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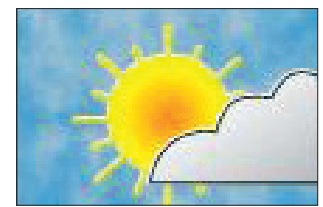


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THURSDAY

NOVEMBER 5, 2009



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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

7-Elevens targeted for robbery again

Suspect could be responsible for multiple robberies, police say

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Police investigators say a man responsible for Wednesday night's aggravated robbery at the Wasson Road 7-Eleven convenience store may be the same suspect who

held up the store Saturday. According to BSPD Chief Lonnie Smith, a white male, approximately 5-feet, 8-inches tall wearing a hoodie jacket, entered the convenience store shortly after 8 p.m. "The suspect did not present a gun, but kept his hands

in his pockets, implying he had one," said Smith. "He demanded the cash from the register and the clerk complied. He left the store on foot with an undetermined amount of cash." Smith said the description of the suspect is similar to the

man believed to be responsible for a holdup that occurred around 2:50 a.m. Saturday at the same location. "Detectives are looking at the surveillance tape to try to determine if this is the same guy," said Smith. "The suspect Saturday night actually

displayed a handgun while last night's suspect didn't, so we're looking at the similarities and differences between the two robberies." According to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information See **ROBBERY**, Page 1A



HERALD photo/Bruce Schooler

Enjoy singing? The public is invited to participate in First United Methodist Church's Living Christmas Tree this holiday season. Rehearsals are held at 7:30 p.m. each Monday at the church.

Voices heard on high

Members sought for Living Christmas Tree choir

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

First United Methodist Church members are asking area residents to branch out this Christmas holiday season, as the local church prepares to put on its 31st annual Living Christmas Tree next month. What would a living Christmas

tree be without plenty of vocalists? "We've had as many as 100 singers participate in the Living Christmas Tree program since we started 31 years ago," said Joe Beth Corwin, one of the coordinators for the event. "The last two or three years we've had between 70 and 75 singers participate. Right now, we're not quite at that

level, so we're really hoping area vocalists will sign up and be part of this Big Spring tradition." Corwin said preparations for the show, which features a large Christmas tree laden with vocalists from all over the community, have already begun, but it's not too late for area residents to lend

See **CHOIR**, Page 3A

SWCID to celebrate 30 years

College for deaf sets special events Friday

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Three decades ago officials with Howard College looked at turning several empty buildings on the former Webb Air Force Base into the nation's largest community college for deaf students.

And though their goals were considered lofty by some, that's exactly what they have done, as SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf (SWCID) gets ready to celebrate its 30th anniversary in the Crossroads area.

"We are so proud of where we have been, where we are and where we are going on the SWCID campus," said Dr. Cheryl Sparks, Howard College president. "We are excited to be celebrating 30 years and want to encourage the community to come out and see what a great facility and program we have at SWCID."

The 30-year anniversary celebration is slated to begin at 12:30 p.m. Friday with a building dedication ceremony at the new technical training center. Following the dedication, a program will be held in the activities center featuring speakers who have played key roles in the development and history of SWCID, officials said.

College officials said immediately following the presentations, refreshments and campus tours will be provided.

SWCID was founded as part of the Howard

See **SWCID**, Page 3A

INDEX

Comics	8B
Classified	5-7B
Features	6A
Obituaries	2A
Opinion	4A
Sports	1-4B

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Injured county worker Harris said recovering from third-degree burns

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Officials with Howard County say an employee who received third-degree burns over nearly 30 percent of his body in a gas line accident in mid-October is doing better, but a full recovery may be months away. Gary Harris, a maintainer opera-

tor for Howard County, remains in the burn unit at University Medical Center in Lubbock, but according to the Big Spring man's wife, is making progress toward recovery. "When we first came in, the people here at the hospital told us it was going to take at least a month for him (Gary) to recover," said Viola Har-

ris. "He's making progress, and he's doing much better. He's in pretty good spirits right now." Harris suffered third-degree burns when the maintainer (road grader) he was operating struck a gas line at a work site southwest of Vealmoor,

See **HARRIS**, Page 3A

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FRIDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Stanton can clinch playoff berth with victory

By **JOE ZIGTEMA**
Sports Editor

STANTON — The Stanton Buffaloes are having a great week. After shocking then-undefeated Plains 28-0 on the road last week, the Buffaloes were named by Dave Campbell's Texas Football as the U.S. Army Strong Team of the Week. "Any time you get an honor for your team it's a great thing," head coach John Peterson said. The Buffaloes will need to be strong this week against Sundown, which

they play with a playoff berth on the line. The Buffs (5-4, 3-1) and Roughnecks (5-4, 2-2) will battle for the last playoff spot in district 7-1A. "It's win and we're in," Peterson said. "We want to establish that and get in the playoffs, and there's nothing like going into the playoffs with a win." The Buffaloes are winners of three of their last four games, largely due to the strength of their defense. That defense forced four turnovers, including two that set up the offense for short scores, and shut out Plains'

spread attack last week. "They've just been flying the ball," Peterson said of his players. "They've been assignment complete. They know their jobs and they're doing them, they have been reading their keys and have done a very good job of playing team football." The Buffs will look to freshman Blake Evans, who scored two touchdowns in the win over Plains, to take on a big role Friday night. Adam Montez, the team's leading rusher, twisted his ankle last week. His status for the game is uncertain.

Stanton will try to avenge a 42-7 loss to Sundown last year on the road. The team was down just 14-7 at halftime, but Sundown opened the second half with a 74-yard touchdown run. Stanton fumbled on its ensuing possession, and the ball never stopped rolling as the Buffs were steamrolled in their final regular season game. The Buffaloes did rebound, though, winning their next two playoff games before falling to Canadian in the Division I, Region I championship game 63-20.

STATEMENT GAME



Herald Photo/Tony Claxton


The Steers' Deyvion Young tackles a ball carrier in Big Spring's 43-2 win over Lake View on Friday.

By **JOE ZIGTEMA**
Sports Editor

Big Spring is already in the playoffs. They're 8-1, and no matter what happens this week at Whiteface Stadium, there are more games to play. But the importance of Friday's game isn't lost on head coach Phillip Ritchey and the Steers. A win on the road against the 8-1 Hereford Whitefaces would make a loud statement that Big Spring is a team to be reckoned with in the postseason. "For us to be able to have success in the playoffs, we need to have success in this game,"



Big Spring
at
Hereford



When: 7:30 p.m. Friday
Where: Whiteface Stadium
Weather: Mostly Clear, 59°F

Ritchey said. "Whether we win or lose it, we want to feel good about the way we played. We want to play well and keep our momentum going into the


See **STEERS**, page 2B

Coahoma to end season vs. Grape Creek


Herald Staff Report

COAHOMA — It's been one of those seasons for Coahoma. The Bulldogs have been competitive in just about every game this season, but they lost second half leads against Jim Ned, Seagraves and

Colorado City. That was enough to doom their postseason hopes. Coahoma will take the field one last time this season against Grape Creek at Bulldog Stadium on Friday, hoping to send its seniors home. See **COAHOMA**, page 3B



Grape Creek
at
Coahoma



When: 7:30 p.m. Friday
Where: Bulldog Stadium
Weather: Clear, 63°F

Forsan to host Tahoka in finale


By **JOE ZIGTEMA**
Sports Editor

FORSAN — The Forsan Buffaloes can empathize with the Tahoka Bulldogs. Both teams have endured tough seasons — the Buffaloes are 2-7 and losers of their last five. The Bulldogs have had it worse — they're 0-9 heading into Friday's game at Buffalo Stadium. But there's still one week left in the season and that means one week left to strap it up. "We've talked to (the players) after the game," head coach Jason Phillips said. "We've got seven seniors, and we want to send them out on a winning note." Forsan's seven seniors have been active in practice this week, Phillips said.


"They're trying to keep everybody as involved as possible, making sure our focus is where it needs to be," he said. "They want to win this as bad if not more than anybody." The seniors will need a boost from sophomore Ty Johnson, who along

with Foster Burchett are the keys to the Buffalo offense. "We're going to try to turn them loose and let them run," Phillips said. "We feel like we've got a pretty good game plan offensively, both those guys can carry the ball extremely well and we're just going to let them see what they can do." For the underclassmen, Phillips wants a win to lay the foundation for a successful 2010 season. "We want to get a win this Friday to give the young guys something build upon during the offseason," he said. "We're going to return eight to nine starters on both sides of the ball. We just want to win this one this week and that will give us something to focus on and build upon to be more successful next year. We're thinking good things for the future." Last season, Forsan held off a late Bulldog comeback to win 20-12. The Buffaloes cruised to a 20-0 halftime lead, helped by a 45-yard

See **FORSAN**, page 3B



Forsan
at
Tahoka



When: 7:30 p.m. Friday
Where: Bulldog Stadium
Weather: Clear, 62°F

CROSSROADS FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD WEEK 9

Big Spring (8-1, 3-1) at Hereford (8-1, 3-1)	Grape Creek (4-5, 1-3) at Coahoma (4-5, 1-3)	Forsan (2-7, 0-4) at Tahoka (0-9, 0-4)	Sundown (2-2, 5-4) at Stanton (3-1, 5-4)	Garden City (8-1, 4-0) at Rankin (7-2, 3-1)	Grandfalls (3-6, 1-2) at Sands (8-1, 2-1)	Grady (6-3, 3-1) at Spur (6-3, 3-1)
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Sports in brief

Big Spring to host volleyball playoff game

Big Spring High School will host a 3A playoff game on Friday between Abilene Wylie and Andrews at Steer Gym. Abilene Wylie is currently ranked No. 12 in 3A in the Texas Girls Association high school volleyball poll. Andrews is 20-14 this season. Wylie is 19-5.

