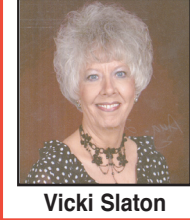




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Lady Steers' season comes to a close with loss to No. 2 Canyon Randall

See Page 8



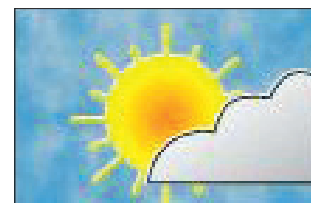
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WEDNESDAY

NOVEMBER 4, 2009



VOLUME 104, NUMBER 287

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HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Emergency response personnel examine a man following a one-vehicle motorcycle accident Tuesday afternoon in the 700 block of Douglas. The man received only minor bruises and cuts as a result of the accident and refused to be transported by EMS.

Amendments get voter OK

Texans vote to limit state's eminent domain powers

How did Howard County vote? See Page 3.

For a recap of the amendments, see Page 3.

KELLEY SHANNON
 AP Political Writer

AUSTIN — Texas voters overwhelmingly chose Tuesday to strengthen their private property rights as enshrined in the state constitution — one of eleven constitutional

amendments approved in the poll.

With 98 percent of the votes counted, some 81 percent of voters supported Proposition 11 to limit eminent domain powers. Prop 11, backed by the Texas Farm Bureau, Gov. Rick Perry and Perry's Republican rival, Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, was rejected by 19 percent.

The proposition will state in the constitution that

See **ELECTION**, Page 3

Rhodes: 'Can't say enough about students' hard work'

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

Having clinched a second-place finish in the University Interscholastic League state marching contest this week, Forsan High School Band Director Jim Rhodes said he and his students are excited to be able to walk away from the competition one of the best in the state.

Forsan, which was defending the Class 1A marching ti-

"All three schools that finished in the first, second and third spots in the finals also finished in the top three spots at state. I think that says a lot about the caliber of competition in our area, and it's something for the students to be proud of."

—Jim Rhodes, Forsan High School band director



tle it won in 2008, finished the competition Monday with one second-place mark and two first-place marks in music, followed by one second-place

mark and one third-place mark in marching, leaving the band with a score of nine.

Forsan's rival, Sundown, was able to finish the compe-

tion with a first-place mark and two second-place marks in music, followed by two first-place marks in marching, for a total score of seven,

clinching the first place spot and the state championship. Canadian High School rounded out the competition with third place.

"The whole trip was awesome for us. We didn't have any hiccups," said Rhodes. "At first, when we realized we had come in second place, we were all a little disappointed. However, when you stop and

See **BAND**, Page 3

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Nix tradition to continue Saturday

Will celebrate 63 years of music at the Stampede

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

November means plenty of things in the Crossroads area, but for a local country music legend it's all about tradition, as Jody Nix and the Texas Cowboys prepare to celebrate 63 years of music with a bash at the Stampede Saturday evening.

The show, which will feature past and present members of the band, along with fellow country music musician Bobby Flores and the Yellow Rose Band, has become a Howard County mainstay since Nix's family began the tradition some 60-plus years ago.

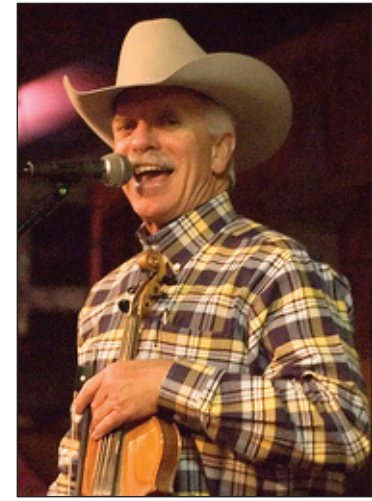
"We're celebrating 63 years of music in the Nix family," said Nix. "The tradition started with my dad, Hoyle, and my

uncle, Ben, right here in Big Spring on Nov. 11, 1946. They both had long careers and left a legacy and trail of music I've kept alive, and I plan to keep alive as long as I can.

"This has been a really big event for us the last several years. I started doing this in November of 1996 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of when this all started, and we've just kept it going through the years. We had several reunions of the former West Texas Cowboys, and it finally got to where so many of them had gotten



Bobby Flores



Jody Nix

older and couldn't come anymore, so we had to let that go. But we've asked Bobby (Flores) to join us and keep the tradition alive, and it's gone pretty well."

See **NIX**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Wanda King

Wanda King, 49, of Big Spring died Monday, Nov. 2, 2009, at her residence. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. The funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Dwayne Wheat, pastor of Berea Baptist Church, officiating.

She was born April 4, 1960, in Big Spring and was a lifetime resident. She graduated from Howard College and the UTPB in Odessa. She had been employed by the Big Spring Independent School District for more than 10 years. She was an enrichment educator, teaching reading and science at Kentwood Elementary and science at Marcy Elementary.

She is survived by her husband of 25 years, Bill King of Big Spring; one son, Sterling McIntosh of Big Spring; one daughter, Kris King of Big Spring; two brothers, Jack Birdwell and wife, Sharon, of Odessa, and Charlie Miles of Holiday; one sister, Alma Walker and husband, LeRoy, of Big Spring; step-mother, Maxine Miles of Holiday; mother-in-law, Susan King of Big Spring; sister-in-law, Elizabeth Treece and her husband, William, of Big Spring; and seven nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father, Wallace Miles; mother, Lyda Mae Sanborn; step-father, George Sanborn; and father-in-law, David King.

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

Betty Dean

Betty Dean, 83, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2009, in a Sterling City nursing home. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Support groups

TODAY

• RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

THURSDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

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

Take note

• The Big Spring Fire Department is selling T-shirts to raise money and awareness for breast cancer. The shirts are pink with the BSFD logo on the front. All proceeds benefit the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation. Shirts are \$15 each. Order at any Big Spring fire station or City Hall by Nov. 4.

• Donations are being accepted at Cosden Federal Credit Union and State National Bank to assist the Gary Feaster family, residents of Howard County who lost their home to a fire Sunday. Thanks to community support, the family no longer needs donations of clothing, but any monetary donations would be appreciated.

• 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. Robert'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.

Police blotter

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

- JAVIER PAYEN, 39, of 1602 E. Fifth St., was arrested Tuesday on charges of driving while intoxicated and evading arrest/detention with a vehicle.
- RICKY KINNAMON, 57, of 8113 Interstate Highway N. Service Rd., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- CREIG HOLLAND, 51, of Amarillo, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of driving while intoxicated – third or more offense.
- GUADALUPE CASTILLO, 66, of 1304 S. Nolan, was arrested Tuesday on charges of violation of a protective order and retaliation.
- JARREL WILLIAMS, 21, of 800.5 S. Nolan, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of prohibited weapon.
- VIOLATION OF A PROTECTIVE ORDER was reported in the 400 block of Fifth Street.
- THEFT was reported in the 400 block of Birdwell Lane.
- FORGERY OF A FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT was reported in the 1800 block of Scurry.
- EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION USING A VEHICLE was reported in the 1300 block of Fourth Street.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 200 block of Seventh Street.
- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported: in the 600 block of Sixth Street. in the 600 block of 15th Street.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 82 inmates at the time of this report.

- MICHAEL JAMES BULLINGER, 21, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- GUADALUPE RIOS CASTILLO, 66, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of violation of a protective order and retaliation.
- CHRISTOPHER RYAN COLEGROVE, 17, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for assault causing bodily injury.
- CECIL GARCIA, 32, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction.
- AMBER MICHELLE GUTIERREZ, 34, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, failure to identify as a fugitive from justice – giving false information and debit card abuse.
- CREIG WARNER HOLLAND, 51, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated – third or more offense.
- RICKY KINNAMON, 57, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- JAVIER PAYEN, 39, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of driving while intoxicated and evading arrest or detention with a vehicle.
- GARY LEE SMALE, 35, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a contempt charge for assault Class C – family violence.

Fire/EMS






• JARREL LOMANTE WILLIAMS, 21, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of prohibited weapon – switchblade/knuckles.

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

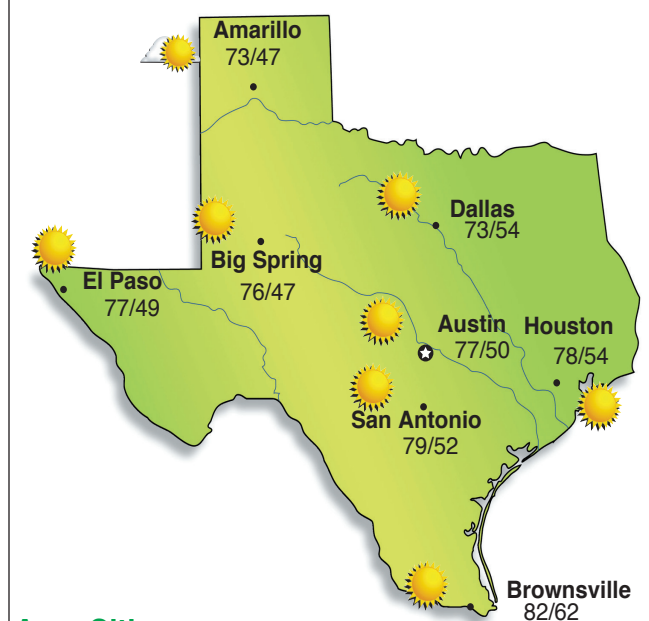
- TRAUMA was reported in the 900 block of W. Fourth Street. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of Nolan. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 400 block of E. Fifth Street. Service refused.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 700 block of Douglas. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Hearn. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 5700 block of Cedar Road. Service refused.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1600 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 700 block of E. Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Sycamore. One person was transported to SMMC.
- STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 1800 block of Duquoin. Fire out on arrival.
- RUBBISH FIRE was reported in the 500 block of N. Nolan.

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Thu 11/5	Fri 11/6	Sat 11/7	Sun 11/8	Mon 11/9
 76/47 Mainly sunny. High 76F. Winds S at 10 to 15 mph.	 81/47 Sunshine. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the upper 40s.	 76/50 Sunshine. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the low 50s.	 72/54 Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the mid 50s.	 73/51 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 50s.
Sunrise: 7:07 AM Sunset: 5:52 PM	Sunrise: 7:07 AM Sunset: 5:52 PM	Sunrise: 7:08 AM Sunset: 5:51 PM	Sunrise: 7:09 AM Sunset: 5:50 PM	Sunrise: 7:10 AM Sunset: 5:49 PM

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	75	52	sunny	Kingsville	82	59	sunny
Amarillo	73	47	mst sunny	Livingston	78	48	sunny
Austin	77	50	sunny	Longview	73	49	sunny
Beaumont	77	50	sunny	Lubbock	75	46	mst sunny
Brownsville	82	62	sunny	Lufkin	77	48	sunny
Brownwood	76	51	sunny	Midland	77	50	sunny
Corpus Christi	81	60	sunny	Raymondville	84	59	sunny
Corsicana	74	52	sunny	Rosenberg	78	55	sunny
Dallas	73	54	sunny	San Antonio	79	52	sunny
Del Rio	78	52	sunny	San Marcos	78	50	sunny
El Paso	77	49	sunny	Sulphur Springs	73	52	sunny
Fort Stockton	79	50	sunny	Sweetwater	75	51	sunny
Gainesville	72	52	sunny	Tyler	73	49	sunny
Greenville	71	50	sunny	Weatherford	73	51	sunny
Houston	78	54	sunny	Wichita Falls	74	52	sunny

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The winning numbers in Tuesday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Cash 5" game were: 03-06-08-10-19

The winning numbers in Tuesday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Pick 3 Night" game were: 0-8-7

The winning numbers in Tuesday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Daily 4 Night" game were: 6-9-8-4

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Texas amendments election, Howard County results

Proposition 1 — Authorizing city and county financing to buy buffer areas near military installations.
For: 193 (47.3 percent)
Against: 215 (52.7 percent)

Proposition 2 — Requiring appraisal of residence homesteads based solely on their homestead value.
For: 276 (66.51 percent)
Against: 139 (33.49 percent)

Proposition 3 — Allowing state enforcement of uniform property appraisal standards and procedures.
For: 213 (51.08 percent)
Against: 204 (48.92 percent)

Proposition 4 — Establishing the National Research

University Fund.
For: 165 (40.34 percent)
Against: 244 (59.66 percent)

Proposition 5 — Allowing consolidated boards of equalization for appraisal districts.
For: 203 (50 percent)
Against: 203 (50 percent)

Proposition 6 — Renewing Veterans' Land Board bond authority for land and mortgage loans.
For: 236 (58.42 percent)
Against: 168 (41.58 percent)

Proposition 7 — Allowing members of the Texas State Guard to hold civil office.
For: 831 (70.9 percent)
Against: 341 (29.1 percent)

Proposition 8 — Authorizing the state to contribute resources to veterans' hospitals.
For: 784 (66.5 percent)
Against: 395 (33.5 percent)

Proposition 9 — Establishing a right to use and access public beaches.
For: 759 (64.93 percent)
Against: 410 (35.07 percent)

Proposition 10 — Allowing board members of emergency services districts to serve four years.
For: 801 (68.58 percent)
Against: 367 (31.42 percent)

Proposition 11 — Restricting use of eminent domain to taking property for public purposes.
For: 979 (82.41 percent)
Against: 209 (17.59 percent)

Texas constitutional amendments approved by voters

The Associated Press

Eleven proposed constitutional amendments went before Texas voters in Tuesday's election and won passage. The proposals passed both chambers of the Legislature with a two-thirds vote earlier this year and, having received voter approval, will be added to the state constitution. They are:

PROPOSITION 1: Authorizes financing methods for municipalities and counties to acquire buffer zones or open spaces next to military bases. The amendment could prevent encroachment next to the base

and allow construction of roads, utilities and other infrastructure to promote the mission of a military base.

