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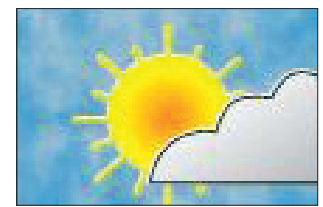


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THE BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY

OCTOBER 6, 2009



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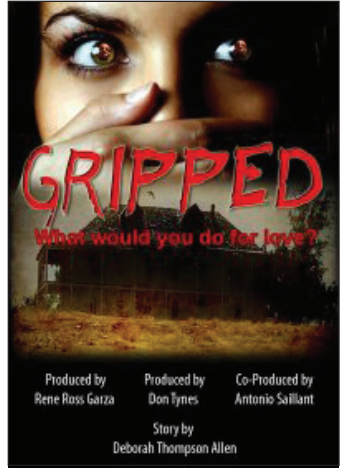
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'Gripped' promises West Texas area touch

Screenwriter has ties to Big Spring, Forsan

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Lights. Camera. Action. While Hollywood may be more than 1,000 miles away, these very words could be heard soon in the Crossroads area, as Big Spring native and Midland resident Deborah Thompson Allen and several other West Texas natives prepare to film "Gripped."



According to Allen, who is the creator of "Gripped" and is serving as screenwriter for the film, the movie will be shot in Austin and throughout the West Texas area.

"Producers on the film are Rene Ross Garza, a Midland native and 1990 graduate of Lee High School, and Don Tynes of Florida," said Allen. "Together, they have formed Vision Chaser Productions in Orlando, Fla. Previously they filmed a comedy with Gordon Tynes, "National Lampoon's RoboDoc," which is due to be released to DVD Nov. 10 of this year. Also on board is Angel Light Pictures of New York, N.Y., including Antonio Salliant, a veteran of the film industry. Together, Salliant, Garza and Tynes will be producing this thriller."

See **GRIPPED**, Page 3



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

The Rev. Barbara Kirk-Norris, right, rector of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, blesses Mickey, while owner Julie Johnson watches. The church held its annual Blessing of the Animals Sunday in Bennett Garden to honor St. Frances Assisi.

Feeling down?

Screenings for depression set Thursday

Special to the Herald

Free, confidential depression screenings are available from West Texas Centers for MHMR and Big Spring State Hospital from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday.

The screenings will be held in the first floor classroom of Scenic Mountain Medical Center, 1601 W. 11th Place.

Participants will be given a short questionnaire and will speak with a health expert upon completing the question and answer sheet.

The yearly offering is an inexpensive and reassuring method for people who are depressed or believe they may be depressed, West Texas Centers for MHMR CEO Shelley Smith, LMSW, said.

Mental health professionals do not diagnose depression

See **DEPRESSED**, Page 3

Crimestoppers refocuses efforts on missing Big Spring individual

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

It's been more than six years since 40-year-old William Arlin Bynum disappeared from downtown Big Spring, but according to local law

enforcement officials, the search for the missing man continues.

Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the Big Spring Police Department, said the search for Bynum has yet to turn up any credible leads as to what happened

to the Big Spring man, but hopes pleas from the man's family and Crimestoppers — not to mention a sizable cash reward — will eventually tip the scales.

See **BYNUM**, Page 3

Courtesy photo/Bill Riggs

Big Spring High School Principal Mike Ritchey puts the finishing touches on chemistry teacher Donnie Green's haircut at the school recently. Green submitted to the haircut after losing a bet with his Advanced Placement students.



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Obituaries

Betty Ann Condray

Betty Ann Condray, 75, of San Angelo died Saturday, Oct. 3, 2009, in a local care center. Visitation for family and friends will be held Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2009, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Johnson's Funeral Home in San Angelo. Memorial services will be held Saturday, Oct. 10, 2009, at 3 p.m. at St. Paul Presbyterian Church in San Angelo.

Betty was born Nov. 2, 1933, in Dallas to Earl Bennett and Ann Wallace (Anderson) Moore. She was a retired registered nurse and a member of St. Paul Presbyterian Church. She was a resident of San Angelo for five years and a former resident of Big Spring.

Betty was married to Charles M. Condray Jan. 21, 1955, in Huntsville.

Survivors include her husband, Charles M. "Chuck" Condray of San Angelo; three sons, Curtis Condray and wife, Danita, of Denton, Ken Condray and wife, Nora, of Lubbock and Carl Condray and wife, Jan, of Big Spring; four grandchildren, Sterling Condray of Midland, Wesley Condray of Canyon, Bobbi Jones of Round Rock and Kay Sea Spiller of Provo, Utah; and one great-granddaughter, Avery Jones of Round Rock.

The family request memorials be sent to your favorite charity.

Betty was a loving wife, mother and grandmother and will be missed by all who knew her.

Paid obituary

Gladine Lane

Gladine Lane, 93, of Big Spring died Sunday, Oct. 4, 2009, in a local hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2009, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Steven King, pastor of Birdwell Lane Baptist Church, officiating.

The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

She was born March 6, 1916, in Hilton and married R.D. Lane Sept. 19, 1932, in Comyn. He preceded her in death Dec. 6, 1986. Mrs. Lane moved to the Big Spring area in 1934, was a homemaker and a member of Birdwell Lane Baptist Church.

Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law, Kenneth and Sue Lane of Big Spring; three daughters and sons-in-law, Gaynell and Jimmie Harper of Clear Lake City, Jan and Kirby Horton of Waco and Judy and Steve Holley of Tyler; a son-in-law, Jimmy Payne of Big Spring; 11 grandchildren; 26 great grandchildren and 13 great great grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, Earl D. and Lillie Nichols; two daughters, Bobbie Disotell and Sandra Payne; two sons, Don Carrol Lane and Danny Royce Lane; two grandsons; a great-grandson; and 10 brothers and sisters.

The family suggests memorials to Birdwell Lane Baptist Church, 1512 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring 79720; or to the American Cancer Society, c/o Carolyn Brooks, P. O. Box 2121, Big Spring 79721-2121.

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

Robert Eugene Stern

Robert Eugene Stern, 72, of Big Spring died Sunday, Oct. 4, 2009, at the VA Hospital due to health complications from diabetes. Memorial services were held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 6, 2009, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home with Chaplain Dean Thomas, with the VA Medical Center, officiating. Interment will be at Fort Custer National Cemetery, Augusta, Mich.

Robert was born Jan. 6, 1937, in Atlanta, Ga., the son of the late Jacob Stern and Ruth Boyd. He came to Big Spring in June 2008 from Michigan. Robert was a Baptist and a veteran of the United States Navy.

He is survived by two daughters, Cynthia R. Williams of Simpsonville, S.C., and Kim Dorsey of Big Spring; four sons, Eric Stern of Easley, S.C., Robert E. Stern Jr. of Elizabeth, N.J., Norman E. Stern and Tracy I. Stern, both of Greenville, S.C.; 13 grandchildren; four great grandchildren; one great great grandchild; three brothers, Michael Boyd, James Boyd and Jimmy Boyd all of New Jersey; one sister, Joan Boyd of California; and a host of other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Anne Dorsey Stern; his parents; a son, Reginald Stern; a daughter, Sharon Stern; a brother, Charles Stern; and a sister, Marie Brokenbough.

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

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 93 inmates at the time of this report.

• JOMAR DEMOND ADAMS, 27, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of possession of marijuana — two ounces or less, resisting arrest, search or transportation and disorderly conduct — vulgar language.

• DOUGLAS BAILEY, 41, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on two counts of weedy lots.

• STEPHANIE ELAINE BAKER, 29, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of assault — family violence.

• EDWIN JAMES DEAN, 44, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of assault Class C — family violence.

• DANE E. DELATOURE, 45, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of assault Class C — family violence.

• JENNIFER DELEON, 21, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of no seat belt and violation of a promise to appear.

• JESUS CASTRUITA DELEON, 65, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

• JOSIE VALDEZ GONZALES, 45, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on contempt charges for permitting an unlicensed person to drive and violation of a promise to appear.

• JUAN ANTHONY GONZALES, 21, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a contempt charge for animal at large.

• DUSTIN GOODMAN, 20, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.

• JOE GUZMAN, 44, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• CINTHIA ANN HANDOVA, 47, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of hindering the apprehension/prosecution of a known felon.

• MARK HERNANDEZ, 24, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of failure to yield.

• JOE HERRERA, 20, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of duty on striking fixture — highway landscape.

• GARY LEON JETTON, 55, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on charges of failure to appear (two counts), open container, driving while license invalid and unsafe lane change.

• DARION KINDER, 22, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of failure to control speed, violation of a promise to appear (two counts) and no driver's license.

• LUIS MOLINA, 48, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of indecency with a child.

• JOHN ERIC NOLTING, 26, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.

• TRINITY OWEN, 30, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of assault — family violence and possession of marijuana — two ounces or less.

• BRETT KELLY PALMER, 30, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction.

• JACK DANIEL PARADEZ, 23, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of assault causing bodily injury — family violence.

• JESSE DUTCHOVER PEREZ, 50, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated — second offense.

• SALVADOR GUTIERREZ PEREZ, 38, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• ALBERTO RIVAS, 50, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• JOSHUA URIAS, 19, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of traffic — defective tail lamps.

• JUAN OLIVAS VALENCIA, 49, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• ANTHONY A VASQUEZ, 34, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of theft by check.

• DAVID JOE VILLAREAL, 22, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of assault — family violence, no driver's license (two counts), failure to yield and violation of a promise to appear (two counts).

• JAMES CLYDE WALTON, 20, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of unlawful possession of a firearm, theft of a firearm and burglary of a vehicle (seven counts).

• WILLIAM OTTO WARNER, 33, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of violation of parole.

• RICKY JAY WHITE, 22, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for robbery.

Sheriff

• JOE GONZALEZ ACOSTA JR., 34, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on charges of issuance of a bad check (two counts).

• REBECCA LYNN COMSTOCK, 25, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.

• JEFFREY CLARK FORSHEE, 50, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• NATHAN GARRARD, 17, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of marijuana — two ounces or less.

• JAMIE LEE NICOLE SANCHEZ, 17, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on contempt charges for violation of school rules (two counts).

• MARTIN CARRILLO SANDOVAL, 37, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a contempt charge for possession of marijuana — two ounces or less.

• KARRI DAWN TINDOL, 37, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• CHARLES LUTHER USSERY, 54, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• DAVID MARTINEZ VALDES, 18, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and no driver's license.

Police blotter

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

• JAMIE SANCHEZ, 17, of 616 State, was arrested Monday on two local warrants.

• REBECCA COMSTOCK, 25, of 1612 Settles, was arrested Monday on a local warrant.

