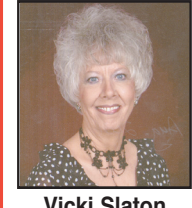




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Bebe McCasland's column is on Page 5

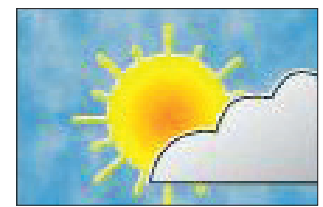


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HIGH BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY

NOVEMBER 24, 2009



VOLUME 104, NUMBER 304

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Local man charged in robberies

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer
 A Big Spring man is in the custody of the Howard County Jail today, facing several counts of aggravated robbery, including the gunpoint robbery of a local woman in a church parking lot Sunday evening, according to local



Castillo

law enforcement officials. Ricardo Castillo, 31, was arrested at his home at 5 p.m. Monday in the 800 block of E. 14th Street, according to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the Big

Spring Police Department. "Investigators with the BSPD and the Howard County Sheriff's Office made an arrest in a string of recent robberies," said Everett. "The suspect was charged with three robberies in Big Spring, including the robbery Sunday where the victim was held up at gunpoint while leaving a

church in the 2100 block of Lancaster. "He's also been charged with the Nov. 11 aggravated robbery of Sun Laundry, located in the 1500 block of Lancaster, and the Nov. 16 robbery of an 84-year-old male victim at his residence." According to police reports, a man matching Castillo's

description attempted to take the 54-year-old woman's purse at gunpoint in the parking lot of the Iglesia Bautista Central church. The woman began frantically honking her car's horn, drawing a pair of men from the church to her rescue. The two men chased

See **ARREST**, Page 3

Outdoor burning banned

Commissioners give OK on effort to curb fires

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer
 County commissioners approved a 90-day burn ban Monday in hopes of staving off the recent increase in grass and wild fires in and around the Howard County area, a measure that could carry heavy fines for violators, according to local fire officials. The ban — which is identical to the burn ban that was issued in January and lapsed in April — is necessary, thanks to a drastic increase in the amount of dead grass and brush, according to Howard County Volunteer Fire Chief Tommy Sullivan. "Since we had our first hard freeze of the season, all of the grass and brush that was green is now brown, so we've



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Ada Lafler, coordinator for the Salvation Army Angel Tree program, left, and Bessie Flores set up a tree for the annual holiday program in the entranceway of the Big Spring Herald Monday. The program collects toys and holiday gifts for area low-income children and seniors.

Cheshire to be honored with reception today at Hangar 25 Air Museum

Edgar Cheshire, Hangar 25 Air Museum's Veteran of the Month for November, will be honored during a reception at 6 p.m. today in the hangar Briefing Room. The public is invited. Refreshments will be served. Cheshire served in the U. S. Army during Desert Storm. He was awarded a Non-Aircrewman Badge, a National Defense medal and a Libertation of Kuwait medal. For information on the reception or about Hangar Air 25 Air Museum and its programs or services, call 264-1999.

Entities closing for Thanksgiving holidays

Several governmental and education offices will shut down for the Thanksgiving holiday, officials announced. City of Big Spring non-emergency services, including the landfill and compost, will be closed Thursday and Friday. There will be no sanitation pickups those days. Emergency services, such as police, fire department and Emergency Medical Services, will provide normal operations. Howard County non-emergency offices will close for the holiday at 3 p.m. and will remain closed until the following Monday. Emergency services will be unaffected. Big Spring Independent School District students received an elongated Thanksgiving holiday this year. Classes were dismissed Friday and will not resume until Monday. Coahoma and Forsan school districts will both release students for the holiday Wednesday — Forsan will dismiss classes at noon, while Coahoma will release its students a half-hour later. Both districts will resume classes Monday. Howard College dismissed classes Monday and will not resume instruction until next Monday.

Neugebauer files legislation on behalf of O'Brien project

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer
 Legislative efforts to rename the local VA Medical Center after Medal of Honor recipient George H. O'Brien Jr. are picking up steam. U.S. Rep. Randy Neugebauer (R-Texas) introduced HR 4150 Monday, calling for the local VAMC in honor of O'Brien. "George H. O'Brien, Jr.'s selfless service in the Unites States Marine Corps, and around the Big Spring community, makes him a true hometown hero and an example of the high caliber of people who hail from West Texas and the Big Coun-

try," Neugebauer said. "I will be working with my colleagues, including Senator (John) Cornyn, to get this well-deserved tribute to O'Brien passed through Congress. While we can never fully repay O'Brien for his sacrifices, it is my hope that naming the VA medical center after him will serve as a reminder of his wartime service as well as his avid support for his fellow veterans," the congressman added. Cornyn (R-Texas) introduced a bill in Congress earlier this month to rename the local VAMC as the George H. O'Brien Jr. Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Cen-

ter. O'Brien, a long-time Big Spring resident and graduate of Big Spring High School, received the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military honor, for valor shown while serving with the U.S. Marines during the Korean War. O'Brien, a 1944 Big Spring High School graduate, served in the U.S. Merchant Marines from 1944 to 1946, then enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserves in 1949. He was ordered to active duty in 1951 and soon saw action in Korea. At the Battle for the Hook on

See **O'BRIEN**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Alex Wendell Fry

Alex Wendell Fry, 85, died Monday, Nov. 23, 2009, at an Abilene medical center.

Born in Kent County, Alex was the son of Esther (Cobb) and Albert Alexander Fry. After graduation from Spur High School in 1942, he served in the U.S. Navy on the U.S.S. Beckham during World War II. He was the recipient of the Asiatic Pacific — 2 Stars, American Area and Victory Ribbon. He was a cowboy and rancher, having worked on various ranches including The Pitchfork and The Spur Ranch. He moved from Kerrville to Abilene in October of 2001.

Alex was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers, A.T. Fry, Thedford Fry and Dale Fry; and two sisters, Adrian Fry and Lucille Smith.

Alex is survived by his wife, Janet Fry of Buffalo Gap; children, Tammy Halfmann and husband, Butch of Garden City, Kay Gilstrap and husband, Stephen, and Patricia Smith, all of Midland, and special son, Dr. Norm Poorman and wife, Angel, of Abilene. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Marianne Halfmann, Alex Clay Halfmann, Suzanne McGloughlin, Jason Smith, Dustin Smith, Hunter Poorman and Hayden Poorman; stepchildren, Hal and Deb Poorman and Sam and Mo Poorman, all of Kerrville, Tonja Griffin and Mary Jane Poorman of Houston, and Van and Irma Poorman of Katy; 11 stepgrandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Survivors also include one sister, Nada Ivy and husband, Grady, of Powell, Wyo.; two brothers, Bill Fry and wife, Tennie, and Mack Fry and wife, Sharon, all of Lubbock; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins, including one special nephew and friend, Sonny Fry, and his wife, Jody.

Visitation in Abilene will be from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Tuesday at The Hamil Family Funeral Home, 6449 Buffalo Gap Road. Visitation will be held in Garden City from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2009, at the First Baptist Church of Garden City prior to the funeral service at 2 p.m. Burial will follow in the Garden City Cemetery, directed by The Hamil Family Funeral Home.

Pallbearers will be Butch Halfmann, Stephen Gilstrap, Alex Clay Halfmann, Jason Smith, Dustin Smith, Dr. Norm Poorman and Sam McGloughlin. Honorary pallbearers will be Sonny Fry, Buck Craft, Royce "Booger" Pruitt, Vernon Gill, David Fry and James Cypert.

Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, North Central Texas Chapter, 301 S. Pioneer Drive, Suite 105, Abilene 79605.

Online condolences may be posted at www.HamilFamilyFuneralHome.com.

Paid obituary

Jim G. Burt

Jim G. Burt, 85, of Big Spring died Monday, Nov. 23, 2009, in a local hospital. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 27, 2009, at Trinity Baptist Church with Dr. Randy Cotton and the Rev. Joey Bacon officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

He was born March 22, 1924, in Snyder and married Mary Frances Sheid on Feb. 28, 1946, in Snyder.

Jim attended Texas A&M until World War II started. He then served as a tail-gunner in a B-26 in the European Theater, assigned to the 387th Bomb Group, 559th Bomb Squadron. He was captured when his plane was shot down over Bastogne, Belgium, on Dec. 23, 1944, and was taken prisoner by the Germans. He remained there until the end of the war when General Patton came through and released the compound. He returned home and continued in the Air Force, having been stationed in Panama, North Carolina, Florida and back to Texas, until he was medically retired from the Air Force as a warrant officer.

He came to Big Spring and worked at Webb Air Force Base and raised his family. He was a cowboy at heart. He raised, traded and trained horses. He worked for several ranches and shared his passion for horses with his children and grandchildren. He was a member of Trinity Baptist Church, the Masonic Lodge No. 1260 in San Angelo and numerous military organizations. He loved the Lord, his family, his pastor and his church.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Burt of Big Spring; one daughter and son-in-law, Dawn and Randy Faulkner of Waco; one son and daughter-in-law, Scott and Debbie Burt of Big Spring; five grandchildren, Stephanie Fryar, Callie Green and husband, Josh, Chance Wagoner, LeDawn Liles and husband, Josh, and Codye Weaver and husband, Matt; two great grandsons, Boston Scott Green and Jaxson Tyler Green; a sister, Peg York of Fort Sumner, N.M.; and numerous nieces, nephews and a host of friends.

The family suggests memorials to the Trinity Baptist Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 1448, Big Spring 79721-1448.

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

Paid obituary

Gerald Dee Quillin

Gerald Dee Quillin, 69, of Big Spring, formerly of Seminole died Sunday, Nov. 22, 2009, in Big Spring. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2009, at Community Chapel in Seminole with Bobby Bates of the United Pentecostal Church of Seminole officiating. Burial will be at Gaines County Cemetery in Seminole.

He was born March 16, 1940, in Cameron to Erma and A.D. Quillin. He grew up in Seminole and lived there all of his life until moving to Big Spring two years ago. He was parts manager at Hicks Farm Supply for 27 years, retiring in 2005. He was a Baptist.

He is survived by three daughters, Sarena James and husband, Curtis, of Big Spring, Tracie Quillin of Seminole and Sonya Owens of Kermit; seven grandchildren; five great grandchildren; two sisters, Carolyn Goss of Lexington, Okla., and Rosalind Clark of Denver City; and one brother, Karlos Quillin of Seminole.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Barbara Quillin; and two grandchildren.

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

Joe Dean Beesinger

Funeral services for Joe Dean Beesinger, 80, of Levelland are set for 2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2009, at Cactus Drive Church of Christ with Wayne Horton officiating. Burial will follow in the City of Levelland Cemetery under the direction of George Price Funeral Home. He died Sunday, Nov. 22, 2009, at University Medical Center in Lubbock. The family will receive visitors from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 24, 2009, at the funeral home.

Joe was born to Raymond and Lavelle Beesinger on March 29, 1929, in Lubbock. He attended Lubbock High School and graduated from South Plains College. He

married Elda B. Waldrop on Dec. 6, 1957. He was an active member of the Cactus Drive Church of Christ.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Glennis Beesinger; and a great grandchild.