PROPOSITION 2: Allows the Legislature to provide for ad valorem taxation of a residence homestead solely on the basis of the property's value as a residence, not at the potentially higher commercial use value.

PROPOSITION 3: Provides for uniform standards and procedures for the appraisal of property for taxation. Texas lacks uniform standards, and proponents said this amendment would ensure that prop-

erty in diverse parts of the state are valued using the same generally accepted practices.

PROPOSITION 4: Establishes a national research university fund to help emerging research universities achieve national prominence as major research universities. Proponents said it will provide funding similar to what elevated Texas A&M University and the University of Texas to Tier One status, providing jobs and stature for the state.

PROPOSITION 5: Permits the Texas Legislature to allow a single

board of equalization for two or more adjoining appraisal entities, meaning area appraisal boards can be consolidated if they choose.

PROPOSITION 6: Authorizes the Veterans' Land Board to issue general obligation bonds in amounts equal to or less than amounts previously authorized, preventing the land board from continually having to seek legislative authorization.

PROPOSITION 7: Allows an officer or enlisted member of the Texas State Guard or other state militia or military force to hold other

civil offices. This corrects what some say is an oversight in the state constitution.

PROPOSITION 8: Authorizes the state to contribute money, property and other resources to establish veterans hospital. It's designed to speed up efforts to open a federal Veterans Administration hospital in the Rio Grande Valley, where residents currently must travel to San Antonio to receive some VA hospital services.

PROPOSITION 9: Protects the right of the public to access and use the public beaches border-

ing the seaward shore of the Gulf of Mexico. This would block private developers from restricting beach access to the public.

PROPOSITION 10: Limits elected members of the governing boards of emergency services districts to terms no longer than four years.

PROPOSITION 11: Prohibits governments from taking private property for private economic development to increase a tax base. It also limits the Legislature's power to grant eminent domain authority to a governmental entity.

ELECTION

Continued from Page 1

governments in Texas are prevented from seizing private property and giving it to private developers to boost the tax base.

"By approving Propo-

sition 11, the voters of Texas have sent a clear message: Don't mess with private property rights," said Perry, who went to the Alamo earlier this year to emphasize his support for the constitutional amendment.

Hutchison called the

results a "first step" toward changing eminent domain laws.

"Texans have sent a clear message that private property rights are sacred. I look forward to working with the Legislature to further strengthen the respect for private property as

the next governor of Texas," Hutchison said.

Texas Farm Bureau President Kenneth Dierschke called the passage of Proposition 11 an important but incomplete victory and said the eminent domain laws still favored the condemner of property.

An amendment to guarantee public access to beaches also sailed through in Tuesday's poll, taking 77 percent of the vote.

"Texans have always supported open beaches, but now they have given public access to beaches an extra level

of protection by putting that right into the state constitution," said Ken Kramer, Sierra Club state director.

BAND

Continued from Page 1

look back at what we've accomplished this year and how far we've come, it's not hard at all to get excited about winning the silver."

Forsan finished in first place during preliminary competitions, edging Sundown out of the top spot by just one point, according to Rhodes.

"All three schools that finished in the first, second and third spots in the finals also finished in the top three spots at

state," said Rhodes. "I think that says a lot about the caliber of competition in our area, and it's something for the students to be proud of.

"When you look back over the program, we started out by saying we just wanted to make it to the finals. The students worked hard and we were able to develop a level of excellence within the program, and then it became a matter of wanting to make it to state, then to win state. It's a process, and we're very fortunate to have gotten to a level where we can be in the hunt for the championship each year."

Rhodes praised his students for their hard work, which he said will be celebrat-

ed and rewarded in the coming weeks.

"They put so much of themselves into this. I can't say enough about their hard work," said Rhodes. "The silver medals should get here soon, and we'll have a ceremony where a medal will be presented to each student. We're also having a banner placed in the band hall to remind them of what they have accomplished. These kids worked really hard and they deserve the recognition."

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

NIX

Continued from Page 1

Flores, who has performed at several Nix anniversary shows, is a Grammy Award-winning artist who has performed with Ray Price, Willie Nelson, Johnny Bush and Doug Sahm, showcasing his talents on the guitar, fiddle and voice.

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

year he's played with us for this occasion."

With doors set to open at 8 p.m. and the show expected to last from 9 p.m. until around 1 a.m. at the Stampede — located just off FM 700 on Texas Highway 350 — Nix said little has changed over the years when it comes to his love for traditional country music.

"My love for the real country music hasn't really changed. It's grown deeper, but it hasn't changed," said Nix. "I feel like I'm helping to preserve something you don't hear everyday on mainstream country radio. There are classic stations out there, and XM Radio has done wonders for the old stuff

we play, especially with XM channel 13, Willie's (Nelson) Place. They are one of the reasons I've sold CDs all across the nation and gotten national airplay, along with Bobby (Flores)."

Admission is \$15 per person, and while tickets will be available at the door, Nix said reservations for the celebration tend to go quickly.

"They come from all over the place to see this show, and we're more than appreciative of that fact," said Nix. "My favorite part is the nostalgia. Remembering how all of this started and where it's come to today. We've kept a tradition alive all these years, and people have supported us. And it honors

the men who started the whole thing."

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

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-

7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

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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

Bill McClellan
News Editor

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

OTHER VIEWS

Texas children deserve best teachers early

The U.S. Department of Education has put down a marker: First-year elementary school teachers in Texas must pass a broad exam to be considered "highly qualified." Being tested in a single subject will not cut it.

This recent move by Washington is a good one because elementary children deserve teachers who are equipped to teach effectively in all the core subjects they are responsible for — including math, science, reading and social studies. Not getting those building blocks right sets students up for failure somewhere along their public school path.

A test alone won't guarantee great teachers, but it can stop unqualified ones from getting jobs in elementary schools, where instructors most often teach multiple subjects.

The No Child Left Behind law requires teachers to be certified as "highly qualified." Hallelujah for that. And we commend Education Secretary Arne Duncan for continuing to make a huge deal of improving the quality of teachers. In a recent speech at Columbia University, he challenged schools of education to turn out better teachers.

That takes guts, given the power of teachers unions in some parts of the country. So, too, did his ruling regarding first-year elementary teachers in Texas.

Texas Education Agency Commissioner Robert Scott responded with a letter largely challenging the ruling. But he also offered a compromise: Let new Texas teachers off the hook this year for passing the exam, and in return, the agency will require future first-year teachers to pass it.

Scott's offer is reasonable. The suggested compromise does not let the state off the hook for improving its teacher corps, but it would also avoid potential upheaval one-third of the way through the current school year.

We're now in early November. It could take Washington awhile to respond to Scott's letter, and, the next thing you know, it could easily be December. We don't see the effectiveness of testing teachers that far into the school year. We hope Washington accepts the TEA compromise, while keeping the pressure on to make sure this teacher-quality message remains highly visible.

As much as we all appreciate teachers, the most important people in this equation are students. If they are sitting in classrooms where teachers aren't qualified in critical subjects, they deserve better.

That's the bottom line.

THE MORNING NEWS
DALLAS

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

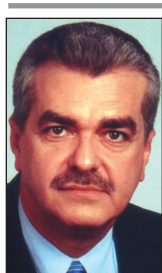
by K. Rae Anderson

Our confidence increases, Lord, when we know You are always with us.

Amen

The closing immigration window

Even those idealists who still believe it is possible for Congress to pass comprehensive immigration reform legislation within the next year, even those dreamers who persist that President Barack Obama will keep his promise to Hispanic voters by finding a way to legalize some 12 million undocumented immigrants — yes, even the optimists are beginning to sound like pessimists.



MIGUEL PEREZ

Now they speak of a very small window of time — near the end of February and beginning of March — when it might be possible for a majority of Democrats and a handful of Republicans finally to do the right thing about fixing the nation's broken immigration system.

But it's as if they are describing some sort of time gate in a science fiction movie. If we don't make it through this political time corridor, we're stuck in a country in which millions of immigrants will be forced to continue hiding in the shadows, performing only the most menial jobs and leaving huge gaps in our national security.

And why is the window for reforming immigration going to be so narrow?

Because Obama and the Democratic majority in Congress already have nearly shut one side by spending so much time and political capital on health care reform and other priorities and because the other side of the window is likely to be shut down very early next year by cowardly politicians who will not want to deal with such a controversial issue in the months before the 2010 midterm elections.

That leaves congressional proponents of comprehensive immigration reform only a couple of months, in the beginning of

next year, to introduce, debate, amend and pass legislation on not only an issue that already has proved to be one of the most controversial of our time but also one on which Congress already has proved to be totally dysfunctional.

Is this a realistic expectation?

Of course not! Even after health care is out of the way, early next year, immigration will have to compete for political attention with other crucial issues, such as energy, banking regulation, global warming and perhaps another stimulus package that actually will create jobs!

The national debate over health care reform has polarized the country, driven out hordes of extremists, taken much longer than expected and — because of the personal attacks against our first black president — even widened the racial divide in this country.

But compared with the upcoming fight over immigration, the health care fight may come to be regarded as a time of peace, equality and tranquility.

Yet many Democrats who were elected by promising Latino voters that they finally would fix this problem once they gained control of the White House and the Congress are warning us now about the "little window of opportunity" — setting us up for a major betrayal once the so-called window of opportunity is totally shut.

"El espacio es pequeno (The space is small)," said Rep. Luis Gutierrez, D-Ill., as he framed a tiny window with his hands on a Spanish-language TV network interview recently. "We have to do it in February or early March of next year."

Gutierrez told Univision's Jorge Ramos that the new legislation, still being written, will be introduced in both the House and the Senate in late January or early February, that Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., will be his counterpart in leading the fight in the Senate, and that the bill is likely to be very liberal.

He said that seeing as the legislation is likely to be somewhat diluted by amendments from opponents of immigration reform, he and other proponents of the reforms have come to the conclusion that offense is the best defense.

In order to secure a path to legalization for the noncriminal undocumented immigrants already living here, Gutierrez said his bill will start on the left so that through negotiations with its Republican opponents, it could end up somewhere in the middle.

It sounds like a good strategy. After seeing that efforts to cultivate some Republican support for health care reform proved to be almost totally fruitless, why should Democrats bother to include get-tough immigration measures designed to please Republicans?

But such a strategy calls for a long and drawn-out debate and certainly not for a time-constrained window of opportunity.

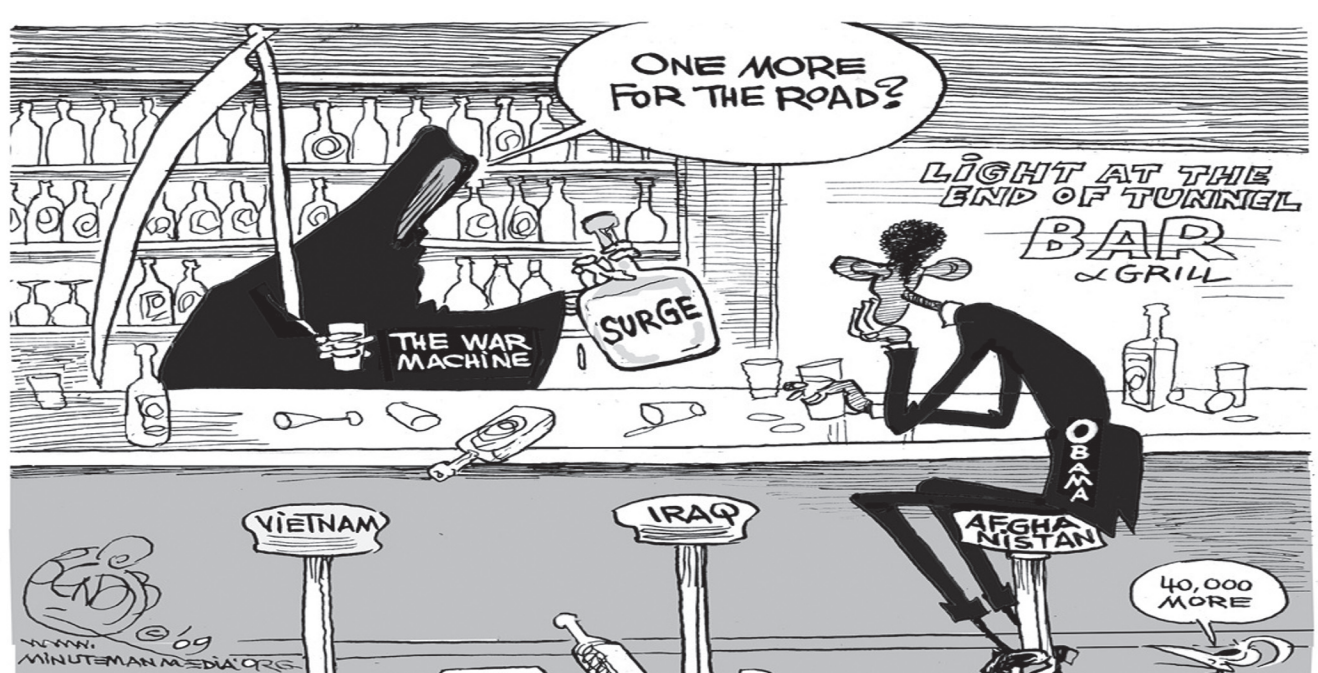
If Congress takes too long debating immigration, as we know it will, and if Republicans try to prolong the fight into the midterm elections, as we know they will, then it will be time for the Democrats to show their true colors to the Latino voters who put them in office.