Meeting Scheduled for Lady Steers Booster Club

The Big Spring Lady Steers' booster club will meet Monday, Nov. 9, at the high school athletic training center conference room at 5 p.m. All parents of Big Spring Steer lady athletics are encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Stan Feaster at sfeaster@howardcollege.edu.

Lady Hawks travel to Midland for tournament

The Howard College women's basketball team will be in action tonight in Midland as they take on Easter Arizona College at 5 p.m. The Lady Hawks won their season debut Monday night, beating Wayland Baptist's junior varsity squad 93-49. The team will play three games over the next three days at Midland College.

Undefeated, No. 8 Iowa draws skepticism

Associated Press

IOWA CITY, Iowa — All Iowa's done is knock off Penn State, Wisconsin and Michigan State on the road. Oh, and the Hawkeyes are the nation's only 9-0 team and are ranked No. 4 in the BCS.

So why are so many so unimpressed with Iowa?

Lucky, ugly and bound to fall — the Hawkeyes have heard it all. Questioning Iowa (9-0, 5-0 Big Ten) has become common in the national media, and after seeing the Hawkeyes drop a spot to No. 8 despite an 18-point win over Indiana last week, its sports information office took action.

Iowa spokesman Phil Haddy sent out an e-mail on Monday asking the media to "get the correct facts on Iowa football." It compared the Hawkeyes to fellow unbeaten Cincinnati, Boise State, TCU and one-loss Oregon — all teams ranked ahead of them in this week's Top 25.

Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz, who Haddy says wasn't aware of the e-mail until after it was sent, isn't ready to hit the campaign trail yet. He's more worried about Northwestern (5-4, 2-3), which visits Kinnick Stadium on Saturday, than changing public perception.

Besides, he's got a theory on squawking about the polls.

"Usually the first team to complain is the first team to get beat," Ferentz said.

Haddy's e-mail said that the Hawkeyes have beaten six teams who currently have winning records, though one was Northern Iowa of the FCS. That's two more than the Bearcats and Horned Frogs and four more than the

Broncos. According to Haddy, the teams Iowa has beaten have a combined record of 44-31, also best of the bunch, and the teams the Hawkeyes have beaten on the road are a combined 23-12.

Only Oregon can match Iowa for wins against teams in the BCS Top 25 with three. TCU doesn't have any.

But those numbers, impressive as they might be, don't account for Iowa's relatively low standing in the Top 25. It instead has largely to do with the unimpressive way it's played against unimpressive competition.

The Hawkeyes beat Northern Iowa and Arkansas State at home by a total of just four points. They also took down a visiting Michigan team that's since fallen off the national map by two points and needed a last-second TD pass to beat Michigan State (4-5).

"I've seen a lot of very fortunate, if not outright lucky victories, against some suspect competition," said ESPN columnist Pat Forde, who referenced Haddy's e-mail in an espn.com column this week. "I would like to turn on the TV one time and see them dominate somebody. Seems like every game I watch, they're scraping by."

Still, it's not like Iowa hasn't beaten anyone.

Besides those road wins over the 11th-ranked Nittany Lions and 24th-ranked Badgers, Iowa manhandled what's turned out to be a decent Iowa State team 35-3 away from home, and their 27-17 win over No. 21 Arizona wasn't as close as the score indicated.

Of course, all this could be



AP Photo/AI Goldis

In this Oct. 24 file photo, Iowa players, including Troy Johnson (48) and Ryan Donahue (5) celebrate their 15-13 win over Michigan State in East Lansing, Mich. The Hawkeyes have drawn skeptics because of close wins against Arkansas State and Northern Iowa.

irrelevant if the Hawkeyes can't get past the Wildcats this weekend with a game at No 15 Ohio State looming on Nov. 14. Judging by the 10-point deficit they had to climb out of in the fourth quarter to beat Indiana last week, a win over Northwestern is no sure thing — even if Iowa is a 16½-point favorite.

And truth be told, Cincinnati, Boise State, TCU and Oregon will likely have

little impact on Iowa's hopes for a spot in the national title game.

The Hawkeyes will have to win their final three games and hope for unexpected chaos to befall Florida, Texas or Alabama. In fact, Haddy's e-mail didn't bother to match up Iowa's numbers against those top-ranked teams.

Ferentz has only allowed himself to ponder Iowa's future, at least publicly, in

repeated passing references to the 2004 Auburn team that finished the season unbeaten but without a spot in the BCS title game.

"If we end up being Auburn or whatever that year that was, if that ends up happening to us, in some ways I'm not going to be too upset," Ferentz said. "Because I don't know how you get too upset when you're undefeated. But that is so far down the road."

STEERS

Continued from 1B

into the playoffs, and if we're going to have a chance to have a deep run I think that's a must."

The Steers have played potent defense at home this season, giving up an average of 10.5 points a game. In three games on the road, they give up an average of more than 26 points per game, including 41 points in a 55-41 shootout win on the road at Pampa on

Sept. 11.

However, the Steers have played the Whitefaces and quarterback Parker Bridwell four times in the past three years, and Ritchey said the team is very familiar with Hereford's spread scheme. Big Spring shut out Hereford 31-0 last season at Memorial Stadium.

"They're a team that throws the most quick, short passes of anybody we see all year long," he said. "There's no secret about what they're going to do, how they're going

to try to attack us, it's just a matter of us recognizing it."

However, the Whitefaces have used an improved rushing offense to balance their spread attack in 2009. They have run for 1,548 yards this season, compared with 1,032 all of last season.

"Probably out of the four times we've played them, this is one of the better running Hereford teams we've seen on film," Ritchey said. "That makes it a little harder to defend the pass out wide. But if we can stop one or the

other, we'll be OK."

Speaking of balanced offenses, the Steers have certainly achieved that this season.

Running back Montae Anderson has drawn a crowd at the line of scrimmage in recent games, forcing the Steers to turn to quarterback Tyler Tannehill and his right arm. Tannehill threw for 315 yards and five touchdowns against Lake View last week.

"We're going to go into the game with the mindset that we're going to run the ball, and we're going to try to run

the ball," Ritchey said. "If they've got more in there than we can block like we saw last week, then we certainly feel like we have the ability to take advantage of that situation."

"We're a completely different team in the fact that we're more balanced. We're throwing to all receivers across the field, and it really makes it tough to defend the whole field. They can't leave one spot open or we'll see that and we can make them pay for it."

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Police blotter

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

- **KRYSTAL HENDERSON, 24**, of 606 Centerpoint Rd., was arrested Wednesday on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less in a drug free zone.
- **JONATHON BUSTAMANTE, 20**, of 2603 Fairchild, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of burglary of a vehicle.
- **ERNEST WILLIAM CLARK, 69**, transient, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of criminal trespass.
- **MARIBEL LUERA, 41**, of 500 Lancaster, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **THEFT** was reported: in the 900 block of Willia. in the 1800 block of Gregg Street.
- **POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA – TWO OUNCES OR LESS** was reported in the 900 block of Scurry.
- **POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA** was reported in the 700 block of Interstate Highway 20.
- **FAILURE TO IDENTIFY AS A FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE – GIVING FALSE INFORMATION** was reported in the 700 block of Interstate Highway 20.
- **CRIMINAL TRESPASS** was reported in the 200 block of Marcy.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 500 block of Nolan.
- **BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE** was reported in the 700 block of Interstate Highway 20.
- **ARSON** was reported in the 500 block of Nolan. According to BSFD officials, the incident was related to a domestic dispute and no major damage was done.
- **AGGRAVATED ROBBERY** was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson Road.
- **AGGRAVATED ASSAULT** was reported in the 1200 block of Lindbergh.

Sheriff

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 84 inmates at the time of this report.
- **JOHNATHAN PAUL BUSTAMANTE, 20**, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a contempt charge for burglary of a vehicle.
 - **JUAN ANTONIO CANTU, 48**, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance.
 - **ERNEST WILLIAM CLARK, 69**, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of criminal trespass.
 - **YSIDRO DIAZ, 19**, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
 - **KRYSTAL HENDERSON, 24**, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less in a drug free zone.
 - **LESLIE ROBERT LLOYD, 43**, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
 - **MARIBEL RODRIGUEZ LUERA, 41**, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
 - **ADAM MARCUS ORRANTIA, 21**, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on charges of driving while license invalid (two counts), failure to appear (four counts), failure to control speed, no valid motor vehicle inspection and failure to maintain financial responsibility.
 - **GABRIEL JOE ORTIZ, 22**, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of violation of a protective order.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1500 block of Wood. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 200 block of Agerita. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2300 block of Marshall. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3700 block of Dixon. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson. Service refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 900 block of Willia. One person was transported to SMMC.

ROBBERY

Continued from Page 1A

officer for the BSPD, Saturday morning's robbery suspect was believed to be a Hispanic male in his mid to late 30s, approximately 5-foot 5-inches tall, clean shaven and was wearing a blue hooded sweatshirt under a black leather

jacket. The suspect was also wearing aviator style sunglasses, according to reports.

Smith said a second, less lucrative robbery was attempted early this morning at the 7-Eleven convenience store near the intersection of FM 700 and Birdwell Lane.

