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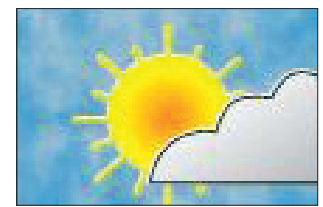


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BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY

SEPTEMBER 21, 2010



VOLUME 105, NUMBER 247

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

WHITTILING AWAY THE TIME



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Members of the Mustang Draw Woodcarvers Club work on their individual projects Monday at the Dora Roberts Community Center during the group's annual show, which will end Saturday with a sale.

Back to work program offered

Sessions scheduled Sept. 28 at Workforce Solutions building here

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer

Unemployed residents looking to go back to work can get a helping hand from the Workforce Solutions Permian Basin office, as the agency announces its new Texas Back to Work Program.

According to Sylvia Miramontes, interim office manager for the Workforce Solutions

See WORK, Page 3

They'll be comin' round the mountain Saturday

Hay rides planned at 3 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. at Big Spring State Park.

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer

Local residents looking for fresh air and a very special view of the Crossroads' historic Scenic Mountain will get their chance, as the Big Spring State Park hosts Harvest Saturday this weekend.

Set with hay rides ready to roll off at 3 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Saturday,

Park Director Ron Alton said the fall event is a great way to usher in the autumn season.

"We've been doing this for about 13 years now," said Alton. "It's a fun family time. Of course, the kids like sitting on the hay bales and looking off the bluff. We make a circle of the top of the mountain during the hayride and we'll have a speaker system set up so we can talk about the plants and the geology of the area."

"There's also a playground and if folks want to pack their supper,

that's a really nice family thing to do at the park following Harvest Saturday. It's really an excellent chance to explore the park and enjoy time with the people you care about."

And although park officials expect to complete the autumn spectacle in two rides, Alton said no one will be turned away.

"We expect we'll be able to get everyone who wants to go on the hay rides at 3 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.," said

See RIDES, Page 3

Stand Down set in Odessa

VA Health Care System will stage its annual Homeless Stand Down Saturday.

This year's Stand Down will take place at the Veterans of Foreign War, Post 4372, 208 VFW Lane in Odessa. The Stand Down will begin at 9 a.m. and conclude at 5 p.m.

A Homeless Stand Down is a pre-winter retreat which allows veterans to meet with local social service providers, get out of the weather, have a hot meal and participate in health screenings.

Anyone interested in this year's Stand Down are encouraged to contact Shad Barrows, LMSW at 1-800-472-1365, ext. 7059.

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



Ag Appreciation Day not far off

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce will offer area producers and ranchers a hearty "thank you" Thursday, Oct. 7, part of the local organization's 19th annual Ag Appreciation Day.

Debbie ValVerde, executive director of the local Chamber of Commerce, said activities will get under way long before a traditional lunch reaches the table.

"We'll start at the Dora Roberts Community Center at 7:30 a.m.," said ValVerde. "Participating producers and ranchers will take a farm tour. Also, those participating

"Big Spring and Howard County have relied heavily upon its agricultural producers for many, many years, and without them there might not even be a Big Spring. This luncheon and these awards are our way of saying thank you to them for all of their hard work."



ValVerde

in Leadership Big Spring will also be involved in the tours. After the tours we'll head back to DRCC for lunch, then at about 1 p.m. we'll go back out and finish the last half of the tours. I expect we'll have everything wrapped up around 4:30 p.m."

ValVerde said the luncheon

is expected to begin at 11:30 a.m. and will feature keynote speaker Dr. Joe Outlaw, a professor and extension economist with the Department of Agricultural Economists at Texas A&M.

"Dr. Outlaw will be giving us an update on the farm bill and other things going

on in the legislature that impact local ranchers and producers," ValVerde said. "We'll also have several governmental figures in attendance, including Brice Foster, district director for Congressman Randy Neugebauer and Brett Cypert, a field rep for the National Cotton Council. Representative Joe Heflin has also informed us he'll be in attendance."

The Chamber of Commerce is also expected to name its ag producer and ag business of the year during the program.

"This is something that is

See AG, Page 3

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Obituaries

John William Daughtery

Funeral services for John William Daughtery, 83, of Nacogdoches County will be held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 22, 2010, at Shady Grove Baptist Church with Bro. John Withem officiating. Interment will follow at Shady Grove Cemetery in Nacogdoches County.

Mr. Daughtery passed away Sept. 17, 2010, in Houston after a brief illness. He was born Jan. 23, 1927, in Escambia County, Ala., to John William Daughtery and Eva Mae Sundry Daughtery.

John and Jessie L. Montgomery Daughtery were married Dec. 23, 1948.

Survivors include his wife, Jessie L. Daughtery; children, Paula J. Roark of Garrison, Ronnie Daughtery and wife Sue of Garrison, Gary Daughtery and wife Sandra of Diboll, John Daughtery Jr. and wife Sherry of Grandview, and Cannis Ulbrich and husband Philip of New Braunfels; a brother, Oren Lancaster Jr. of Big Spring; and sisters, Shirley Weaver and Mary Ray, both of Big Spring.

Memorials may be made to Shady Grove Baptist Church, Nacogdoches; St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital, Office of Healthcare Philanthropy, 3100 Main St. Suite 865 MC3-206, Houston 77002; or Texas Heart Institute, P.O. Box 20345 MC3-117, Houston 77225.

Visitation will be held Tuesday, Sept. 21, from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Condolences can be offered at www.casonmonk-metcalf.com.

Arrangements are by Cason Monk-Metcalf Funeral Directors.

Al Hulsey

Al Hulsey, 61, of Big Spring died Thursday, Sept. 16, 2010, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. No services are planned.

He was born Jan. 30, 1949, in Ft. Worth to Juel and Henry Hulsey. He moved from Abilene to Big Spring five years ago and was a retired truck driver. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, having served in Vietnam with the 7th Calvary.

He is survived by his wife, Ina Hulsey of Big Spring; one daughter, Barbara Westin of Phoenix, Ariz.; three sons, K.J. Hulsey, Tim Hulsey, and Donnie Hulsey, all of Phoenix, Ariz.; one sister, Velma Stevens of Abilene; 15 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one son, Charles Hulsey.

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

Don Priddy

Don Priddy, 79, of Fulshear, formerly of Big Spring died Monday, Sept. 20, 2010 at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Cedric Smithers

Cedric Smithers, 27, of Midland died Sunday, Sept. 19, 2010. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland.

Support Groups

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

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

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

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

Police blotter

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

- JOHNATHON MARQUEZ, 30, of 1102 S. Runnels, was arrested Monday on warrants for assault – family violence (two counts) and failure to appear.
- CHRISTOPHER COLE CHANEY, 28, of 3007 Cactus, was arrested Monday on charges of driving while license invalid – DWI related, possession of marijuana- two ounces or less and possession of drug paraphernalia.
- CARLOS RAMIREZ BARRIGA, 35, of 1511 S. Runnels, was arrested Monday on a charge of driving while license invalid – DWI related.
- STEVEN TIMOTHY SANFORD, 47, of 1403 Sycamore, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.
- JONATHAN LARSON GOODWIN, 33, of Arizona, was arrested Monday on charges of terroristic threats against a public servant and obstruction of highway or other passageway.
- GERALD DEAN MIRELESS, 41, of 1903 Morrison, was arrested Monday on a warrant for terroristic threat.
- JOLANDA JIMENEZ GONZALES, 41, of 19600 N. Highway 87, was arrested Monday on warrants for operating a motor vehicle with the wrong registration, failure to appear (four counts), possession of drug paraphernalia and a warrant from another agency.
- DENNIS DEAN BOLT, 57, of 417 Edwards Blvd., was arrested Monday on a warrant from another agency.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 2500 block of Merrily.
- THEFT was reported:
In the 2600 block of S. Gregg Street.
In the 1300 block of Sycamore.