It may not be the year when we solve our immigration problems, but 2010 surely will be the year when Latino voters finally find out who their true amigos really are.

Amazingly, some Democrats already are suggesting that if Congress misses the so-called window early next year, true immigration reform may have to wait until Obama's second term as president.

And sadly, when Latino voters look at the increasingly anti-immigrant GOP as the only alternative, the Democrats really can get away with betrayal and arrogance.

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Learn basics, maybe get a job

As the e-mail responses to my job posting came rolling in by the dozens, I searched in vain for just one that had a proper cover letter and resume. Instead, I found every manner of poorly written informal response along with the occasional generic cover letter full of nonsense words that in no way applied to the job I was attempting to fill.



DANIEL KLINE

My expectations for a seasonal retail job that pays poorly were not overly high. I hoped to interview a handful of people that responded with a brief cover letter that referred to at least some part of my detailed job posting.

Along with the cover letter, I hoped to receive a resume even if the person had relatively little job experience.

Of the hundreds of responses I received not one person sent the proper combination. Nearly all of the responses were brief, informal notes along the lines of "I am interested in the job. Please call me if it is still available." This tells me that on a very large level our schools — at least here in Connecticut — have failed to prepare students for the

job market.

I'm also pretty sure that at least on the lowest levels of the retail chain that any candidate that made even a reasonable effort would immediately stand out. You do not have to be a writer to prepare a proper cover letter — one that refers to the job posting in question and contains no spelling mistakes or major grammatical errors.

Perhaps worse than the informal letters or the ones full of typos were the ones built around nonsense phrases like, "I hope to utilize my skills for the betterment of your company." That may sound like it's saying something, but a phrase like that contains no useful information.

Invariably these drivell-filled cover letters came paired with resumes that contained absurd objectives. "I want to obtain a position with your company so I can achieve my goals," or similar claptrap also says nothing. I'd prefer, "I have always liked toys and would enjoy working in a toy store." There's at least some honesty in that sentence and it suggests I might get an eager employee who would enjoy her job.

Ultimately, I selected a few people to interview based on geographic convenience. One person failed to show for her interview while another was only available to be interviewed on such a limited basis that it

made me question whether he could actually work a demanding retail job.

The eventual victor got selected because she showed up on time for the interview, made an attempt at dressing appropriately and waited patiently while I finished up with a customer before speaking to her. Her cover letter had offered me nothing, but at least it was brief and avoided too many unnecessary big words.

She seems friendly, has some retail experience and had a good reason for wanting a full-time job that ends in January. I'm relatively confident in my selection and my staff seems to like her.

That said, I remain appalled that not one person across the wide age range that applied for the position knows how to apply for a job.

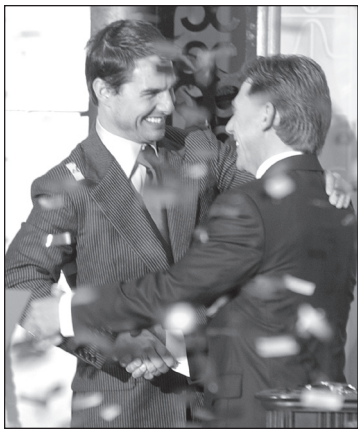
Perhaps we don't have an unemployment problem in this country.

Maybe we have open jobs with no viable means to fill them.

I'll be hiring some part-timers in the coming weeks and am expecting the e-mail equivalent of "me want job" written in crayon to start showing up in my mailbox the second the ad goes live.

Daniel B. Kline's work appears in more than 100 papers weekly. He can be reached by e-mail at dan@notastep.com

The FALL of Scientology?



AP photo
Confetti rains down as U.S. actor Tom Cruise, left, embraces leader of the Church of Scientology, David Miscavige, during the official opening of a new Scientology church in central Madrid in 2004.

ERIC GORSKI
AP Religion Writer

The Church of Scientology is going through a difficult season.

Over the course of two days last week, a French court convicted the church of fraud and Oscar-winning filmmaker Paul Haggis' resignation from the church over a litany of concerns was aired publicly. On one hand, it was just another bad press week for the embattled institution founded in 1953 by the late science fiction writer L. Ron Hubbard.

But for former Scientologists and scholars of the movement, the setbacks pose a greater challenge coming on the heels of defections of top-level Scientologists who lifted a veil of secrecy on the organization and alleged a culture of violence and control under Hubbard's successor, David Miscavige.

"With any organization, the loss of a substantial number of your most experienced people and chaos at the upper levels is problematic," said David Bromley, a Virginia Commonwealth University professor who studies new religious movements and has written on Scientology. "There are PR implications, the possibility of legal actions ... That dwarfs the other things."

The church has strenuously denied the allegations against Miscavige, portraying the accusers as lying disgruntled ex-employees.

Church spokesman Tommy Davis said Scientology is flourishing, with more than 8,000 Scientology churches, missions and groups in 160-plus nations. He said assets and property holdings have doubled over the past five years, including a new church in Rome and another opening this weekend in Washington, D.C.

"From our perspective, things are going pretty great," Davis said. "In fact, that's downplaying it. Actually, what's happening with the church right now is frankly spectacular. To the degree there are these various things happening, it really is a lot of noise."

One major survey of American religion shows Scientology declining in the U.S., however. The estimated number of Americans who identify as Scientologists rose from 45,000 in 1990 to 55,000

in 2001, then plummeted to 25,000 in 2008, according to the American Religion Identification Survey.

Davis said that while the church avoids membership estimates, it's "absolutely in the millions" globally and growing in the U.S.

Scientology has long been controversial. The Internal Revenue Service granted the church tax exemption in 1993 after a nearly four-decade battle over whether it should be considered a religion. Critics say Scientology is a business, preying on people by charging exorbitant sums for services.

The church continues to fascinate, fueled by interest in celebrity adherents such as Tom Cruise, John Travolta and Kirstie Alley, as well as beliefs that don't fit into typical American religious boxes.

Hubbard taught that the "thetan," the equivalent of a spirit, can be cleared of negative energy from this and previous lives through a process called auditing. With the aid of auditors, Scientologists seek a state called "Clear" and then advance through various levels of "Operating Thetan."

The allegations of violence were leveled by four former high-ranking Scientology executives who told their stories to the St. Petersburg Times last summer. The executives said they witnessed Miscavige, chairman of the board that oversees the church, hit staff members dozens of times and urged others to do the same.

Davis called the allegations "absolutely, unquestionably false" and "sickening and outrageous." ABC's "Nightline" aired a report this month covering much of the same ground.

To critics of Scientology and ex-members who have grown increasingly vocal in recent years, it's a breakthrough — critical voices from former members of the inner circle, not the media or outsiders.

"When you have dozens of people speaking out, it's no longer too credible to say they're all malcontents and criminals," said Jeff Hawkins, a former Scientology marketing guru who defected in 2005. "(The church) is either going to reform or collapse, and I think it's going to be the latter be-

cause they're incapable of reform or admitting any wrongdoing."

One defector, Marty Rathbun, who served on the church's board and was a top lieutenant of Miscavige's, said a growing movement of people hold to the tenets of Scientology, but reject the church.

"I don't foresee another church," Rathbun said. "That was the first attack on me — that this was a coup, that I'm trying to tap a schism or start another church ... That's not an objective of mine or a positive way to go."

Haggis, Oscar-winning director of "Crash,"

was not a high-ranking Scientologist. But his defection is significant, said Jason Beghe, who left the church in 2007 and has become a critic.

"He was somebody the Scientology community was proud of, and therefore I'm sure he helped hold some of their base in place," said Beghe, who appeared in the film "G.I. Jane" and TV's "Everwood" and is cast in Haggis' next film, now shooting in Pittsburgh. "Anybody who is a Scientologist is harboring doubts."

It was Rathbun who obtained a copy of Haggis' critical letter to Davis and posted it on his blog. Haggis complained that Davis didn't do enough to distance Scientology from proponents of California's gay marriage ban. He criticized the church's "smearing" of the high-level defectors.

The filmmaker also wrote about the church's practice of "disconnection," in which members cut off contact with loved ones who leave or advocate against the religion — something Davis said is not mandated.

A day after Haggis' letter went public, a Paris court convicted the Church of Scientology of fraud and fined it more than \$900,000, but stopped short of banning the group's activities in France. The organization's French branch likened it to a modern-day Inquisition and said it would appeal.

Davis questioned the attention paid to the French verdict, saying that little notice was given when the church won court victories in Italy and Russia that cemented the church's presence in those countries.

He said the top-level defections are not troubling, but rather a gain for the church.

Some scholars of Scientology believe the recent setbacks are momentary.

Defectors are overly optimistic about doing any real damage, said J. Gordon Melton, director of the Institute for the Study of American Religion in Santa Barbara, Calif., and editor of a book on Scientology.

"If five cardinals walked out of the Roman Catholic Church and turned on it and said there are bad things happening, it'd

be a storm, but the church would weather the storm," Melton said. "I think Scientology is big enough to where it can and will weather the storm."

Most religions, Scientology included, experience disagreement and leadership turmoil after a founder's death and survive, said Susan Palmer, a religious studies professor at Dawson College in Montreal.

"I think they'll end up like the Mormon church or Jehovah's Witnesses, that were very controversial in our time but now are largely accepted," Palmer said.

Others think the Church of Scientology is in trouble. Along with the defections and French court setback, Scientology has been unable to stop Internet leaks of confidential material that members must pay a premium for, said Hugh Urban, a professor at Ohio State University.

"They're really losing what has been the bread and butter," Urban said.

Meanwhile, an online betting parlor is taking wagers on the next celebrity Scientologist to leave.

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HOLIDAY COOKBOOK CONTEST

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Please type or print your recipe legibly and submit it with this form.

Finalist will be required to cook entry and drop off at the Big Spring Herald on the day of judging.

Winners will be notified that same evening and empty containers may be picked up the day after judging of the contest.

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News in brief

\$7M Lotto Texas prize unclaimed

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas is \$7 million richer after the buyer of a winning Lotto Texas ticket didn't claim the prize by the deadline.

Texas Lottery Commission officials say Monday afternoon was the deadline to claim the cash payout of \$7,131,735.60, but the buyer didn't show up.

The ticket was bought at the Big Country Mart in Burleson in early May.

Lottery commission spokesman Bobby Heath says the ticket expired 180 days from the day of the drawing on May 6. He says when a prize goes unclaimed, the money goes back to the state.

Heath says not cashing a Lotto ticket worth millions has happened about five times since 1994.

The first \$10 million returned each year is allocated to the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston and the rest is placed in the state's general fund.

Prosecution rests in Baby Grace case

GALVESTON (AP) — The prosecution has rested in the Galveston capital murder trial of a man accused in the 2007 death of his toddler stepdaughter.

The defense was expected to begin its case Wednesday in the trial of Royce Clyde Zeigler II of Spring.

Riley Ann Sawyers was unidentified when her body was found, in a plastic container, in Galveston Bay. Relatives in Mentor, Ohio, recognized the 2-year-old victim from media accounts about the unknown child dubbed "Baby Grace."

A coroner testified Tuesday that an autopsy found the girl had three skull fractures.

Prosecutors maintain Riley died after a violent discipline session in July 2007. Her remains were discovered three months later by a fisherman.

Study finds Texas teacher merit pay did little

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas spent \$300 million on merit pay for teachers in the past three years in an effort that

led to few gains by students.

The National Center on Performance Incentives reviewed the now-defunct Texas Educator Excellence Grant.

The Dallas Morning News reported Wednesday that researchers determined there was "no systematic evidence that TEEG had an impact on student achievement gains."