"The robbery was reported just after midnight last night," said

Smith. "The suspect entered the store and demanded cash from the clerk. The guy didn't get anything and fled the store on foot. He's described as a Hispanic male with glasses, wearing a black hoodie jacket. He did not present a weapon during the robbery."

Smith said no injuries were reported as a result

of the robbery attempt.

With the holiday season right around the corner, Smith said he and his officers expect to see more crimes like these targeting convenience stores.

"Historically speaking, you see crimes like these increase quite a bit around November and December," said Smith.

CHOIR

Continued from Page 1A

their voices to the presentation.

"It's so much fun, and very rewarding," said Corwin, who has been involved in the FUMC Living Christmas Tree since its inception. "I enjoy being able to work with the church in hopes of bringing something truly special to people's lives during the holiday season. With all of those voices singing as one, it really does lift your spirits."

Nell Burgess, FUMC secretary, said rehearsals for the performance

are held every Monday until the week prior to the Dec. 5-6 event.

"There will be rehearsals from 7:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. each Monday through the week ending Nov. 27," said Burgess. "Then, beginning Nov. 30, we will hold rehearsals each night through Dec. 3 from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. The day before the first performance, Dec. 4, we will also hold a rehearsal from 7 p.m. until 9:30 p.m."

Burgess said performances will begin with a formal dress rehearsal at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, which will be open to the public.

"It's basically the first chance the community

can come and see the show, and see how hard the men and women participating in the Living Christmas Tree have been working," said Burgess. "Later the same evening we'll hold the first actual performance at 8 p.m., and the last performance will be the following day, Sunday, Dec. 6, also at 8 p.m."

According to Burgess, direction of the chorus will be handled by Linda Lyndel, while direction of the orchestra — including conducting duties during the shows — will be handled by Don Turner.

"There are just so many people who are involved

with the Living Christmas Tree, from the singers to the people working behind the scenes," said Burgess. "It really is a beautiful thing to see, with so many people working together to bring something beautiful to Big Spring for the holiday season. It's not something you want to miss."

For more information on the FUMC Living Christmas Tree, contact the church office at 267-6394.

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

SWCID

Continued from Page 1A

County Junior College District in 1979 using buildings left over from the former air base. Since that time, the college has modernized its

campus extensively, boasting residential complexes, a student union building, activity center, diagnostic center and a technical training center, which was constructed within the last year.

For more information on the event, visit

www.howardcollege.edu or contact Cindy Smith at (432) 264-5034 or csmith@howardcollege.edu

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

www.howardcollege.edu

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288
Wanda King, 49, died Monday. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. The funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

HARRIS

Continued from Page 1A

according to County Judge Mark Barr.

"Gary was driving the maintainer and clearing out a bar ditch when he hit an old gas line," said Barr. "These kinds of natural gas lines are usually marked with a pipe — it has a sharp angle top on it — and a sign. The area where Gary was working had the warning pipe, but there was no sign."

Barr said the gas line had become exposed above-ground over the years, most likely from similar cleanings

"Eddy Jameson, the county's road and bridge administrator, said Gary new the area well, it was just an unfortunate accident," said Barr. "Everyone who knows him (Gary) will tell you what a great guy he is and how he does so much for others."

Barr said a fund to help Harris with medical bills and other costs has been set up with County Auditor Jackie Olson's office.

"Anyone who would like to make a donation can do so by coming to the county courthouse and dropping by

Jackie's office, which is located on the second floor," said Barr.

When Harris will be well enough to return to work with the county is still uncertain, according to Barr.

"I'd hate to even speculate on something like that," said Barr. "Everyone I've talked to that has had these kinds of wounds say they are some of the most painful things you can ever endure. Gary's hanging in there, but there's really no way to know when he'll be able to return to work."

For more information on the county fund set up for Harris, call the county auditor's office at 264-2210.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-


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

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EXP. 12/31/09

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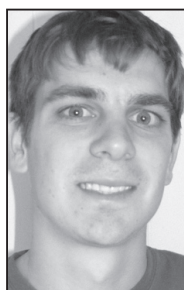
AN ENCOURAGING WORD

By Eddy Pitchford

The cotton harvest is in full swing. Modules standing in fields testify of hard work, rain, sun, patience, worry, prayer and money. Farmers, gin workers, bankers and creditors report their financial verdict to be pronounced.
Farmers cannot control every aspect of raising cotton. They cannot control the timing of rainfall anymore than they can reduce the wind or increase the sunlight. However, they can maintain equipment and diligently plow, plant, spray and harvest.
As we go through life, we often gripe and complain about the things we cannot control. We get upset at family members, respond improperly to coworkers and blame others for our problems. We need to understand we can control our attitudes, values and response to negative people and situations. We can choose to plant seeds of kindness and weed out sinfu

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Sunday Worship..... 10:20 AM
Sunday Worship..... 5:00 PM
Wednesday Class..... 7:00 PM

FOOTBALL FORECAST

This week's games



Jonathan Hull

Big Spring at Hereford
Grape Creek at Coahoma
Forsan at Tahoka
Sundown at Stanton
Garden City at Rankin
Grady at Spur
Grandfalls at Sands
UCF at Texas
Texas A&M at Colorado
Baylor at Missouri
Kansas at Kansas St.
Oklahoma at Nebraska
TCU at San Diego St.
Rice at SMU
Houston at Tulsa
LSU at Alabama
Ohio State at Penn State
Oregon at Stanford
Texans at Colts
Cowboys at Eagles
Ravens at Bengals
Cardinals at Bears
Dolphins at Patriots
Chargers at Giants

Last week

Big Spring
Coahoma
Forsan
Stanton
Garden City
Grady
Sands
Texas
A&M
Missouri
Kansas St.
Nebraska
TCU
SMU
Houston
Alabama
Penn St.
Stanford
Colts
Eagles
Ravens
Bears
Patriots
Chargers

14-5 .736



Liv Rodriguez

Big Spring
Coahoma
Forsan
Sundown
Rankin
Grady
Sands
Texas
Texas A&M
Baylor
Kansas
Nebraska
TCU
Rice
Houston
LSU
Penn St.
Stanford
Texans
Cowboys
Bengals
Cardinals
Patriots
Chargers

12-7 .632



Robert Smith

Big Spring
Coahoma
Forsan
Stanton
Garden City
Grady
Sands
Texas
Texas A&M
Missouri
Kansas
Oklahoma
TCU
Rice
Houston
LSU
Penn St.
Oregon
Texans
Cowboys
Bengals
Cardinals
Patriots
Chargers

14-5 .736



Brian Ivanchan

Big Spring
Coahoma
Forsan
Stanton
Garden City
Grady
Sands
Texas
A&M
Missouri
Kansas St.
Oklahoma
TCU
SMU
Houston
Alabama
Penn St.
Oregon
Texans
Cowboys
Bengals
Bears
Patriots
Chargers

16-3 .842



Angela Pace

Big Spring
Grape Creek
Forsan
Sundown
Garden City
Spur
Sands
Texas
A&M
Missouri
Kansas
Oklahoma
San Diego St.
Rice
Tulsa
LSU
Penn St.
Stanford
Colts
Eagles
Ravens
Cardinals
Dolphins
Chargers

11-9 .579

COAHOMA

Continued from 1B

out with one last win. Fourteen seniors will suit up for the last time, including quarterback Josh Paniagua and Lupe Abrego, two of the Bulldogs' best weapons this season.

Paniagua has completed 144 passes for 2,127 yards and 24 touchdowns this season to 15 interceptions. Abrego has 52 catches from Paniagua for 726 yards and 10 touchdowns, along with 74 yards rushing and a touchdown.

Fellow senior Isaac Garcia is the Bulldogs' leading rusher, carrying 110 times for 491 yards and five touchdowns. He also has 74 yards through the air.

Coahoma barely held off Grape Creek last season in a 21-20 victory.

The Bulldogs never trailed in that game and led by nine, 21-12, with 3:21 remaining.

However, Grape Creek cut the deficit to one less than two minutes later, courtesy of a 2-yard touchdown plunge by Kelton Gauwein and a successful 2-point conversion.

The Eagles kicked an onside kick following the play and successfully recovered it. Coahoma sealed the victory with an excellent defensive play.

With less than 30 seconds remaining, Hunter Williams picked off Grape Creek quarterback Landon McCall, securing the win for the Bulldogs. They finished 5-5 last season.

District 7-2A

Football standings

Team	Dist.	Overall
Colorado City	4-0	8-1
Wall	4-0	7-2
Jim Ned	2-2	5-4
Coahoma	1-3	4-5
Grape Creek	1-3	2-7
Ballinger	0-4	2-7

Friday's schedule: Grape Creek at Coahoma; Wall at Colorado City; Ballinger at Jim Ned

FORSAN

Continued from 1B

interception return just before halftime.

Tahoka came back with two second-half scores to get back in the game, but the Bulldogs

couldn't recover an onside kick with just over two minutes to play, and Forsan proceeded to convert a fourth down attempt to ice the game. The Buffaloes then ran out the clock for their second victory of the season.

District 2-1A

Football standings

Team	Dist.	Overall
Seagraves	4-0	8-1
Plains	3-1	8-1
Stanton	3-1	5-4
Sundown	2-2	5-4
Forsan	0-4	2-7
Tahoka	0-4	0-9

Friday's schedule: Tahoka at Forsan; Plains at Seagraves; Sundown at Stanton

Enter Your Favorite Family Recipe In Our 10th Annual HOLIDAY COOKBOOK CONTEST

CATEGORIES:

- Breads
- Appetizers
- Desserts
- Vegetables
- Casseroles
- Entrees
- Salads



RECIPE ENTRY DEADLINE:

Tuesday, November 6, 2009

Limit 3 recipes per person.