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.

- CHRISTOPHER CHANEY, 28, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension, possession of marijuana-two ounces or less and possession of drug paraphernalia.
- CARLOS RAMIREZ BARRIGA, 35, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- DENNIS DEAN BOLT, 57, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a parole violation.
- JONATHAN LARSON GOODWIN, 33, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of terroristic threat against a public servant.
- DOMINIQUE EDWARD AUSBIE, 18, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of possession of marijuana- two ounces or less and possession of a controlled substance.
- SASHA M. TREVINO, 23, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of prohibited item (alcohol/drugs/phone/tobacco) in a correctional facility, possession of a controlled substance (two counts), failure to maintain financial responsibility, failure to appear (two counts), driving while license invalid, no seat belt and violation of a promise to appear.
- GERALD DEAN MIRELES, 41, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of terroristic threat and violation of parole.
- EUFEMIO ORTIZ, 18, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of pos-

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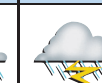
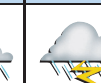
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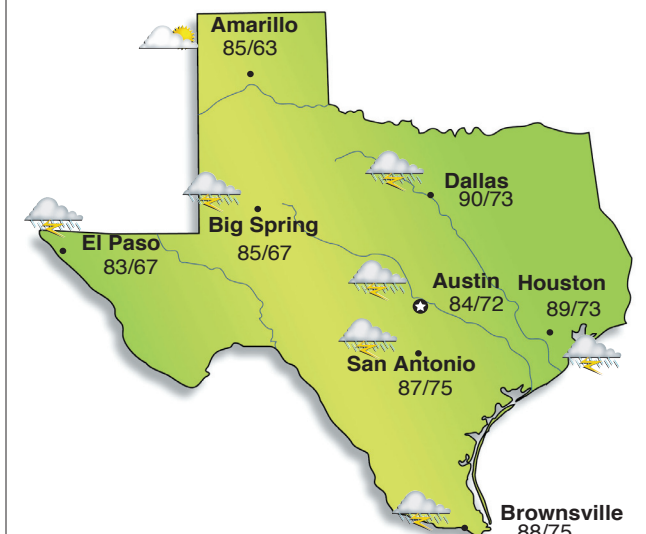
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Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

| Wed 9/22 | Thu 9/23 | Fri 9/24 | Sat 9/25 | Sun 9/26 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 85/67 | 84/67 | 82/64 | 84/62 | 80/59 |
| Sunrise: 7:34 AM Sunset: 7:43 PM | Sunrise: 7:35 AM Sunset: 7:41 PM | Sunrise: 7:35 AM Sunset: 7:40 PM | Sunrise: 7:36 AM Sunset: 7:39 PM | Sunrise: 7:37 AM Sunset: 7:37 PM |

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

| City | Hi | Lo | Cond. | City | Hi | Lo | Cond. |
|-------------|----|----|---------|------------|----|----|----------|
| Abilene | 87 | 71 | t-storm | Kingsville | 88 | 75 | t-storm |
| Amarillo | 85 | 63 | cloudy | Livingston | 90 | 70 | t-storm |
| Austin | 84 | 72 | t-storm | Longview | 92 | 72 | pt sunny |
| Beaumont | 90 | 74 | t-storm | Lubbock | 82 | 66 | t-storm |
| Brownsville | 88 | 75 | t-storm | Lufkin | 90 | 72 | t-storm |
| Brownwood | 89 | 71 | t-storm | Midland | 86 | 70 | t-storm |

session of marijuana -two ounces or less.

• JOLANDA GONZALES, 41, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on warrants for escape from custody, displaying wrong registration on vehicle, failure to appear (four counts) and possession of drug paraphernalia.

• CHRISTOPHER LEE VALENCIA, 27, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of failure to identify – giving false information.

• WELDON BRYANT DANIELS, 46, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for criminal trespass of a habitation/shelter.

Fire/EMS

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

• MEDICAL was reported in the 2800 block of Stonehaven. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of W. Marcy. One person was transported to SMMC.



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Take Note

• United Way Dine Out program featured restaurant this week is Sonic Drive-Ins. The local business will donate a portion of its proceeds received through Sunday to United Way of Big Spring and Howard County.

• Local resident Gale Pittman is planning to decorate a Christmas tree for the Heritage Museum Christmas Tree Forest in honor and memory of service men and women now on active duty and those who gave their lives for their country. The loved one does not need to be from Big Spring and it does not matter what war they fought in. Families should send information on their service man or woman to Gale Pittman, 3401 Sherrod Rd., Big Spring 79720.

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. Thursdays at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Bring this note when you join and receive a box of Weight Watchers snacks through Oct. 31. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to.



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Members of the Goodfellow Air Force Base Honor Guard participate in the West Texas VA Health Care System's POW/MIA recognition banquet Friday at Big Spring Country Club.

WORK

Continued from Page 1

Permian Basin's Big Spring and Lamesa offices, the program is designed to get unemployed people back in the workforce by relying on Texas employers participating in the program.

"Texas employers can earn up to \$2,000 for hiring out-of-work Texans through Texas Back to Work, a new program from the Workforce Solutions

Permian Basin office, promoted by Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and funded by the Legislature," Miramontes said. "Newly-hired workers who have been receiving unemployment benefits can qualify you for this cash incentive, as well.

"Texas employers can receive monetary incentives for hiring unemployed workers under a two-year, \$15 million program. Texas back to Work offers employers subsidized-wage reimbursement, retention bonuses and other incen-

tives for hiring qualified out-of-work Texans."

Financial incentives aren't the only helping hand Workforce Solutions, according to Miramontes.

"Texas Back to Work is available to employers through the 28 Texas local workforce development boards, which also provide employers with workforce recruitment assistance, pre-screening of qualified applicants and training programs," she said.

According to Miramontes, information sessions for area

employers are slated Tuesday, Sept. 28, at the agency's Big Spring office.

"To learn more about all options available in this area and to help put Texas Back to Work, employers are encouraged to attend an orientation at the Workforce Solutions Permian Basin, 501 S. Main, Suite 235, Tuesday, Sept. 28. Two sessions will be held, from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. and again at 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. For job seekers, the session will be on the same day at 2:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.

"Please call (432) 263-8373 to reserve a spot. Job seekers must be first-time claimants with an active claim filing status on or after Sept. 1, 2009, and who have earned less than \$15 an hour in their previous employment."

For more information on the program, contact Miramontes at (432) 263-8373.

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

RIDES

Continued from Page 1

Alton. "However, if people don't make it in time and still want to ride, we're certainly not going to turn them away. We'll hold a third

ride." Alton said there's plenty of other activities for area residents to take advantage of before or after the hayrides.

"We also have a nature trail, which is about a two-third mile walk," said Alton. "It's on a bit of a slope, but even kin-

dergarten students and first graders can make it. It's a good way to wear them down at the end of the day as well."

Alton said park officials will be waiving the normal entrance fee to the facility, opting to collect donations instead.

"We used to charge normal admission, which is \$2. However, we've had so much success just accepting donations during events such as the movie screening, we're opting to do that again," said Alton.

For more information on Harvest Saturday

or the Big Spring State Park, contact Alton at 263-4931.

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

AG

Continued from Page 1

very special to us," ValVerde said. "It's very important to recognize these men and women and the work they do. Big Spring and Howard County have relied heavily upon its agricultural producers for many, many years, and without them there might not even be a Big Spring. This luncheon and these awards are our way of saying thank you to them for all of their hard work."

Tex Edwards, owner and operator of Flying E Spraying, was named the ag business of the year in 2009, while Jimmy Sterling, owner of Sterling Cattle Company of Vincent, was named ag producer of the year.

ValVerde said the chamber will also be

offering a new award that may — or may not — be delivered during the luncheon.