Researchers examined reading scores on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills for more than 140,000 students.

A spokeswoman for Gov. Rick Perry, Allison Castle, says he supports incentivizing the best teachers through merit pay. She says Perry worked with the Legislature to consolidate programs into one with an increase funding.

Legislators provided nearly \$200 million annually for another merit pay plan that began last year, District Awards for Teacher Excellence, or DATE.

Jack Ruby's hat to be auctioned in Dallas

DALLAS (AP) — The \$16.50 gray fedora worn by Dallas strip club owner Jack Ruby when he fatally shot Lee Harvey Oswald in 1963 is for sale.

Heritage Auctions scheduled an auction Saturday for the Cavanagh fedora.

President John F. Kennedy was slain on Nov. 22, 1963. Oswald was arrested for the assassination. Ruby fatally shot Oswald on Nov. 24, in an attack captured during a live TV broadcast as the suspected assassin was being escorted by law officers.

Ruby was convicted of killing Oswald and sentencing to death, but was appealing when he died of cancer in 1967.

The auction house estimates the fedora, with Ruby's name embossed inside in gold and the cost of the hat, will sell for more than \$35,000.

Parents sue alleging hazing in son's death

DALLAS (AP) — The parents of a 20-year-old Prairie View A&M University transfer student who died last month are suing the school and Phi Beta Sigma fraternity, among other

defendants.

Dallas lawyer Kevin Kelley filed the lawsuit Friday in state district court in connection to the Oct. 20 death of Donnie Wade Jr. Wade died after he and other pledges participated in an early morning run off campus.

Calls and e-mails by The Associated Press Tuesday night to university spokeswoman Sheleah Hughes and the fraternity weren't immediately returned.

Hughes has said Wade, a junior from Dallas, was with other students at the Hempstead High School track about 9 miles from the university's campus, when he became ill.

The lawsuit alleges his death was due to hazing. The Harris County medical examiner is handling the autopsy.

Man wanted on Texas warrants arrested in Arizona

YOUNG, Ariz. (AP) — Authorities say a man wanted on felony warrants out of Texas was arrested Tuesday in the northern Arizona city of Young.

The Gila County Sheriff's Office says 29-year-old Joseph Rene Hernandez was wanted in Galveston, Texas, for a probation violation and assault-injury to a child. Details of those cases were not immediately available.

Authorities say Hernandez was taken into custody at a home in Young and then booked into the Gila County Jail in Payson pending extradition proceedings to Galveston.

Republicans sweep governor races in Virginia, New Jersey — troubling sign for Dems, Obama

WASHINGTON (AP) — Independents who swept Barack Obama to a historic 2008 victory broke big for Republicans on Tuesday as the GOP wrested political control from Democrats in Virginia and New Jersey, a troubling sign for the president and his party heading into an important midterm election year.

Conservative Republican Bob McDonnell's victory in the Virginia governor's race over Democrat R. Creigh Deeds and moderate Republican Chris Christie's ouster of unpopular New Jersey Gov. Jon Corzine was a double-barreled triumph for a party looking to rebuild after being booted from power in national elections in 2006 and 2008.

Elsewhere, Maine voters rejected a state law that would allow same-sex couples to wed. If supporters had prevailed, it would have marked the first time that the electorate in any state endorsed gay marriage.

And Democrat Bill Owens captured a GOP-held vacant 23rd Congressional District seat in New York in a race that highlighted fissures in the Republican Party and illustrated

hurdles the GOP could face in capitalizing on any voter discontent with Obama and Democrats next fall.

California Lt. Gov. John Garamendi, also a Democrat, won a special election to a vacant congressional seat, Ohio voters approved casinos and a slew of cities selected mayors, including New York, which gave Michael Bloomberg a third term.

Maine voters reject same-sex marriage law

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — Maine voters repealed a state law Tuesday that would have allowed same-sex couples to wed, dealing the gay rights movement a heartbreaking defeat in New England, the corner of the country most supportive of gay marriage.

Gay marriage has now lost in every single state — 31 in all — in which it has been put to a popular vote. Gay-rights activists had hoped to buck that trend in Maine — known for its moderate, independent-minded electorate — and mounted an energetic, well-financed campaign.

With 87 percent of the precincts reporting, gay-marriage foes had 53 percent of the votes.

"The institution of marriage has been preserved in Maine and across the nation," declared Frank Schubert, chief organizer for the winning side.

Gay-marriage supporters held out hope that the tide would shift before conceding defeat at 2:40 a.m. in a statement that insisted they weren't going away.

With risks still swirling, Fed likely to keep key rate at record low

WASHINGTON (AP) — Faced with lurking dangers to the budding recovery, Federal Reserve policymakers are sure to leave a key interest rate at a record low to entice Americans to spend more and help the economic turnaround gain traction.

The economy started to grow again last quarter for the first time in more than a year, although there are uncertainties about the strength and staying power of the recovery, especially after government supports are removed.

Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke and his colleagues, wrapping up a two-day meeting Wednesday, are likely to note the country's economic and financial improvements. But they'll also warn that rising joblessness and hard-to-get-credit for many people and companies will restrain the rebound in the months ahead. Troubles in the commercial real estate market, where soured loans are contributing to bank failures, also remain a concern.

At its last meeting in late September, the Fed opted to stretch out into early next year a key program aimed at forcing down mortgage rates and providing support to the housing market.

Victim Right

A victim of crime is defined by Chapter 56 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, as (1) someone who is the victim of sexual assault, kidnapping, or aggravated robbery or who has suffered bodily injury or death because of the criminal conduct of another, (2) the close relative (spouse, parent, adult brother or sister, or child) of a deceased victim or (3) the guardian of a victim. The law also applies to victims of juvenile crime, including victims who suffer property loss.

The State of Texas intends that victims of crime receive the following safeguards, assurances and considerations:

Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 56 Texas Constitution, Article I Section 30

- Receive adequate protection from harm and threats of harm arising from cooperation with prosecution efforts;
- have their safety considered by the magistrate when setting bail;
- receive information, on request, of relevant court proceedings, including appellate proceedings, of cancellations and rescheduling prior to the event, and appellate court decisions after the decisions are entered but before they are made public;
- be informed, when requested, by a peace officer about the defendant's right to bail and criminal investigation procedures, and from the prosecutor's office about general procedures in the criminal justice system, including plea agreements, restitution, appeals and parole;
- provide pertinent information concerning the impact of the crime to the probation department prior to sentencing;
- information about the Texas Crime Victims' Compensation Fund and payment for a medical examination for a victim of sexual assault, and, on request, referral to social service agencies that provide additional assistance;
- information, on request, about parole procedures; notification of parole proceedings and of the inmate's release; and the opportunity to participate in the parole process by submitting written information to the Board of Pardons and Paroles for inclusion in the defendant's file for consideration by the Board prior to parole;
- a separate or secure waiting area at all public court proceedings;
- prompt return of any property that is no longer needed as evidence;
- have the prosecutor notify, upon request, an employer that the need for the victim's testimony may involve the victim's absence from work;
- on request, counseling and testing regarding AIDS and HIV infection and testing for victims of sexual assault
- request victim-offender mediation coordinated by the Victim Services Division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice;
- be informed of the use and purpose of a victim impact statement, to complete a victim impact statement and to have the statement considered before sentencing and acceptance of a plea bargain and before an inmate is released on parole.

A victim, guardian of a victim, or close relative of a deceased victim may be present at all public court proceedings, with the consent of the presiding judge;

A judge, attorney for the state, peace officer, or law enforcement agency is not liable for a failure or inability to provide a service enumerated herein.

Victims should also know that they can have a victim advocate accompany them during the sexual assault exam if an advocate is available at the time of the examination.

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Why not check this out? At the library

The barrel is getting pretty empty of new books, although we do have some new books on CD coming in.

"The Last Time Around Cape Horn" (910.450 STA W) by William F. Stark, Ordinary Seaman (what is an ordinary seaman? Can't he be a special one?), is the story of a trip on the Windjammer Pamir. The year 1949 marked the final journeys of commercial windjammers, huge, steel-hulled, four-masted sailboats carrying cargo halfway around the world. Stark was a sailor on the Pamir, a Finnish ship, the very last windjammer to sail commercially around Cape Horn, and lived to write this romantic tale of adventure and camaraderie tempered by grueling, dangerous work.



HOLLIS McCRIGHT

The four-month voyage across the world's most stormy and dangerous seas, without engines or even a radio, challenged him not only with dangers like furling sails atop 200-foot-high masts in hurricane winds, but also with grinding work and sleep deprivation demanded by four-hour watches. This entertaining memoir seamlessly imparts sailing terms and ocean lore, and will enthral all who have held romantic notions of life at sea — review from Publisher's Weekly.

From a different perspective comes "The Far Side of the World" (F OBR P) by Patrick O'Brien.

O'Brien has written quite a few in the series and this particular book has Captain Jack Aubrey accepting an assignment to sail to

Cape Horn to intercept a frigate that is playing havoc with the whalers. You can check out the book or maybe find the movie at Blockbuster or Netflix. Russell Crowe is Captain Aubrey in the latest rendition.

Wilbur Smith is a prolific writer with more than 20 books to his name. "Birds of Prey" (F SMI W) is similar to O'Brien's, but with a couple of differences: It takes place in the late 1660s and diamonds and South Africa are the focus. A Dutch East Indiaman is returning from the Orient and hunt for treasure begins. Another sea-tale full of blood, drama and the open ocean.

Now for another frontier — westerns. Try reading Stephen Bly's "Creede of Old Montana" (LP W BLY S), "The Apache Kid" (LP W HEN W) by Will Henry and "The Warrior" (LP W EVE W) by Wade Everett. These books take place in the endless expanse of grass of the Great Plains and the mountains. Each character plays the same role, that of a person who stands for what they consider to be right: justice, truth, dignity.

It is hard to believe that Elvis Presley would reach 75 years of age in January 2010. A donation book, "Elvis Presley: Unseen archives" (782.421 CLA M) by Marie Clayton, details the life of Elvis. Filled with both black and white photos and ones in color, it chronicles his life. It is really interesting to see how he changed from his

rockabilly style to his smooth songs of later years. A neat book.

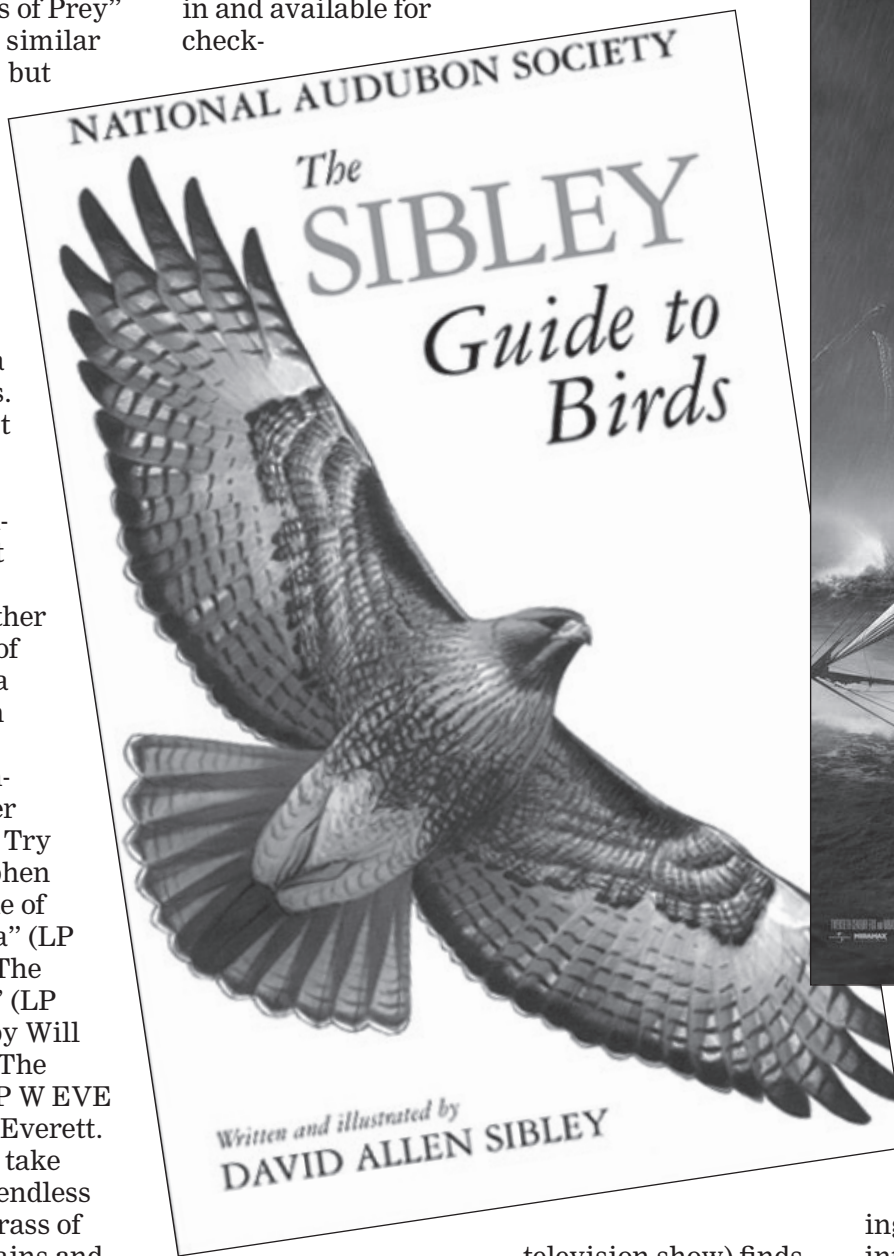
The library is still in the process of withdrawing books on cassette tape. We will be moving the BOCDS in the near future and have plans to really increase the holdings. Some new BOCDS now in and available for check-

Nick Hornby, is the story of a reclusive rocker (think Eric Clapton) and a new friend he corresponds with over the Internet.