He is survived by his wife, Elda Beesinger of Levelland; a son, Danny Beesinger of Dayton; three daughters, Debra Payne and Pam Sweeney, both of McKinney, and Brenda Balios of Big Spring; eight grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

To send online condolences, go to www.georgepricefunerals.com

Charles F. Callaway

Charles F. Callaway, 72, of Big Spring died Friday, Nov. 20, 2009, at his residence. Private graveside services were held Tuesday at the Texas State Veterans Cemetery in Abilene.

He was born Aug. 9, 1937, in Houston to Mamie and David Calloway. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and a retired restaurant manager.

Survivors include three children.

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

Maria Burns

Maria Burns, 65, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Nov. 24, 2009, at Hospice House in Odessa. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

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

- ERNEST CLARK, 69, transient, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.
- KIMBERLY MUNIZ, 17, of 2509 Seminole, was arrested Monday on a charge of possession of marijuana — two ounces or less.
- JAMES GREGORY JACOBS, 36, of 1903 Donley, was arrested Monday on a charge of disorderly conduct — displaying a firearm.
- DOMONIQUE WILLIAMS, 20, of 609 S. Nolan, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of assault by contact.
- ANSELMO ONTIVEROS, 23, of 4213 Hamilton, was arrested Tuesday on charges of resisting arrest and assault of a public servant.
- THEFT was reported: in the 700 block of 16th Street. In the 200 block of FM 700.
- DISORDERLY CONDUCT — DISPLAYING A FIREARM was reported in the 1900 block of Donley.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 1500 block of Sycamore.

See Page 3 for Sheriff and Fire/EMS






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Today's Weather

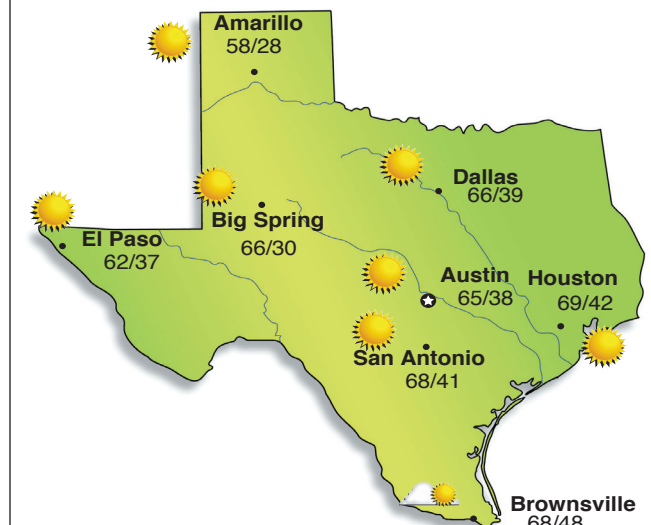
Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 11/25	Thu 11/26	Fri 11/27	Sat 11/28	Sun 11/29
 66/30 Sunny skies. High 66F. Winds SW at 5 to 10 mph.	 66/37 A few clouds. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the upper 30s.	 67/41 Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the low 40s.	 71/43 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 40s.	 64/37 Few showers. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the upper 30s.
Sunrise: 7:24 AM Sunset: 5:42 PM	Sunrise: 7:25 AM Sunset: 5:42 PM	Sunrise: 7:26 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:27 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:28 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM



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Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	66	34	sunny	Kingsville	70	45	mst sunny
Amarillo	58	28	sunny	Livingston	67	37	sunny
Austin	65	38	sunny	Longview	65	39	sunny
Beaumont	68	41	sunny	Lubbock	64	28	sunny
Brownsville	68	48	pt sunny	Lufkin	67	37	sunny
Brownwood	68	35	sunny	Midland	66	34	sunny
Corpus Christi	69	47	mst sunny	Raymondville	70	47	mst sunny
Corsicana	65	38	sunny	Rosenberg	69	41	sunny
Dallas	66	39	sunny	San Antonio	68	41	sunny
Del Rio	68	44	sunny	San Marcos	66	38	sunny
El Paso	62	37	sunny	Sulphur Springs	65	41	sunny
Fort Stockton	66	37	sunny	Sweetwater	66	33	sunny
Gainesville	65	38	sunny	Tyler	64	38	sunny
Greenville	63	37	sunny	Weatherford	66	36	sunny
Houston	69	42	sunny	Wichita Falls	65	34	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	65	39	pt sunny	Minneapolis	38	33	mixed
Boston	55	41	cloudy	New York	56	49	cloudy
Chicago	48	35	rain	Phoenix	74	45	sunny
Dallas	66	39	sunny	San Francisco	66	44	sunny
Denver	47	31	pt sunny	Seattle	56	48	rain
Houston	69	42	sunny	St. Louis	53	36	rain
Los Angeles	78	50	sunny	Washington, DC	57	47	cloudy
Miami	80	68	rain				

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Lottery

The winning numbers in Monday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Daily 4Night" game were:
8-9-1-9

The winning numbers in Monday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Cash 5" game were:
02-03-06-10-27

The winning numbers in Monday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Two Step" game were:
03-14-19-30, Bonus: 3

The winning numbers in Monday evening's drawing of the Texas Lottery's "Pick 3 Night" game were:
9-9-1

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Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 69 inmates at the time of this report.

- RICARDO CASTILLO, 31, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of aggravated robbery (three counts).

- JAMES GREGORY JACOBS, 36, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of disorderly conduct — displaying a firearm.

- TIMOTHY RAY LUCIO, 24, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on bond revocation charges of possession of marijuana — two ounces or less and failure to identify as a fugitive from justice, and new charges of unlawful restraint and assault Class C — family violence.

- KIMBERLY LORENA MUNIZ, 17, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana — two ounces or less.

- DARYL RAY NEWBERN, 49, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- ARMANDO SOLIZ NUNEZ, 45, was arrested (arresting agency not provided) on charges of failure to identify as a fugitive from justice and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

- ANSELMO JOEL ONTIVEROS, 23, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of assault of a public servant and resisting arrest, search or transportation.

- DOMINIQUE XAVIER WILLIAMS, 20, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of assault of a household member.



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Emergency responders use the Jaws of Life to remove a woman from her vehicle following a two-car crash near the intersection of 17th Street and Scurry Monday afternoon. The driver of the pickup — along with the driver of the second vehicle, a white SUV — were both transported to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center with minor injuries.

Fire/EMS

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

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of Rockhouse Road and Nichols. Three people were

transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1200 block of E. Sixth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of 17th Street and Scurry. Two people were transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One per-

son was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 9000 block of Midway Road. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of Rickabaugh. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of Johnson. Service refused.

ARREST

Continued from Page 1

the suspect to a tan-colored, small-size pickup believed to be a Ford Ranger parked nearby.

The Nov. 16 robbery took place at a home in the 2300 block of Old Highway 80, according to Everett.

“The suspect knocked on the victim’s door and claimed he was having car problems and needed to use a telephone,” said Everett. “The victim turned to get the telephone and the suspect put a handgun to his chest and demanded money. The suspect fled the scene on foot.”

And while it appears Castillo is tied to at

least three robberies in Big Spring, the would-be stick-up man’s woes don’t end there, according to Everett.

“Later today he’s (Castillo) expected to be charged with an armed robbery that took place Sunday at a convenience store in Stanton,” said Everett. “We’re also expecting to charge him with the brutal May 29

robbery of a 67-year-old veteran. The victim was found east of town on the 11th Place extension. He had been beaten and robbed, and left on the side of the road with a broken hip.

“The BSPD and the HCSO continue the investigation and are working with Stanton authorities. Castillo remains in custody at this

time, awaiting arraignment.”

Castillo’s arrest could help the BSPD clear several of the mounting aggravated robbery reports in the Crossroads area, at least a dozen of which have been reported since Oct. 31, according to police officials.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-

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

BAN

Continued from Page 1

seen a huge increase in the fuel load out there,” said Sullivan. “And as the risk goes up, the need to hold people accountable for their actions goes up.

“People are still allowed to burn in burn barrels. They have to be barrels with no holes in them and they have to have a tight screen on them. They are also required to have a fire extinguisher or water hose, and they have to stay with the fire from the time it’s started until it’s completely out. If someone calls in and sees someone is burning, and a deputy or fire department shows up

and no one is out there watching it, that’s a violation of the burn ban and they could be fined up to \$500.”

Sullivan said the same rules apply to welders, and while a \$500 fine is nothing to scoff at, violation of the ban can get much more expensive, especially if the fire spreads beyond their property.

“If the fire gets away from them and gets onto someone’s personal property, then they will not only get a fine for failure to adhere to a burn ban, they will also be fined for reckless endangerment, which makes that fine \$1,000,” said Sullivan. “Like I’ve said, \$5 to go to the landfill is a lot easier on the wallet than a \$1,000 fine,

not to mention a lawsuit if the fire damages someone else’s property.”

County Judge Mark Barr said there are exceptions to the ban, but area residents considering burning anything outdoors should make sure they have a good reason for doing so.

“This burn ban does not prohibit outdoor burning activities related to public safety that are authorized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, firefighter training, public utility, gas lines and pipelines or the planting or harvesting of agricultural crops,” said Barr. “Also, burns that are directed by prescribed burn managers are not prohibited by the burn ban. There are some ex-

clusions from the ban. However, if you’re going to burn something, you better have a really good reason. And if anyone has any questions, they can call my office or call Tommy.”

Sullivan said the number of grass and wild fires reported in the county has already begun to climb, with no real end in sight.

“We have to deal with the fires caused by electrical lines and equipment out in the oilfield every year. We know this,” said Sullivan. “However, what makes it tough is when we have to fight the fires that could have been prevented if people had used some common sense. It’s one thing when you’re dealing

with the inevitable, it’s another when it’s simple human error.”

Sullivan said the ban will last until the last part of February, when he and commissioners will reevaluate the situation.

“If there’s no need for the ban at that time we’ll simply let it lapse,” said Sullivan. “However, that’s highly unlikely during that time of the year. We’ll just have to wait and see.”

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

O'BRIEN

Continued from Page 1

Oct. 27, 1952, O'Brien's conduct went “above and beyond the call of duty.”

According to the official Medal of Honor citation, O'Brien, then a 2nd Lieutenant, “led his men up the enemy-held hill through a virtual hail of deadly small-arms, artillery and weapon fire ... Struck down by the concussion

of grenades on three occasions ... he steadfastly refused to be evacuated for medical treatment and continued to lead his platoon for a period of nearly four hours, repeatedly encouraging his men and maintaining superb direction of the unit.”

Following his discharge from duty, O'Brien returned to West Texas to raise his family and was very active as a volunteer at the VA medical center. A statue of him was un-

veiled on the medical center grounds last November.

A renaming ceremony will be planned once the legislation is signed by President Obama, local officials said.

O'Brien also is being honored with a scholarship in his name from Texas Tech University.

The George H. O'Brien Medal of Honor Memorial Scholarship, has been initiated at Texas Tech University Alumni Association. The scholarship was established

to provide educational funding to Marines and their offspring.

Sponsors of the scholarship say that O'Brien is the only graduate of Texas Tech to receive the Medal.

