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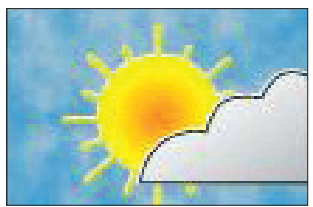


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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**MONDAY**

NOVEMBER 9, 2009



VOLUME 104, NUMBER 291

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## Special program set for Veterans Day

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

Big Spring and the surrounding communities will honor its fighting men and women Wednesday with a special Veterans Day program at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, according to officials with the Big Spring VA Hospital.

Lauri Phillips, acting public affairs officer for the local VA Hospital, said

the program will give the community a chance to offer its thanks to the veterans who have honored the call of duty today and in years past.

"Veterans Day offers America an opportunity to honor its veterans for their service and sacrifice on behalf of our country," said Phillips. "This year Big Spring and the surrounding communities will host a very special community-wide Veterans Day program at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, located on the campus of Howard College.

"All veterans are invited to attend this program, which is being held in their honor. Also, citizens in the community are invited to join us as we share a moment of celebration, recognition and dedication to all veterans, past, present and future."

Phillips said the program will get underway at 11 a.m. and feature U.S. Air Force Col. David A. Rearick as

keynote speaker.

"This brief program serves as a solemn reminder of the price for the freedoms we enjoy every day," said Phillips. "Students from Goliad Intermediate School, Coahoma and Elbow schools will be participating in the program. Also, John Fisher, a veteran of the United States Air Force, will serve as the master of ceremonies."

See **CEREMONY**, Page 3

## FIRE UNDER INVESTIGATION



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Emergency responders with the Big Spring Fire Department work to extinguish a small blaze at the remnants of an old nursing home near the intersection of Goliad and Eighth Street. According to officials on the scene, the fire was set, but whether it was arson or an accident remains under investigation.

## Kindness

*WTCMHMR clinics celebrating World Kindness Week*

**Special to the Herald**

West Texas Centers for MHMR's 15 Mental Health Clinics are inviting patients, their families and members of the community to the center to celebrate World Kindness Week, which begins today and continues through Sunday with members of their staff.

West Texas Centers for MHMR works in collaboration with the non-profit Random Acts of Kindness Foundation to promote kindness throughout the year.

The Random Acts of Kindness Foundation was formed in 1995 as an outreach program to inspire people to practice kindness by providing ideas, guidance and resources to others through its Web site, [www.actsofkindness.org](http://www.actsofkindness.org).

West Texas Centers participates in World Kindness Week because research shows that acts of kindness improve one's mental and physical health, said West Texas Centers for MHMR CEO Shelley Smith.

"The goal of community mental health centers is to

See **WTCMHMR**, Page 3

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## Council expected to OK clubhouse contract

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

Fore!

Or more to the point, \$450,017, which is the cost of the contract to build a new clubhouse for the Comanche Trail Golf Course the city of Big Spring is expected to approve first reading of during Tuesday's meeting of the city council.

The contract, which will give Lubbock-based contractor Craig Wallace Construction the go-ahead on the project, comes following the award of the bid to the company during the council's meeting in October, according to Assistant City Manager Todd Darden.



Darden



McEwen

"None of the details have changed since the bid was approved Oct. 13," said Darden. "This contract is merely a formality following award of the bid. We

only had two bidders when we opened the bids back in early October, and the low bid came from Craig Wallace Construction."

Darden said the bid, which included all alternative amenities in the bid package, came in slightly higher than the city had budgeted, but by shifting some finances around, the city should be able to bring the entire project in within budget.

"It is slightly over what we currently have budgeted. However, Gary (Fuqua, city manager), Peggy (Walker, city finance director) and myself have talked it over and we feel that by restructuring the financing and interest rates on the package we can get it within budget. This is the same contractor that built the new Roy Anderson Sports Complex."

Having already put the project out for bids twice — the first time using a construction manager at risk — Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen said finally having the pro shop ready to move forward is a huge relief for him and the rest of the council.

"Relief. Absolute relief," said McEwen with a laugh. "There was a great attempt by those of us with the city to do something special at the golf course because we feel like we have a great layout and we feel like we've done some great things with it. We didn't want to just put up a metal building out there. And the idea was to get an architect that deals in this type of work to design something that's not a rectangle. However, because of that, we ran into some problems. We put it out for bids and it came in way over budget, so it's been a great frustration."

Original talks with contractors had council members hopeful the new pro shop would be ready for the reopening of the course, which underwent major

See **COUNCIL**, Page 3



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## Obituaries

## C.E. 'Mac' McKenzie

C.E. "Mac" McKenzie, 82, of Stanton died on Friday, Nov. 6, 2009, in Midland. Funeral services will be held at 4 p.m. Monday, Nov. 9, 2009, at the Belvue Church of Christ in Stanton with Minister Kendall Tomlinson officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park Peace Chapel in Big Spring.

Mac was born March 16, 1927, in Ballinger to Ola and Thomas McKenzie. He married Edna Ruth Wade Oct. 27, 1948, in Ballinger. She preceded him in death Nov. 7, 1985. Mac was a member of the Belvue Church of Christ in Stanton. He has lived in the Stanton community for 52 years.

Mac was a loving and devoted husband, father and grandfather. He liked gardening, hunting and fishing. He was especially fond of his pecan trees. He loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren, and poking fun at Alice and Diann.

Survivors include sons Herbert Armstrong and wife, Alice, of Midland, Dayle McKenzie and wife, Leticia, of Stanton and Wade McKenzie and wife, Diann, of Midland; daughters Edna Ringener and husband, Dennis, of Stanton, Brenda Duke and husband, Dean, of Robstown, Lana Ledbetter and husband, Dan, of Midland and Bonnie Danyluk and husband, Dave, of Camano Island, Wash.; 17 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; a sister, Virginia Hovrak of Rosepine, La.; a brother, Tommy McKenzie of Ballinger; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Boyce McKenzie; and sister, Ruby Wilson.

Memorial donations may be made to Hospice of Midland, P.O. Box 2621, Midland 79702 or the Alzheimer's Association, 4400 N Big Spring St., Suite 32, Midland 79705.

Pallbearers will be Bobby Robertson, Cody Ringener, Rex Armstrong, Lynn Duke, Jeremy McIntyre and Shawn Baker.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at: [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com)

*Paid obituary*

## Peggy R. Cottongame

Peggy R. Cottongame, 77, of Big Spring died on Friday, Nov. 6, 2009, in an Odessa hospice facility. Graveside services will be held at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2009, at the Trinity Memorial Park Peace Chapel with Capt. Russ Keeney, of the Salvation Army of Midland, officiating. The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Monday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Mrs. Cottongame was born Aug. 27, 1932, in Big Spring to Joe and Ola Ruth (Edens) Barbee. She married Jack H. Cottongame Sr. Aug. 10, 1966, in Lamesa. He preceded her in death June 8, 2008.

She was a beautician for 32 years. During the latter part of her career, she owned and operated the Vogue Beauty Salon. She was a member and past president of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, did volunteer work for more than 10 years as a Salvation Army soldier and even volunteered at the nursing homes where she lived.

Survivors include two sons, Gary Snowden and wife, Patricia, of Big Spring and Jackie Cottongame and wife, Sanden, of Krum; one sister, Patsy Santistenban of San Leandro, Calif.; 10 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

In addition to her her parents and her husband, she was preceded in death by one son, Paul Snowden.

Memorial donations are suggested to Hospice House of Odessa, 903 N. Sam Houston, Odessa 79761.

