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Page 8

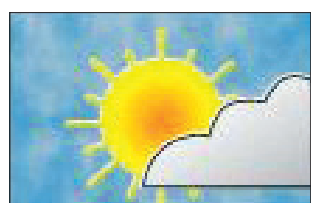


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BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY

NOVEMBER 10, 2009



VOLUME 104, NUMBER 292

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Commissioners vote to 'get foot in door'

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners may have gotten their "feet in the door" for \$75,000 in federal stimulus funds Monday, as the court agreed to pursue a grant to help make county facilities more energy efficient.

While commissioners joked about the thick stacks of paperwork no doubt needed to receive the funding — measured in hours and inches by most commissioners — County Judge Mark Barr said it could help make county buildings a little "greener."

"This falls under the 'Green funding' the government recently approved to try to improve energy effi-

ciency at government buildings, such as courthouses and other facilities," said Barr. "It includes things like energy efficient lighting and windows, as well as water fixtures and other things that can help save on utilities."

The court approved the measure unanimously, but whether or not the county will actually pursue the grant is still up in the air, according to Barr.

"This is basically just our way of throwing our name into the hat," said Barr. "Later on down the road we may decide we don't want to participate,

See **COUNTY**, Page 3



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Howard County commissioners discuss seeking a federal grant worth approximately \$75,000 during the court's Monday morning meeting. The funding is part of the federal government's stimulus package and is designed to help county government make their facilities more energy efficient. The court voted in favor of seeking the grant.



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

From left, Kathy Sheppard, Sherry Hodnett and Debbye ValVerde chat during the Business Before Hours event held Tuesday morning at Uptown Salon and Day Spa. The spa and salon will be the site of tonight's Healthy Woman event sponsored by Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

A night out!

SMMC schedules final Healthy Woman event of 2009 for spa, salon

Special to the Herald

Scenic Mountain Medical Center (SMMC) and its Healthy Woman Advisory Council invite women of all ages to attend Girls Night Out, the final Healthy Woman event of 2009, from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. today at the Uptown Salon and Day Spa at 600 Rannels..

The event is a free come-and-go affair.

Helen Hernandez and her staff have prepared what they promise to be a wonderful evening for Healthy Woman members and their friends, according to Kim Howell, SMMC's marketing director and coordinator of the Healthy Woman program. Guests can sip a glass of wine while enjoying hot and cold appetizers, makeup demonstrations featuring bareMinerals products and chair massages by Rosario.

See **WOMEN**, Page 3

INDEX

- Comics 12
- Classified 9-11
- Features 5
- Obituaries 2
- Opinion 4
- Sports 8, 13-14

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 Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. Sunday.



Grand jury hands down 11 indictments

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

A Howard County grand jury handed down 11 indictments late last week, including one for a Big Spring man on a charge of kidnapping.

Arthur Earl Calloway Sr., 40, currently in the Howard County Jail, was indicted on one count of kidnapping, a third-degree felony, in connection with the Sept. 8 incident where police officials say he abducted a local woman and attempted to make off with her in a Suddenlink Cable Co. van.

According to Sheriff Stan Parker, Calloway was arrested near the intersection of Highway 350 and FM 700 during the morning hours of Sept. 8 on a charge of kidnapping after law enforcement officials say he abducted a local woman from a halfway house in the 1700 block of Highway 350.



Parker

The victim, 18-year-old Angelea Nicole Cortez, was recovered minutes after her abduction from the Highway 350 residence, suffering only minor injuries in the altercation.

"After talking to all of the witnesses, it appears Calloway showed up to try to rekindle some sort of romance between himself and Cortez," said Parker. "When Cortez didn't respond the way he wanted, he just decided she needed to go with him, whether she wanted to or not."

If convicted, Calloway could face two to 10 years in prison and a fine not to exceed \$10,000.

The grand jury also indicted a pair of Big Spring residents on drug charges, the result of an investigation that came to a head July 22.

Victor Manuel Castillo, 37, currently in the custody of the Howard County Jail, was indicted on three first-degree felony charges of delivery of a controlled substance and one first-degree felony charge of possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver.

Also indicted as a result of the investigation was Henry Gomez Castillo, 41, of Hobbs, N.M., who was true-billed on a single count of delivery of a controlled substance, a first-degree felony that has been enhanced.

According to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the Big Spring Police Department, the drug bust was the result of a long-running investigation.

"Investigators with the BSPD Narcotics Unit executed a search warrant at 1504 E. Cherokee, resulting in the three arrests," said Everett. "A half-pound of powder cocaine was recovered from the residence. The search warrant was executed as a result of a lengthy investigation."

The third person arrested in connection with the drug bust was Kimberly Marie Castillo, 24, of 1504 E. Cherokee, who was later charged with violation of a promise to appear (two counts), allow-

See **INDICTED**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Dean Gaskins

Dean Gaskins, our beloved, loving mother, went to be with her Lord and Savior, Sunday afternoon, Nov. 8, 2009. She was at her home, surrounded by her children and grandchildren. Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2009, at Myers & Smith Chapel, with the Rev. Jess Colgrove officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Dean was born Nov. 17, 1925, in Abilene to Lena and Raymond Hasley. She was a lifetime resident of Howard County. Dean married Grady Gaskins Dec. 5, 1943. They farmed in the Knott community and moved from the farm into Big Spring in 1988. Grady preceded her in death Jan. 20, 2000. Dean loved raising her children and helping raise her grandchildren. Her hobbies were cooking, fishing and her dog and cat. She was a member of Birdwell Lane Baptist Church.

Dean is survived by one son, Ronnie Gaskins and his wife, Janice, of Coahoma; two daughters, Wanda Hendrickson and her husband, Fred, and Donna Marlow and her husband, Tom, all of Big Spring; seven grandchildren, Rhonda Gaskins of Ardmore, Okla., Tasha Rinard and her husband, Jim Roy, of Big Spring, Trisha Dodson and her husband, Lewis, of Coahoma, Heather Sanderson and her husband, Brian, of Olathe, Kan., Heath Hendrickson and his wife, Melissa, of McKinney; Cody Carlile and Camie Carlile, both of Big Spring; 12 great-grandchildren, Brittany Griffin of Big Spring, Mica Pearson of Lubbock, Kendra Partlow of San Angelo, Paige Carlile and Keeley Tilley, both of Big Spring, Madeline Sanderson and Caden Sanderson, both of Olathe, Kan., Sydney Hendrickson of McKinney and Austin Rinard, Coley Rinard, Tyler Frazier and Tanner Dodson, all of Coahoma.

In addition to her parents and husband, Dean was preceded in death by three grandchildren, Tera Gaskins, Butch Gaskins and Casey Carlile; and two sisters, Norma Faye Blackwell and Patsy Gaskins.

Pallbearers will be Cody Carlile, Heath Hendrickson, Jim Roy Rinard, Steven Tilley, Austin Rinard, Lewis Dodson and Tyler Frazier.

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

Paid obituary

Beatrice P. Uribe

Beatrice P. Uribe, 91, of Big Spring died Monday, Nov. 9, 2009, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Vigil services will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2009, at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral mass will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12, 2009, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church with the Rev. Ariel Lagunilla officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

She was born May 11, 1918, in Laredo Francisca and Juan Perez., and married Ramon Uribe Sept. 6, 1937, in Laredo. They moved from Laredo to Big Spring in 1939. She was a homemaker, but during World War II, she worked at the Texas & Pacific Railroad roundhouse, and later at the cotton compress. She was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church. When her children, were at Kate Morrison School, she was active in PTA and did other volunteer work there.

She is survived by four sons, Ray Uribe, Arnold Uribe and his wife, Libby, and George "Chato" Uribe and his wife, Erlinda, all of Big Spring, and David Uribe and his wife, Mary, of Midland; five daughters, Lilia Uribe, Hilda "Trudy" Uribe and Irene Uribe Nieves and her husband, Ben Flores, all of Big Spring, Irma Uribe of San Diego, Calif., and Rose Uribe Calderon and her husband, Jesse, of Fort Worth; one sister-in-law, Ava Uribe Gutierrez of Laredo, a dear friend, Patsy Tercero of Big Spring; 27 grandchildren; 38 great-grandchildren; and 14 great-great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by one daughter, Lucy Uribe; one son, Albert Uribe; and two brothers, Andres Perez and Epifanio Perez.

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

Anna Ledbetter

Anna Ledbetter, 84, of Buchanan Dam, died Sunday, November 8, 2009 at her residence. Her services are pending with Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton.

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NEXT CLINIC VISIT 11-12-09

Police blotter

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

- TONY MONROE GAMBLE, 42, of 600 W. Interstate Highway 20 Apt. 129, was arrested Monday on a Tom Green County warrant.
- JIMMY FRANKLIN MASSINGILL JR., 42, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- KRISTA KELLY GOLDEN, 22, of 1901 N. Monticello, was arrested Tuesday on a Scurry County warrant.
- THEFT was reported in the 200 block of Johnson.

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.

- ROSHANDA EVETTE BETHANY, 30, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.
- TONY GAMBLE, 42, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of theft — more than \$1,500, less than \$20,000 (state jail felony).
- KRISTA KAYE GOLDEN, 22, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a probation revocation for possession of marijuana — two ounces or less.
- MONICA NICOLE MUNIZ, 21, was arrested Monday (arresting agency not provided) on a charge of purchasing/furnishing alcohol to a minor.
- JOSE H. OLIVARES, 48, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a probation revocation for driving while license invalid with a previous conviction.
- MONICA NICOLE RIVERA, 18, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a probation revocation for resisting arrest, search or transportation.
- MARCUS EVARTS WILKINSON, 56, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a probation revocation for driving while intoxicated — second offense.

Fire/EMS

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

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 2000 block of S. Gregg Street. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Avion. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2600 block of Fairchild. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2600 block of E. 25th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 8000 block of Gregg Street. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Sycamore. One person was transported to SMMC.

Support Groups

TODAY
• The Path, faith-based addiction recovery, meets at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. and closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.






• The Dementia Support Group meets the third Tuesday of each month from 6-8 p.m. at Marcy House, 2301 Marcy Drive.

