

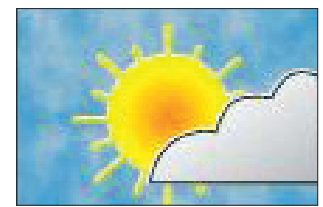
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**Steers getting ready for playoff date with Canyon.**  
 Page 1B

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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**THURSDAY**  
 NOVEMBER 12, 2009



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## A well deserved thank you

### Small, but vocal crowd salutes local veterans

By **STEVE REAGAN**  
 Staff Writer

America hasn't always appreciated its warriors, but that wasn't the case in Big Spring Wednesday.

A small but vocal audience showed up to give this country's soldiers — past and present — a pat on the back during Veterans Day ceremonies at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Appreciation — or the lack thereof — for our veterans was the theme of the program as speakers reminded the audience that this country has not always supported its returning soldiers.

"It's appropriate today to reflect on the treatment returning veterans have received," said U.S. Air Force Col. David A. Rearick, keynote speaker of the program. "It's also appropriate to note that our veterans have received uneven treatment over the years."

Rearick, the vice commander of the 17th Training Wing at Goodfellow Air Force Base in San Angelo, said that treatment has ranged from parades and celebrations for soldiers returning from World War II to indifference aimed toward Korean War veterans to outright hostility directed at soldiers coming home from Vietnam.



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins  
**Members of the Goodfellow AFB Joint Service Color Guard present the flags during Wednesday's community-wide Veterans Day celebration at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.**

See **THANKS**, Page 3A



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins  
**United States Air Force Col. David Rearick, vice commander of Goodfellow AFB and with the 17th Training Wing, presents Goliad Intermediate student Lauren Cevallos with a commander coin.**



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins  
**The Coahoma Choir Kids perform the Armed Force Medley during the holiday ceremony.**

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## Police investigating robbery at Canterbury

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
 Staff Writer

The recent rash of robberies reported in Big Spring continues to grow, as a female resident at Canterbury retirement community was attacked outside the facility during a robbery attempt Wednesday evening, according to local law enforcement officials.

The victim, a 52-year-old woman, was emptying her trash and walking her dog when she was attacked outside the northwest entrance of Can-

terbury North at approximately 6:50 p.m., according to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the BSPD.

"She had gone out to empty her trash and walk her dog when the suspect approached her near the northwest doors to the building," said Everett. "The suspect grabbed her and pushed her down in the struggle, demanding her keys and her cell phone. The woman refused and the suspect threatened to kill her. She still refused and the suspect fled the scene on foot."

Everett said the suspect is described as a black male wearing a black ski mask, black pants and shirt with white shoes. No arrests have been made at this time, according to police officials.

"The victim suffered a bruised hip, but nothing life threatening," said Everett.

The Canterbury robbery joins a multitude of other robberies reported in the Crossroads area during the past several weeks, including a

See **ROBBERY**, Page 3A

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### PIGSKIN PLAYOFFS PREVIEW

## Garden City a team to beat in 6-man tourney

By **JOE ZIGTEMA**  
Sports Editor

The Garden City Bearkats are no stranger to big games.

They beat Fort Davis, last year's district champion, on the road 72-50. Last week, they faced a Rankin team that needed a win to force a three-way tie for the district title. That game ended 62-12 in the third quarter.

The Bearkats have played all four quarters of a game just twice this season.

"Our kids have really been stepping it up for the big games," head coach Vance Jones said. "I'm real pleased with the way they've performed and I think that will help us going into the

playoffs."

Garden City (9-1, 4-0) will play Spur (6-4) in Rankin on Friday. Spur has won four straight after losing to Ira in week six. Spur got into the playoffs with a win over Grady last week. The Bearkats are ranked by sixman-football.com as the No. 2 six-man team in Texas. The Bulldogs are No. 23 in the poll.

"We've been playing pretty good I've got to admit," Jones said. "If we can stay healthy and keep focused, we'll be in good shape."

The legs of running back Josh Colunga are a major reason for the Bearkats success. Case in point: last week, Garden City ran the ball 15 times for 199 yards. Colunga toted

14 of those for 184 yards and three touchdowns.

"We've got a lot of horses, but he's the one that probably stands out the most," Jones said.

The Bearkats complement Colunga on the ground with sophomore Blaine Batla, who has completed 57 of 83 passes for about 1,300 yards and 29 touchdowns. Jones said he has watched Batla grow up from the team's first game.

"(In the) first game of the year, (his) first really starting varsity, it was a different speed for him," Jones said. "He has adjusted so well up to now, he's a seasoned veteran. He's

See **BEARKATS**, Page 4B



HERALD photo/James Schwartz  
**Garden City running back Josh Colunga runs the ball Friday in Rankin. Garden City plays Spur in Rankin on Friday.**

## NEW SEASON



HERALD Photo/Tony Claxton

**Monte Anderson trots into the end zone last week on a three-yard run against Hereford. Anderson will try to get it going Friday against Canyon High at Lowrey Field in Lubbock.**


## Steers start clean slate in playoffs

By **JOE ZIGTEMA**  
Sports Editor

Big Spring and Canyon are headed in two different directions going into Friday's matchup.

Big Spring (8-2, 3-2) has lost two of its last three in close games against Abilene Cooper and Hereford. Meanwhile, after a 2-2 start, Canyon (8-2, 5-0) hasn't lost since September. The two will collide at Lowrey Field in Lubbock at 7:30 p.m. Friday.


The Steers will look to repeat last year's bi-district matchup, when they dismantled the Eagles 49-14 in Frenship. But the six returning



**Big Spring**

vs.

**Canyon**



**When:** 7:30 p.m. Friday  
**Where:** Lowrey Field, Lubbock  
**Weather:** Partly Cloudy, 68°F

See **STEERS**, Page 4B

## Stanton offense, defense know their roles

By **JOE ZIGTEMA**  
Sports Editor

STANTON — The Stanton Bulldogs know their identity as a team.

They don't light up the score-

board. They'll be the first to tell you they don't break open a lot of big plays. They count on defense.

"We don't put big flashy numbers up," head coach John Peterson said. "Our kids under-

stand that and they've accepted that. They know that we're going to play great defense and set ourselves up offensively, and we're going to take advantage of it."

See **BUFFALOES**, Page 4B

## Sands faces familiar postseason opponent

By **JOE ZIGTEMA**  
Sports Editor

ACKERLY — The Sands Mustangs and Dawson Dragons know each other well.

The two teams will play each other for the fourth time in the last two years Friday in Klondike. With a 50-28 win Oct. 2, Sands has a 2-1 edge. But the Mustangs hope history doesn't repeat itself.

Sands (9-1, 3-1) lost to Dawson (9-1, 4-0) last year 64-58 but came back in the playoffs to beat the Dragons 60-52.

"There's not a lot more that they're going to throw at us or that we're going to throw at them that they haven't already seen," Sands head coach Wayne Henderson said. "It's just execution on what we're trying to do and trying to stop what they're trying to execute."

The Mustangs will try to stop Dragon running back Landon Brown. Brown dislocated his shoulder in the first matchup between the two schools and has since taken a lesser role in the offense, Henderson said. But he's still the Dragons' best weapon.

"They're throwing the ball a lot more now that he's been hurt because he can't take the beat-

ing he could take early on," Henderson said. "He used to be about 90 percent of their offense. Now he's about 60 percent."

When Sands has the ball, expect the Mustangs' two-headed monster of Johnny Rogers and Daniel Armendariz to carry the bulk of the load. Both Rogers and Armendariz have gone over 1,000 yards on the ground.

"(Rogers) and Armendariz feed off each other," Henderson said. "If (Rogers) gets going good then Armendariz blocks for him, and if Armendariz gets going, (Rogers) blocks for him."

Henderson said he likes having those two options to keep teams off balance.

"You can't prepare for one of them," he said. "Used to be you only had to prepare for Rogers. Now you have to prepare for both."

Both teams will be well prepared when the two meet Friday.

"They're talented and we're talented and hopefully we can make something work," Henderson said.

"It gets exciting. You have to play the same people over and over, but you're playing for something. There are a lot of people playing basketball this week."

## CROSSROADS FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD WEEK 10

**Big Spring**  
(8-2, 3-2)  
vs.  
**Canyon High**  
(8-2, 5-0)

**Stanton**  
(5-5, 3-2)  
vs.  
**Van Horn**  
(7-3, 4-0)

**Garden City**  
(9-1, 4-0)  
vs.  
**Spur**  
(6-4, 4-1)

**Sands**  
(9-1, 3-1)  
vs.  
**Dawson**  
(9-1, 4-0)

## Sports in brief

### Howard College women's hoops announces Hawk Buddies program

The Lady Hawk basketball team is hosting a basketball clinic for girls in grades kindergarten through eighth grade as part of the Hawk Buddies program.

The program begins Dec. 5 at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum from 9-11 a.m. The fee is \$20, including a t-shirt and a pizza party after the clinic.

For more information or to register, call head coach Earl Diddle or assistant coach Jamie Fisher at 264-5043 or 264-5155.

### Youth basketball signups under way

The Big Spring Youth Basketball Association sign ups are underway at the YMCA and will continue through Nov. 25.

Ages pre-kindergarten through sixth grade are welcome. The cost is \$60 per child.

To sign up, go by the YMCA at 801 Owens. For more information call 267-8234.

### Lady Hawks travel to Kansas for tournament

The Lady Hawks will begin tournament play in Garden City, Kan., today at 1:30 p.m.

While there, the team will play Eastern Oklahoma, Garden City Community College and the Sterling College junior varsity.

The team's next home game will be Nov. 21 against the Lubbock Christian junior varsity. Tipoff is at 5:30 p.m.



# Obituaries

## Johnnie Perry

Johnnie Perry, 76, of Big Spring died on Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2009, in a local hospital. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 14, 2009, at the Mt. Bethel Baptist Church with the Rev. William Vaughn, pastor, officiating. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

Johnnie was born Nov. 6, 1933, in Waco, and married Leroy Perry Feb. 23, 1993, in Big Spring.

She had worked as a cook at the Big Spring Country Club, the Big Spring State Hospital for five years and at the Veterans Administration Medical Center for 17 years. She was an active member of Mt. Bethel Baptist Church, singing in the choir for many years and had served as a deaconess.

Survivors include her husband, Leroy Perry of Big Spring; one son, Kenneth Perry of San Antonio; and four grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials be made to Mt. Bethel Baptist Church, 630 Sgt. Paredes St., Big Spring 79720.

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

## Patsy Ann Henry

Patsy Ann Henry, 71, of El Paso, formerly of Big Spring, died Nov. 4, 2009. No services are planned.

She was born June 20, 1938, in old Allawae, Okla., to Elmer E. Lord and Nancy E. Seals Lord. She was an accountant for Clyde Hollandsworth and Hughes Rental. She moved to El Paso in the early 1980s.

She is survived by four daughters, Judy Henry and husband, Mark, of Las Vegas, Nev., Tanna Seely of Vidor, Beverly (BJ) Tynes of Big Spring and Brenda Johnson of El Paso; one brother, John Lord and wife, Linda, of Allawae, Okla.; one sister, Selma Sparkman of Oklahoma; three grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be sent to the Big Spring Humane Society, W. Interstate 20, Big Spring 79720.