How many bones does the human body have? Kathy Reich's newest "206 Bones" starring Tempe Brennan ("Bones"

collection, it is always nice to get another one! "The Sibley Guide to Birds" (598.097 SIB), by David Allen Sibley, is simply one of the best all around bird books to have as reference or just to read and study.

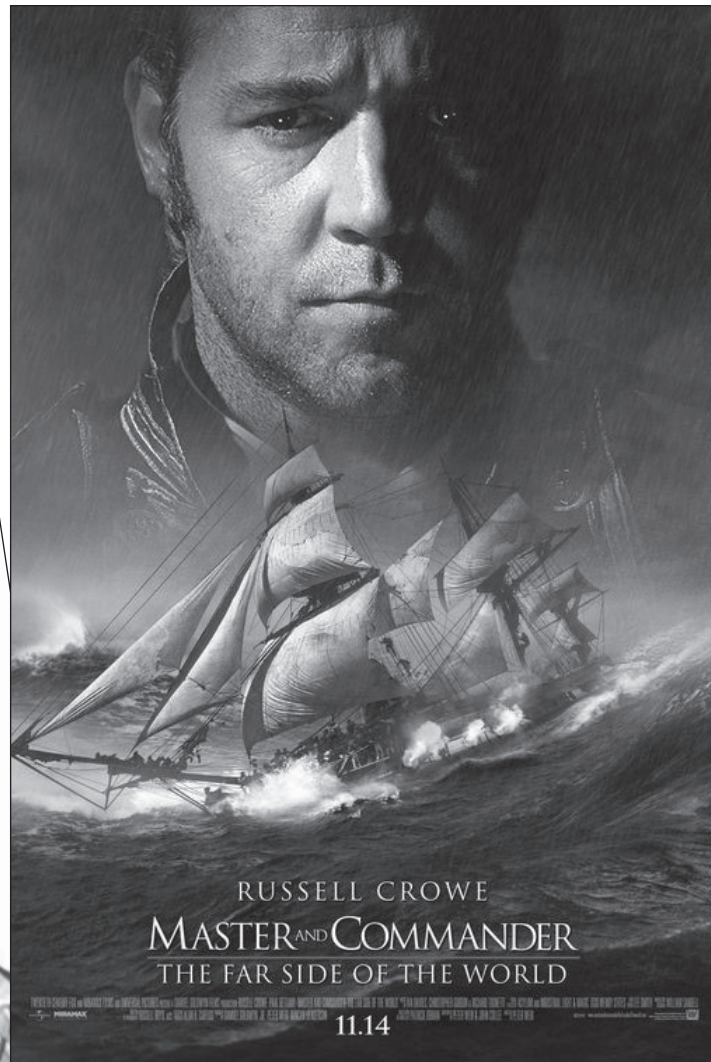
David Bach, in 2005, came out with "Start Late, Finish Rich" (332.024 BAC D). His book is for any age person and is touted as a no-fail plan to achieve financial freedom. Our Web site is www.



out are: "The Fixer Upper" by Mary Kay Andrews, "Day After Night" by Anita Diamant and "Black Water Rising" by Attica Locke. I heard Ms. Locke speak at the Texas Library Association annual convention and she is a very dynamic speaker and writer. "Juliet, Naked," by

television show) finds herself bound hand and foot in a cramped, cold enclosed space. Read to see how she reconstructs the sequence of events and how Ryan finds her. Also enclosed is an MP3 recording of "Deja Dead." This can only be listened to on an MP3 player.

While we have several bird books in the



It is split into an introduction on the classification, how to identify a bird, and ethics of birding. Further divided into species — diurnal raptors, alcid, trogons, and other unusual terms will whet your interest further into becoming a birder!

Many people listen to Dave Ramsey or attend his financial seminars. Ramsey is more of a preacher/motivator — with a simple mantra of pay cash, be fiscally responsible and so on.

howard-county.lib.tx.us. Howard County Library hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. The Internet/Video room closes one-half hour before closing. The library is located at 500 S. Main St. Our phone number is 264-2260. If you need to renew or request a book, e-mail Johnny at hcrhref@hotmail.com.

Hollis McCright is manager of the Howard County Library.

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Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Sylvia Stages a Neat Recovery

East dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ A J 9
♥ A Q 7 6 4 2
♦ 2
♣ A K 5
WEST
♠ Q 10 8 7
♥ K 10 8
♦ 9 8 4 3
♣ 9 7
EAST
♠ 5 4 3 2
♥ J 9
♦ J 7 6 5
♣ Q J 10
SOUTH
♠ K 6
♥ 5 3
♦ A K Q 10
♣ 8 6 4 3 2

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 2♣ Pass 7♣

Opening lead — nine of clubs.

Despite anything you may have heard to the contrary, this was the hand that launched Sylvia upon her amazing series of misadventures at the club.

The deal occurred shortly after she became a member. There is no question that the Admissions Committee would have rejected Sylvia's application for membership had it been aware of how poorly she played, or how little experience she had had.

I was not present when the hand arose, but the bidding was reported

to me to have taken place as shown.

Sylvia was South and bid two spades (a strong opening in those days) after East had passed. Obviously, she had suffered a mental aberration of some sort. Perhaps she was counting aloud how many spades she had, or was thinking about the previous hand. Whatever the reason, West passed, and North promptly bid seven spades.

Sylvia was aghast at this turn of events, but, as usual, she showed no outward sign that anything was wrong. She won the club lead in dummy, led a diamond and, having learned several days earlier how to finesse, played the ten.

After the ten held, she cashed the A-K-Q, discarding a club and two hearts from dummy. Sylvia then finessed the queen of hearts, then the ace of clubs and ace of hearts and ruffed a heart with the six of spades.

Nine tricks had been played, and West was down to the Q-10-8-7 of trumps. When Sylvia now led a club, West ruffed with the seven but was overruled by dummy's nine. And when Sylvia trumped dummy's last heart with her king, West had to underruff with the eight. A club lead then trapped West's Q-10, allowing dummy's A-J to score the last two tricks, and the grand slam became rolling home!

Tomorrow: A stitch in time saves West.

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Little contact in NFL practices showing on field

Associated Press

Frank Gore runs right up the gut of the Indianapolis defense. Defensive back Jerraud Powers delivers a big body-blow, but Gore just bounces off and keeps on running, one of two broken tackles on the way to a 64-yard San Francisco touchdown.

Baltimore's Ray Rice catches a screen pass and is surrounded by four Cincinnati would-be tacklers — emphasis on "would-be." Rice's right hand touches the ground, but he keeps running right through the Bengals for a 48-yard score.

With the game on the line, Brandon Marshall outmaneuvers Ken Hamlin, Terence Newman and a few other Cowboys for a winning Denver touchdown in Dallas.

What's the deal? Don't these NFLers practice tackling anymore?

Uh, no. Not really. Go watch a professional football practice. You'll see

passers passing, receivers receiving, punters punting and blockers blocking. Yet tackling, one of the game's essential and the punctuation mark to nearly every play, usually gets a miss.

"We teach tackling fundamentals," Cowboys coach Wade Phillips said. "But there's no reason to tackle our own guys."

Instead, defensive players are taught not to tackle. They get right up to the ball carrier and hit the brakes, just missing him or giving him a little bump.

Make full contact, and coaches and teammates get upset. Pittsburgh's Hines Ward threw a fit last year when he felt safety Anthony Smith hit receiver Willie Reid during a drill. The Steelers have a tackling dummy named Big Bertha, but that's about as physical as it gets on most training camp days.

Sure, that keeps everybody healthy,

but some Sundays can look pretty ragged. Many players get a chance to tackle at full speed only during exhibition games. It shows once the regular season begins.

"It shows a whole bunch," Redskins safeties coach Steve Jackson said. "That's one of the fundamental skills. A lot of people don't tackle now because of the salary cap. You lose a guy because of a tackling drill, you're the dumbest guy on the planet."

Phillips says getting in position but not hitting is actually harder than tackling — and that it forces his Cowboys players to emphasize good technique. Jackson, after watching a poor Redskins tackling performance earlier this season, isn't fond of that theory.

"You train yourself to 'just miss,'" Jackson said. "And now (in a miss) you have untrain yourself in a manner of split seconds."

There are some exceptions. Many

teams have live tackling during specific short-yardage drills during camp, and, of course, there's usually at least one preseason scrimmage that gives the defenders a chance or two to bring someone down for real. Those moments, however, represent a small percentage of practice for most teams.

"Even if we are in full pads, you're not going to tackle a guy, you're going to 'thud him up,'" Miami defensive end Jason Taylor said. "You can never simulate what it's going to be like in a game because there's nothing else on the planet like an NFL football game. It's quick, fast, it's in a hurry, it's violent, and you can't simulate that during the week or else you'll have no one to play on Sunday."

Some coaches are more aggressive than others. Jets coach Rex Ryan had a handful of drills with live tackling

See **TACKLING**, page 14

Lady Steers' season comes to close in loss

By JOE ZIGTEMA

Sports Editor

LUBBOCK — The Big Spring Lady Steers faced a tall task Tuesday night. But it wasn't a new one.

With the fourth play-off spot in district 4-4A, they faced the Canyon Randall Lady Raiders, who are ranked No. 2 in the state, in bi-district action at Lubbock Monterey Gym.

Last season, Big Spring faced Hereford in bi-district play, a team that went on to capture the 4A state championship.

"I don't doubt that this team has a very good shot at (winning state) also," said head coach Lynn Osbourne about the Lady Raiders.

Big Spring fought valiantly, but the team fell in straight sets to Randall in its last match of the season, 25-7, 25-10 and 25-8.

"When you play a team like that, it's always a

little bit fun," Osbourne said. "Just to see how many blocks you can get, see how many digs you can get. (The players) bought into that and I think they really got into it."

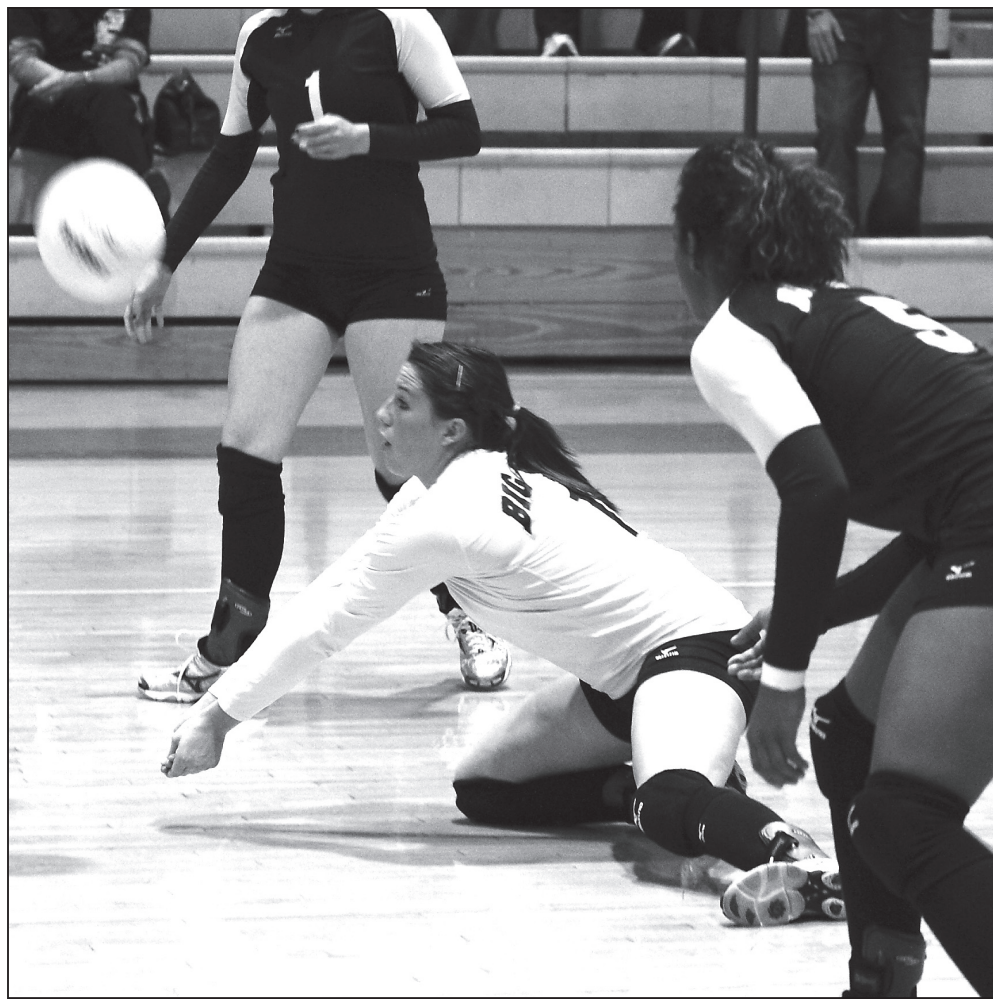
Senior Callie Shafer played her last match in a Big Spring uniform. She recorded two assists, a kill and six digs in the match.