Anyone interested in making a donation to the scholarship should contact the Texas Tech Alumni Association Endowment Trust, P.O. Box 45001, Lubbock 79409-5001 or call Becky North, chief financial officer for the association, at (806) 742-3641,

ext. 233.

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

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
24th & Johnson 267-8288
Mar Tina Sue Goertz Hall, 61, died Thursday. A memorial service will be held Tuesday at 2 p.m. at Myers & Smith Chapel. The Family will receive friends from 4:30 until 5:30 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.
Charles Calloway, 72, died Friday. Private graveside services were at 10 a.m. Tuesday at the Texas State Veterans Cemetery in Abilene.
Gerald D. Quillen, 69, died Sunday. Funeral Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, November 25, 2009, at Community Chapel in Seminole. Burial will be at Gaines County Cemetery in Seminole.
Maria Burns, 65, of Big Spring died Tuesday, November 24, 2009, at Hospice House in Odessa. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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EDITORIAL

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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OTHER VIEWS

Open Meetings Act doesn't need proposed change

Back in 2004, the district attorney in Brewster County indicted two members of the Alpine City Council for violating the Texas Open Meetings Act. The act, initially passed in 1967 and enhanced after the Sharpstown scandal of the early 1970s, requires that — with very limited exceptions — all meetings of a governmental body be open to the public.

The council members privately exchanged a series of e-mails discussing city business. The DA eventually dropped the indictments. But one of the members, along with a third who received immunity in the case, filed a lawsuit challenging the open meetings act as being unconstitutionally vague and stifling of free speech.

The act has been an important tool for good government in Texas. The challenge, if upheld, would have turned back the clock on transparency and accountability.

In 2006, U.S. District Judge Robert Junell ruled against the plaintiffs. "The Texas Open Meetings Act does not impede the freedom of speech," his opinion read. "The act simply requires speech to be made openly, and in the presence of interested public, as opposed to behind closed doors." In September, the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans dismissed the case.

Open government foes are now turning their sights on the Legislature. As Fred Hartman, chairman of the Texas Daily Newspaper Association, explained in a recent op-ed in the Express-News, the Texas Municipal League representing 1,100 member cities passed a resolution last month to support changes that would lessen the penalties for violations of the open meetings act.

The penalties are what make elected officials sit up and pay attention to the act's requirements. Soften the penalties and the act becomes toothless. What makes this effort more egregious, as Hartman pointed out, is that the Texas Municipal League is a lobbying organization that is funded with taxpayer dollars.

No doubt, the open meetings act creates burdensome requirements for governmental officials. How much easier it would be to make appointments and award contracts without the public's prying eyes.

Those requirements, however, are ones that good public servants should respect, not fight. The Legislature should resist any effort to change laws that have well served the cause of good government in Texas for four decades.

THE EXPRESS-NEWS
SAN ANTONIO

LETTER POLICIES

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- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
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- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we get more out of the day, Lord, by coming to You first thing in prayer.

Amen

Why be thankful in tough times?

Country western singer, Carrie Underwood, once sang about being "low on faith and gasoline." These were words from her song, "Jesus take the wheel." I remember asking Jesus to take my wheel when I lost control of my car in a snow storm several years ago. Thankfully, I believe he did as my car spun across the highway and came to rest safely against a snow bank undamaged with no one hurt. It's easy to be thankful when there is plenty to be thankful for!

But what about all the times when our life doesn't feel brimming over with blessings and faith in a brighter tomorrow is getting lower with each passing day?

It may be hard to imagine that a good dose of thankfulness could be the answer to our dwindling faith as well as the guiding light to everything we seek.

My life in my fifties is much different from what it was in my twenties. Back then, my anticipation for the future was filled only with enthusiasm, good expectations, dreams and

hopes. But getting older doesn't have the glamour it once did. Expectations have changed from longings to dread. Dreams have become fears. And hopes have become few.

Regardless of our age, our current life circumstances can be bleaker than we wish they were. When we're struggling with depleted savings, job loss, limited income, separation from family or illness, it can be hard to see the light at the end of what feels like a very dark tunnel.

Lately, I just want to be happy. I want to feel happy — today — and not worry so much about what may or may not happen in the future. Or even if some say the future is inevitable,

I don't want to worry about it! I want to live my life today and make the most of each moment.

There's one fact that I've become certain of over the years. The grateful are happy and the ungrateful are miserable. Yes, my friends, I've discovered it is impossible to feel thankful and unhappy at the same time.

Throughout my life, even in the most difficult of times, thankfulness changed my focus from what I didn't have to an appreciation for what I did. And again and again, thankfulness enabled me to discover "good" that was previously unforeseen or unpredicted.

Gratitude has always brought my focus back to present possibilities rather than speculation about an uncertain or mysterious future.

I've found that it's having a grateful heart "today" that raises hope, boosts confidence, encourages ambition, lifts self-esteem, strengthens trust and provides peace of mind for tomorrow.

And gratitude is good for you! It seems many have concluded that the healthiest human emotion is indeed gratitude. The medical profession claims gratitude increases our immunities — making us less susceptible to illness.

The sign on my desk daily instructs me, "There is always, always, always something to be thankful for."

I often need that reminder. So try a little thankfulness, my friends, and you just may find that dark tunnel you're in is suddenly brighter!

Whatever the benefits, being thankful will make you feel better. And who doesn't want to feel better — especially when dealing with tough times?

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



ANNETTE BRIDGES



Banking is us in United States

America used to make a lot of stuff. Indeed, we made much of the world's stuff. Every region of the country had its own economic engines. I went to college next to (and blessedly upwind of) a giant steel mill. Now it's a vacant hulk, except for the part that's been converted into a grand casino. But manufacturing and processing of every sort have now commonly been shifted abroad, and whatever is still made in this country is getting ready to follow. These days we're mostly a service and maintenance shop.

The two chief economic engines that have taken over our economy in 2009 are health care and banking. You may have read about them. Both have contrived elaborate systems designed to generate enormous rewards for company bosses by means of overcharging customers and other innocents. No, this approach has never been a rare bird in the United States, but these two industries have raised chiseling to championship levels.

Which of course is one reason we have a Congress, to stop such ignoble greed. Also a Federal Reserve, a Controller of the Currency, a Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, a Treasury Department, a Securities and Exchange Commission, and 50

state banking departments. This array of agencies we might collectively term as "The Kennel of the Sleeping Watchdogs." Can't you visualize the movie? Michael Moore would produce it.

The two additional snoozing hounds that are actually elected to public office are the Senate and House Banking Committees. These were recently roused from their torpor by the nagging fleas of bad publicity. It seems that debit and credit card issuers have grown so avaricious in their usury that even the press has taken note. This in turn has provoked tardy legislation that will eventually tamp down the greed a bit, but the law leaves plenty of time for the banks to ferret out new loopholes first.

Such disturbingly timid moves by Congress and our president hardly come as a shock. Perhaps Wall Street's most profitable investment ever has been to pay off politicians. Candidate campaign treasuries swell with contributions from bankers, while wing-tipped lobbyists clog up Capitol hallways. Banks also dispense tasty VIP mortgages to lawmakers and pay tidy speaking fees for congressional remarks at elegant conventions.

These doggie treats for the Watchdog Kennel have paid a handsome return. No regulator moved to pull the plug on the subprime mortgage scam; no regulator is overseeing derivatives; and no regulator is yet putting the clamps on the latest life-insurance packaging scheme. Nor, in this era of "anything

goes," when the public is clamoring for action, has President Barack Obama shown any fervor for such a course. Sure, he inherited Ben Bernanke at the Federal Reserve, but now he is reappointing him. By that simple act he is adopting the Great Recession as his own. In fact, all of Obama's financial appointees have been good old boys. The "Change You Can Believe In" turned out to be mostly fairies and leprechauns.

Unfortunately, the banking meltdown isn't over. Honest lending and honest trading are no longer looked upon as sufficient sources of investment return. Now Wall Street tries to bloat its profits with giant mergers, hedge funds, derivatives, private capital firms, and super-fast computer trades, as well as stinging customers with hidden fees and interest rates.

Maybe the whole world is like this now. I'm not sure. Or maybe the U.S. is just way out ahead. Probably the latter, world leaders that we are.

But the season may finally have arrived for a resurgence of credit unions and mutual insurance companies, and maybe for all of us to refrain from buying quite so much stuff. Remember, our greatest financial danger lies less in failed banks than in the banks that are still going great guns.

Minuteman Media columnist William A. Collins is a former state representative and a former mayor of Norwalk, Conn.

