stead. "We used to charge normal admission, which is \$2. However, we've had so much success just accepting donations, we're opting to do that again," said Alton. For more information on Harvest Saturday or the Big Spring State Park, contact Alton at 263-4931. *Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@big-springherald.com*

**Texas officials discuss climate bill**

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas officials are gathering in Austin to discuss what the climate bill in Congress could mean for a state that emits more greenhouse gases than any other. Gov. Rick Perry has complained that efforts to drastically cut greenhouse emissions will hurt Texas' economy. He's opening Tuesday's daylong meeting with a speech. Following Perry will be addresses from the state agricultural commissioner and representatives of the state agencies that regulate oil and gas, electricity and the environment. Industry officials, analysts and environmentalists also are set to speak. The U.S. House narrowly approved the bill in June, and it's expected to be taken up by the Senate soon.

**CITY**

Continued from Page 1

identical vote. The proposed tax rate — which is 6.246 cents above the effective tax rate, 3.3 cents above the rollback rate and the same rate used during the previous tax season — was agreed on by the council in August on a 6-1 vote, with Horton opposing then as well. According to City Finance Director Peggy Walker, the proposed rate will generate approximately \$300,000 more than the effective tax rate, money the council plans to use to begin design efforts on a new municipal swimming pool, a project that has drawn

a firestorm of criticism from area taxpayers and residents. Unless a property's valuation went up in the past year, Walker explained, their tax bill under the proposed rate of \$1.0132 would be identical to last year's and would help the city raise \$300,000 in seed money for a new pool. "The average property value in the city is \$41,118, minus \$8,223 for the homestead exemption," Walker explained. "If we use the proposed tax rate, they will be paying 93 cents per month more than if we adopted the effective rate. However, it's important to remember the 93 cents only brings their rate to the same level they paid last year,

as long as their valuation did not increase. The tax rate is identical to the one we used last year." Shannon Thomason, chairman of the Concerned Citizens Council, has already indicated the local organization will start a rollback petition if the council moves ahead with the \$1.0132 tax rate. "While our members are split on whether or not they believe the city needs a new \$4.2 million pool or water park, we all agree an expenditure of this magnitude should be voted on by the citizens of Big Spring as a general obligation bond," said Thomason. "The city is currently planning to finance the project

through certificates of obligation bonds, which are not voted on by the citizens." According to Mayor Russ McEwen, the group's announcement didn't necessarily come as a surprise. "When we decided to move forward with a tax rate above the rollback rate a petition could be passed around, and there could be a rollback election," said McEwen. "And that's their (the Concerned Citizens Council's) right under the law. However, I felt like keeping the tax rate the same as it was last year and trying to do some good for the citizens of Big Spring was worthwhile." According to the Texas Comptroller's Office,

the group would have to collect petition signatures from no less than 10 percent of the registered voters in the city, and submit that petition within 90 days of the adoption of the tax rate. Once the petition is turned in, city officials would have 20 days to determine if it is valid and contains enough valid signatures to force the issue before the voters. The rollback election would have to be held within 90 days of the petitions validation. If a rollback election passes, the adopted tax rate is reduced by law to the rollback rate. The tax assessor must prepare and mail new tax bills, with the tax delinquency date postponed by

the number of days between the date original bills were mailed and the date the corrected bills were mailed. Tonight's meeting will get under way at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, located at 307 E. Fourth St. *Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com*

**FAMILY**

Continued from Page 1A

"While the Family of the Year celebration honors a special family," Foresyth explained, "the primary reason for this luncheon, and the ones in Midland and Odessa, is to honor all the many strong, loving and healthy families throughout the Permian Basin." Previous Big Spring

families honored by the counseling center have included Jennifer and Todd Patterson, Gloria and Augustin Ypina, Elesha and Ken McMeans, Barbara and Rocky Harris, Patsy and Henry Sanchez, Pam and Richard Steel and Lila and Larry Adkins. Members of the selection committee included Chairman Nancy Foster, Janie Conley, Foresyth, Jennifer Patterson, Myra Robinson, Pam Steel and Debbye

ValVerde. Tickets for the Oct. 1 luncheon, as well as sponsorships can be reserved by calling 1-800-329-4144. Samaritan is a non-profit, faith-based counseling center with offices in Midland, Odessa, Big Spring and Andrews providing "Help and Hope" to a 28-county area in West Texas and Eastern New Mexico. Samaritan's Big Spring office is located at the First Christian Church, 911 Goliad.

With 35 years of service in the Permian Basin, two-thirds of the clients who seek counseling are low income. Proceeds from the Big Spring luncheon will benefit Samaritan's Client Assistance Fund, helping families and individuals in psychological distress who might not receive help from any other professional source. *Contact Managing Editor John A. Moseley*

at 263-7331, ext. 230, or by e-mail at editor@big-springherald.com

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 Esther Hernandez, 52, died Saturday. Funeral Mass was at 10:00 AM Tuesday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.  
 Charlotte "J.J." Fritsch, 66, died Monday. Her body will be in state from 9:00 AM until 9:00 PM Tuesday, and her family will receive friends from 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.  
 Mary Mathews, 72, died Sunday. Private family services will be held at a later date.  
 Joyce Grigg, 77, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

**LIZARD**

Continued from Page 1

describing a slew of deadly Nile monitor lizards couldn't be further from the truth. "About the only thing true in the e-mail is that a large lizard was captured," said Fitzgibbons. "Around the 14th (of September) we received a call from a local resident who claimed to have caught a large lizard near C&M Garage, located on W. Highway 80. The lizard wasn't aggressive, like the e-mail describes, and is just the run-of-the-mill type of lizard you'd find in a pet store, the kind someone would buy, take home and put in a corner so everyone could gawk at it. There was nothing dangerous about it."

gibbons. "It also says the Abilene Zoo came out and identified it as a Nile monitor, which, to my knowledge, isn't true either. This lizard is not a Nile monitor. "Claims it has razor sharp teeth and that it can break bones with its tail are totally false. When we looked the lizard over, it wasn't aggressive at all, and it never showed its teeth. So any talk that it could take off a finger or being able to brutally kill a family cat is just not true." Fitzgibbons said the only claim made in the e-mail that might be true is the bacteria in the reptile's mouth could be harmful to a human if they were bitten. "However, this isn't just true of Nile monitors. You could say the

same thing about any lizard, regardless of size," he added. According to Fitzgibbons, one mystery still remains, however. "After the lizard was caught, a young man working at the garage wanted to keep it as a pet, and since that's what it was intended for, we didn't see any problem with that. If we (Animal Control) had taken it, we most likely would have had to euthanize it," said Fitzgib-

bons. "However, since then we've been told the young man changed his mind, and a family member of the woman who spotted it has taken it. We've heard it was sold to a pet store, but the truth is we have no idea where the lizard is now. That's the only mystery left here." *Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com*

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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.

**Ron Midkiff**  
Publisher

**John A. Moseley**  
Managing Editor

**Bill McClellan**  
News Editor

## OUR VIEW

# Business seminar looks like good deal

**"Is Your Business Ready for the Future?"**

That's a question you might want to be asking yourself as a businessperson as you look toward the end of the present year and into 2010 and beyond.

It's also the theme of a seminar coming to the Dora Roberts Community Center in Big Spring a week from Wednesday. It's being presented by a group of organizations that know all about business — The Texas Workforce Solutions of the Permian Basin, Big Spring Economic Development Corporation, Howard College and the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

The seminar is designed to educate businesspersons on everything from tax credits to hiring practices and is particularly insightful because it is geared toward the Permian Basin.

Tops include "Workforce Development and Regional Collaboration," "Critical Workforce Issues Facing the Permian Basin" and "Work in the Texas System." Among the many others are "Training in Demand Occupations" and "Marketing With Emphasis on Social Networks and the Internet."

In tough economic times, it's even more prudent for businesses men and women to obtain as much information as they can about what may impact them — whether it be managing employees or adjusting to market trends.

Early registration for this Sept. 30 seminar is this Friday. The fee is \$50 for chamber members and \$75 for non-members. The seminar runs from 8 a.m. to around 3 p.m. with lunch catered by Wal-Mart, so the cost is minimal when one considers all the information available.

We think it would be wise for businesses that want to be in step with the future to consider what this seminar might do for them.

To find out more, or to register, contact the Chamber of Commerce 215 W. Third or call them at 263-7641.

## HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
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- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
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The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we ride high on a wave of confidence, Lord, always trusting in You. Amen

# Cradle to prison pipeline

Incarceration is becoming the new American apartheid and poor children of color are the victims. It's time to sound a loud alarm about this threat to American unity and community, to act to stop the growing criminalization of children at younger and younger ages and to tackle the unjust treatment of minority youths and adults in the juvenile and adult criminal justice systems with urgency and persistence.



MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN

Failure to act now will reverse the hard-earned racial and social progress for which Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and so many others died and sacrificed. We must all call for investment in all children from birth through their successful transition to adulthood, remembering Frederick Douglass's correct observation that "it is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men."

So many poor babies in rich America enter the world with multiple strikes against them: born without prenatal care, at low birth-weight, with poor, poorly educated and very young mothers and absent fathers. At crucial points in their development more risks pile on, making a successful transition to productive adulthood significantly less likely and involvement in the criminal justice system significantly more likely.