• CHARLES USSERY, 54, of 411 Glena, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

• KARRI TINDOL, 37, of 104 W. 13th St., was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

• JEFF FORSHEE, 50, of 2200 Nolan, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

• THEFT OF SERVICE was reported in the 1700 block of Third Street.

• THEFT was reported: in the 1800 block of Highway 87. in the 1800 block of Gregg Street. in the 1700 block of FM 700.

• BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 1700 block of Laurie.

See Page 3 for Fire/EMS

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Lottery

The winning numbers in Monday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Cash 5" game were: 02-13-26-31-33.

The winning numbers in Monday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Two Step" game were: 03-06-20-33, Bonus: 16.

The winning numbers in Monday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Daily 4 Night" game were: 2-0-3-0.

The winning numbers in Monday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Pick 3 Night" game were: 8-8-5

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Take Note

Howard County and Forsan 4-H Club members will clean the pocket park off Main Street in Big Spring beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday. The effort, planned as a way for 4-H to "give back" to the community that has supported its efforts for more than 100 years, will be led by AgriLife Extension agents and 4-H adult leaders with guidance from Master Gardeners and Keep Big Spring Beautiful.

Big Spring High School Steer Band Boosters will meet at 5:30 p.m. Monday in the high school band hall. The meeting is for all junior high and high school band parents and others supporting the local band programs.

Home Hospice would like to welcome anyone who would like to give a few hours of their time a month volunteering with patients or doing office work. There are many areas you can volunteer in. We train you at your convenience. Please call

Sherry Hodnett, volunteer coordinator, at (432) 264-7599.

Robert Diaz is a lifelong Big Spring citizen and longtime city of Big Spring employee. Robert and Yvonne have four children and are raising four of their grandchildren. Robert has been on dialysis for about two years and is in need of a kidney transplant. Roberts's wife, Yvonne is a match and they have been able to start the process due to the kindness and generosity of friends, family and Big Spring citizens. They are still in need due to all the fees that they will incur from the transplant. Anyone wishing to make a donation can do that at Citizens Credit Union, account 932728. All donations are appreciated.

The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglect children in

court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. CASA currently has 10 active volunteers to serve the 55 plus children of Howard County in foster care. A class is forming in Howard County and 20 volunteers are needed. For more information on becoming a CASA volunteer, please contact Robyn LaForge at (432) 683-1114.

The Permian Basin Foundation has awarded West Texas Opportunities Inc. \$130,000 through the Texas Resources for Iraq Afghanistan Deployment fund. WTO will assist current and former military personnel serving in Iraq or Afghanistan and their families.

Funding will serve Howard, Martin, Andrews, Borden, Dawson, Ector, Fisher, Gaines, Glasscock, Midland, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry and Upton counties. For more information, contact Diana Martinez or Debbie Wilson at 110 Johnson in Big Spring or call (432) 267-9536.

DEPRESSED

Continued from Page 1

but suggest avenues participants can pursue based on their answers to the questionnaire and the ensuing interview, she said.

Depression affects more than 15 million Americans each year, according to the National Mental Health Association.

Clinical depression is treatable through methods, including medications and psychotherapy or a combination of the two. But



Smith

fewer than half seek treatment because they don't recognize the symptoms or because of the stigma of depression, Big Spring State Hospital Superintendent Ed Moughon said.

Educational materials as well as a list of treatment providers will be offered to participants.

The screenings are appropriate for all ages, Smith said. Screenings are available for children and adolescents as well as adults and senior citizens.

Parents may complete corresponding questionnaires for their children.

Advance appointments are not necessary, Smith said.

"We have some people who

come in, who just want to talk to someone and see if they need to seek professional help," Smith said.

"And we have others, who come in who desperately need help and really open up. It is a great community service and we encourage anyone to come in and talk with our specialists."

"This has been a very successful service we have offered to Big Spring and countless people have taken part in it for the past 10 years," Moughon said.

For more information, call Valerie Avery at (432) 816-9257.



Moughon

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of Birdwell Lane. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of Abrams. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. Service refused.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1600 block of Nolan. Service refused.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1600 block of Nolan. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 5200 block of Longshore. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of Hillside Road. One person was transported to SMMC.

GRIPPED

Continued from Page 1

Allen, who previously published a mystery romance novel entitled "The Prey of the Shadow," said she and Garza are hoping to bring the film industry to the doorstep of West Texas.

"Casting and crew calls will be announced," said Allen. "We're very excited about being able to film in Austin and West Texas. For me and Rene, this is a tremendous opportunity to bring something special to West Texas,

and we're very much looking forward to it."

And make no mistake, Allen is no stranger to West Texas or Big Spring, having attended both Big Spring High School and Forsan High before graduating in 1976. She went on to attend Howard County Junior College, and after publishing her novel in 2001, began screenwriting, winning first place with "I'll Always Be With You" in the WriteMovies A/Exposure competition, a true-based story on dealing with Alzheimer's in a family.

Allen said "Gripped" is cur-

rently in the research and development stage, and already sports a tremendous amount of talent.

"Don Tynes, our executive producer, has more than 10 years of experience in television and film production, most recently along with Rene Garza, when they produced National Lampoon's Comedy Night School," said Allen. "The show aired on WKMG-TV, the CBS Orlando, Fla., affiliate for three successive summer sessions on the National Lampoon cable network."

"After graduating from

Midland's Lee High, Rene Garza went on to attend Metropolitan Film School in Orlando, Fla. He then went on to work with Don Tynes on the National Lampoon's Comedy Night School and was the associate producer on 'National Lampoon's RoboDoc.'"

Antonio Saillant of Angel Light Pictures in N.Y. is also onboard as co-producer, and according to Allen, brings with him many years of experience in the film industry.

"He's acted in movies and television series such 'Blood Cauldron,' 'Expendables: Soul Harvest,' 'Angel's Blade'

and many more in the preproduction state," said Allen. "In television he has appeared in several episodes of 'Rescue Me' and 'All My Children.' Taking the seat as producer on films such as 'Pumping UP' and 'Blood Cauldron,' he has continued to broaden his field of expertise."

Allen said Saillant's list of accomplishments is lengthy, including work as a stunt man and stunt coordinator.

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

BYNUM

Continued from Page 1

"Big Spring Crimestoppers is once again asking the community for information concerning the disappearance of Bynum," said Everett. "Crimestoppers is offering a reward of \$1,000 for information leading to the discovery of Bynum's location."



Bynum

Everett said the \$1,000 reward being offered by Crimestoppers is in addition to a \$20,000 reward being offered by Bynum's family members.

"You'd like to think someone would come forward and give us something to go on just so the family can go on with their lives," said Everett. "You want to believe someone will do it because it's the right thing to do. However, that's not always the

case, and \$21,000 is a lot of money, especially in these tough economic times. We're really hoping the reward will jog a memory or two."

Bynum was last seen Aug. 14, 2003, in the vicinity of the San Franciscan Bar and Grill, located in downtown Big Spring. According to police reports, witnesses claim he left the establishment late in the evening, supposedly accompanied by another man who has yet to be identified. Bynum's truck was later found near the bar.

He is described as a white male with short, bleached-blond hair, approximately 165 pounds with blue eyes. He has multiple tattoos and was last seen wearing a white Harley-Davidson tank-top, blue shorts and sandals.

Deanna Hartford, Bynum's mother, said it's been a challenge for her and her family to move forward over the past years without knowing what happened to Arlin.

"We have been com-

pletely devastated by his disappearance six years ago. He was always the life of all family gatherings and he loved and adored his family much more than words can tell," said Hartford. "He was a complete people person and no none was a stranger to him. He would gladly give you the shirt off his back and anything else he had."

"His being gone has left a very large hole in hearts of both family and friends. We always assumed that everyone he met loved him but ev-

idently someone did not as shown by his sudden disappearance."

Anyone with information regarding the disappearance of Bynum is encouraged to call Big Spring Area Crimestoppers at 263-TIPS (8477) or 263-TIPS. No caller-ID is ever used, and callers may remain anonymous if they so choose.

Tipsters can also contact BSPD Det. George Oliver, who is currently in charge of the case, at 264-2555.

"Bynum's family has been through enough,"

said Everett. "Someone out there knows something that could help us solve this case. We hope they will come forward, even anonymously, so we can finish this."

In the meantime, however, Everett said the case will remain open and efforts to locate Bynum will continue.

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

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEW

Creed lays out what we all try to do every day

It is again National Newspaper Week, which since 1940, has been a week-long celebration showcasing the impact of newspapers on the everyday lives of citizens.

In celebrating the role newspapering plays in American society, we are again reminded of "The Journalist's Creed," penned by Walter Williams, dean and founder of the School of Journalism at the University of Missouri from 1908 to 1935. We believe it deserves reprinting on an annual basis.

The Journalist's Creed

I believe in the profession of journalism.

I believe that the public journal is a public trust; that all connected with it are, to the full measure of their responsibility, trustees for the public; that acceptance of a lesser service than the public service is betrayal of this trust.

I believe that clear thinking and clear statement, accuracy, and fairness, are fundamental to good journalism.

I believe that a journalist should write only what he holds in his heart to be true.

I believe that suppression of the news, for any consideration other than the welfare of society, is indefensible.

I believe that no one should write as a journalist what he would not say as a gentleman; that bribery by one's own pocketbook is as much to be avoided as bribery by the pocketbook of another; that individual responsibility may not be escaped by pleading another's instructions or another's dividends.

I believe that advertising, news and editorial columns should alike serve the best interests of readers; that a single standard of helpful truth and cleanness should prevail for all; that the supreme test of good journalism is the measure of its public service.

I believe that the journalism which succeeds best — and best deserves success — fears God and honors man; is stoutly independent, unmoved by pride of opinion or greed of power, constructive, tolerant but never careless, self-controlled, patient, always respectful of its readers but always unafraid, is quickly indignant at injustice; is unswayed by the appeal of privilege or the clamor of the mob; seeks to give every man a chance, and, as far as law and honest wage and recognition of human brotherhood can make it so, an equal chance; is profoundly patriotic while sincerely promoting international good will and cementing world-comradeship; is a journalism of humanity, of and for today's world.

This creed is something we try to live up to on a daily basis at the Herald.

Furthermore, we believe all business should be conducted in such a manner.

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A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we shine like a beacon for You, Lord.
Amen

Deflating missile shield madness

President Obama has scrapped George W. Bush's plan to build a "missile shield" in Poland and the Czech Republic. Here's what I'd like to say about that:

Hooray, three cheers, and Hallelujah.

It was one of the sillier schemes of an administration that was a mosaic of silly schemes, some more lethal than others.