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

## Claudine 'Dean' Gaskins

Claudine "Dean" Gaskins, 83, of Big Spring died Sunday, Nov. 8, 2009, at her residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## Eddie Odom

Eddie Odom, 44, of Big Spring died Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 9 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today:

- CHARLES WILSON, 59, of 2606 E. 24<sup>th</sup> St., was arrested Saturday on a charge of theft.
- PABLO DEHOYOS, 26, of 1002 N. Main St. Apt. 63, was arrested Saturday on charges of public intoxication and theft.
- LETICIA RENTERIA-DE-JURADO, 40, of 2621 Hunter, was arrested Saturday on a charge of theft.
- JASON BOLT, 23, of 1303 Mesa, was arrested Saturday on four local warrants.
- MICHAEL GOMEZ, 17, of 312 E. Davis Rd., was arrested Sunday on charges of evading arrest or detention and theft of a firearm.
- GILBERT GONZALES, 28, of 602 Abrams, was arrested Sunday on a charge of evading arrest or detention using a vehicle.
- PATRICK RIOS, 28, of 602 Abrams, was arrested Sunday on a charge of assault Class C – family violence.
- JOSE MARTINEZ, 23, of 805 E. 15<sup>th</sup> St., was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
- KRISTINA ESCAMILLIA, 27, of 2302 Grace, was arrested Sunday on four local warrants and a charge of theft.
- UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF A FIREARM BY A FELON was reported in the 1200 block of Ridgeroad.
- THEFT was reported:
  - in the 200 block of FM 700.
  - in the 700 block of Interstate Highway 20.
  - in the 1800 block of Gregg Street.
  - in the 200 block of FM 700.
  - in the 1800 block of Gregg Street.
- EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION was reported in the 1200 block of Ridgeroad.
- CRIMINAL TRESPASS was reported in the 2300 block of Kentucky.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported:
  - in the 2400 block of Cheyenne.
  - in the 2500 block of Carleton.
  - in the 400 block of Fourth Street.
  - in the 700 block of Creighton.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported:
  - in the 600 block of Sixth Street.
  - in the 1500 block of Tucson.
  - in the 1500 block of Sycamore.
  - in the 1200 block of Ridgeroad.
  - in the 600 block of Ridgelea.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 900 block of 14<sup>th</sup> Street.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported:
  - in the 400 block of Gregg Street.
  - in the 800 block of Interstate Highway 20.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 1400 block of Kentucky Way.
- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported:
  - in the 2500 block of Gunter.
  - in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87.

## Sheriff

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

- Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 79 inmates at the time of this report.
- PETE STOKES ACOSTA JR., 48, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of contempt of court.
- JASON PAUL BOLT, 23, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on contempt charges for no driver's license, unrestrained child under 5 years of age and failure to appear (two counts).
- ERNEST WILLIAM CLARK, 69, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of criminal trespass.
- STEVEN CRUZ, 31, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of Class C assault – family violence.
- PABLO DEHOYOS, 26, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of public intoxication and theft.
- LETICIA RENTERIA DEJUDARO, 40, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.
- KRISTINA ELAINE ESCAMILLA, 27, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of theft and contempt charges for driving while license invalid (two counts), failure to appear (three counts), unrestrained child under 5 years of age and no insurance.

See **SHERIFF**, Page 3

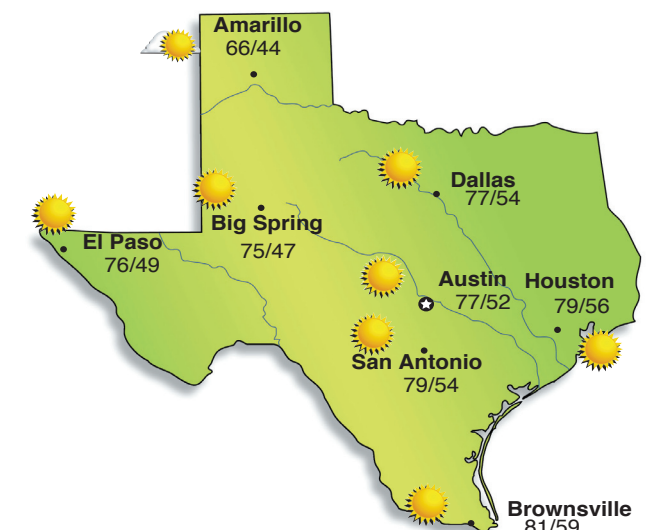
## Today's Weather

## Local 5-Day Forecast

Tue 11/10	Wed 11/11	Thu 11/12	Fri 11/13	Sat 11/14
<b>75/47</b> Generally sunny. High around 75F. Winds ENE at 5 to 10 mph.	<b>76/47</b> Sunshine. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the upper 40s.	<b>76/49</b> Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the upper 40s.	<b>78/50</b> Mostly Cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the low 50s.	<b>73/44</b> Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the mid 40s.
Sunrise: 7:11 AM Sunset: 5:49 PM	Sunrise: 7:12 AM Sunset: 5:48 PM	Sunrise: 7:13 AM Sunset: 5:47 PM	Sunrise: 7:14 AM Sunset: 5:47 PM	Sunrise: 7:14 AM Sunset: 5:46 PM

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## Texas At A Glance



## Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	73	47	sunny	Kingsville	83	58	sunny
Amarillo	66	44	mst sunny	Livingston	80	53	sunny
Austin	77	52	sunny	Longview	76	54	sunny
Beaumont	79	56	pt sunny	Lubbock	72	46	pt sunny
Brownsville	81	59	sunny	Lufkin	79	54	sunny
Brownwood	77	51	sunny	Midland	76	49	pt sunny
Corpus Christi	81	59	sunny	Raymondville	84	57	sunny
Corsicana	77	53	sunny	Rosenberg	79	56	sunny
Dallas	77	54	sunny	San Antonio	79	54	sunny
Del Rio	80	54	sunny	San Marcos	78	52	sunny
El Paso	76	49	sunny	Sulphur Springs	77	55	sunny
Fort Stockton	76	49	sunny	Sweetwater	74	48	sunny
Gainesville	75	52	mst sunny	Tyler	77	53	sunny
Greenville	75	52	sunny	Weatherford	76	50	sunny
Houston	79	56	sunny	Wichita Falls	75	48	mst sunny

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## Lottery

The winning numbers drawn in the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night:

3-6-22-31-38-42  
Estimated jackpot: \$9 million  
Next Lotto Texas game: Wednesday night.

The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Saturday by the Texas Lottery:

3-20-24-29-34  
Next Cash Five drawing: Tonight.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn

Saturday night, in order:

9-9-2-4. Sum It Up: 24.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night, in order:

8-7-7. Sum It Up: 22.

The winning numbers in Saturday afternoon's drawing of the "Daily 4 Day" game were:

4-8-7-1. Sum It Up: 20.

The winning numbers in Saturday afternoon's drawing of the "Pick 3 Day" game were:

6-0-1. Sum It Up: 7.

## BIG SPRING HERALD

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## Take Note

• The Big Spring Steer Band Boosters will be meeting at 5:30 p.m. tonight at the High School Band Hall.

• Goliad Intermediate School fifth and sixth graders are participating in a mathathon to benefit St. Jude Hospital and are seeking sponsors through Nov.

18. For more information, call Rebecca Otto at 264-4111.

• In an effort to detect Alzheimer's in its early stages, Accolade Home Care is offering confidential memory screenings at Big Spring Senior Center, 1901 Simler Ave., Nov. 19 at 11 a.m.

## SHERIFF

Continued from Page 2

• JESUS ESCOBEDO, 45, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a parole revocation for violation of parole and a charge of public intoxication.

• MICHAEL ANTHONY GOMEZ, 17, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon and evading arrest or detention.

• GILBERT GONZALES, 28, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of evading arrest or detention with a vehicle.

• LUIS MIGUEL LOPEZ, 26, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for contempt of child support order.

• JOSE MARTINEZ, 23, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• SAMUEL JAMES NEVILS, 20, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of criminal mischief.

• JOSE ANTHONY NIETO, 28, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.

• JOSHUA CLIFFORD OLIVER, 25, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of disorderly con-

duct - vulgar language.

• TAVIAN PARNELL, 17, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.

• PATRICK RIOS, 20, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of assault Class C - family violence.

• CHRISTOPHER ALLEN ROBLES, 26, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for contempt of court.

• MARIO ANTONIO SALDANA, 43, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• LISA TURNER, 47, was arrested Friday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

• ADRIAN VANDERPOOL, 29, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence evading arrest or detention with a vehicle.

• LINDA CORTEZ WHITE, 39, was arrested Friday by DPS on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• CHARLES JOSEPH WILSON, 59, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.

• CLIFFORD LYNN WOODS, 32, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of hindering an official's duties.

• MELISSA YOUNG, 40, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

## Special to the Herald

AUSTIN — The Texas Workforce Commission is notifying approximately 45,000 Texas unemployment claimants that they may be eligible for an additional seven-week extension of state Extended Benefits.

The TWC is mailing letters to claimants who have exhausted their benefits instructing them how to apply for the additional extension.