Winners will be published in the cookbook on Sunday, Nov. 22, 2009.

HOW TO GET YOUR ENTRY TO US:

Mail to: PO Box 1431, BS, TX 79721
Bring to: 710 Scurry, Big Spring
Fax to: (432) 264-7205 or
Email to: advertising@bigspringherald.com

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Yes! Enter my recipe(s) in the 10th Annual Holiday Cookbook Contest.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

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.

ALL FOOD ENTRIES BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE BIG SPRING HERALD, REMAINING FOOD PORTIONS WILL NOT BE RETURNED.

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

OUR VIEW

Christmas Child project needing our help again

How much difference can a simple shoe box make in the life of a child in an impoverished and war-torn country? The answer to that question is simple — lots.

At least that's the case if the shoe box in question comes from Operation Christmas Child, a project offered annually by the Samaritan's Purse charity. It can mean the difference between opening a gift Christmas morning and finding nothing under the holiday tree.

According to Brenda Franklin, the local Operation Christmas Child drop-off coordinator, participating in the annual program is simple, all one needs to do is get a shoe box and fill it with different items — things like toys and hygiene items are always a good idea. However, liquid items like lotion or shampoo, or anything that comes in an aerosol can should be avoided.

Franklin also suggests that when picking out toys anything that might be considered war related, such as guns or knives, is not a good idea.

Once the box is filled, it can be dropped off at Allan's Furniture, located at 202 Scurry in downtown Big Spring. Franklin and the rest of the folks there will then pack up all the boxes in a crate and ship it to Odessa. From there it and others from numerous communities will begin the trip overseas.

Those who plan to participate should mark their boxes for either a boy or girl in age groups 2 to 4 years; 5 to 9; and 10 to 14 years of age.

The boxes can be decorated with Christmas paper but the lid must be able to be separated from the box. Monetary donations are requested — but not required — to help with the shipping costs, and can be left inside the box, according to Franklin.

Collection of the boxes will begin at Allan's Furniture Nov. 16 and wrap up Nov. 23. Resources for packing and preparing boxes can be found online at www.samaritanpurse.org.

We hope you take a little time this year and be a part of another good cause.

Howard Countians have always opened their hearts in such instances and we know you will again.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

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

You, Lord, can keep us safe from the wolf at the door.

Amen

It's called making a comeback

Every football season I'm inspired by the number of teams who trail by thirty points or more for most of a game and then make a comeback and win.

What does it take to make that kind of recovery?

I can't help but be reminded of Yogi Berra's words, "It ain't over 'til it's over!" Some say the spirit of his famous exclamation emphasizes that one should not assume the outcome until the conclusion has actually been reached.

When I look at the faces of the football players as they make their winning comeback, I see confidence and determination as well as persistence and a firm resolve to not give up. Their regained momentum and ultimate success seems grounded in their faith that they can overcome any deficit and triumph.

I can also look at the faces of the losing team members and see disappointment, dismay and defeat — and they haven't even lost the game yet.

Through the years, many entertainers, politicians and athletes have been given the distinction of "comeback kid." This title has generally been granted to the person who is said to have clawed his or her way back to success, who overcomes a fall from grace, who makes an unlikely comeback. Some people think of former President Bill Clinton and Robert Downey Jr.

as a couple of comeback kids, for example.

There may be many Biblical characters that come to your mind that could receive such a title, but for me none seems more deserving than Joseph.

During the course of perhaps twenty years of his life, Joseph was robbed, despised, betrayed, sold into slavery, accused falsely and imprisoned. But he went from prison to palace as second only to Pharaoh in one day.

Joseph's comeback was not the end of a long struggle to regain status and respect. He didn't fight his way back to the top.

What impresses me most about Joseph during what some might think of as his years of injustice and misfortune, was his attitude and spirit.

He never seemed defeated or depressed. He didn't express resentment or hatred toward those who abused or maligned him. Regardless of his difficulties or circumstances, he was determined to be the best he could be. And so he was.

During his years of servitude, he became the most willing and best servant he could. When he became overseer of his master's house, he managed the house well. When he was wrongfully imprisoned, he didn't complain or become bitter but rather tried to be a useful prisoner and was soon put in charge of other prisoners.

It was his spiritual wisdom and unwavering faith in God's goodness that gained his eventual freedom and success. (His story is found in the book of Genesis, chapters 37 through 47.)

I'm quite certain that Joseph knew God had a purpose for his

life at every moment of his life. And I love how he didn't let anything thwart him from fulfilling whatever that purpose might be. And in so doing, he found purpose in every circumstance he lived through, and many were blessed by his actions.

It was as if these words of Christ Jesus lived in his heart, "Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." (Luke 12:32) He never forgot that his Father — God — loved him and was caring for him at every moment. He didn't wait or fight to receive the "kingdom" at some future time. Throughout his life, Joseph lived and expressed the goodness of God and was rewarded again and again in small and grand ways — even when he was in prison.

Many of us today are waiting for recovery of lost savings and jobs. 'Tis the season for comebacks, my friends! Keep your faith strong that any deficit can be overcome.

And in the meantime — as you live each day — be a "Joseph" and look for purpose in every situation.

Make each moment the best it can be. And I suspect you will find the best each moment has to offer.

So no matter what kind of comeback is sought — whether it is by football team or an individual — triumph is God's promise to his beloved children.

Annette Bridges is a freelance writer who lives in North Texas. Her columns are published weekly in numerous newspapers. E-mail her at annettebridges@gmail.com



What loose gun laws mean

I'm deeply disturbed that after a decade of decline, the number of firearm deaths among children and youths has increased for the second year in a row. A report released in September reveals that almost nine children and teens die from gunfire every day — one child death every two hours and 45 minutes.

The report, based on the most recent data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), states that 3,184 children and teens died from gunfire in 2006, a six percent increase over 2005. Another 17,451 were victims of non-fatal firearm injuries, a seven percent increase from the previous year. When people from other industrialized democracies learn of America's child gunshot death rates, they're equally troubled.

A major reason for these tragic young deaths is the proliferation of guns. Americans own more than 270 million private firearms — the equivalent of nine guns for every 10 men, women and children. The United States is one of the few industrialized countries without common sense controls on gun sales. We regulate toy guns, but not the real ones that snuff out tens of thousands of human lives every year.

Among the young people killed by firearms, 2,225 were homicide victims, 763 committed suicide and 196 died in accidental or undetermined circumstances. The

overwhelming majority, nearly 90 percent, were boys. More preschoolers — 63 — were killed by firearms than law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty — 48. The death toll among black children is growing at an alarming rate. Black males between the ages of 15 and 19 are almost five times as likely as their white peers and more than twice as likely as their Latino peers to be killed by a firearm.

The destructive impact of firearms affects all of us by increasing health care costs, overtaxing social services and decreasing national productivity. Gun violence is so pervasive in some black communities that it constitutes a serious health risk.

It's come to the point where many of the cases of post-traumatic stress disorder in black neighborhoods are not only of veterans returning from war zones, but of children walking up to the corner store. Too many of them speak of the future in terms of "If I grow up" instead of "When I grow up."

Regrettably, in many of the states and at the national level it's an uphill fight to control firearm trafficking. Thirty-two states have no laws requiring firearms sellers at gun shows to first conduct background checks on all buyers. This gun-show loophole has been used to evade laws designed to make it harder for guns to get into the hands of children, criminals, and the mentally unbalanced.

Gun shows are a huge market for vendors with or without federal firearms licenses. Ten years ago, the two teenaged shooters who killed 12 fellow students and a teacher at Columbine High School near Littleton, Colo., got

part of their arsenal illegally through a gun show.

Congress must pass legislation to close the gun show loophole and strengthen provisions of the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act requiring a national instant criminal background check system.

There's strong evidence that background checks can be effective. Between 1994 and 2007, background checks performed by federal firearms licensees resulted in more than 1.6 million illegal buyers being denied guns. It is also imperative that the federal assault weapons ban be reinstated. According to the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence, the ban reduced the use of assault weapons in crimes by 66 percent between 1995 and 2001.

But the responsibility to keep our children safe cannot rest solely with our political leaders. There are things individuals and families can do: remove guns from homes, mobilize community support to protect children from gun violence, stress nonviolent values and conflict resolution, refuse to buy or use products for children and teens that glamorize violence, and provide children and teens positive alternatives to the streets.

We must hold our legislators accountable to implement these common-sense gun safety measures.

The safety of our children and communities is at stake.

Marian Wright Edelman is president of the Children's Defense Fund and a working committee member of the Black Community Crusade for Children (BCCC).

Area preview: Garden City looks for district title

Herald Staff Report

It's the last week of the season, and there is still much to be decided in the 6-man realm.

It's a clash of two 6-man titans in Rankin on Friday night as Garden City travels there for the district 8-1A title.

Sands will face Grandfalls-Royalty (3-6, 1-2) at home Friday. Sands will hope to gain momentum for their playoff run against the Cowboys.

Grady and Spur will meet Friday in a game that has playoff implications. Both teams are 6-3 and 3-1 in district play, tied for second place behind Ira.

Garden City at Rankin

GARDEN CITY — This matchup has been looming in the weeks since Garden City dispatched Fort Davis to take control of the District 8-1A standings.