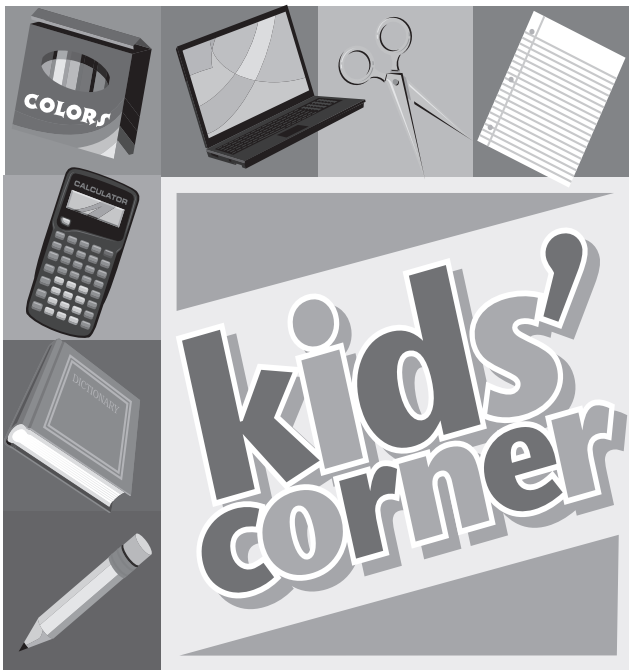
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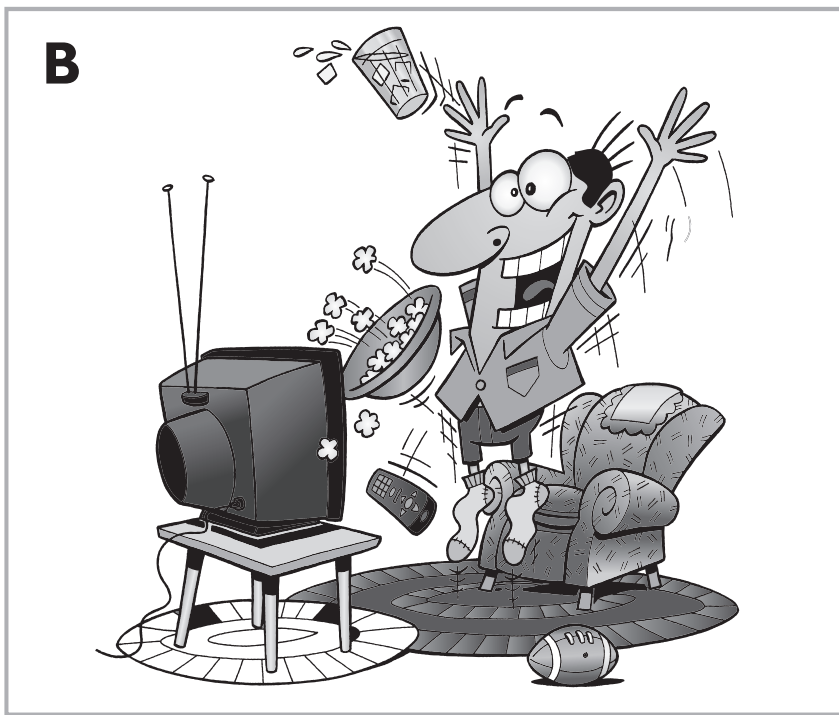
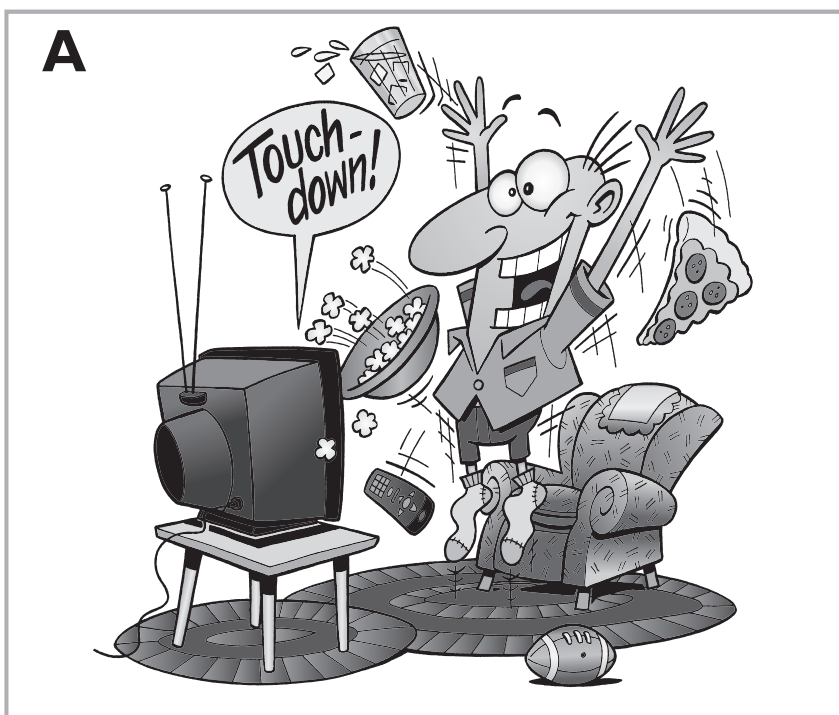
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What's the Difference?

There are 5 things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?



Answers: 1. rug under TV is different 2. man has nostril 3. man has hair 4. pizza missing 5. touch down missing

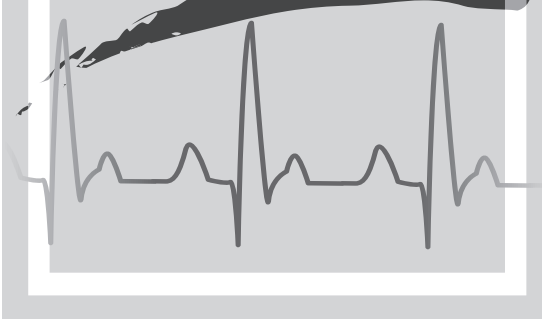
THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1936: THE FIRST ISSUE OF "LIFE" MAGAZINE WAS PUBLISHED.
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- 2003: GEORGIA PRESIDENT EDUARD SHEVARDNADZE RESIGNED.

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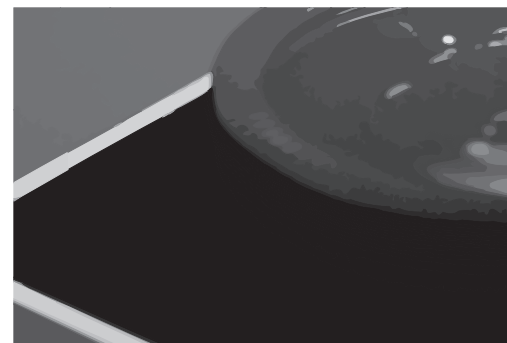
- ENGLISH:** Game
- SPANISH:** Juego
- ITALIAN:** Gioco
- FRENCH:** Jeu
- GERMAN:** Spiel

Did you know?

CROSSWORD PUZZLES CAN BE TRACED BACK TO A 1913 "WORD-CROSS" PUZZLE DEvised BY ARTHUR WYNNE.



GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: CHECKER BOARD

SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

BY BOB WEBER JR.

Rachel Rabbit reported that she saw a burglar enter her neighbor's house through a window. Rachel says the Havalina family left yesterday for a two-week vacation. Rodney Rat claims the Havalinas asked him to water their living room plants three times a week until their return. Rodney insists he climbed through the window because he lost the door key. Why doesn't Slylock Fox believe the rat?



HOW TO DRAW a pet bird

weber 11-22



YOUR DRAWING

Today's artist is Ben Sharp, age 10, of Tampa, FL

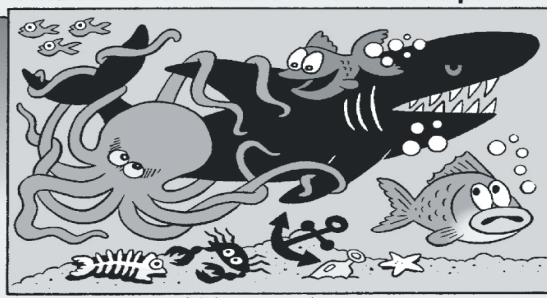


Submit your drawings at www.kidcartoonists.com

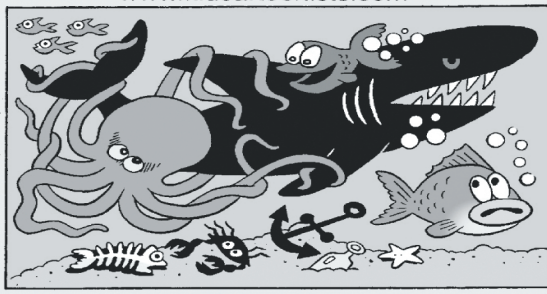
Emily asked Jacob how many jellybeans he could eat on an empty stomach. Jacob said he could easily eat 50 jellybeans on an empty stomach. Emily says that's impossible. Why?

Answer -- After Jacob eats the first jellybean his stomach is no longer empty!

Find six differences between these panels.



www.kidcartoonists.com



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Bird Poop:

Oil pit proves
deadly trap
for shoveler

Ahead, in the middle of the dusty road, stood what appeared to be a duck. "Dad burn it all," thought the man. "What's it doin' here?" Slowing his pickup to a crawl, the oilfield worker inched toward his early morning surprise. Waddling over the stubs of weeds worn down by heavy traffic, the duck continued toward the vehicle. For such a small bird, he puzzled, it "shor" has a big bill." As the man and the duck mutually agreed to stop and stare at each other, the sun's highlighting of the sheen on the bird's

feathers frightened the driver.

To keep valves and other equipment from rolling around on the floor of his truck, he had long ago confiscated a forgotten baby wrap. Even before the man grabbed the old blanket to throw over the duck, he could guess what had happened.

As he recognized the product coating the duck's plumage, he glanced toward the unit and the adjacent oil pit. Unable to fly after landing on what appeared to be another pond for an overnight stay, the duck had become coated with bottom sediment.

With the phone call during the morning came a unique description of a northern shoveler. "It's not your usual duck, Ma'am," said the man. Trying to describe the end of the black bill as the broad



A fresh water duck, the Northern shoveler derives its name from the spatulate shape of its bill. Just as a spatula is used to lift soft materials, the bill is often used to shovel or lift muddy sediment that is then filtered for the food within.

end of an oar, he added it almost looked like a scoop.

"Or a shovel?" I asked.

"You could call it that," he answered.

Knowing the gritty, oily "b.s." posed a serious threat, the man related how hard it had been to remove the product from "all those feathers." When asked what he had used, the man replied, "Hand cleaner and paper towels. That's all I had."

When I opened the front door to greet the worker and his passenger, a late December wind tried to hurry inside. Quick thinking by the employee had lessened winter's chilling effects on an overstressed victim of oilfield chemicals.

Inside a cardboard box was the northern shoveler. Even the blustery gusts swirling about our porch could not waft away a pungent odor. In trying to remove the greasy coating and grime from the drake's plumage, the man had left the

aromatic residue of the hand cleaner.

In a hurry to return to the site, he refused an offer of hot chocolate or coffee. "Not having that pit netted is gonna cause a lot of paperwork and inspections," the man said as he headed back to his truck.

As Art followed the duck and me through the house, he immediately noticed the lasting effects of the solvent. "Smells like that stuff I use to clean my hands with after working on the car."

Finding oily residue inside the bird's mouth and throat prompted us to make immediate plans for a trip to the wildlife sanctuary in Midland. Normally feeding on the surface by sifting water through tiny projections along the edges of its bill, the shoveler would have strained from the water insects, worms, small fish, tadpoles and emerging aquatic buds and shoots. Not knowing how much waste it had

swallowed was troubling.

As we finished spreading the wings and examining all of the plumage, we realized the bird's life was tenuous. Struggling to survive the damage caused by a petroleum by-product, the shoveler might also have been harmed by the solvent used to dissolve it.

As the duck lay quietly on a table, we noticed that it had nearly attained its breeding coloration, from inconspicuous to outstanding. Its glossy green head and neck, its rufous belly and sides highlighted by the white of its breast, were noticeable. The upper parts of its wings, with pale blue shoulders and iridescent green patches, would be readily seen in flight.

At the sanctuary, the tedious task of washing the remnants of oil and cleanser from the duck began. After three baths in Blue Dawn, the odorants in the hand cleaner had been overcome.

Four days later came news about the shoveler.

Although it had seemed to be recuperating from its ordeal, the duck had suddenly gone into a decline.

Rushing it to a veterinarian, the volunteer had already memorized what was going to be said. Damage from the chemicals had been destructive to the internal organs. The amounts consumed by the drake had finally exacted their toll.

No longer would the fresh water duck, when startled by hunters, rise quickly and fly straight upward from the waters it sought.

Having learned to feed at night and stay secreted during the day during that season, its sense of self-preservation had been no match for the unknown dangers of an open pit.

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

sudoku

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

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

Parent's Corner:

Continuing discussion on optimism

In a continued discussion of optimism/happiness or pessimism/hopelessness, we should look at the possible reasons and when and why people develop these characteristics.

Children ask "Why?" constantly, and are constantly listening to the explanations of

adults in their lives and mainly their parents. Thus, if the parent's style is personal and pervasive when bad events happen, the child hears and internalizes this.

Such as, "You are a bad boy!" If, on the other hand, the parent assigns specific, temporary and external causes to bad events, the child learns to internalize these statements in the same way. "That was a very bad thing you did!"

Teachers also can approach the subject in the same way. Girls are

generally more amenable to the discipline and culture of the typical elementary classroom. Boys, on the other hand, tend to be more disruptive and fidgety.