"We're going to offer an award for the first bale of cotton produced and ginned in Howard County this year," she said. "This is the first time we've attempted something like this. The bale will have to be grown and ginned here in Howard County, and it must be at least 450 pounds in weight. The winner will receive a certificate recognizing both the producer and the gin, along with a cash prize.

"The tricky thing about this contest is there's really no way to know for sure when it will be awarded," she said with a laugh. "So, if the bale is produced between now and the luncheon, we'll announce it. However, if it hasn't, I

suppose we'll just have to wait and announce it through the media when it does."

According to ValVerde, tickets for the luncheon are free for local producers and ranchers, and \$12 for non-producers.

"Tickets for the luncheon will be on sale at the Chamber office until 5 p.m. Monday," she said. "There won't be any tickets for sale at the door, so I'd strongly suggest anyone planning to attend get their tickets now and not wait until

the last minute. This is something you certainly don't want to miss."

The deadline to purchase tickets is Oct. 1, according to ValVerde. For more information on the Ag Appreciation Luncheon — or to purchase or reserve tickets — call 263-7641 or visit the Chamber office at 215

W. Third St.

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

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September 19th, at 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Services continuing nightly at 7:00 p.m. through Thursday, September 23rd.

Evangelist **Dr. Darrell Robinson**, native of Big Spring, author, and international missionary, will be preaching the services. **Tim Ballard**, deacon, music leader, and soloists will be serving the praise and worship.

Central is located south of Big Spring. Take the Garden City Highway 33 off 87 south. Take a right at FM 818 to Nichols Road (at Elbow Elementary School), then turn left on Nichols Road. The church is just across the street from the playground of the school.

Please join us for these special services. **We will also have a pizza supper and special time for youth at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday night.** Dr. Robinson will speak briefly to the youth just before the evening services.

You may call pastor John McCullough for additional information as needed.

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

Bill McClellan
News Editor

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

OTHER VIEWS

Opening Cuba to Texas crops seems sensible

If you need a reason to support dropping the remaining ban against travel to Cuba by American tourists, Texas rice farmers and cattle ranchers are happy to oblige.

The state's farmers and ranchers have lined up in support of HR 4645, which supporters view as a kind of trade and travel twofer.

The bill would lift the last travel ban to the communist nation. Leaders of Texas agriculture are for it because they believe doing so would also open wide the door to more sales of agriculture products to Cuba, which has been mostly closed to U.S. products since the early 1960s.

Texas A&M economists have put a pencil to the numbers and they estimate passage of the bill would create 6,000 new jobs in this country's ag sector while boosting sales of agricultural products by about \$365 million. A good chunk of that would benefit Texas.

How would it happen? The particulars were laid out by Bob Stallman, a Texas rice farmer and cattle producer who is president of the American Farm Bureau Federation. Stallman served them up in a Chronicle Outlook piece in late July.

The farm bureau president says a lifting of the travel ban would create both a market for products such as Texas beef and rice (via more American tourists in Cuba with appetites for both foods) and a method for paying for it (the dollars they spend while visiting in that country).

That sounds like a win-win to us. Without getting bogged down in the endless argument over whether to continue economic sanctions against Castro to the bitter end, this much seems apparent. There's an opportunity here to do two things: to offer Americans expanded access to a country of great interest to so many for cultural and historic reasons; and a chance to help American farmers open up a new market.

Supporting both of these objectives seems likely to bring about the larger policy objective of loosening the grip of communist dictatorship that has choked Cuba for half a century.

As Stallman noted in his op-ed, polls show that more than two-thirds of Americans support ending the travel ban to Cuba. The added benefit of expanding markets for Texas rice and beef producers only strengthens the case for doing so.

We urge approval of HR 4645 to achieve this worthwhile objective.

THE CHRONICLE
HOUSTON

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Walking with You, Lord, can lighten our load.
Amen

American competition, innovation gets started in school classrooms

Over the past month, families across Texas have readied their children for the new school year. Supplies and back-to-school clothes have been bought. Fall sports and marching band practice are well underway. And many students are already hard at work on nightly homework assignments.

While our students might have their sights set on next week's football game or an upcoming science project, as a nation, we must focus on the overall preparedness of young Americans to be the leaders, thinkers and entrepreneurs of tomorrow.

Science and technology are at the core of America's ability to compete in an increasingly globalized economy and to solve 21st century challenges like energy independence, biotechnology, communications and healthcare.

Alarming, the National Science Board's Science and Engineering Indicators 2010 report shows that U.S. leadership in research and development and technological innovation is declining. If this trend continues, we risk forfeiting our global leadership in technological development to other nations. We cannot allow that to happen.

In order to compete, the U.S. must not only train the best scientists and engineers in the world, but emphasize math and science in American education so our students are qualified for the high-paying, high-tech jobs of the 21st century.

I have been a vocal proponent of encouraging young students to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

However, the rate of American students going into STEM fields still remains alarmingly low.

In Texas, only 41 percent of the

high school graduates are ready for college-level math (algebra), and only 24 percent are ready for college-level science (biology).

Furthermore, with current trends only two percent of today's American ninth-grade boys and one percent of girls will attain even an undergraduate science or engineering degree.

In contrast to these troubling numbers, 42 percent of all college undergraduates in China earn science or engineering degrees. In 2000, nearly 80 percent of the 114,000 science and engineering doctorates awarded worldwide were from institutions outside the United States. This situation has only worsened in the last decade.

Despite these troubling statistics, we can and must make America even more competitive and innovative than it is today. To grow high paying, highly skilled American jobs, we must increase investment in research by lowering the corporate tax rate, including a permanent extension of the R&D tax credit.

The President has proposed a temporary one-year extension but this tax credit must be permanent. We need to encourage student interest in careers in math, science and technology. And, we must foster an atmosphere of private-public partnerships between our educational institutions and those companies that need STEM graduates.

We must also build a solid foundation for a scientifically literate workforce, which begins with developing outstanding K-12 teachers in science and mathematics.

Unfortunately, today there is such a shortage of highly qualified K-12 STEM teachers that many of the nation's school districts have been forced to hire uncertified or under-qualified teachers in these subjects.

Today, many American middle and high school mathematics and science teachers are teaching outside their own primary fields of study.

While a U.S. high school stu-

dent has a 70 percent likelihood of being taught English by a teacher with a degree in English, that student has only about a 40 percent chance of studying chemistry with a teacher who was a chemistry major.

The University of Texas has led efforts to combat this problem by offering a combination of an undergraduate degree in a STEM field with teacher certification through electives. Beginning in 1997, the University of Texas' UTeach program has produced more high school teachers with degrees in STEM fields and has become the national benchmark for teaching excellence. It was recommended in the National Academies' "Rising above the Gathering Storm" report.

Recently, I included a provision in a bill reported out of the Commerce Committee that would create a national initiative to encourage colleges and universities to adopt the UTeach program. Modeled after UT's successful concept, it would help participating institutions recruit and prepare science, technology, engineering and mathematics majors to become certified as elementary and secondary school teachers.

I have also introduced legislation that will correct a discriminatory provision in a U.S. House bill that singles out Texas and denies our state \$800 million in education funding.

Our students and teachers deserve a quality education and my bill will try to allow Texas schools get their fair share of support.

The challenge of educating a 21st century workforce can be daunting, but we should consider it an opportunity to strengthen America as a global leader of innovation.

And the work begins in classrooms in Texas and across the nation.

Kay Bailey Hutchison is the senior U.S. Senator from Texas and is the ranking member of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.

Eat, pray, love without criticism!

Not only have I usually been my toughest critic, I have also been one of those women who has been equally critical of other women. After reading some of the negative movie reviews of Eat, Pray, Love, I find there is no shortage of women who are harshly critical of other women.