Black children are more than

three times as likely as white children to be poor, and are four times as likely to live in extreme poverty. A poor black boy born in 2001 has a one-in-three chance of going to prison in his lifetime and is almost six times as likely as a white boy to be incarcerated for a drug offense.

The past continues to strangle the present and the future. Children with an incarcerated parent are more likely to become incarcerated. Black children are nearly nine times and Latino children are three times as likely as white children to have an incarcerated parent. Blacks constitute one-third and Latinos one-fifth of the prisoners in America, and 1 in 3 black men 20-29 years old, is under correctional supervision or control.

Of the 2.3 million Americans in prison, 64 percent are minority. Of the 4.2 million on probation, 45 percent are minority; of the 800,000 on parole, 59 percent are minority. Inequitable drug sentencing policies including mandatory minimums have greatly escalated the incarceration of minority adults and youths.

Child poverty and neglect, racial disparities in systems that serve children and the pipeline to prison are not acts of God. They are America's immoral political and economic choices that can and must be changed with strong political, corporate, and community leadership.

No single sector or group can solve these child- and nation-threatening crises alone but all of us can together. Leaders must call us to the table and use their bully pulpits to replace our current paradigm of punishment as

a first resort with a paradigm of prevention and early intervention. That will save lives, save families, save taxpayer money and save our nation's aspiration to be a fair society.

Health and mental health care and quality education cost far less than prisons.

Ending child poverty is not only an urgent moral necessity, it is economically beneficial. Dr. Robert M. Solow, M.I.T. Nobel Laureate in Economics, wrote in "Wasting America's Future" that "ending child poverty is, at the very least, highly affordable" and would be a boost to the economy. Healthy Social Security and Medicare systems for our increasing elderly population require as many productive workers as possible to support them. We can ill afford to let millions of our children grow up poor, unhealthy, uneducated and as dependent rather than productive citizens.

What then can leaders do to help build the spiritual and political will needed to help our nation pass the test of the God of history and better prepare for America's future?

As President Barack Obama and Congress contemplate ways to stimulate our economy, let them begin by investing in a healthy, fair and safe start for every American child — and measures to ensure their successful transition to college and productive adulthood.

*Marian Wright Edelman is president of the Children's Defense Fund.*

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# Don't mess up debate with facts

September 1, 2009 — mark it down — the date when the United States of America officially became ungovernable. It was the day when conservatives rose up with one voice to protest President Obama's speech to the school children of the nation. They put pressure on their school districts to ignore the speech or, at the very least, to excuse from listening children whose parents objected to the idea. As might be expected Texas, led the way. "I don't want our schools turned over to some socialist movement," said one Texas man who said he'd keep his three kids home for the speech. Admittedly, Obama did present some controversial ideas — openly socialistic principles like staying in school, studying hard and going to college. Kids start doing that and there's no telling where it will end. Graduate school? Being smarter than their parents? Dangerous stuff. Seriously though, you see what I mean when I say the nation is ungovernable. What can you tell people who view a simple inspirational speech by the president to children as subversive? A commentator on the Rush Limbaugh show accused Obama of trying to create a cult of personality in the manner of Saddam Hussein or Kim Jong-Il. Oh well,



DONALD KAUL

at least they've stopped comparing him to Hitler — for the time being. A couple of weeks ago I got an e-mail from a reader taking me to task for my use of invective against conservatives. "We're finding both liberals and conservatives doing exactly the same thing, exaggerating the facts, calling each other names, distorting the truth and so on... Because your column perpetuates negativity that serves no one well, we will not poison our minds and hearts with poorly written commentaries from you or anyone else." My first response to that was: "What do they mean, poorly written?" My second, which I sent on to the reader, was that I was only giving as good as I (and any liberal commentator) was getting from the Coulters, O'Reillys and Limbaughs of the world. Their answer was quick: "Then have you not become what you say they are? Do you want to join forces with those people you call 'thugs'? You and others like you, who do not wish to exchange ideas in a healthy and constructive way, become yet another mud-slinging group, who quite frankly creates fear, revving up emotion of which only serves to break down our society without making efforts to inform." That sounds good but don't tell it to me, tell it to Barack Obama who, when he tries to encourage kids to go to schools, is likened to Saddam Hussein. There is no dialogue that can be had with these people. Try to have a public discussion of health

insurance and pretty soon you find yourself having to deny that you're in favor of murdering grandparents. The New York Times had a front page story the other week on a Georgia man who had gone to his Congressman's town meeting to speak out against Obama's health plan. No he wasn't rowdy, he didn't shout anyone down. As a matter of fact he seemed like a very nice guy who was concerned about health care and for good reason. His wife was a survivor of breast cancer and, if he lost his job, would be uninsurable with a new company. So he was for change in theory, but he didn't want to see a public option. "She'd be on a waiting list," he said of his wife. Then the article revealed that he received his information primarily from Fox News, Rush Limbaugh, and Matt Drudge. I, who get my news from The New York Times, National Public Radio, The PBS NewsHour with Jim Lehrer, The Washington Post and The New Yorker, and who never, ever listens to or reads Fox, Rush, or Drudge, live in a parallel universe. I think his sources are biased, untruthful and worse. He thinks mine are. Between us, we are ungovernable. Alas.

*Donald Kaul is a two-time Pulitzer Prize-losing Washington correspondent who, by his own account, is right more than he's wrong. E-mail him at dkaul2@earthlink.net*

# News in brief

## Obama embarks on 12-hour diplomatic whirl

NEW YORK (AP) — No one in the White House, the Israeli government or among Palestinian officials is publicly predicting a breakthrough out of the three-way Mideast meeting that President Barack Obama is hosting here. And yet the session Tuesday is seen as a crucial step for Obama.

After seeing Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas separately, Obama is bringing the two together for the first Israeli-Palestinian meeting since Netanyahu took office in March. Taking place on the sidelines of this week's annual U.N. General Assembly here, just the fact that the meeting is scheduled is big news.

Even if little more than a photo opportunity, it will probably be the most-watched portion of a marathon day of international diplomacy for Obama, a 12-hour sprint through many high-profile global problems and disputes.

In addition to the three-way Mideast talks, Obama meets the Chinese president at a fraught time in the Washington-Beijing relationship; plays luncheon host, as America's first black president, to sub-Saharan African leaders for talks on boosting opportunities for young people in their poverty-stricken nations; delivers key speeches to former President Bill Clinton's Global Initiative and to a U.N. heads-of-state session on the stalled issue of climate change; and ends the day with a U.N.-sponsored leaders dinner.

The Israeli-Palestinian sit-down wasn't announced until Saturday and comes with the two sides still far apart on what it would take to resume peace talks that broke off in 2008.

## Obama pushes for agreement on balanced growth to set stage for sustained recovery

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama says he is determined to go after the "reckless risk-taking" that pushed the global economy into the worst financial crisis since the 1930s, and he is also pushing for countries to promote more balanced growth going forward.

He is getting support for his efforts from other leaders, although significant differences remain as Obama prepares to serve as host for a Group of 20 meeting of the world's leading economies on Thursday and Friday in Pittsburgh.

In addition to pushing the U.S. agenda, Obama is certain to face tough questions from other G-20 countries over whether his administration can develop a credible plan to curb a soaring U.S. budget deficit that the White House projects will hit an eye-popping \$1.548 trillion this year and total \$9 trillion over the next decade.

As part of an effort to convince the world that he is serious about getting the deficit under control, Obama is pushing a plan that would require the United States and other countries to make sweeping changes in how they manage their deficits.

The goal is to prevent the destabilizing imbalances represented by America's high budget and trade deficits, and huge trade surpluses in countries such as China.

## Gov't urges mass transit to be on guard as suspect in terror probe appears in Denver court

DENVER (AP) — An airport shuttle driver under arrest in Colorado may have been planning with others to detonate backpack bombs on New York City trains in a terrorism plot similar to past attacks on London's and Madrid's mass-transit systems, officials said.

The investigation into the possible terror plot has prompted counterterrorism officials to warn mass-transit systems around the nation to step up patrols.

Two law enforcement officials speaking on condition of anonym-

ity because they were not authorized to discuss details of the investigation told The Associated Press late Monday that more than a half-dozen individuals were being scrutinized in the alleged plot.

In a statement, the FBI says that "several individuals in the United States, Pakistan and elsewhere" are being investigated.

Investigators say Najibullah Zazi, a 24-year-old Afghanistan-born immigrant who is a shuttle van driver at the Denver airport, played a direct role in the terror plot that unraveled after an overnight 1,600-mile trip from Denver to New York City around the anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks. He made his first court appearance Monday and remained behind bars.

## Return of ousted president reignites Honduran crisis

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP) — The daring return of deposed President Manuel Zelaya has thrust Honduras back onto the world stage and posed a sharp challenge to interim leaders determined to hold new elections without him after a June coup.

Thousands of Zelaya supporters defied a curfew and spent the night surrounding Brazil's embassy, where the leader remained holed up Tuesday, a day after slipping back into the country. In exile since June 28, Zelaya said he had traveled for 15 hours overland in a series of vehicles to pull off the stealth homecoming.