The Bush people claimed it was designed to protect Eastern Europe from nuclear-tipped long-range ballistic missiles launched from Iran. There are a couple of flaws in this analysis.

- Iran doesn't have any long-range ballistic missiles.
- It doesn't have any nuclear bombs either.
- If it did have them, why would it attack Eastern Europe with them?

OK, I'm being disingenuous here. Maybe someday Iran will develop long-range missiles. Maybe it will even get a nuclear bomb or two. And maybe its target will be Israel or even the United States. Would we not then risk being the subject of nuclear blackmail?

The answer is no. Israel has its own missile shield it's very satisfied with, thank you very much. It also (almost certainly) has a nuclear bomb. Any attempt by Iran or anyone else to attack it would be dealt with severely,

as in annihilation. Ditto squared with the U.S.

The great fallacy about a nuclear sneak attack is that it is sneaky. It isn't. It arrives with a return address and the perpetrator has a half-life of about a half-hour.

Iran isn't about to make itself into one big suicide bomber, nor is any other country. If a "rogue state," as the CIA likes to call them, wanted to attack us with a nuclear device, I would think it would try to smuggle the bomb into the country in pieces, assemble it here, and set it off in an abandoned garage in a major city.

That would make it a lot more difficult to trace. Not impossible, however, and I'm sure we'd find a way.

There's another minor flaw in the missile shield: It doesn't work.

There has never been a successful test of the missile shield technology that wasn't fixed, generally by putting a homing device on the target.

It's been 25 years since Ronald Reagan came up with his "Star Wars" idea and we still don't have a way to make it work. The two-stage rocket at the heart of the Polish-Czech systems has never been successfully tested.

Let me repeat this: It doesn't work.

I don't think Israel's works either, actually, but so long as they advertise it as working their enemies will think twice about finding out for sure. That suggests the real utility of these "shields" lies in the gullibility of your enemy.



DONALD KAUL



The joke's lost on journalists

In today's chaotic media environment, humor is particularly effective at grabbing the attention of all types of journalists.

That's why more and more politicians go on late-night comedy shows. They provide a public space where mucky-mucks can deliver a laugh line — while retaining the right to say, "It was just a joke," if the line flops or offends too many people.

So, President Barack Obama goes on The Late Show with David Letterman, and he's asked about former President Jimmy Carter's claim that racism is behind a lot of recent political attacks.

Obama's response: "It's important to realize that I was actually black before the election."

If you do a Google search for that little quote, you'll find that it now appears in thousands of news stories from the top of the media pecking order to the upstart bottom.

This is no surprise — who can blame journalists for jumping all over it? It's a great line.

But when journalists report a laugh line as news, they should also take a moment to inform their audiences about the topic.

A survey of reports of the president's interview with Letterman revealed that most, but not all, journalists passed on the "I was actually black before the election" joke without delving into the issue more deeply.

In this case, what about all the recent political attacks on our president? Who's behind them and why?

President Obama has tried hard to give us his serious explanation for the attacks. Even if they've covered this before, journalists should have revisited it as part of their coverage of Obama's Letterman appearance.

As the president said in his speech to a joint session of Congress the day before he joked with Letterman, insurance companies are central players in the campaign against health insurance reform. And why are they on the warpath?

As Obama pointed out in his speech, insurance executives don't mistreat their customers (dropping sick people, overcharging small businesses, etc.) because they are bad people. They are rewarded for doing this by making more money and

I don't know, that seems like relying on your imaginary playmate for help in a fight.

The Russians seem pleased that we dropped the missile shield. They're convinced that its real purpose was to increase our first-strike capability against them. (They're as crazy as we are.)

This, of course, has convinced the Republicans that Obama has done a terrible thing and put the country at risk. The move "does little more than empower Russia and Iran at the expense of our allies in Europe," according to House Minority Leader John Boehner.

Possibly to allay such fears, Obama is replacing the shield with one that features smaller missiles, designed to shoot down rockets that Iran actually possesses but won't be able to threaten Russia with — Star Wars Lite.

Which is a decent compromise I suppose, except for one thing.

It won't work either.

So, to review the bidding, we have done away with a system that won't work to protect an ally that's not in danger from a threat that doesn't exist, and replaced it with another system that does pretty much the same thing, but less threateningly.

And that, ladies and gentlemen, is what passes for progress in the sorry world we live in.

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



JASON SALZMAN

pleasing Wall Street.

That's the bottom line.

Now a journalist might argue that it's not his job to translate a presidential joke into a serious statement.

Sorry, but journalists do have this responsibility. In the future, the rush and incentives to disseminate jokes and infotainment about politics are only going to grow from high to higher.

So there's no way journalists can any longer avoid being infotainers themselves. But they should also keep their eyes on the prize of informing their audiences.

This means trying to add depth and substance when jokes and silliness hit the news cycle.

Otherwise, you can bet political discourse in America will descend quickly and sharply into shallow giggles and trivial mayhem, which form the basis of infotainment. Political sophistication will plunge — and bring serious journalism down with it.

The consequences of this for America are dire, and that's no joke.

Jason Salzman is the author of Making the News: A Guide for Nonprofits and Activists and board chair of Rocky Mountain Media Watch, a Denver-based media watchdog organization.

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- 1938: CRYSTAL NIGHT HAPPENED IN NAZI GERMANY, WHERE NAZIS LOOTED AND BURNED STORES OWNED BY JEWS.
- 1965: A SWITCH AT NIAGRA FALLS MALFUNCTIONED, CAUSING PARTS OF NEW YORK AND CANADA TO LOSE ELECTRICITY FOR 13 HOURS.
- 1989: THE BERLIN WALL STARTED TO FALL.



IN ONE YEAR, HOW MANY KITTENS CAN RESULT FROM ONE FEMALE CAT AND HER OFFSPRING?

ANSWER: 420,000



SHELTER

an animal sanctuary

Taking the plunge: Swim team demands time and sacrifice

By HANNAH WEBER

Big Spring High School swimmer Brady Weber likes to swim, so why isn't everyone on the swim team? Perhaps Kelly Sage's MySpace entry provides the answer.

"Swimmers don't swim because it's fun. We live for 3 hour practices, team parties, long bus rides, invitationals, countless swim caps, jokes, friendships, laughs, the coaches you hate but appreciate later, and the sport itself," said Sage, a member of the Big Spring High School Swim Team.

"We live for the way you become a family with your team. We live for the countless songs you sing in your head when you're swimming all those laps.

"We live for the people who scream at you while you're swimming even though all you hear is 'blah, blah, blah.' We live for the competition, we live for the friends, we live for the practice and we live for the pain. We live for the team; it's a part of us because we are swimmers."

Sage has been on the BSHS varsity swim team for four years and is one of the team captains this year.

As team captain she wants the team to click with one another. "The

swim team has always had such a strong bond in the past and I hope we can be as close as we have been in previous years," Sage said.

Sage says she joined the swim team "because it keeps me in shape and gives me something fun to do on the weekends," but in actuality, she has higher goals this year, such as setting a school record in her events and advancing to the state swimming competition held in Austin.

There are several new swimmers on the team this year and many are shocked about how difficult and strenuous the workouts are.

Right now, the team is working on technique. After technique is mastered, the team will start endurance workouts ranging from 3,000 yards to 6,000 yards.

"Technique is definitely something we need to work on. Not just the newcomers to swimming need it," Sage said.

This year the team hopes to push through obstacles and challenges and have the swimmers advance to regionals and then hopefully state.

Weber is a senior at Big Spring High School. She writes a weekly column for the Herald.



In the photo at left, freshman Brady Weber participates in the 100 meter breastroke event; below, Big Spring High School swimmers take their starting blocks at a recent meet.

Photos by Hannah Weber



Bird Poop:

Barn owl gets rescued from a deer blind

As often as he could, the man had hunted dove on his family's ranch. Walking the hills and grasslands was a fall ritual. In the waning days of September, he decided on the farthest section from headquarters. Not only were the birds abundant in the isolated pastures, but he could also check the deer blind in anticipation of the hunt to come.

Propping his shotgun against the remains of an ancient mesquite, the man stepped on the first rung of the metal ladder leading up to the enclosure. Having taken several more steps, he was startled as his cap was knocked from his head. With his hair disheveled by the edge of a broad wing, he realized he had encountered an owl coming out of the blind.

After swearing and thinking he had closed

the structure, the man detected a distinct aroma before looking inside. Even the cool, gentle breeze couldn't mask the retching odor that emanated from within.

Concerned that more owls might be in the blind, he slowly inched his way toward the opening. Barely peeking around the metal edging, he confirmed what he dreaded. Standing on the floor covering he had applied last season was a younger version of what he had just encountered.

As the immature owl noticed the man, it struggled to escape. It was then that the hunter realized the raptor's foot was tangled in the carpet. With no means to free itself from the fibers, the owl was trapped.

Climbing back down the ladder, the man started the long walk to the ranch house. Rather than try to free the bird without any help, or a mask, was not even considered. Since he could drive to the area from a different direction, the man hurried to get what he thought he'd need.

The look on his face



Courtesy photo

Hunting in open country, the nocturnal barn owl uses its extraordinary hearing to find small mammals. Its nearly four-foot wingspan carries its light body effortlessly through the sky.

as he entered the door implied to his wife there had to be another critter needing help. His volunteering her for numerous rescues on the ranch was always expected. "A young barn owl," he yelled as he grabbed an old blanket. "Better take a dog carrier," she replied. "Why?" he asked. "You never know," was her simple answer.

Even with their masks, the couple, once inside the blind, winced at the combined stench of half-eat-

erodents, cast pellets of indigestible matter and waste. Quickly they tried to place the shroud over the panicked bird.

Using the only defense it knew, the owl screamed, lowered its head, inverted its wings so as to appear larger, and swayed back and forth. Then righting its wings, it sat back and struck with the foot that was free. Twisting around to strike in as many directions as possible, the owl was in danger of damaging its imprisoned foot.

Again, the couple

tried and failed. "You get its attention and I'll try from behind," said the man as his wife let the bird repeatedly strike her gloved hand. Finally, from the rear the man pressed his gloves against the owl's wings and held it upright until his wife could cover the raptor with the blanket. Then they looked at the entangled foot.

Durable man-made fibers were wrapped around the badly swollen, middle toe. Imbedded in the flesh, the threads had held the bird against the floor.

To free the owl, the man cut a chunk out of the carpet. Before leaving the blind, the couple noticed the fresh, partially eaten rat lying nearby.