"I'm kind of sad," she said. "I wish it wasn't over, but I thought we played pretty good against them. I think this year we all came together, we all got along and it's been really good."

Osbourne led the Lady Steers back to the post-season in her first year as coach, an achievement she said gives her team some momentum heading into next year.

"I was proud of them. I'm really proud of my young girls who went

See **BSHS**, page 14



Valerie Ross digs out a ball while Desiree Anderson looks on Tuesday night against Canyon Randall in Lubbock. The Lady Steers lost in straight sets to the Lady Raiders, who are ranked No. 2 in the state.

Herald Photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring swimmers host meet

Herald Staff Report

The Big Spring swim team was well represented at its home meet at the YMCA Saturday as 23 BSHS swimmers competed for their school.

Big Spring took seventh place in both the girls and the boys rankings. Pecos easily won the girls and boys meets by more than 100 points.

Kelly Sage highlighted the Big Spring squad in the 500-yard freestyle, where she finished three seconds behind winner Adrianna Roman of Pecos with a time of 5:56.04. Sage also finished third in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 1:11.33.

Steven Powell led the Big Spring boys team with a time of 1:16.06 in the 100-yard breast-

See **SWIM**, page 13

Texas still haunted, motivated by last second loss to Tech in '08

Associated Press

AUSTIN — Eight games into the 2009 season, 1 second from 2008 still haunts and motivates Texas.

One second, one play and one loss to Texas Tech ruined the Longhorns' chance to play for a national title.

Several Longhorns said Monday the memory of that game has been with them all year and will be over the final month of the season.

"Let's not let that happen again," quarterback Colt McCoy said. "We know that feeling and we don't want to feel it again."

It would seem Texas players would have exorcised those demons when the Longhorns beat Texas Tech 34-24 on Sept. 19, but they acknowledged the last-second defeat to Michael Crabtree and the Red Raiders in Lubbock last year has driven them motivated every day of 2009.

"It was a good lesson," defensive tackle Lamarr Houston said. "We don't ever want to leave our destiny in someone else's hands again."

That won't happen if Texas keeps winning.

At 8-0, the Longhorns are No. 2 in the Bowl Championship Series standings and in sole possession of first place in the Big 12 South.

Win the division, and Texas gets to the Big 12 title game. Win that, and Texas has a clear path to the BCS Championship game on Jan. 7 in Pasadena, Calif., the site of the Longhorns 2005 championship game victory against USC.

On Saturday, the Longhorns play Central Florida (5-3). The Knights were supposed to be an early season tuneup before the game got switched with Texas Tech.

Then the Longhorns travel to Baylor (3-5), which has lost four in a row, before hosting Kansas (5-3), which has lost its last three. The finale at Texas A&M (5-3) seems to be the biggest hurdle on the way to an undefeated regular season.

The Longhorns are trying to tune out talk from fans and media that they might as well start making hotel reservations in California.

"But we're the ones who have to play," senior center Chris Hall said. "We know better."

And that's when he brings up Texas Tech, that 1 disastrous second and how it keeps the Longhorns razor sharp at what could be a dull point in the season.

"With our experience last year, there are no thoughts like that with us," Hall said.

Roy Miller, a former Longhorns

defensive tackle with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, visited his old team last week. He told them he is haunted by that second in Lubbock.

"Don't leave a play on the field," Miller told them. "It stays with you the rest of your life."

Everything is still within Texas' reach.



Texas wide receiver Malcolm Williams, right, grabs a touchdown pass in front of Oklahoma State's Terrance Anderson on Saturday in Stillwater.

AP photo/Sue Ogrocki

Sports in brief

Stanton named 'Army Strong' Team of the week

The Stanton Buffaloes have been named by Dave Campbell's Texas Football as the Army Strong Team of the Week for division 1A.

Stanton beat undefeated Plains on the road 28-0 Friday. The Buffaloes forced four turnovers in the upset and moved themselves into second place in the district 7-1A standings.

The Buffaloes will host Sundown on Friday in their season finale.

Garden City ranked No. 3 6-man team

The Garden City Bearkats are ranked No. 3 in the sixmanfootball.com high school rankings for week nine.

The Bearkats are 8-1 this season and 4-0 in district play. They beat defending district champion Fort Davis on Oct. 23 and Water Valley by 45-point mercy rule Friday.

Garden City will travel to Rankin on Friday in a showdown for the district eight No. 1 seed.

Howard College wins second game

The Hawks cruised to a second win Tuesday night with a 101-39 victory over the Wayland Baptist junior varsity.

Jae Crowder scored 20 points and grabbed seven rebounds. The second team All-American leads the team in scoring through two games.

The team will travel to Lubbock on Monday to play Lubbock Christian JV, a team they beat Monday 93-35.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

If you've meandered off of your so-called "five-year plan" lately, it's time to get back on track. Neptune goes direct in Aquarius, resetting our dreams, fantasies and projections. As for your wandering experiences, they've all contributed to the big picture, so regret would be silly. Be proud of your diversity as you straighten out your course.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Few will agree with your ideas today, but that doesn't matter. It's not the number of votes but the weight of those votes that will make a difference. One devoted partner will be enough. Together you'll change the world.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're trying to do something that requires a great deal of power. Remember that you don't have to make it happen in a single burst. Use time as a tool. Even something as soft as water can crumble a mountain.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Forgiving means forgetting. There is no forgiveness where there is still memory of the wrong done to you, because as long as you recall, a piece of you is still holding out. When you pardon someone, do it all the way.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your stars align to create powerful momentum. Now that you've got the ball

rolling, make sure it keeps going the right way. Keep your eye on the goal. A coach (ideally a Taurus) will help you stay on track.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). In life, you can either act or react. Today, be an actor -- you'll have consistently better results. Think about what you want to happen, and align your efforts accordingly.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Jane Austen said, "We all love to instruct, though we can teach only what is not worth knowing." That's why you wisely choose to teach by example. And more people are watching than you think.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Go out and you'll have a blast. Social gatherings are a stage on which you can show off your exquisite taste. Be bold, for your place at the table of the aesthetically inclined is assured.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). A friend relates curious news. There may be an opportunity for you in this juicy nugget. Don't jump to conclusions, but take a moment to think about where you'd like this to go. The situation is malleable.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Taking a chance on love doesn't have to mean buying flowers for a co-worker or saying yes to a blind date. It could be something as simple as returning a smile. Tonight brings communication from afar.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You will be tempted to feel jealous of a friend's success. Resist

it. Instead, take your friend's good fortune as a sign that your turn is coming up. And keep getting ready to embrace your destiny.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Read the omens. If someone is difficult to get ahold of now, he or she will be difficult to get ahold of later, too. Leave a situation that has no sense of flow to find a better match.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The past isn't over. You'll get the chance to right a past wrong. You'll either be forgiving someone or asking to be forgiven. Completing this cycle puts you in touch with divine energy.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 4). You support your loved ones without stipulating that their choices satisfy you. Because you understand and embody the true nature of love, it will be showered on you through the year. The next four weeks bring an important connection. In December, you'll catch a professional break. January brings a windfall. Cancer and Aries people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 3, 28, 31 and 19.

DOES HE LOVE ME? I WANNA KNOW! If an **AQUARIUS** man loves you, you're in for a mind-expanding experience, for he will open his vibrant world to you. He'll introduce you to his colorful social schedule filled with fascinating characters. You'll be party to his eclectic tastes and vast array of interests, many of which are off the beaten path. There will be long discussions between you,

and often it will feel as though together you can solve the problems of humanity.

When **Aquarius** clicks with someone, there is a magical energy that takes hold. Suddenly the two become an unbeatable team. Indeed, he already possesses a special spark and is looking for someone who has equally lively energy that he can play off of. To attract an **Aquarius** man, it helps if you're on the cutting edge of things, including an interest in technology. He loves a stylish woman who is aware of current trends and cultural happenings. He likes a

date who has specific loves in cuisine, music and other areas of interest. He is less traditional than many guys and is not looking to duplicate the relationship his parents had. He wants a relationship that is constantly fresh, creative and new.

CELEBRITY ROFILES: Kathy Griffin scooped right off the "D-List" using a secret weapon that is lucky for all **Scorpios** -- the truth. **Scorpio** is the sign of cutting to the essence of things, breaking taboos and calling it like it is. While other entertainers posture and puff

themselves up, Griffin proclaimed the pain of her position as a struggling entertainer and turned her status into Emmy-winning entertainment.

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. To find out more about **Holiday Mathis** and read her past columns, visit the **Creators Syndicate Web** page at www.creators.com.

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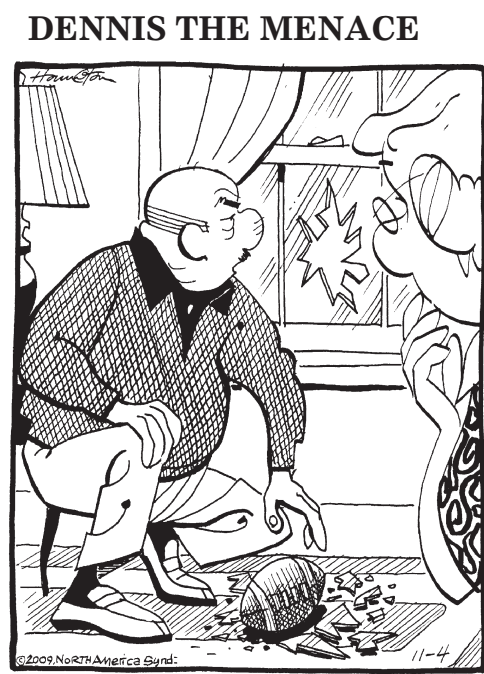
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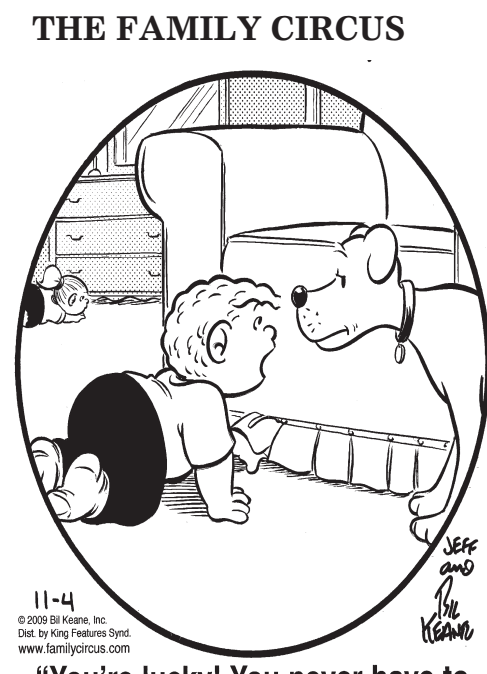
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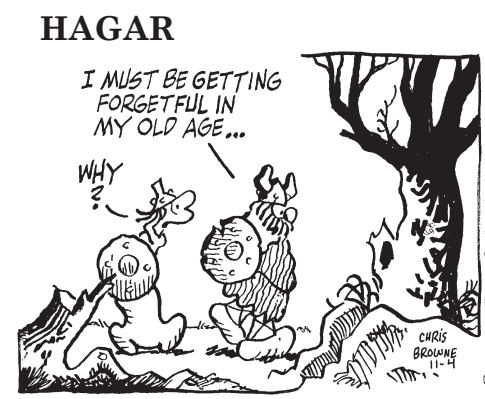
	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM	News ABC	News ABC	Locura	Lopez	News CBS	Noticias	News NBC	Seinfeld	Cortes	BBC	Cash Cab	Returns, Michelle Pfeiffer	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas Suite Life	Horn Interrupt	SportsCenter
6:PM	News ABC	Jeopardy!	Gancho	Two Men	News CBS	12 Cora-zones	News NBC	Office	Harris	Business	Cash Cab	News-Lehrer	CSI: Crime Scn	Bones		Wizards of Montana	Football	NBA Basket-ball: Miami Heat at Washington Wizards.
7:PM	Entertain	Fortune		MLB Base-ball: World Series, Game 6 -- Phillies at Yankees	Entertain	Más Sabe el Diabolo	Millionaire	Name	Swallow	Bill Cosby-Prize	MythBusters	Movie: Batman Forever, Jim Carrey	UFC Un-leashed	Bones	Movie: A Man Apart, Timothy Olyphant	Movie: Freaky Friday, Mark Harmon	Boxing: Johnnie Edwards vs. Jason Litzau.	NBA Basketball: Mavericks at Hornets
8:PM	Middle	Hank	Nombre-Amor		Criminal Minds	Pobres Fútbol de la Liga Mexi-cana	Law & Order: SVU	Payne	House	Including Samuel	MythBusters		UFC Un-leashed	Bones		Phineas	30 for 30	
9:PM	Family	Cougar	Sortilegio		CSI: NY	The Jay Leno Show	Brows	Brows		Bill Cosby-Prize	Time Warp		The Ultimate Fighter	Leverage	First In	Montana	Wizards	SportsCenter
10:PM	News	News	Impacto	Raymond	News	Late Show	News	Seinfeld	Upd	Charlie Rose	MythBusters	Movie: Batman Begins, Liam Neeson	The Ultimate Fighter	Dark Blue	The Mo'Nique	So Raven	Life De	Baseball
11:PM	Nightline	Nightline	Noticiero	TMZ	Late Show	Noticiero	Tonight Show	Seinfeld	Dr. Young	BBC	MythBusters		DEA	Leverage	W. Williams	Cory	SportsNation	SportsCenter
12:AM	Insider	Jimmy Kim-mel Live	La Casa de la Risa	Law & Order: SVU	Late Late Show	Decisions	Late Night-Jim	Sex & CCM	Israel	Smiley			CSI: Crime Scn	Dark Blue	Movie: A Man Apart, Timothy Olyphant	Replace	NASCAR	SportsCenter
1:AM	Jeans	Paid Prog	Mujer	King-Hill	Insider	Pagada	Poker After Dark	Blue Streak (DVS)	Sanchez	Cash Cab	Cash Cab	(45) Movie: Reign of Fire	Star Trek: Voyager	Cold Case		Emperor Dragon	NBA Basket-ball: Heat at Wizards	SportsCenter