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

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

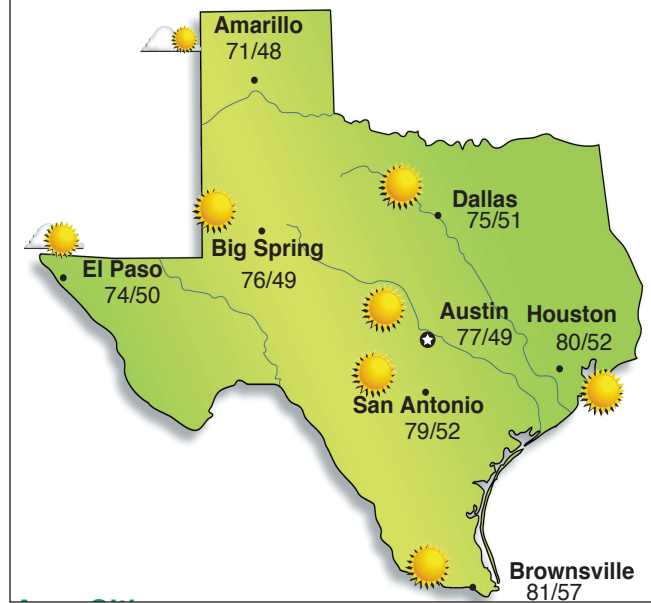
Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 11/11	Thu 11/12	Fri 11/13	Sat 11/14	Sun 11/15
 76/49 Mainly sunny. High 76F. Winds S at 5 to 10 mph.	 78/51 Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the low 50s.	 80/52 Partly cloudy. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the low 50s.	 76/51 Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the low 50s.	 63/40 Considerable cloudiness. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the low 40s.
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	Sunrise: 7:15 AM Sunset: 5:46 PM

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Texas At A Glance

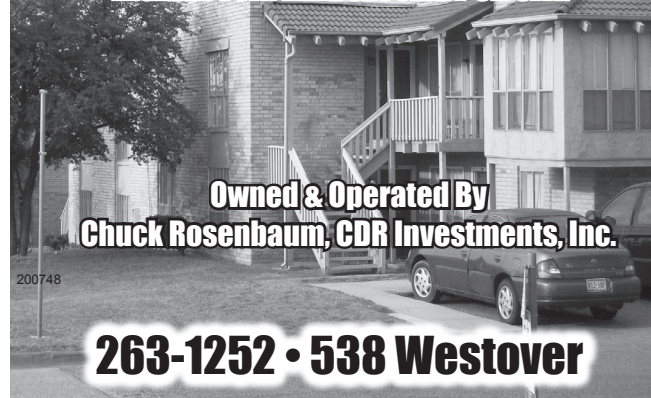


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Lottery

The winning numbers in Monday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Pick 3 Night" game were:
03-13-30-32, Bonus: 12.

The winning numbers in Monday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Daily 4 Night" game were:
2-5-0-6. Sum It Up: 14.

The winning numbers in Monday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Pick 3 Night" game were:
7-1-7. Sum It Up: 15.

The winning numbers in Monday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Daily 4 Night" game were:
1-0-5-5. Sum It Up: 11.

The winning numbers in Monday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Pick 3 Night" game were:
7-0-5. Sum It Up: 12.

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Coahoma ISD receives eight gold stars from TEA

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

COAHOMA — Coahoma Independent School District recently received eight gold stars from state education officials.

CISD officials announced that the district received eight Gold Performance Acknowledgments from the Texas Education Agency. The GPA system acknowledges districts and campuses for high performance on indicators other than those used to determine accountability ratings.

CISD and Coahoma High School both received acknowledgements for college-ready graduates.

This measures the progress schools make toward preparing students for college and other post-high school programs. It also shows the percent of graduates who scored at or above the criterion score on the TAKS (Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills) exit-level exam, as well as other standardized tests.

CISD Superintendent Randy Brown also noted that graduates were also recognized for out-performing their peers from across the state in all areas of the ACT in a report released earlier this year.

Also, the district and high school both received acknowledgements in English/Language Arts Higher Educa-

tion Readiness, which shows the percent of 11th-graders who are considered ready to begin college-level work, based on their performance on the TAKS exit-level examination.

The high school and junior high campuses also received an acknowledgement for Comparable Improvement in Math. The junior high also received this recognition for improvement in Reading/ELA.

Comparable Improvement calculates how student performance on the TAKS test has changed from one year to the next, and compares the change to that of the 40 similar schools in the state. For

acknowledgment in this area, the campus must have an average Texas Growth Index (TGI) within the top 25 percent of its 40-member campus comparison group.

Coahoma Elementary received an acknowledgement for commended performance in Writing.

TAKS Commended Performance is the highest performance level set by the State Board of Education on the TAKS, Brown said.

Students who achieve Commended Performance status have performed at a level that is considerably above the state passing standard and have shown a thorough understanding of the knowledge

and skills at the grade level tested, he noted.

For acknowledgment on this indicator, the campus or district must have 25 percent or more of its students scoring at or above the Commended Performance standard.

"These awards and ratings confirm that great things are happening at Coahoma," Brown said. "Our teachers and students are working hard to make sure that the students are academically prepared for state testing requirements, graduation and college."

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at reporter@big-springherald.com

Emergency farm loan applications being accepted

Special to the Herald

STANTON — Applications for emergency farm loans for losses caused by drought, above-normal temperatures and associated wildfires are now being accepted at the Farm Service Agency (FSA) office in Stanton.

Martin and Howard Counties are two of the 192 Texas counties recently named by the Secretary of Agriculture eligible for loans to cover part of actual production and/or physical losses resulting from the ongoing drought, above-normal temperatures and the wildfires since Jan. 1.

Randall Milloy, the local FSA manager, said farmers may be eligible for loans of up to 100 percent of their actual losses or the operating loan needed to continue the agricultural business, whichever is less. For farmers unable to obtain credit from

Applications for loans under this emergency designation will be accepted until July 2, 2010, but farmers should apply as soon as possible.

private commercial lenders, the interest rate is 3.75 percent.

"As a general rule, a farmer must have suffered at least a 30 percent loss of production to be eligible for an FSA emergency loan," Milloy said.

Farmers participating in the Federal Crop Insurance program will have to con-

sider proceeds from those programs in determining their loss, he added.

"Applications for loans under this emergency designation will be accepted until July 2, 2010, but farmers should apply as soon as possible," Milloy continued. "Delays in applying could create backlogs in procession, which could create delays into the new farming season."

FSA is a credit agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It is authorized to provide disaster emergency loans to recognized farmers who work at and rely on farming for a substantial part of their living.

Eligibility is extended to individual farmers who meet U.S. citizenship requirements and to farming partnerships, corporations or cooperatives in which U.S. citizenship requirements are met by

INDICTED

Continued from Page 1

ing a child age 4-17 to ride unsecured, no driver's license, driving while license invalid and a local warrant. She was not among those indicted Friday.

According to court records, the alleged crimes committed by Victor Castillo go back as far as May of 2009.

If convicted, both men face 5 to 99 years to life in prison and a fine not to exceed \$10,000.

The jury also handed down indictments for aggravated robbery and burglary of a building on 24-year-old Will McEwell Allen, of 602 Linda Lane. Allen allegedly robbed a 7-Eleven convenience store located on Gregg Street June 13,

2008, according to police records.

"The clerk advised officers that a white male wearing a green striped shirt had approached the counter with a pump shotgun," said Everett. "He ordered the clerk to give him cigarettes and all the money in the register. The clerk, fearing for her life, gave him what he asked for. The suspect then left the store and was seen by a witness getting into a black Cadillac with dark windows. The vehicle left, heading north on Gregg Street."

Everett said a second call — this time concerning a neighbor dispute — was received less than two hours later from a resident in the 100 block of Lockhart.

"Officers at the scene of the neighbor dispute noticed a black Cadillac

with dark windows," said Everett. "Two female subjects were getting out of the vehicle and were contacted by the officers. They told the officers the vehicle belonged to a male subject in the home located at 104 Lockhart, and that his name was Will."

Everett said the officers located the suspect, who matched the description provided by the convenience store clerk.

"The officers observed the suspect was wearing a green stripe shirt," said Everett. "While one of the officers spoke with the suspect, the second officer located a pump shotgun and a baggie of marijuana under a tree near the Cadillac."

The aggravated robbery charge is a first-degree felony and could bring Allen a sentence

of five to 99 years to life in prison if convicted, while the burglary charge is a state jail felony.

Also indicted were:

- Christene L. Armstrong, 45, of 7209 Kyle Rd., deadly conduct — discharge of a firearm (third-degree felony).

- David Canales Jr., 24, of 803 E. 15th St., possession of a controlled substance (second-degree felony).

- Ernest Lee Chance, 53, of 1200 Austin, possession of a controlled substance (third-degree felony, enhanced).

- Thomas Lewis Eason, 33, of 4700 State Highway 176, driving while intoxicated (third-degree felony).

- George Gander, 45, of 212 N. Nolan, delivery of a controlled substance (first-degree felony, enhanced).

- Cleophus Johnson, 42, currently in the custody of the Howard County jail, burglary of a habitation (two counts, both second-degree felonies).

- Kevin Wayne Ward, 39, of 1500 E. 11th Street, delivery of a controlled substance (first-degree felony, enhanced).

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

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Dean Gaskins, 83, died Sunday. Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Beatrice P. Uribe, 91, died Monday. Vigil Services will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

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EXP. 12/31/09

WOMEN

Continued from Page 1

In addition, those attending may also browse the selection of handbags and accessories, receive samples of beauty products and other goodies, win door

prizes and more.

Howell said there is no need to pre-register to attend the event.

The Healthy Woman program at SMMC was launched in January 2009 and now boasts almost 700 members. Healthy Woman is a free community resource provided by

Scenic Mountain to empower women to make informed healthcare and well-being decisions for themselves and their loved ones.

The program's focus is on women age 25-54, but it's open to women of all ages. Free monthly

events focus on health, communication, relationship and life-balance issues. For a free membership, go to www.sm-mccares.com and click on the Healthy Woman button, or call Howell at 268-4842 or Anita Cline at 268-4721.

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1

but for now this just gets our foot in the door."

The program, which was signed into law Dec. 19, 2007, provides funds to units of local and state government, Indian tribes and territories to develop and implement

projects to improve energy efficiency and reduce energy use and fossil fuel emissions in their communities.

More than \$2.7 billion in funding is expected to be handed out by the federal government.

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

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EDITORIAL

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEW

Let us all honor local veterans, their families

They are, indeed, among the very best of us — the men and women who served and sacrificed in the United States armed forces.

And that is why we believe it all too fitting that the Big Spring VA Medical Center, joined by several other local agencies and groups, will hold a special Community-wide Veterans Day Program set for 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum on the Howard College campus.

According to Lauri Phillips, acting public affairs officer for the hospital, all veterans are invited and encouraged to attend Friday's ceremony. What's more, citizens in the community are also invited to attend.

Phillips said organizers want the public to "join us as we share a moment of celebration, recognition and dedication to all veterans — past, present and future." She added that the ceremony will be a "solemn reminder of the price for the freedoms we enjoy each day."

Students from the Big Spring, Coahoma and Forsan school districts will participate in the program; Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen is expected to present a proclamation honoring all veterans; Air Force Co. David A. Rearick will deliver the keynote address; and John Fisher, an Air Force veteran, will serve as master of ceremonies.

The Goodfellow AFB Honor Guard will be posting the colors, providing a 21-gun salute and playing "Taps."