I decided some time ago that I didn't want to be this kind of woman anymore. And I wish more women would make the same decision.

The most common criticism of the movie and book heroine is that she whines too much or she is too self-absorbed. Some assert that she has no reason to be unhappy.

The book, Eat, Pray, Love, is not fiction. It is one woman's real life journey to find herself. It could also be called a journey of self-healing or the quest to find balance in life and love.

I think the story resonated with me because of my own feelings that there must be more to life than what it has been so far. It's not that I've been unhappy. For one thing, I've been very happily married for almost thirty years. But there have been career choices that I have regrets about. And now that I'm in my 50's, I'm rather consumed with the desire to experience and see all the things that have been put off for someday in the future.

I was impressed by the courage and audacity of the author to set out on a journey to find answers to some of the same questions

I have. I was a cheerleader in her corner as I read her book and was excited to follow her example as I watched the movie version of her story.

There are no villains in her journey, other than her own potential to self-destruct. I've been disturbed by those who have ridiculed her honest and sincere desire to be happy with her life with a fuller understanding of its purpose, potential and possibilities. I don't understand why some have seen this as something worthy of ridicule.

Yet, I know I've done the same in the past. And in my case, I finally concluded that such behavior was narrow-minded and self-righteous. And I no longer wanted to be a woman who was holier-than-thou and smugly virtuous in my judgments of others. And believe me — sadly — this does describe some of my past judgments!

And like I said, I believe women are often women's worst critics. We have a tendency to be intolerant of the opinions and behavior of other women. We need more empathy, my friends!

It's no easy undertaking to put oneself into another's situation or position in an effort to better understand. In fact, it may be pretty much impossible to do that. And this point is probably something that women critical of other women should consider — or at least recognize.

We don't know the whole story of our fellow women. All we know is what they tell us and what is in our sight. We do not know every detail of their situations or the depth of their feelings.

So when I say we need more empathy, dear women, this

means we need to give more respect to other women. We need an appreciation of and compassion for their lives.

It doesn't matter whether or not we think we agree with them or think we would never do the same. We don't even have to agree to disagree.

Why do we feel the need to have any opinion about another's life?

I admit it is a tall order to stop judging others. I have not mastered this desire entirely myself. But that doesn't make my desire less sincere and genuine.

Jesus explained it best. "Do not judge others, and you will not be judged." In other words, "Don't pick on people, jump on their failures, criticize their faults — unless, you want the same treatment. Don't condemn those who are down; that hardness can boomerang. Be easy on people; you'll find life a lot easier." (Luke 6:37)

And that is the truest fact of all. The less I judge, I find that life is not only easier, but happier and more satisfying.

We're all on a life-long journey to discover ourselves. Undoubtedly, we have much to learn. My hope is that we can eat, pray and love without criticism of ourselves or of others. This is going to require a lot more loving and a lot less judging!

Annette Bridges is a freelance writer who lives in North Texas. A mother and former public and homeschool teacher, she was first published by the Dallas Morning News after becoming an empty nester when her daughter left for college in 2001. She has since written weekly columns for numerous websites, newspapers and magazines.



KAY
BAILEY
HUTCHISON



ANNETTE
BRIDGES

BIRD POOP: A raptor regains the sky

After the short drive from Monahans, the game warden was relieved to see the hawk had remained in the woman's front yard. Waving to him from the porch, she opened the screened door. When almost through the doorway, she paused. His catching the large bird might prove entertaining.

Slowly, the officer approached the raptor. From her phone call he had learned it wouldn't fly. However, he couldn't rule out having to chase a rapidly darting bunch of feathers.

As quietly as possible, his measured steps brought him to within three feet of the bird. It did not move.

Kneeling within a foot of the hawk, he pressed his gloved hands against its wings. As he raised the startled bird from the grass, its feet reacted with outstretched talons.

Leaving Wink, the officer notified Parks & Wildlife in Midland of its capture. Telling us to expect a hawk, the receptionist said she would call again as soon as the bird was delivered.

In a small room adjacent to their conference room, we glanced inside a carrier. Although we had been advised that it was a red-tailed hawk, we had not expected one as large or perfectly feathered.

Removal from this temporary container gave us an opportunity to check its wings and body fat.

Finding no visible signs of injury, we still could not rule out soft tissue injury or bruising to a soaring raptor. With a full crop, this female had eaten recently and appeared to be healthy.

For the rest of the day, the noble lady refused a mouse. It was offered in spite of knowing that she probably would first cast a pellet accumulated from her previous meals.

Looking inside her enclosure the next morning, I noticed a large casting that reflected field rats as part of her diet.

My previous offering had disappeared.

Knowing she was capable of footing the gate and my hand as I offered her more mice, I treated her with the same customary caution



Courtesy photo

As an adult red-tailed hawk banks in the sky in search of prey, the top of its tail is a cinnamon to rufous color in contrast to its dark brown wings and back. From below, its creamy-white belly is often highlighted with dark streaks of sepia.

taken with any raptor. My leather gloves might deflect a glancing blow. Our hemostat extended each morsel well beyond my fingertips. Even with this care, birds of prey are always unpredictable.

While being careful, I noticed she stood on her perch, totally unperturbed. Later, a check on her revealed that the mice had been eaten.

For three more days, the

had awakened. For the next two days, her robust attitude would challenge us and make her difficult to handle.

Whatever had resulted in her being grounded had possibly also caused head trauma. With time, she had begun to recover.

Delivered to NIGHT-WINGS, one of two licensed centers in Lubbock, the red-tailed hawk appeared nor-

mal. Nothing wrong could be found.

Although we had held the raptor for seven days, the bird flew to the top perch when placed in a mew for exercise. Four days later, the raptor was taken to the flight cage.

Sharing this facility were three Swainson's hawks perched on the highest roost. When the red-tail realized the huge enclosure was hers to dominate, she immediately flew at the threesome.

While two of the Swainson's scattered, the red-tail knocked the remaining one to the ground.

Two days later, volunteer Larry Barnes transported the alpha female to a release sight. Later that evening, his wife, Gail, both volunteer and founder of NIGHT-WINGS, called with word about the red-tail.

Coming out of the container, the hawk looked at its surroundings. Flying to the top of a telephone pole, the raptor continued its reconnaissance.

Satisfied, she leapt toward freedom as her powerful wings carried her upward. When last seen, she was still flying.

Bebe McCasland is author of The Scoop from Bird Poop. She is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.



BEBE
MCCASLAND

Passing of the pans

We went to visit my mother, and as usual, upon our leaving, she wanted to send us with something, typically food. I don't mind because she has always been a great cook. Almost all of my memories of growing up seem to be wrapped in food. She showed her love with food. It became her vocation, but it was always her avocation. This time was different.

When I unpacked the trunk to find what my mother had put in there, I found food, but I also found her big pans. As I looked at these big pans, I thought about her, and about this gift. What was the symbolism? Does she just want an excuse to get new pans? Or, is she giving them to me because her cooking days are over? Because so much of our shared past revolved around wonderful food, is this a way of saying, with finality, that she feels her days are numbered?

Is the passing of these pans a passing of a generation? Am I now to be the patriarch, the oldest surviving member of my clan? Are there new responsibilities?

Like many things in our lives, seminal events do not come with an answers book. It is muddle as you go. Think of becoming a spouse, or a parent, or a grandparent. (Perhaps grandparenting does come with an answer book: it is etched on our minds and hearts what we would do better as parents, if we had to do it over.) We learn as we go. We make mistakes, and learn from them. How do you get good experience? From bad experience, which you vow never to repeat.

It wasn't until my mother passed me the pans that I realized she was, how should I say it delicately — not young. It stands to reason: I'm a grandparent. But to see her age meant that I had also aged. And my mind fought to be young, to do all the things I used to be able to do, but with more recovery time. The passing of the pans made me realize that the seasons of our lives are worth entering into, and passing through. For example, I made a promise to my wife that I would "get old and wrinkly with you," that we would go through the seasons in our lives together.