The Bearkats control their own destiny — a win would clinch the district title with an undefeated mark. If the Red Devils can pull off a victory, it would force a three-way tie between the two teams and Fort Davis in a situation where the crown would be decided by points.

Last year's game between these two teams was a good one in Garden City, where the Bearkats were down a touchdown heading into the fourth quarter. However, Garden City reeled off 30 unanswered points in the final period to pull out a 76-50 win.

Bearkat quarterback Blaine Batla will look to build off his perfor-

mance from last week. He threw for 233 yards and five touchdowns in a 68-16 first-half drubbing of Water Valley.

Spur at Grady

LENORAH — It may still be the last week of the season, but it's de facto playoff time for Grady and Spur as they clash for a playoff spot tonight in Spur.

Spur has rebounded from three straight losses to Highland, Sands and Ira earlier this season and are winners of three straight heading into the game.

Grady is coming off a 56-6 thrashing of Loraine after falling to Ira in a tough game two weeks ago.

Last season, both of these teams were eliminated from playoff contention before the game in Grady. The Wildcats reeled off a 70-22 victory to put an exclamation point on a 7-3 season.

Grandfalls-Royalty at Sands

ACKERLY — Last year, this game was a tune-up for Sands as it sent the Grandfalls-Royalty Cowboys to an 0-9 season with a 56-0 victory. This season's matchup won't be much different as the Mustangs have already locked up a playoff spot.

This season, the Cowboys are 3-5 and 1-2 in district play.

Sands got back on track last week with a 52-30 victory over Buena Vista after falling to Borden County, ranked No. 5 in the state in the six-manfootball.com poll. The Mustangs are currently ranked No. 21 in that poll.



Herald Photo/James Schwartz

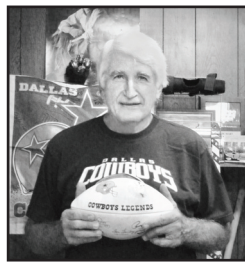
Garden City's Blaine Batla lets a pass go for a touchdown last week against Water Valley in a 68-16 victory. The game was over at halftime on the 45-point mercy rule. Batla threw for 233 yards and five touchdowns in the game.

Pigskin Picks Football Contest



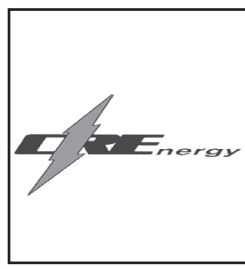
Sonic Drive In

1. Big Spring
2. Sundown
3. Garden City
4. Grape Creek
5. Sands
6. Lenorah Grady
7. Tahoka
8. TCU
9. Cowboys
10. Colorado



Bargain Mart Discount Store

1. Big Spring
2. Sundown
3. Garden City
4. Coahoma
5. Sands
6. Lenorah Grady
7. Tahoka
8. TCU
9. Philadelphia
10. Texas A&M



Cap Rock Energy

1. Big Spring
2. Stanton
3. Garden City
4. Coahoma
5. Sands
6. Lenorah Grady
7. Forsan
8. TCU
9. Cowboys
10. Texas A&M



Walmart

1. Big Spring
2. Stanton
3. Garden City
4. Coahoma
5. Sands
6. Lenorah Grady
7. Forsan
8. TCU
9. Philadelphia
10. Texas A&M



Blum's Jewelers

1. Big Spring
2. Stanton
3. Garden City
4. Grape Creek
5. Sands
6. Lenorah Grady
7. Forsan
8. TCU
9. Cowboys
10. Texas A&M

Enter To Win \$50 At These Participating Merchants

Rules: Find this week's games in the merchants' ads on this page. Choose the teams you think will win. Clip and fill in the official entry blank on this page with your team choice. The entry with the most correct picks will win \$50. You must be 18 to enter. Only official entry forms accepted. In the event of a tie, the tie breaker will determine the winner. Guess the winner and the combined scores for the total points. Decisions of the judges are final. Employees and families of employees of The *Big Spring Herald* are ineligible. All entries must be received at one of the participating merchants by 1 p.m. Friday of the week played. Winners will be announced in the *Big Spring Herald* the Wednesday following the games.

Pigskin Picks Entry Form

Team

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Tie Breaker - Circle the winner and note total points scored

Texas Longhorns Vs. UCF

Total Points _____

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Big Spring, TX 79720
432-267-3363

8. TCU vs. San Diego St.
SONIC America's Drive-In.
7. Forsan vs. Tahoka
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Sonic #2 601 E. FM 700 • 263-2700

Bargain Mart
Discount Foods
403 Runnels, Big Spring, TX
Open Mon.-Sat. 9 am - 6:30 pm
(Closed Sundays)
5. Sands vs. Grandfalls

2. Stanton vs. Sundown
10. Texas A&M vs. Colorado
Cap Rock Energy
6. Lenorah Grady vs. Spur
(432) 756-3381

Heflin gets CJCAT's Outstanding Service Award

Special to the Herald

State Rep. Joe Heflin, D-Crosbyton, was presented the Outstanding Service Award by the County Judges and Commissioners Association of Texas (CJCAT) at the organization's annual conference last month in Corpus Christi. Heflin's work on wind farm and other economic development projects during this year's 81st Legislative session was cited as one of the primary reasons for the award.

"The leadership and support of Rep. Heflin was essential to the passage of our economic development legislation to continue wind farms and other projects," said Jim Allison, general counsel to CJCAT. "His knowledge of county government issues is an invaluable asset to counties and our taxpayers."

In receiving the award, Heflin said, "I want to thank you very much for this honor. It is always gratifying to be recognized for efforts that truly benefit not only my district, but the State of Texas as a whole. As a former county judge, I have always enjoyed my work with the county judges and commissioners across the state, and

that makes this award especially meaningful to me."

Before his election to the Texas Legislature in 2006, Heflin served five years as county judge in Crosby County. CJCAT named Heflin its Legislator of the Year after his first term in the Texas House and he also was honored with the Sam Seale Award of Excellence by the West Texas County Judges and Commissioners Association.

The Texas Association of Counties gave Heflin the Friend of County Government Award and he was presented a Distinguished Legislative Service Award by the Texas Municipal League.

CJCAT is a statewide organization with more than 1,200 active members that promotes the interests of county government.

Heflin represents Texas House District 85, which includes Borden, Glasscock and Howard Counties.

He may be reached at his Capitol Office in Austin at 512-463-0604; his district office in Crosbyton at 806-675-1583; or in Big Spring at 432-213-2897.



Courtesy photo
State Rep. Joe Heflin, D-Crosbyton, (right) is presented the County Judges and Commissioners of Texas Outstanding Service Award by CJCAT President Terry Simpson during the CJCAT annual meeting Oct. 5-8 in Corpus Christi.

sudoku

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

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

A Stitch in Time Saves West

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

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ 2♦ 2♠ Pass
3♣ Pass 3♥ Pass
4♥

Opening lead — king of diamonds.
One of the more colorfully named plays in bridge is the so-called uppercut. As in boxing, the term is meant to describe a maneuver in which a devastating blow is delivered from the bottom up.

The uppercut is basically the province of the defenders. Its purpose is to establish a trump trick, or an extra trump trick, that does not exist naturally. Its effect upon declarer is often disconcerting,

because there is usually nothing he can do to prevent the defenders from manufacturing a synthetic trump trick.

As a typical example, consider this deal where West leads the K-Q of diamonds, everyone following suit. Normally, West would continue with the ace, on which East would discard while declarer was being forced to ruff.

However, South would easily weather this storm by ruffing the diamond, leading a low heart to dummy's queen and another heart back to his jack, losing to West's ace. Declarer could then claim the rest of the tricks.

But West should not adopt this prosaic method of defense. He should realize that South must have every critical missing high card for his three bids, and that the only real chance to defeat the contract lies in establishing an extra trump trick for his side.

Accordingly, at trick three West should lead a low diamond rather than the ace, hoping his partner was dealt either the ten or jack of trumps. After East obliges by ruffing with the ten, declarer finds that he must lose two trump tricks regardless of how he proceeds, and he eventually goes down one.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.

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Parent's Corner: Life is still a gift

I am told that you can't teach an old dog new tricks but I ran across some terrific advice the other day that was supposedly written by an old farmer that might

just do the trick.

When we are dealing with our kids we should consider his words. They are simple sayings but do make an impression.

Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.

A bumble bee can fly faster than you can run.

Words that soak into your ears are whispered, not yelled.

Meanness doesn't happen overnight.

Forgive your enemies; it messes up their heads.

Do not corner something that you know is meaner than you.

It doesn't take a very big person to carry a grudge.

You cannot unsay a cruel word.

Every path has a few puddles.

When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.

The best sermons are lived, not preached.

Most of the stuff people worry about will never happen.

Don't judge folks by their relatives.

Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.

Live a good, honorable life and when you get older, just think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.

Don't interfere with something that's not bothering you.

Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance.



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If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop digging.

Sometimes you get and sometimes you get got.

The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with watches you from the mirror every morning.

Always drink upstream from the herd.

Good judgment comes from experience and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.

Letting the cat out of the bag is a whole lot easier than putting it back in.

If you get to thinking you're a person of some influence, try ordering somebody else's dog around.

If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we'd grab ours back.

It's never too late to have a happy childhood, but the second one is up to you and no one else.

When it comes to going after what you love in life, don't take no for an answer.

And the final one is the best: Life isn't tied with a bow, but it's still a gift.

Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly.