Immediately following the program, veterans and their families are invited to lunch in the coliseum's East Room as a gesture of appreciation to all veterans.

We here at the Herald think it would be an excellent idea that we as a community turn out and be a part of honoring all those who have served our nation and, in the process, defended the freedom we all enjoy as American citizens.

So do your best to be there Wednesday and display your gratitude to a group of men and women we can never thank enough.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
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- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

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The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.

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- 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

It's easy to see the problems, Lord, but even easier to see the solutions, when we give the problems to You.

Amen

Who doesn't want God's presence?

Are you struggling with depression, loneliness or fear and wondering where God is? You're not alone, my friend. Even David asked in one of his psalms, "How long wilt thou forget me, O Lord?" (Psalms 13:1)

It's on dark and weary days that we desperately want to feel God's healing presence more than ever.

Growing up with my mother taught me many lessons. I saw her overcome being homeless and jobless while having little means, education or so-called working skills to do so. I saw her conquer fear and uncertainty as she moved across country with her daughter following a difficult divorce. I saw her work her way out of poverty one day at a time — without government help I might add. One precious lesson can be summed up by the following Scripture — often quoted by my sweet mother: "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you." (James 4:8)

Of course — actually — God is always close by as the Psalmist concluded. "I can never escape from your Spirit! I can never get away from your presence! If I go up to heaven, you are there; if I go down to the grave, you

are there. If I ride the wings of the morning, if I dwell by the farthest oceans, even there your hand will guide me and your strength will support me." (Psalm 139:7-11)

God is forever near — holding us, leading us and lighting our path away from dark troubled roads. So since we can't really be out of God's presence, I think it's more about us needing to direct our thoughts God-ward that helps us feel and experience His presence.

I was reminded of this recently as I listened to a song by one of my dearest friends. She and a friend produced a beautiful CD titled, "Inhabiting Eternity." (www.cdbaby.com) I've listened to their CD on numerous occasions, and every time a certain song begins, I have to stop whatever I am doing and get very still so I can be fully embraced by its message.

The song is titled, "I will come before the Lord." Its lyrics describe God as "my song." It reminds us, much like the Psalmist did, that whether in the stillness of morning, brightness of day, hush of the evening or darkness of midnight, God is our song — forever near giving inspiration, strength, hope, guidance, peace.

This is comforting news. So whether I am looking for solutions, clarity, calm, or freedom from stress, sorrow or pain,

I know there is a powerful divine presence that can meet any

need. And this gentle presence is so palpable that when I divert my thoughts to the divine wholeheartedly, I feel the angels of His presence assuring me all will be well — that all is well.

It's sometimes far too easy when overwhelmed by problems and worries to give up or give in to whatever doom is on the horizon.

But I'm learning not to do it! When I don't know which way to turn or what to do, my first step these days is again to get very still in order to tune in to God.

Whether we have hours or only a few moments, we can be filled with the nearness of His presence, power and love. We can feel the might and majesty of His goodness.

And we will experience the power of His presence giving us the spiritual light we need.

You are never alone or forgotten, my friend.

Turn your mind toward God and you'll find He's right there by your side lifting you up so you can find the answers you need.

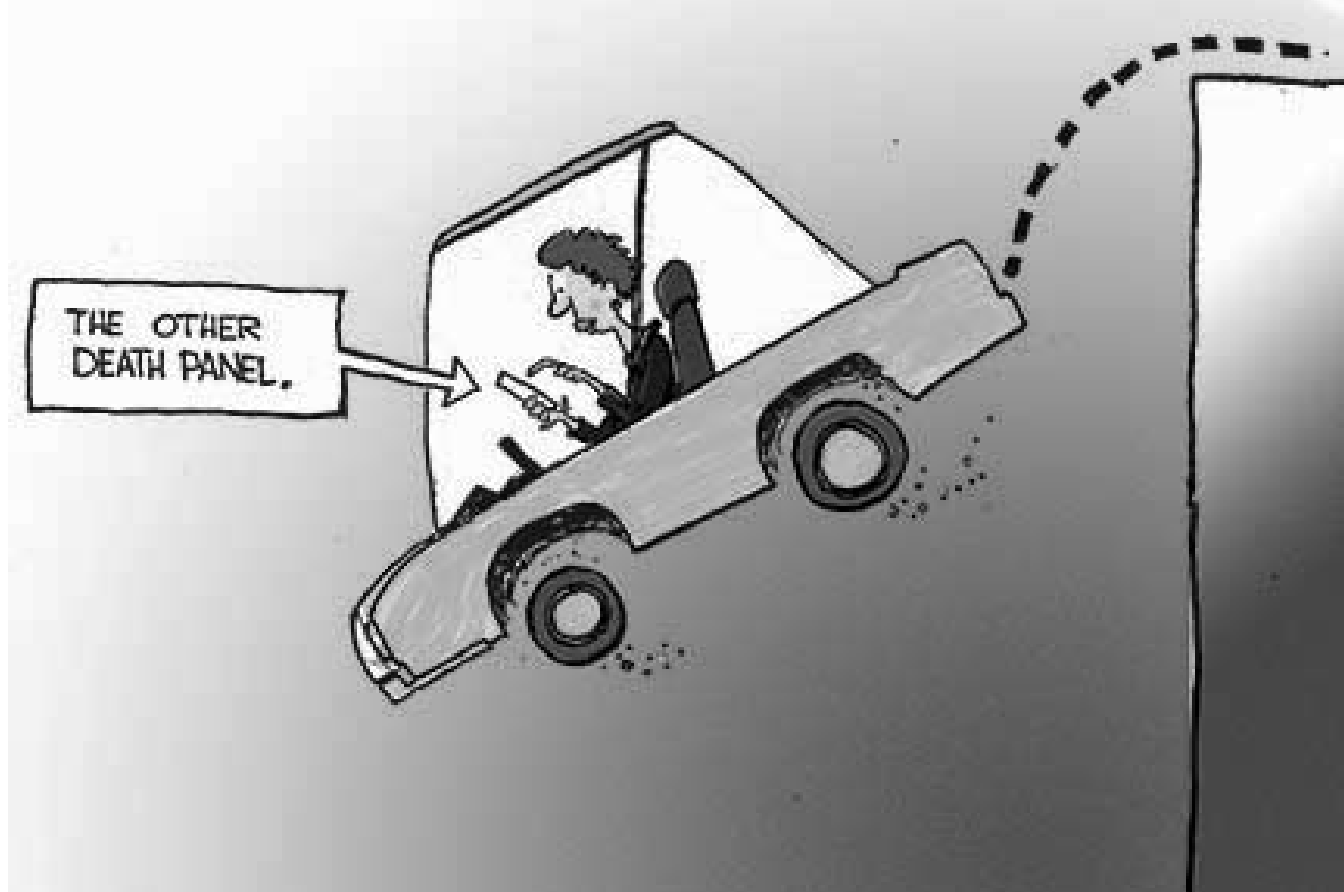
May you feel God's love and presence in every moment during the upcoming holiday season and the New Year ahead!

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



ANNETTE BRIDGES

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Free trade suicide for the U.S.

The United States long enjoyed one of the world's highest standards of living. This has now ended.

The chief tool for ending it has been "free trade."

The purpose of that policy is to allow American corporations to acquire products and services in foreign lands where labor rates, benefits and taxes are dirt cheap. These products are then imported freely here and sold at full U.S. prices for hefty profits.

There's also an export side to these trade laws, aimed largely at Mexico and Central America. Under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), subsidized U.S. grain enjoys cheap access to Latin markets, driving down agricultural prices there and thus forcing farmers off their land.

Hungry, many join the flood of illegal migrants heading north by risking death in the Sonoran Desert.

Thus U.S. agribusiness is making a killing by selling subsidized grain down there and hiring desperate migrants up here.

In NAFTA's early days, the promised job-creating sweatshops did indeed sprout throughout Mexico, especially near the U.S. border, siphoning off many American jobs.

No more. As corporations got sophisticated and the U.S. worked out

further trade deals worldwide, many of those sweatshops closed down, replaced by new ones in Asia. Labor there is even cheaper and the brutal working conditions are even more remote from the clouded eyes of American journalists.

The results of this trade policy are plain enough. The U.S. is awash in shuttered factories and unemployed workers.

The Labor Department reported in July that the nation currently lists 2.4 million available full-time jobs for 14.5 million unemployed citizens. Much of this gap is presently due to the Great Recession, but the recession also masks the basic problem that many of those jobs simply don't exist anymore.

That's how Wall Street can report profits while average families experience losses.

To make matters worse, even some of our newly trumpeted savior industries are false prophets.

Take green energy and those long-awaited green jobs. The guy who comes to insulate your attic is surely local, but the guys who make the windmills are likely Danish. And it probably won't be long now until the Danes similarly lose out to China or Thailand.

Likewise with organic food. Our image is of local farmers just out past the suburbs. That probably remains true for rhubarb, but organic soy has already gone off to China, with other crops soon to follow.

Another potentially mortal result of our economic race to the bottom is the trade deficit. Naturally it's smaller now since

we can no longer afford to buy much from abroad, or anyplace else. But it persists.

Luckily, China still continues to buy our government's bonds with the cash we send them to buy their products, but that can't go on forever. When they slow their purchase of our treasury bonds, inflation will set in.

Less publicized, but similarly damaging, are certain rules we agreed to in establishing NAFTA and joining the World Trade Organization. These allow arbitration to overrule U.S. and state laws.

Obscure arbitration bodies have already let foreign multinational corporations kill state environmental laws and set aside professional licensing rules, plus they have allowed foreign truckers to undercut our domestic haulers.

Among the leading opponents of any proposed cures for these suicidal trade practices is The New York Times. It has railed steadily against the dangers of "protectionism," as it in turn protects its own multinational investors, advertisers and Wall Street readers.

Meanwhile, U.S. median family income was already shrinking and the rich-poor disparity growing even before the recession began.

So, as American families slip beneath the economic waves on the lower decks, there's still quite a party rollicking up on the bridge.

Columnist William A. Collins is a former state representative and a former mayor of Norwalk, Conn.

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THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

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



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

ANSWER: 420,000



SHELTER

an animal sanctuary

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Companion

SPANISH: Compañero

ITALIAN: Compagno

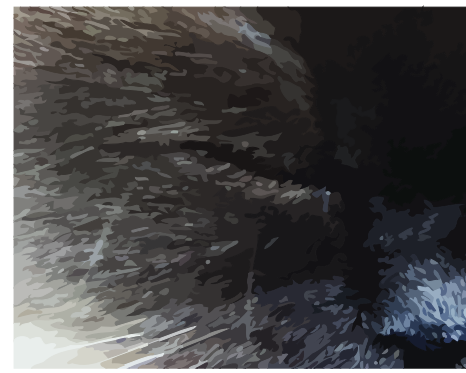
FRENCH: Compagnon

Did you know?