The letters direct claimants who have already exhausted their

benefits and have not found work to call a special number provided on the letter to apply for the new extension.

Earlier this month, the U.S. Department of Labor informed TWC that Texas workers will be eligible for additional benefits because the state's unemployment rate averaged at least 8 percent for three consecutive months.

The state's unemployment rate first hit 8 percent in August, rose to 8.2 percent in September, and has remained

above 8 percent.

Texas is able to pay state extended benefits through the end of the year.

Claimants who are currently receiving state Extended Benefits will automatically have the additional weeks added to their claim and will receive a letter showing the additional amount of benefits they potentially could receive.

Claimants who currently receive unemployment benefits should continue to request payment as

scheduled. Claimants may update their address information online through <http://ui.texasworkforce.org> or by contacting a UI Tele-Center toll-free at 1-800-939-6631.

Re-employment services are available through workforce centers statewide or by accessing [www.WorkInTexas.com](http://www.WorkInTexas.com) for information.

On Thursday of last week, Congress passed legislation which would further extend federally funded unemployment

compensation benefits. The bill awaits the Pres-

ident's signature.

## WTCMHMR

Continued from Page 1

allow people being treated for mental illness to live a productive life in their home communities," she said.

Each Mental Health Center will bring the international group's message home to West Texas by sponsoring daily activities, ranging from refreshments to prizes, Smith said.

Howard County Mental Health Center is

providing refreshments today for adults in the Mental Health Clinic lobby, 319 Runnels, and coupons for the children on Thursday, Nov. 12.

Banners will hang in the lobby proclaiming National Kindness Week.

For more information, call Amy Vidal at 263-0007.

West Texas Centers for MHMR provides mental health and mental retardation services to consumers in 23 rural counties in West Texas.

## CEREMONY

Continued from Page 1

The Goodfellow Air Force Base joint service color guard team will

also be on hand for the presentation, according to Phillips, to post the colors, provide a 21-gun salute and play Taps. Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen is also expected to present a procla-

mation honoring all veterans.

"Following the program, veterans and their families are invited to a lunch, also held there at the coliseum," said Phillips.

For more information, call Phillips at 264-4824.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at [citydesk@bigspringherald.com](mailto:citydesk@bigspringherald.com)

## COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1

renovations in 2007 and 2008, an idea that was dashed when the first bids came in at almost twice what the city had budgeted, according to McEwen.

"When we originally talked to the architect, he said there was a possibility to get everything done and be in the pro shop when the golf course reopened in April 2008," said McEwen. "However, we didn't even have drawings in

April 2008. There was a great deal of frustration and we went through two bid processes before we decided to go ahead and take open bids. Fortunately we have something done.

"It's like anything in life, we're going to look back on it and say, 'Wasn't it interesting, those two years when we didn't have a clubhouse?'" the mayor added. "However, when you're in the middle of it, it's a real pain. And we realize how inadequate the facilities are right now. We have a portable building right

now, which isn't fair to the golfers or the golf course itself. I'm really confident when this project is completed and people see it completed, they are going to be impressed."

The meeting will get underway at 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday in the City Council Chambers, located at 307 E. Fourth St.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at [citydesk@bigspringherald.com](mailto:citydesk@bigspringherald.com)

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## Fire/EMS

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

• MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of Tulane. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of 16<sup>th</sup> Street and Owens. Two people were transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Hearn. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of W. 20<sup>th</sup> Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAUMA was reported in the 1800 block of Morrison. Service refused.

• TRAUMA was reported in the 800 block of N. Gregg Street. Service refused.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of Aylesford. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of FM 700 and Goliad. Two people were transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 3000 block of Rickabaugh. Service refused.

• TRAUMA was reported in the 1800 block of Owens. Two people were 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 900 block of N. Lamesa. One person was transported to

SMMC.

• STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 900 block of Goliad.

• STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 2000 block of Rickabaugh. Fire out on arrival.

• TRASH FIRE was reported in the 4100 block of E. FM 700.

• TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of Fourth Street and Gregg. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAUMA was reported in the 1700 block of Purdue. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAUMA was reported in the 1800 block of Owens. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAUMA was reported in the 1700 block of Purdue. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAUMA was reported in the 600 block of Caylor. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAUMA was reported near the 165 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the 174 mile marker of I-20. Service refused.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of E. 14<sup>th</sup> Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

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Eddie Odom, 44, died Saturday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Claudine "Dean" Gaskins, 83, died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

**THE LOOKOUT**

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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**  
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## OTHER VIEWS

# Flu vaccine distribution makes sense

The last thing needed during this H1N1 pandemic is for the public to be alarmed unnecessarily by manufactured and hyped-up outrage about an issue that makes perfect sense when explained in reasonable and noninflammatory terms.

Yet screaming newspaper headlines and boisterous soundbites on talk radio have aroused many residents to the point of hysteria over that fact that thousands of prisoners in the state penitentiary might be inoculated with the swine flu vaccine before "law-abiding Texans."

It is understandable that many people — in Texas and around the country — are frustrated with the slower-than-expected vaccine production and delivery to major population centers. But that is no reason to become irrational because proper procedures are being followed to give priority to high-risk populations that include pregnant women, those with compromised immune systems and people with medical conditions that put them at a higher risk for complications from the flu.

Texas prisons contain thousands of high-risk people — pregnant women, HIV-positive inmates and those with other severe medical issues — who, if left untreated, could spread the disease not just within the more than 158,000 closely confined men and women inside the prisons but also far beyond their walls.

High-risk inmates are scattered throughout 112 prisons located in communities across the state. More than 40,000 correctional officers and medical personnel — people who go home to their families at the end of their shifts — come in contact with those locked behind bars. Then there are the thousands of family members of inmates who visit, as well as outside vendors and service providers who make contact with people inside those institutions.

Texas Department of Criminal Justice officials have requested enough swine flu vaccine to inoculate the 45,244 most at-risk individuals immediately and eventually the entire prison population. As of today, the TDCJ has not received any vaccine.

As state Sen. John Whitmire, D-Houston, said: "I can appreciate that people in the free world who are waiting for a shot may not understand why people who are incarcerated are priority, but that doesn't mean we should allow a catastrophic epidemic inside the very enclosed high-risk populations in prison."

Twenty-three cases of H1N1 within Texas prisons were reported from Sept. 1 through Monday, TDCJ officials said. The state has the responsibility to take every precaution to keep the virus confined to as few inmates and employees as possible.

State and federal lawmakers who are being encouraged by misguided constituents to somehow get involved by changing the distribution policy should resist their instinct to pander. Public health decisions are best left to those most qualified to administer the plans for fighting this pandemic.

Although the list of priorities for those who receive vaccinations first was set months ago by the U. S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, this is not a new procedure in Texas. Every year, the same high-risk confined population is given the vaccine for whatever stripe of flu is going around. This year there just happens to be two stripes the seasonal variety and H1N1.

Within the prison system, medical staff will receive the first doses, followed by correctional officers and other workers and then the inmates.

This is not only a logical plan, but a wise one. There is no need to be riled by the alarmists.

THE STAR-TELEGRAM  
FORT WORTH

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

When times get tough, Lord, may we hang in there trusting You always.

Amen

# Right reforms will do no harm

During medical school, aspiring physicians are often taught the principle of primum non nocere, more commonly known as "first, do no harm." It holds that, faced with a delicate medical situation, a doctor should survey whether intervention will actually cause more trauma than healing. Today, Congress is confronted with the critical task of reforming our nation's health care. As we debate legislation, or intervention, we would do well to remember those words: first, do no harm.



KAY  
BAILEY  
HUTCHISON

Unfortunately, the Democrats' proposed government-run insurance plan would first do harm by intervening in the sacred doctor-patient relationship and encumbering Americans' choices and access to the best quality health care. The Democrats have presented Americans with a false choice: their proposal or nothing.

However, there are other better remedies that will actually lower costs, expand access to quality care, and raise patients' choices — without the threat of government control. These other options will keep patients at the center of their health care, and take the bureaucrats out of the equation.

The key to meeting cost-saving goals in a sustainable and fiscally responsible manner is market competition. Therefore, any reforms we adopt must encourage competition among health insurance providers through transparency and value. This will make health insurance a buyers' market in which patients know what plans are offered and what they cost, allowing them to choose the options that best suit their needs. A primary way

to raise competition is to bring more consumers into the marketplace. Market trends indicate that, in order to compete for new consumers' business, insurance providers will offer better plans and present them in the clearest manner possible to stand out from other options.