## Eddie Odom

Eddie Odom, 44, of Big Spring died Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Friday, Sept. 13, 2009, at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

He was born Aug. 24, 1965, in Sweetwater to Beverly and Bruce Odom. He grew up in Big Spring and Odessa, and worked a number of years at Herman's Restaurant.

He is survived by his father, Bruce L. Odom of Fort Worth.

He was preceded in death by his mother.

# Correction

In the Nov. 5 edition of the *Big Spring Herald's* Sheriff Report, Ysidro Diaz was reported as having been arrested and transferred to the county jail by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less. According to HCSO officials, the person arrested was Martin Diaz, the brother of Ysidro Diaz, who had given his brother's name when he was taken into custody. Charges were later placed under the name of Martin Diaz.

# Support Groups

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

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

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

**SUNDAY**  
• Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

**MONDAY**  
• Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-5239.

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

# Police blotter

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

- JESSICA MORENO, 26, of 1322 Madison, was arrested Wednesday on charges of driving while license suspended/invalid and no insurance.
- THEFT was reported in the 300 block of Gregg Street.
- ROBBERY was reported in the 1600 block of Lancaster.
- INJURY TO A CHILD was reported in the 100 block of Ninth Street.
- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported in the 1900 block of Highway 87.
- AGGRAVATED ROBBERY was reported in the 1500 block of Lancaster.

# Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 76 inmates at the time of this report.

- PATRICIA ANN BACON, 37, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on contempt charges for no insurance and speeding, and a probation revocation for assault causing bodily injury – family violence.
- ROBERT CHRISTOPHER CORTEZ, 29, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of credit card abuse.
- MARCOS DELEON, 28, was arrested Wednesday by DPS on a charge of hindering security creditors.
- JIMMY FRANCIS GARRARD, 35, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- JOHNNY LEE JOHNSON, 37, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of violation of a protective order.
- JIMMY FRANKLIN MASSINGILL, 42, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of public intoxication and issuance of a bad check.
- JESSICA ARLENE MORENO, 26, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension without a final resolution.
- SAMANTHA MARIE PAYNE, 26, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- JUAN ARON SANCHEZ, 21, was arrested Wednesday by DPS on a charge of no insurance.
- JUSTIN OSCAR SOLIS, 19, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a probation revocation for purchasing/furnishing alcohol to a minor.
- RUBEN LEE TREVINO, 31, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance – more than 4 grams, less than 200 grams.
- MATTHEW WILLIAM VANDERPOOL, 22, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on contempt charges for consumption of alcohol by a minor and failure to appear.
- CLAYTON WILLIAM WINGTON, 23, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on charges of burglary of a habitation (two counts).
- DAVID YANEZ, 41, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a probation revocation for driving while intoxicated – third or more offense.

# Fire/EMS

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

Note: An EMS/Fire Department report was not available at press time.

# Take Note

• The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglect children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. CASA currently has 10 active volunteers to serve the 55 plus children of Howard County in foster care. A class is forming in Howard County and 20 volunteers are needed. For more information on becoming a CASA volunteer, please contact Robyn LaForge at (432) 683-1114.

• West Texas Opportunities Inc., through a Job Access Reverse Commute project with the Texas Department of Transportation offers transportation to employment in Midland, on a limited schedule, Monday through Friday each week. This fixed route currently leaves Big Spring at 7 a.m. and makes a stop at the EZ Rider bus connection in downtown Midland. The route leaves Midland for the return to Big Spring at 4:15 p.m. As a promotional introduction, no fare is charged. Beginning April 1, the daily fare will be from \$3 to \$8, round-trip, depending on the number of passengers using the service. For more information, call Victor Enriquez, JARC coordinator, at West Texas Opportunities, (800) 245-9028.

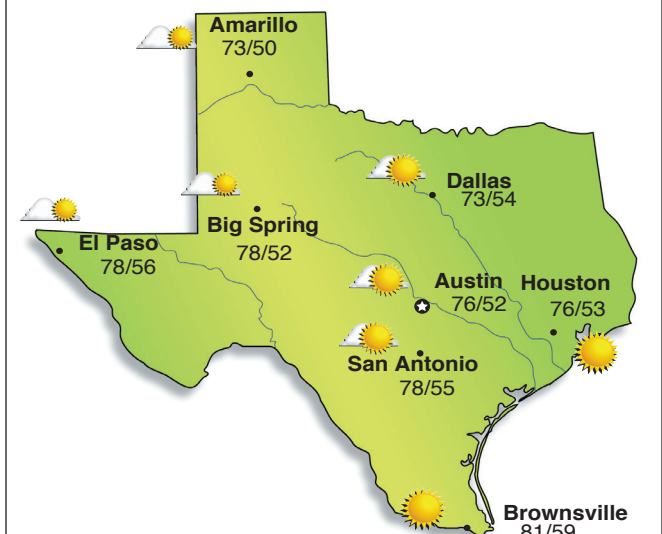
# Today's Weather

## Local 5-Day Forecast

Fri 11/13	Sat 11/14	Sun 11/15	Mon 11/16	Tue 11/17
<b>78/52</b> Intervals of clouds and sunshine. High 78F. Winds S at 15 to 25 mph.	<b>81/49</b> Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the upper 40s.	<b>78/48</b> Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the upper 40s.	<b>69/39</b> Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the upper 30s.	<b>60/35</b> Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the mid 30s.
<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:13 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 5:47 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:14 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 5:47 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:14 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 5:46 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:15 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 5:46 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:16 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 5:45 PM

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## Texas At A Glance



### Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abiene	76	55	pt sunny	Kingsville	81	57	sunny
Amarillo	73	50	pt sunny	Livingston	76	47	sunny
Austin	76	52	mst sunny	Longview	71	49	mst sunny
Beaumont	75	50	sunny	Lubbock	78	50	pt sunny
Brownsville	81	59	sunny	Lufkin	75	47	mst sunny
Brownwood	76	54	mst sunny	Midland	79	54	pt sunny
Corpus Christi	79	60	sunny	Raymondville	83	57	sunny
Corsicana	73	53	mst sunny	Rosenberg	77	53	sunny
Dallas	73	54	mst sunny	San Antonio	78	55	mst sunny
Del Rio	79	54	mst sunny	San Marcos	77	52	mst sunny
El Paso	78	56	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	72	53	mst sunny
Fort Stockton	82	55	pt sunny	Sweetwater	77	55	pt sunny
Gainesville	71	53	mst sunny	Tyler	72	49	mst sunny
Greenville	70	50	mst sunny	Weatherford	73	52	pt sunny
Houston	76	53	sunny	Wichita Falls	75	54	pt sunny

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# Lottery

The winning numbers in Wednesday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Lotto Texas" game were: 08-14-20-24-28-49.

The winning numbers in Wednesday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Cash 5" game were: 06-12-25-28-32.

The winning numbers in Wednesday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Daily 4 Night" game were: 1-0-5-3. Sum It Up: 9.

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

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Wednesday afternoon, in order: 8-3-7-9. Sum It Up: 27.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday afternoon, in order: 1-4-9. Sum It Up: 14.

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# Ratliff has no plans to be team's 'weak link'

Associated Press

IRVING — Jay Ratliff was still a backup for the Dallas Cowboys, a defensive end and former seventh-round draft pick with only a handful of tackles when coach Wade Phillips arrived.

Yet nearly three years ago, Phillips saw something much more in Ratliff, who has since moved to nose tackle and become a Pro Bowl player.

"Jerry (Jones, the Cowboys owner) can tell you when I got here, after a little while, I said, our best player is a backup player," Phillips said. "I mean, he's been impressive since I got here. ... He was going to play there whether the other guy got hurt or not."

After Jason Ferguson tore his right biceps in the 2007 season opener, in Phillips' debut as the Cowboys coach, Ratliff took over in the middle of the defensive front. He has started every game since, and is having another standout season after making the Pro Bowl last year.

Ratliff even earned a new level of respect from Phillips during a 20-16 victory in Philadelphia on Sunday night that gave the Cowboys (6-2) sole possession of the NFC East lead.

"At halftime, we came in and he says, 'My fault on the running game.' I said, 'No, it isn't your fault.' He jumps back at me and said 'It's my

fault,'" said Phillips, who finally conceded and listened as Ratliff said he would correct things. "Accountability is important, and I think everybody talks about it, but doing it is another thing."

Philadelphia gave up 70 rushing yards by halftime but only 19 after that.

The soft-spoken Ratliff, a fifth-year player from Auburn whose demeanor is vastly different from the all-out way he performs on the field, doesn't know why anybody would make a big deal about him being accountable for his mistakes.

"I know my responsibilities and I got out of line on two plays. It didn't 'hurt us' hurt us, but it was way more than we as a defense want to give up," Ratliff said Wednesday. "It was my fault. ... If I do wrong, I'm going to stand up and say I did wrong."

Ratliff finished the Philadelphia game with eight tackles and two sacks. He has 42 tackles and four sacks this season.

"Man, he's a beast," linebacker Bradie James said. "I don't know if there is a defensive tackle in the league who is as quick as he is and as fast as he is and as relentless as he is. He's one of the biggest assets on our defense."

Phillips, who is also the team's defensive coordinator, talks about how Ratliff's attitude and relentless



AP Photo/LM Otero  
Seattle Seahawks running back Julius Jones is stopped by defensive end Jay Ratliff and linebacker Keith Brooking at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington Nov. 1.

play is "a great example" for other players to try to emulate.

"A lot of guys don't know that they're not playing like Ratliff," Phillips said. "They think they're playing hard."

Ratliff's response to the compliments? He said he's just playing the game the way it's supposed to be played.

"I don't want to be the weak link on the team or anything like that. It's

as simple as that. That's why I want to do well, I want to win games and want to contribute to the team," he said. "It goes back to the basic fundamentals of the game, wherever the ball is, you need to be there."

But try telling Ratliff it appears that he is stepping up in a leadership role, and he is quick to divert the line of conversation — "y'all throw that word around so loosely," he said.

"Really, that's enough about that."

# From Big 12 snub to possible BCS for Horned Frogs

Associated Press

FORT WORTH — When the Southwest Conference broke up after the 1995 season, TCU set out on an undesired conference-hopping journey.

Half of the Texas teams from the old SWC — Texas, Texas A&M, Texas Tech and even Baylor, a private Christian school like TCU — were invited into the Big 12, which has grown into one of the nation's best leagues.

The Horned Frogs, bitter about the snub, bounced from the Western Athletic Conference to Conference USA to the Mountain West over the next decade. They won or shared titles in all of them.

Those nomadic BCS outsiders have found a home in the MWC and are now in national championship contention, without the benefit of automatic access to the Bowl Championship Series.

"Everybody likes a Cinderella story," coach Gary Patterson said. "But we're just trying to get to the ball."

Or big bowl in this case. One of the long-stated and unfulfilled goals for

TCU (9-0, 5-0) is to get into a BCS game and win it.

The Frogs are fourth in the latest Associated Press poll, their highest ranking since 1956. They're also in fourth place in the BCS standings, the highest a team from a conference without an automatic bid has reached.

Trailing only SEC powers Florida and Alabama, and former SWC rival Texas, that puts TCU in position to possibly do more than just be this season's BCS buster. They could become the first to play for the national title.