IN MANY COMMUNITIES, FOSTER PARENTS FOR HOMELESS ANIMALS ARE DESPERATELY NEEDED.



GET THE PICTURE?

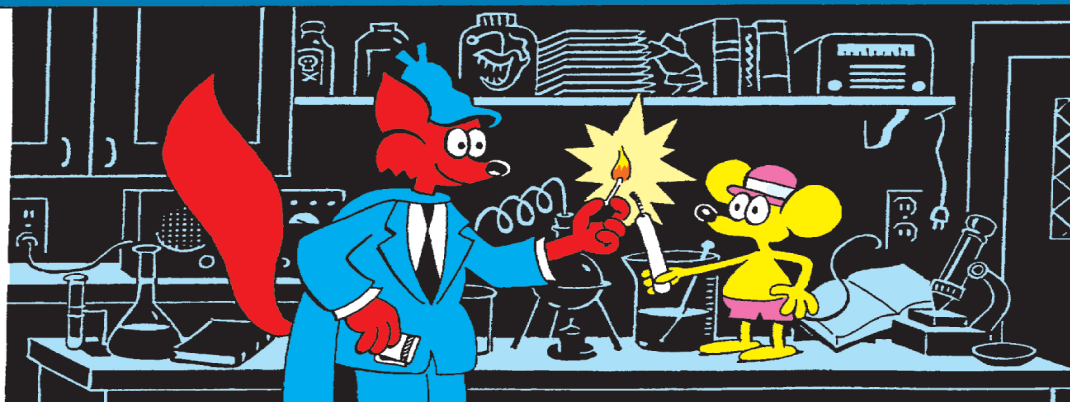


Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

BY BOB WEBER JR.

A storm knocked out power while Slylock Fox and Max Mouse were conducting laboratory detective work. Max suggests they take a nap until power is restored. What will Slylock do to ensure they wake up the moment the electricity is back on?
Answer -- Slylock plugged in the radio and set the alarm on high. When the power goes back on, the sound will blast Slylock and Max out of their sleep.



HOW TO DRAW a cat and dog



YOUR DRAWING



Adam Shaw, age 12, of Newark, NJ

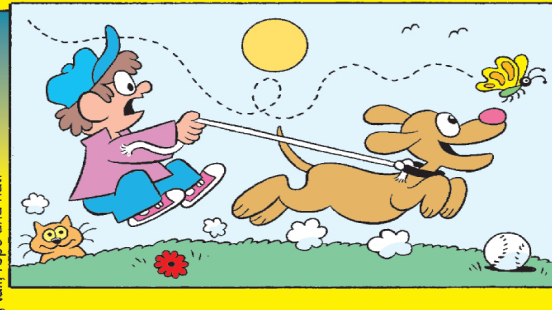
Submit your drawings at www.kidcartoonists.com

Which one of these animals does not hibernate?

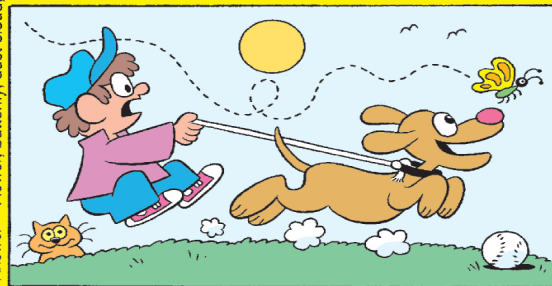
- a) Turtle
- b) Raccoon
- c) Bat
- d) Frog

Answer -- (b)

Find six differences between these panels.



Answer -- Flower, butterfly, dust cloud, tail, rope and hat.



The fourth Find the six differences collection is here. Send \$4 (check/money order in U.S. funds made payable to King Features) with your name and address to Six Differences No. 4, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

Bird Poop:

Kestrel saved
from man who
liked his 'hawk'

Slowly moving up the street in front of our house, the battered pickup continued toward the apartments to the north. At first I thought it might be the man who was to deliver a hawk. Reappearing on the opposite side of the road, the vehicle inched along the pavement as the driver stared at our home. Thinking that had to be the person who had called earlier, I waited. Although the truck had disappeared toward the intersection, it suddenly came back into view.

Parked next to the curb, the driver sat for several minutes before deciding to open the door. Walking around

to the passenger side, he paused after grasping the door handle.

From my vantage point of a front window that overlooked the lawn and street, I could sense the indecision the man was suffering.

His head turned from the house to his truck several times before he opened the pickup's door. Reaching inside, he slowly removed a rusty cage from the front seat. Seeing him take a deep breath as he looked at the bird inside, I understood the agony he must be feeling. To relinquish the hawk he had cared for the last four months was worse than any fine he might have had to pay.

Walking from the front porch to meet the man and the raptor, I felt the chilly breeze that the middle of November had brought. Since I knew the man had possessed the bird since mid-July,



BEBE
MCCASLAND



Courtesy photo

Often seen perched atop utility lines or telephone poles, the American kestrel hunts during the morning and late afternoon. With its white face accented by two black, vertical marks, the male wears a blue-gray crown topped by a rufous patch. Beneath it is a pale buff with black spots. Above it sports blue-gray wings highlighted by a rufous body and tail.

I was concerned about the diet it had experienced.

Standing under the red oak, we started to talk about his experience as he set the cage on the ground. To my question on feeding, he answered, "Raw chicken."

"Anything else," I added.

"Nope, just raw chicken."

Upon being asked whether he had allowed the bird to fly, he related how it had flown inside the house a few times until his wife complained about its droppings. When it bit a grandchild who tried to grab it, he decided the only way to keep it was inside the cage.

Casually asking, "What made you call?" generated a familiar answer.

"Neighbors said I'd get in trouble with the law if they found out I had that bird."

As I removed the American kestrel from

the cage, its dingy, frayed feathers were indicative of its care during captivity. Having noticed that its tail was missing the customary black band tipped in white, I knew it had been snipped off. Never could I have anticipated what had been done to the rest of the bird.

Slowly extending one wing at a time, I discovered except for one primary, the feathers on each wing had been clipped. Seeing my expression, the man said he'd done the cutting so the hawk wouldn't fly when he occasionally let it out of the cage.

Telling him it was the smallest of falcons rather than a hawk, I mentioned that the bird is often called a sparrow hawk. Confirming that a neighbor had called it by that name, he added that a friend had said it was a blue darter. As I extended a wing, I reminded him that from above, the feathers he had clipped had been a

soft blue-gray. In flight, the kestrel seemed to live up to his friend's description. He nodded in agreement.

After thanking him for bringing the kestrel, the man closed the cage door. As he looked at "his bird" one more time, I marveled at how the tears welling in his eyes had not yet begun to spill down his cheeks.

With the battered cage once more beside him, the man started the pickup. After turning around in the cul-de-sac, he neared our house. Not seeing me anywhere out front, he raised a handkerchief to wipe his eyes.

As I watched him drive away, I looked at the emaciated raptor. The lack of calcium and roughage from its natural foods was worrisome.

In a large enclosure, the kestrel was soon devouring mice and crickets. For days its ravenous appetite was

heartening. Although gaining strength and weight, it would have to go through a complete molt before resuming flight.

In the future, with proper diet, exercise and time, the small falcon could leave the care of volunteers at the wildlife center in Lubbock to regain its place in the sky. Hovering, almost stationary in the air, the bird of prey would appear motionless as it searched for its next meal.

Folding its wings and plummeting toward the ground, it could grab an unsuspecting mouse or grasshopper to replenish its hunger. With its color coordinated outfit and health restored, it would be living proof of the dedication and knowledge of those committed to rehabilitation.

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

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.

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

Contract
Bridge

By Steve Becker

A Matter of Concealment

East dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠K 10 9
♥J 5 2
♦A Q 6 3 2
♣7 6

WEST EAST
♠J 6 3 ♠A Q 8 7 5 2
♥K ♥7 4
♦9 7 5 4 ♦8
♣A 10 9 5 4 ♣Q J 8 3

SOUTH
♠4
♥A Q 10 9 8 6 3
♦K J 10
♣K 2

The bidding:
East 2♠ South 3♥ West 3♠ North 4♥
Opening lead three of spades.

In this deal from a team contest, the final contract at both tables was four hearts, although East-West can make four spades as the cards lie. Both Wests led a spade after having raised East's weak two-spade opening to three.

At the first table, East won dummy's nine of spades with the queen and shifted to the queen of clubs. Declarer covered with the king, losing to the ace, and West returned a club to East's jack. East then exited with a trump.

It did not take South long to find the winning play. He promptly put up

the ace of hearts, caught West's singleton king, drew the missing trump and claimed the remainder, making four.

South had good reason to go against the percentages by playing the hearts as he did. East's weak two-bid promised a strong six-card suit but not enough high-card strength to open with a one-bid.

After the first three tricks, East could be credited with the A-Q of spades and Q-J of clubs. If he also held the king of hearts, he would have opened with one spade. Therefore, declarer's only chance was that West held the singleton king.

At the second table, the play to the first trick was the same, but there the similarity ended. Here, East was not inclined to reveal the entire high-card content of his hand by shifting to the queen of clubs at trick two. Instead, he returned the club three!

Declarer put up the king, losing to the ace. West did his part to add to the obfuscation by returning the ten of clubs, which held the trick. West then exited with a diamond.

This time, South had much less to go on. He won the diamond in dummy, led the jack of hearts and let it ride. West's king scored the setting trick, and when East ruffed the diamond return for down two, it merely added to the satisfaction of a well-defended hand.

Tomorrow: Spotty play.

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Parent's Corner:

Remembering younger times, doodle bugs

I just realized the other day that summer days are rapidly coming to a close. This will end the great outdoor educational experiences that can only happen during the summer months.

I have always enjoyed the opportunity to be outside with my boys and explore the things



DARRELL
RYAN

of nature or to venture into an experiment of some sort.

So it was, the other day, when my son and I were working

in the yard. He looked at the ground and noticed a lot of indented spots in the sandy soil where the ant lions, or doodle bugs as most of us Texans call them, were alive and well and making their presence known.

As we discussed the little critters, I remembered when I was a kid

I would sit for hours watching for ants to fall in doodle bugs' holes. Since I had been stung several times by ants, I didn't feel any special sympathy for them, so I would just watch to see what would happen.

I noticed that doodle bugs are fascinating creatures and their behavior can easily be observed without ever touching or bothering them. When an ant slips into the pit, it will bring the doodle bug into immediate action.

A puff of air or a blade of grass being dangled into the pit will often times provoke a sand-flicking response too. It's fun just to watch their actions. It's also interesting to know that doodle bugs can be captured easily.