The government of interim President Roberto Micheletti ordered a 26-hour shutdown of the capital Tegucigalpa beginning Monday afternoon, closed the airport and set up roadblocks on highways leading into town. The measures were taken to keep out more Zelaya supporters from other regions in an attempt to head off the big protests that disrupted the city after his ouster.

But Zelaya loyalists ignored the decree and surrounded the embassy dancing and cheering and using their cell phones to light up the streets after electricity was cut off on the block housing the embassy.

## AP sources: Obama may expand drone strikes instead of bulking up U.S. forces

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama may change course again as the war worsens in Afghanistan, steering away from the comprehensive counterinsurgency strategy he laid out this spring and toward a narrower focus on counterterrorism operations aimed at al-Qaida.

The White House is looking at expanding counterterrorism operations in Pakistan as an alternative to a major military escalation in Afghanistan.

Two senior administration officials said Monday that the renewed fight against al-Qaida could lead to more missile attacks on Pakistan terrorist havens by unmanned U.S. spy planes. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because no decisions have been made.

The armed drones could contain al-Qaida in a smaller, if more remote, area and keep its leaders from retreating back into Afghanistan, the officials said.

The prospect of a White House alternative to a deepening involvement in Afghanistan comes as administration officials debate whether to send more troops — as urged in a blunt assessment of the deteriorating conflict by the top U.S. commander there, Gen. Stanley McChrystal.

## Baucus sweetens bill to make premiums more affordable as finance panel prepares to vote

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senators challenging the latest proposed health care overhaul already have won concessions that include reducing a penalty for Americans who don't buy insurance, and hundreds of other changes are up for debate as a pow-

erful committee takes up President Barack Obama's top domestic priority.

The Senate Finance Committee — the last of five panels to have a say before the full Senate debates legislation — will consider a 10-year, nearly \$900 billion plan Tuesday by Chairman Max Baucus. The Montana Democrat has spent months striving for bipartisan common ground. Senators have filed 564 amendments, some of which would make major changes to his carefully crafted framework.

Ahead of the vote, Baucus labored to address serious concerns from fellow Democrats and a key Republican about insurance costs.

"We've come a long, long way to satisfying the affordability concerns," Baucus said after an evening meeting Monday with committee Democrats. He wants to finish committee work on his bill by the end of the week.

But Baucus faces the difficult task of keeping the 13 Democrats on board without moving so far to the left that he alienates Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine, the only one of the panel's 10 Republicans considered a possible vote for the bill.

## Ahmadinejad warns Iran will retaliate against attacks

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad claimed Tuesday his country is now stronger than ever and warned that the Iranian military will "cut the hand" of anyone who dares attack the nation.

Ahmadinejad spoke at an army parade in Tehran that showcased Iranian military might and marked the anniversary of the start of the 1980-1988 Iraq-Iran war. The war, launched by former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein, claimed an esti-

mated 1 million lives.

"Our armed forces will cut the hand of anyone in the world before it pulls the trigger against the Iranian nation," said Ahmadinejad.

The remark, though typical for the Iranian leader, reflects Tehran's concerns it could be targeted because of its nuclear facilities.

The U.S. and its allies fear Iran's nuclear program masks a secret nuclear weapons pursuit, but Tehran denies the charge and says it's for peaceful purposes only.

## Study: Common hormone treatment for prostate cancer could spark heart problems

LONDON (AP) — A common treatment for prostate cancer may slightly increase patients' risk of heart problems, new research says.

Experts said the findings could make doctors think twice before prescribing the standard hormone treatment to men with prostate cancer, particularly if they are at risk of heart disease.

The research was announced Tuesday at a joint meeting of the European Cancer Organisation and the European Society for Medical Oncology in Berlin.

"What we can do with these results is to raise a flag with hormone treatments," said Mieke Van Hemelrijck, a cancer epidemiologist at King's College in London and the study's lead researcher.

More than 670,000 men are diagnosed with prostate cancer globally every year, making it the second-most common cancer in men, after lung cancer.

In the U.S., about 600,000 men are being treated with endocrine therapies for prostate cancer.

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# Bird Poop: Wilson's warbler blown off course

As we neared the central area for processing check-outs and returns at the Howard County Library, a mainstay of this tedious work excitedly related her encounter with a brilliantly colored bird. "Bright yellow. It flew in front of me and was gone. Smaller than a sparrow," she continued.

Asking if she was familiar with goldfinches, Shannon replied, "I know goldfinches. This was no goldfinch." As our conversation continued, I thought maybe it was a migrating warbler. "Any wing bars or streaks on its feathers?" To this query she replied, "No. Just a flash of yellow. Lots of it."

Later that day, we checked our e-mail. From a friend in Pleasanton, south of San Antonio, came word of his having seen numerous migrating warblers. Suddenly, I was very envious of these fortunate folks and their sightings in different locations.

Being in the right place, and at the right time was essential in sharing a September day with any specie of warbler. It brought to mind

another year and the VA Hospital.

On a rampage that day, the wind couldn't seem to decide whether to blow from the south-west or northeast. An early morning errand had taken us past the sprawling complex. Glancing at the flags near the entrance, Art had noticed the wind was from the south. As we returned from our trip, the banners were pointing in the opposite direction.

"A pretty little bird," said the caller during early afternoon. After telling her I would come, I grabbed a shoebox already punched with air holes and headed to the VA facility. Inquiring at the receptionist's desk about the bird, I was escorted down a hall and to a friendly, caring individual.

Telling me a grounds keeper had found the bird, I wondered if it had been close to any windows. "As a matter of fact, it was," she replied.

After slowly lifting the lid on the box she had provided, I could see the bright yellow forehead, face, and under parts of a warbler that appeared to be asleep.



Courtesy photo

**From late August to early October, the Wilson's warbler is fairly common in the western part of Texas. Although its restless personality causes it to move about frequently as it hunts for food, the bird may have been blessed with this trait for its very survival.**

Although it was olive-green above, the bird had one distinguishing mark. It wore an almost round, black cap.

Promising to call as to its outcome, I returned home. The probability of the Wilson's warbler having flown or been blown into a window was the likely cause of any injuries. Only time and nature could determine if it would recover.

Gently transferring the unresponsive bird to a larger box with perches and a see-through top, I controlled the amount of light. With a

towel over one third of the top, I checked on the bird several times without being seen.

From possibly as far away as southern Canada, the warbler had come our way. The essence of the word, delicate, it looked like a figurine as it rested. When awake, the bird would epitomize perpetual motion.

Having seen migrating warblers in our side yard, as they searched under leaves and flitted among the mesquites for insects and their larvae, led to disappointment

when the birds would not hold still long enough for a photograph or identification. However, there was no mistaking their shape and actions.

Over some three hours, the warbler not only awakened, but also was searching for insects in the leaves and dry grass on the bottom of the box. Since the wind had lessened, and plenty of daylight remained, we decided to release the warbler in our side yard.

Bursting from the box, the bird darted into the mesquites and a mecca of insects. Working the rough bark and hunting in last year's debris on the ground, the warbler would be well satisfied with the menu before evening.

Soon, we would be telling the library worker what she might have seen. Often called a "black-capped warbler," our temporary visitor, some thirteen years earlier, had been just as bright a spot in our lives as her recent sighting was to her.

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



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# Steers still rank outside Top 10

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

Big Spring picked up a few more votes in this week's Associated Press Texas High School Football Poll following its 49-7 win over Footrests, but the gap between the Steers and the final spot in the official rankings grew wider.

The Steers received the highest amount of points of all teams outside the Top 10 with 23. That's three more than the 20 they had last week.

However, the 10th-place team in the poll, Schertz Steele, had its point total increase from 29 to 41, leaving the Steers 18 points

back of landing in the poll. Schertz Steele was off last week.

The only new team in the rankings is Denton Ryan, which debuted at No. 9 after a bye week. Ryan took Ennis' spot in the poll. Ennis was the only team to drop out after a 30-24 loss to Mesquite Horn.

The Steers racked up 686 yards in Friday's dominant win over Class 3A Andrews. They wrap up non-district play at 7:30 p.m. Friday, when they host rival Sweetwater at Memorial Stadium.

Contact Sports Editor Jonathan Hull by calling 263-7331, ext. 237, or by e-mailing sports@bigspringherald.com

### AP Texas High School Football Class 4A Poll

1. Lake Travis (23)	4-0	247
2. Denton Guyer (1)	3-0	219
3. Hewitt Midway	3-0	176
4. Sulphur Springs	4-0	157
5. Waxahachie	3-0	140
6. Longview (1)	3-1	136
7. Angleton	3-1	106
8. Highland Park	2-1	50
9. Denton Ryan	3-0	42
10. Schertz Steele	2-1	41

Others receiving votes: Big Spring 23, Ennis 19, CC Calallen 8, Lake Dallas 3, Port Neches-Grove 2, Killeen 2, Brenham 1, Lumberton 1, Aledo 1, Everman 1.

# Buckner turning into playmaker for Texas

JIM VERTUNO

AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN — Every Big 12 defense knows Colt McCoy to Jordan Shipley is practically unstoppable as a pass-catch combo for No. 2 Texas.