To bring more individual consumers into the marketplace, there needs to be tax equity for those who do not have employer-sponsored health insurance. Americans whose coverage is administered through their employers receive an unlimited tax break on the value of their benefits. The same tax relief is not available to those who purchase private insurance. This tax exclusion should be replaced with a universal tax credit that would extend to all beneficiaries. A recent Wall Street Journal editorial praised the equity approach, stating, "The current bias for one type of insurance has persisted for decades despite its unfairness and irrationality."

A second way to raise competition is to organize health insurance coverage options in an online marketplace that consumers can use to select the plan of their choice. This web-based marketplace would help give companies affordable options to offer employees and their families, while dramatically simplifying the employer's role in health care coverage administration by lowering administrative costs. This approach would encourage more employers to offer help with coverage to employees and it would increase the size of the risk pool, bringing down costs.

The Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) has successfully implemented this model in the government and could prove promising for private employers. Unlike Medicare or Medicaid, FEHBP is an employment-based system that makes it easy for families to shop each year for plans and to have portable coverage. Em-

ployees can choose from managed care plans, health savings accounts, and more. This has provided choices and quality care for federal employees, and the same level of care should be broadly available. Replicating this in the private market could eliminate gaps in care because plan benefits are portable from job to job, provided that both employers participate in the exchange. There are also other ways we can improve our nation's health care without the destructive government intervention being pushed by the Majority in Congress. Of critical importance is tort reform. Medical lawsuit abuse is prompting many physicians to scale back their practices to exclude high-risk specialties, such as obstetrics, or to close their doors altogether.

Others are responding by practicing defensive medicine, whereby doctors order costly and unnecessary tests or procedures to protect themselves from lawsuits. Medical liability has excessively burdened the health delivery system, and steps can be taken to protect doctors and patients alike. Reasonable caps on non-economic damages make sure patients are compensated when errors are made, but will help curb the litigious abuse that has impaired health care across the U.S.

All these approaches have proven to be effective, and they will focus on fixing what's really broken about our health care system: soaring costs and limited access to quality coverage. Most importantly, this does not intervene where our system works. Patients must always have choices governing their health care, and they should be able to see the physicians they know and trust.

We must take care not to harm that.

Kay Bailey Hutchison is the senior U.S. Senator from Texas.

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# Reading is still fundamental

In the last few weeks I read two Star Wars novels, a collection of essays by Laurie Notaro, a biography of Axl Rose, Carrie Fisher's latest memoir, a book about the stomach disorder I may or may not have as well as three non-fiction books by Ben Mezrich. During that time period I also managed to read a newspaper nearly every day, countless magazines and, yes, a variety of news found online.

For those of you in the younger generations who may be unfamiliar, novels are like a series of pretend Facebook posts strung together to tell a story. Imagine if what your friends had to say went on for longer than 140 characters and was actually compelling. I know that it's hard to compete with "having a bad day" as far as storytelling goes, but trust me, some of these novelists have really mastered the whole multiple sentence plus a story arc thing.

Though I'm teasing a little bit, I do fear that the Internet and its penchant for short, easy-to-digest information is slowly destroying our ability to read. If you can be vaguely informed (or

at least not embarrassingly uninformed) by glancing at Google News then I fear most people won't dig much deeper.

Depth has been replaced by a superficial knowledge of everything. You may not write long letters to any of your old friends, but you know a sentence or two about what every person you have ever met does every day. The same logic holds for newspaper and book consumption. We won't read Andre Agassi's biography, but we will skim a few paragraphs posted online giving us the highlights (he took meth and wore a wig).

Without reading — the kind of reading that involves sitting for long periods of time and looking at multiple pages, not simply scanning headlines — our capacity for in-depth understanding disappears. Reading serves as the foundation for pretty much all knowledge. Reading develops our understanding of the world, enhances our vocabulary and generally gives us something to build other skills upon.

It's possible to learn without reading (reading a book about ice skating would probably not help you actually skate) but in most areas not being a good reader makes learning much harder. Reading also allows you to learn a lot of things quickly without actually experiencing them.

For example, I neither enjoy

the music of Guns N' Roses nor have any particular interest in partnering with a bunch of guys who abuse heroin. Reading Axl Rose's biography, however, gave me an understanding of both. Perhaps that's not immediately useful information, but if I'm asked a question about the derivation of "Paradise City," or what happens when your heart stops from drug abuse, I now have an answer.

Reading does not come easily for some people, but the more you do the easier it gets. If we fail to give our children the ability to read (not just the technical ability, the actual acquired skill of doing it well) then we handicap them for the rest of their lives.

It's easy to pretend that the Internet has somehow made reading less important when all it has done is make those who don't read a little harder to pick out. The prevalence of really short stories and news items hasn't made these people any less uninformed or any smarter. Instead, it has just given the stupid enough superficial knowledge to hide amongst an ocean of similarly misguided folks — none of whom are likely to have read this far anyway..

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



DANIEL  
KLINE



# Area roundup: 2 teams advance to playoffs

### Herald Staff Report

**RANKIN** — It's playoff time and two area 6-man teams are in.

Garden City, outright winners of Division I, District 8 thanks to a 62-12 pounding of Rankin on Friday, will play Saturday. Sands is in as well, finishing behind undefeated Borden County in Division II, District 6.

Grady had a chance to lock up a playoff spot Thursday against Spur, but the Wildcats fell short and ended their season 6-3.

### Garden City 62, Rankin 12

This game was billed to be a big one. It turned into a laugher.

The Garden City Bearkats chewed up the Rankin Red Devils with a balanced offensive en route to a three-quarter mercy rule win.

Garden City will face Spur, who beat Grady to get into the playoffs, at 6 p.m. Saturday in Borden County in the first round of postseason play.

The Bearkats just missed ending the game at halftime when the score was 48-6. The Bearkats scored 40 unanswered points to start the game.

Garden City's Josh Colunga car-

ried the Bearkat rushing attack, accounting for 14 of the team's 15 rushes for 184 yards and three touchdowns. Colunga also threw a 60-yard touchdown pass in the game.

Touchdown Batla turned in a solid performance through the air, connecting on nine of thirteen passes for 183 yards and three touchdowns.

Garden City jumped out to a 24-0 lead in the first quarter. Colunga got the ball rolling with an eighty-yard touchdown scamper midway through the first. Marcus Cook found the end zone less than three minutes later on a 15-yard romp, the lone rushing attempt for the Bearkats not by Colunga.

Toward the end of the first quarter, Colunga decided he'd like to diversify his scoring efforts. He threw a 60-yarder to Cook for the score.

Rankin got on the board two Garden City touchdowns later, when the Red Devils' Cody Fee caught a 31-yard pass from Austin Dupriest to make it 40-6. The Bearkats responded one minute later with Batla's second touchdown pas of the game, a 45-yarder to Reggie Halfmann.

The Bearkats ended the game with 5:20 left in the third quarter when

Batla tossed a 41-yarder to Aaron Long.

### Sands 60, Grandfalls 14

**ACKERLY** — The Sands Mustangs triumphed for the playoffs with a 60-14 win Friday night over the Grandfalls-Royalty Cowboys.

Sands got a big night from Johnny Rogers on Friday, who ran for 162 yards and accounted for five touchdowns — three on the ground and two through the air.

Daniel Armendariz also turned in an impressive performance, breaking through for 132 yards and a touchdown on 11 carries.

Armendariz got the Mustangs on the board first with a seven-yard touchdown scamper at the 5:59 mark in the first quarter.

Rogers took over the Sands offense from that point. On the last play of the first quarter, he broke through for a 53-yard run. Two and a half minutes later, he tossed his first touchdown pass of the night to Landon Parker from 13 yards out.

After Grandfalls got on the board with a four-yard touchdown pass to make it 23-8, Rogers responded with his second score of the game,

a 6-yard toss to Michael Gomez. But Rogers wasn't done yet.

A minute later he broke his second 50-plus run of the game, this time from 55 yards out. With a minute left in the second quarter he struck again from 35 yards out to make it 47-14.