As a result, boys who fail are typically told "You weren't paying attention;" or "You didn't try hard enough;" or "You were being rowdy when I was teaching fractions."

Girls, on the other hand, often hear "You're not very good at arithmetic;" or "You always hand in sloppy papers;" or "You never check your work."

Family or personal crises during childhood, and how those crises are resolved, can shape explanatory style. Failure devastates us. All of us, upon experiencing failure will quit, at least temporarily.

Optimists bounce back and began trying almost immediately; defeat is temporary and achievement is assured.

Pessimists, on the other hand, are defined by their failures. They are a failure and there is no point in a failure continuing to try.

Often we define relative success as failure. Is it, therefore, any wonder that educators report "losing" students as they enter the later middle school years, which is approximately the same time that the natural optimism of childhood wanes?

These students are suddenly unable to cope with an environment they have been in long as they can remember. How can such a failure not be devastating?

The trick is to learn to



DARRELL RYAN

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

The Sure Road to Success

South dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ 10
 ♥ A 7
 ♦ Q 10 9 6 5 2
 ♣ K Q 8 4

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

EAST
 ♠ J 5 3
 ♥ K 10 9 6 2
 ♦ 4
 ♣ J 10 7 3

SOUTH
 ♠ 9 6 4
 ♥ Q 3
 ♦ A K J 8
 ♣ A 9 5 2

The bidding:
 South West North East
 1♦ 1♠ 2♣ Pass
 3♣ Pass 4♦ Pass
 5♦

Opening lead — king of spades.
 Assume you're declarer with the South hand at five diamonds. West leads the king of spades and shifts to the four of hearts. How would you continue?

In situations of this sort, it is important not to separate your decision on which card to play at trick two from your overall plan of play. Here, it is tempting to play low from dummy in the hope that West has led from the king.

Before doing so, however, you should first ask yourself whether

West would have led a heart if he had the king. Also, you should ask yourself whether the contract is in danger if you play low from dummy and East wins with the king. (In the actual case, you would go down one if you followed low from dummy, as you would later lose a club trick.)

Along about this time, you should come to the realization that the contract is ice-cold if you go up with the ace of hearts! So you take the ace, lead a diamond to your king, ruff a spade in dummy, lead a diamond to the ace and ruff your last spade in dummy.

You next cash dummy's king of clubs, exit with a heart and relax in the comfortable assurance that the contract is now certain regardless of where the king of hearts is located or how the clubs are divided.

Observe what happens in the actual deal: East wins the heart with the king but is stymied. He must concede a ruff-and-discard or else return a club. Either way, you avoid a club loser. (If East returns the jack or ten of clubs, you simply win with dummy's queen and finesse against East's remaining honor.)

Note that the same result would accrue if West had the king of hearts and one or four clubs. He would also find himself without recourse. Going up with the ace of hearts at trick two guarantees the contract 100 percent.

Tomorrow: Misdirection play.
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Annie's Mailbox®

Dear Annie: I was close to "Bob" in college. Four years ago, when he married "Sue," whom I vaguely knew, I was the only one of his friends to attend her bachelorette party. A few years after their wedding, I flew across the country and stayed with them for a while. I had fun and sent a nice gift afterward.

When I later learned the whereabouts of a mutual friend who had fallen off the face of the earth, I suggested we all visit him, but Sue was adamantly against it. She had been close to this guy in college and said I should respect his wishes to be left alone. So I didn't go.

Since then, I've had this vibe that I've been dumped as a friend. They are both on Facebook, but don't acknowledge my membership. I still send Christmas cards and occasional letters, but only rarely get a reply -- and it's always short.

I would like to visit again, but I hesitate. Bob has never been great at initiating contact, and Sue and I are not that chummy. Should I confront Bob and end the mystery? Or should I assume this is just how they operate? — Vancouver, Wash.

Dear Vancouver: It is not uncommon for some wives to subtly discourage friendships between their husbands and other women. Plus,

you might have triggered something that made Sue uncomfortable. A confrontation will only bring denial. If you want to maintain the friendship, you will have to make the greater effort. Continue sending cards and letters, and be especially friendly to Sue. Let them know when you'll be in their area,



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

and suggest meeting for dinner. In time, the friendship will either warm up or fizzle out on its own.

Dear Annie: We recently hosted a barbecue for our son's 18th birthday. We invited members of his sports team and their parents, along with a few other friends. Over the past four years, most parents have hosted at least one event for the team, so we thought this would be a good time.

We were not expecting gifts, but guests all brought cards. It occurred to me that some might include gifts, and I didn't want to embarrass anyone, so I put the cards away. The next morning my son opened them, and they all contained various amounts of money. Thank-you notes will be sent.

My question is: Did I make a faux pas by not opening the cards that night? Also, most of these people had

never been to my home. Am I a snob if I don't offer to show them around? Am I a show-off if I do? — New at Hosting.

Dear New: You're fine. The cards should not have been opened at the party. As for your home, it's OK to offer to show guests around when you have a small group over. When you are entertaining a large crowd outside, however, you should not be ignoring some of your guests in order to give others a guided tour.

Dear Annie: Your advice to "Debbie" was dangerous. Please don't tell her to put a lock on her bedroom door. In case of fire or other emergency, interior doors must not be locked. In a rental, locks on bedroom doors are often illegal. In new home construction, keys to locked doors are placed in view on the trim above the door.

RYAN

Continued from Page 6

identify adverse situations or events that you routinely face. Learn to hear and mentally record the beliefs about those events that come to your mind (the "recordings" you play in your head).

Feel the consequences of those beliefs and write them down, in terms of emotions, energy, will to act, etc. Once you have gotten familiar with these components, chal-

lenge those beliefs and distract yourself.

Challenging the usefulness of the belief and focusing on evidence that contradicts or undermines the negative belief and supports a more positive interpretation can lead to an optimistic viewpoint.

Eventually, the positive explanatory style becomes your response.

This again leads us back to the quote: "Whatsoever a man thinketh in his heart, so he is."

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

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Late field goal miss lifts Titans over Texans

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Rob Bironas kept the Titans' unlikely turnaround going with another winning kick against the Houston Texans.

Bironas booted a 53-yard field goal with 47 seconds left and the Titans won their fourth straight after starting the season with six losses, beating the Texans 20-17 on Monday night.

Houston (5-5) had a chance to tie it, but Kris Brown's 49-yard attempt with 1 second remaining was wide left. It was his second miss of the

game and the second straight game he's missed a chance to send the Texans to overtime.

Bironas, meanwhile, beat Houston with a last-minute kick at Reliant Stadium for the second time in three seasons. In 2007, he kicked the game winner as time expired — and set an NFL record with eight field goals — in a 38-36 Titans' victory.

"I always feel good down here," Bironas said. "I like Houston. I don't think Houston likes me too much."

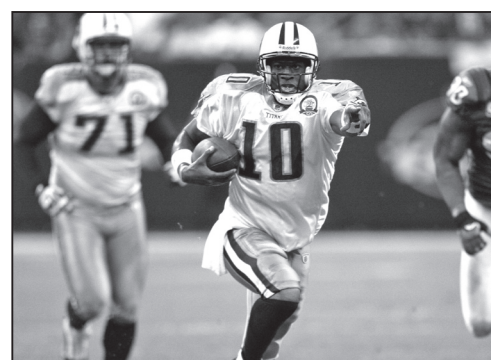
The city's football fans are more passionate about Vince Young, the

Houston native and former Texas star. Some Texans fans still complain that the team didn't take Young with the first pick in the 2006 draft and instead selected defensive end Mario Williams.

Young is now 2-0 in games he's started against the Texans in Houston. He ran for the winning touchdown in overtime as a rookie, and he ran for 73 yards and threw a touchdown pass in Monday's game.

"It was a lot of love and lot of boos,"

See **TEXANS**, Page 14



AP Photo/David J. Phillip

Titans quarterback Vince Young is undefeated as a starter in 2009 and against his hometown team.

HIGH FLYING HAWKS



HERALD Photo/Joe Zigtema

Carlos Emory slams home a dunk Monday night at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.



HERALD Photo/Joe Zigtema

DJ Fountain hangs and fires for two of her 11 points Monday at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Howard men, women soar at home

By **JOE ZIGTEMA**

Sports Editor

Howard College got everyone involved Monday in a 115-21 win over the Wayland Baptist junior varsity.

Seven Hawks scored in double figures and every player but one scored in the contest. Carlos Emory led the way with 24 points, Damion McGee had 15, LaMont Austin had 14 and Dante Menter, Shaad O'Garro, Jae Crowder and Joe Bright all were in double digits.

"I thought it was a good night," head coach Mark Adams said. "Some games we've played in the past where we weren't playing together as a team, but we played well, we played hard and I thought we got better as a team."

The Hawks controlled the game at the outset, scoring 13 points before Wayland Baptist got on the scoreboard. Howard College led 54-9 at the

half.

"We were running a lot of our offense and they ran man-to-man most of the game, so we got to run a lot of our sets," Adams said. I thought it was a good showing for us."

The Hawks improved to 8-1 on the season and will travel to Florida through the Thanksgiving holiday. The team will play at Gulf Coast Community College in Panama City, Fla., on Wednesday before playing Northwest Florida State College and Chipola College in Niceville, Fla., over the weekend.

Hawks 92, Wayland Baptist JV 48

When the Howard College Hawks traveled to Lubbock to face the Lubbock Christian JV on Nov. 10, they escaped with a 10-point victory in a close game.

In Big Spring on Monday night, it was a differ-

See **HOWARD**, Page 14

Ailing Romo will play Thursday vs. Raiders

Associated Press

IRVING — Defensive end Marcus Spears lounged on a couch in the Dallas Cowboys locker room, his right leg draped over the side. Quarterback Tony Romo wasn't anywhere to be seen.

Romo wasn't in the locker room when it was open to reporters Monday, when the Cowboys began preparing for a quick turnaround in part by trying to stay off their feet like Spears. But coach Wade Phillips said he is confident the quarterback will be ready to play Thursday despite the soreness from taking a knee to the back.

"We've already talked to Tony and he says he feels a lot better. He had a little bit of stiffness. He had quite a bit during the ball game, but says he feels a lot better," Phillips said, adding there are no plans to rest Romo. "Not if he's ready to play. And we think he will be."

With only three days between their 7-6 victory Sunday over Washington on Thanksgiving Day against Oakland, the NFC East-leading Cowboys (7-3) will work more mentally than physically. That alone will help Romo recover.

Romo got hurt when he took a knee to the middle of the back 7

minutes into the game. He got it making what was possibly a touchdown-saving tackle on DeAngelo Hall, who was returning a fumble after Marion Barber lost the ball near the Redskins 10.

Romo didn't miss a snap and later completed seven consecutive passes on the game-winning drive, the last a 10-yard touchdown to Patrick Crayton with 2:41 left. He had only eight completions before that drive.

The offense has managed only a late touchdown in each of its last two games. Before Romo's TD pass to beat the Redskins and avoid being held scoreless at home for the first time since 1991, the Cowboys had to score in the final minute at Green Bay the previous week to avoid being shut out.