I would often use my

See RYAN, Page 7

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FBI reassessing past look at Fort Hood suspect

DEVLIN BARRETT

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Nearly a year before Maj. Nidal Hasan allegedly went on a shooting rampage at Fort Hood, terrorism investigators conducted an "assessment" of him before deciding he did not pose a threat.

After the shooting, the FBI is doing a new assessment — of its own conduct.

The Army psychiatrist is believed to have acted alone despite repeated communications — intercepted by authorities — with a radical imam overseas, U.S. officials said Monday. The FBI will conduct an internal review to see whether it mishandled early information about the

man accused in the bloody rampage that killed 13 people and wounded 29.

President Barack Obama was joining grieving families and comrades of the victims Tuesday at a memorial service at the sprawling Texas Army base. Hasan, awake and talking to doctors, met his lawyer in the San Antonio hospital where he is recovering, under guard, from gunshot wounds in the assault.

In Washington, an investigative official and a Republican lawmaker said Hasan had communicated 10 to 20 times with Anwar al-Awlaki, an imam released from a Yemeni jail last year who has used his personal Web site to encourage Muslims across

the world to kill U.S. troops in Iraq. Despite that, no formal investigation was opened into Hasan, they said.

Investigative officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the case. Republican Rep. Pete Hoekstra of Michigan, the top Republican on the House Intelligence Committee, said it was his understanding Hasan and the imam exchanged e-mails that counterterrorism officials picked up.

Officials said Hasan will be tried in a military court, a choice that suggests his alleged actions are not thought to have emanated from a terrorist organization.

Meanwhile, The Washing-

ton Post reported Tuesday that Hasan warned his medical colleagues a year and a half ago that to "decrease adverse events" the U.S. military should allow Muslim soldiers to be released as conscientious objectors instead of fighting in wars against other Muslims. Hasan, an Army psychiatrist, made the recommendation in a culminating presentation to senior Army doctors at Walter Reed Medical Center, where he spent six years as an intern, resident and fellow before being transferred to Fort Hood.

"It's getting harder and harder for Muslims in the service to morally justify being in a military that seems constantly engaged against

fellow Muslims," Hasan said in the presentation.

FBI Director Robert Mueller ordered the inquiry into the bureau's handling of the case, including its response to potentially worrisome information gathered about Hasan beginning in December 2008 and continuing into early this year.

Based on all the investigations since the attack, the investigators said they have no evidence that Hasan had help or outside orders in the shootings.

Even so, they revealed the major had once been under scrutiny from a joint terrorism task force because of the series of communications going back months.

RYAN

Continued from Page 6

hand to scoop out the entire pit but I was careful to dig deep and wide enough so as

not to crush the little fellow, who usually resides at the bottom-center of the pit. I would let the sand sift through my fingers to expose the bug.

Many times the doodle bug would re-

main motionless on its back and play dead for a while before flipping over and immediately begin its backward shuffle in an attempt to bury itself once again.

Doodle bugs will not usually bite, but I once

read where a guy was bitten when he allowed one to crawl on the back of his hand. It injected some sort of poison and caused a sharp burning sensation that lasted for several minutes after the

doodle bug was shaken off, but it had no long-term effects.

Following our conversation, my son and I spent some time watching and learning about the fascinating little creature which remind-

ed me of days gone by and brought back some great memories.

I love those memories!

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

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Cowboys cruising on four-game win streak

Associated Press

IRVING — The last time the Dallas Cowboys felt this good, Tony Romo and friends went to Mexico to celebrate.

It's been a wild ride for the quarterback and the club since that pre-playoff siesta two years ago, but look at them now: 6-2, winners of four straight and in first place in the NFC East.

Better still, the Cowboys are fresh off a 20-16 victory at Philadelphia that was satisfying in many ways.

Exorcising the bad mojo from a 44-6 loss in last season's finale, which kept Dallas out of the playoffs, was part of the fun. Another key is that this win validates the changes since then were the right moves.

"That's definitely another step up the ladder because it gives you confidence," linebacker Bradie James said Monday. "With it being the midpoint of the season, you really want to

know. You want to know as players what you can count on and who you can rely on when the funk hits the fan, and we know that we can definitely rely on each other."

The more the Cowboys win, the more everyone talks about camaraderie. There's no telling which causes the other, but Dallas is getting contributions from a lot of players and all three units.

"If you want to talk chemistry or whatever, I think we have that with this team," coach Wade Phillips said. "We're not a big ego team. We're kind of a selfless team. But we'll find out more now with everyone telling them they're great. I think they'll handle it."

Next up is a trip to Green Bay (4-4).

For Romo, it's a visit to his home state. For DeMarcus Ware and Jay Ratliff, it could be a chance to pad their stats because Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers already has been sacked 37 times, easily the most in

the NFL.

James insists the Cowboys aren't looking beyond Sunday, but he knows fans are. And they like what they see: Washington (2-6) and Oakland (2-6) after the Packers.

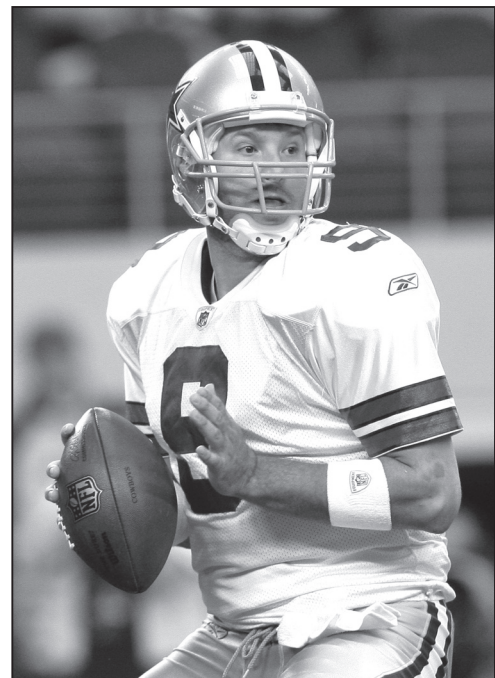
If Dallas can win them all, it would have nine wins before it even gets to "that December cloud over our head," as James called it Monday. Poor final months are a big reason the Cowboys haven't won a playoff game since 1996.

"This game was kind of like a foreshadowing for me for December," James said. "Now we have to continue to stack up wins."

Phillips is trying to keep everyone from getting too full of themselves by noting they're only 1-1 in division play. He also can use the last four weeks as a reminder of how quickly things can change.

Back then, Dallas was 2-2 and con-

See **COWBOYS**, Page 14



AP Photo/Donna McWilliam
Tony Romo looks downfield against the Seahawks at Texas Stadium in Arlington Nov. 1. Romo and the Cowboys have won four straight.

SET FOR ACTION



HERALD File Photo/Tony Claxton

The Big Spring Lady Steers discuss strategy with head coach Mike Warren during a timeout last season at Steer Gym. The team kicks off the season tonight at 6:30 p.m. against Eastland in Merkel.

Coach hopes to build on first year

By **JOE ZIGTEMA**
Sports Editor

Head coach Mike Warren is accomplishing something that hasn't happened with girls basketball in five years.

He's sticking around.

After four different coaches in four years, including an 0-28 season two years ago, Warren brought stability to the program in his first year, leading the team to a 9-20 record and its first trip to the postseason in years.

Warren and the Big Spring Lady Steers kick off

their season tonight against Eastland in Merkel. Tipoff is 6:30 p.m.

Last year's team, which featured three freshmen starters and no seniors, returns this year with a year of experience under its belt. To Warren, that means a familiarity with his system and hopefully some calmer nerves.

"Hopefully we're under control," he said. "We had turnover problems last year, but I'm going to associate all that with lack of varsity experience. I think that will help a couple things like

See **LADY STEERS**, Page 13

Aggies want cohesion down season stretch

Associated Press

COLLEGE STATION — A lifeless loss to Kansas State. An inspiring win at Texas Tech. A dominating victory over improving Iowa State. A fourth-quarter meltdown against lowly Colorado.

Texas A&M (5-4, 2-3 Big 12) has produced maddeningly uneven results in the last month, flashing Top 25 potential at times and the breaking down.

The Aggies missed their first chance to become bowl-eligible in Boulder last week and now must face Oklahoma (5-4, 3-2) in Norman, where A&M has lost five in a row. But who knows what to expect?

A&M bounced back from a 62-14 loss to the Wildcats on Oct. 17 to rout the Red Raiders in Lubbock, another road game few expected the Aggies to win.

"We've been dealing with this since the beginning of the season," A&M sophomore safety Trent Hunter said. "We came out in the Kansas State game, thinking we were going to win, and they whipped us. Then we came out in the Tech game and played up to where we should be playing. That's just something we have to work on."

The lack of consistency lately is more apparent on the defensive side.

A&M ranks third in the nation in sacks (30) but 95th in total defense (405 yards per game), an indication of how many big plays the Aggies have allowed. A&M ranks 32nd in third-down defense (35 percent), but they've given

up conversions at pivotal moments in two close losses.

On Oct. 10, Oklahoma State led A&M 29-25 in the fourth quarter and converted three third downs on a decisive, 16-play touchdown drive that chewed up almost eight minutes.

Last Saturday, A&M led Colorado 31-21 in the fourth quarter, then gave up touchdowns in the final seven minutes to lose 35-34. The defense allowed the Buffaloes to connect on two long third-down plays in the comeback.

A&M's offense also has sputtered at critical times, despite ranking among the nation's best in yards per game (478) and points (36).

The Aggies rank 75th in red-zone efficiency this season, scoring touchdowns on only 29 of 44 trips inside their opponents' 20-yard line. A&M has failed to score on eight drives inside the 20 in the last six games, including four losses.

Junior quarterback Jerrod Johnson said all the Aggies can do is keep practicing and try to get the plays right when it matters most.

"There's not really much you can do," Johnson said. "In the heat of the moment, you've just got to execute and hope everybody does the right thing."

The players talked Monday about learning to close out games and avoiding mistakes in crucial situations. A&M has used a school-record 18 true freshmen, though no one is using inexperience as an excuse.

"The whole freshman

See **AGGIES**, Page 14

Shorthanded Spurs, Ginobili top Raptors

Associated Press

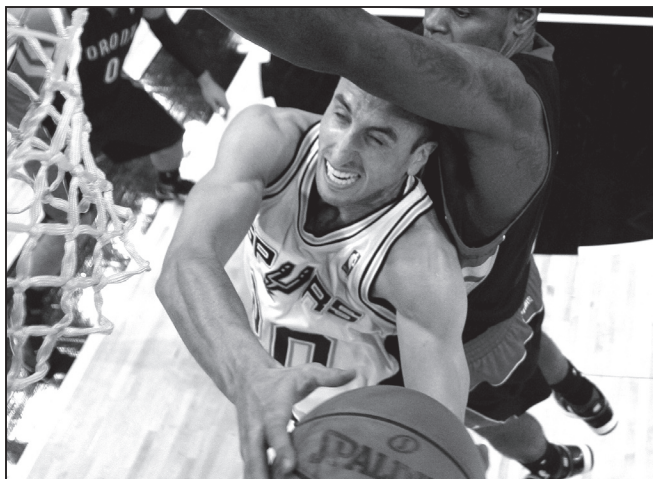
SAN ANTONIO — With Tim Duncan and Tony Parker out, the San Antonio Spurs needed scoring. They did better against Toronto than just keep up.