Heading into a sold-out home game Saturday night against No. 16 Utah (8-1, 5-0), this is the closest TCU has been to a national championship since winning its only one in 1938, the undefeated season when Davey O'Brien won the Heisman Trophy.

TCU also claims another national title in 1935, when Sammy Baugh was the quarterback of a 12-1 team.

The Frogs won four Southwest Conference titles from 1951-59, but there hadn't been any sustained success since then until recently.

In the past six years, TCU has four 11-win seasons and two more 10-win

seasons since 2000. That's a long way from 1-10 in 1997, the last season for coach Pat Sullivan and the freshman year for LaDainian Tomlinson.

When Dennis Franchione replaced Sullivan, he brought Patterson as his defensive coordinator. They capped their first season with a victory over Southern California in the Sun Bowl, then shared back-to-back WAC titles before Franchione left for Alabama and Patterson was promoted to head coach.

Ask Patterson how the Frogs have reached this point, and he'd rather not talk about it.

"That will scare you. It's kind of like climbing the Eiffel Tower, which I did in the summer," said Patterson, 82-27 in his nine seasons. "You go up that deal and get to the top, I'm glad I didn't look down on the way up. Just keep looking ahead, look up. That's where all the work is. Nobody gets scared looking up. It's always when you are looking down that it always bothers you."

Looking back, there are reminders that before Utah became the original BCS buster in 2004, the Frogs had chances to grab that distinction.

TCU won its first seven games in 2000 and was ninth in the AP poll before losing at San Jose State in early November for its only regular-season loss in Tomlinson's senior year. The Frogs made it to 10-0 three years later before a loss at Southern Miss dashed BCS hopes.

Then there was 2005, when coming off the only losing season in Patterson's tenure they upset then-No. 5 Oklahoma in the season opener. They lost a week later to SMU, didn't lose again and were left to wonder what might have been.

Still, by getting close, it has helped bolster recruiting. TCU used to get players the Big 12 schools didn't want, but now is starting to compete for some of the same prep standouts.

"We're getting kids that normally would have gone to (Texas) Tech or A&M, starting to get kids that are looking at Texas and at Oklahoma," said Frog Club director John Denton, a former TCU player who has been part of the team's radio broadcasts for 21 years. "If this program takes the next step, or the second step, then there's no more negative recruiting saying TCU can't get there."

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# Council approves street project change

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

The Big Spring City Council approved first reading of a number of change orders to its Street Bond Project Tuesday night, including the re-bidding of several stretches of downtown roadway the city has been able to reach an agreement with contractor Price Construction on because of pricing.

Assistant City Manager Todd Darden told the council during its meeting there have been numerous changes to the project since it began, but the realization a stretch of downtown roadway had been left out of the original bid has forced them to go back to the negotiating table with Price Construction.

"Basically, we've had numerous things that have occurred as a result of our Street Bond Project. As you know, we had funds left over from allowing Price Construction to do a different type of construction method on Main, Scurry, First and Second streets," said Darden. "We went to a milling operation there, and had about \$800,000 in savings associated with that change. In doing so, we talked about picking some other areas up for construction, and the other area we looked at was Lancaster Street.

The council approved the replacement of the utilities there first, and that has been completed under a separate bid packet. The next thing we looked at with Price was to rehab the street, and that amount came in just a little less than \$700,000, which is also included in this change order.

"Also, when we were looking at what areas to hardscape in the downtown area and the projects that were going on in that area... We inadvertently left out a quadrant on Main Street that has a lot of activity going with it in the way of property owners coming in and making improvements to their buildings and bringing those buildings back to a viable use. We looked at asking Price to come back and do the streetscaping in that section between Second Street and First Street. We had them give it to us in a base bid and it was right at \$800,000. We sat down with them to renegotiate and see how we could bring that cost back into line with some of the other things we were doing in the Main Street and Second Street areas, and we just couldn't come to an agreement on the price."

Darden said the reason the city and Price Construction haven't been able to agree on a price has to do with the way it was bid out, with some done

by a unit cost and other portions on lump-sum bids.

"The reason we were unable to come to an agreement on a price is because all of our alternate bids on Main medians, Main Street from Third to Fourth streets, Main from Third to Second, Runnels from Second to Third, those were all lump sum bids," said Darden. "All of the other work that we've had done in this project was done on unit costs. So it's hard to tie them to unit costs in that portion of the project."

Darden suggested — and the council agreed — the city take a credit from Price Construction regarding the areas in question and simply re-bid them out.

"Our recommendation is we change the \$331,000 credit they are giving us... We would deduct Runnels Street from Third to Second, the southwest quadrant of Second and Runnels, and go out for bid on Main Street from Second to First Street, and the base bid will be the southeast quadrant of Main from Second Street to the alley," he said. "The second alternate for the bid would be from the alley to First Street on the Credit Union side, and alternate one would be from Second Street to the alley, which would be the old State National Bank, and alternate three would be the boxcar

area."

Also during Tuesday night's meeting, the council:

- Approved the contract between the city and Lubbock-based contractor Craig Wallace Construction for the construction of a new clubhouse at the Comanche Trail Golf Course. The contract was approved for \$450,017.

- Approved a request from the city's Conventions and Visitors Bureau to erect a permanent sign at the North Side Water Tower site to advertise Big Spring as the new Lighted Poinsettia Capital of Texas, a designation recently made by the Texas Department of Transportation.

- Gave the go ahead to begin efforts to secure an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) made available through the the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The grant, if awarded to the city, would be worth approximately \$75,000 and used to make city facilities more energy efficient.

- Agreed to cast the municipality's votes for a seat on the Howard County Appraisal District Board of Directors in favor of Tim Blackshear.

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

# BHS Speech, Debate team finishes second twice

By CLINT ADAMS  
Special to the Herald

The past three weeks have been busy for the Big Spring High School Speech and Debate team. Not only did they host the largest tournament in West Texas on Halloween weekend, the team sandwiched that with two second-place finishes at the Midland

Lee and Midland High School tournaments.

"We are extremely proud of the showing our students made at these two tournaments," Coach Jennifer Adams said. "This young team is really growing and getting better each tournament. While I would have loved to have finished first this week, three second place tro-

phies at three tournaments I will take."

More importantly, the team earned four more qualifications to the Texas Forensic Association State Meet held this March in El Paso. "Going into Midland Lee three weeks ago we didn't have any qualifications. After Midland High this week, we have six," Adams said.

Students earn points that count toward a TFA qualification every time they place in the top six at an invitational tournament.

At both tournaments, Jessica Rubio led the team. She scored first in forenextemporaneous and second in cross-examination debate with her partner Shermila Kher at Midland High.

She also placed first in

See BSHS, Page 6A

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**MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL**  
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Beatrice P. Uribe, 91, died Monday. Funeral Mass will be at 2:00 PM Thursday at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.  
Eddie Odom, 44, died Saturday. Graveside services will be at 10:00 AM Friday at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

# ROBBERY

Continued from Page 1A

pair of robberies reported Tuesday and Wednesday at the Scottish Inn — formerly the Mayo Ranch Motel — located in the 1200 block of Third Street and Sun Laundry, located in the 1500 block of Lancaster.

Robberies have also been reported at the 7-Eleven convenience stores, located on Wasson Road and FM 700, during the past two

weeks. Police say said they believe the convenience store robberies to be connected, but are unsure at this time if the other attacks are related.

When asked what he believes is motivating the recent rash of robberies in Big Spring, Everett said the most likely culprit is narcotics.

"You have some people who will simply go out and rob when they need more narcotics," said Everett. "Until these investigations are concluded there's really

no way to know what's behind them, but drugs are certainly the most common reason."

Anyone with information on these or any other crime can contact the BSPD at 264-2550 or Big Spring Crimestoppers at 264-TIPS (8477). Information could be worth a reward up to \$1,000, and callers to Crimestoppers may remain anonymous.

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

# THANKS

Continued from Page 1A

"In recent years, however, we as a nation learned an important lesson from the treatment of Vietnam veterans," Rearick added. "The treatment returning veterans receive today ... is how it always should have been. Americans have finally got it — the greatest country in the world is free because of its veterans."

Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen also praised veterans, but in off-the-cuff remarks, criticized the local turnout for Wednesday's event.

"I'm coming (to the veterans) with an apology," McEwen said. "The stands here should be full of people saying, 'Thank you.' ... so, on behalf of the people of Big Spring, I say, 'Thank you.'"

Wednesday's program also included patriotic songs sung by choirs from Goliad Intermediate School and the Coahoma Choir Kids, a presentation by the Forsan Junior High School Diplomats and a wreath-lay-

ing by Gold Star Mothers Belinda Garcia and Melissa Volker.

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

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You deserve a factual look at . . .  
**Arabian Fables (II)**  
More fanciful Arab myths to sway world opinion.  
Earlier this year, we published our message, "Arabian Fables (I)," in which we made clear how the Arab propaganda machine creates myths and lies with which to misinform the world. We discussed the myths of the "Palestinians" and of the "West Bank" and the mythical concept of "occupied territories". In today's message, we shall address three more of these myths.  
**What are some of these myths?**  
Jerusalem ("Arab East Jerusalem"). The Arabs have assiduously propagated the myths that Jerusalem is an Arab capital, that (after Mecca and Medina) Jerusalem is their third holy city, and that it is intolerable to them that infidels (Jews) are in possession of it.  
The reality of course is that Jerusalem was never an Arab capital and that it was, until the Jews revitalized it, a dusty provincial city that hardly played any economic, social, or political role. Jerusalem is mentioned hundreds of times in the Jewish Bible and has been the center of the Jewish faith and the focus of Jewish longing ever since the Romans destroyed the Temple in the early years of the first millennium. Not once is Jerusalem mentioned in the Koran.  
As to "East Jerusalem": There is East Saint Louis, there is East Hampton, and there used to be East Berlin, but, until the Arab propaganda machine created the concept, there was never in history an "East Jerusalem", let alone an "Arab East Jerusalem".  
The eastern part of Jerusalem is now predominantly inhabited by Arabs, though their proportion is decreasing. But what is the reason for this? It is because the Jordanians destroyed all traces of Jewish presence from the eastern part of the city and drove all the Jews out during the 19 years (between 1948 and 1967) in which they were in occupation of the eastern part of the city. The world, informed by Arab propaganda, considers those Jews who wish to return to the eastern part of the city to be troublemakers or worse.  
The concept of Jerusalem being a holy Arab city and the capital of whatever political entity the "Palestinians" may eventually form is a myth and so of course is the concept of "Arab East Jerusalem".  
"Settlements." When Jordan came into possession of Judea/Samaria and the eastern part of Jerusalem, following the invasion of the newly-formed Jewish state, and stayed in occupation for 19 years, it systematically obliterated all Jewish villages in the area under their occupation, drove out the Jewish inhabitants, and left the area "judenrein" (free of Jews)—the first time that concept had been applied since the Nazis created it during their short and bloody reign in Germany. When the Israelis recovered these territories, they rebuilt these villages, created new ones, and built new towns and suburbs to existing cities, especially Jerusalem.  
The Arabs decided to call these towns and villages "settlements", with their connotation of illegitimacy and impermanence. The world, including the United States, is much agitated over these population centers and, goaded by the Arabs, declares them to be impediments to peace. What nonsense! Nobody considers the tens of thousands of Arabs who continue to stream to these territories as impediments to peace.  
The term "settlements", too, is a propaganda myth created by the Arabs.  
"Refugees." In 1948, when six Arab armies invaded the Jewish state in order to destroy it on the very day of its birth, broadcasts by the advancing Arab armies appealed to the resident Arabs to leave their homes so as not to be in the way of the invaders. As soon as the "quick victory" was won, they could return to their homes and would also enjoy the loot from the Jews, who would have been driven into the sea. It didn't turn out quite that way. Those Arabs who, despite the urgings of the Jews to stay and to remain calm, foolishly left, became refugees. They who decided not to yield to those blandishments are now, and have been for over 60 years, citizens of Israel, with all the same rights and privileges as their Jewish fellows.  
But what happened to those refugees—by best estimates about 600,000 of them? Did their "Arab brethren" allow them to settle in their countries, to work, and to become productive citizens and useful members of their societies? No! They kept and still keep them, their children, their grandchildren, and in some cases even their great-grandchildren, in miserable "refugee camps", so that they can be used as political and military pawns in order to keep the burning hatred against Israel alive and in order to supply the manpower for the unremitting fight against Israel.  
During those more than sixty years, Israel has taken in more than three million Jewish immigrants from all parts of the world and has integrated them productively into its society. According to the "Palestinians", the Arab "refugees" have now marvelously increased to five million (!). It is the intent and fervent desire of the Arabs that all of them should return to Israel so as to destroy the country without the necessity of war.  
The "refugees" are a red herring and another myth created by the Arab propaganda machine.  
The Arab propaganda machine, aided by the most high-powered public relations firms in the United States and all over, has created myths that, by dint of constant repetition, have been accepted as truth by much of the world. No sensible discussion, no peace in the Middle East, is possible until those Arab myths have been exposed for what they are.  
This message has been published and paid for by  
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Gerardo Joffe, President  
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**AN ENCOURAGING WORD**  
  