"SILLY ME! I ASSUMED OUR WINDOWS WERE SAFE FROM DENNIS WHEN BASEBALL SEASON ENDED."



"You're lucky! You never have to remember where you left YOUR shoes!"



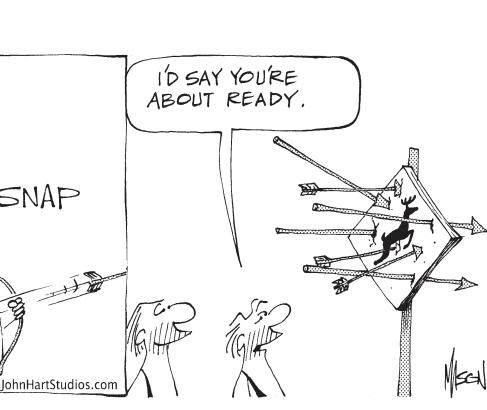
I MUST BE GETTING FORGETFUL IN MY OLD AGE... WHY?



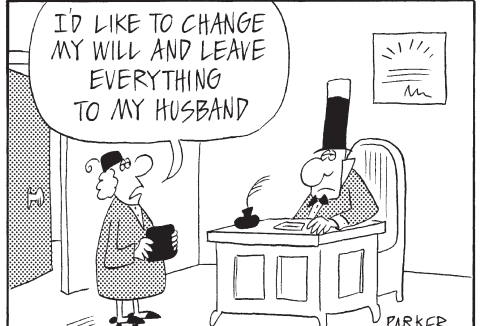
I MISSED HALLOWEEN THIS YEAR



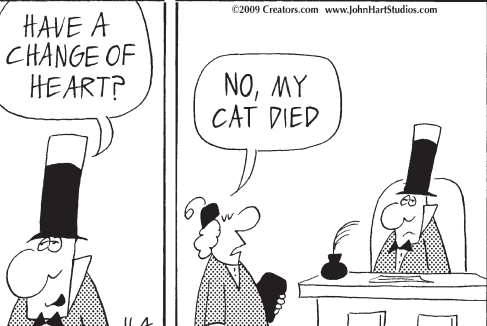
WHATCHA DOIN', THOR? JUST GETTING IN A LITTLE PRACTICE BEFORE HUNTING SEASON. SNAP



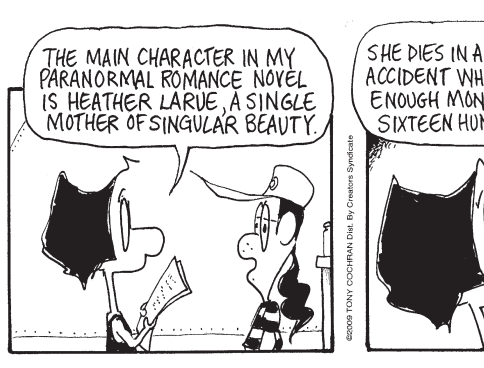
I'D LIKE TO CHANGE MY WILL AND LEAVE EVERYTHING TO MY HUSBAND. HAVE A CHANGE OF HEART? NO, MY CAT DIED



THE MAIN CHARACTER IN MY PARANORMAL ROMANCE NOVEL IS HEATHER LARUE, A SINGLE MOTHER OF SINGULAR BEAUTY. SHE DIES IN A FREAK POLE DANCING ACCIDENT WHILE TRYING TO EARN ENOUGH MONEY TO FEED HER SIXTEEN HUNGRY CHILDREN. NOW SHE LIKES TO POP OUT OF CLOSETS AND SCARE DEVOUT CHRISTIANS AND JEWISH ELDERS. HEY! ARE YOU RIPPING OFF MY AUNTANN'S LIFE STORY?!



SORRY, IT ISN'T IN YET. I SAW THAT TOY ON TV A MONTH AGO. BY THE TIME THEY GET IT IN, I WON'T WANT IT ANYMORE!



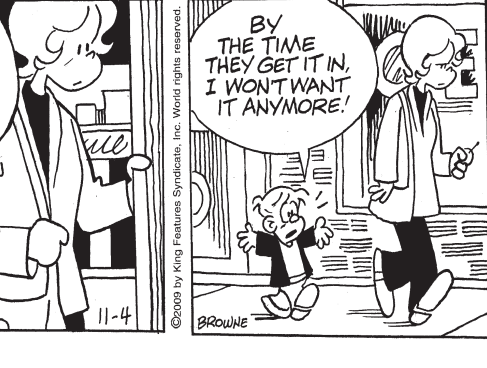
AHA! I CAUGHT YOU! OFF THE BED, KOKO! Y'KNOW, THE ANCIENT JAPANESE SHOGUNS HAD PEOPLE WHO WOULD WARM UP THEIR BEDS FOR THEM. BUT THE SHOGUNS DIDN'T HAVE TO PUT UP WITH DROOL AND DOG HAIR ON THE SHEETS.



WELCOME, MAMA SMITH !! HOWDY, WEEZY !! I SEE YOU'VE DROPPED A FEW POUNDS !! TOO BAD THEY LANDED SMACK-DAB ON YORE HIPS !!



THAT'S THE BEST 18 HOLES I EVER SHOT! WHO CARES? NOBODY'S KEEPING TRACK. FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, I HAD A BETTER SCORE ON SATURDAY, JULY 14, 1984



ACHOO!



THIS SWINE FLU THING HAS EVERYONE UPTIGHT!

This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Nov. 4, the 308th day of 2009. There are 57 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

One year ago, on Nov. 4, 2008, Democrat Barack Obama was elected the first black president of the United States, defeating Republican John McCain; Democrats gained seats in the Senate and House.

On this date: In 1884, Democrat Grover Cleveland was elected to his first term as president, defeating Republican James G. Blaine.

In 1922, the entrance to King Tutankhamen's tomb was discovered in Egypt.

In 1924, Nellie T. Ross of Wyoming was elected the nation's first female governor to serve out the remaining term of her late husband, William B. Ross.

In 1939, the United States modified its neutrality stance in World War II, allowing "cash

and carry" purchases of arms by belligerents, a policy favoring Britain and France.

In 1942, during World War II, Axis forces retreated from El Alamein in North Africa in a major victory for British forces commanded by Lt. Gen. Bernard Montgomery.

In 1952, Dwight D. Eisenhower was elected president, defeating Democrat Adlai Stevenson.

In 1979, the Iran hostage crisis began as militants stormed the United States Embassy in Tehran, seizing its occupants; for some, it was the start of 444 days of captivity.

In 1980, Ronald Reagan won the White House as he defeated President Jimmy Carter by a strong margin.

In 1991, Ronald Reagan opened his presidential library in Simi Valley, Calif., with a dedication attended by President George H.W. Bush and former Presidents Jimmy Carter, Gerald R. Ford and Richard Nixon — the first-ever gathering of five past and present U.S. chief executives.

In 1995, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated by a right-wing Israeli minutes after attending a festive peace rally.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Doris Roberts is 79. Actress Loretta Swit is 72. R&B singer Harry Elston (Friends of Distinction) is 71. Blues singer Delbert McClinton is 69. Former First Lady Laura Bush is 63. Actress Markie Post is 59. Rock singer-musician Chris Difford (Squeeze) is 55. Country singer Kim Forester (The Forester Sisters) is 49. Actress-comedian Kathy Griffin is 49. Actor Ralph Macchio is 48. "Survivor" host Jeff Probst is 48. Rock singer-musician Wayne Static (Static-X) is 44. Actor Matthew McConaughey is 40. Rapper-producer Sean "Diddy" Combs is 40. R&B singer Shawn Rivera (Az Yet) is 38.

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Answer to previous puzzle

BUZZ	ERIC	ARKS
ISEE	RICH	TIETO
DEER	EVER	OCEAN
OCCASIONALLY		
HBO	ATL	SRO
SEX	ORGANS	STIFF
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THEN	ROSE	ODES
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LAS	SIR	CAL
SPY	ONCE	IN
AWHILE	STEAD	THAN
TWAS	SENSE	OUST
COLA	SETS	RPMS
HOAX		

Newsday Crossword

OFF THE TOP by Norma Steinberg

Edited by Stanley Newman

www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Bits of info
 - 6 Skycap's burden
 - 10 Accord
 - 14 "One more time!"
 - 15 CEO or CFO
 - 16 Get an effort
 - 17 One of Groucho's brothers
 - 18 Singer Horne
 - 19 Peru's capital
 - 20 Clairvoyance, for short
 - 21 Skating sport
 - 24 Newspaper articles
 - 26 Hug
 - 27 Out of the cold
 - 29 At that time
 - 31 Bits of info
 - 32 Director Ephron
 - 34 Wild equines
 - 39 Nasal pick-up
 - 40 Not moving
 - 42 Land measurement
 - 43 Dish of greens
 - 45 "Tall" story
 - 46 Salary
 - 47 Portable media player
 - 49 Customer
 - 51 Piece of parchment
 - 55 ___ iniquity (wicked place)
 - 56 Horseracing prize
 - 59 Homer Simpson exclamation
- DOWN**
- 7 Skating jump
 - 8 Actor Wilder
 - 9 Hard to find
 - 10 Not as ruddy
 - 11 Blazing
 - 12 Salon tools
 - 13 Platters
 - 22 Seer's clues
 - 23 Comic Carvey
 - 25 Jeweled headpiece
 - 27 Wedding vows
 - 28 Nothing: Sp.
 - 29 Three-note chord
 - 30 Corridor
 - 33 Beetle Bailey dog
 - 35 Took care of
 - 36 Eat greedily
 - 37 And so . . .
 - 38 Perceived

- 41 Cartoon skunk Pepe
- 44 Pickle flavoring
- 48 Promise
- 50 Historical records
- 51 Soda-shop freebie
- 52 Have an urge for
- 53 Unwilling to bend
- 54 Opinion pieces
- 55 Rounded tops
- 57 Cajole
- 58 Acting job
- 60 Part of a range
- 61 Actress Lamarr
- 65 Word meant to startle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
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66						67					68			
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SWIM

Continued from page 8
stroke, good for fourth place.

The Big Spring relay teams also performed well. The girls 200-yard medley relay team took sixth, just one-tenth of a second behind Monahans with a time of 2:19.72. The 200-yard freestyle team also took sixth, again just behind Monahans with a time of 2:05.08

The team will travel to Pecos for its next meet Nov. 13-14 in the Pecos Invitational.