Having alerted us to an incoming barn owl from the Garden City area, the couple was concerned about its foot, especially its toe. As they held the bird of prey, Art carefully unwound the threads that had held the bird captive. After telling them antibiotics and anti-inflammatory medications would

See **OWL**, Page 7

In This Season Of Hope

24th Annual **HERALD**

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

2009 Christmas Parade Entry Form

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

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Parents' Corner:

It's a must for our children to know value of education

Have you ever asked a child why they go to school? I was visiting a campus the other day and asked that very question to a couple of kiddos. Their reply was, "I don't know or Mama makes me!"

Many students have no idea why they are in school. School is simply a place that they have to go and most of them do not understand the reason why. This is also true for younger and older students.

For a student's education to be successful, he needs to know why he is in school.

Where will he get this information? The government can't seem to furnish the needed information because of politics and the kids have no way of knowing if the intentions are noble, or there is some ulterior motive for what is being said.

Parents are often unable to properly guide them, and even if a parent encourages their child to do their homework, it still does not serve to show the child the bigger picture of getting a diploma, possibly going to college, getting a job and then working his/her way up the career ladder.

Many kids will not listen to any guidance or motivation that their teachers may provide. Even if a

teacher wants to try to take the time to motivate his or her students and explain the importance of education, usually it is of no avail.

With the passage of the NCLB Education Act, most every single minute of every single lesson has been mapped out for the teachers. What, then, is the solution to the problem? How can kids come to realize that if they don't get an education in our current generation, they will probably have a very unpleasant and unsuccessful life?

It must come from sources that they will believe. Parents and teachers can do their part but it must also come from other trusted sources. The pastors and youth leaders of houses of worship need to do their part in convincing kids of the importance of education.

Famous individuals who are admired by students need to work in this regard as well. Examples might be actors, athletes, musicians and so on. Community centers, Scouting programs, YMCAs and such also need to reach out to kids.

A student accomplishes very little when he doesn't know why he is doing the school work that is required. No learning can take place under these conditions. A kid must understand the value of his efforts. To really understand the value of an education, ask someone who didn't

See **RYAN**, Page 7



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OWL

Continued from Page 6

reduce the possibility of infection and swelling, we wanted to learn more about the owl family.

Through the couple's observations, we surmised that at least two broods had been raised in the structure. Since eggs are laid in intervals of three to

four days, the young would hatch in similar instants and vary in size and maturity. As young owls were ready to leave the blind, their parents would continue to feed them as well as care for the siblings still inside the structure.

At seven and a half weeks, this barn owl, with its long, heart-shaped face, would have been attired in adult plumage. Within

another week it would have been ready to leave the nest. Having a lighter tawny and gray upper coloration, mottled with black and white, and being white below, the fortunate raptor resembled its male parent. Its mother's darker golden hues would have also decorated her breast, with tinges spreading over her belly.

Telling us the carpet would have to be

removed, the man said he was going to try to find a covering that wouldn't snag the foot of any bird.

How long the mother owl would have continued to feed the trapped offspring was unknown. But judging from its appearance, it had been in the blind for some time.

Two days later the barn owl was delivered to South Plains in Lubbock.

Whether the bird would lose the toe was considered. Its flight ability was questionable, since it had been tethered to the deer blind.

Another few days brought a report of the owl's good fortune in keeping its toe and finding and killing its prey.

Having mastered the highest roost in a mew, the raptor was transferred to the long flight cage.

In early October, the barn owl was taken to a release site. In flight with its long, broad wings, it left silently toward a new life.

The persistence of its parent, and the efforts of those who found and treated it, assured that this noble being was not left behind.

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

RYAN

Continued from Page 6

have the opportunity to get a good education.

This leads me to something I once read about understanding values: To under-

stand the value of a sister or brother, ask someone who doesn't have one.

To understand the value of one second, ask a person who has survived an accident.

To understand the value of one minute, ask a person who has missed the train, bus or plane.

To understand the value of a day, ask about the day you were born.

To understand the value of one month, ask a mother who has given birth to a premature baby.

To understand the value of nine months, ask a mother who gave birth to a stillborn.

To understand the value of one year, ask a student who has failed a final exam.

To understand the value of four years, ask a graduate.

To understand the value of a friend or family member, lose one.

And so it is with anything of value, we must open our

minds to understand the things around us and to hold on tight to the things that are important!

Darrell Ryan is director of federal programs for the Big Spring Independent School District.

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Steers crack AP's Top 10 poll

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

Apparently, all the Big Spring Steers had to do to break into the state's Top 10 football poll was not play for a week.

Coming off a bye week and now heading into their District 4-4A opener against the Frenship Tigers, the Steers have finally cracked the Associated Press' Class 4A Top 10 Football Poll, debuting at No. 9 with 38 points.

Last week, the Steers had 25 points

after having 23 the week before. The Steers were tops in points for teams not in the Top 10 during that time frame.

Big Spring (5-0) benefitted from losses by two teams — Sulphur Springs and Hewitt Midway — in last week's rankings. Sulphur Springs fell completely out of the poll after being smothered by Longview — then ranked No. 6, now seeded third — 45-0. It was Sulphur Springs' second loss of the season.

Hewitt Midway dropped from No. 3 to No. 10 after falling to Corsicana

40-31.

A total of 25 schools received votes in this week's poll, which is five more than any other classification. Three of those schools receiving points hail from District 4-4A.

For the first time this season, Hereford received a single vote. Frenship also scored 1 point. The Tigers have been ranked as high as No. 9 this season, but fell out of the poll after losing to Class 3A's No. 4-ranked squad, Abilene Wylie.

See **STEERS**, Page 13

Class 4A AP Top 10 Poll			
School	Rec	Pts	Prv
1. Lake Travis (23)	6-0	248	1
2. Denton Guyer (2)	5-0	222	2
3. Longview	5-1	182	6
4. Waxahachie	5-0	181	5
5. Angleton	5-0	146	7
6. Denton Ryan	5-0	124	8
7. Dallas Highland Park	4-1	81	9
8. Schertz Steele	4-1	62	10
9. Big Spring	5-0	38	
10. Hewitt Midway	4-1	17	3
Others receiving votes: 11. Sulphur Springs 15. 12. Port Neches-Grove 14. 13. Corpus Christi Calallen 12. 14. Brenham 8. 15. Aledo 4. 16. North Richland Hills 4. 17. Lake Dallas 4. 18. Corsicana 3. 19. Dayton 2. 19. Denison 2. 19. Pearlland Dawson 2. 22. Hereford 1. 22. Wolfforth Frenship 1. 22. Texarkana 1. 22. Beaumont Central 1.			

Masters of mediocrity

Cowboys beat the bad, suffer losses to the good

JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — A month into this season, the Dallas Cowboys have mastered mediocrity.

They're 2-0 against teams that haven't won, 0-2 against teams that haven't lost.

They're 2-0 when Tony Romo holds onto the ball, 0-2 when he turns the ball over.

They've won once by throwing and once by running. Their defense keeps getting better, but isn't good enough to carry them, especially not with DeMarcus Ware still seeking his first sack.

Looking for one thing they've done really well all four games?

"I still think our special teams are playing solid for us," coach Wade Phillips said Monday.

Being stuck in the middle is nothing new for Dallas. Since starting 11-1 in Phillips' first season replacing Bill Parcells, the Cowboys are 12-12, or 12-13 if you count a playoff loss.

After failing to make the playoffs last season, things were supposed to be different this time. With three-fourths of the season to go, that could still happen, but something's going to have to change.

"We are good enough to win, but we are not good enough (to win) making too many mistakes," Phillips said.

Phillips noted that Dallas beat Tampa Bay and Carolina by at least 10 points and went down to the wire in losses to New York and Denver. That's either encouraging or agonizing, depending on your perspective.

See **COWBOYS**, Page 13



AP photo/Jack Dempsey

Denver Broncos running back Knowshon Moreno (27) dives into the end zone over the top of Dallas Cowboys cornerback Terence Newman (41) for a touchdown during the second quarter of an NFL game Sunday, in Denver.

Favre shines in Vikes win over Packers

DAVE CAMPBELL

AP Sports Writer

MINNEAPOLIS — Brett Favre was clearly uncomfortable this week with all the attention on this reunion, trying to downplay the significance of playing the Green Bay Packers and stumbling through denials that his main motivation to unretire last year was revenge.

In the hours before kickoff, though, the game's magnitude dawned on him and spawned nerves he hadn't felt in a long time.

On Monday night, Favre became the first quarterback in history to beat all 32 NFL teams — and the last one sure meant a lot.

Favre's first game against his former team was all fun for the Minnesota Vikings and all frustration for the Packers, as the graying quarterback kept his cool and connected for three touchdown passes and 271 yards in a 30-23 victory.

"I don't know how to explain it. I felt like, but I guess I never thought I'd be in that situation," Favre said.

Favre went 24 for 31, without a turnover.

"Didn't expect him to do that," Packers cornerback Charles Woodson said. "I thought we would play better, but obviously we didn't. And, you know, give him a lot of credit. Played a great game, and apparently he got his wish tonight and stuck it to us pretty good."

Favre celebrated his first scoring toss with an awkward body bump with kicker Ryan Longwell, also a former Packers teammate, and knocked down Chester Taylor on the next one — showing plenty of emotion on this most emotional night. He stayed poised in the pocket all night, too, and avoided the risky throws that have defined his career almost as much as the success.

"It's why I play the game. It was fun. It never gets old to

See **FAVRE**, Page 13

Young Rangers provide future promise for new owner

STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

ARLINGTON — Whoever buys the Texas Rangers will get a team filled with promise.

There are Derek Holland and Tommy Hunter, rookie pitchers who became mainstays in the rotation. And Neftali Feliz, the 21-year-old with a 100-mph fastball.

Shortstop Elvis Andrus, the youngest

position player in the majors, could be a top contender for American League rookie of the year. Julio Borbon hit .312 with 19 stolen bases in 46 games while showing his potential as a lead-off hitter.

Plus, Texas expects Michael Young and slugger Josh Hamilton back in the lineup next spring.

While the Rangers got an exciting glance at their future, and the youngsters got some valuable experience in

late-season games that mattered, they suffered in September without their two injured All-Stars.

"We don't use that as an excuse but," manager Ron Washington said, putting a bit of emphasis on that last word. "If we were at full strength, maybe it might be different. ... I certainly would have liked my chances better if we were full strength with Mike and Ham

See **RANGERS**, Page 14

Sports in brief

Sands cross country results from Saturday at Sundown

The Sands Mustangs and Lady Mustangs cross country teams competed in Sundown's Oil Patch Invitational Saturday. Sands' junior varsity girls squad finished third as a team.

Here are individual results:

Junior high girls: 42. Stefanie Diaz 16:28; 132. Elizabeth Martinez 18:35; 146. Marisol Munoz 18:52.

Junior high boys: 57. Will McMorris 15:30; 88. Sergio Plata 16:50; 101. Austin Blount 17:38.