By Eddy Pitchford

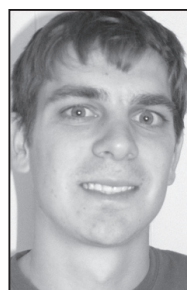
The President of these United States; a televised memorial service; tributes given in honor of fallen soldiers, grieving families; stories of bravery and and heroism; reading of scripture; national and state leaders; prayers; singing of Amazing Grace; a grateful nation.  
"Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth does not become weary or tired. His understanding is inscrutable. He gives strength to the weary, and to him who lacks might He increases power. Though youths grow weary and tired, And vigorous young men stumble badly, Yet those who wait for the LORD will gain new strength; They will mount up with wings like eagles, They will run and not get tired, They will walk and not become weary." (Isaiah 40: 28-31).

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# FEARLESS FOOTBALL FORECAST

## This week's games



Joe Zigtema

Big Spring vs. Canyon  
Stanton vs. Van Horn  
Garden City vs. Spur  
Sands vs. Dawson  
West Virginia at Cincinnatti  
Texas at Baylor  
Texas Tech at Oklahoma St.  
Texas A&M at Oklahoma  
Utah at TCU  
Houston at UCF  
UTEP at SMU  
Missouri at Kansas St.  
Nebraska at Kansas  
Florida at S. Carolina  
Iowa at Ohio St.  
Notre Dame at Pitt  
Stanford at USC  
Cowboys at Packers  
Bears at 49ers  
Falcons at Panthers  
Bengals at Steelers  
Chiefs at Raiders  
Eagles at Chargers  
Patriots at Colts  
Jaguars at Jets

Last week  
Overall

Big Spring  
Stanton  
Garden City  
Sands  
W. Virginia  
Texas  
Oklahoma St.  
Oklahoma  
TCU  
Houston  
SMU.  
Kansas St.  
Nebraska  
S. Carolina  
Ohio St.  
Pitt  
Stanford  
Cowboys  
49ers  
Panthers  
Steelers  
Chiefs  
Chargers  
Colts  
Jets

15-9  
29-14 .674



Liv Rodriguez

Big Spring  
Van Horn  
Garden City  
Sands  
W. Virginia  
Texas  
Oklahoma St.  
Texas A&M  
TCU  
Houston  
SMU  
Kansas St.  
Nebraska  
Florida  
Ohio St.  
Notre Dame  
USC  
Cowboys  
Bears  
Falcons  
Steelers  
Chiefs  
Chargers  
Colts  
Jets

14-10  
26-17 .604



Robert Smith

Big Spring  
Stanton  
Garden City  
Sands  
Cincinnatti  
Texas  
Texas Tech  
Texas A&M  
TCU  
Houston  
UTEP  
Missouri  
Nebraska  
Florida  
Ohio St.  
Pitt  
Stanford  
Cowboys  
49ers  
Falcons  
Bengals  
Raiders  
Eagles  
Colts  
Jets

11-13  
25-18 .581



Brian Ivanchan

Big Spring  
Stanton  
Garden City  
Sands  
Cincinnatti  
Baylor  
Texas Tech  
Texas A&M  
Utah  
UCF  
UTEP  
Kansas St.  
Nebraska  
S. Carolina  
Iowa  
Pitt  
USC  
Cowboys  
49ers  
Falcons  
Steelers  
Chiefs  
Chargers  
Patriots  
Jets

13-11  
29-14 .674



Angela Pace

Big Spring  
Stanton  
Garden City  
Dawson  
Cincinnatti  
Texas  
Texas Tech  
Texas A&M  
TCU  
Houston  
SMU  
Kansas St.  
Nebraska  
Florida  
Ohio St.  
Pitt  
USC  
Cowboys  
49ers  
Falcons  
Steelers  
Raiders  
Eagles  
Patriots  
Jaguars

10-14  
20-23 .465

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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

## OTHER VIEWS

# Military budget still requiring some vigilance

Credit President Barack Obama and Defense Secretary Robert Gates for restoring a little fiscal sanity to the military budget. The president signed the 2010 defense authorization bill last month.

At \$680 billion, the measure still authorizes plenty of federal spending on programs with questionable value to any military challenges on the horizon. Congress authorized \$560 million for research on a controversial alternate engine for the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter and for 10 additional C-17 transport planes. In both cases, the Pentagon and military planners say the projects aren't needed.

However, Obama and Gates were able to pare down some of the more egregious examples of politicians trying to use the military budget to score home-state and home-district federal spending. A veto threat from the White House capped the number of F-22 Raptors at levels recommended by the Air Force. The White House was also able to kill programs to build an airborne laser for missile defense and an extravagant new presidential helicopter.

These are programs deemed unnecessary by military leaders or are irrelevant to counterinsurgency operations the American military is currently engaged in and will likely continue to face in coming years.

Another sound change in the new defense measure is that it authorizes \$550 billion for the Pentagon's base budget as well as \$130 billion for U.S. operations in Iraq and Afghanistan for the current fiscal year. That's an attempt to actually budget those wars, something the Bush administration — which consistently relied on supplemental funding outside the normal Pentagon budget — never did.

The budget process isn't over. Now that Congress has authorized military spending for 2010, it still has to appropriate funds. That gives politicians on Capitol Hill and special interests another crack at larding the defense budget with earmarks for unneeded projects and weapons systems. The Obama administration and watchdog groups will need to remain vigilant.

THE EXPRESS-NEWS  
SAN ANTONIO

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

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## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May our impulsive choices, Lord, include You.

Amen

# Don't fret over Fox News

It seems that Barack Obama has gotten himself into a war with Fox News. I realize that's a little like saying that Poland got itself into a war with Germany in 1939, but there's a difference: Barack had a choice.

Yes, the Fox has criticized him mercilessly for the past year or two.

Its commentators have called him a racist, hinted he is an enemy alien and, just the other day, likened him to Pol Pot, the crazed mass murderer of the Cambodian people.

This criticism by a single national news organization has gone well beyond anything that occurred even in the poisonous days of Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon.

Of course, that duo drew an extraordinary amount of vitriol, but it was being fed by a growing disaffection with the war in Vietnam.

What we're seeing now is hatred being stirred by right-wing cheerleaders who call themselves a news organization.

Calling Fox a news organization confuses the false front for the real operation.

You can use a flower shop as a front for a betting parlor, but that doesn't make the bookies florists.

Fox's real business is to act as the attack dog of the Republican Party's paranoid right wing.

It deals in lies, rumors and innuendo that a legitimate politician can't afford to say out loud, unless he or she lives in South



DONALD KAUL

Carolina.

So Obama is justified in fighting back, right?

Justified, yes...

Smart, no.

It has been said that a politician should never get in an argument with anyone who buys ink by the barrel and, in the days when newspapers mattered, that was true. Now, not so much.

But, in a similar fashion, in these modern times it isn't wise to seek confrontation with someone with access to satellite communication.

The best you can do is give them free advertising.

If people can't watch Sean Hannity, Glenn Beck, Bill O'Reilly, Tucker Carlson and the rest of that unwholesome crowd on Fox and figure out that they're a couple of bricks shy of a load when it comes to judging Obama, then there's nothing our president can say to convince them otherwise.

Better just to ignore them.

The real problem isn't the Fox crowd or even the people who listen to them with credulity generally reserved for Bible study. They're only a few million strong.

The real problem is the tens of millions who don't watch Fox, PBS, or CBS, or any other show with even a pretension of seriousness.

Neither do they read newspapers or magazines that don't feature up-to-the-minute reports on disintegrating celebrity marriages.

Politics?

World affairs?

They just don't give a damn.

They view the world through a haze of popular culture: "reality" shows, game shows and sporting

events. Games and more games.

They're distracted by the constant presence of trivia which they pipe in through computers, iPhones, Twitter and Facebook.

They call it communication but really, it's the opposite. All that noise, which is amplified in modern restaurants, bars and clubs, makes communication impossible.

They're not stupid necessarily, but if they were, it wouldn't make much difference in their lives.

They know nothing of the past and care little about the future.

A week or so ago Al Franken, the comedian turned senator (a refreshing reversal of roles), offered an amendment that would have prohibited companies with government contracts from denying their employees the constitutional right to sue should they be abused as in, say, being locked in a cargo container and gang-raped by fellow workers for 24 hours.

Just such a thing happened in 2005 to a female employee of KBR, a global engineering, construction and services company with many Pentagon contracts in Iraq.

When she tried to sue, she was told her employment contract prohibited such action. Franken's amendment would void that kind of prohibition.

That bill passed the Senate. By a 68-30 vote.

Republicans cast all 30 votes against it. And hardly anyone noticed or cared.

That's what we really should be worrying about.

*Minuteman Media columnist Donald Kaul lives in Ann Arbor, Mich.*

# Lesser of two evils?

Just when we think going further to the right would drive conservative Republicans over a cliff, they go ahead and take another giant step into an abyss.

Oops, adios!

At least that's the way they are seen by many U.S. Latinos — including Democrats, independents and, yes, even some Latino Republicans, who often are embarrassed when their party leaders use illegal (and sometimes even legal) immigrants to promote xenophobia and hatred, which affects all Latinos.