Their latest worry is Dan Buckner, who has emerged as a big target for the Longhorns with two touchdowns in the last two weeks. His fourth-quarter touchdown against Texas Tech helped put the game away in a 34-24 victory over the weekend.

At 6-foot-4, 220 pounds, Buckner has moved from wide receiver to what Texas calls its "flex" position lined up closer the ball. Shipley occupied a similar spot last season and caught 89 passes for 1,060 yards.

The move means Buckner is often matched up against linebackers or safeties instead of speedy cornerbacks. He's got the height to outrun linebackers and the strength to break tackles.

"We took advantage of that in the second half" against Texas Tech, McCoy said. "I kind of felt like Dan was going to have a big game."

Shipley still leads the Longhorns with 26 catches for 314 yards and Buckner is second with 17 receptions for 223 yards.

Buckner was an All-American wide receiver in high school. He played in 12 games as a freshman last season but had only eight catches.

He moved to the flex spot in spring practice, then saw his role expand as the Longhorns lost four tight ends to injury. Buckner said making the move was about getting a chance to play.

"It gets me on the field," Buckner said. "I just want to play, contribute and win"

After five catches in the season-opener against Louisiana-Monroe, he had six for 86 yards and a touchdown against Wyoming. The score against Wyoming came as McCoy scrambled to his left to avoid a rush, then found Buckner in the middle of the field for an easy TD.

Against Texas Tech, Buckner

# Gloomy Cowboys

Dallas already coping with huge letdown

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — Only two games into a new season and Dallas Cowboys linebacker Bradie James already finds himself in an all-too familiar spot.

James was standing at his locker the day after a loss trying to explain what's going wrong.

After missing the playoffs in the 2008 season that started with Super Bowl expectations and ended with that blowout loss in Philadelphia, there has already been a big letdown in front of the largest regular-season crowd in NFL history.

"Even though it's the second game of the season, it's an adverse situation," James said Monday, only about 13 hours after a 33-31 loss in their inaugural game at Cowboys Stadium on a last-play field goal by the New York Giants.

"It'll be a crying shame if we just fall apart right now," James said. "We've just got to bounce back, pick ourselves up."

Sure, it would have been nice to christen the nearly \$1.2 billion showplace with a victory over the defending NFC East champion in front of 105,121 fans.

But the concerns facing the Cowboys (1-1) certainly aren't about where they play.

—Tony Romo, who made such a conscious effort during the offseason to eliminate turnovers and silly mistakes, threw three interceptions a week after a nearly



AP photo/LM Otero

Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo (9) walks off the field following their NFL game against the New York Giants Sunday in Arlington, The Giants won, 33-31, on a last second field goal.

See COWBOYS, Page 8

See BUCKNER, Page 8

# Texans bounce back, work on consistency

KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — Coach Gary Kubiak celebrated Houston's bounce-back win over the Tennessee Titans with his team this weekend.

On Monday, jubilation was replaced with reality as Kubiak discussed Houston's pathetic running game and porous run defense. Houston is averaging 50.5 yards rushing a game and allowing 215.

"We're very realistic," Kubiak said. "You sit here and watch the film today and we understand our problems. And these statistics don't lie. So I think our guys are very humbled by what's going on and

know the issues that we have and understand that we can be pretty darn good or pretty darn average."

He also knows that Maurice Jones-Drew, who'll visit on Sunday with the Jacksonville Jaguars (0-2), must be "licking his chops" at the prospect of facing this defense.

"I would think he's pretty excited with the yards we've been giving up on the ground," Kubiak said. "Like I told the guys today, 'It doesn't stop. The backs will keep coming and they'll keep trying to run the football on you until we stand up and get it stopped.'"

See TEXANS, Page 8



AP photo/Wade Payne

Houston Texans wide receiver Andre Johnson catches a 72-yard touchdown pass against the Tennessee Titans in the second quarter of an NFL game in Nashville Sunday.

# Sports in brief

## Harley Street Rally being held in support of Steers Friday

The Big Spring High School cheerleaders are inviting the public to a Harley Street Rally at 3 p.m. Friday in support of the Big Spring football team's game against the Sweetwater Mustangs at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

Anyone wanting to ride their motorcycle — doesn't have to be a Harley — during the rally, he

or she simply needs to meet at the Trinity Baptist Church gym parking lot by 2:50 p.m.

For more information, call Cheer Sponsor Shannon Stuteville at 264-3641, ext. 1416, or e-mail her at sstutevi@bsisd.esc18.net

## Comanche Trail Ladies Golf Association weekly results

In the Comanche Trail Ladies Golf Association's

Playday Sept. 14, played in a 9-hole individual score format, Linda Dewaters took first, followed by Ramona Harris, Annie Ward and Daury Cockrell.

In Thursday's couples play, a scorecard playoff was needed to break a first-place tie. The team of Steve and Patti Hedges, Ron Booth and Daury Cockrell took first, while Forrest and Gayle West and Jimmy and Deanna Foresyth settled for second.

Patti Hedges shot closest to the pin on Hole 6.

# Murphy leads Rangers over Athletics, 10-3

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Kevin Millwood needed to break out of a pitching slump just as Texas needed to shake free from an offensive meltdown.

Millwood threw seven strong innings and the Rangers scored more runs in one game than their last seven combined in beating the

Oakland Athletics 10-3 on Monday night.

"There's no doubt that scoring in double digits says something good for our offense," Rangers DH Julio Borbon said. "It's not just scoring a lot of runs, but scoring early and helping your pitcher. It helps put us in a better spot as we look ahead."

David Murphy had three hits and drove in two runs to help the Rangers hang on to their slim playoff hopes. Borbon and Chris Davis both drove in two runs as the Rangers won for the second time in eight games, moving within seven games of the Boston Red Sox, who lost 12-9 to Kansas City, in the AL wild card.

"We're going to keep going until there's no more schedule," Rangers manager Ron Washington said. "All I know now is that we're not going to finish with a losing record. We have 13 games left and we still have some more wins to get."

See **RANGERS**, Page 14

## TEXANS

Continued from Page 7

The Texans (1-1) believe their run defense can be fixed and that they have the right people to be successful. The Titans' Chris Johnson gained 148 of his 197 yards rushing on two plays on Sunday.

Steve Slaton must improve for Houston's running game to get going. He rushed for a franchise-record 1,282 yards last season, but has struggled

so far this season. Kubiak believes he can run better, but is most concerned about his fumbles.

The second-year player's three fumbles this season match his total from last season.

"Three balls on the ground in 20-something carries in two games. That can't happen," Kubiak said.

There were positives in the win. A week after being shut out on offense, Houston's high-powered unit was back in the 34-31 win.

Matt Schaub threw a career-high four touchdown passes and Andre Johnson rebounded from a 35-yard

performance in the opener to finish with 149 yards receiving. That helped the Texans rally from a 21-7 deficit to quiet critics who questioned this team's toughness after the season-opening loss to the Jets.

Kubiak said Sunday's game was one of Schaub's best and that he was proud of his grit against a tough Tennessee defense. It helped that he is close to being completely recovered from a sprained ankle he suffered Aug. 31.

"He took some shots in the pocket, stayed in there and made some great plays," Kubiak said. "Had a great

sense of getting rid of the ball."

The offense took a hit on Monday with the news that left guard Chester Pitts will have arthroscopic surgery on his injured right knee on Wednesday. Kubiak wasn't sure how long he'll be out but he will definitely miss Sunday's game, which will break his streak of 114 straight starts.

Pitts has started each game in Houston's history. He will be replaced by former Texas standout Kasey Studdard, who filled in for him after the injury on Sunday.

## BUCKNER

Continued from Page 7

caught a 20-yard pass to the Red Raiders' 1 to set up Texas' second touchdown. By the fourth quarter, McCoy and Buckner were clicking so well that McCoy told coach Mack Brown he specifically wanted to run the play to Buckner.

Buckner got open in the back of the end zone and the 3-yard TD gave the Longhorns a 14-point cushion with nine minutes to play.

"Colt really suggested to throw

to Dan because he trusts him so much," Brown said.

Also Monday, Texas defensive coordinator Will Muschamp defended the hit defensive end Sergio Kindle made on Texas Tech quarterback Taylor Potts in the fourth quarter.

The sack knocked off Potts' helmet, causing a fumble that set up Buckner's touchdown. Kindle appeared to make helmet-to-helmet contact, raising questions whether he should have penalized with a personal foul.

"It's a bang-bang play. It's a judgment call for an official," said Muschamp, who called it "a great hit."

The Big 12 reviews all helmet-to-helmet hits and can suspend a player if it deems necessary. The conference announced no discipline by late Monday, suggesting the play had been cleared by league officials.

"It's about as helmet to helmet as you could get," Texas Tech coach Mike Leach said. "There's a lot of blind people that can tell by hearing that it was helmet to helmet."

Kindle said his facemask hit Potts in the chest and any helmet contact was incidental. Kindle called it "a perfect shot."

"I didn't intentionally try to hit him in his helmet," Kindle said.