JV girls: 15. Meagan Yarbrough 16:23; 20. Jennifer Gomez 16:58; 21. Angelica Diaz 17:07; 23. Alex Robles 17:07; 41. Callie McMorris 18:16.

JV boys: 33. Reuben McMorris 24:43; 37. Jordan Cuellar 25:58.

Varsity girls: 27. Morgan Yarbrough 14:57.

Associated Press' Top 10 football polls Class 1A-5A

Class 5A	Rec	Pts	Prv
School			
1. Cedar Hill (23)	5-0	246	1

2. Dallas Skyline (1)	5-0	200	2
3. The Woodlands	5-0	175	3
4. Fort Bend Hightower	5-0	155	4
5. Round Rock Stony Point (1)	5-0	126	7
6. Galena Park North Shore	4-1	124	5
7. Allen	4-1	115	6
8. Katy	4-1	80	8
9. Abilene	5-0	70	9
10. Southlake Carroll	4-1	37	10
Others receiving votes: 11. Tyler John Tyler 19. 12. DeSoto 10. 13. Copperas Cove 6. 14. Round Rock 4. 15. San Antonio Clark 3. 15. Mesquite Horn 3. 17. Lufkin 1. 17. Eules Trinity 1.			

Class 3A	Rec	Pts	Prv
School			
1. Gilmer (25)	5-0	250	1
2. Calharge	5-0	200	2
3. Giddings	5-0	186	3
4. Abilene Wylie	4-0	172	4
5. Navasota	5-0	148	5
6. Cuero	5-0	129	6
7. Prosper	5-0	100	7
8. Monahans	5-0	71	8
9. Graham	5-0	50	9
10. West Orange-Stark	4-1	30	10
Others receiving votes: 11. Bellville 11. 12. China Spring 9. 13. Rockdale 7. 14. Argyle 5. 15. Sealy 4. 16. Kennedale 2. 17. La Grange 1.			

Class 2A	Rec	Pts	Prv
School			
1. Arp (21)	5-0	243	1
2. Bushland (3)	5-0	223	2
3. Daingerfield (1)	4-1	182	3
4. Muleshoe	5-0	167	4
5. Newton	5-0	138	6
6. Refugio	5-0	135	5
7. Pilot Point	5-0	112	7
8. Cisco	5-0	81	8
9. Altair Rice	5-1	38	9
10. Kirbyville	3-2	17	10
Others receiving votes: 11. Godley 13. 12. Aubrey 5. 12. Grandview 5. 14. Clyde 4. 15. Henrietta 3. 15. Blythe 3. 17. Crane 2. 17. Littlefield 2. 19. Brady 1. 19. Pattonville Prariland 1.			

Class A	Rec	Pts	Prv
School			
1. Albany (17)	5-0	207	1
2. Quinlan Boles (2)	4-0	184	2
3. Wellington (1)	4-0	178	3
4. Goldthwaite (1)	6-0	153	4
5. Seymour	5-0	130	5
6. New Deal	5-0	115	6
7. Cayuga	4-1	80	7
8. Stratford (1)	4-1	70	8
9. Alto (1)	5-1	57	9
10. Canadian	4-1	32	10
Others receiving votes: 11. Falls City 25. 12. Lovelady 13. 13. Sunray 10. 14. Itasca 7. 15. Evadale 4.			

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

NEED IMMEDIATELY Retirees for Security Guard. Must be able to pass background and drug test. 25-40 hrs. per week. Call 432-816-4421 between 10am-5pm.

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1308 BAYLOR: 3bdrm. 1bath, ch/a, 2 living areas. No pets, no smoking, no Hud. \$750.00 month plus \$400.00 deposit, for more info call #432-270-3849.

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The Big Spring Independent School District shall receive sealed bid proposals for the following areas:

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Maintenance, Transportation, & Food Service Departments

These bids will form a multi-vendor list for the maintenance, transportation, and the food service departments for securing supplies, equipment, outside labor, outside skilled trades and contracted services. Specifications and bid documents may be secured from the school district's Business Office, 708 East 11th Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720-4648, phone number (432)264-3620. The school district will begin opening bids on October 15, 2009, in the Business Office of the Big Spring Independent School District. The Business Office will continue to receive and open bids through 4:00 pm, November 5, 2009. All bids must be received by 4:00 pm, November 5, 2009. Bids will be presented for consideration to the Board of Trustees on November 12, 2009, at 5:15 p.m. at their regularly scheduled board meeting. Evaluation of all purchases from this multi-vendor bid shall take into account the following considerations before a purchase order will be issued: purchase price, reputation of the vendor and the vendor's goods and services, quality of the vendor's goods or services, extent to which the goods or services meet the DISTRICT's needs, vendor's past relationship with the DISTRICT, impact on the ability of the DISTRICT to comply with laws relating to historically underutilized business, total long-term cost to the DISTRICT to acquire the goods and services, any other relevant factor specially listed in the request for bid or quote documents. The Big Spring Independent School District reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. #6296 October 6 & 13, 2009

Legals

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TXDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE/ BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Abilene
Contract 0005-06-112 for INSTALL CABLE BARRIER in HOWARD County, etc will be opened on October 20, 2009 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
NPO: 30671

State Office

Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540
Dist/Div Office(s)

Abilene District
District Engineer
4250 N. Clack

Abilene, Texas 79604-0150
Phone 325-676-6800

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

#6273 September 29 & October 6, 2009

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The Taurus moon is a hungry one. Whatever we want, we want it more under this moon.

Our appetites may be for love, success or ice cream. However they manifest, our souls will rumble and growl until they are fed. Out of this increased appetite, a new resourcefulness takes hold. As the need intensifies, so will our ability to fulfill it.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You never understood the disclaimer that there are "dog people" and "cat people." You love all animals! Sometimes there's no better listener than a furry one with pointy ears. Treat your

favorite pet to a little something extra today.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). That sense of wonder you had when you were a kid returns. That this quality has never completely left you is one of the great gifts of your life. It also makes you very attractive to potential loves.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Lately, you prefer things to be laid out and predictable, but it's just not working out that way right now. These disruptive forces will pass, but in the meantime, you'll be an amazing improviser. Someone admires your quick wit.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You know you are loved, but it's another thing entirely to feel loved. A demonstration of affection will renew a special bond. You'll feel especially close to fellow water signs, Scorpio and

Pisces.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Why do you insist on searching for a ladder when there's low-hanging fruit all around you? In love and friendships particularly, there are some delicious treats you're missing. Look again.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your uncanny ability to see directly into the heart has made you the go-to source for advice on relationships. A friend is about to reveal a sticky and sensitive situation. Your perspective is more valuable than you think.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). A small run-in with an authority figure could leave you soul searching: Was this a chance event that you can brush off or a signal from the cosmos that you need to adjust your strategy? Only you know.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You will feel highly motivated, and you can't help but bring a great deal of energy and a sense of drama to your surroundings. You'll be singled out for a leadership position, or you'll decide that everyone should follow you, so they will.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're pleasant enough, though you're not apt to give very much of your time to anyone you don't know. If they want to get your attention, they'll have to prove themselves.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). In the early day, you'll be focused on your work and won't be in a mood to socialize or share. After your work is completed, you'll once again feel like being with people, especially if there's an Aquarius among them.

AQUARIUS (Jan.

20-Feb. 18). You might wish your conversation was more on point, or you might see flaws in the way you present yourself -- you're the only one who does. You'll gain fans, largely due to your stellar sense of humor and winning attitude.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Titles mean little to you. You're not likely to chase after a relationship just because the person has a certain credential. Your decision to prize personality and character over position and pedigree is a wise one.

T O D A Y ' S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 6). You have a bold new attitude. You are no longer willing to hide your light so another person can shine. You realize that the world is a better place when you are fully yourself. You'll make a big investment in

November and by January decide it was so worthwhile that you might double it in March. Pisces and Aries people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 12, 52, 9, 15 and 30.

C E L E B R I T Y PROFILES: Socialite, celebante and fashion designer Nicky Hilton was born under the sign of fortuitous partnerships, Libra. Her place in the public eye may be a source of inner conflict for her. Her natal Venus is in attention-loving Leo, although her moon, Mars and Mercury are in shy Virgo. These aspects suggest that she'll strive to be known not only for her family name, but also for her work.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail.

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HOLIDAY MATHIS

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: My husband and I have been together for more than 20 years. This is my second marriage. "Tony" has been a wonderful stepfather to my sons. All three are grown and doing well. Two are very happily married.

When the boys were young adults, my husband and I would always pick up the bill if we went out anywhere.

Even after they started their own careers, we continued to pay for things because we knew money was tight for them. The problem is, even though they all are doing well now, the pattern continues.

I was laid off earlier this year, and it's no longer so simple to treat them.

All three boys know I lost my job, yet we recently went out to eat and not one of them offered to split the tab. How do I deal with

this? I don't want to appear stingy, and I suspect this is not a conscious thing on their part.

They live out of state and I don't see them often, so I'd like to avoid hard feelings. Any suggestions? — *Not So Rich Mom*

Dear Not So Rich: You can do this two ways. You can stop taking them to places where they will expect you to treat them, or you can be honest and explain that you can no longer afford the luxury of playing Mommy Warbucks.

We recommend the latter, but don't hit them over the head with it. "We'd love to take you for dinner, but since I lost my job, our budget just won't allow it."

This gives them the opportunity to offer to pay. If it doesn't occur to them to do so, at least

they will understand why they are eating in.

Dear Annie: I am expecting a baby in two months and was recently given a baby shower.

My sister-in-law and extended in-laws all went in together to purchase a bedding set for the crib.

I purposely didn't register for this particular gift because I knew it would not fit the crib we have selected.

I called my sister-in-law and explained the situation, thanked her for the gesture and asked if she would mind if I exchanged the bed-



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

ding for a set that fit.

She became extremely upset and said I was disrespectful and thoughtless. She even went so far as to say she is cutting me out of her life.

Did I do something wrong? Can you help fix this? — *Baby Shower Disaster*

Dear Disaster: You are not at fault. Gifts can be returned or exchanged by the recipient for any reason whatsoever.

Your only mistake was informing your oversensitive sister-in-law. In order to make it right, send each participant an individual

thank-you note, gushing about how beautiful the bedding set was and apologizing for exchanging it for a different size, saying you wanted to show it off in the best light.

Make sure you express your sincere appreciation for their thoughtfulness and generosity. Time — and a new baby — will help this pass.

Dear Annie: I am responding to "Unhappy Mom," who objected to her 19-year-old daughter's long-distance relationship with a young Mormon man.

I met my husband shortly after joining the LDS (Mormon) Church. We only dated a few weeks before I moved back home after college graduation.