I am at the tail end of the Baby Boomer generation (I've always hated that term!); this means that our parents are getting older. Has there been "a passing of the ..." event in your life? For me it was pans; for you it might be tools, heirlooms, furniture, or something else.

Do we recognize these as a passing from one generation to another? Do we have a responsibility to be the bridge between the generation that preceded us and that which follows us? How do we deal with that? And, when will you be ready to pass the pans?

Scott Jimenez is a local chaplain.



SCOTT
JIMENEZ

Kids and the bigger picture

Have you ever asked a child why they go to school? I was visiting a campus the other day and asked that very question to a couple of kiddos. Their reply was, "I don't know" or "Mama makes me!" Many students have no idea why they are in school. School is simply a place that they have to go and most of them do not understand the reason why. This is also true for younger and older students.

For a student's education to be successful, he needs to know why he is in school. So where will he get this information? The government can't seem to furnish the needed information because of politics and the kids have no way of knowing if the intentions are noble, or there is some ulterior motive for what is being said. Parents are often unable to properly guide them and even if a parent encourages their child to do their homework it still does not serve to show the child the bigger picture of getting a diploma, possibly going to college, getting a job, and then working his or her way up the career ladder.

Many kids will not listen to any guidance or motivation that their teachers may

PARENT'S CORNER

provide. Even if a teacher wants to try to take the time to motivate his or her students and explain the importance of education, usually it is of no avail. With the passage of the NCLB Education Act, most every single minute of every single lesson has been mapped out for the teachers.

What, then, is the solution to the problem? How can kids come to realize that if they don't get an education in our current generation, they will probably have a very unpleasant and unsuccessful life?

It must come from sources that they will believe.

Parents and teachers can do their part but it must also come from other trusted sources. The pastors and youth leaders of houses of worship need to do their part in convincing kids of the importance of education. Famous individuals who are admired by students need to work in this regard as well. Examples might be actors, athletes, musicians and so on. Community centers, scouts and YMCAs and such also need to reach out to kids.

A student accomplishes very little when he doesn't know why he is doing the school work that is required. No learning can take place under these conditions. A kid must

understand the value of his efforts. To really understand the value of an education, ask someone who didn't have the opportunity to get a good education.

This leads me to something I once read about understanding values:

To understand the value of a sister or brother, ask someone who doesn't have one.

To understand the value of one second, ask a person who has survived an accident.

To understand the value of one minute, ask a person who has missed the train, bus or plane.

To understand the value of a day, ask about the day you were born.

To understand the value of one month, ask a mother who has given birth to a premature baby.

To understand the value of nine months, ask a mother who gave birth to a still-born.

To understand the value of one year, ask a student who has failed a final exam.

To understand the value of four years, ask a graduate.

To understand the value of a friend or family member, lose one.

And so it is with anything of value; we must open our minds to understand the things around us and to hold on tight to the things that are important!

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



DARRELL
RYAN

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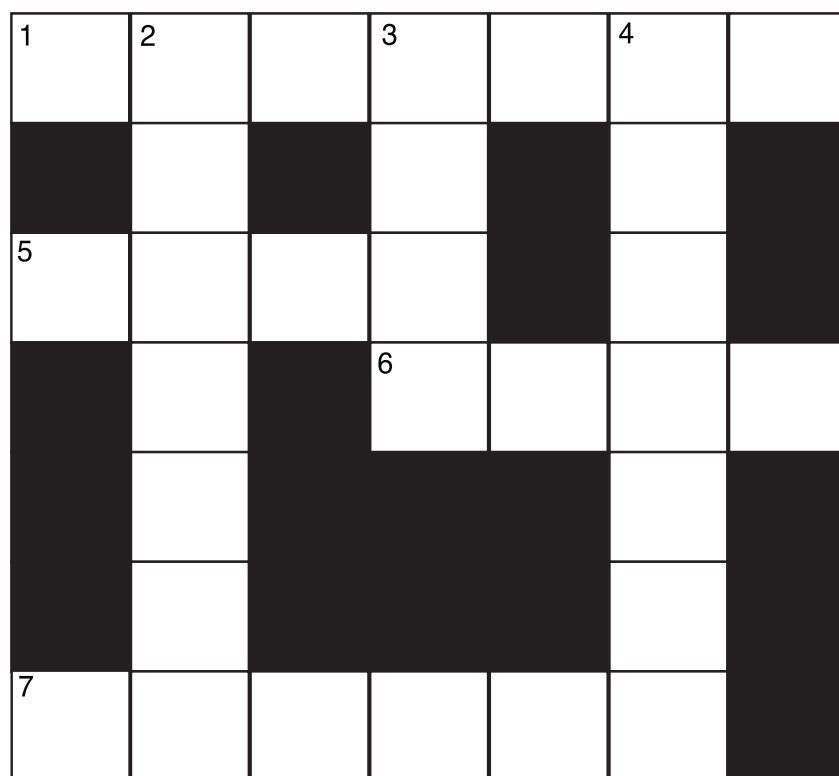
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Crossword Puzzle



THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1897: THE NEW YORK "SUN" PUBLISHED THE FAMOUS EDITORIAL, "YES, VIRGINIA, THERE IS A SANTA CLAUS."
- 1937: "THE HOBBIT" BY J.R.R. TOLKEIN WAS PUBLISHED.
- 1981: BELIZE GAINED INDEPENDENCE FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

ACROSS

1. Slang words for "vegetables."
5. Currency in Europe
6. Networks of fine woven threads
7. Sweet, flesh product of plants

DOWN

2. Area where many tropical fruits are grown
3. To get taller
4. Things that can be eaten

Answers:

1. veggies 2. Euro 3. grow 4. edibles
5. Euro 6. webs 7. fruits



HOW MANY SERVINGS OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES SHOULD THE AVERAGE CHILD EAT EVERY DAY?

ANSWER: 4 TO 5



antioxidant

substance that is used to stop the break-down of food

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Carrot

SPANISH: Zanahoria

ITALIAN: Carota

FRENCH: Carotte

GERMAN: Karotte

Did you know?

ALTHOUGH IT HAS LONG BEEN SAID THAT CARROTS IMPROVE VISION, THEY DO NOT HAVE ANY DIRECT AFFECT ON THE EYESIGHT.



GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: ASPARAGUS

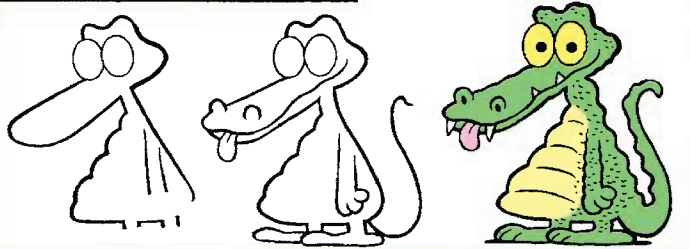
SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

BY BOB WEBER JR.

Yesterday morning one of these tourists burglarized a hotel room in Venice, Italy. One claims he was photographing the Leaning Tower of Pisa at the time. Another says he was driving a rented car from Sardinia to Venice, and the third insists he was in Vatican City admiring the Sistine Chapel. Who does Slylock Fox say the burglar is?



HOW TO DRAW an alligator



YOUR DRAWING

Today's terrific artist is Ben Stevens, age 11, of Modesto, CA



Submit your drawings at www.kidcartoonists.com

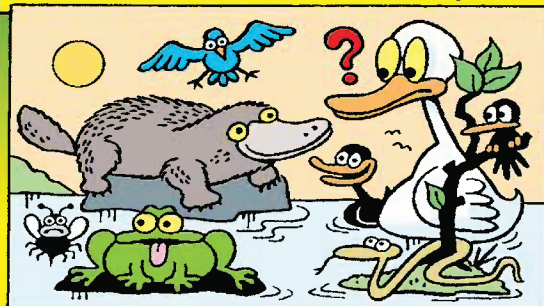
How many days does it take Earth to travel around the sun?