Manu Ginobili scored 36 points without Parker and Duncan in the lineup, and the Spurs beat the Raptors 131-124 on Monday night in a shootout despite San Antonio's two leading scorers sitting out with sore ankles.

Ginobili hit four 3-pointers in the fourth, but afterward, the Spurs were less impressed with their offense than disappointed in the dent to their defensive reputation.

"I think we're going to score, we just got to play better defense," Ginobili said. "We were talking before the season about trying to be the best team in the league defensively, and so far we're not even

See **SPURS**, Page 14



AP Photo/Eric Gay

San Antonio Spurs' Manu Ginobili is defended by Toronto Raptors' Amir Johnson in San Antonio Monday. The Spurs won 131-124.

Sports in brief

Big Spring graduate advances to NAIA CC Championships

Former Big Spring cross country runner Catherine Leubner, who now runs at Wayland Baptist College, qualified for the NAIA Championships in Vancouver, Wash., Friday morning.

Leubner, a 2009 Big Spring High School graduate, ran the 5k course at the Sooner Athletic Conference Championships in 19:03.65 to finish in second place.

Coahoma girls basketball kicks off season tonight

The Coahoma Lady Bulldogs will kick off their 2009-2010 season tonight on the road in Christoval.

The team finished 9-19 last season, missing postseason play. The Lady Bulldogs will look to improve upon that record this season.

Junior varsity gets underway at 5 p.m., followed by the varsity at 6:30 p.m.

Hawks improve record to 3-0 in win

The Howard College Hawks won their third game of the season Monday night against the Lubbock Christian junior varsity 98-54.

This is the second time the Hawks have faced the team this season, the first being a win at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Nov. 2.

The team will travel to Yuma, Ariz. on Thursday to compete in a tournament.

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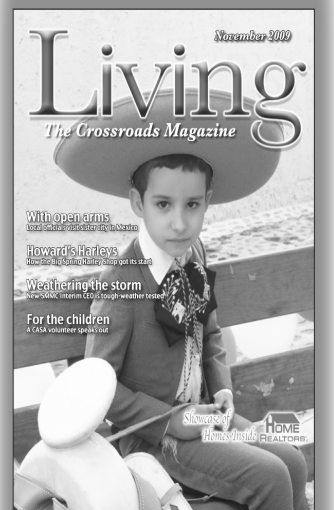
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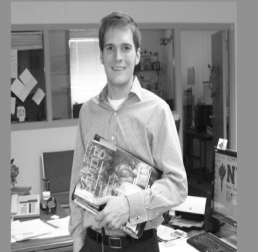
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The Scorpio sun forms a stressful angle to lucky Jupiter, reminding us that good luck and bad luck are relative terms. Who is to judge the ultimate benefit of any particular occurrence? Certainly not an impulsive human-type who often only reads the situation by the current level of comfort and pleasure it provides. Keep an open mind.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll spend time appreciating a recent find — playing with it, admiring it, loving it. This is one of the ways you show gratitude, and it increases your good fortune. It's not getting what you want that matters, it's wanting what you get.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're not all smiles and sunshine — not all the time. The tough, funny, angry moods are sprinkled in between your light-hearted ones. And that's what makes you a real and down-to-earth person.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). A champion of the underdog, you sometimes find heartbreak where victory should be. But that just makes the winning all the sweeter, as this roller coaster of a day will demonstrate.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll be pushing the boundaries with your attitude. Wear something a little edgy to reflect your rebellious mood. You're so often perfectly appropriate that you can afford to take a chance once in a while.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Several people want you to do something for them, and you can't do it all at once. Prioritize your tasks, and feel flattered to be in such great demand. Aquarius and Gemini ties will bring luck.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Some of the communication you receive will be cryptic. It's perfectly fine to return e-mails and texts with a phone call. Talking in real time will bring instant clarity, plus your phone voice is very appealing to someone.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Take that finicky problem and break it down into littler ones. First approach this, then that... Itemizing your tasks will remove most of that overwhelmed feeling. This will be solved before you know it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You will win over an influential person. No, this is not luck. This is something you earn because of the choices you make. Make plans to celebrate this turn of events, and do it with gusto.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You can sleep easy. Your fears are unfounded. Your friends won't betray you, your children won't disappoint you. Create a mantra for yourself along these lines: "I am safe and my relationships support me."

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There's an area of interest you have yet to explore. You didn't have the time or the means before, but now there is a chance for convenient education, should you pursue this. You will be successful at it, too.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). That thing you feel ridiculous for

wanting to try? That's your heart asking you to take it outside to play. All is fair in life and fun, break-dancing included.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You've been asked to sit through so many tedious, time-consuming explanations that you've become adept at pretending to listen. Perk up your ears for real now. Sweet and condensed information is coming your way.

T O D A Y ' S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 10). You will go into this new era with a light heart, realizing that some of the things you used to fret about are just not important in your current incarnation. Vows of love will be exchanged in December. Your career gets on the fast track in March. You'll see many

new places between June and your next birthday. Aquarius and Virgo people adore you. Lucky numbers are: 2, 5, 40, 11 and 18.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: Dear Holiday: There is a cute guy at work I'd like to know better, but I'm not sure how to go about it. I've flirted with him, and he's definitely flirted back, but I don't know how to read him or go about taking it to the next level. What do I do? Signed, a shy Libra

Dear Libra: Are you really shy? Because in my experience, a Libra who feels comfortable and in her element is about as gracious and charming as they come. There's nothing wrong with taking matters into your own hands. Are you sure he knows you're interested? Guys

can be unbelievably oblivious. Try bumping into him outside of work. Do you know where he gets his coffee or lunch? Outside the office, he'll see you in a different light. Ask him out to coffee. No big deal. And unless you or he is planning on switching jobs, you have all the time in the world. So don't rush it. Savor the wondering, the anticipation, the flirting. He could be the love of your life, or he could be just a passing fancy. The important thing is to enjoy yourself, which is probably the most attractive quality of them all.

C E L E B R I T Y PROFILES: Did Leo DiCaprio choose his own name from the womb? That would be a very typical Scorpio thing to do, and DiCaprio

has four luminaries in this powerful station. The rumor is that his mother was delighting in a da Vinci painting when she received a sudden kick from her boy in utero, which inspired his first name. And this Academy Award-winning actor will continue to call the shots!

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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The Spider

During Mark Twain's days as a newspaperman, he was the editor of a small Missouri paper.

One day, he received a letter from a subscriber stating that he had found a spider in his paper and asked if this was an omen of good or bad luck.

Twain replied, "Finding a spider in your paper is neither good nor bad luck. The spider was merely looking over our paper to see which merchant was not advertising so that he could go to that store, spin his web across the door and lead a life of undisturbed peace ever after."



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5:PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Locura	Lopez	News CBS	Noticias	News NBC	Seinfeld	Scrivner	BBC	Cash Cab	Liam Neeson	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas Suite Life	Horn Football	SportsCenter
6:PM :30	News ABC	Jeopardy!	Gancho	Two Men	News CBS	12 Cora-zones	News NBC	Name	Uri Harel	Business	Cash Cab		UFC Un-leashed	Bones		Wizards of Montana	College Foot-ball: Ohio at Buffalo.	E:60
7:PM :30	Entertain V	Fortune V	Nomb-re-Amor	So You Think You Can Dance	NCIS	Más Sabe el Diablo	The Biggest Loser	Office	Harris	Name	Dirty Jobs	Movie: Terminator 2: Judgment Day, Edward Furlong	UFC Un-leashed	Bones	Movie: Beauty Shop, Andie MacDowell	Movie: Catch That Kid		30 for 30
8:PM :30	Dancing-Stars	Dancing-Stars	Sortilegio		NCIS: Los Angeles	Pobres		Office	Office	Office	Dirty Jobs		UFC Un-leashed	Bones		Phineas		2009 World Series of Poker
9:PM :30	In the Spot-light With	In the Spot-light With	Aqui y Ahora	Simpsons Friends	The Good Wife	Victorinos	The Jay Leno Show	Office	Office	Office	Dirty Jobs		UFC Un-leashed	Bones	Monica	Phineas	NBA Coast-to-Coast	
10:PM :30	News Nightline	News Nightline	Impacto	Raymond	News TMZ	Noticias	News	Lopez	Upd	Cortes	Dirty Jobs	(15) Movie: Any Given Sunday, Dennis Quaid	Surviving Disaster	Raising the Bar	The Mo'Nique	Wizards		SportsCenter
11:PM :30	Insider Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Insider Jimmy Kim-mel Live	La Casa de la Risa	Law & Order: SVU	Late Late Show	Decisiones	Late Night-Jim	My Boys	Ministerio-Vida	BBC	Dirty Jobs		Surviving Disaster	CSI: NY	W. Williams	Life De	SportsNation	NFL Live
12:AM :30	News	News	Torrente, un Torbel	Paid Prog King-Hill	Insider	Programa	News	Sex & Church	Church	Off Air	Ghost Lab		CSI: Crime Scn	CSI: NY	Movie: Beauty Shop, Andie MacDowell	Replace Kim	2009 World Series of Poker	SportsCenter
1:AM :30	Millions	Paid Prog	Mujer	Paid Prog Hospital	Entertain RENO 911	Pagado	Poker After Dark	Lopez	Light of the Southwest		Cash Cab	(45) Mad Men	Star Trek: Voyager	Cold Case		Emperor Dragon		SportsCenter

DENNIS THE MENACE



"Cut the theatrics, Dennis, and eat your carrots."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

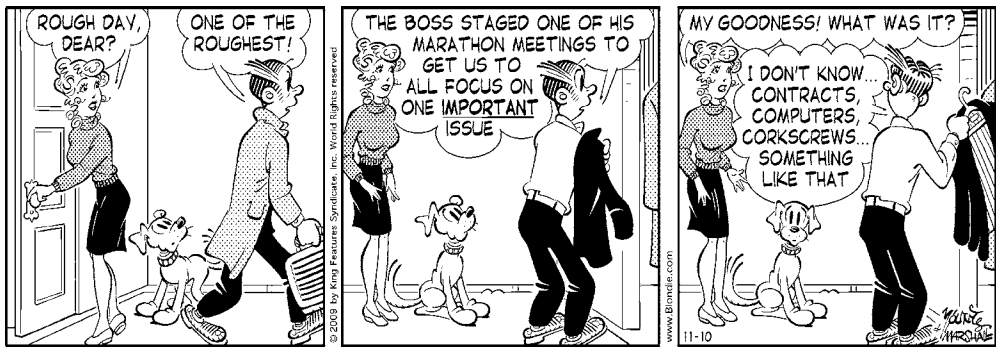


"He's mad because nothin' good rhymes with Jeffy."