At the :45 mark, Sands got a defensive touchdown from Gomez, who returned a fumble 36 yards to paydirt. The Mustangs ended the game with 7:55 to play in the third quarter on a Reuben McMorris three-yard touchdown plunge.

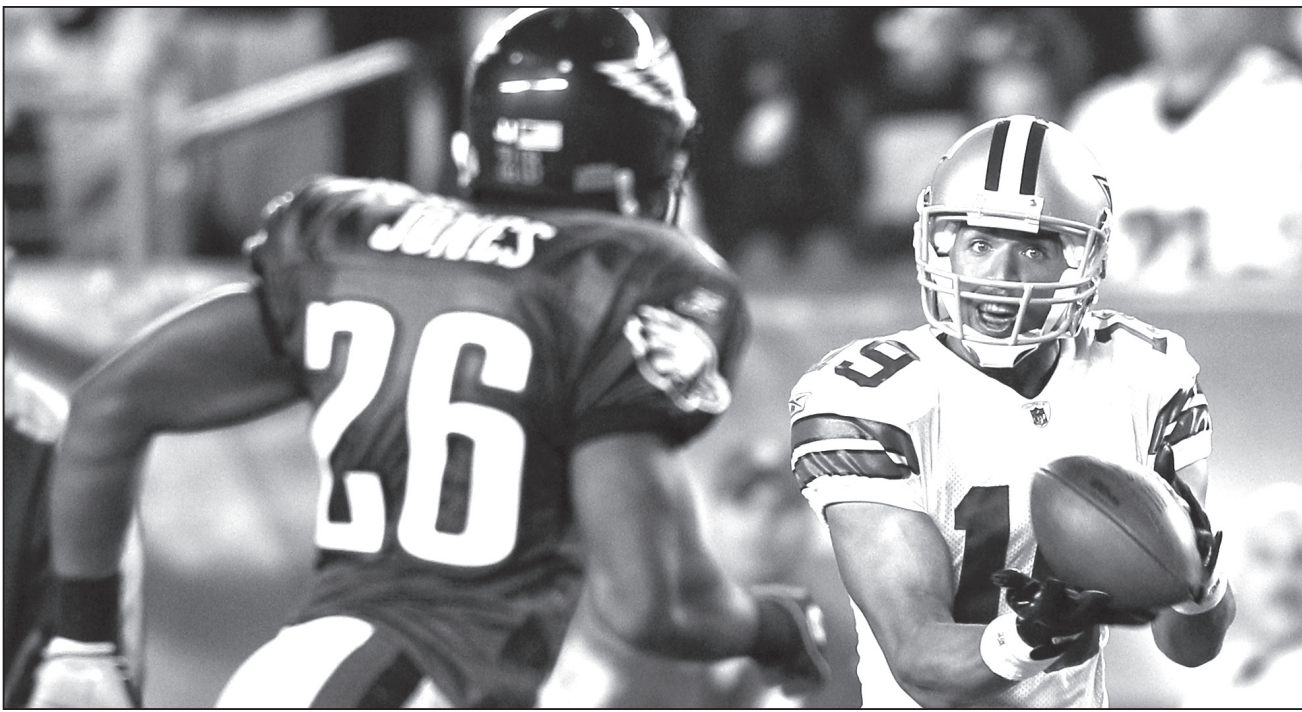
Sands (9-1, 3-1) will take on Dawson (4-0, 9-1) in Klondike on Friday at 7:30 p.m. The Mustangs beat Dawson 50-28 Oct. 2.

### Spur 49, Grady 26

**SPUR** — Grady will miss the playoffs for a second straight season after losing to Spur on Thursday night.

The game was a de facto playoff game with the winner taking the second seed in Division I, District 7. Spur will take on Garden City in Borden County on Saturday at 6 p.m.

No other information was reported for the game.



AP Photo/Matt Slocum

**Dallas Cowboys wide receiver Miles Austin, right, pulls in a 49-yard touchdown pass as Philadelphia Eagles safety Sean Jones defends Sunday in Philadelphia. The Cowboys won 20-16.**

## TCU moves to No. 4 in latest BCS rankings

### Associated Press

**NEW YORK** — All those blowouts have carried TCU to unprecedented heights in the BCS standings, giving the Horned Frogs hope — however slim — of becoming the first BCS team to break into the national championship game.

TCU took over fourth place in the Bowl Championship Series standings Sunday behind Florida, Alabama and Texas. It's the highest BCS ranking ever for a team from a conference without an automatic bid to the big-money bowl games. No potential BCS bust-er had ever done better than sixth in the BCS standings.

Florida is first for the fourth straight week, and Alabama and Texas switched spots for the second week in a row.

The Gators and Crimson Tide have clinched their respective divisions in the Southeastern Conference and will meet Dec. 5 in the league championship game. One of them is all but guaranteed a spot in the BCS title game on Jan. 7 in Pasadena, Calif., if they can get through the next month without a loss.

The same goes for Texas, which has three regular-season games and possibly the Big 12 championship remaining.

The other undefeated teams — TCU, Cincinnati and Boise

State — need the top three to stumble to have any shot of reaching the title game.

The Horned Frogs (.8620) moved up two spots and are just ahead of Cincinnati (.8579) and Boise State (.8125). Each is 9-0 with three games left.

TCU has been rising by racking up lopsided victories. The Horned Frogs have won their last four games by an average score of 44-8.

Meanwhile, Boise State has played close games against Tulsa and Louisiana Tech in the last month, two teams with losing records. Cincinnati struggled to put away Connecticut in a wild 47-45 victory on Saturday night.

TCU is ranked fourth in both the Harris and coaches' polls, and in the compilation of six computer rankings used by the BCS. Cincinnati is fifth in the two polls and third in the computer ratings, while Boise State is sixth across the board.

BCS analyst Jerry Palm said TCU, even if the teams in front of it lose and the Frogs keep winning, still could have a hard time getting into the BCS title game.

Cincinnati from the Big East has a tougher schedule down the stretch and could pass the Horned Frogs. Plus, there's no guarantee that in the end a one-loss team would not get more support from poll voters than TCU.

See **BCS**, Page 10

## Cowboys sit alone atop NFC East

### Associated Press

**PHILADELPHIA** — Tony Romo smiled when a reporter asked about the magnitude of a road victory that put the Cowboys in first place.

"Was this a big game?" Romo asked rhetorically.

Boy, was it.

Romo threw a 49-yard touchdown pass to Miles Austin midway through the fourth quarter and Dallas beat the Philadelphia Eagles 20-16 Sunday night in the 100th meeting between the division rivals.

"It was a great team effort and team win," Romo said.

On the final day of the 2008 regular season, the Eagles dominated Dallas 44-6 in a do-or-die game for both teams. Philadelphia earned a wildcard berth with that victory, won two playoff contests on the road and advanced to the NFC championship game, losing at Arizona.

The Cowboys (6-2) spent the whole offseason thinking about that horrendous ending. They

got a measure of payback and moved atop the NFC East standings with their fourth straight victory.

"Our last loss against them really motivated us to come out and play good," Cowboys linebacker DeMarcus Ware said.

The Eagles fell to 5-3 while the New York Giants are 5-4 after a 5-0 start.

Romo finished 21 of 34 for 307 yards, one TD and one interception.

Donovan McNabb was shaky after a strong performance in a 40-17 rout of the Giants last week. McNabb threw for 227 yards, one TD and was intercepted twice for the first time this season.

"We have to eliminate mistakes," he said.

The Cowboys began their go-ahead drive after stopping McNabb on fourth-and-inches at their 45. The Eagles challenged, but a replay upheld the original spot.

On third-and-14, Romo fooled Sheldon Brown with a pump-fake and hit a wide-open Austin

down the left sideline to give Dallas a 20-13 lead.

"I gave them a little pump," Romo said. "I thought they'd been jumping it a little and they went for it."

Austin leads the Cowboys with seven TD catches, three fewer than Terrell Owens had last season. Unlike T.O., Austin only gives defenses headaches instead of his QB.

"I made sure I caught it first," Austin said of his only reception in the game. "A bunch of the guys were making fun of me because I took so long to see it in my hands."

David Akers kicked a 52-yard field goal to cut it to 20-16, but the Eagles never got the ball back. The Cowboys maintained possession for the final 4:27.

"I thought we could hold them, get the ball back and win the game," Eagles coach Andy Reid said.