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



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

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Time: 12:00 Noon

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★ **Keep American Beautiful Certification Ceremony • November 10th**

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★ **Free Tire Disposal & E-Waste Collection • November 14th**

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THE WORLD BRIEFLY:

October retail sales show more signs of life, lifting hopes for the holiday season and economy

NEW YORK (AP) — October sales reports from major retailers ranging from Target Corp. to Macy's Inc. are expected to offer more evidence of a spending recovery when they're released Thursday.

That's helping to lift hopes for a slightly merrier holiday season and for the health of the overall economy.

The reports, based on sales at stores opened at least a year, are expected to show the second consecutive monthly gain after more than a year of declines. These figures are considered a key barometer of retailers' health.

Analysts will mine the reports to get more details on how shoppers are starting to treat themselves to little indulgences like new boots and are purchasing some merchandise at full price.

SpendingPulse, a service of MasterCard Advisors, reported Wednesday that jewelry (up 7.2 percent) and clothing (up 3.4 percent) showed signs of life in October compared with a year earlier, when spending was in a free fall. But those figures were well below the levels two years ago and only slightly better than 2005. SpendingPulse estimates sales in all payment forms including cash and checks.

Afghan attack prompts U.N. to temporarily relocate more than half of international staff

KABUL (AP) — The United Nations said Thursday that it is temporarily relocating more than half

its international staff in Afghanistan following last week's deadly Taliban attack against U.N. workers — the most direct targeting of its employees during decades of work in the country.

The U.N. mission is still reeling from the pre-dawn assault on a guesthouse in the capital that left five U.N. staffers dead.

Though the U.N. insists it remains committed to Afghanistan, its actions show how much security has degraded in the country and raise questions about the future of its work if attacks continue.

The relocations follow a U.N. decision on Monday to suspend much of its work in the volatile northwest of neighboring Pakistan because of increasingly targeted attacks.

In Afghanistan, some 600 nonessential staffers will be moved for three to four weeks to more secure locations both within and outside of Afghanistan while the body works to find safer permanent housing, spokesman Aleem Siddique said. He said they did not know how many would actually be leaving the country.

Florida baby missing for 5 days found alive under baby sitter's bed

CHIPLEY, Fla. (AP) — A baby missing for five days was found alive and well under her baby sitter's bed, and Florida authorities said Thursday they plan to charge the sitter, her husband and the child's mother.

Investigators found 7-month-old Shannon Dedrick in a box tucked under a bed surrounded by items intended to hide the child at Susan Elizabeth Baker's home near Chipley, a rural Panhandle town, Washington County Sheriff Bobby Haddock said in an interview early Thursday. The baby was placed in protective custody.

"Statistically speaking this should not have ever happened, that we found this child alive, especially after so many days. Time was against us," Haddock said.

Shannon was taken to a hospital but appeared healthy, Haddock said.

Haddock said deputies were working to charge Baker, her husband James Arthur Baker and the child's mother, Chrystina Lynn Mercer. He wouldn't provide details about the possible charges but said more information would be released later Thursday. Authorities don't believe the child's father, James Russell Dedrick Jr., was involved but the case is still under investigation.

Message for 2010: Voters want jobs and competence, not bickering

WASHINGTON (AP) — Voters' memo to politicians: We're angry and fearful, mostly about jobs and the economy. We want tangible solutions, not partisan bickering or intraparty spats. And we'll vote either party out of office if we don't think you're listening.

That's the latest warning to thousands of candidates who will seek offices low and high in all 50 states next year, when the number of elections will far exceed those held Tuesday.

This week's message came from New Jersey, Virginia and New York, where restless voters rewarded candidates who focused on jobs and competent-but-restrained government and punished those steeped in drama or making uninspired arguments to continue a string of Democratic governors.

Republicans clearly had the better day. They picked up the governorships of Virginia and New Jersey, even though President Barack Obama had campaigned for both Democratic nominees.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

You'll wake up smarter and in the mood to share what you know. The Gemini moon sharpens our wits and loosens our tongues. This chatty lunar influence increases the frequency of our communication, as well as enhancing the quality of our exchanges. The Scorpio sun encourages us to be honest with one another, even when it's hard.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

21-April 19). The gains don't always have to come with pains. Maybe you've already suffered enough for success. By now you deserve a few easy wins. Take your luck as it comes, no guilt.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You feel best when you are ultra-productive. Some of the time you spend entertaining yourself at home could be spent making money instead. Educate yourself. Research new possibilities.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your sense of humor will actually help you earn more money. People will want to work

with you because you lighten the mood and take the pressure off. And you'll be a hit with customers and clients, too.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll join a competitive situation. Most of the players have been at this challenge for several months or years already. Don't put pressure on yourself to win, but do aim to do your very best.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Things will happen to push you into the new era. For instance, that piece of machinery that's on its last legs could finally give up the ghost and cause you to update your technology.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). In order to choose the high road, you must first decide that in some way you are superior. See the current situation as small, and refuse to trifle with it. You'll naturally rise up to a new path.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It is suggested all the time that you should laugh every day, and yet sometimes there seems to be a dearth of comedy in the world. That's why it's a good use of time to research new sources of entertainment.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Everyone makes mistakes. One of your recent mistakes was listening to someone who is so insecure

that he or she can't help but put down everyone else, including you. Make it a point to ignore this person in the future.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There is very little that is worth worrying about. Instead of worrying as a habit (or hobby!), let your worry be a call to action. Make the appointment you've been meaning to make. Fix it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It's an interesting time in your life, but you may not realize this as you busily go about your day. Listen to mood-boosting music. Choose an anthem for yourself to pull you through your current challenges.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The people who love you also need you and miss you. If you can carve out a minute to connect, do so. With a shared sentiment and a few good chuckles, you will make someone's day — and your own, too.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your job is to take care of you. It might seem selfish, but today it would be selfish not to take care of yourself. That would only lead to others having to take care of you later. Think ahead. Treat yourself well.

and have fun. Since you understand what is truly important, you have no problem attracting the frivolous stuff, too. Friends flock to you through the holidays. You'll have a creative breakthrough in January. You'll upgrade your home or transportation in March. June features spectacular travel. Libra and Aquarius people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 19, 25, 31 and 35.

DOES HE LOVE ME? I WANNA KNOW! The PISCES man has a way of making his love feel like the most precious and cherished person in the universe. This he accomplishes by applying his amazing powers of empathy. When he is interested in someone, he will align himself with that person so that he can experience what she is all about. It's as though he can truly walk in her shoes, even if those shoes happen to be stilettos. He can transform at will into the caring, sensitive creature that women long to be loved by. However, make no mistake — he is still a man, with the thought processes and priorities that all men share. And though he might soften his approach in order to better understand her, he can become strong and virile — even macho — when he

decides that will be a more effective approach. His versatility is one of his greatest strengths. If you want to attract a Pisces man, it helps if you are an expert at communicating without words. Cultivate a burning desire to know him. If you have a passionate intention to build a tight bond with him, he will feel it. He's quite psychic.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: The eldest of the "Jo-Bros" is Scorpio Kevin Jonas, who broke the hearts of girls around the world by getting engaged this year. This guitarist, singer and actor was born under a steady Taurus moon, suggesting many things — that he has terrific rhythm, that he enjoys spending money on the finer things in life, and that he's not prone to changing his mind.

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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blast.

By the way, this goes for our families, too. My oldest son just graduated high school and is the first in either family to attend college. I went all out for his open house and even reminded everyone to come. Once again, hardly anyone showed up. Not only was I disappointed, my son was crushed. Life should be filled with family and friends. Why is this happening? — Indiana

Dear Indiana: We have no idea. You could be issuing unclear invitations or having so many get-togethers that people feel they've been there before and can afford to miss some. Invite fewer people less often and see if your invitations become more valued. As for your family, we suggest asking them point-blank what's going on and telling them how disappointed you and your son were that they didn't bother to celebrate his graduation. An honest explanation would be helpful.

Dear Annie: Every year you print a letter from someone complaining about glowing Christmas newsletters. Tell people to read between the lines.

I didn't put in the newsletter that my son dropped out of school and spent time in the hospital for depression. I also left out the years when I considered divorce and the time my other son was arrested for possession of marijuana. I'd rather sift through the events of the year in order to bring to light the few blessings that did occur. — Focusing on the

Dear Mrs.: He should make it clear that he is also proud of his wife. There is often an assumption when Mr. Big Shot marries a much younger woman that she is simply a trophy wife. Your husband either agrees or likes to give that impression. Women in these marriages have to work quite hard to establish an independent identity. People don't know you. So get on the boards of some charitable foundations. Volunteer at your church. Start a literacy program or a food drive. If you want to develop a reputation as a smart, capable woman, you must do something to promote it instead of relying on your un-supportive husband to do it for you.

Dear Annie: Why is it that whenever my husband and I have a get-together at our home, hardly anyone shows up? Tonight we contacted several friends to come over for drinks and to listen to music and kick back. Absolutely no one showed up. This is not unusual. It doesn't matter whether it's a planned event or a last-minute thing, the turnout is minimal or nonexistent. Yet, if someone else has a get-together, there are people everywhere. I don't get it. We're fun people. We have a comfy home and many friends, so I thought. And when people do come, we all have a

Blessings

Dear Blessings: That is a lovely idea for others to keep in mind, but it is also important that these newsletters not become brag sheets regardless of the reason.

Dear Annie: Seven years ago, my mother had a stroke. She recovered quite well physically, but has never been the same mentally. My aunts wanted to put her in a nursing home, but my sister and I decided to assume responsibility for her. The plan was that Mom would spend six months with me and six months with my sister.