Girls team rankings:

1. Pecos 308, 2. Abilene Wylie 210, 3. Monahans 200, 4. Hanks 171, 5. Bel Air 167, 6. Andrews 139, 7. Big Spring 86, 8. Fort Stockton 34, 9. Abilene Cooper 10

Boys team rankings:

1. Pecos 379, 2. Bel Air 256, 3. Monahans 207, 4. Hanks 178, 5. Andrews 112, 6. Abilene Wylie 106, 7. Big Spring 58, 8 Ft. Stockton 41

Girls 200 Medley Relay

1. Pecos 2:03.18 2. Hanks 2:04.27 3. Abilene Wylie 2:12.72, 4. Bel Air 2:12.94 5. Monahans 2:19.61 6. Big Spring 2:19.72

Boys 200 Medley Relay

1. Pecos 1:48.09 2. Monahans 1:52.27 3. Bel Air 1:53.59 4. Hanks 1:57.54 5. Bel Air 2:05.73 Notable: 8. Big Spring 2:07.00

Girls 200 Free

1. Adrianna Roman, Pecos 2:11.68 2; Angela Worsham, Epha 2:11.80; 3. Stormy Swindell, Wylie 2:22.95; 4. Anatalia Hernandez, Pecos 2:23.49; 5. Jayda Torres, Monahans 2:30.53; Notable: 12. Mari Carrillo, Big Spring 2:54.74; 18. Bianca Griego, Big Spring 3:21.97;

19. Meagan Grisham, Big Spring 3:28.16

Boys 200 Free

1. Fabian Romero, Epha 2:05.19; 2. Caleb Freeland, Wylie 2:07.99; 3. Gregory Roman, Pecos 2:10.77; 4. Joran Herrera, Monahans 2:13.21; 5. Cyle Lynch, Monahans 2:17.18; Notable: 9. Andrew Johnson, Big Spring 2:27.81

Girls 200 IM

1. Renee Gonzalez, Epha 2:20.53; 2. Alyson Reynolds, Pecos 2:21.56; 3. Victoria Machuca 2:51.14; 4. Vanessa Granillo, Bell Air 2:52.67; 5. Natalie Duzan, Andrews 2:57.31; 6. Jennifer Walker, Big Spring 2:58.07

Boys 200 IM

1. Chris Price, Wylie 2:08.51; 2. Jacob Farmer, Andrews 2:20.30; 3. David Fregoso, Epha 2:20.82; 4. Gus Mendoza, Pecos 2:22.37; 5. Joseph Torres, Bell Air 2:31.44; Notable: 8. Steven Powell, Big Spring 2:39.85

Girls 50 Free

1. Jenny Marquez, Epha 27.44; 2. Morgan Rowland, Andrews 28.39; 3. Dakota Hegar, Pecos 28.71; 4. Lauren Elliott, Pecos 28.92; 5. Betsy Hernandez, Wylie 29.38; Notable: 12. Rebecca Loya, Big Spring 32.02; 15. Meagan Larson, Big Spring 33.04; 21. Mari Carrillo, Big Spring 34.03; 28. Kendra Cook, Big Spring 38.13; 32. Hanna Weber, Big Spring 39.29; 33. Amanda Grisham, Big Spring 40.13; 34. Sydney Hernandez, Big Spring 41.18; 37. Heaven Pruit, Big Spring 50.45

Boys 50 Free

1. Jacob Robbins, Monahans 23.47; Joshua Velazquez, Bell Air 23.94; 3. Chris Price, Wylie 24.07; 4. Brandon Spinks, Monahans 24.40; 5. Bradley Rowland, Andrews 24.43 6. Drew Breckenridge, Big

- Spring 24.58; Notable: 19. Zhamarcus Butts, Big Spring 30.97; 20. Eli Castillo, Big Spring 31.32; 26. Jonathan Pearson, Big Spring 32.43; 31. Demario Butts, Big Spring 33.48; 36. Nick Sharp, Big Spring 34.84, 38. Trevor Shaw, Big Spring 38.59

Girls 100 Butterfly

1. Gisel Mireles, Bell Air 1:05.87; 2. Alexcia Mendoza, Pecos 1:06.58; 3. Alyson Reynolds, Pecos 1:06.81; 4. Angela Worsham, Epha 1:08.92; 5. Anatalia Hernandez, Pecos 1:12.02; Notable: 7. Jennifer Walker, Big Spring 1:21.08

Boys 100 Butterfly

1. Brandon Spinks, Monahans 59.38; 2. Damian Perea, Pecos 1:02.80; 3. Gus Mendoza, Pecos 1:03.61; 4. Fabian Romero, Epha 1:04.89; 5. Eli DeLeon, Epha 1:06.85 Notable: 9. Andrew Johnson, Big Spring 1:13.45; 14. Demario Butts, Big Spring 1:44.35

Girls 100 Free

1. Renee Gonzalez, Epha 59.67; 2. Conner Armstrong, Pecos 1:00.82; 3. Dakota Hegar, Pecos 1:02.93; 4. Morgan Rowland, Andrews 1:03.11; 5. Lauren Elliott, Pecos 1:03.56 Notable: 21. Ashley Pike, Big Spring 1:15.05; 24. Meagan Larson, Big Spring 1:19.45; 30. Bianca Griego, Big Spring 1:28.05

Boys 100 Free

1. Carlos Navarro, Pecos 52.03; 2. Jacob Robbins, Monahans 52.75; 3. Joshua Velasquez, Bell Air 53.53; 4. Bradley Rowland, Andrews 53.78; 5. Sebastian Sandoval, Epha 55.32; 6. Drew Breckenridge, Big Spring 55.70; Notable: 16. Jonathan Pearson, Big Spring 1:11.85

Girls 500 Free

1. Adrianna Roman, Pecos 5:53.92; 2. Kelly Sage, Big Spring 5:56.04; 3. Stormy

- Swindell, Wylie 6:39.99; 4. Daviana Reveles, Bell Air 6:46.45; 5. Jayda Torres, Monahans 6:48.11

Boys 500 Free

1. David Fregoso, Epha 5:30.99; 2. Edward Navarro, Pecos 5:31.84; 3. Rafa Flores, Bell Air 5:47.82; 4. Jacob Farmer, Andrews 5:57.13; 5. Austin Demor, Pecos 6:26.23; Notable: 9. Aaron Hanes, Big Spring 7:16.92

Girls 200 Free Relay

1. Pecos 1:54.96; 2. Wylie 1:56.71; 3. Andrews 1:59.32; 4. Hanks 2:04.39 5. Monahans 2:04.44; 6. Big Spring 2:05.08; Notable: 11. Big Spring 'B' 2:22.69

Boys 200 Free Relay

1. Pecos 1:39.07; 2. Bel Air 1:41.04; 3. Monahans 1:46.48; 4. Hanks 1:47.19; 5. Pecos 'B' 1:48.79;

Girls 100 Backstroke

1. Giesel Mireles, Bel Air 1:06.37; 2. Conner

- Armstrong, Pecos 1:08.58; 3. Kelly Sage, Big Spring 1:11.33; 4. Andrea Rocha, Wylie 1:17.06; 5. Shelby Vinsonhaler, Monahans 1:19.23; Notable: 16. Kendra Cook, Big Spring 1:37.04; 19. Amanda Grisham, Big Spring 1:41.07

Boys 100 Backstroke

1. Andy Rodriguez, Bel Air 1:03.58; 2. Derek Teague, Pecos 1:05.61; 3. Jeremy Nunez, Bel Air 1:06.65; 4. Clay Teague, Pecos 1:09.63; 5. SamuelMcKeever, Monahans 1:10.50; Notable: 11. Robert Barraza, Big Spring 1:20.93; 13. Zhamarcus Butts, Big Spring 1:43.51

Girls 100 Breaststroke

1. Jenny Marquez, Epha 1:13.28; 2. Nicole Tucek, Wylie 1:16.20; 3. Alexcia Mendoza, Pecos 1:22.11; 4. Davina Reveles, Bel Air 1:26.38; 5. Natalie Duzan, Andrews 1:26.91; Notable:

10. Ashley Pike, Big Spring 1:28.61; 15. Rebecca Loya, Big Spring 1:36.99; 17. Hanna Weber, Big Spring 1:43.34; 24. Sydney Hernandez, Big Spring 1:52.50

Boys 100 Breaststroke

1. Carlos Navarro, Pecos 1:06.81; 2. Bradley Shaw, Pecos 1:11.78; 3. Andy Rodriguez, Bel Air 1:12.47; 4. Steven Powell, Big Spring 1:16.16; 5. Abraham Lujan, Pecos 1:16.94; Notable: 17. Aaron Hanes, Big Spring 1:31.21; 20. Nick Sharp, Big Spring 1:38.32; 23. Trevor Shaw, Big Spring 1:59.72

Girls 400 Free Relay

1. Hanks 4:06.84; 2. Hanks 4:18.88; 3. Monahans 4:27.05; 4. Wylie 4:29.02 5. Bel Air 4:29.20

Boys 400 Free Relay

1. Monahans 3:37.13; 2. Pecos 3:39.20; 3. Hanks 3:51.51; 4. Wylie 3:54.32; 5. Bel Air 3:57.47



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AP Photo/Michael Conroy

San Francisco 49ers running back Frank Gore (21) gets past Indianapolis Colts defensive tackle Keyunta Dawson, right, on the way to a 63-yard touchdown in the first quarter in Indianapolis on Sunday. The Colts prevailed over the 49ers 18-14.

TACKLING

Continued from page 8

tackling this year, particularly late in camp. Josh McDaniels, unlike predecessor Mike Shanahan, also had a physical, tackle-heavy camp in Denver.

"If they're poor tacklers, then you end up with a lot of yards once the ball gets into the second level of the defense," McDaniels said. "You can eliminate a lot of big plays if you've got good tacklers."

It's noteworthy that Ryan and McDaniels are both first-year coaches and have yet to have a team decimated by injuries. San Diego coach Norv Turner used to have live tackling every day during his first camps as a young coach with the Redskins in the 1990s, but the line got so long in the trainers' room that he lightened up considerably as the years progressed.

Arizona defensive coordinator Bill Davis, an NFL assistant for nearly two decades, was asked why the Cardinals don't have regular live tackling.

"You can't," Davis replied. "That would actually work against you, because the body can only take so many hits and the season's so long."

It hasn't always been this way. Training camp used to be about getting in shape and hitting hard.

"We had 130 guys, and you could practice for six weeks," Redskins coach Jim Zorn said, who spent much of his playing career with the Seattle Seahawks. "There were a lot of those kinds of scrimmages, we'd go live. But

nowadays with 80 players and really the idea that you want to keep everybody as healthy as you can, you have to limit that."

Then again, as Miami's Taylor pointed out, these aren't the old days.

"You just showed up for training camp, you smoked cigarettes at halftime, a lot of things were different back then," Taylor joked. "So, we don't do all that now. We don't tackle, but we don't smoke at halftime either."

Humor aside, there's no ready-made solution for the tackling woes. Practice it, and someone could get hurt. Don't practice it, and Sundays can be painful for a different reason. Defenders go for the big hit, but don't wrap up. They try to arm-tackle a big running back around the chest instead of the legs. They take bad angles — as if that "just miss" attitude from training camp was still in play.

Meanwhile, scoring is up in the offense-minded NFL, which to this day doesn't even count tackles as an official statistic. Offense remains the side of the ball that sells. Where would the wildcat be, for example, if the Dolphins were pounding their running backs into the turf on practice days?

That's not even a consideration for coach Tony Sparano.

"You wouldn't feel too good about it if on Wednesday you took Ronnie Brown down in practice and he was out of the game," Sparano said. "I would have to do a lot of explaining to Mr. Ross and Bill Parcells at that point. I wouldn't want that conversation."

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BSHS

Continued from page 8

in there and did a great job," Osbourne said.

Canyon Randall opened the match against Big Spring with seven straight points against the Lady Steers, who looked uncomfortable at the outset of the first game.

"At first coming out, they were a little shell shocked," Osbourne said. "But once they got over it, they played."

Desiree Anderson led the Lady Steers with three kills and was 100 percent on her serves. Cerbi Ritchey notched five assists, two kills and a block. Valerie Ross led the defense with seven digs and

was also 100 percent on her serves.

Osbourne addressed her seniors for the last time after the game.

"I told them how much I appreciated them," Osbourne said. "I appreciated their leadership and really enjoyed working with them all season, and it was just a great group of seniors."

In This Season Of Hope

24th Annual **BIG SPRING HERALD**

Community Christmas Parade

5:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 5th

Parade theme:
"A Cotton Pickin' Christmas"

Entry deadline - Noon, Friday, Nov. 13th

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1. Individual or family	2. Civic group, school or church
3. Commercial	4. Industrial

In addition, certificates of commendation will be awarded to the second- and third-place entries in each of those categories. Also, a special award will be presented to the best sheriff's posse, riding club or other mounted entry.

PARADE RULES

- The parade's official Santa Claus will be provided by the Herald. **NO OTHER SANTA WILL BE PERMITTED IN THE PARADE**
- Floats should not exceed 55 feet in length, 8 feet in width and 14 feet in height.
- Antique vehicles will be the only undecorated vehicles permitted without special permission from Parade Committee.
- Vehicles of a strictly commercial nature will not be permitted.
- 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.
- 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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