He and I continued to date via letters and long-distance calls. When we visited, we would each stay at a church mem-

ber's home. This was a true courtship, and I had no doubts when I said "yes" to his sweet proposal.

I don't understand this mother's complaint about her daughter having a wholesome relationship. Why is she rushing her daughter into a permanent relationship so young? — *Tallahassee LDS Mom*

Dear Tallahassee: A long-distance relationship can allow the couple to build a closer friendship, which is a good thing.

But we also understand a mother worrying that her daughter is committed to a boy she has not seen in a year. Still, at 19, the choice is hers.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, long-time editors of the Ann Landers column.

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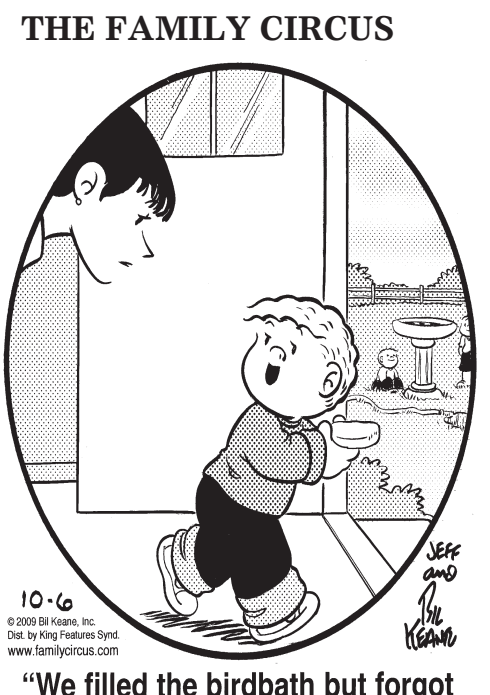
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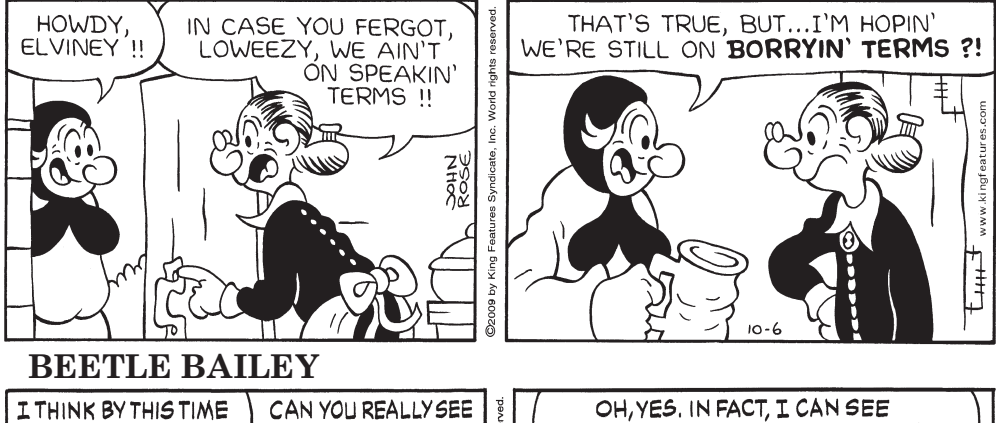
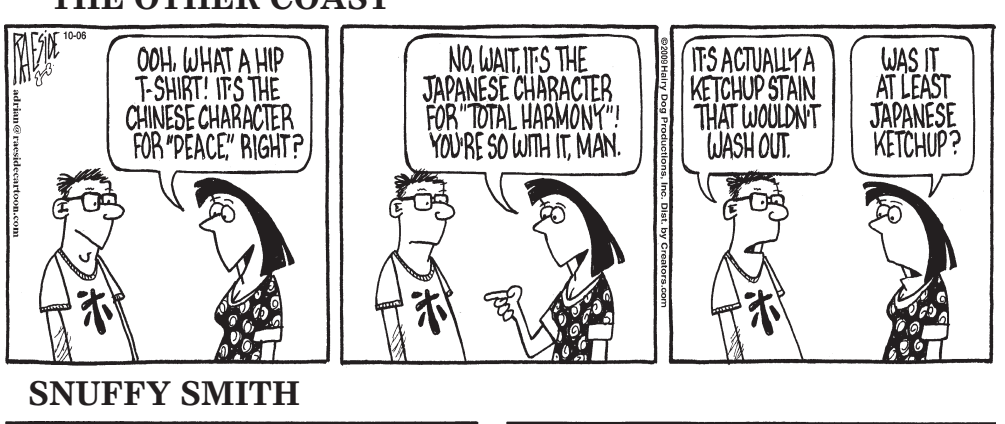
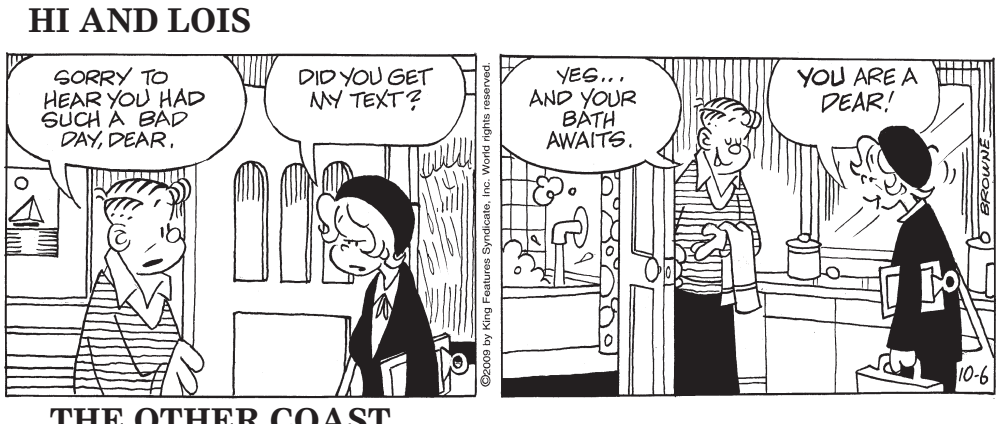
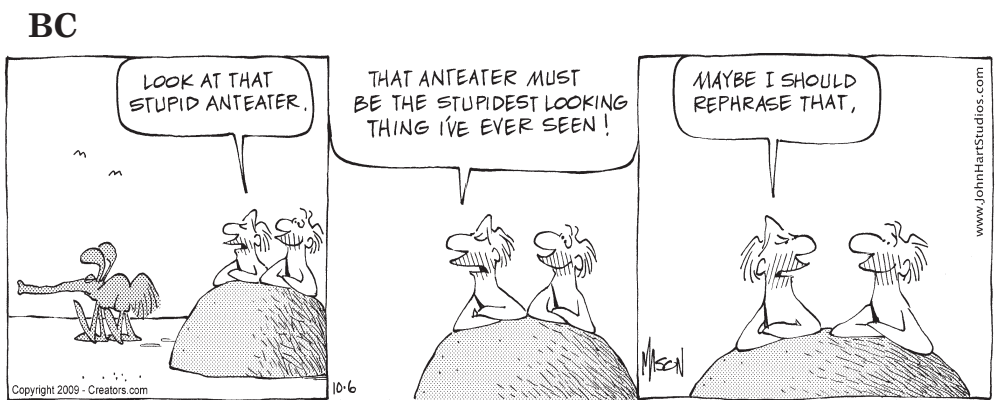
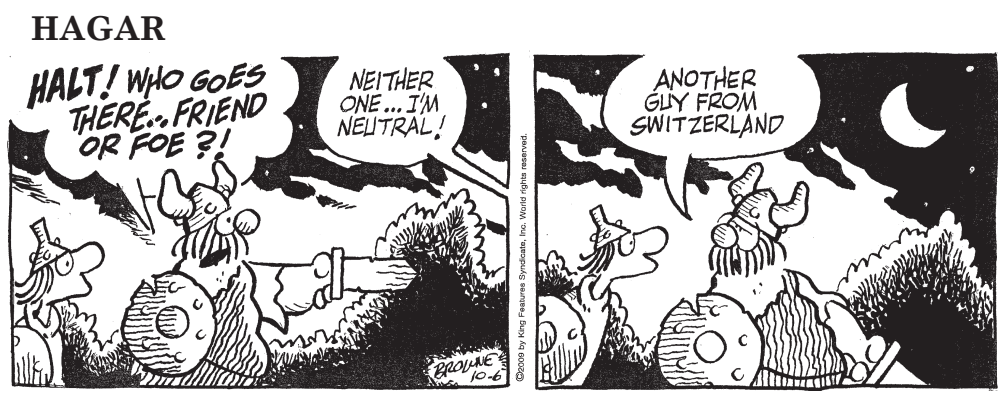
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5:PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Locura	Lopez	News CBS	Noticias	News NBC	Seinfeld Office	Scrivner Uri Harel	BBC Business	Dirty Jobs	Movie: K-911, James Handy	CSI: Crime Scn	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas Suite Life	Horn Interrupt	SportsCenter
6:PM :30	News ABC	Jeopardy!	Gancho	Two Men	News CBS	12 Cora-zones	News NBC	Name Harris	Dr. Young	News-Lehrer	Dirty Jobs	Movie: The Astronaut Farmer, Bruce Dern	CSI: Crime Scn	Bones	Movie: Diary of a Mad Black Woman, Shemar Moore	Montana Wizards	Football NFL Live	E:60
7:PM :30	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Nombre-Amor	Heil's Kitchen	Entertain	Más Sabe el Diabolo	The Biggest Loser	Office Upd	Office Victory	Nova (DVS)	Dirty Jobs	Office Upd	UFC Un-leashed	Bones	Movie: Hallow-eentown II: Kalabar's Revenge	College Football: Middle Tennessee State at Troy	World Series	
8:PM :30	Dancing-Stars	Dancing-Stars	Sortilegio	You Can Dance	NCIS: Los Angeles	Pobres	The Jay Leno Show	Office Upd	Office Light of the Southwest	The Buffalo Flows	Ghost Lab	Movie: Analyze This, Lisa Kudrow	Surviving Disaster	Saving Grace	W. Williams	Wizards So Raven	30 for 30	SportsCenter
9:PM :30	the forgotten	the forgotten	Cristina	Simpsons Friends	The Good Wife	Victorinos	Office Upd	Office Upd	Office Charlie Rose	Charlie Rose	Dirty Jobs	Movie: Analyze This, Lisa Kudrow	Surviving Disaster	Saving Grace	W. Williams	Wizards So Raven	30 for 30	SportsCenter
10:PM :30	News Nightline	News Nightline	Impacto	Raymond	News TMZ	Noticias	News Office	Office Upd	Office Cortes	Charlie Rose	Dirty Jobs	Movie: Analyze This, Lisa Kudrow	Surviving Disaster	Saving Grace	W. Williams	Wizards So Raven	30 for 30	SportsCenter
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 & The City	Movie: In the Army Now, Lori Petty	Upd Church	Light of the Southwest	Movie: Analyze This, Lisa Kudrow	Surviving Disaster	Saving Grace	W. Williams	Wizards So Raven	30 for 30	SportsCenter
12:AM :30	News Paid Prog	News Paid Prog	Torrente, un Torbel	Paid Prog King-Hill	Insider	Programa	News	Church	Light of the Southwest	Upd Church	Light of the Southwest	Movie: Analyze This, Lisa Kudrow	Surviving Disaster	Saving Grace	W. Williams	Wizards So Raven	30 for 30	SportsCenter
1:AM :30	Profits Paid Prog	Profits Paid Prog	Mujer Hospital	RENO 911	Entertain	Pagado	Poker After Dark	Church	Light of the Southwest	Upd Church	Light of the Southwest	Movie: Analyze This, Lisa Kudrow	Surviving Disaster	Saving Grace	W. Williams	Wizards So Raven	30 for 30	SportsCenter



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"We filled the birdbath but forgot the soap."