## COWBOYS

Continued from Page 7

flawless opener. All three picks led to touchdowns for the Giants, the last a long heave when Romo didn't realize a defender was even deeper than his receiver.

—The Cowboys are the only defense in the league that hasn't yet forced a turnover or recorded a sack.

—A week after giving up 450 yards in the season-opening victory at Tampa Bay, the Giants piled up 427 yards even though running back Brandon Jacobs was stifled by Dallas. Jacobs got 31 of his 58 yards on one run.

"Anytime you have one, it seems like the worst loss ever, and I still feel that way right now," coach Wade Phillips said.

Things are doubly tough for Phillips, who is also his own defensive coordinator.

"I lost twice, once as a head coach, once as a coordinator," he said.

Phillips said the defensive plan has been to be aggressive man to man, but he is already talking about making adjustments, though he wasn't specific about what they might be.

Except for field goals on the Giants' opening drive of the game, and their last two, the rest of New York's 24 points were set up by the interceptions and Felix Jones' fumble on a kick-off return.

Romo apologized after the game for how badly he played and said he'd be better.

Teammates said Romo, who probably had his worst game as Cowboys starter with only 127 yards and a 1-yard TD pass to Jason Witten, didn't owe them any apology.

"He's going to take it very hard, but he's going to respond in a very pos-

itive way," center Andre Gurode said. "We're going to rally around the guy. We're going to pick the guy up and we're going to tell him it's not his fault, and we're going to move forward for this."

Romo isn't the only player who has stood up and accepted blame for the loss. Cornerbacks Terence Newman and Orlando Scrandrick both acknowledged bad play on their parts — New York had two 100-yard receivers after a 13-game stretch without any — as did several other players.

Maybe all that offseason talk about accountability in a locker room ridded of Terrell Owens is going to be true.

"The scapegoats are gone," James said.

"Everybody can see when somebody makes a mistake. When they make a mistake, that's when it needs to be said. It doesn't just need to be said, it needs to be meant. That's the only way we can progress and move forward."

Dallas has a little extra time before another prime-time showcase came in the new stadium, next Monday night against Carolina (0-2).

More time for Romo to watch film and overcome his frustration with himself, more time for Marion Barber to heal from a quadriceps injury sustained on his last carry, and more time for the Cowboys to remember it's only going to be Week 3.

"I don't want to be standing here next week

and the week after that doing this same speech," James said. "I'm not going to sit here and say it wasn't a big deal, but in essence it was really just a Week 2 game, and we have more to go. ... It's not December. It's early."

## 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.

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

## PROFESSIONAL WOMEN IN BUSINESS SECTION PUBLISHES SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2009 DEADLINE SEPT. 22, 2009



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## Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

## Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

### Nowhere to Hide

West dealer.  
Neither side vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♦ A J 10 3  
♥ A K J 9  
♦ 10 3  
♣ K Q 7

**WEST**  
♦ Q 5  
♥ 8 4  
♦ A K J 9 7 6 4  
♣ 5 2

**EAST**  
♦ 8 7 2  
♥ 10 6 5 3 2  
♦ Q  
♣ A 9 6 4

**SOUTH**  
♦ K 9 6 4  
♥ Q 7  
♦ 8 5 2  
♣ J 10 8 3

The bidding:  
West North East South  
3♦ Dble Pass 3♣  
Pass 4♣

Opening lead — king of diamonds.  
Bridge is primarily a game of percentages, but there are times when psychological considerations play a bigger role than probabilities.

Consider this deal from a team contest where both North-South pairs reached four spades after West had opened three diamonds. Both Wests led the diamond king and continued with the ace at trick two, East discarding a low heart.

At the first table, West continued with the diamond jack, which declarer ruffed with dummy's ten of spades. When East failed to overruff, it became clear that West had the

queen of spades. So South next led a low spade to the king and returned a spade toward the A-J, picking up West's queen. East's ace of clubs later scored the defenders' third and last trick, and the contract was made.

Afterward, East reprimanded his partner for continuing a third diamond, thereby revealing the location of the spade queen. Had West shifted to another suit at trick three, East argued, declarer might well have misguessed the spade position and gone down.

East's analysis left something to be desired, as evidenced by what transpired at the other table. There, West recognized the danger of playing a third diamond, so he shifted to a club at trick three.

East took the king with the ace and returned a club, but after winning with dummy's queen, South paused to consider why West had not led a third diamond in a potential overruff situation. The only rational explanation had to be that West was afraid of giving away information about his trump holding, so South led a spade to the king and returned a spade toward dummy, and that was that.

By drawing the proper inference, declarer was thus sure to make the contract whether or not West led a diamond at trick three. There was simply no place poor West could hide his queen of spades.

Tomorrow: Wriggling out of the trap.  
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**HERALD**

Tomorrow's Horoscope

The sun's entrance into Libra marks the first day of autumn in the Northern Hemisphere. Libra is the sign of teamwork, partnership and relationships, which will be the focus through the next few weeks. Do you know who your team is? Getting more people, or the right people, on board with your project will be a key to creating success.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You will be around an optimist and also a killjoy. Recognize that neither person is inherently good or bad. Both are just engaging in a habit of thought. Because of this experience, you'll be more conscious of your own thoughts.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You only have time for what you want to do. This should

come as great news. If you needed permission to cut out all of the activities you don't want to take part in, consider this your ticket.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). A sudden breakthrough is a wonderful feeling. Your vigor returns. Something is different, deeper. You realize that you're in the perfect place. This begins a new chapter in your creative life.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). It's true that you are unlike anyone on the earth. But avoid being an individualist. You may have been hurt in the past, but you're still better off when you connect with others. Foster a feeling of belonging.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). When you feel stuck, the whole world reflects your position. The coffee seems to flow slower; the milk seems thicker. Do something to hasten a fresh perspective, like rearrange the furniture or put some new shoes on.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There's a reason why light is hitting you

full in the face -- it's your turn to shine. Your timing and wit have always been unusually keen, but now everyone notices. Who would have thought one afternoon would bring so much laughter?

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your place as the stable one in your circle is assured. Sometimes keeping your friends in line is just tiring. So let go! Spend some time solo. You'll crack yourself up and find the sound of your own laughter to be marvelous.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Temptation abounds. It took you a long time to get here, so don't throw it away on a whim. Pan back and look at the bigger picture. The afternoon knows what the morning never suspected.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Ambition and drive are attractive attributes, but they can also cause you to make some unattractive choices -- like foregoing your own physical well-being as you take on too much work. Strive for

balance.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Work issues arise. You'll be torn between doing what's right for the company and being loyal to a friend. A candid conversation will help you sort out what you already know is best.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your emotional warmth and kindness will bring an alpha-male into your realm. This person needs to connect and belong, but is having a difficult time doing so. Your actions will teach him how to be more sensitive to others.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). If you're going to finish this project you started, you desperately need a breakthrough now. Keep moving forward. Hint: If you're still thinking about what happened yesterday or last year, you're not moving forward.

**T O D A Y ' S BIRTHDAY** (Sept. 22). You have impressive executive abilities that you could apply to running a company or run-

ning your own life with great style and success. Adventurous dates happen in October. Hard work gives you intense satisfaction through the end of the year -- avoid gambles. Windfall months are November and June. Pisces and Aquarius people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 13, 44, 41 and 23.

**A U T U M N A L EQUINOX:** The sun's transit into Libra has been celebrated by ancient and modern cultures alike. The imagery of Libra's scales and the theme of balance are inspired by the equality of nighttime to daylight. It's also a turning point, since the nights increase in length in the weeks to come. This is traditionally a time to pull together our resources and connect with loved ones to harvest the bounty around us and store up for the colder months. Since very few of us are actually farmers in this age, our harvest is of a different nature. What, besides the basics of food, water and shelter, will sustain

you through the winter? And who helps you get it? For some, it's love and romance that add passion to the season. For others, it's special projects or art. For still others, it's intellectual growth, physical fitness or the satisfaction of a family well cared for or a job well done. Give some thought to what you have in your life that makes it great. Think of a way you can show the universe and the people in your life that you are grateful for the abundance of the past season as a way of getting ready to greet the new one.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com) and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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Dear Annie:

**Dear Annie:** My husband and I are both military. Recently, two of our oldest friends (also military) announced that they are splitting. "Emily" was cheating on "Roger" while she was deployed and now believes there is someone out there who is better for her.

When Emily returned home, she was very angry because none of her friends would speak to her. She accused Roger of turning everyone against her. To my knowledge, he has done nothing but answer people's questions honestly. Now she says no one will listen to her because they're already on Roger's side.

Annie, I know there are two sides to every story and every marriage. But I'm very upset with Emily for her behavior, espe-

cially because it's not the first time it has happened. To be honest, I don't think I can be unbiased about her side of the story because I don't see how she can justify cheating. Do I owe it to her to listen? -- Torn Friend in Rapid City, S.D.

**Dear Torn Friend:** We think you should take the time to listen simply to put the issue to rest. After all, she has been a friend for years, and even if you don't agree with her, friends are supposed to lend an ear. Let her have her say, and then you can make up your own mind about whether the friendship is worth saving.