Dallas was averaging 27 points a game before that.

"If it's five weeks, that's one thing. It's two weeks," Phillips said. "We had a long drive early and we gave up the football, we missed a field goal. We left 10 points out there pretty quick. ... I think things are correctible."

On their second drive against the Redskins, the Cowboys drove to the 16 before Barber's fumble on the play that

See **DALLAS**, Page 14

No. 3 Longhorns beat Iowa to advance to CEB championship game

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Cocking his arm back, Dexter Pittman swooped in for an emphatic slam, the kind that sets the tone for the game, brings the crowd to its feet.

Instead, Pittman hung himself up on the rim, his first shot caroming away as he staggered back, barely able to keep his feet.

A humiliating moment? Maybe for a split second. But Pittman more than made up for it.

Shaking off that early blunder, Pittman scored 11 of his 15 points in the second half and No. 3 Texas survived Cully Payne's miracle shot to beat Iowa 85-60 on Monday night in the semifinals of the CBE Classic.

Texas (3-0) had its usual balanced scoring, with five players in double figures, and shot 55 percent to reach Tuesday's championship game against Pittsburgh. Jordan Hamilton had 16 points, J'Covan Brown 14 and Damion James added 10 points and 12

rebounds.

But it wasn't until the Longhorns turned to their big man in the middle that they finally pulled away. His teammates turning to him exclusively, Pittman scored three straight baskets to start a game-changing 17-0 run for the Longhorns.

"Coach told me and Damion we didn't show the first half," Pittman said, referring to teammate Damion James. "I took it on myself to go out

See **HORNS**, Page 14



AP Photo/Charlie Reidel

Texas' Jordan Hamilton is pressured by Iowa's Matt Gatens on Monday.

Sports in brief

Steers, Lady Steers in action tonight

The Big Spring boys and girls basketball teams will both play tonight on the road.

The boys team will travel to Greenwood. JV tips off at 6 p.m., varsity tips off at 7 p.m. The Steers won their first game of the season in double overtime last Tuesday in Fort Stockton.

The girls will travel back to Merkel, where they played Eastland on Nov. 10, to play Merkel. Junior varsity starts at 4 p.m., varsity tips off at 6:30 p.m. See tomorrow's Herald for game stories.

YMCA Basketball registration ends Wednesday

Those waiting to sign up for the YMCA youth basketball league have until today to get on a roster.

The league has separate boys and girls divisions for grades 1-6.

There is a new co-ed division this year for pre-k children ages 3-5. The program fee is \$60 per player.

Games are played Saturday beginning Jan. 9. For more information, call 267-8234.

Discount Steer playoff tickets available at ATC

Presale tickets for the Steers' playoff game against Everman in Mineral Wells on Saturday are available at a discount at the Big Spring High School Athletic Training Center.

Adult tickets are \$6 and student tickets \$4 at the ATC. All tickets are \$8 at the gate.

The ticket window at the ATC is open the following times: today until 2:30 p.m., tomorrow from 9 a.m. to noon and Friday from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Kickoff in Mineral Wells is at 3 p.m.

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CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE/ BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Abilene
Contract 0005-06-113 for SEAL COAT in HOWARD County, etc will be opened on December 09, 2009 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
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Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.
#6333 November 17 & 24, 2009

Legals

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#6342 November 23 & 24, 2009

Legals

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November 24, 2009
The Big Spring Independent School District, in compliance with Environmental Protection Agencies Law 40 CFR Part 763.93, is notifying all interested persons that the Big Spring Independent School District has completed the inspection of all of its facilities in order to locate and identify any and all asbestos containing materials. The Big Spring Independent School District has developed a management plan for each of its facilities where asbestos containing materials were found. This management plan is located in the principal's office or administrator's office at each facility and is available for public inspection.
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The tension between Venus and Jupiter can still be felt. For many, it will seem that hard work is not in itself enough to bring about results. Consider the other things that might give you an edge.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

Do you know the right people who can make things happen for you? Take this as a hint from the stars to combine smart work with hard work.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). When relationships get tense, a new mindset will be your freedom. If you don't attach any conditions to your love, you will find happiness with the love you get. Singles: Tonight you get along best with Cancer and Libra people.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll receive a signal, and the message is hard to miss — it's time to clear out the sentimental clutter from your life. This

cleansing is likely to be both material and emotional.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There are so many in need that it can be overwhelming to know where to start. Let your charitable impulses guide the way. Your random act of kindness does real good in the world.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Whatever mood shifts happen during the course of the day, by the end of the day things will look beautiful to you once again. The light that falls out of the sky makes everything bright and golden and dazzling.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). However many compliments you get today, you deserve a few more. No one is as put-together as you. But it's not really about a new tie or a different shade of eye shadow. Something inside you radiates — it's just so you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll hark back to another time in your life. Remembering it makes you realize that you have so much to be thankful for now. Your

appreciation attracts greater cause for celebration.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). A dull sense that something is wrong will turn into an alarm bell. Knowing what the problem is — that's something to celebrate! Pinpointing the trouble source will move you to action.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll be so happy with what you have that you don't even give a thought to what others have. Life is better when everyone minds his or her own business. That's how you know that your spirit is truly full.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There's a difference between a touchstone and an anchor. If something is holding you back, you'll now recognize exactly what it is. Jettison the thing that once brought you comfort but is now a source of stagnation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You've been chosen by the cosmos to be the center of attention in your world, and it will feel right to have all eyes on you. It's like there's a stream of light

from above following you around all day.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There's a competition going on — but only if you see it as a competition. You might also choose to believe that there is enough for everyone, and that each role is important in its own way. It's all in how you think about it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). A chore is a chore only when done with a heavy heart. You know this, which is why you approach your responsibilities with a smile. Right now it's for "them," but soon you'll be doing exactly what you want to be doing.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 24). This will be one of your most enterprising years. Your ambition moves you to create alliances and perhaps even form a company. An occurrence in your personal life feels magical, and yet it is the result of years of working on yourself. Financial uplift comes in the form of a new assignment or investor in March. Virgo and Gemini people adore you. Your

lucky numbers are: 8, 10, 35, 21 and 17.

HOW TO GET THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS WITH GRACE: For Taurus, the holidays will be more fun when Taurus is less picky. Taurus is an expert connoisseur with fine taste and an eye for quality. Taurus applies these talents to many aspects of the holidays, from choosing the dishes that make up a wonderful menu, to finding decor to create a desired atmosphere, to putting together the perfect gifts for loved ones. Taurus can use these talents to navigate through the many choices available and cater the world to his or her liking. But where Taurus gets in trouble is when the bull thinks that everyone else will automatically have the same taste and sensibility. This thinking will lead Taurus to disappointment. When Taurus recognizes that everyone is different and each has his or her own ideas about what is suitable, appropriate and beautiful, then Taurus will avoid the holiday letdown.

Focusing on what really matters — a heartfelt, shared experience — will help Taurus release the need to control how others celebrate. In short, Taurus people who are easygoing and accepting of different tastes and styles will have a wonderful time and create a wonderful time for others.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: New mother Katherine Heigl is strongly Sagittarian, with four luminaries in this worldly sign. Sagittarius people are known for their high energy, love of travel, adventurous nature and cultural sophistication. This new mom is likely to share her fun-loving approach to life with her daughter. Her natal Jupiter in Leo suggests that caring for children will bring Heigl astounding good fortune.

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.

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The Spider

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

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

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



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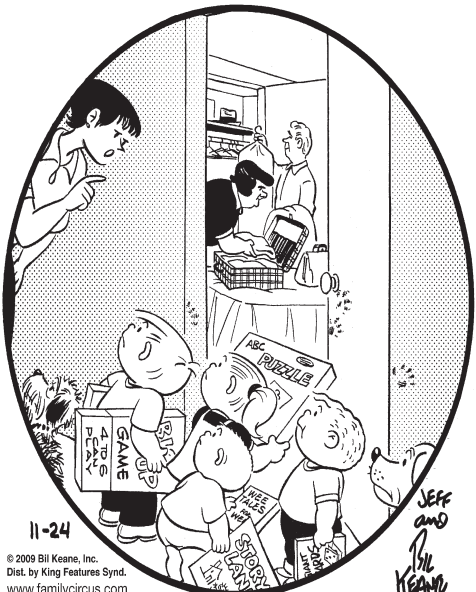
	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5 :PM	News ABC	News ABC	Locura	Lopez	News CBS	Noticias	News NBC	Seinfeld	Scrivner	BBC	Cash Cab	Morgan Freeman	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Wizards	Horn	SportsCenter
6 :PM	News ABC	Jeopardy!	Gancho	Two Men	News CBS	12 Cora-zones	News NBC	Office	Uri Harel	Business	Cash Cab		UFC Un-leashed	Bones		Wizards	Interrupt	College Bas-ketball: Maui Invitational
7 :PM	V	V	Nomb-re-Amor	So You Think You Can Dance	Entertain	Más Sabe el Diabolo	Millionaire	Office	Harris	News-Lehrer	Dirty Jobs		Knockouts 5	Bones	Game	Wizards	College Football: Ball State at Western Michigan.	Score
8 :PM	(:01) Danc-ing With the Stars	(:01) Danc-ing With the Stars	Sortilegio	NCIS: Los Angeles	NCIS	Pobres	Victorinos	Office	Light of the Southwest	Frontline (DVS)	Dirty Jobs	Movie: The Matrix, Carrie-Anne Moss	Super	Bones	Game	Wizards	College Bas-ketball: CBE Classic	College Bas-ketball: Maui Invitational
9 :PM			Aquí y Ahora	Simpsons Friends	The Good Wife	Victorinos	The Jay Leno Show	Office	Office	Independent Lens	Ghost Lab		Super	Bones	Monica	Wizards		
10 :PM	News Nightline	News Nightline	Impacto	Raymond	News TMZ	Noticias	News Tonight Show	Upd Cortes	Charlie Rose	Dirty Jobs		Movie: Demolition Man, Sandra Bullock	UFC Un-leashed	CSI: NY	The Mo'Nique	Wizards		
11 :PM	Insider Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Insider Jimmy Kim-mel Live	La Escuela!a VIP	Law & Order: SVU	Late Late Show	Decisiones	Late Night-Jim	My Boys	Ministerio-Vida	BBC	Dirty Jobs		Prisoners-Ctrl	CSI: NY	W. Williams	Life De	NFL Live	
12 :AM	News	Paid	Torrente, un Torbal	King-Hill	Insider	Pagado	News	Sex & Church	Church	Upd	Ghost Lab		CSI: Crime Scn	CSI: NY	Game	Replace	World Series	SportsCenter
1 :AM	Millions	Paid	Mujer...	Paid	Entertain	Pagado	Poker After Dark	Lopez	Light of the Southwest	Light of the Southwest		Movie: Mad Max 2: The Road Warrior	Star Trek: Voyager	Cold Case	Game	Emperor Dragon	World Series	SportsCenter

DENNIS THE MENACE



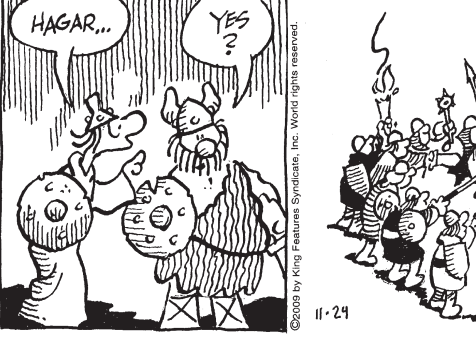
"PLAYING HOUSE IS GETTING MORE DIFFICULT. I HAVE TO JUGGLE A FAMILY, MARRIAGE AND A CAREER."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



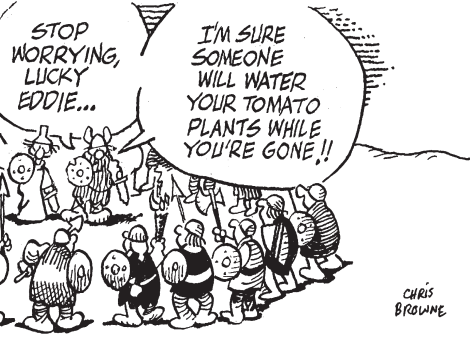
"Not now! Grandma and Granddad have to unpack and take a rest."