- 1) 130
- 2) 276
- 3) 365
- 4) 1,200

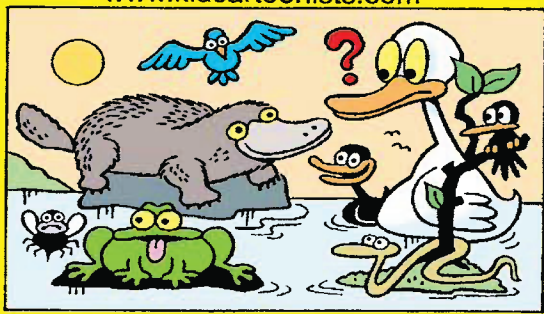


Answer -- (3) 365 days, or one Earth year.

Find six differences between these panels.



www.kidcartoonists.com



Answer -- Snake, bug, bird, leaf, duck's wing and grass.

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

News in brief

N. Korea to hold major party convention next week amid speculation Kim Jong Il will promote son

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea confirmed Tuesday that a major communist party convention will be held next week as observers speculated that the secretive regime's aging leader was ready to give his son an important position to pave the way for his succession.

Kim Jong Il took control of North Korea in 1994 when his father died of heart failure in what was communism's first hereditary transfer of power. Now 68, and reportedly in poor health two years after suffering a stroke, Kim is believed to be prepping his third and youngest son, Kim Jong Un, for a similar transition by appointing him to top party posts at the Workers' Party convention.

Delegates will meet Sept. 28 to elect new party leaders, the official Korean Central News Agency reported Tuesday in a dispatch from Pyongyang.

The report did not explain why the meeting, initially set for "early September," had been postponed. North Korea has been struggling to cope with devastating flooding and a typhoon that killed dozens of people and destroyed roads, railways and homes earlier this month, according to state media.

Delegates across the country were appointed "against the background of a high-pitched drive for effecting a new great revolutionary surge now under way on all fronts for building a thriving nation with the historic conference," the KCNA report said.

Military's gay ban pushed to forefront of election debate, moves to Senate

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's John McCain versus Lady Gaga on Tuesday as the Senate takes up the emotional issue of repealing the ban on gays serving openly in the military.

Senate Democrats have attached repeal of the 17-year-old "don't ask, don't tell" law to a bill authorizing \$726 billion in military spending next year. The fate of the move appears uncertain, but whichever way the votes go, repeal seems destined to become a major issue in this fall's midterm elections.

The law is already under siege.

A federal judge in California recently ruled the ban on gays was unconstitutional, polls suggest a majority of Americans oppose it and Lady Gaga has challenged it in a YouTube video.

Repeal advocates say the law deprives the military of capable soldiers and violates civil rights.

But McCain of Arizona and other prominent Republicans are fighting to keep the law in place, at least until the Pentagon completes a survey later this year on repeal's likely effect on troops.

GOP critics say lifting the ban at a time when troops are fighting two wars would undermine morale.

U.S. says Iran sanctions are working, but experts doubt they will stop Iran's nuclear work

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration says the latest round of sanctions appears to have succeeded in bringing additional pressure against Iran's nuclear program. But private experts question whether the penalties will achieve their goal of compelling Tehran to give up any nuclear ambitions.

In a speech Monday, the Treasury Department's point man on Iran sanctions, Stuart Levey, said U.S. and international sanctions are "dramatically isolating Iran financially and commercially."

And he asserted that this "can and will create leverage for our diplomacy" with Iran's leaders.

"Almost daily we receive reports of major firms

around the world deciding to pull out of business dealings with Iran," Levey said at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. The number of companies that recently have curtailed or eliminated their ties to Iran is in the dozens, he added, including Toyota and oil giant Royal Dutch Shell.

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton has said the sanctions are "biting" Iran's economy.

NATO says 9 international troops killed in helicopter crash; no reports of enemy fire

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — A helicopter carrying international troops crashed Tuesday, killing nine service members in southern Afghanistan where troops are ramping up pressure on Taliban insurgents.

It was the worst chopper crash for coalition forces in four years in the rugged country where helicopters are heavily used to transport military troops spread over mountainous terrain with few roads. This year was already the deadliest for international forces since the war began in 2001.

One other coalition service member, an Afghan National Army soldier and a U.S. civilian were injured.

The nationalities of the service members who died have not been released.

So far this year, 525 U.S. and NATO forces have been killed in Afghanistan, surpassing the 504 killed last year.

The crash occurred in northwestern Zabul province, according to a NATO official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to disclose the location of the crash.

Mohammad Jan Rasooly, a spokesman for the provincial governor in Zabul, said the helicopter went down in Daychopan district.

Guard commander takes responsibility for wildfire that raged out of control near Salt Lake

HERRIMAN, Utah (AP) — As smoke filled the sky from a wildfire started by live ammunition during a military exercise, Dustin Spangler and his neighbors saw no reason to wait any longer for help.

They organized a volunteer brigade to prepare for "the fire coming over the hill."

"We built a horseshoe-shaped fire barrier around a couple of neighbors' homes," said Spangler, a 38-year-old manager of business intelligence for Internet retailer Overstock.com. "We wet down the woods."

The actions may have saved Spangler's home, which suffered only smoke damage in the fire about 30 miles south of Salt Lake City.

The commander of the Utah Army National Guard accepted responsibility Monday for the fast-moving wildfire that led to the evacuation of 1,600 homes, saying Guard officials erred when they allowed live-fire training despite high wind warnings.

Fed wrestles with whether bolder action is needed to strengthen economy

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal Reserve policymakers are wrestling with what additional steps — if any — should be taken to strengthen the plodding economy and drive down near double-digit unemployment.

Lots of lively debate is expected at Tuesday's meeting. But few expect any major programs to be unveiled.

Instead, many will be looking to see if the Fed offers new clues about the timing of any new aid and what changes in the economy would trigger such a move.

To give the Fed extra time for discussions, Tuesday's meeting is scheduled to start around 8 a.m. — earlier than when it has two-day sessions.

There are differing views on the Fed's main policymaking group — the Federal Open Markets Committee — about what should be done. And some pressure is off after a few mildly positive economic reports showed the pace of layoffs has slowed, shoppers' appetites to spend has picked up and factory production is growing.

The reports have helped to ease concerns about the economy slipping back into a new recession, giving the Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke and his colleagues a little breathing room.

"We may be emerging from a soft patch," said Chris Rupkey, economist at the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, of the recent batch of encouraging reports. "This should allay the concerns of Fed officials."

Hurricane Igor churns toward Newfoundland after brushing past Bermuda, roiling U.S. waters

HAMILTON, Bermuda (AP) — Hurricane Igor barreled northeastward toward Canada early Tuesday, leaving behind power outages, grounded boats and downed trees in Bermuda and kicking up dangerous surf on the U.S. Atlantic coast.

A tropical storm warning was up for the coast of Newfoundland, where people were urged to prepare for possible power failures and flooding from heavy rain.

The Canadian company Husky Energy evacuated workers from two semi-submersible drilling rigs working the White Rose offshore oil field, spokeswoman Colleen McConnell said.

Igor doggedly stayed just above hurricane strength, with maximum sustained winds of 75 mph (120 kph). Early Tuesday, the storm center was about 285 miles (460 kilometers) south-southwest of Cape Race in Newfoundland and moving to the northeast near 41 mph (67 kph), the U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami said.

After brushing past Bermuda, Igor veered away from the United States, but forecasters said it could still cause high surf and dangerous rip currents along U.S. beaches.