**Dear Annie:** At the request of our daughter and her fiance, we invited two gay gentlemen to their wedding. When the bride and groom motioned for people to join in for

their first dance, it never dawned on us that the two men might wish to slow dance together. Needless to say, many guests, including us, were uncomfortable and unprepared for that situation.

As host, I felt disrespected in that I was not asked if it would be OK. I think my wife and I deserved that consideration. My wife later asked that we forget about it because the party went over well and it was only one dance. I agree. But I would like to know exactly what the protocol is for these types of situations. I always felt that hosts who foot the bill should have some say over anything inappropriate that might occur. -- Dad

**Dear Dad:** We understand that watching two gay men dance together

was difficult for you, but we are going to ask you to be tolerant. These gentlemen are a couple and, like any other, when invited to dance at a wedding, wanted to do so. We doubt it occurred to anyone that you expected to be asked for permission. And the fact that it was only one dance indicates the two men were aware of your disapproval and did not wish to cause offense. Hosts cannot possibly control every aspect of an event. Your wife is right. Please forget about it.

**Dear Annie:** I had to comment on the letter from "Confused in California," who justifies shoplifting because he can't find a good job. He needs to understand the impact an arrest for theft will have on his future.

With over 25 years in

the staffing industry, I can state credibly that such an arrest, whether he serves jail time or not, will preclude him from employment even for unskilled, menial jobs. In the last five years, criminal background checks have become mandatory for all positions, so even a minimum-wage job that requires no secondary education, training or skills will require a relatively clean criminal background.

This grad better cease his criminal behavior, or he will most certainly lose the grocery store job, never obtain a position in his field and have very few employment opportunities for the future. As you said, he should move to an affordable neighborhood and get a roommate. He also should move somewhere that

has good public transportation and then sell his car to pay down his debt. -- V.P. of Operations in Reading, Penn.

**Dear Reading:** Thanks for laying the facts on the line. We hope he is listening.

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

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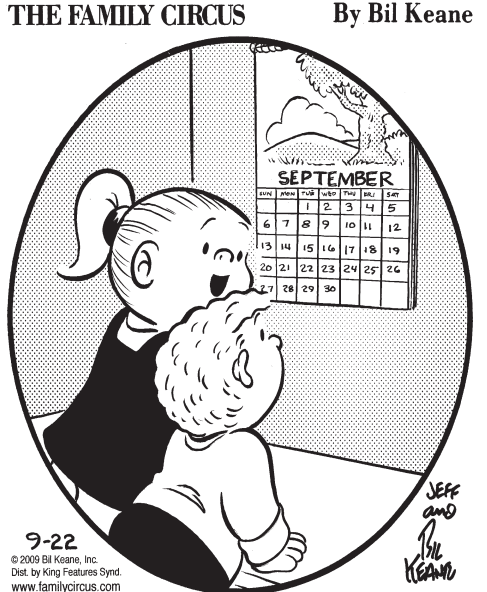
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5:PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Locura	Lopez Lopez	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	Seinfeld Office	Scrivner Uri Harel	BBC Business	The Colony	thal Weapon 2, Joe Pesci	CSI: Crime Scn	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas Suite Life	Horn Interrupt	SportsCenter
6:PM :30	News ABC	Jeopardy!	Gancho	Two Men Two Men	News CBS	12 Cora-zones	News NBC	Name Name	Dr. Young Harris	News-Lehrer	The Colony	CSI: Crime Scn	Bones			Wizards of Waverly Place	Minor League Baseball: Bricktown Showdown -- Teams TBA.	NFL Live World Series
7:PM :30	Entertain	Fortune	Nombre-Amor	Hell's Kitchen	Entertain	Más Sabe el Diabolo	The Biggest Loser	Office Office	Upd Victory	Nova (DVS)	Swords: Life	Movie: Le-thal Weapon 3, Joe Pesci	CSI: Crime Scn	Bones	Movie: The Cookout, Jenifer Lewis	Movie: Tinker Bell, Lucy Liu		World Series
8:PM :30	Dancing With the Stars	Dancing With the Stars	Mañana		NCIS: Los Angeles	Pobres		Office Office	Light of the Southwest				Surviving Disaster	Bones		Phineas Montana	NFL's Greatest Game	Baseball Tonight
9:PM :30	the forgotten	the forgotten	Aquí y Ahora	Simpsons Friends	The Good Wife	Victorinos	The Jay Leno Show	Office Office					Surviving Disaster	Hawthorne	Frankie W. Williams	Wizards of Waverly Place	Super Bwl	SportsCenter
10:PM :30	News Nightline	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	Raymond TMZ	News Late Show	Noticias Decisiones	News Tonight Show	Name Name	Upd Cortes	Charlie Rose	Swords: Life	Movie: Starksy & Hutch	Surviving Disaster	Saving Grace				
11:PM :30	Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live	Jimmy Kimmel Live	La Casa de la Risa	Law & Order: SVU	Late Late Show	Decisiones	Late Night-Jim	Sex & Ministerio-Vida	Upd Smiley	BBC (Off Air)	Swords: Life	Mad Men	CSI: Crime Scn	Hawthorne	Movie: The Cookout, Jenifer Lewis	Life De Cory	SportsNation	Baseball
12:AM :30	News Paid Prog	News Paid Prog	Torrente, un Torbel	Paid Prog King-Hill	Insider	Pagado	News	Upd Church	Light of the Southwest				Amazing Video	Saving Grace		Replace Kim	World Series	SportsCenter
1:AM :30	News Paid Prog	News Paid Prog	Mujer Guereja	RENO 911	Entertain	Pagado	Poker After Dark	Upd Church					Disorderly Con.	Cold Case	W. Williams	Emperor Dragon	World Series	SportsCenter

DENNIS THE MENACE



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THE FAMILY CIRCUS

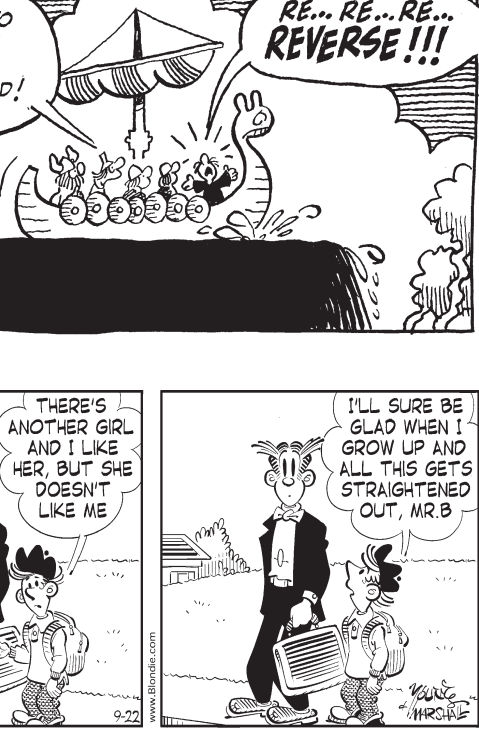


"This is the last day I'll be five. Time sure flies when you're havin' fun."