HAGAR



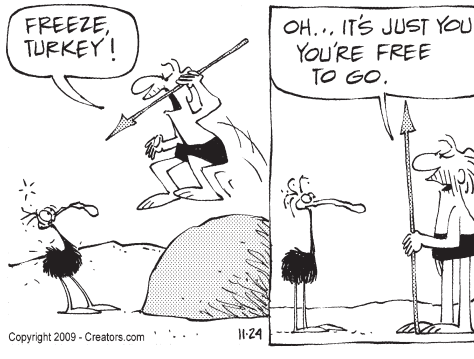
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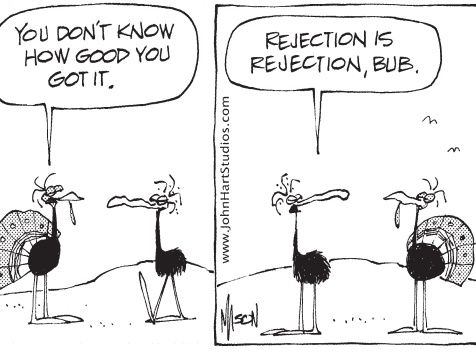
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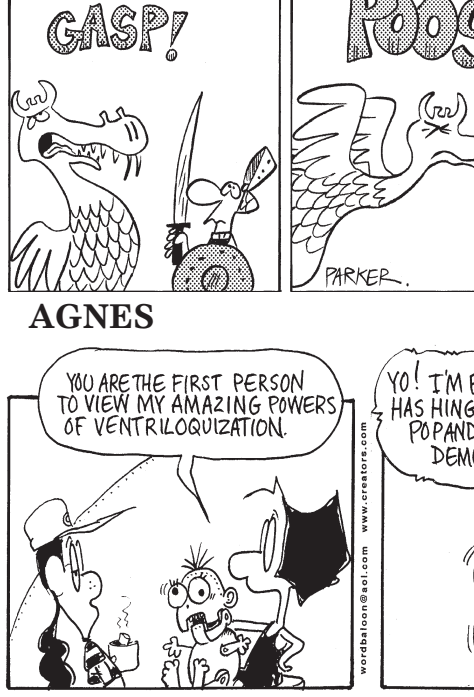
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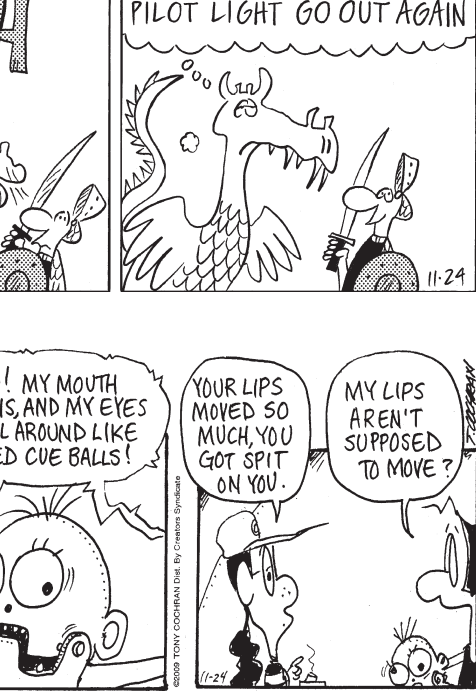
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HI AND LOIS



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THE OTHER COAST



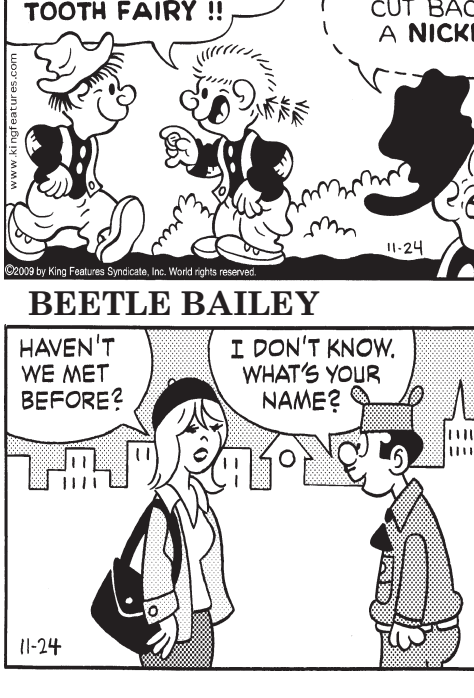
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SNUFFY SMITH



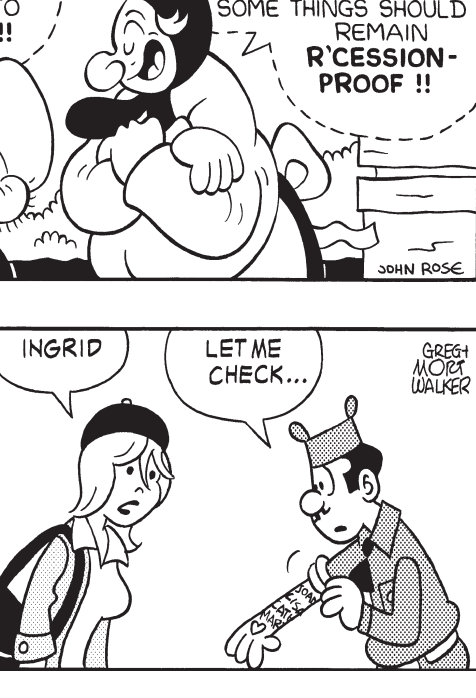
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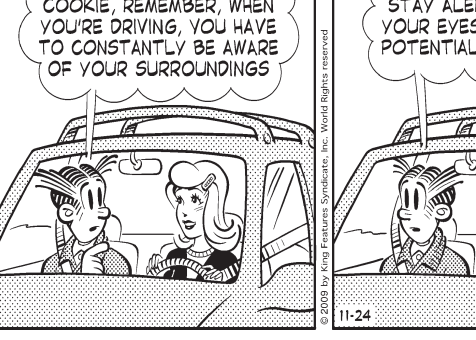
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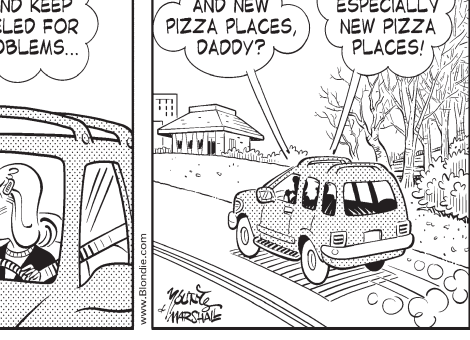
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This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Nov. 24, the 328th day of 2009. There are 37 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 24, 1859, British naturalist Charles Darwin published "On the Origin of Species," which explained his theory of evolution by means of natural selection.

On this date:

In 1784, Zachary Taylor, the 12th president of the United States, was born in Orange County, Va.

In 1863, the Civil War Battle of Lookout Mountain began in Tennessee; Union forces succeeded in taking the mountain from the Confederates.

In 1939, British Overseas Airways Corp. was formally established.

In 1944, during World War II, U.S. bombers based on Saipan attacked Tokyo in the first raid against the Japanese capital by land-based planes.

In 1947, a group of writers,

producers and directors that became known as the "Hollywood Ten" was cited for contempt of Congress for refusing to answer questions about alleged Communist influence in the movie industry. John Steinbeck's novel "The Pearl" was first published.

In 1950, the musical "Guys and Dolls," based on the writings of Damon Runyon and featuring songs by Frank Loesser, opened on Broadway.

In 1963, Jack Ruby shot and mortally wounded Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused assassin of President John F. Kennedy, in a scene captured on live television.

In 1969, Apollo 12 splashed down safely in the Pacific.

In 1971, hijacker "D.B. Cooper" parachuted from a Northwest Orient Airlines 727 over Washington state with \$200,000 in ransom. His fate remains unknown.

In 1987, the United States and the Soviet Union agreed on terms to scrap shorter- and medium-range missiles.

Today's Birthdays: Basketball Hall of Famer Oscar Robertson is 71. Country singer Johnny Carver is 69. Former NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue is 69.

Answer to previous puzzle

FARE	ISNT	STARE
ADAM	SHOO	TIBER
VOGUE	WARD	AMINO
ORE	NEO	DELETES
RED	STATE	AIM
ERR	PET	NAMES
BADLY	RIDE	COLE
ASIF	GOTIN	HOSE
LEER	RIOT	SIREN
DATE	PALM	TAN
SAT	EBENEZER	
SAMP	PRAS	ACT EVA
ARIEL	MAD	HATTER
WINCE	OMEN	CANE
NATTY	GYRO	USSR

Newsday Crossword MAKING THE GRADE by David W. Cromer Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- "Get real!"
- Hugo or Tony
- Football play
- Ye __ Shoppe
- Madrid man
- Victor's declaration
- Entertainer Falana
- Carpentry joint
- Narrow street
- Term for a pol
- Folk history
- Dissuade
- Return to zero, maybe
- Buck
- "And how!"
- Soup veggie
- Sgt.'s subordinate
- Many-plaintiff case
- Do tailoring
- Kennedy Library architect
- Reached the heights
- Divide in two
- Sanctify
- Use elbow grease
- Sanctity symbol
- What happened
- "Fine" subjects
- Put down, in a way
- Bring together
- Run into
- Spacecraft on Mars
- Stare at

DOWN

- Yahoo! rival
- Hog-trough filler
- Not working
- Like daredevils
- American Fur Company founder
- Handled garden invaders
- Part of AD
- It's overhead
- First Bond film
- Thieve
- Be patient for
- Golf-scorecard standards
- Bare minimum
- Sans tread
- High-calorie
- She: Fr.
- Insult, informally
- Of a sense
- Floral ring
- Myanmar neighbor
- Jabbers
- Restore to health
- Diner desserts
- Former Fords
- So-so mark
- Blueblood
- Permanent or frosting
- Pops
- Est.-tax recipient
- Postgraduate work
- Ne'er-do-well
- Jazz pianist Chick
- Exterior
- Turn away from
- Title for a 40 Down
- What an orchestra tunes to
- Broad bean
- Forum garb
- Plant place, perhaps
- Merge and Homer's neighbor

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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64				65						66		
67				68						69		

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HORNS

Continued from page 8

there and make a difference.”