Trailing 10-6, the Eagles seemingly went ahead when Ellis Hobbs returned the second-half

See **COWBOYS**, Page 10

## Sports in brief

### Big Spring runner misses CC state

Big Spring Cross Country coach Randy Britton said his the team's lone regional runner, Marisol Rodriguez, finished in the top 100 of about 200 runners at regionals this weekend in Lubbock and won't make the state meet Nov. 14 in Round Rock.

Rodriguez had a tough time dealing with a large volume of runners, a skill gained with experience, Britton said. This was the senior's first year running cross country.

### Forsan CC finishes sixth at regional meet

The Forsan boys cross country team came in sixth out of 24 teams at its regional meet in Lubbock over the weekend.

Coach Robert Hilliger wrote in an e-mail that the runners started voluntary workouts in July for the season and ran hard for four months.

Results were as follows: PJ Horton 17th, Elgen Suazo 22nd, Kyle Stevenson 26th, Dillon Bagnall 66th, Dillon Walker 85th, JP Barber 89th and Evan Burton 103rd.

### Lady Hawks sweep weekend games

The Howard College women's basketball team won three games in the Midland Tipoff Classic.

The Lady Hawks beat Yavapai College 59-37 Saturday, and Eastern Arizona and Jacksonville Colleges Thursday and Friday. They are 4-0.

Freshman D.J. Fountain led the team with 15 points in the game.

The Lady Hawks will travel to Lubbock to take on the Lubbock Christian JV on Tuesday. Their next home game is Nov. 21.



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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The Leo moon is lively, creative and full of imagination. The Scorpio sun encourages us to take our games to a deeper level. Commit to your playful antics, which could make a profound difference in your life and the world at large. There's a practical application for lighthearted pursuits or a money-making venture hiding within some bit of fun.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

21-April 19). You're finally getting the respect you deserve, but this is only a glimpse of what is to come. Though you have worked hard to present yourself with confidence, there is still more effort needed. Don't let up yet!

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You wouldn't mind if a certain relationship would develop a little more quickly, but pushing won't help. Go the opposite direction. Back off and let the other person come to you.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Love begins in the weirdest places. Laundromats, car repair shops, standing in line

at the post office. Possibilities are everywhere. Good things happen when you least expect them.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). A project is inching along. You have what it takes to go all the way, but for now, give your attention to each small step. Focus on the process, and you will reach that bright yellow ribbon of a finish line soon enough.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You wanted recognition, and now you'll get it. You may find that someone is quoting you. Other forms of publicity are highlighted, too. And make sure you're doing what you're supposed to be doing, because people are watching!

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Idle hands might be the devil's workshop, but busy feet tire quickly. Pamper yourself a little, and don't be afraid

to veg out. You've been running steady for days now.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The bad news in the big world won't touch you today. Where you are, autumn trees are exploding, pumpkin lattes are steaming, and children's laughter makes your heart light.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You are complex. And though you choose to be around people who also have depth and a strong sense of purpose, don't expect them to automatically know what you're about. Communicate thoroughly and often.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Sharp thinking is your astral gift. You'll continue on a streak of brilliance. Most of your ideas are good and can be easily adopted. The economy might be down, but your stock is rising.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec.

22-Jan. 19). If you were a racecar driver, you would have just lapped the competition. You are brave without being reckless, focused without being oblivious, and all your pistons are firing. Drive on.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Sometimes a significant life change comes because someone was wearing wingtips instead of flip-flops. Don't miss your opportunity just because you didn't dress for it. Side note: You always look snappy in black.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). Specializing in everything — that's an oxymoron, but not with you. You simply have a knack for getting the hang of things quickly. Plus, you're a natural student. A promotion is coming up.

live your life in a Scorpio-shaped box. You first have to live for yourself; otherwise, you don't have a self to give to someone else. But that is not all. Scorpio has a natural tendency to push the boundaries and rules of partnership. He actually likes it when his overbearing behavior is called out by a partner with a strong sense of self. He wants what he wants, but more than that, he wants a woman who knows what she wants. Additionally, Scorpios thrive on change, and a change in something as trivial as appearance will not be a deal breaker for him. Don't stop being you. Pisces and Scorpio people are a great match, so you two already have a lot going for you. Good luck!

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** Scorpios usually prefer the private life, so it was a great challenge for Nick Lachey to live his young marriage out on television. As a single man, he's kept a lower profile. With natal Venus in Capricorn, Lachey has a mind for business. He's currently concentrating that executive talent on being a pop star and running The Nick Lachey Foundation, which drives funds to schools and charities.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (Nov. 9). Though you won't seek fame, it will find you this year. Your stellar reputation will lead to the fulfillment of other wishes, too — your job is to know what you really want. You have impressive executive abilities, and you'll be using them through the next eight weeks to organize a mission or get a project off the ground. Taurus and Libra people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 1, 54, 24 and 19.

**ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS:** Dear Holiday: I've been thinking about getting a haircut for a long time, but my boyfriend doesn't like short hair. Of course I want to be attractive to him, but at the same time, I don't want to alter my natural inclinations just to please. I'm a Pisces, he's a Scorpio.

**Dear Pisces:** Cut it! You, my dear Pisces, cannot be expected to

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker  
Famous Hand

South dealer.  
East-West vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ Q 9 2  
♥ J 9 5 3 2  
♦ K Q J 7 2  
♣ 10 7

**WEST**  
♠ 8 7 5  
♥ J 9 5 3 2  
♦ 8  
♣ K J 8 4

**EAST**  
♠ J 6 4 3  
♥ K 6  
♦ 9 6 5 4 3  
♣ 5 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ A K 10  
♥ A 8 7  
♦ A 10  
♣ A Q 9 6 3

team for the 2008 World Mind Sports Games in Beijing last fall. The bidding shown took place when Larry Cohen and David Berkowitz held the North-South cards. After Berkowitz's two-notrump opening, North's three-spade bid followed by four clubs indicated interest in a diamond slam. When Berkowitz later cuebid five clubs, West doubled to indicate good clubs, and South eventually became declarer in six diamonds.

**West led a heart**, and Berkowitz guessed correctly to play the ten, capturing East's king with the ace. Next came the diamond ace and ten — West showing out — followed by a spade to the queen. The K-Q-J of diamonds left no one with any trumps, and the A-K of spades were then cashed.

**South had won all the tricks** to this point, and four remained to be played. Thanks to the opening lead and the double by West, it was not difficult to figure out what to do next. So Berkowitz cashed the queen of hearts and exited with a heart, forcing West to win and lead from the K-J of clubs into South's A-Q at the end.

**Berkowitz might**, of course, have found the winning play without West's helpful double, but it sure didn't hurt to have that information to work with when the critical decision had to be made.

The bidding:  
South West North East  
2 NT Pass 3 ♠ Pass  
3 NT Pass 4 ♣ Pass  
4 ♥ Pass 4 NT Pass  
5 ♣ Dble Pass Pass  
Redble Pass 5 NT Pass  
6 ♦

Opening lead — three of hearts.

**There are times** when a player can make a frivolous bid and get away with it because whatever happens afterward does not cost very much. But if the hand comes up in the semifinals of the U.S. Bridge Championship, and your indiscretion allows the opponents to make a slam that otherwise might have failed, it can prove very costly indeed.