Somehow, my sister's turn never came, and seven years later, my mother still lives with me. The entire time she's been here, family members have never visited, but they will often drive to my sister's home -- three miles away -- to visit Mom when she is there. They send invitations to family events addressed to my mother at my house and to my sister at hers, but exclude me.

I am totally burnt out with the medical appointments, medications, meals and arrangements that are involved in being a caregiver. I know there are support groups, and I've taken advantage of respite care. The most my sister will do is help out with one doctor's appointment and then withdraw, claiming she can't do anymore.

I am near retirement age. I have a wonderful partner and am grateful for all the support he has shown me. But I am resentful of the respect my sister gets from

the family when they invite her to functions along with my mother, but don't include me. How do I change my situation? -- Used and Neglected

Dear Used: You need to be more assertive about your needs. It's possible your relatives think you need a break and this is why they invite Mom alone, so tell them this is not acceptable. Ask if there is something lacking in your home hospitality so you can fix it. Then say you are hurt and insulted when you are excluded from family gatherings. You also have allowed

your sister to avoid her obligations. Set up a schedule so she knows when she is responsible for taking Mom to an appointment, and if she refuses, ask her to contribute financially so you can hire someone to do the things she is unwilling to do.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about An-

nie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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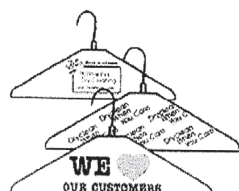
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	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports	
5 :PM	News ABC	News ABC	Locura	Lopez Lopez	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	Seinfeld Office	Granger Brad	BBC Business	Cash Cab	man Forever, Jim Carrey	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas	Horn	SportsCenter	
6 :PM	Entertain	Jeopardy!	Noche de Estrellas	Two Men	News CBS	12 Cora-zones	News NBC	Name Name	Sanchez Sanchez	News-Lehrer	Destroyed	Destroyed	UFC Un-leashed	Bones	Wizards	Football	College Foot-ball: Virginia Tech at East Carolina.		
7 :PM	FlashForward	Fortune	Latin Grammy 2009	Survivor: Samoa	Entertain	Más Sabe el Diabolo	Survivor: Samoa	Fam. Guy	Commn Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Upd Sprna	Texas Destroyed	The Ultimate Fighter	NBA Basket-ball: Bulls at Cavaliers	Monica	Movie: Stuck in the Suburbs	30 for 30		
8 :PM	Grey's Anatomy	Grey's Anatomy		CSI: Crime Scn	CSI: Crime Scn	Pobres Fútbol de la Liga Mexicana	CSI: Crime Scn	Office 30 Rock	Movie: Fun With Dick and Jane	Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	Raging Planet	TNA Wrestling		Movie: Hustle & Flow, Taryn Manning	Phineas	MLS Soccer: Teams TBA.	SportsCenter	
9 :PM	(:01) Private Practice	(:01) Private Practice		Friends	The Mentalist	The Jay Leno Show	Friends	News Raymond	News TMZ	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Upd Van Impe	Charlie Rose	Destroyed	Movie: Fire-wall, Virginia Madsen	Deadliest Warrior	Basketball: San Antonio Spurs at Utah Jazz.	The Mo'Nique	Wizards	
10 :PM	Nightline	Nightline	Impacto	TMZ	Late Show	Titulares	Noticiero	Sex & Bill Cloud	BBC	Raging Planet	Smiley	(Off Air)	Storm Chasers	MAN	Game	Stripper	Inside the NBA	Movie: Hustle & Flow, Taryn Manning	
11 :PM	Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live	Extra	Torrente, un Torbel	Paid Prog	Insider	Programa	News Blue Collar Comedy	World	Light of the Southwest	Cash Cab	Movie: Any Given Sunday, Dennis Quaid	Movie: Crash and Burn, David	Movie: Any Given Sunday, Dennis Quaid	Movie: Cold Case	Movie: Replace	NFL Live	World Series	SportsCenter	
12 :AM	Paid Prog	Paid Prog	Mujer	RENO 911	Paid Prog	Programa	Movie: Fun With Dick and Jane												

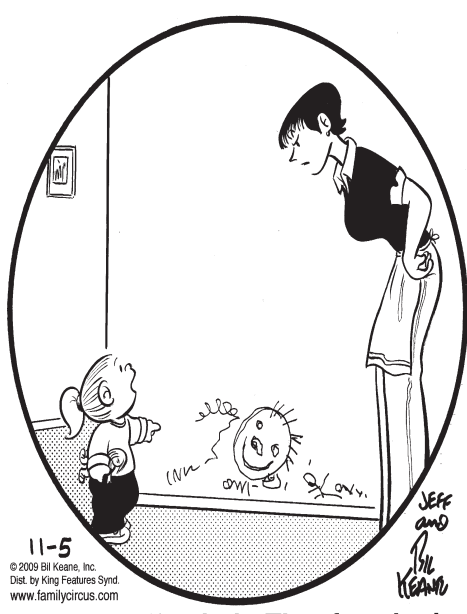
DENNIS THE MENACE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

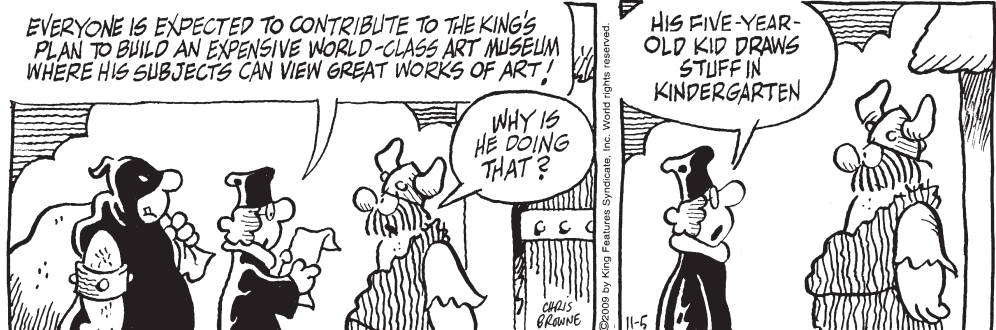
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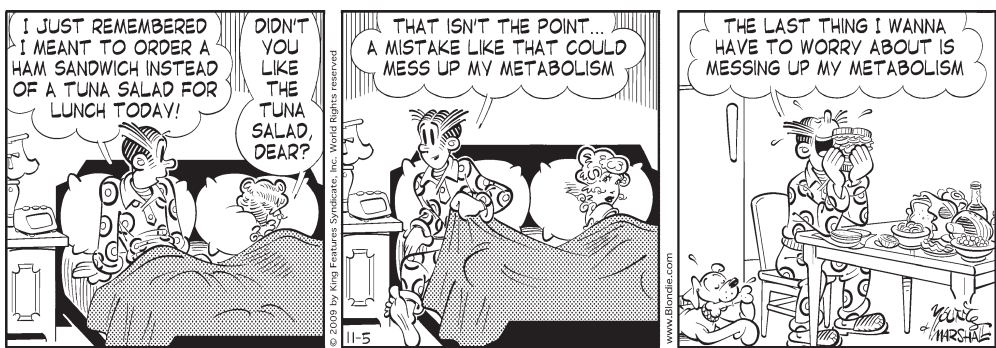
"MY MOM SAYS THE MAGIC WORDS ARE 'PLEASE AND THANK YOU,' NOT 'ABRA-CA-DABRA!'"



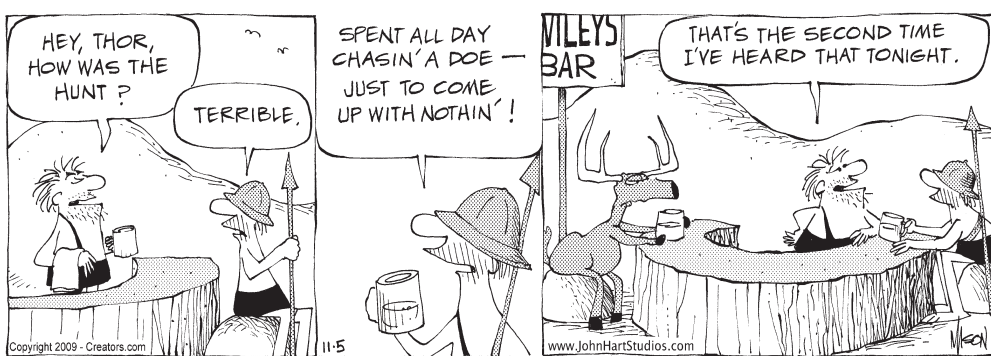
"I think Jeffy did it. That face looks like the kind he draws."