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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Trial begins for woman accused of lacing boyfriend's margaritas with antifreeze

CANANDAIGUA, N.Y. (AP) — A manslaughter trial has begun for a woman accused of killing her boyfriend by lacing a jug of margarita cocktails with antifreeze at their apartment in western New York.

Cynthia Galens was charged with murder in January, three months after Air Force veteran

Thomas Stack died from complications of ethylene glycol poisoning. But a grand jury opted for a first-degree manslaughter charge, which carries a sentence of up to 25 years in prison.

State police say the 51-year-old Galens told them Stack was abusive and she decided in October to pour a shot glass

of antifreeze into a margarita mix. She says she intended only to sicken him.

A jury was selected Monday. Prosecutor Bill Hart says the trial should last several days.

sudoku ANSWERS

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

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Usually Doesn't Mean Always

South dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ K J 8

♥ 9 7 2

♦ A 9 5 4 3

♣ A 5

WEST

♠ 5 3

♥ A Q 6 4

♦ 10 6

♣ K Q J 9 6

EAST

♠ 9 2

♥ J 10 8

♦ Q J 7

♣ 10 8 4 3 2

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♠ 2 ♣ 2 ♦ Pass

2 ♠ Pass 4 ♣

Opening lead — king of clubs.

There are extraordinary plays

that come up once in a blue moon

and are missed by almost everyone.

This is usually because the play is so

unnatural and offbeat that it would

not be considered 99 times out of

100. But when that hundredth time

comes along, it cannot be denied that

the play is clearly correct.

Take this case where South won

the opening club lead with the ace

and needed to find a way to avoid

losing a diamond and three hearts.

Since West was likely to have the ace

of hearts for his overall, declarer's

best chance was to try to establish

dummy's diamonds, but this had to

be done without allowing East to

gain the lead.

South therefore cashed the A-K

of trumps, ending in dummy, and led

a low diamond. He was planning to

insert the eight and lose the trick to

West, but when East played the jack,

that plan had to be abandoned.

Instead, declarer took the jack

with the king and played the ace and

another diamond, hoping West

would have to win the trick. Unfortu-

nately, East won with the queen and

returned the heart jack, and the con-

tract went down the drain.

The winning play is not easy to

see because it occurs so seldom.

Declarer's undoing came at trick

one, when he should have allowed

West's king of clubs to hold the trick!

West can then do no better than

lead another club, on which South

discards his diamond loser. After

drawing a round of trumps, declarer

cashes the K-A of diamonds and

ruffs a diamond. Dummy is then re-

entered with a trump, and two heart

losers are discarded on the 9-5 of

diamonds to finish with an overtrick.

In adopting this approach, South

deliberately exchanges an unavoid-

able diamond loser for a nonexistent

club loser, but in the process ensures

that East will not gain the lead while

the diamonds are being developed.

Tomorrow: For whom the bell tolls.

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Bearkats named Army Strong TOW

BY ADAM COLEMAN

Sports Editor

Garden City's 103 points against O'Donnell didn't go unrecognized as the Bearkats earned the Dave Campbell's Texas Football Army Strong Team of the Week for Six-man football honor Monday. In their home opener against O'Donnell, the Bearkats were up in a close 60-56 game at the half, but a 43-point outburst clinched another win for the defending state champions.

"It's a big honor and we got it several times last year and we're definitely pleased to get it again this year," head coach Vance Jones said. "It's always sweet. Anytime your kids get recognized, that's pretty awesome."

Although the final score may not reflect it, Jones said Friday's game was a tough test for his players and their ability to put O'Donnell away was impressive.

Running back Josh Colunga was his usual self, too, garnering 324 yards on 18 carries and

an astounding nine touchdowns. Blayne Batla didn't disappoint at quarterback, either, completing 7-of-9 passes for 165 yards, three touchdowns and one interception. Brett Chudej caught four balls for 70 yards and two scores.

According to the press release, the award was given to the Bearkats because they displayed characteristics and values shared by U.S. Army soldiers, such as teamwork, dedication, discipline, integrity and personal courage.

"The U.S. Army is recognizing the student-athletes at Garden City High School for demonstrating qualities similar to those exhibited by its soldiers," Jay Williams said, according to the press release. "Student-athletes and soldiers share similar values, but more importantly they must be mentally, emotionally and physically strong. We expect to see some of these young men competing at the U.S. Army All-American Bowl, the college level, or maybe



Photo Courtesy of James Schwartz

Josh Colunga runs for a touchdown while Aaron Long blocks during Garden City's 103-56 win over O'Donnell Friday.

even professionally in the future."

According to the press release, Adam Hochfelder, general manager of Dave Campbell's Texas Football, was impressed with the Garden

City win.

"Garden City scored the most points in six-man football Friday, but the Bearkats also put on a tremendous defensive display in the second half en route to a 104-56

win against O'Donnell," he said in the press release. "After allowing 56 first-half points, Garden City held O'Donnell to negative yardage and zero points in the third quarter to win by the

mercy rule."

This week, Dallas Covenant is on tap for the Bearkats.

Contact Sports Editor Adam Coleman at 263-7331 ext. 237.



HERALD Photo/Tony Claxton

Bridgette Tuitt goes for a kill during the Big Spring volleyball's match against Colorado City. The Lady Steers wrap up non-district play against Pecos at 5:30 p.m. today in Steer Gym. They're coming off a loss in four games at Andrews Saturday.

Cowboys 'frustrated but not panicking'

IRVING (AP) — Put a hold on that talk about the Dallas Cowboys being the first team to play in a Super Bowl at home.

They need to at least win a game first.

"It's real frustrating. I think it's too much hype around here," safety Gerald Sensabaugh said Monday. "Everybody's talking about the Cowboys in the Super Bowl. We ain't won a damn game yet. I don't even want to hear nobody talking about the Super Bowl. Really, can we just talk about the next game?"

Dallas is already at a crossroads in the season after losing its first two games, an unexpected development with so much at stake and big expectations from owner Jerry Jones. Especially with most of the starters back from a division-winning team that won a playoff game last season.

Receiver Roy Williams describes the mood as "frustrated but not panicking."

The Cowboys lost 27-20 on Sunday to the Chicago Bears in their home

opener at the site of the next Super Bowl. That came a week after a 13-7 loss at Washington, where a fumble at end of the first half was returned for a touchdown and a score was wiped out by a game-ending holding penalty.

"Bring us back to Earth, it's going to help us stay levelheaded," Williams said. "Hopefully this is a lesson well-learned for this team."

Next is a trip to undefeated Houston (2-0) before the Cowboys have their early open date.

Houston beat Dallas in a preseason game last month. More embarrassing for the Cowboys was their last trip to Houston for a regular season game, in 2002 when they lost in the Texans' first NFL game.

The Cowboys certainly can't afford another loss. Imagine going into the open date and the end of September without a victory.

Their odds of getting into the playoffs, much less the Super Bowl, have already gotten extremely long with only two losses.

Since the NFL playoffs expanded to 12 teams in 1990 until last year, 169 teams started 0-2. Only 22 of them — or 13 percent — made it to the playoffs, according to STATS LLC. Only four teams rebounded from 0-2 to make it to the Super Bowl, including the 1993 Cowboys after Emmitt Smith ended his contract holdout.

In the locker room Sunday, cornerback Terence Newman, the longest-tenured defensive player for Dallas, indicated the need for a players-only meeting. Coach Wade Phillips said that meeting happened Monday afternoon.

"We're close, but we're too far away. That's our problem right now," a testy Phillips said. "We did some things well, but not enough to win the game. ... It's a 16-round fight, and we've been knocked down twice. We've got to come back fighting."

And this was supposed to be the easy part of the schedule for the Cowboys.