**That's exactly what happened** on this deal in the U.S. trials to select a

**Tomorrow: A matter of concealment.**  
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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		4					8
	2			1	4	5		
		1	9			3		
7			8	4	9	1		
2			3	7				4
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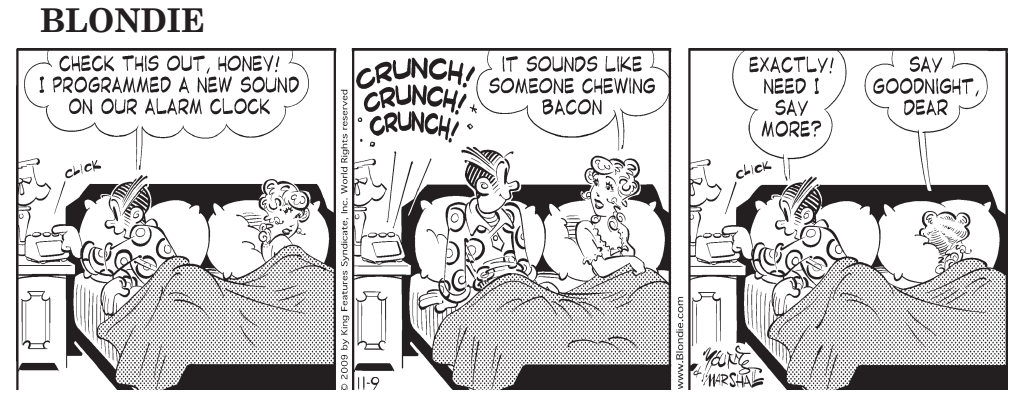
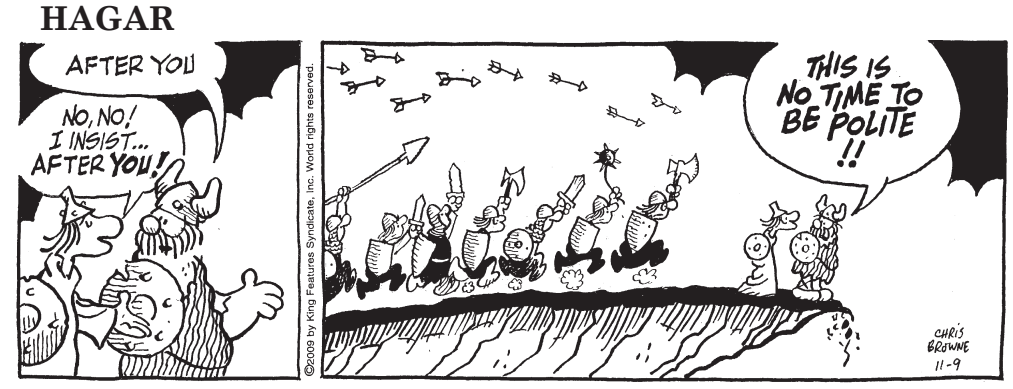
	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Locura Noticiero	Lopez Lopez	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	Seinfeld Office	Chumney Granger	BBC Business	Cash Cab	Hernandez	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas Suite Life	NASCAR Now	SportsCenter
6:PM :30	News ABC	Jeopardy! Fortune	Gancho	Two Men House	News CBS	12 Cora-zones	News NBC	Name Name	Van Impe Holmes	News-Lehrer	Man vs. Wild		Movie: Kung Fu Hustle, Yuen Qiu	Bones		Wizards	30 for 30	Monday Night Countdown
7:PM :30	Dancing With the Stars	Dancing With the Stars	Nombre-Amor	House	Entertain	How I Met Purpose	Millionaire	Fam. Guy	Upd Hansen	Antiques Roadshow	Man vs. Wild	Movie: Jersey Girl, George Carlin	UFC Fight Night	Bones	Movie: Higher Learning, Michael Rapaport	Agent Cody Banks, Angie Harmon	World Series	NFL Football: Pittsburgh Steelers at Denver Broncos.
8:PM :30			Sortilegio	(:01) Lie to Me	Two Men Big Bang	Pobres	Trauma	Fam. Guy	Light of the Southwest	American Exp.	Anatomy-Take.		The Closer		Pay It Off	Phineas Montana	World Series	
9:PM :30	(:02) Castle	(:02) Castle	Cristina	Simpsons Friends	CSI: Miami	Victorinos	The Jay Leno Show	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Beatles Rocked	Destroyed Destroyed	(:15) Mad Men	The Closer			Phineas Montana	World Series	
10:PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Impacto Noticiero	Raymond	News	Noticias	News	Lopez Tonight	Upd Sala	Charlie Rose	Man vs. Wild		UFC 105 Countdown	Lopez Tonight	The Mo'Nique	Wizards	E:60	
11:PM :30	Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live	Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live	La Casa de la Risa	Law & Order: SVU	Late Late Show	Decisions	Tonight Show	Name	Uri Harel	BBC Smiley	Anatomy-Take.	(:17) Movie: Jersey Girl	Movie: Kung Fu Hustle, Yuen Qiu	Raising the Bar	W. Williams	Life De	SportsNation	
12:AM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Torrente, un Torbel	Paid Prog King-Hill	Insider	Programa	News	Late Night-Jim	Sex & Upd	(Off Air)	Destroyed Destroyed	(:12:15) Mad Men	Star Trek: Voyager	CSI: NY	Movie: Frank- hood, Bob Sapp	Replace Kim	Fastbreak NFL Films	NFL Prime-Time
1:AM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Mujer	Paid Prog RENO 911	Entertain	Programa	Poker After Dark	Lopez Tonight	Light of the Southwest	Cash Cab	Cash Cab	(:17) Movie:	Voyager	Cold Case	Dragon	World Series	SportsCenter	



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"THE TREES WOULD STAY WARMER IF THEY HELD ON TO THEIR LEAVES IN WINTER."



### This Date In History

Today is Monday, Nov. 9, the 313th day of 2009. There are 52 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 9, 1989, communist East Germany threw open its borders, allowing citizens to travel freely to the West; joyous Germans danced atop the Berlin Wall.

On this date:

In 1872, fire destroyed nearly 800 buildings in Boston.

In 1918, it was announced that Germany's Kaiser Wilhelm II would abdicate. He then fled to the Netherlands.

In 1935, United Mine Workers president John L. Lewis and other labor leaders formed the Committee for Industrial Organization, later Congress of Industrial Organizations.

In 1938, Nazis looted and burned synagogues as well as Jewish-owned stores and houses in Germany and Austria in a pogrom that became known as "Kristallnacht."

In 1953, author-poet Dylan Thomas died in New York at age 39.

In 1963, twin disasters struck Japan as some 450 miners were killed in a coal-dust explosion, and about 160 people died in a train crash.

In 1965, the great Northeast blackout occurred as a series of power failures lasting up to 13-hours left 30 million people in seven states and part of Canada without electricity.

In 1967, a Saturn V rocket carrying an unmanned Apollo spacecraft blasted off from Cape Kennedy, Fla., on a successful test flight.

In 1970, former French President Charles de Gaulle died at age 79.

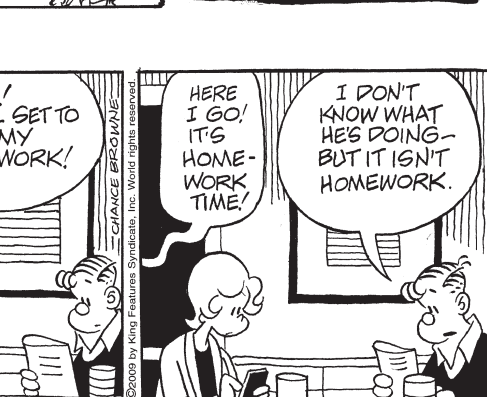
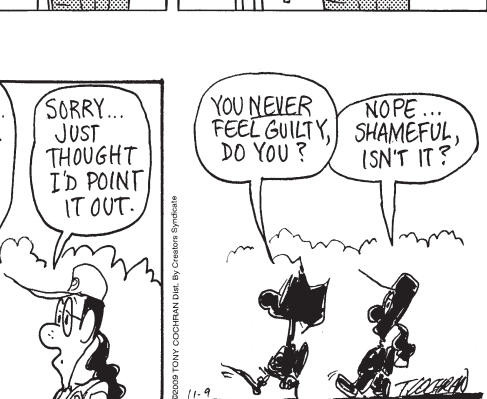
In 1976, the U.N. General Assembly approved resolutions condemning apartheid in South Africa, including one characterizing the white-ruled government as "illegitimate."

Today's Birthdays: Former Democratic vice-presidential candidate R. Sargent Shriver is 94. Baseball executive Whitey Herzog is 78. Baseball Hall of Famer Bob Gibson is 74. Actor Charlie Robinson is 64. Movie director Bille August is 61. Actor Robert David Hall ("CSI")

is 61. Actor Lou Ferrigno is 58. Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, is 57. Gospel singer Donnie McClurkin is 50. Rock musician Dee Plakas (L7) is 49. Actress Ion Overman is 40. Rapper Pepa (Salt-N-Pepa) is 40. Rapper Scarface (Geto Boys) is 39. Blues singer Susan Tedeschi is 39. Actor Jason Antoon is 38. Actor Eric Dane is 37. Singer Nick Lachey (98 Degrees) is 36. R&B singer Sisqo (Dru Hill) is 31. Actress Nikki Blonsky is 21.