In the news media, people always are asking what Republicans can do to regain the huge chunk of the Hispanic vote they have lost over the past few years.

And of course, there are many ways in which they could do this — if only they were interested! But let's face it; they're not!

Even when they know they are going to lose a fight, they keep introducing hideous measures that are meant to appeal to the extreme right wing of their party, and they do it without the least bit of concern for the way they keep alienating Hispanic voters.

Take the Republican amendment, finally rejected in the Senate last week, that would have required U.S. census forms to ask people whether they are American citizens.

In legislation to authorize funding for the 2010 census, Republican Sens. David Vitter of Louisiana and Bob Bennett of Utah introduced an amendment that would have scared millions of illegal immigrants from responding to the census, excluded even legal immigrants, and reshaped the American political landscape in one swift legislative coup d'etat.

Vitter and Bennett wanted to count only American citizens — not even legal residents were to be considered — and they wanted to use only those citizen population numbers to determine how congressional seats would be reapportioned among the states.

Its impact would have been revolutionary! When House seats were reallocated based on the 2010 census, there would

have been a dramatic shift in power from states with many noncitizen immigrants to states with few immigrants.

According to an independent study by demographers at Queens College, California, New York, Florida, Illinois, Arizona, Nevada, Texas and states like them could have lost a significant number of House seats, which would have been reapportioned to other states, including Vitter's Louisiana and Bennett's Utah.

And the same thing could have happened when redistricting was done within each state. There would have been a significant shifting of power from the inner cities, where immigrants tend to live, to suburban and rural areas, where anti-immigrant Republicans have better chances of being elected. Immigrant communities would have been dramatically disempowered.

Republicans knew the Constitution requires the census to count all U.S. residents regardless of citizenship status; they knew this wacky and unconstitutional amendment had zero chance of passing in a Democratic-controlled Senate; they knew that the measure would alarm and anger many Latinos, particularly because it aimed to exclude even legal residents.

But they didn't care.

As long as they keep the conservative extremists happy, many Republicans apparently are simply not interested in appealing to Latinos.

Initially, the intention of the Vitter-Bennett amendment was to use U.S. citizenship as the sole basis for both allocating congressional seats and determining how some \$450 billion of federal aid would be distributed among the states.

But once they realized how terribly unconstitutional their proposal was, they dropped their attempt to redistribute federal funds and stuck only to the reapportionment measure — as if that made it constitutionally acceptable. It did not!

Under the revised Vitter-Bennett amendment, the census would have had to come up with two population counts — one for citizens and one for noncitizens — and our country would have been even more polarized than it already is.

Yet when the Vitter-Bennett amendment was left out of a broader Commerce Department

budget bill last week, the vote broke straight down party lines. Fifty-eight Democrats and two independents voted to proceed with the bill without the amendment, and 39 Republicans were opposed to the bill. Curiously, Sen. John McCain, once known as a champion of immigration reform, was the only senator who did not vote.

And so here the Republicans go again — handing the Latino vote to the Democrats on a silver platter.

Unfortunately, this makes many Democrats assume that there is nothing they need to do for Latinos because Hispanic votes will go to them by default. Republicans are the reason President Barack Obama can afford to break his promise to reform immigration laws during his first year in office and the reason Democrats can afford to continue taking Latinos for granted.

Last week, this column criticized Democrats in Congress and the White House for failing to move forward with comprehensive immigration reform this year and for leaving a very short period of time for passing such reform early next year.

When I explained that the Democrats can get away with such betrayal and arrogance because Republicans are an even worse alternative, some readers claimed to be confused.

"Are you a Democrat?" one of them asked in an e-mail. Nowadays, it seems that people need to fit you into a mold. If you are not a Democrat, you must be a Republican. If you are not a liberal, you must be a conservative. And if you fall into any of those categories, then — like a programmed robot — you always must follow the party line.

Well, I'm happy to report that I'm none of the above. I always have belonged to the group of Americans who are truly free to follow their consciences and who now are the fastest-growing segment of U.S. voters — independents.

Yet to be totally frank, right now I believe the Democratic Party is the lesser of two evils.

I dislike the way the Democrats take advantage of Latinos almost as much as I hate the way Republicans discriminate against us.

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# SIGNING UP



HERALD Photo/Joe Zigtema

Coahoma softball player Heather Newton sits in front of head coach Tracy Tadlock, left, father Billy Newton, center, and pitching coach Herman Martinez Wednesday at Coahoma High School. Newton signed a letter of intent to play at San Angelo State next season. The senior pitcher has been voted twice to the All-State team by the Texas SportsWriter's Association, and has a career 73-23 record with a .98 ERA.



HERALD Photo/Joe Zigtema

Howard College baseball players Blake Barnes, left, Burch Smith, center, and Tate Allison, right, sit in front of coach Britt Smith Wednesday at Howard College. Pitchers Barnes and Smith signed with Oklahoma State and Oklahoma, respectively, and are the only returners from last year's championship team. Allison, a position player, signed with Angelo State. He transferred from Grayson County College in Denison.

## STEERS

Continued from 1B

Eagles starters on each side of the ball will be out for revenge this year.

We've seen a lot of the same players that we saw last year," Steer head coach Phillip Ritchey said. "They've grown up, they're bigger, stronger and I think they're a better football team than they were last year. We'll have to play well and be prepared and not make a lot of mistakes to win the game."

Like Big Spring, Canyon features a balanced offense that runs on the legs of running back Blake Boyer and the arm of quarterback Conner Moore.

"Last year they were way more pass-happy than they are this year," head coach Phillip Ritchey said. "It will be a tougher team to defend."

But defending has been a strength of the Steers this season. Last week they held a high-octane Hereford offense to its lowest total of the season, beaten only on two big plays — a 38-yard screen pass for a touchdown and a double reverse pass.

"I've told them all along, 'That's why you have to hang your hat on your defense.'" Ritchey said. "Last Friday night was one that wasn't so good for us as far as points go, but our defense was there. We still had a chance to win the game even with as many mistakes as we made. That's the positive that we take out of it, because we played bad and we still



HERALD Photo/Tony Claxton

**Matt Ritchey runs with the ball against San Angelo Lake View at Memorial Stadium on Oct. 31.**

could have won that game very easily."

Though they didn't score a lot of points, the Steer offense was effective moving the ball last week. Running back Monte Anderson ran for 126 yards and broke into the second-level on multiple occasions, something he had not been doing as of late.

"It was good to see him running around," Ritchey said. "We really focused on that. There have been some people that had really taken him out of games. He did make some good runs and break some tackles, and he'll certainly be a big part of this game."

While Anderson started to get on track, quarterback Tyler Tannehill had a less-than-stellar night throwing the ball. The normally efficient Tannehill, who was completing 65 percent of his passes heading into last week, finished 17 for 32

with 206 yards and two interceptions.

"We made some mistakes in every area of the passing game from the protection to the quarterback to the routes the receivers were running," Ritchey said. We had a couple times where there were two receivers right in the same area. We'll be better."

Ritchey said last week's loss took something out of the team. But he knows they can't afford to dwell on it.

"We were very disappointed in last week," he said. That was a tough loss. We played hard and our kids put a lot of effort into that game, and we wanted to win it bad.

"Our kids understand that district's over. It's time to move on, we're in a new season now and it's just like starting over. Whether we won or lost last week, this is a new season and we'll take it just like that."

## BUFFALOES

Continued from 1B

Stanton (5-5, 3-2) will have to play great defense on Friday against Van Horn's (7-3, 3-1) wing-T offense. The game will start at 7:30 p.m. in Fort Stockton.

"They've got some good speed, and they do a good job in the wing-T trying to get to the edge," Peterson said. "We're going to have to do a better job of containing that speed. We've seen some throughout the year with Iraan using their speed and Seagraves using their speed."

"I feel very confident with our ability to stop the run up the middle. The outside edge is where our priority is. We've been working on that all week."

On offense, Peterson said he knows the Bulldogs don't jump out on paper.

"One of the things that a lot of people look at our stats and don't realize is that our offense is set up by our defense and our special teams," he said. "We've done such a great job in our special teams game and on defense that we're not having to drive the field every time we get it."

After a 19-10 loss to Sundown last Friday, Peterson said the team is ready for this week.

"The loss probably fuels us to concentrate better on some things and do things better," he said. "We looked at those in the film session and talked about how we can't have those types of mistakes in the future."

"It was a good learning experience for us."

## BEARKATS

Continued from 1B

making good reads, he's scrambling well, avoiding the rush and finding an open receiver when he is getting pressured."

The Bearkat offense has been on fire this season. But Jones says the strength of his team is on the other side of the ball.

"Our defense has been really outstanding. It's probably been the best defense in the four years that I've been here," he said. "We're playing really good team defense, and I just can't say enough about how well

they're playing."

This season has been a good one for Jones and the Bearkats so far. But their season is far from over yet.

"Our first goal was to win district, and our second goal was to go as far as we could go," he said. "We did an outstanding job winning, and now we're taking them one game at a time and trying to get to that next level."

"This year has been even more special because they have come so far since that very first game. They've gotten so much better every week, and just to watch them progress has really been outstanding."

**Pick up Sunday's Herald for a playoff recap**

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*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.

Individual/Family     Civic/church/school  
 Commercial     Industrial     Mounted

Mail, fax or hand deliver to:  
 Parade Committee  
 Big Spring Herald  
 PO Box 1431  
 710 Scurry  
 Big Spring, TX 79721  
 Fax (432) 264-7205  
 E-mail: advertising@bigspringherald.com



# Perry encounters string of setbacks

**KELLEY SHANNON**

AP Political Writer

AUSTIN — What should be Gov. Rick Perry's time to shine and shore up support for an unprecedented third term has turned lately into a series of missteps and accidents that are rare for such an experienced politician.

Whether they are coincidences, a show of uncharacteristic sloppiness by the Perry campaign or spin from the opposition, they seem to have given at least a temporary boost to challenger U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, whose aides note every Perry setback.

"It's like when it rains it pours," said Bill Miller, a consultant who works for neither candidate but whose company's political arm has contributed to Perry. He called Perry's recent problems a "plague of bad incidents" but said they don't signal a breakdown in Perry's usually disciplined campaign. "It kind of raises questions, and, really, the beneficiary is always the opponent."

Last month, Hutchison staffers videotaped the governor appearing to question whether Texas is in a recession. Perry says the

quip, designed to get a laugh from a crowd of suburban Houston business leaders, was taken out of context when the Hutchison camp circulated it on YouTube.

Two weeks ago, his big campaign Web announcement fell prey to a technology meltdown, and many supporters couldn't tune in to watch; the Perry campaign says it was the work of a politically motivated computer hacker and the FBI is investigating.

And Perry's apparent attempts to keep his appointees in line during the campaign has been seen as heavy-handed. Perry drew criticism for replacing university regents who supported Hutchison and for replacing members of a forensic science commission who were about to examine evidence that suggests Texas may have executed an innocent man on Perry's watch.

In a glaring slap at Perry, the Texas Farm Bureau last week toured the state with Hutchison endorsing her and chiding Perry for his Trans-Texas Corridor toll road network and for failing to protect property rights.

Perry's campaign denies he's

lost any ground.