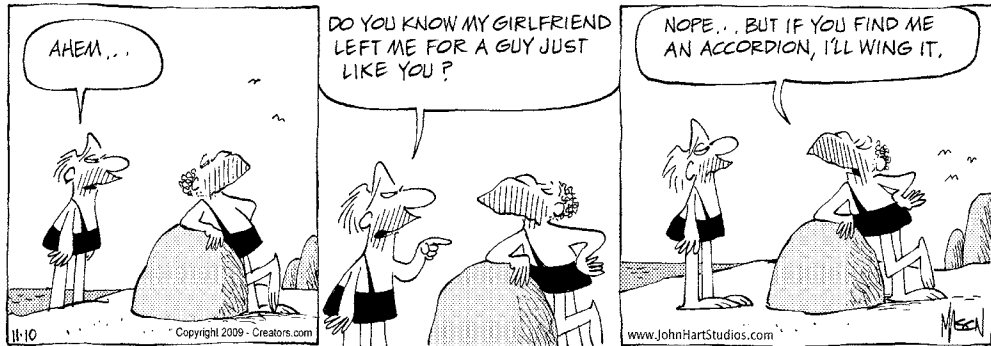
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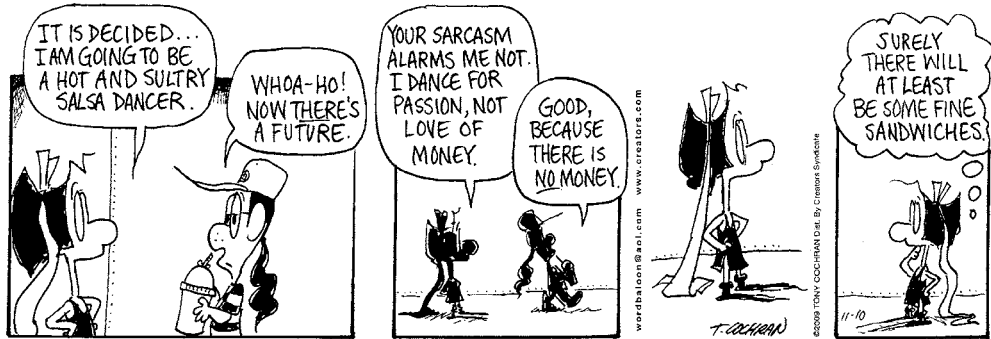
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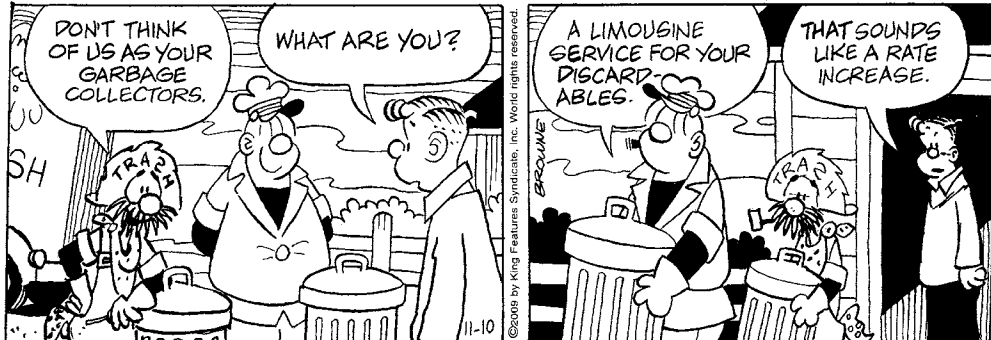
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This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Nov. 10, the 314th day of 2009. There are 51 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 10, 1775, the U.S. Marines were organized under authority of the Continental Congress.

On this date: In 1871, journalist-explorer Henry M. Stanley found Scottish missionary David Livingstone, who had not been heard from for years, near Lake Tanganyika in central Africa.

In 1917, 41 suffragists were arrested for picketing in front of the White House.

In 1919, the American Legion opened its first national convention, in Minneapolis.

In 1928, Japanese Emperor Hirohito was formally enthroned, almost two years after his ascension.

In 1938, Kate Smith first sang Irving Berlin's "God Bless America" on her CBS radio program. Turkish statesman

Mustafa Kemal Ataturk died in Istanbul at age 57.

In 1954, the U.S. Marine Corps Memorial, depicting the raising of the American flag on Iwo Jima in 1945, was dedicated by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in Arlington, Va.

In 1959, the nuclear submarine USS Triton was commissioned by the U.S. Navy.

In 1969, the children's educational program "Sesame Street" made its debut on National Educational Television (later PBS).

In 1975, the ore-hauling ship SS Edmund Fitzgerald and its crew of 29 mysteriously sank during a storm in Lake Superior with the loss of all on board.

In 1982, Soviet leader Leonid I. Brezhnev died at age 75.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Russell Johnson is 85. Film composer Ennio Morricone is 81. Blues singer Bobby Rush is 75. Actor Albert Hall is 72. American Indian activist Russell Means is 70. Country singer Donna Fargo is 68. Sen. Saxby Chambliss, R-Ga., is 66. Lyricist Tim Rice is 65. Actress Alaina Reed Hall is 63. Rock singer-musician Greg Lake (Emerson, Lake and Palmer) is 62. Actress-dancer Ann

Reinking is 60. Actor Jack Scalia is 59. Movie director Roland Emmerich is 54. Actor Matt Craven is 53. Actor-comedian Sinbad is 53. Actress Mackenzie Phillips is 50. Author Neil Gaiman is 49. Actress Vanessa Angel is 46. Actor-comedian Tommy Davidson is 46. Actor Michael Jai White is 45. Country singer Chris Cagle is 41. Actor-comedian Tracy Morgan is 41. Actress Ellen Pompeo ("Grey's Anatomy") is 40. Rapper-producer Warren G is 39. Comedian-actor Chris Lilley is 35. Rock singer-musician Jim Adkins (Jimmy Eat World) is 34. Actress Brittany Murphy is 32. Rapper Eve is 31.

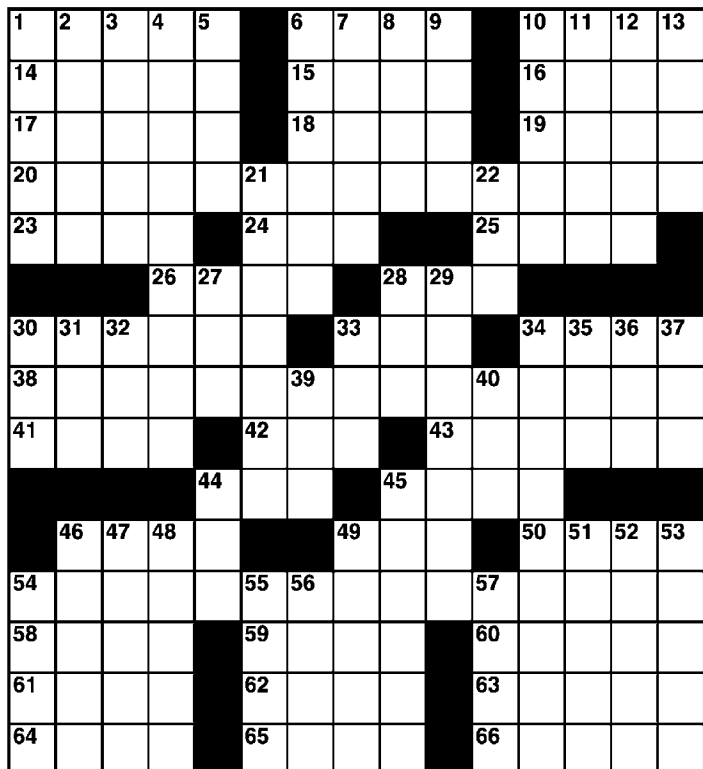
Answer to previous puzzle

SASS	TAPES	ADDS
ERIE	ELUDE	FRAU
REST	CONGA	LYRE
FAIRSHAKE	MOCKS	
ACIDS	DIAL	
BOWTIE	HOTTEAS	
EPEE	PAINT	ACT
LET	STABLES	NRA
ORB	LOCAL	SEEK
WALLEYE	SPARSE	
AIDS	STEAL	
CENTS	CLEARAWAY	
LAKE	PLANT	MOLE
USER	RINSE	IRON
BETS	OPTED	SEES

Newsday Crossword

ALTERNATE ROUTES by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ACROSS | 65 Fencing sword | 13 Less than chilly | 39 Zero |
| 1 Allow in | 66 Rental agreement | 21 Intercept | 40 Moscow's country: Abbr. |
| 6 Mini-play | 10 Oil cartel's initials | 22 Navigational device, for short | 44 Negative prefix |
| 14 Dirt | 15 ___ of the above | 27 Part of mph | 45 When mammoths lived |
| 15 ___ of the above | 16 Prefix for tone | 28 That guy's | 46 Literary sarcasm |
| 17 Speaks like Daffy Duck | 18 Simplicity | 29 Machinelike, as movements | 47 Nary a soul |
| 18 Simplicity | 19 In addition | 30 Mug alternative | 48 Melodies |
| 19 In addition | 20 Eventually | 31 Bigger copy: Abbr. | 49 Give off light |
| 20 Eventually | 23 "If I ___ you . . ." | 32 Big fuss | 51 Land of the Taj Mahal |
| 23 "If I ___ you . . ." | 24 Memorable period | 33 Casino action | 52 Sunflower products |
| 24 Memorable period | 25 Whittle down | 34 Decide what to charge | 53 Got up |
| 25 Whittle down | 26 Vacation resorts | 35 Buddy | 54 Slightly |
| 26 Vacation resorts | 28 Many mins. | 36 Pilot announcement: Abbr. | 55 See socially |
| 28 Many mins. | 30 Stopped | 37 Tot's frequent question | 56 Snare |
| 30 Stopped | 33 Life story, briefly | | 57 White House office shape |
| 33 Life story, briefly | 34 Gush forth | | |
| 34 Gush forth | 38 In a whisper | | |
| 38 In a whisper | 41 Walk heavily | | |
| 41 Walk heavily | 42 In good shape | | |
| 42 In good shape | 44 Super Bowl org. | | |
| 44 Super Bowl org. | 45 "___ miracle!" | | |
| 45 "___ miracle!" | 46 Fascinated by | | |
| 46 Fascinated by | 49 Biol. or chem. | | |
| 49 Biol. or chem. | 50 Leaning Tower city | | |
| 50 Leaning Tower city | 54 Not far away | | |
| 54 Not far away | 58 Bugs Bunny or Elmer Fudd | | |
| 58 Bugs Bunny or Elmer Fudd | 59 Opera solo | | |
| 59 Opera solo | 60 Part of DVD | | |
| 60 Part of DVD | 61 British princess | | |
| 61 British princess | 62 Sharp taste | | |
| 62 Sharp taste | 63 Corrosive chemicals | | |
| 63 Corrosive chemicals | 64 Recolors | | |



Texans look to shake off tough loss to Indianapolis

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Houston had a chance for its first single-season, four-game winning streak on Sunday against the Colts.