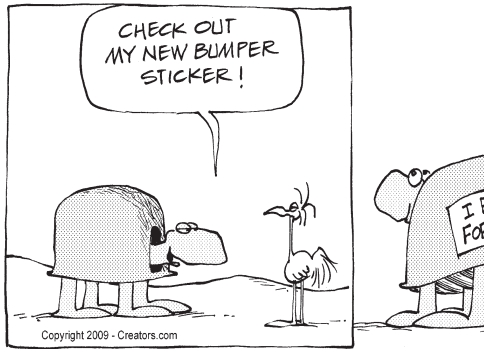
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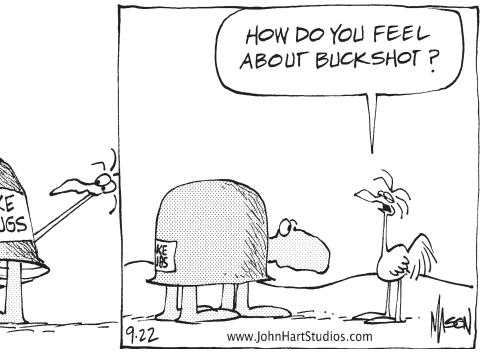
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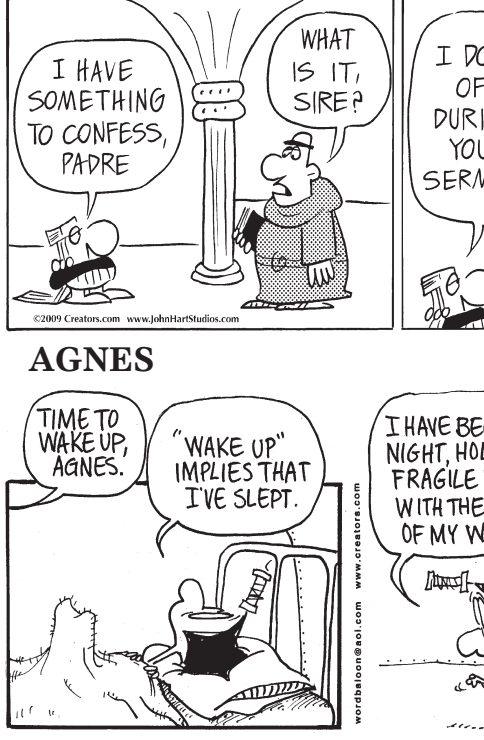
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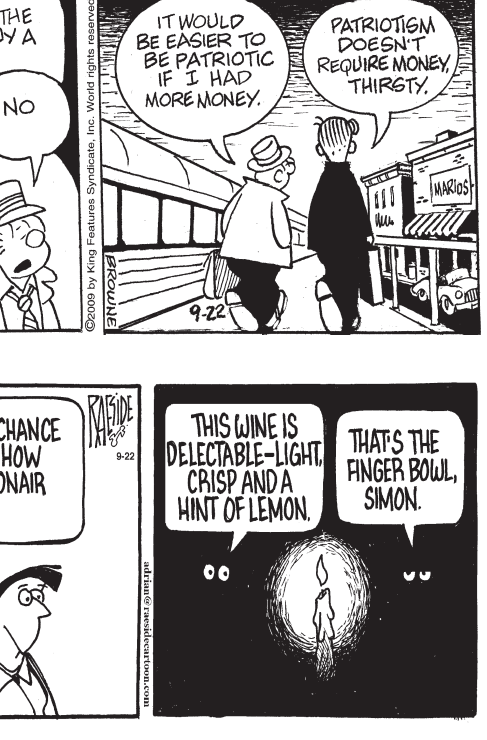
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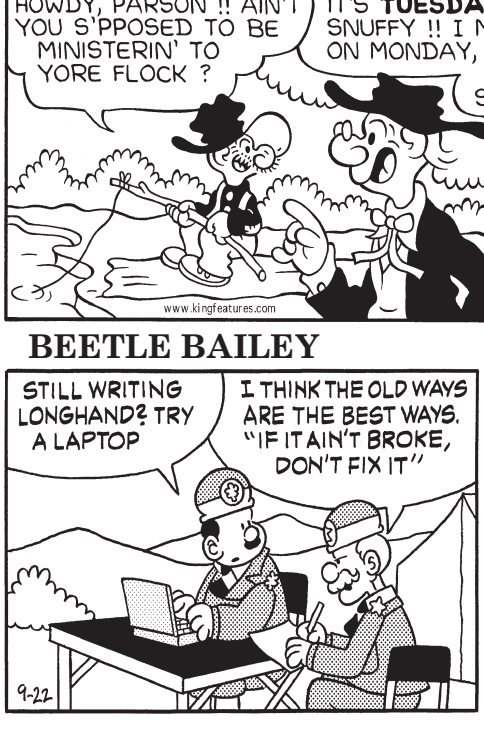
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

Today is Tuesday, Sept. 22, the 265th day of 2009. There are 100 days left in the year. Autumn arrives at 5:18 p.m. Eastern time.

Today's Highlight in History: On Sept. 22, 1776, during the Revolutionary War, Capt. Nathan Hale, 21, was hanged as a spy by the British in New York.

On this date: In 1656, in colonial Maryland, an all-female jury heard the case of Judith Catchpole, an indentured servant who was accused of killing her newborn baby during a voyage from England. (The jury, which believed Catchpole's assertion that she hadn't even been pregnant, acquitted her.)

In 1761, Britain's King George III and his wife, Charlotte, were crowned in Westminster Abbey.

In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln issued the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation,

This Date In History

declaring all slaves in rebel states should be free as of Jan. 1, 1863.

In 1927, Gene Tunney successfully defended his heavy-weight boxing title against Jack Dempsey in the famous "long-count" fight in Chicago.

In 1959, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev arrived in Iowa for a two-day stopover, during which he visited a corn farm, held talks with former Illinois Gov. Adlai Stevenson, and ate his first hot dog.

In 1964, the musical "Fiddler on the Roof" opened on Broadway, beginning a run of 3,242 performances.

In 1975, Sara Jane Moore attempted to shoot President Gerald R. Ford outside a San Francisco hotel, but missed. (Moore served 32 years in prison before being paroled on Dec. 31, 2007.)

In 1980, the Persian Gulf conflict between Iran and Iraq erupted into full-scale war that lasted nearly eight years.

Today's Birthdays: Baseball Hall of Fame manager Tommy Lasorda is 82. NBA commissioner David Stern is 67. Musician King Sunny Ade is 63. Actor Paul Le Mat is 63. Retired Capt. Mark Phillips is

61. Rock singer David Coverdale (Deep Purple, Whitesnake) is 58. Actress Shari Belafonte is 55. Singer Debby Boone is 53. Country singer June Forester (The Forester Sisters) is 53. Singer Nick Cave is 52. Rock singer Johnette Napolitano is 52. Opera singer Andrea Bocelli is 51. Singer-musician Joan Jett is 51. Actress Catherine Oxenberg is 48. Actor Scott Baio is 48. Actor Rock musician Dave Hernandez (The Shins) is 39. R&B singer Big Rube (Society of Soul) is 38. Actor Tom Felton is 22.

Thought for Today: "Autumn, the year's last, loveliest smile." — William Cullen Bryant, American poet (1794-1878).

Answer to previous puzzle

SPAR	TAILS	CRAM
HOBO	ELVIS	HERE
OSLO	MOONS	OPEN
THEM	PARK	BROAD
IRON	BEER	
CAPERS	TOASTER	
ALAS	BLAND	BEE
RIP	STOOGES	ARE
EVE	POUTS	ACID
SERPENT	TABKEY	
TANS	PIANO	
CHILD	TESTTUBES	
ORGE	AISLE	NOTE
OLAS	ALTER	DATE
PORT	SLOTS	STEP

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Living-room seat
  - 5 For both sexes
  - 9 Pancake-syrup flavor
  - 14 "... happily \_\_\_ after"
  - 15 Possess
  - 16 Survey option
  - 17 Sampras of tennis
  - 18 Largest continent
  - 19 Take an oath
  - 20 Gym machine
  - 22 Touches down
  - 23 Increases
  - 24 He saves the day
  - 25 Stage whispers
  - 29 Leeway
  - 31 1200 in old Rome
  - 34 Walk proudly
  - 35 Tug-of-war need
  - 36 Lima's country
  - 37 Gym coach
  - 40 "What's \_\_\_ for me?"
  - 41 Looks at
  - 42 Iowa or Indiana
  - 43 Gear tooth
  - 44 Low voice
  - 45 Fashionista's concerns
  - 46 Perched on
  - 48 Motorists' org.
  - 49 Sees socially
  - 51 Gym array
  - 57 Archaeology sites
  - 58 Milky gem
- DOWN
- 1 Labor Day mo.
  - 2 "\_\_\_ the Rainbow"
  - 3 Fancy party
  - 4 Neighborhood
  - 5 First-place finishers
  - 6 Desert haven
  - 7 Malicious
  - 8 Pass out cards
  - 9 Mecca pilgrim
  - 10 In combat
  - 11 Extraordinary
  - 12 Heavy metal
  - 13 Is incorrect
  - 21 Because of
  - 24 Soil-breaking gardener
  - 25 Savory jelly
  - 26 Dictation taker
  - 27 Crop watering
  - 28 Do some housework
  - 29 Actors' parts
  - 30 Chooses (to)
  - 32 Large Greek island
  - 33 Doctor's remedies
  - 35 Sunbeams
  - 36 Sympathetic sorrow
  - 38 Type of tide
  - 39 Take \_\_\_ at (try)
  - 44 Overseers
  - 45 Dark brown furs
  - 47 On edge
  - 48 Astonish
  - 49 Create a cartoon
  - 50 Surrounding glow
  - 51 Nitwit
  - 52 "Once \_\_\_ a time ..."
  - 53 Significant periods
  - 54 Pre-Easter season
  - 55 Behind schedule
  - 56 Large quantity

GYM DANDY by Sally R. Stein

Edited by Stanley Newman

www.stanxwords.com

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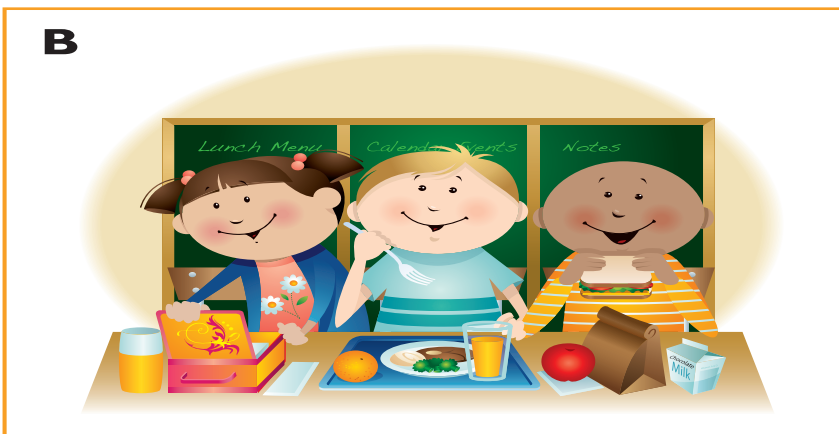


**SCIENCE FACT**

TRUE OR FALSE?  
SUNSCREENS ARE MADE FROM A VARIETY OF NATURAL AND SYNTHETIC MATERIALS BECAUSE NO ONE INGREDIENT CAN BLOCK THE SUN.