"If this is a football game, 32-1 would be a blowout," said Perry spokesman Mark Miner, referring to Perry's endorsements from business groups and social conservatives.

Miner said Hutchison had disappointing months in the spring and summer when she didn't offer "one new policy initiative." Now, he said, "you have a campaign, the senator's campaign, demonstrating that they'll do anything at any cost to try to win the election."

Hutchison's campaign said the governor has only himself to blame.

"I think he is an unbelievably arrogant person. And when you are as arrogant as Rick Perry is, you are prone to say and do very flippant things," said Hutchison campaign manager Terry Sullivan. "Now they're being held accountable for what they say and what they do."

At least in public, Perry doesn't appear to let a setback get him down for long. He is known to sometimes chew out an aide over a mistake, but he also gives pep talks to staffers.

# Texas motorists could face higher fuel taxes

EL PASO (AP) — Some legislators concerned about how to pay for new highways in Texas have suggested considering an increase in the 20 cents-a-gallon state fuel tax.

Members of the Texas Senate Transportation Committee, who convened in El Paso Tuesday, said money is lacking to build new roads.

"We are in the critical position in this state where we are growing and will need more roads," said the committee chairman, state Sen. John Carona. "But we have no money to build them and no more debt that we can issue."

The state fuel tax has been the same since 1991. Of the 20 cents levied on each gallon of gasoline pumped, 15 cents goes to the Texas

Department of Transportation. Motorists also pay about 18 cents a gallon in federal taxes. However, motorists aren't filing up as often as before, said Amadeo Saenz, TxDOT's executive director. He added that hybrid cars also reduce the amount of fuel tax revenue.

If those trends continue and the Legislature refuses to change the fuel tax rate, the department will have only enough money to maintain existing roads, Saenz said.

"We'd be able to finish the projects that have already been funded, but no new dollars for construction will come our way," he said.

Some suggest allowing municipal and county governments the option of levying a temporary local fuel tax for new projects.

# DINING AROUND TOWN

Taste-test these local restaurants for a variety of great food.

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Checks Not Accepted  
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Tuesday Thru Saturday 11 am-1:30 pm & 5 pm-8:30 pm

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★ BRISKET  
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★ SAUSAGE  
★ RIBS  
★ HAMBURGERS  
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5 PM - 8 PM  
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• Daily Lunch Specials  
• Soup, Salads & Sandwiches  
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Saturday 12 Noon to 7 pm

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GOOD FOOD + GOOD FRIENDS + GOOD TIMES  
Mon. Thru Thur. ~ 6:30 am to 2 pm  
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Drive In - 2010 Scurry St.  
267-2851

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1-432-517-4901  
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Saturday  
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**3302 CORNELL,** Friday 8-3 and Saturday 8-12. Sold camp trailer. Must sell all contents. Household items, clothes, toys, daybed & linens, vacuum, small roll top desk and more.

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**HUGE FAMILY** Garage Sale: 114 Ash, Coahoma. Saturday 8-5. Wurlitzer piano, peddler sewing machine, fabric, rocking chairs, christmas decorations, luggage. Too much to list.

**HUGE GARAGE/Multi.** Family Sale: 4th & Aylsford. Friday & Saturday 8:30-5:00 & Sunday 10:00-5:00. Toys, Christmas items, antiques, collectibles, jewelry, very nice household items, tools. Come See. Too much to list.

**MOVING SALE:** 600 Baylor, Saturday 8-? Harley parts. Too much to list. Come See.

**SALE:** 701 Highland Drive, Saturday 8am-11am. No Early Birds Please. Craftsman 220 welder, new wood burning stove, Victorian sofa, home decor; wood corner computer desk, miscellaneous.

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**MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN** for new 100+ unit community in Big Spring. Applicant must have strong organizational skills and enjoy working outdoors. Ability to work independently with minimal supervision. Part-time maintenance also needed. Experience preferred but not required. Hourly plus benefits medical, 401K, vacation. Please fax resume to 254-793-2775. EEOC

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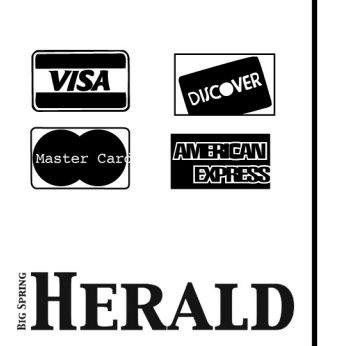
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# Texas News Briefs:

## Former Vietnam POW gets wedding ring back from Vietnamese soldier

ADDISON (AP) — It still fits.

A former Air Force pilot who spent more than seven years as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam has his wedding ring back decades after it was confiscated.

Ceremonies were held on Veterans Day in suburban Dallas to honor retired Lt. Col. James Hivner of Plano, who slipped the ring on his finger, saying "It fits, ta-dah."

His wife, Phyllis, says her spouse is the family's hero.

Hivner's plane was shot down in 1965. His captors took his wedding band and dog tags.

Retired Navy Cmdr. Rick Tolley says someone he knows was approached in Hanoi by a man who said he was retiring from the Vietnamese army.

Tolley, who helped locate Hivner, says the Vietnamese man asked that items he had been returned "with peace and respect."

## Children stabbed at Houston-area home, adult detained by police

HOUSTON (AP) — A stabbing at a home in the Houston area sent two children to a hospital.

The Harris County Sheriff's Office says an adult who allegedly had been watching the children was detained.

Lt. Jesse Inocencio says the victims, a girl who is 9 and a 10-year-old boy, had been stabbed multiple times and were transported to a hospital Wednesday night.

Names and conditions of the victims were not immediately released. The sheriff's office did not immediately return a call Thursday from The Associated Press.

## Bush to outline vision for his institute at Southern Methodist

DALLAS (AP) — Former President George W. Bush and his wife, Laura, are expected to outline their vision for the ex-president's think tank during speeches Thursday at Southern Methodist University.

Set to begin in spring 2010, the George W. Bush Institute will be part of Bush's presidential center at SMU.

The center, which includes a library, museum and archives, will become the first presidential library complex to house a policy institute.

Last week, James K. Glassman, an undersecretary of state for public diplomacy and public affairs in 2008, was named the institute's director. Then Bush said the institute will be world-class and promote policies and programs rooted in the ideals of freedom, opportunity, responsibility and compassion.

## Dallas police chief announces his retirement at press conference

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas Police Chief David Kunkle is formally announcing his retirement, saying he's leaving on his own terms.

Kunkle took over the job more than five years ago and Dallas has steadily seen crime decrease.

The Dallas Morning News reports the 59-year-old will announce Thursday during a 10 a.m. news conference that he's stepping down by April.

He says he had originally planned to retire in February but held off when asked to do so.

City Manager Mary Suhm says she's sorry to see him go. She says the nationwide search for his replacement has begun with internal candidates expected to apply.

## Dallas house fire leaves 3 dead

DALLAS (AP) — Authorities are trying to determine what sparked a house fire in Dallas that left three people dead.

Emergency officials say neighbors reported the blaze early Thursday.

The Dallas County medical examiner's office told The Associated Press that the victims were a man, a woman and a child. Names were not immediately released.

Dallas Fire-Rescue spokesman Jason Evans says the fire apparently got into a stairwell and quickly advanced to the second floor of the home in northeast Dallas.

## UNT system relocates to Dallas

DENTON (AP) — Leaders of the University of North Texas System are planning to formally announce the relocation of its governing offices from Denton to downtown Dallas.

The Dallas Morning News reports the governing offices relocated in late August to the Universities Center where an event is planned Friday evening to announce the move.

UNT officials say the move was designed to create a central, neutral location for all the campuses.

The UNT System consists of the UNT campus in Denton, the UNT Health Science Center at Fort Worth, The Universities Center in Dallas and the UNT Dallas campus.

## Coast Guard rescues man off Texas coast after fall

GALVESTON (AP) — A 43-year-old man aboard a ship near the Texas coast was airlifted to a hospital after crewmembers say he sustained broken bones in a fall.

A news release from the Coast Guard says the man was airlifted from the Sicily motor vessel at about 11 a.m. Wednesday. The ship was located about 28 nautical miles southeast of Galveston.

Footage taken by the U.S. Coast Guard shows the immobilized man being hoisted into a MH-65 helicopter while on a stretcher.

The unidentified man was taken to the University of Texas Medical Branch in Houston where his condition had not been made public.

## 25 pounds of pot in fruit crate found by Texas prison guards

EDINBURG (AP) — A police department's gift of fruit to a Texas prison turned out to contain 25 pounds of marijuana.

The illegal harvest that was missed in an earlier search was discovered by inmates at the Segovia Unit unpacking the crate.

Edinburg police Chief Quirino Munoz says the fruit originally came from a produce truck that also had about 1,000 pounds of pot that was confiscated.

Loads of legitimate produce that are found to have yielded drugs are often barred from being sent on to the intended location.

Munoz says the Segovia Unit near Edinburg accepts such food donations, which are inspected by police before being sent to the prison. Munoz says this time the additional marijuana apparently was missed by officers and drug-sniffing dogs.

Prison spokesman Jason Clark says inmates who reported finding the drug were strip searched to make sure nobody kept any of the marijuana.

## Lawyer: Mental illness wore down accused mom who killed child

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Otty Sanchez got six weeks in a state mental hospital after she was found wandering around a drug store last year, shopping for an imaginary trip to China.

She got a few hours in an emergency room, then a ride home, in July as a new mom hearing dark voices.

Three-week-old Scott Wesley Buchholz-Sanchez was dead six days later, decapitated and missing fingers and toes, while police say his mother wailed about how the devil made her do it. But as Sanchez readies for her first court appearance

## BSHS

Continued from Page 3A

domestic extemporaneous and second in cross-examination debate at Midland Lee. In addition, she took home the

top cross-examination speaker award at Midland High.

Following are BSHS results from the Midland Lee and Midland High tournaments:

Midland Lee results:

Andrew Lewis, third, domestic extemporaneous; Danielle Freeman, sixth, original oratory; Bianca Mancha, second, humorous interpretation and sixth in

prompt speaking; Shawn Adams and Opal Gonzales first, public forum debate (Gonzales was also named outstanding public forum debate speaker.)

Midland High Results:

Andrew Lewis, second in Student Congress and fourth in Domestic extemp; Danielle Freeman, fourth, foreign extemp; Lewis and Freeman, third, cross examination debate; Bianca Mancha, second in humorous interpretation; Opal Gonzales, third, Student Congress; Gonzales and Shawn Adams, first in public forum debate; and Bianca Mancha and Caleb Pirkel, second, public forum debate.

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

# Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

## Voyage of Discovery

East dealer.

East-West vulnerable.

**NORTH**

♠ K 10 7 2

♥ A 9 5

♦ K J 6

♣ Q J 3

**WEST**

♠ J 8 6 3

♥ 7 2

♦ 7 5

♣ 10 9 8 7 4

**EAST**

♠ 4

♥ 10 8 6 4 3

♦ 9 8 4 3 2

♣ 6 2

**SOUTH**

♠ A Q 9 5

♥ K Q J

♦ A Q 10

♣ A K 5

The bidding:

East South West North

Pass 3 NT Pass 7 NT

Opening lead — ten of clubs.