Instead, the Texans committed a season-high 103 yards of penalties and three turnovers before Kris Brown missed a potential game-tying field goal as time expired in the 20-17 loss.

"This week we were very sloppy," coach Gary Kubiak said. "I'm very concerned about how we started (Sunday). I thought we lacked some focus early in the game. We lacked some focus from some very important players."

The Texans have their bye this week and 15 days to regroup before a Monday night meeting with Tennessee followed by a rematch with the Colts. The 5-4 Texans are looking for a strong finish to keep up hopes of their first playoff berth.

Kubiak said turnovers have been his team's biggest problem through its first nine games.

"Turnovers. I don't have the words to describe how frustrated I am," Kubiak said. "It's just hurting our football team. It's not one guy, it's not two guys,

it's a little bit of everybody. Fixing that problem and being better in that phase over the next seven weeks will have a lot to do with what we're talking about come January."

Running back Steve Slaton's five lost fumbles are tied for most in the NFL and Houston has lost seven fumbles overall. Matt Schaub has nine interceptions this season after getting picked off twice on Sunday.

Houston's other turnover against the Colts came after Indianapolis challenged a call that Ryan Moats had fumbled the ball out of bounds at the Indianapolis 1 late in the first half. The ruling was reversed and the Colts got a touchback and the ball at the 20.

The Texans were criticized for letting the clock run down to the two-minute warning instead of quickly running a play and giving Indianapolis time to review and challenge the play. Kubiak said he didn't realize the call was questionable until it was too late.

"The topic never came up that there was a problem over there," he said. "So I was strictly trying to control the game from a standpoint of hoping not to put our defense back on the field and give Peyton (Manning) the ball with



AP Photo/Darron Cummings

Houston Texans kicker Kris Brown (3) misses a 42-yard field goal held by punter Matt Turk as time expires in Indianapolis on Sunday.

too much time."

Houston's 13 penalties were by far their most of the season after the Texans averaged just more than five a game in the first eight games.

"We had penalties in all phases," Kubiak said. "Trying to overcome that many penalties and still beat this football team makes it very, very difficult."

Kubiak pointed to a pass interference

penalty on Dunta Robinson and an unnecessary roughness call on Eugene Wilson as the most troubling of the infractions. Both penalties came on third down and allowed the Colts to extend their drives.

"The thing about those two penalties is that it led to about 20 more snaps that the defense was on the field," he said. "Sometimes I don't think players realize that."

LADY STEERS

Continued from Page 8

turnovers because of nerves and nervousness.

"(There was) a lot of pressure there and we struggled because they were playing against juniors and seniors who are two years older. I think another year's experience will be great."

With more experience, Warren has raised the bar. He has his eyes set on climbing the district ladder — which means competing with Abilene Cooper as well as powerhouse teams Frenship and Plainview.

"We're having high expectations," he said. "We're going to go out and expect to win every ballgame and compete, and hopefully by the time we get to district we'll have some confidence going into those games with Frenship and Plainview."

Warren says his defense is the foundation of his team, and he's counting on that to produce some easy scores.

"Defensively, that's what we rely on," he

said. "We just want to be good defensively and hustle up and down the court. We're man-to-man, we like to press and fast break and get up and down the floor. Hopefully it's fun to watch."

On offense, Warren knows there is some improvement to be made. That's where he wants his team to build confidence, he said. The team will look to junior Valerie Ross, the team's best outside shooter, to produce this season.

"Offensively, we really struggled with outside shooting last year," Warren said. "We didn't have any consistency in that area. We've got to develop some shooters."

Ross, a junior, highlights a starting five that features three sophomores, Bridgette Tuitt, Cerbi Ritchey and Taylor Seaton, and one senior, Linzee Yarbar. All but Yarbar played volleyball this season as well, so they've only had one week of practice.

"They're a little behind the girls in straight basketball because they haven't been out here," Warren said. "But they're athletic or they wouldn't be doing that, so they'll pick it up real quick."

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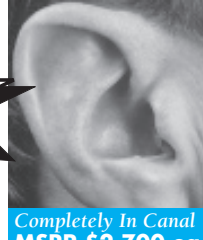
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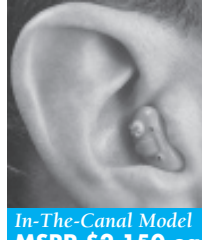
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COWBOYS

Continued from Page 10

sidered in big trouble because it needed overtime to beat winless Kansas City, and the New York Giants were a 5-0 juggernaut. The Giants haven't won since and the Cowboys haven't lost.

Dallas' surge has truly been a team effort.

Romo is doing a steady job of leading the offense, helping receiver Miles Austin blossom into a star while still spreading the ball around "wherever the defense dictates," as he's fond of saying. The stat sheet shows it's no cliché as the Cowboys got contributions from all sorts of players against the Eagles.

Supposed-to-be No. 1 receiver Roy Williams finally became a factor and No. 5 option Kevin Ogletree made

several key plays. The Cowboys also got an early touchdown from backup running back Tashard Choice on their version of the Wildcat (they prefer "Razorback"), the winning touchdown from Austin, then in the final minutes starting running back Marion Barber and tight end Jason Witten picked up the first downs needed to run out the clock.

On defense, Ware and Ratliff continue getting pressure on quarterbacks and sacks, and the secondary is coming up with key plays. On Sunday, Gerald Sensabaugh and Mike Jenkins had interceptions that the offense turned into points and cornerback Terence Newman stoned a much bigger player to force a punt. The biggest play of all, though, was a fourth-and-1 stop that led to Austin's touchdown.

Phillips, who also is the defensive coordinator, expected Donovan



AP Photo/Matt Slocum

Dallas Cowboys' Keith Brooking, from left, Tony Romo and Bradie James celebrate as they walk off the field after beating the Eagles 20-16.

McNabb to try a quarterback sneak. Dallas worked last week on a unique alignment to stop it, and it paid off. So count coaching as something else that's clicking.

"Right now I just think that we have the momentum going for us," linebacker Keith Brooking said. "We just have to keep things rolling and keep playing well."

AGGIES

Continued from Page 8

thing, that's within the first game and then that goes away," senior safety Jordan Pugh said. "It's just a team thing. It goes from the freshmen all the way up to the seniors. We have to be able to finish as a team."

Before Saturday's loss, the Aggies looked impressive in blowout victories over Texas Tech (52-30) and Iowa State (35-10). The offense produced more than 500 yards in both games and had no trouble complet-

ing drives, while the defense played with confidence and generated turnovers.

All they have to do now is figure out how to play that way every week.

"We still have the ability to get a lot better this year, just improving on little things week to week," Hunter said. "The biggest thing right now is our consistency."

Notes: Aggie "jack" linebacker Von Miller has 15 and a half sacks on the season for -107 yards, which leads the nation. The next closest man, Army's Joshua McNary has 11 sacks. Miller also has 18 and a half tackles for loss on the season, leading the team.

SPURS

Continued from Page 8

close." Chris Bosh had 32 points and nine rebounds for Toronto, but his third 30-point game of the season wasn't enough after another soft defensive game for the Raptors.

Hedo Turkoglu scored 20 points and Andrea Bargnani had 17 points for Toronto, which gave up more than 125 points for the third time this season. Though off to their best offensive start in team history, the Raptors are also among the worst defensive teams in the NBA.

"You can't give them any confidence. We did the opposite, we gave them confidence," Bosh said. "We gave them points right off the bat. They scored a lot of points."

Richard Jefferson

scored half his 24 points in the fourth quarter and George Hill added 22 for the Spurs, who reignited their offense after scoring 84 in a loss at Portland on Friday — and lost their two biggest stars in the process.

Duncan hurt his left ankle against the Trail Blazers after playing a season-high 35 minutes and scoring 14 points. He finished the game, and coach Gregg Popovich said he was unsure when the injury occurred.

MRI tests revealed no structural damage. Parker was also hurt against Portland after rolling his ankle in the second quarter and did not return to that game.

Neither injuries are considered serious, and both players are listed as day-to-day.

Ironically, the Spurs have kept a close eye on minutes around

this season in hopes of lessening the wear-and-tear and keeping players healthy down the stretch.

Entering Monday's game, the Spurs were the only team in the league without a player averaging at least 30 minutes a game. Duncan is averaging 29 minutes and Parker 26.

The Raptors led by as many as 10 in the second quarter and shot better than 63 percent in the first half. But Toronto — which entered Monday as the third-highest scoring team in the NBA — couldn't match the Spurs shot-for-shot in the fourth quarter.

Jefferson also scored 12 of his 24. Without Duncan in the lineup, Jefferson found himself in an unusual position to start the game — the frontcourt.

"That first six minutes for me was a little bit of a struggle trying to find my way," Jefferson said. "I'm still trying to figure out the three spot."

Bosh, who had nine points, was 8 of 16 from the field and hit 15 of 17 foul shots.

Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said before the game he's not rattled by slow starts, particularly since the Spurs are still working in seven new players acquired in their off-season overhaul. Still, San Antonio avoided starting a second consecutive season at 2-4.

Marco Belinelli had 12 points off the bench for Toronto.

Notes: Bonner is a 3-point specialist whose role is to spread the floor, but just before halftime he stormed down the paint for a rare one-handed dunk that appeared to leave Duncan in saucer-eyed disbelief from the bench ... In the first quarter, Raptors G Jose Calderon eclipsed the 2,000-assist mark in his 298th NBA game. He is Toronto's all-time assist leader.

In This Season Of Hope

24th Annual **HERALD**

Community Christmas Parade
5:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 5th
Parade theme:
"A Cotton Pickin' Christmas"
Entry deadline - Noon, Friday, Nov. 13th

NEW PARADE ROUTE DUE TO CONSTRUCTION

\$100 Herald's Best Of Show Award: for best interpretation of theme

\$75 Mayor's Award: for best use of lighting

\$50 Grand Marshall's Award: for best costuming

First-place plaques will be awarded in the following categories:

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

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

PARADE RULES

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

2009 Christmas Parade Entry Form

Name of organization: _____

Name of contact person: _____

Mailing address: _____

Telephone number: _____

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

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Commercial Industrial Mounted

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Big Spring Herald
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710 Scurry
Big Spring, TX 79721
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