Iowa (1-3) made it a lot tougher than Texas or anyone else expected.

Down 14 points early, the Hawkeyes closed the first half with a flurry of 3-pointers, capped by Payne’s buzzer-beating heave from beyond mid-court that tied the game. Iowa just ran out of miracles.

The Hawkeyes went nearly 6 minutes without a field goal during Texas’ run after Payne’s shot and finished the game 8 of 26 from 3-point range, shooting 31 percent overall. Matt Gatens and Brennan Cougill led Iowa with 11 points each.

“We faced a really good team and for stretches we were able to compete,” Iowa coach Todd Lickliter said. “We just couldn’t do it consistently tonight.”

It was supposed to be a monumental mismatch.

Texas has all those athletes and depth so good that coach Rick Barnes isn’t sure how he’ll find playing time for everyone.

Iowa has been projected no better than middle-of-the-road in the Big Ten and had already lost to Texas-San Antonio and Duquesne.

It started off as a routine-in-the-making.

Iowa spent the early part of the game against the shot clock and started 1 of 12 from 3-point range. Hamilton got hot for Texas at the other end, hitting three straight 3s, and Pittman shook the backboard with a two-handed slam that put the Longhorns up 25-11.

Game over, right?

Not just yet. The Hawkeyes had a little fight in them.

It started with a 3-pointer by Anthony Tucker with 7:07 left. Cougill dropped in another. Two by Devan Bawinkel. Confidence building with each make, the Hawkeyes kept draining 3s, inching closer, pulling the crowd with them.

Payne punctuated it. Grabbing a rebound after Texas held for the last shot and missed, the freshman from the suburbs of Chicago launched a shot from his own 3-point line toward the other basket.

“I saw the clock winding down and I just threw it up,” Payne said.

It went in. Half-shocked, the Hawkeyes giddily trotted to the locker room. Fully shocked, the Longhorns walked off tied 38-all in a game they once led by 14.

The momentum carried into the second half, when Gatens popped in a 3-pointer from the wing, putting Iowa up 41-38.

“That was definitely a boost, Matt hitting that shot,” Iowa forward Jarryd Cole said.

Then came, well, what was probably inevitable.

Behind Pittman, the Longhorns scored the next 17 points to go up 55-41. The 6-foot-10, 290-pound senior scored the first six points of the run and had an off-the-backboard block of Eric May to help hold the Hawkeyes without a field goal until Gatens scored on a layup with 13½ minutes left.

This time, no Iowa run, no more magic from Payne and Texas gradually pulled away. The Longhorns held Iowa to 22 points on 6-of-32 shooting in the second half, turning what was a close game into a rout.

“They’re getting better,” Barnes said. “They just need to sustain it for longer periods of time.”

DALLAS

Continued from page 8

Romo got hurt. Nick Folk missed a 46-yard field goal attempt just before halftime that would have tied the game.

“Hopefully, it will get better. All you can do is keep working at it,” said Crayton, whose only catch Sunday was the touchdown.

As for Romo, he had a shot for his pain after the game Sunday, when he walked gingerly but said then that he “definitely will be playing” against the Raiders (3-7).

“Certainly he was affected by getting kicked or hit in the back,” Phillips said. “He really came through at the end. Whatever it was, he showed enough grit at the end to overcome it. That was impressive.”

Yet, there is no time

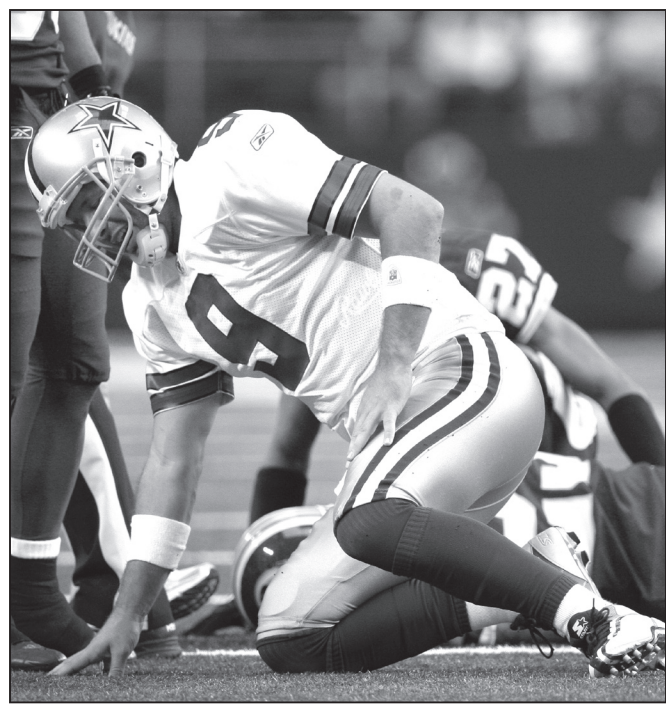
to look back at the Redskins and Romo’s late heroics.

“I’ve gone past the game. I’m thinking of Oakland and all those things,” Phillips said. “It’s not a typical Monday obviously.”

Phillips said workouts were at a “more walkthrough tempo” and that it would be similar Tuesday.

The Cowboys will get an extended weekend off after playing Oakland before getting into December, when Dallas has faltered in recent years. There was the 1-3 mark last December, when the Cowboys missed the playoffs by one game a year after going 2-2 down the stretch after a 11-1 start before losing its only postseason game.

They begin this December at the New York Giants, then play their only home game of the month against AFC



AP Photo/Tony Gutierrez
Tony Romo is hurting but will start Thursday. He hopes to get a sputtering Cowboy offense on track.

West leader San Diego. Then come trips to undefeated New Orleans and Washington before finishing the regular season at home Jan. 3 against Philadelphia.

“We know we’ve got to start picking it up. Not

just for our fans, but for ourselves too,” Crayton said. “It’s going to be good for us to come out Thursday and be sharp and be crisp. It’s got to look like we are really doing something out there.”

HOWARD

Continued from page 8

ent story.

The Hawks used a 31-2 run early in the first half to put the game out of reach, led by Tasha Tubbs’ 18 points at the break, and cruised to a 92-48 victory, their 11th of the season, at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Howard College shot 52 percent in the first half and 48 percent for the game while holding Lubbock Christian to 34 percent from the field.

“I thought we played really hard defensively, really set the tempo defensively, and they couldn’t get in to what they usually do,” head coach Earl Diddle said.

Tubbs finished with 20 points to lead the team.

“I thought her teammates did a great job of locating her, and of course she did a good job of getting to the open area,” Diddle

said.

Freshman 6-foot-3 post Jackie Bartelson scored 11 of her 13 points in the second half to complement the Hawks’ perimeter attack, something Diddle said he liked to see.

“We’d like to be a little more inside oriented, but we’ve got some people that can hit the jump shot,” Diddle said. “You live by the jump shot, you die by the jump shot. We’re trying to get a little more shot distribution inside.”

The Hawks will travel to Mountain View College in Dallas next Monday before returning home to face Dyess Air Force Base on Dec. 4. Tipoff is 5:30 p.m.

“I think this team has great chemistry,” Diddle said. “We play well together offensively and defensively. I think we need to communicate a little better out on the floor, but outside of that I’m really pleased with this team.”

TEXANS

Continued from page 8

Young said of the atmosphere. “It’s definitely fun to play at home because I’ve got a lot of family members and a lot of fans who helped pretty much raise me and made me the man I am today.”

The Titans (4-6) haven’t lost since Young replaced Kerry Collins as the starting quarterback.

“Vince is not new to jumping in and winning,” Titans running back LenDale White said. “It’s very exciting. I am more happy to be winning these games, more than anything. Vince is doing the job for us.”

The Titans started the go-ahead drive at the 6-yard line, but Houston safety John Busing was called for a 15-yard penalty on a horse-collar tackle of Chris Johnson. A 22-yard run by

Johnson two plays later put the Titans on their 41 just before the two-minute warning.

Young had a 12-yard run for a first down later in the drive but the Titans couldn’t keep it going and went to Bironas for the field goal, his second of at least 50 yards Monday.

The Texans moved the ball 31 yards in five plays before Brown came in for the field-goal attempt. He pulled one from the same distance in the third quarter and hooked one from 42 yards as time expired in a 20-17 loss to Indianapolis before Houston’s off week.

“It’s all on me, it’s totally me,” Brown said. “The frustrating part for me is, we have 44 guys out there, busting their tails, and one guy out there not doing his job, which is me. That’s the reason we lose the game. That’s hard. I’ve got to figure out what the heck’s going on, and I need to figure it

Box Scores

Wayland Baptist 21, Howard College 115

Wayland Baptist (21) Kent Carrol 10, Jonathan Lopez 5, Josh Hemingway 4, Remy Stewart 2

Howard College (115)

Emory 24, McGee 15, Austin 14, O’Garro 13, Menter 12, Crowder 10, Bright 10, Josh Watkins 8, Moses Sundufu 5, Prince Obasi 4

Lubbock Christian 48, Howard College 92

Lubbock Christian (48) Amy Withrow 10, Krysa Kenney 9, Shaley Shipman 8, Brittany Larson 6, Briana Nickerson 6, Jessica Sparrow 5, Whitley Gillit 2, Macy Shadle 2

Howard College (92)

Tubbs 20, Bartelson 13, DJ Fountain 11, Asia Reid 10, Twyla Ards 9, Shayla Lassien 9, Kelsey Murgel 6, Meagan Steen 5, Brittini Blaggrave 4, Kenyetta Colbert 3, MaKayla Grahm 2

out pretty quick.”

Bironas had missed earlier, too, on a 49-yarder with about 10 minutes left.

“I was just hoping for a second chance to come out there and hit one more,” Bironas said.

Johnson finished with 151 yards rushing and Young threw his touchdown pass in the first half. Bironas added a 50-yard field goal in the third quarter.

The Titans had Schaub under heavy pressure all night and he was sacked four times. He finished 25 of 39 for 305 yards and threw two first-half touchdowns.

White tied it at 14 with a 1-yard TD run with 50 seconds left in the first half.

The Titans have climbed within two games of second-place Jacksonville in the AFC South. With six games left, Tennessee is starting to believe it can become the first team to ever lose its first six games and make the playoffs.

“We were a good team at the beginning of the season,” Bironas said. “The first six games, we started off with losses after 60 minutes, but we are starting to put things together now.”

The Texans, meanwhile, must quickly get over this loss with a rematch with the Colts looming on Sunday. Houston came into the season with high hopes, but the chances for the franchise’s first postseason berth suddenly seem in jeopardy.

“We’ve got to keep battling,” Coach Gary Kubiak said. “We’ve got to let it go and come right back Wednesday and get ready to play arguably the best team in football right now.

“There’s no time for feel sorry for yourself. You’ve got to come back and go back to work.”

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