A player doesn't often get the chance to bid seven notrump at his very first turn, but that's what happened to North on this deal. Considering the circumstances, though, he was on very firm ground. South's three-notrump bid indicated 25 to 27 high-card points, which in turn meant that the most East-West could

have was one point, so North could hardly have done less than raise to seven.

West led the ten of clubs, and South could see at once that he had 12 absolutely sure tricks, with a probable 13th in spades.

But since either opponent might have been dealt four (or five) spades to the jack — which could easily be overcome if declarer knew which opponent had the spade length — South had to play carefully. He began by cashing three club tricks, learning that West had started with five cards in that suit.

Then, continuing the exploratory process, South next cashed three heart tricks and three diamond tricks, revealing in the process that West had been dealt exactly two hearts and two diamonds. These developments proved conclusively that West had started with four spades.

Accordingly, South next played the A-Q of spades, East showing out, as expected, on the second spade. It was then a simple matter to lead another spade toward dummy and score the K-10 to bring in the grand slam.

Tomorrow: Test your play.

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**Annie's Mailbox**

**Dear Annie:** My parents had been married 25 years when my father died at age 45. With her world crashing down around her, Mom began drinking. Dad has been gone six years, and my mother has become a full-blown alcoholic.

Mom is a mean and hateful drunk. Worse, she gets behind the wheel of her car and doesn't remember things afterward. I'm scared she is going to hurt herself or someone else.

I know she is stronger than she is choosing to be, but how do I help her realize that?

She reads your column, and I hope if you print this, she will recognize herself and know I love her and want to keep her around longer. — *Worried Daughter in Homosassa, Fla.*

**Dear Worried:** Loving her is not enough. Alcoholism is a disease. Mom must want to stop

and take the steps to do so.

You should contact Al-Anon (al-anon.ala-teen.org) at 1-800-4AL-ANON (1-800-425-2666) for support and information.

More importantly, you need to notify the police that she is driving drunk. You have an obligation to protect others from your mother's reckless behavior, and if it means she gets arrested, so be it.

It could save her life and the lives of innocent people on the road.

**Dear Annie:** My friend "Lucy" was like a sister to me. She doesn't drive, so I took her to all her hair appointments, doctor's visits, shopping, etc. She hated bad weather, so when it rained, I would sit with her.

After her surgeries, I was the one who stayed overnight, helped her bathe and did her housework.

I let it pass when she complained about the way I hung the toilet paper and said I didn't know how to properly fold a blanket.

I have a chronic pain illness, which Lucy has never acknowledged. Recently, she was angry when I went out with friends from my support group and accused me of not caring about her.

She yelled that I never took her anyplace. Later that day, my husband was admitted to the hospital, and Lucy never once called to see how he was.

My grandson moved in last week, and when Lucy didn't recognize



KATHY MITCHELL  
MARCY SUGAR

his car, she started rumors that we must be taking in boarders.

She did e-mail to say her door is always open, but there was no apology. I no longer feel welcome around her.

Still, I miss the friendship I thought we had, even though it was apparently one-sided. How do I get over this? — **Hurt and in Pain**

**Dear Hurt:** Lucy is one of those people who thinks the world revolves around her. This makes her a selfish friend, but it doesn't mean you can't periodically enjoy her company.

If you want the friendship, you have to under-

stand its limitations. Don't put yourself out so much, and don't expect anything in return.

We think, however, that you ought to make an effort to find new friends who know how to reciprocate.

**Dear Annie:** I do not agree with your advice to "Stewing in the West," whose sister-in-law left money after a visit. She should not send the money back.

Many years ago, my father sent a very generous Christmas check to me, and the same to my three brothers.

I knew how limited his income was so I returned the check with a kind note. His feelings were hurt, and he returned it to me.

Who was I to tell him what he could or couldn't do with his money?

It's rude to return a gift. "Stewing" should appreciate her generous

sister-in-law and hope she comes to visit again soon. I learned just to say thank you graciously. — *Been There*

**Dear Been:** There is a huge difference between parents giving their children money as a Christmas gift and guests leaving a "tip," especially if it insults the hostess. But you are right that things that cannot be changed should be accepted graciously.

*Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.*

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**Tomorrow's Horoscope**

In the early part of the day, it may seem that the magnificent offering called "life" is not quite up to our standards. Then again, only a fool looks a gift horse in the mouth. Try not to be so picky, and the day will get better. The evidence that life is good will begin to stack up, and by the afternoon, there is too much of it to deny. Be happy!

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You may be temporarily denied the thing you want. What's important here is to trust that you're on the path you were meant for. Your day is coming, with celebration and awards, too!

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). An unexpected travel opportunity materializes out of nowhere. You may not be going far, and this is perhaps not the destination you would have chosen, but something special is going to come out of it.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You'll have to talk yourself into an energetic state of awareness this morning. But once you get going, you are hard to stop. Schedule your important matters late in the day when you'll be on top of your game.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Life is your dart game and — gasp! — you hit the bull's eye three times in a row! That never happens. But it's going to happen yet again and much sooner than you think.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). Look for common threads in your recent

dreams. You'll remember them better than usual and with more color and clarity. There is a powerful message there just waiting for you to decipher it.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). As ball players know, putting backspin on the ball makes it hard to hit. Similarly, if you put a twist in the plot of your love life, you'll be considered exciting, unpredictable and oh so attractive.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Anyone can "bring it" when they've done their homework. But it takes confidence and pluck to come up with answers on the fly. Wing it today. The stars gift you with amazing powers of improvisation.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You've been worried about the competition, but fear not. You're inching ahead these days. And if you put just a little more

stretch in your stride, you'll be practically impossible to catch.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Someone's disappointing action reminds you of an important truth: When it comes down to it, the only actions you can control are your own. Take heart and continue to do the right thing. You'll influence others.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). If you broke it down, you would see why you are so well-liked. But you have the wisdom to leave such mysteries alone. After all, "why" isn't important. It's enough to know you are.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Big projects assume overwhelming proportions just before you set out to accomplish them. Once begun, they grow manageable, even easy, in your very capable hands.

**PISCES** (Feb.

19-March 20). Shadows grow long and large when the sun hangs low in the sky. The illusions you witness are likely to be impressive distortions. Reserve judgment for tomorrow, when you are able to see everything in a more realistic light.

**T O D A Y ' S BIRTHDAY** (Nov. 12). You will be in high demand. Because you'll be so busy, you'll need to devote some energy to finding a healthy balance between your personal and professional lives. Romantic wishes will be fulfilled in March. A move or shift in your living arrangement is featured in April. Family ties bring opportunities this summer. Aries and Leo people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 50, 2, 15, 40 and 18.

**C E L E B R I T Y PROFILES:** Wallace Shawn is a prolific actor

who often brings comedic characters to life on stage and screen. And though he's contributed lighthearted characters to popular entertainment like the television series "Gossip Girl" and the film "Clueless," Shawn has a serious side. The intensity of his natal Mercury in Scorpio is reflected in his accomplishments as a playwright of dark and political works.

*If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.*

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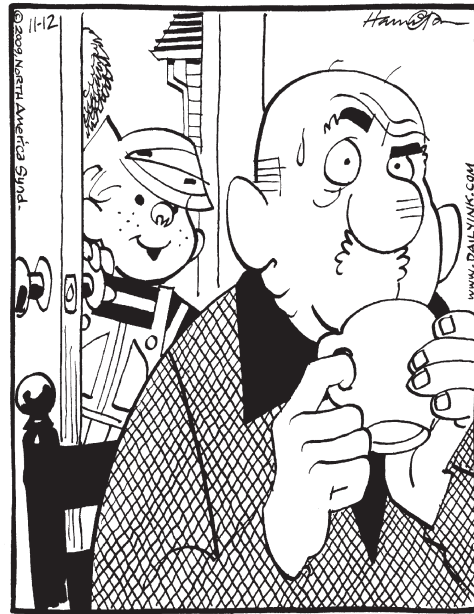
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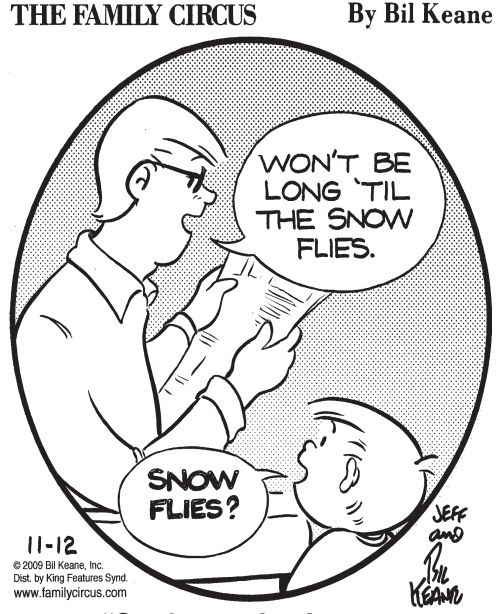
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	Dallas	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odessa	Odessa	Discovery	Classics	Spike TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports	
5 :PM	News	News	Locura	Lopez	News	Noticias	News	Seinfeld	Granger	BBC	Cash Cab	Movie: Rambo: First Blood Part II	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas	Horn	SportsCenter	
6 :PM	News	Jeopardy!	Gancho	Two Men	News	12 Cora-zones	News	Office	Brad	Business	Cash Cab	Destroyed	UFC Un-leashed	Bones	Suite Life	Interrupt	Season Preview	College Foot-ball: South Florida at Rutgers.	
7 :PM	FlashForward	FlashForward	Nombre-Amor	Bones	Survivor: Samoa	Más Sabe el Diabolo	Commun	Fam. Guy	Upd	Texas	Most Wanted	Movie: Demolition Man, Sandra Bullock	The Ultimate Fighter	NBA Basketball: Cleveland Cavaliers at Miami Heat.	Movie: Fled, Salma Hayek	Phineas	2009 World Series of Poker		
8 :PM	Grey's Anatomy	Grey's Anatomy	Sortilegio	Fringe	CSI: Crime Scn	Pobres	Office	Movie: Meet the Parents	Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	Most Wanted	Storm Chasers	TNA Wrestling	NBA Basket-ball: Suns at Lakers	Game	Phineas	MLS Soccer: Teams TBA.		
9 :PM	(:01) Private Practice	(:01) Private Practice	Rosa	The Show Friends	The Mental-ist	Victorinos	The Jay Leno Show			American Exp.	Storm Chasers	Movie: End of Days, Kevin Pollak		NBA Basket-ball: Lakers	Game	Phineas	Wizards		
10 :PM	News	News	Impacto	Raymond	News	Noticias	News	Lopez Tonight	Upd	Charlie Rose	Most Wanted			The Mo'Nique	W. Williams	Life De			
11 :PM	Insider	Jimmy Kim-mel Live	La Casa de la Risa	Law & Order: SVU	Late Late Show		Late Night-Jim	Seinfeld	Swallow	Smiley	Most Wanted			MAN	Game	Replace	Cory	SportsNation	NFL Live
12 :AM	News	Paid Prog	Torbel	King-Hill	Insider	Programa	News	Sex & World			Storm Chasers	Prisoner	UFC 105 Countdown	Inside the NBA	Movie: Fled, Salma Hayek	Kim	NASCAR		
1 :AM	Paid Prog	Paid Prog	Mujer	Paid Prog	Entertain	Pagado	Poker After Dark	Lopez Tonight	Light of the Southwest		Cash Cab	Movie: Demolition Man, Sandra Bullock	Movie: JCVD	Cold Case	Emperor Dragon	Racing:			

**DENNIS THE MENACE**



"I'M BACK, MR. WILSON. I DECIDED TO FORGIVE YOU FOR BEING GROUCHY EARLIER."