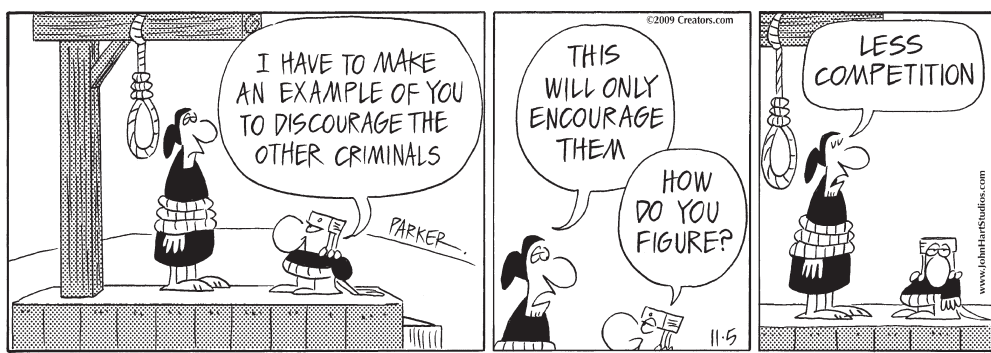
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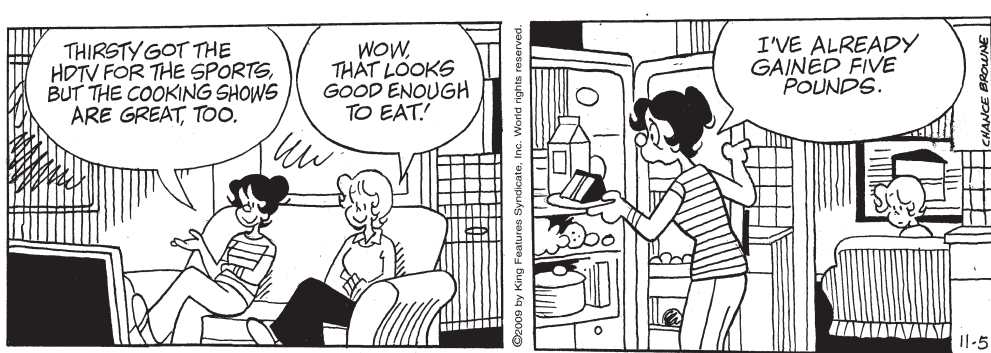
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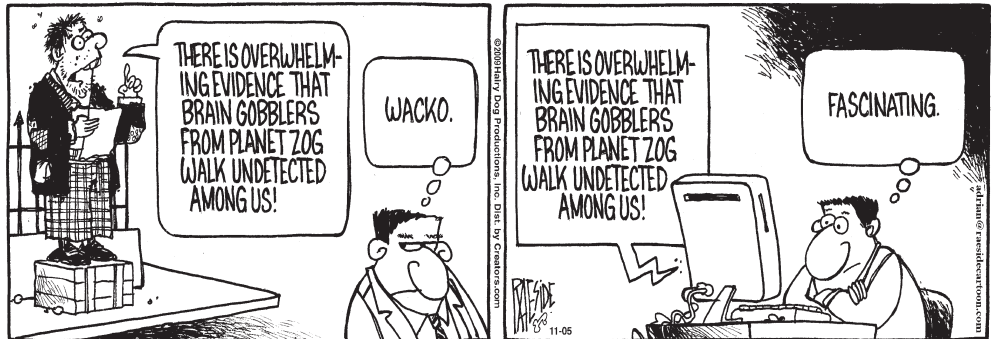
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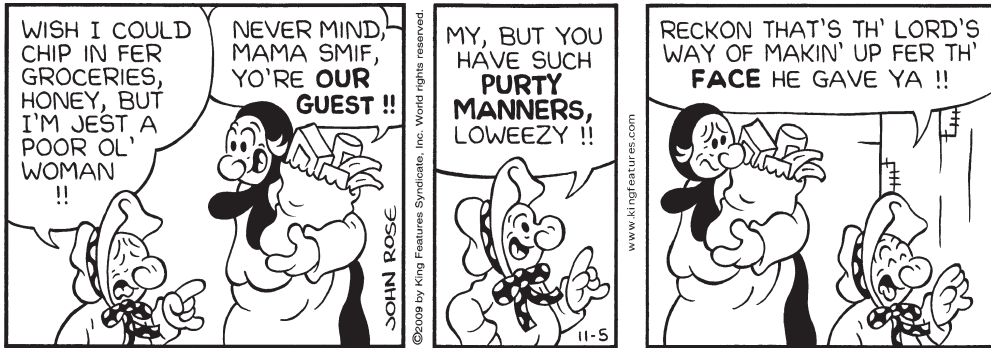
HI AND LOIS



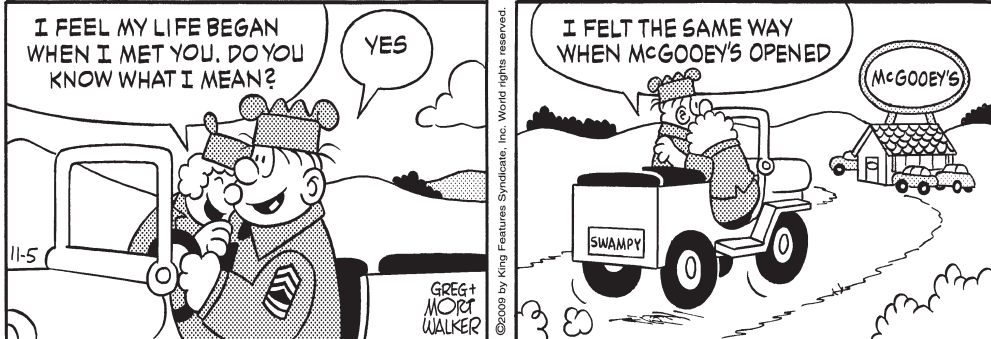
THE OTHER COAST



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This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Nov. 5, the 309th day of 2009. There are 56 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 5, 1605, the "Gunpowder Plot" failed as Guy Fawkes was seized before he could blow up the English Parliament.

On this date: In 1872, suffragist Susan B. Anthony defied the law by attempting to vote for President Ulysses S. Grant. (Anthony was convicted by a judge and fined \$100, but never paid the fine.)

In 1895, George B. Selden of Rochester, N.Y., received the first U.S. patent for an "improved Road Engine."

In 1912, Woodrow Wilson was elected president, defeating Progressive Party candidate Theodore Roosevelt and incumbent Republican William Howard Taft.

In 1940, President Franklin D. Roosevelt won an unprecedented third term in office as

he defeated Republican challenger Wendell L. Willkie.

In 1946, Republicans captured control of both the Senate and the House in midterm elections.

In 1968, Richard M. Nixon won the presidency, defeating Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey and American Independent candidate George C. Wallace.

In 1974, Ella T. Grasso was elected governor of Connecticut, becoming the first woman to win a gubernatorial office without succeeding her husband.

In 1985, Spencer W. Kimball, president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, died at age 90; he was succeeded by Ezra Taft Benson.

In 1989, death claimed pianist Vladimir Horowitz in New York at age 86 and singer-songwriter Barry Sadler in Murfreesboro, Tenn., at age 49.

In 1990, Rabbi Meir Kahane, the Brooklyn-born Israeli extremist, was shot to death at a New York hotel. (Egyptian native El Sayyed Nosair was convicted of the slaying in federal court.)

Today's Birthdays: Actor Chris Robinson is 71. Actress

Elke Sommer is 69. Oregon Gov. Ted Kulongoski is 69. Singer Art Garfunkel is 68. Actor-playwright Sam Shepard is 66. Singer Peter Noone is 62. Actor Nestor Serrano ("24") is 54. Actress-comedian Mo'Nique is 51. Actor Robert Patrick is 51. Singer Bryan Adams is 50. Actress Tilda Swinton is 49. Actress Tatum O'Neal is 46. Actress Andrea McArdle is 46. Rock singer Angelo Moore (Fishbone) is 44. Actress Judy Reyes is 42. Rock musician Mark Hunter (James) is 41. Actor Sam Rockwell is 41. Country singers Jennifer and Heather Kinley (The Kinleys) are 39. Actor Corin Nemec is 38.

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Answer to previous puzzle

FACTS	BAGS	PACT
AGAIN	EXEC	AFOR
ZEPPO	LENA	LIMA
ESP	ROLLER	DERBY
	ITEMS	CARESS
INSIDE	THEN	
DATA	NORA	ASSES
ODOR	STILL	ACRE
SALAD	TALE	WAGE
	IPOD	PATRON
SCROLL	DENOF	
TRIPLE	CROWN	DOH
RAGE	DOOM	ABOVE
AVID	GALE	LOWED
WEDS	EXES	SONNY

Newsday Crossword SHOW YOUR METAL by Shirley Soloway Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Extreme northern or southern

6 Ice cream on a stick

10 Where the Mekong flows

14 One's digs

15 Plenty

16 Solicitious

17 007 adversary

19 Nick on *The West Wing*

20 Slithery swimmers

21 "Amscray!"

23 Limo rider, often

24 McCourt memoir

26 Attack verbally

28 Concert bonuses

32 Snarl

33 As well

34 Sort of switch

37 Record players

40 Basic-cable station

42 Nothing at all

43 Byron or Keats

44 Doctor's devices

45 Seated Beatle

47 Devious

48 Oklahoma city

50 Mythic wailer

52 Anagram of "bedroom"

55 Ending for expert

56 German exclamation

57 Makes into law

60 Iowa city

64 Short distance

66 Canadian rock band

DOWN

9 Violin part

10 Alias, for short

11 Gray insect

12 Subcontinental nation

13 Roll with the punches

18 Norwegian dramatist

22 Petty tyrants

25 Raymond Burr TV role

27 Settled accounts

28 Work with acid

29 Apt to pry

30 Venomous snake

31 Princes, perforce

35 Hale and hearty

36 Weightlifter's bane

38 Bali, for instance

39 Eye annoyance

41 Top-rated

46 Uplift

49 Christmas Eve reindeer

51 Naval builder

52 Tenor colleague

53 Quartet times two

54 Corn color

58 LI quadrupled

59 Boxing stats

61 Beer ingredient

62 Reverberate

63 Frank covering

65 *Antiques Roadshow* ailer

67 The "bad cholesterol": cholel.

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