ANSWER: TRUE

**What's the Difference?**  
There are four things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?



Answers: 1. missing broccoli 2. missing apple stem 3. milk is now chocolate milk 4. boy is bald

**THIS DAY IN...**

**HISTORY**

- 1927: BABE RUTH HIT HIS 60TH HOMERUN OF THE SEASON.
- 1946: TWENTY-TWO NAZI LEADERS WERE FOUND GUILTY AT THE NUREMBERG TRIALS.
- 1955: POPULAR ACTOR JAMES DEAN DIED IN A CAR ACCIDENT.

**New word**

**DERMIS**

skin

*How they SAY that in...*

**ENGLISH:** Body  
**SPANISH:** Cuerpo  
**ITALIAN:** Corpo  
**FRENCH:** Corps  
**GERMAN:** Körper

**Did You Know?**

SPA TREATMENTS, INCLUDING FACIAL MASKS, MAY CLEANSE THE SKIN AND REMOVE IMPURITIES.

**GET THE PICTURE?**

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: BEACH UMBRELLA

**Big Spring High School Homecoming 2009**

*Photos by Hannah Weber*

Think about homecoming and images of football games and class reunions come to mind. But that's only part of the equation. At Big Spring High School this past week, students got to celebrate homecoming in a variety of ways, as shown in these photos. Clockwise, from right: Aaricka Marin and Mariah Sparkman discover that whitewashing the street in front of the high school can be messy work; two students cast their ballots for homecoming queen and king, an election won by Paula Mills and Daniel Segundo; there were differently themed dress-up days during the week and Jennifer Walker and Stormi Smith model their outfits for Wacky Dress Day.



# New Mav Marion happy to be Kidd's teammate again

JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — Shawn Marion had it easy when he broke into the NBA. All he had to do was grab rebounds for Jason Kidd to start fast breaks, then hustle to the other rim to try finishing off those quick scoring chances.

It's been eight years since they were last together in Phoenix and a lot has changed. Marion has gone from rookie to All-Star to journeyman, while Kidd has gone from All-Star in his prime to elder statesman polishing off a Hall of Fame resume.

Now they're teammates again, reunited as part of a new Dallas Mavericks lineup built around versatile 30-somethings seeking their first championship. The master plan would get a big boost if Kidd and Marion can rekindle their old Suns success.

"You will see it," Marion said.

Kidd, Marion and fellow newcomers Drew Gooden, Tim Thomas and Quinton Ross were introduced on their new home court Monday as part of a news conference/fan event that also included the unveiling of a new alternate uniform and upgraded video boards.

Most of the talk was about all the different lineup combinations, with Gooden joking about coming into the league as a small forward but now being viewed as a center. Marion, of course, is nicknamed "The Matrix" because of how many roles he can play.

"Shawn makes the game so easy, especially above the rim, he gets easy baskets," Kidd said. "He can get out there and defend (point guards) through (centers). He's a great teammate in the locker room, so I'm glad to have him by my side."

Kidd spent the last 1½ seasons in Dallas, but was considered an offseason addition because he was a free agent and could've signed anywhere.

Once he decided to stay, owner Mark Cuban, team president Donnie Nelson and coach Rick Carlisle began putting together a supporting cast for Kidd and Nowitzki, players who are certainly in the win-now part of their careers.

The Mavs pried Marion from Toronto as part of a

blockbuster trade that didn't cost any key players. Nowitzki, Josh Howard, Jason Terry and Erick Dampier are all back from last season's squad that knocked off San Antonio in the first round, but of course many of their Western Conference foes are improved, too.

"It excites me to have our quarterback (Kidd) back, to have Shawn Marion on one wing, Josh Howard on the other," Nelson said. "We're ready for any challenge that comes our way."

Carlisle figures he already has a better defensive team than last season, calling Marion "one of the best in the league the last 10 years."

Marion averaged 21.8 points and 11.8 rebounds in 2005-06, when the Suns lost to the Mavericks in the Western Conference finals. He was 27 and made the All-Star team for the second year in a row and third time in four years.

Since that peak, Marion has dipped to 12.9 points last season, which began in Miami and ended in Toronto. He's gone from being a franchise player in Phoenix to a role player. It was a tough adjustment, but now that he's been through it he understands how to fit in with the Mavericks.

"Regardless of what I'm doing, what the situation is, I'm a better basketball player than I was before," Marion said. "I've definitely learned the game and I'm going to help everyone around me. That's what it boils down to."

Marion and Howard will trade off as the shooting guard and small forward, perhaps every possession. If they can mesh with each other and with Kidd, defenses will have a harder time loading up to stop Nowitzki.

"Everybody's got to get the chemistry right," Marion said. "That's the most important thing, getting a feel for each other and learning to have fun playing with each other."

Training camp starts Monday, but being on center court with his teammates had Marion ready to lace 'em up. He'd come straight from a workout and was eager to start catching alley-oops from Kidd again.

"I just want to get going," he said. "I want to get

everybody out on the court right now and play some pick-up."

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## RANGERS

Continued from Page 8

Millwood (11-10) gave up an unearned run and three hits, walking one and striking out two. He needed to pitch 4 1-3 innings against Oakland to reach 180 for the season and kick in the fifth and final season of his contract, which is worth \$12 million.

"I'm glad I was able to finally go out there and give the team a chance to win," Millwood said of his best game in over four months. "I knew what I had to get but I wanted to go deep in the ballgame. That other stuff takes care of itself."

Millwood skipped a start after allowing five runs in four of his previous five starts. He threw three bullpen sessions between starts to work on a mechanical flaw, which was something as simple as arcing his back too much.

"I've felt fine every time I've pitched," Millwood said. "I just wasn't pitching well. My bullpens don't tend to be too short. I got a lot of work in. That helped me get the ball to go where I wanted easier."

Matt Carson hit a home run for the A's, who had their season-high seven-game winning streak end. Rajai Davis also drove in a run.

Edgar Gonzalez (0-3) lasted 3 1-3 innings, giving up six runs and nine hits. He walked two and struck out three.

"I'm not even positive he was actually struggling with his command," A's manager Bob Geren said. "He was maybe being a little too fine, trying to be on the corners too much. There were a couple of times where he heated up to 92 mph and finished a couple guys off."

Millwood allowed two hits in the first inning but then did not allow a runner past first base until a throwing error by second baseman Ian Kinsler

sent Chad Pennington to third. Davis followed with a sacrifice fly.

"That was the best I've seen him in a long time," Geren said of Millwood. "His velocity was up, he worked the ball real well on the corner, especially inside. It just wasn't our night."

The Rangers scored in three of the first four innings.

Hank Blalock singled home a run in the first and Texas added three runs in the second on a two-run single from Borbon and Murphy's RBI single.

"The way we have been swinging the bats the last seven or eight games is not what we expected," Borbon said. "This is something we can build from."

Murphy and Marlon Byrd added run-scoring singles in the fourth to make it 6-0.

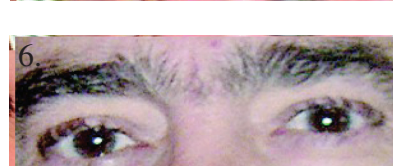
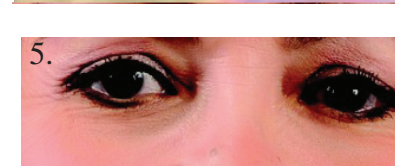
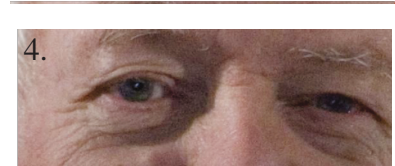
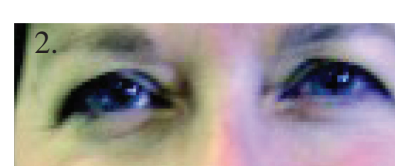
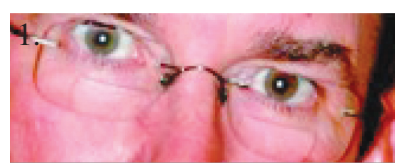
## The Big Spring Herald's Who's Looking at you? Contest

*Can you guess who these six pair of eyes belong to?*

Contest will run in *The Big Spring Herald* Tues., Sept. 22 and Fri., Sept. 25. To enter, write your guesses down and turn them in at *The Herald* office, 710 Scurry St. The deadline is 5 p.m. Mon. Sept. 28. Enter as many times as you wish. All entries must be on an original *Big Spring Herald* edition. The winner will receive a free three-month subscription of *The Big Spring Herald*, dinner for two at Brenda's BBQ & More and Cowboy's Steakhouse.

**The Winner Will Be Announced In Tuesday's Sept. 29th Edition Of  
The Big Spring Herald**

My Guess: #1 \_\_\_\_\_ My Guess: #2 \_\_\_\_\_ My Guess: #3 \_\_\_\_\_



My Guess: #4 \_\_\_\_\_ My Guess: #5 \_\_\_\_\_ My Guess: #5 \_\_\_\_\_

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