**THE FAMILY CIRCUS**

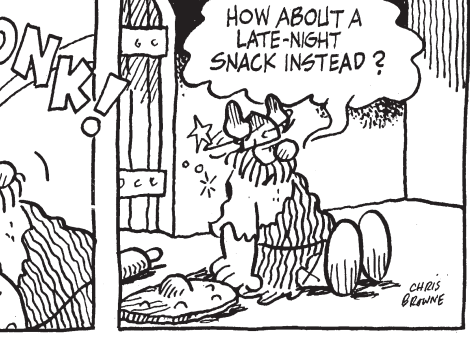


"So they only show up in the winter?"

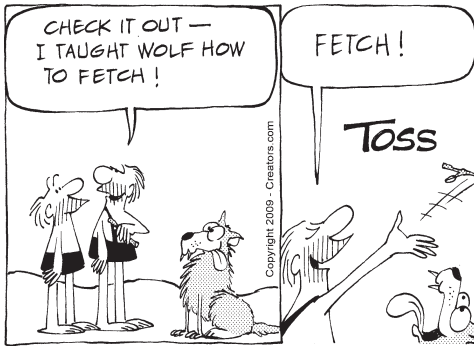
**HAGAR**



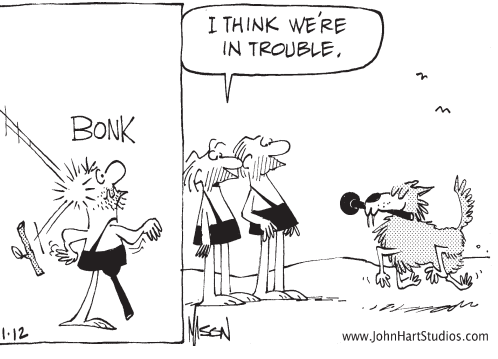
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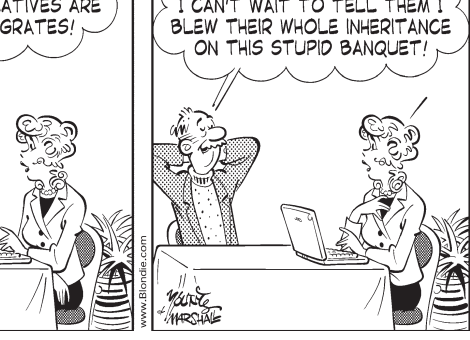
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**BONK**



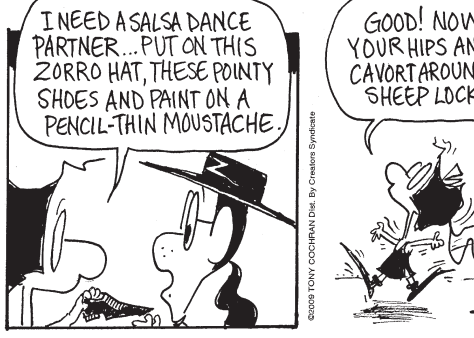
**AGNES**



**HI AND LOIS**



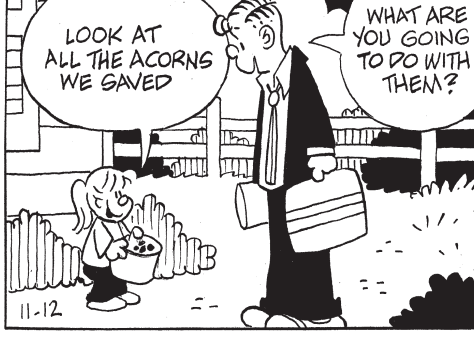
**THE OTHER COAST**



**AGNES**



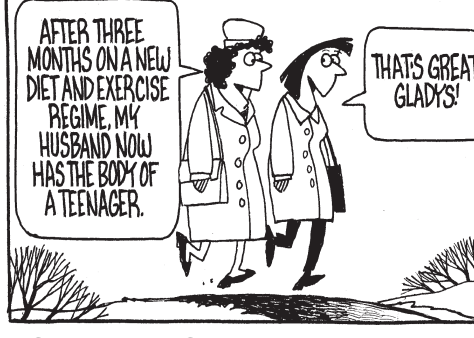
**HI AND LOIS**



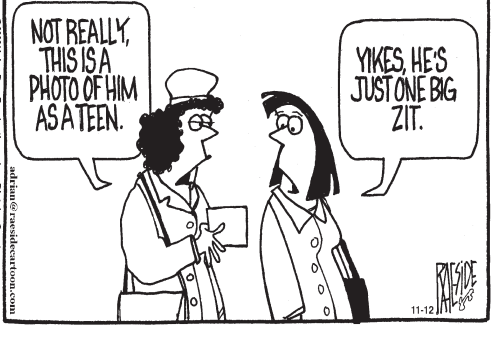
**THE OTHER COAST**



**SNUFFY SMITH**



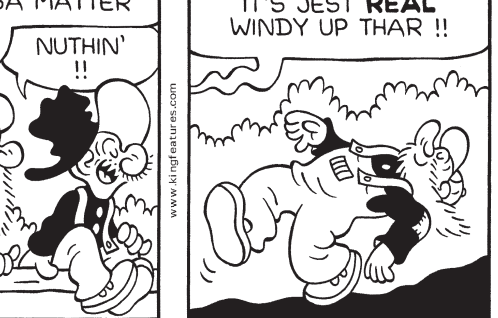
**BEETLE BAILEY**



**SNUFFY SMITH**



**BEETLE BAILEY**



**BEETLE BAILEY**



**BEETLE BAILEY**



**This Date In History**

Today is Thursday, Nov. 12, the 316th day of 2009. There are 49 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 12, 1942, the World War II naval Battle of Guadalcanal began. (The Allies ended up winning a major victory over the Japanese.)

On this date:

In 1815, American suffragist Elizabeth Cady Stanton was born in Johnstown, N.Y.

In 1908, Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmun was born in Nashville, Ill.

In 1927, Josef Stalin became the undisputed ruler of the Soviet Union as Leon Trotsky was expelled from the Communist Party.

In 1948, former Japanese premier Hideki Tojo and several other World War II Japanese leaders were sentenced to death by a war crimes tribunal.

In 1977, the city of New Orleans elected its first black mayor, Ernest "Dutch" Morial,

the winner of a runoff.

In 1982, Yuri V. Andropov was elected to succeed the late Leonid I. Brezhnev as general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee.

In 1984, space shuttle astronauts Dale Gardner and Joe Allen snared a wandering satellite in history's first space salvage; the Palapa B2 satellite was secured in Discovery's cargo bay for return to Earth.

In 1990, Japanese Emperor Akihito formally assumed the Chrysanthemum Throne.

In 1996, a Saudi Boeing 747 jetliner collided shortly after takeoff from New Delhi, India, with a Kazak Ilyushin-76 cargo plane, killing 349 people.

In 2001, American Airlines Flight 587, en route from New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport to the Dominican Republic, crashed after takeoff, killing 265 people.

Today's Birthdays: R&B singer Ruby Nash Curtis (Ruby and the Romantics) is 70. Actor-playwright Wallace Shawn is 66. Singer Brian Hyland is 66. R&B singer Jimmy Hayes (Persuasions) is 66. Rock musician Booker T. Jones (Booker

T. & the MGs) is 65. Sportscaster Al Michaels is 65. Singer-songwriter Neil Young is 64. Rock musician Donald "Buck Dharma" Roeser (Blue Oyster Cult) is 62. Sen. Jack Reed, D-R.I., is 60. Country/gospel singer Barbara Fairchild is 59. Actress Megan Mullally is 51. Actor Vincent Irizarry ("All My Children") is 50. Olympic gold medal gymnast Nadia Comaneci is 48. Actor Sam Lloyd is 46. Rock musician David Ellefson is 45. Former baseball player Sammy Sosa is 41. Figure skater Tonya Harding is 39. Actress Radha Mitchell is 36. Actress Lourdes Benedicto is 35. Actress Tamala Jones is 35. Actress Angela Watson is 35.

Answer to previous puzzle

S	T	E	M	C	O	L	A	S	S	T	A	G							
T	I	D	E	A	D	O	P	T	H	U	L	A							
A	B	E	L	T	I	A	R	A	O	R	E	S							
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E	L	K	S		T	E	E	M	S		T	A	L	E					

**Newsday Crossword**

**WARNING SIGNS** by Merle Baker

- Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com
- ACROSS**
- 1 It's used at Gallaudet U.
  - 4 Steering system part
  - 10 Area meas.
  - 14 Luau dish
  - 15 Extras
  - 16 Be a crybaby
  - 17 PC key
  - 18 Warning sign
  - 20 Encouraging words
  - 22 Multi-volume ref.
  - 23 Legal claims
  - 24 Warning sign
  - 28 *The Price Is Right* host
  - 29 Soft-soap
  - 30 Code or colony preceder
  - 31 Former surgeon general
  - 33 \_\_\_-locka, FL
  - 36 Warning sign
  - 40 Menu phrase
  - 41 Bridge fee
  - 42 *Le déjeuner sur l'herbe* painter
  - 43 \_\_\_ Bator
  - 45 Helping hand
  - 46 Warning sign
  - 50 Moral precept
  - 52 Gridiron gains: Abbr.
  - 53 Distinctive character
  - 54 Warning sign
  - 58 \_\_\_ favor
  - 59 Buck ending
  - 60 Consecrate
  - 61 Wine cask
  - 62 Part of USLTA
  - 63 Doctrines
  - 64 Photo \_\_\_ (PR events)
- DOWN**
- 1 On different sides
  - 2 Photovoltaic device
  - 3 Baltic country
  - 4 Profs' helpers
  - 5 Foolish behavior
  - 6 Gardener's tool
  - 7 Concerto finale, often
  - 8 "\_\_\_ Clear Day..."
  - 9 High-speed connection, for short
  - 10 Mythical riddler
  - 11 *Caine* captain
  - 12 Caramel-topped dessert
  - 13 Turner et al.
  - 19 *Inter* \_\_\_ (among other things)
  - 21 Discard
  - 25 Sort of seaweed
  - 26 Unhappy look
  - 27 Last year's frosh
  - 30 Free TV spot
  - 31 Swedish coin
  - 32 *Thimble Theatre* character
  - 33 Admitted
  - 34 Influential associates
  - 35 ABA member
  - 37 Abbr. in a listing
  - 38 Mideast leader
  - 39 Gymnast Comaneci
  - 43 Perfect agreement
  - 44 President Walesa
  - 45 Not here
  - 46 "This boggles my mind!"
  - 47 Fishline material
  - 48 Bauer of clothing
  - 49 Brings in
  - 50 Carrier to Tel Aviv
  - 51 One-third of a 1970 war-film title
  - 55 Feedback bit
  - 56 French article
  - 57 ACLU concerns

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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62					63						64	

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