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Oct. 6, the 279th day of 2009. There are 86 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On Oct. 6, 1939, during World War II, as remaining military resistance in Poland crumbled, Adolf Hitler delivered a speech to the Reichstag in which he blamed the Poles for the Nazi-Soviet invasion of their country and denied having any intention of war against France and Britain.

On this date:
In 1683, 13 families from Krefeld, Germany, arrived in Philadelphia to begin Germantown, one of America's oldest settlements.
In 1884, the Naval War College was established in Newport, R.I.
In 1927, the era of talking pictures arrived with the opening of "The Jazz Singer," starring Al Jolson.
In 1949, President Harry S. Truman signed the Mutual Defense Assistance Act, providing \$1.3 billion in military aid to NATO countries. U.S.-born Iva Toguri D'Aquino, convicted of treason for being Japanese wartime broadcaster "Tokyo Rose," was sentenced in San Francisco to 10 years in prison. (She ended up serving more than six.) In 1969, the New York Mets won the first-ever National League Championship Series, defeating the Atlanta Braves, 7-4, in Game 3; the Baltimore Orioles won the first-ever American League Championship Series, defeating the Minnesota Twins 11-2 in Game 3.
In 1973, war erupted in the Middle East as Egypt and Syria attacked Israel during the Yom Kippur holiday.
In 1976, in his second debate with Jimmy Carter, President Gerald R. Ford asserted there was "no Soviet domination of eastern Europe." (Ford later conceded he'd misspoken.)
In 1979, Pope John Paul II, on a weeklong U.S. tour, became the first pontiff to visit the White House, where he was received by President Jimmy Carter.
In 1981, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat was shot to death by extremists while reviewing a military parade.

In 1989, actress Bette Davis died in Neuilly-sur-Seine, France, at age 81.

Today's Birthdays:
Broadcaster and writer Melvyn Bragg is 70. Actress Britt Ekland is 67. Singer Millie Small is 63. The president of Sinn Féin, Gerry Adams, is 61. Singer-musician Thomas McClary is 60. CBS chief executive officer Les Moonves is 60. Rock singer Kevin Cronin (REO Speedwagon) is 58. Rock singer-musician David Hidalgo (Los Lobos) is 55. Former NFL player and coach Tony Dungy is 54. Actress Elisabeth Shue is 46. Singer Matthew Sweet is 45.

Answer to previous puzzle

CALM	SOFAS	ODDS
ARIA	APART	BROW
REAR	MERCY	LIMA
PARKBENCH	RIVET	
ERASE	PAGE	
PASTAS	FORESTS	
ART	PAUSE	HAT
RIO	SMALLER	ABA
ESP	PANEL	FLY
REMAINS	PASTES	
OBEY	STAIN	
PITAS	TURNLOOSE	
EDIT	TUGAT	BRAT
ALOE	ONAIR	BENT
SEND	EARLY	YOKE

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Floating ice mass
 - 5 Monopolizes
 - 9 Hollywood award
 - 14 Butter alternative
 - 15 At the drop of ___
 - 16 Andes pack animal
 - 17 "The wolf ___ the door"
 - 18 Hourly charge
 - 19 Roadside eatery
 - 20 Tart-tasting candies
 - 23 No longer here
 - 24 Sun-related
 - 25 Oohed and ___
 - 27 Zoom past
 - 30 Mixed-breed dog
 - 31 Slippery as ___
 - 32 Reads, as bar codes
 - 34 Recipe amt.
 - 37 Generous severance package
 - 40 Bigger copy: Abbr.
 - 41 Beef and pork
 - 42 Nun's attire
 - 43 Adolescent
 - 44 Solitary sorts
 - 45 Fair-haired
 - 47 Act moody
 - 49 Bath cake
 - 50 Driver's warning signal
 - 55 Rigatoni or ravioli
 - 57 Quaint oath
 - 58 Tiger's toenail
 - 59 Valuable quality
 - 60 Think (over)
 - 61 Special glow
 - 62 Boulder
 - 63 "___ honor I will . . ."
 - 64 Energizes, with "up"
- DOWN**
- 1 Prepare, as water for tea
 - 2 Otherwise
 - 3 Package of paper
 - 4 Deteriorate
 - 5 Not at all
 - 6 Scarlett's surname
 - 7 Croc's kin
 - 8 Big first for a baby
 - 9 From ancient times
 - 10 Minimal
 - 11 Birchbark boat
 - 12 Make better
 - 13 Scarce
 - 21 Dukes and ears
 - 22 Steam room
 - 26 Attending classes
 - 27 Violent anger
 - 28 Auth. unknown
 - 29 Modern phone
 - 30 The Red Planet
 - 32 Stretch across
 - 33 Meowing mammal
 - 34 Toothpaste holder
 - 35 Agitate
 - 36 Parakeets and hamsters
 - 38 "I ___ vacation!"
 - 39 Golf-score adjustment
 - 43 Best-seller list
 - 44 Fit for 21 Down
 - 45 Brag
 - 46 Cowboy's rope
 - 47 Air rifle
 - 48 Kingdom
 - 49 Health resorts
 - 51 Office note
 - 52 Sticky stuff
 - 53 Angel's instrument
 - 54 "___ the night before . . ."
 - 56 Consumed

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No more confirmed swine flu cases for ill-stricken Texans

HOUSTON (AP) — Only one of three Houston Texans ill this weekend was suffering from flu-like symptoms, and the team doctor didn't call it swine flu.

Houston had the NFL's first confirmed case of swine flu last week in tight end Anthony Hill. Safety Eugene

Wilson was inactive for Sunday's game against Oakland after becoming so ill he could barely walk.

Dr. Jim Muntz said he isn't sure Wilson "had the same syndrome" as Hill. Wilson had body aches, but no fever and was sent home to protect the team. Muntz said Wilson phoned

him Sunday night and felt better.

Running back Chris Brown and linebacker Xavier Adibi were also ill Sunday, but Muntz said they had gastrointestinal problems.

Hill is better and should be allowed to return to practice this week. Muntz said players can return to practice if

they haven't had a fever for 48 hours.

Muntz wouldn't say exactly how many players have been sent to him with flu-like symptoms.

"I couldn't give you the numbers," he said. "There were a number of

See **TEXANS**, Page 14

COWBOYS

Continued from Page 8

The Cowboys lost to the Giants on the final play of the game, blowing a lead they'd just regained and spoiling the debut at their fancy new stadium. Against the Broncos, they didn't trail until there was 1:46 left and had two short throws into the end zone that could've tied it in the closing seconds.

"You're kind of like, 'OK. Where are we? What is our identity?'" linebacker Bradie James said. "Our identity is we're 2-2. In order for us to continue to win and not be an up-and-down team, we have to win those tough games. That's just it."

Next up is winless Kansas City, then a bye.

Still, progress needs to start somewhere, starting with an offense that was supposed to be versatile but now looks like it can't figure out what to do. They have two touchdowns in their last 22 possessions and the top two receivers are a running back and a tight end, which is starting to revive talk of whether they'd be better off with Terrell Owens

still around.

"It's time for us to really check ourselves now and say, 'Hey, look here, regardless of what it's going to take, we have to come out and we have to start winning these games ugly at the end and be consistent,'" receiver Patrick Crayton said. "We've got too good of an offense to even put our defense in a situations to where they've got to carry us."

The Cowboys ran for more than 200 yards in their second and third games, and were off to another strong start Sunday, riding the legs of Marion Barber and Tashard Choice to a 10-0 lead after one quarter. But Dallas ran only seven times in the second half.

Part of the problem was Barber's thigh injury flaring up. Still, Crayton spoke for many fans when he wondered aloud Monday about why offensive coordinator Jason Garrett didn't have Romo hand off more in the third and fourth quarters.

"We've got five freaks of nature up front that are calling for us to run the ball, you would think you'd listen to those guys," Crayton said. "We're trying to grind it out and get an ugly victory. We're on the road against a 3-0 football team with the No.

1 defense and we blew them out of the water to start the game off, don't deviate away from that."

Another questionable decision was Romo throwing those last two passes to Sam Hurd, his No. 4 receiver, even though Champ Bailey was covering him on both plays. Hurd has 28 receptions in his four-year career; Bailey has 44 career interceptions.

Romo threw three long touchdown passes in the opener and had another TD toss the next week. Now he's gone two straight games without a touchdown pass, the first time that's happened since he became a starter in 2006.

On Sunday in Denver, and again Monday in Dallas, Phillips emphasized that the club must stick together. He's confident they will.

"Our team is going to keep fighting, keep working harder, keep trying to do the things it takes to get better, and we're going to do that getting ready for this next ball game," he said. "This team has worked a long time and very hard to stop believing in what we're doing, stop trusting each other. We're going to work at it and get better and do something about it."

FAVRE

Continued from Page 8

me, even though I do," Favre said.

The Vikings (4-0) sacked Favre's replacement, Aaron Rodgers, eight times.

Jared Allen was credited with 4½ of them, a career high, including a safety in the fourth quarter that stretched the lead to 16. Rodgers had his first two turnovers of the season, and Favre turned both of them into vintage touchdown passes in the first half.

"I definitely wanted to get this win for Brett," teammate Adrian Peterson said. "It was a big game for him, even though he downplayed it a lot, but you just knew it. You could see it in his eyes."

Favre hugged Rodgers and several other Packers once the game was over.

"I've been saying all along the guy can play. I just wanted to relay that to him," Favre said of his former backup in Green Bay.