Thought for Today: "I think charm is the ability to be truly interested in other people." — Richard Avedon, American fashion photographer (1923-2004).

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### Newsday Crossword

**ACROSS**

1 Talk back to  
5 Seals, as a box  
10 Finds a total  
14 Pennsylvania port  
15 Avoid capture by  
16 German wife  
17 Take a breather  
18 Cuban line dance  
19 Ancient string instrument  
20 Equitable opportunity  
22 Makes fun of  
23 Corrosive chemicals  
24 Clock face  
25 Tuxedo neckwear  
28 Chinese restaurant beverages  
31 Blunted sword  
32 Use watercolors  
34 Circus routine  
35 Give permission to  
36 Horses' homes  
38 Gun owners' org.  
39 Poetic sphere  
40 In the neighborhood  
41 Search for  
42 Large game fish  
44 Thinly distributed  
46 Lends a hand  
47 Great bargain  
49 Pennies  
51 Remove, to make room

**DOWN**

1 Feudal worker  
2 Neighborhood  
3 Emphatic Spanish assent  
4 Fixed charge  
5 Computer whiz  
6 "Get \_\_\_ of that!"  
7 Petty hoodlums  
8 Border  
9 Caribbean, for one  
10 Riding on the waves  
11 Neighborhood merchant  
12 Unlit  
13 Takes legal action  
21 Chem. or biol.  
22 Oven gloves  
24 Fully cooked  
25 Under  
26 Musical drama  
27 Stick-in-the-mud  
28 Small mountain  
29 Units of farmland  
30 Fence post  
32 Walk back and forth  
33 Attorneys' org.  
36 Snow vehicles  
37 Yo-yos and kites  
41 Spicy sandwich meats  
43 Soda-bottle sizes  
44 On the couch  
45 Golf goal  
47 Incline  
48 High-strung  
49 Social group  
50 Simplify  
51 Cut out, as coupons  
52 Had on  
53 Lip-balm additive  
54 Hankerings  
56 Tennis instructor

**FORECASTS** by Gail Grabowski  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15					16				
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Answer to previous puzzle

BOBBLES	BADDEBT
AVARICE	EMAILER
NINEVOLT	BATTERY
DENNY	FROZE
CKS	IDES
GRIPE	STET
TOR	GLUES
CARLE	HERALD
MOPIER	MEMACE
POLICY	DIANNE
TRIADS	ENDIT
MOORS	FILMS
HAM	AMI
NASA	MINOR
LEAGUE	EZEKIEL
TEAM	ENLARGE
DESSERT	SELLISON



# Johnson gives Texas another option at running back

Associated Press

AUSTIN — A wrecking ball of a runner, Cody Johnson has been the short-yardage specialist for No. 2 Texas for the last two seasons.

It's when he bounces that squat little body to the outside for touch-downs that he gives the Longhorns an extra dimension in their late-season march toward the goals of winning Big 12 and national championships.

Johnson scored Texas' first two touchdowns Saturday in a 35-3 win over Central Florida, a team that ranks among fourth in the NCAA against the run.

Texas is 9-0 for just the ninth time in 117 years of playing football and the first since 2005 when the Longhorns went 13-0 and won the national championship.

Johnson's first touchdown Saturday was a 20-yard burst up the middle when the offen-

sive line opened a huge hole. The second came on a third-and-1 from the Central Florida 13. Texas sent in its "jumbo" package with 300-pound defensive tackle Lamarr Houston at fullback.

Johnson leaned his 5-foot-11, 250-pound body into the left side of the line, then used a quick burst of speed to the outside to beat two defenders to the corner and scamper to the goal line.

Pretty sharp for a guy whose early season carries were limited in part because he wasn't in the best of shape in training camp.

"I'm getting more opportunities right now," Johnson said. "Right now, I'm trying to settle down and learn new stuff and keep dropping weight."

Johnson's 44 total yards wouldn't turn heads on a day Texas passed for 470. What Texas needs him to do is keep pounding out the first downs, the touchdowns and hold

onto the ball. "The first time we've seen him bounce outside and walk in," Texas coach Mack Brown said. "At the end of the game he carried a bunch of (defenders) with him. He was carrying about five there at the end I saw him wrap his off hand over the ball to make sure they couldn't strip it out."

Johnson is the latest standout in Texas' tailback-by-committee approach.

Vondrell McGee, who leads Texas with 275 yards, and Tre' Newton were the early standouts but have dropped off. Fozzy Whittaker started the last three games.

Johnson, meanwhile, just keeps finding the end zone.

After leading Texas rushers with 12 touchdowns last season, he has nine in 2009. Most have come from short-yardage situations and the 20-yarder against Central Florida was his



AP Photo via Orlando Sentinel/Stephen M. Dowell

Texas running back Cody Johnson drags UCF defensive back Justin Boddle into the end zone for a touchdown Saturday in Austin. Texas won 35-3.

longest this season. He has six games with two or more TDs.

Makenomistake. Texas is not looking to start grinding out yards on the ground. The Longhorns are a pass-first team that uses the running game to keep defenses honest and to bull out tough yards. Success on the ground complements Colt McCoy's passing but won't replace it.

Brown has said he wants three things out of his running game: 4 yards a carry, a first down or a touchdown. Johnson usually delivers.

Against Central Florida, Johnson averaged 4.4 yards. After his two touchdown runs, he ran for 5 yards on fourth-and-1 and nearly broke out for another score. The play set up McCoy's

touchdown pass to James Kirkendoll for a 21-3 lead in the third quarter.

Later, Johnson caught a 14-yard pass on Texas' final scoring drive that Whittaker finished with a 6-yard touchdown run.

"I think whoever is in is going to do their job," Johnson said. "I'm just fortunate to be the one that they picked to handle the position right now with Fozzy."

## COWBOYS

Continued from Page 5

kickoff 96 yards for a score. But a holding call on Moise Fokou nullified the TD.

No matter, McNabb drove Philadelphia 77 yards for the go-ahead score.

After LeSean McCoy turned a short pass into a 45-yard gain, McNabb threw an 11-yard TD pass to Brent Celek to put the Eagles ahead 13-10.

On Dallas' ensuing pos-

session, Brown intercepted Romo's off-target pass to Jason Witten and returned it 54 yards. An illegal block by Fokou negated the return to the Cowboys 35, and the Eagles' drive stalled near midfield after starting at their own 12.

Mike Jenkins intercepted McNabb to set up Nick Folk's tying 33-yard field goal 8 seconds into the fourth quarter.

Gerald Sensabaugh's interception on Philadelphia's first possession ended

McNabb's streak of 118 straight passes without a pick. McNabb's pass on third-and-5 to a wide-open Jeremy Maclin hit him in the hands and bounced to Sensabaugh.

Six plays later, Tashard Choice ran in from the 2 after taking a shotgun snap with Romo lined up wide to the right. Romo completed two third-down passes to keep the drive going, including a 21-yard gain to Kevin Ogletree on third-and-9.

Romo tossed a 64-yard

catch-and-run pass to Patrick Crayton late in the second quarter to set up Folk's 22-yard field goal that made it 10-6. Tracy White made a diving, TD-saving tackle to trip up Crayton.

Akers kicked a 45-yard field goal early in the second quarter to put the Eagles on the board. He nailed a 48-yarder late in the quarter to cut it to 7-6.

The Eagles played without star running back Brian Westbrook for the second straight game because of a

concussion, and strongside linebacker Chris Gocong sat out with hamstring and quad injuries. Fokou, a seventh-round pick, made his first start in Gocong's place.

The Cowboys held receiver DeSean Jackson to just two catches through three quarters. Jackson has six TDs this season, all for 50-plus yards. He has four TD catches and he's scored on a run and a punt return to lead Philadelphia. Jackson was a first-round pick out of California.

## 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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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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Name of contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

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## BCS

Continued from Page 5

"If they have to vote for No. 2 are they going to vote for a TCU team ahead of an 11-1 Georgia Tech or a 12-1 Alabama if their only loss is to Florida," Palm said.

The Horned Frogs and Broncos are also competing to earn the one automatic bid that non-automatic bid conferences can earn by finishing in the top 12 of the final standings.

TCU plays Mountain West Conference rival Utah on Saturday. Boise State does not play another ranked team.

**See Thursday's Herald for a preview of high school playoff action**

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