Rodgers tried to engineer the kind of drive his predecessor is famous for, but he came up short.

"Below my expectations, definitely," Rodgers said. "To have three possessions where you're in their territory and come away with zero points, two of them are directly related to mistakes by myself, that's disappointing."

Favre enjoyed impeccable protection from his line throughout the game, getting so much time on some throws he could have changed his mind two or three times about whether to play or retire next year.

Rodgers had the exact opposite experience — often hanging onto the ball too long. He finished 26 for 37 for a career-high 384 yards, many of them in desperation down the stretch, and two touchdown passes.

Rodgers has been sacked 20 times already this season.

"It's obviously an issue that's gone on for four weeks," Packers coach Mike McCarthy said. "You can't play this way. We're playing way too up and down, and it's hurting us."

The Vikings were relentless in their rush, particularly Allen on left tackle Daryn Colledge, who left in the third quarter with a right knee injury. Colledge moved from left guard two weeks ago

when Chad Clifton got hurt.

Rodgers' receivers let him down, too, though. On fourth-and-goal at the 1 in the third quarter, Rodgers found tight end Donald Lee open in the end zone. But the ball bounced off Lee's chest and onto the turf, as Rodgers snapped his head back with his hands on the sides of his helmet.

The Packers (2-2) stuffed Peterson with their new 3-4 defense, holding him to 12 yards on 11 attempts in the second half and 55 yards for the game. They even turned one short gain directly into points: Rookie Clay Matthews joined a gang tackle and ripped the ball out, returning it 42 yards to tie the score at 14.

"I was hoping we'd run the ball better than that," Favre said. "Against a defense like that you don't

want to throw the ball that many times. But it was better than I thought it'd be."

One of the most excitable players football has ever seen, Favre's history in emotional games has been mixed. In 2003, on Monday night against Oakland after the death of his father, Favre threw for 399 yards and four touchdowns.

In 1999, though, he went 14 for 35 with four interceptions in his first game against Mike Holmgren after the former Packers head coach took over in Seattle.

Favre said he felt on this night a lot like he did in that game after his dad died.

Said Vikings coach Brad Childress: "Some games tickle you a little bit more than others."

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Contest will run in *The Big Spring Herald* Tues., Oct. 6 and Fri., Oct. 9, Tues., Oct. 13 and Fri. Oct. 16. To enter, write your guesses down and turn them in at *The Herald* office, 710 Scurry St. The deadline is 5 p.m. Mon. Oct. 19. 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 Oct. 20th Edition Of The Big Spring Herald

My Guess: #1 _____ My Guess: #2 _____ My Guess: #3 _____

1.  2.  3. 

4.  5.  6. 

My Guess: #4 _____ My Guess: #5 _____ My Guess: #5 _____

STEERS

Continued from Page 8

The Steers and Tigers meet at 7:30 p.m. Friday in Wolforth. Big Spring has only one win in school history over Frenship and it occurred 10 years ago in 1999. The two programs have met on the gridiron every season since 1998 and have been in district together since 2000.

Needless to say, the Steers could entrench themselves into the Top 10 poll with a victory over Frenship, which has dominated its district this decade.

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TEXANS

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people before the game (Sunday) that were sick. A couple of them showed up the morning of the game with new symptoms. A couple of them had GI symptoms that I do not think were swine flu and did not get treated as such."

He added that they are "fairly generous" with prescribing Tamiflu to anyone who complains of flu-like symptoms because of Hill's illness. Tamiflu is used to treat both the seasonal flu and the swine flu.

Houston players receive shots for seasonal flu each year and had already received them this year.

Vaccines for the swine flu aren't expected to be available until later this month and even then there will be a very limited number of doses.

Muntz uses his judgment in deciding if patients have the flu. A test to confirm if an illness is swine flu takes two to three days to come back, so patients often aren't even given the test.

"If other players, other patients, had similar symptoms, upper respiratory symptoms, colds, fever, extreme body aches, then we treat them as if they have the flu," he said. "I don't need a culture. I don't need a result back. If I was to see a player ... and I saw (them) on Friday, I may not get test results back until Sunday, Monday. Sometimes the tests don't even help."

When asked if he's concerned about more Texans getting the swine flu, Muntz said the problem isn't just limited to the team.

"The swine flu is out there," he said. "You can't just say the team. It's the team. It's the NFL. It's people in the United States. I wouldn't just say we're worried about the team. This is a community acquired infection, a number of high schools have had it. Other teams have had it or thought they had it. It's not a team issue, it's a health issue worldwide."

Earlier this year, a pair of Miami Dolphins missed a preseason game with flu-like symptoms, but the team wouldn't say whether the players were tested for swine flu.

Flu-like symptoms have hit a number of college programs this season, including Wisconsin and No. 1 Florida, which last month held a number of players out of practice. The Gators had a round of flu shots about a week after a school official predicted that as many as 40 percent of students could catch swine flu this season.

Muntz said the team has talked to infectious disease officials in Houston and to a doctor with the NFL to keep them up to date on the illnesses.

Houston's trainers are reminding players to wash their hands often and never use the same towels. There are also signs in the team facility telling players to cover their mouths and noses when they cough.

Team officials are also urging players to notify the trainers as soon as they start to feel sick so they can begin treatment and limit the spread of the illness.

Big 12 schools receive boost from backup QBs

DES MOINES, Iowa. (AP) — It was the week of the backup quarterback in the Big 12. Or in the case of Baylor, the backup to the backup.

Reserve quarterbacks Grant Gregory of Kansas State and Steven Sheffield of Texas Tech and third-stringer Nick Florence of Baylor all led their teams to victory on Saturday before conference play begins in earnest.

Gregory, a sixth-year senior, replaced Carson Coffman and threw for 206 yards and two touchdowns in the Wildcats' thrilling 24-23 win over Iowa State, earning Big 12 Offensive Player of the Week honors.

Sheffield stepped in for the injured Taylor Potts, tossing for 238 yards and three TDs in Texas Tech's 48-28 win over New Mexico.

Florence got the nod for Baylor because Blake Szymanski — who was

expected to fill in for injured star Robert Griffin — missed significant practice time last week with a bruised shoulder. Florence, a freshman, was 20-of-27 passing for 216 yards and a pair of rushing touchdowns, including a 29-yarder early in the third quarter to help the Bears put away Kent State, 31-15.

Texas Tech coach Mike Leach wouldn't say whether Potts would be able to return this week. Potts was released from a Lubbock hospital on Sunday.

Florence might get another shot this week as the Bears travel to Oklahoma. Szymanski wasn't available for a Sunday workout, and his status will be evaluated.

The Big 12's most well-known backup quarterback, Oklahoma's Landry Jones, threw for 188 yards and a touchdown against Miami, but the Hurricanes won 21-20.

RANGERS

Continued from Page 8

in that lineup."

The young Rangers (87-75) weren't ready to compete against the Los Angeles Angels (97-65) for the AL West or Boston (95-67) in the wildcard race.

But the Rangers still had only their second winning season since last making the playoffs 10 years ago and wound up second in the AL West. They won one more game than Detroit or Minnesota, the AL Central teams who will play a one-game tiebreaker for the last playoff spot.

With financially strapped owner Tom Hicks taking bids from prospective buyers, and the timing of any transfer uncertain, it is unclear how the team will proceed into the offseason and free agency.

Even with the young core intact, there are questions. Will the Rangers

be able to re-sign free agent outfielder Marlon Byrd, who led the team with 89 RBIs and 146 games played? Will veteran catcher Ivan Rodriguez, who returned home after being acquired in a mid-August trade, be brought back for another season?

Texas was within 3½ games of the Angels when they lost Young and Hamilton on consecutive days. Young strained his left hamstring Sept. 1, and a night later Hamilton aggravated a pinched nerve in his back related to two earlier stints on the disabled list for twice crashing into outfield walls making catches.

"It ain't like I got hurt from not being in shape, or by swinging the bat, or running or throwing or anything like that," said Hamilton, limited to 89 games in which he had 10 home runs and 68 RBIs. "It was from hitting a wall."

Literally, not from playing too much.

Young and Hamilton weren't in the lineup together the rest of the season. During a 2-7 homestand against AL

West rivals in mid-September, Young batted only once and Hamilton didn't play. For the first time in team history, Texas was shut out four times in a five-game span.

The Rangers never recovered from that miserable homestand, though they weren't officially eliminated from the division race until losing at Los Angeles in the 156th game on Sept. 28.

Boston clinched the wildcard the next day.

"We accomplished a lot more than anybody thought we would," veteran right-hander Kevin Millwood said. "We're definitely moving in the right direction. We've got a lot of good young pitchers, got a lot of good young players. We've got a chance to build something pretty special here."

Holland (8-13, 6.12 ERA), a 22-year-old left-hander, and 23-year-old righty Hunter (9-6, 4.10) had stretches of success before slumping down the stretch.

Feliz was called up in August. The right-hander finished with a 1.74 ERA

and 39 strikeouts in 31 innings during 20 relief appearances, though his future may be as a starter.

Scott Feldman (17-8, 4.08), who didn't make his first start until April 25, had a shot at 20 wins before losing four of his last five. Millwood (13-10, 3.67) got the 180 innings he needed to guarantee his \$12 million contract for 2010 when the 34-year-old right-hander won his last three starts, including a three-hitter and 10 strikeouts against the Angels.

Andrus justified the team's decision last winter to switch Young, a five-time All-Star shortstop, to third base to make room for a 20-year-old prospect who had never played above Double-A. He hit .267 with 33 stolen bases in 145 games and had 22 errors, 10 fewer than last season in the minors.

Even after changing positions, Young was an All-Star again and finished fifth in the AL with a .322 batting average in his 135 games, his lowest total since his 2001 rookie season. He had only nine errors.



Keep Big Spring Beautiful!

Mission: To empower Big Spring citizens through education to take responsibility for enhancing their community environment.

Vision: Every Big Spring citizen will take individual responsibility for making Big Spring the cleanest, most beautiful city in Texas.

Meeting Day: First Monday of every month

Time: 12:00 Noon

Location: Cactus Room, Howard College

Projects For October 2009

★ Howard County Fair • October 1st

★ Howard County Fair • October 2nd

★ Howard County Fair • October 3rd

★ General Meeting • October 5th

(Cactus Room, Howard College)

★ FM 700 Cleanup • October 17th

(9 am at North entrance to fairgrounds)

★ Make A Difference Day • October 24th

Special Note: Used Tire & E-Waste Collection to be held 14 Nov. at the Big Spring Solid Waste Facility (Landfill) on FM 700

To join Keep Big Spring Beautiful, Contact President Walter Ward

(432) 935-6455

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