See COWBOYS, Page 13

Texas Rangers' magic number still 6 after loss to Angels

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Torii Hunter has watched several teams celebrate on the field at his club's expense, and he didn't want to see it happen again this week. So he did something about it.

Hunter drove in two runs to back Jered Weaver's solid

pitching and the Los Angeles Angels beat Texas 7-4 on Monday night, keeping the Rangers' magic number at six for clinching their first AL West title since 1999.

"We really don't want them to clinch on our field and our turf," Hunter said.

By winning the series opener, the Angels made sure that won't happen. But they need to go no worse than 7-5 the rest of the way to avoid their second losing record in Mike Scioscia's 11 years as manager. The other was 2003, when they went 77-85 one season

after winning the World Series.

"It's a little frustrating," Weaver said. "A lot of us have never been in this position before. A lot of things haven't gone our way. It's not an excuse, it's just the way the season's been going. What has it

been for them — 11 years? So it's exciting for them, obviously. We've been in that spot before, and all the pressure's on them. We're just going to keep playing and battling with these guys, because you

See RANGERS, Page 13

Sports in brief

Big Spring Quarterback Club

The club meets every Monday at 7 p.m. All parents of football players 7th through 12th grade are encouraged to attend. For more information, call

Denise Carrillo at 816-1685.

Cavern City Tennis Tournament

This tournament is set for 8 a.m. Saturday in

Carlsbad, N.M. Entry fee is \$15 for singles players and \$20 for doubles.

The deadline to enter is at 6 p.m. today and UTSA membership is required. Call 575-887-1980 for more information.

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The moon is in the last sign of the zodiac as the sun plays out the final day of its annual journey through Virgo. Tomorrow brings a new season, which sheds a sentimental light on events. Even though tomorrow's schedule will be similar to today's, there's a sense that things are changing. You will approach your duties with special attention.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The smaller goals you set, like to lose a pound or to make a certain sales quota, will get you from point A to point B. You'll get some momentum going. However, you still need a goal that expresses your whole self.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You have a strong protective instinct. You want to shield your loved ones from discomfort and inconvenience, from anything unpleasant and from anything having the potential to become unpleasant.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). If things don't go the way you want them to the first time, you'll have another chance to get it right. You'll be able to apply what you learn many times over in the

weeks to come. **CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Your high degree of mental clarity comes at the perfect moment. You will be able to take advantage of an opportunity because you have the presence of mind to act quickly and precisely.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Learning on your own requires a great deal of discipline. It could work, but keep in mind that you need three things right now: structure, stimulation and education. All three can be provided by a class, an organization or a tutorial.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). When the outcome you want isn't happening, you will do the smart thing: redesign your process. But don't change a thing if you are already getting what you want. Stick with what is working.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Someone who travels the globe and finds purpose in every new place will inspire you. You will see how a sense of freedom and a feeling of belonging can exist at the same time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You will do your best and most creative work when you know it's going to benefit someone else. So the trick is to find activities that will benefit you right along with another group of people.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Support is all

around you. All you have to do is ask. Even if your friends and family don't quite understand what it is you want to do, they will appreciate you for wanting to do it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The promise of romance and adventure will drive you forward. Take a break. Sure, you have a multitude of responsibilities, but they can all wait. You won't have to wander far to get that soaring feeling you seek.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You are an inventor at heart. It starts with a need that you or a loved one has experienced. Next, you'll use your ample powers of imagination to fill the void.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There will be a problem, but the solution is simple. It only takes one person with the right knowledge and skills to fix the situation. That person is you. You'll work your magic and — presto — the whole thing is solved.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Sept. 21). You make a stellar impression, partly because of your careful attention to your appearance and mostly because you are the best listener around. You'll learn what makes others tick, and you'll make them laugh, too. An October connection brings big money. January features

renovations. June brings a reunion. Cancer and Taurus people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 9, 30, 4 and 12.

SCHOOLDAYS! THE AQUARIUS STUDENT: This intellectual air sign is known for thinking outside the box, marching to a different drummer and conforming to no one. Amazingly enough, Aquarius can accomplish these things without winding up in the principal's office — a testament to how much this sign loves learning! The 11th sign of the zodiac is actually quite comfortable at school and in any organizations that keep society evolving. With a friendly and philanthropic nature, Aquarius students are often the glue that holds the student body together. Aquarius students should be encouraged to participate in the arts and other activities that give these unusual thinkers a place to express their uniqueness.

THE PISCES STUDENT: These dreamers of the zodiac often have an idealized view of what their education will be like. And while real life doesn't match up to this imagined utopian paradise of learning, Pisces' impressive powers of adaptation help the fish find a niche in school that is both productive and fun. The fish are real team

players. Their compassion and humanity is a godsend to anyone having a tough time academically or socially. Pisces will often befriend those who need a friend without worrying about the qualifiers of popularity. Ultimately, Pisces is a teacher, and the lesson is how to use love and respect to get along in this world.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Socialite and New York Times bestselling author Nicole Richie will celebrate her birthday by releasing a new novel, "Priceless." It's the sequel to "The Truth About Diamonds," a novel about a rock royalty princess in Hollywood's inner circle. This Virgo mother of two was born under a nurturing Cancer moon with aggressive Mars in Leo, the sign of entertainment and the spotlight.

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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Tomorrow's Horoscope



HOLIDAY MATHIS

Annie's Mailbox



KATHY MITCHELL MARCY SUGAR

Dear Annie: My wife and I have been married for 26 years, and we are very happy.

When we first married, we moved next door to my widowed mother-in-law to help her out. About 12 years later, however, we moved to a more family-friendly community 20 miles away where we could raise our three children.

My wife stays in close contact with her mother. But Mom has always treated us as if we are less important than my wife's siblings and their children.

For example, every Christmas, the other grandchildren receive gifts carefully selected especially for them, while our kids get cash. This happened even when our children were little and easy to buy for.

This pattern has spread to infect my wife's sisters. They recently planned a family reunion, knowing full well that my family would not be able to

attend an event so far away.

The latest acts of rudeness are a wedding that requires a two-day hotel stay on New Year's (even though the couple was married six months ago in a civil ceremony) and another niece's destination wedding in the Dominican Republic.

We don't have that kind of money, and I have a disability that prevents me from traveling great distances.

My question is: Should I feel guilty telling my wife's sisters that I cannot afford to attend these events?

While I will certainly give the bride a lovely gift, how do I make the in-laws realize and appreciate our circumstances without making things worse?

How do I make my wife realize that her mother and siblings treat us like second-class relations?

Because I love and respect my wife, I have bitten my tongue for years. I'd appreciate your opinion. — *Fed Up in Ohio*

Dear Ohio: Your wife loves her family, even if they don't treat her as well as you'd like.

out in public, especially when sitting in a restaurant, he will dig into his ear to pull the aid out and put it away.

I think he should do this in the privacy of the restroom. I haven't said anything since I'm not sure if I'm right or being too picky. — *Curious in California*

Dear Curious: How much digging are we talking about? If he can pluck the hearing aid out without much fuss, it isn't necessary for him to do it in the restroom. If, however, other people are present at the table or he has to spend more than 10 seconds getting it out of his ear, he should excuse himself.

Dear Annie: You were too one-sided in your response to "N.Y.," who wanted his wife to run errands with him on Saturday because places are closed on Sunday. His wife, however, wanted him to go hiking or take drives on Saturday.

Stay-at-home wives may feel sad and powerless if errands take over the husband's first free day. She's not trying to control the agenda. She wants to have fun with

him. They could compromise if she runs some of his errands during the week and he comes home early after work and finds a library or mall with evening hours.

Then they could split the Saturday agenda to include both errands and bike rides. — *Vermont Outdoor Girl*

Dear Vermont: We respectfully disagree. The simpler and more logical compromise is for them to run errands on Saturday and bike on Sunday.

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, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Ste. 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. 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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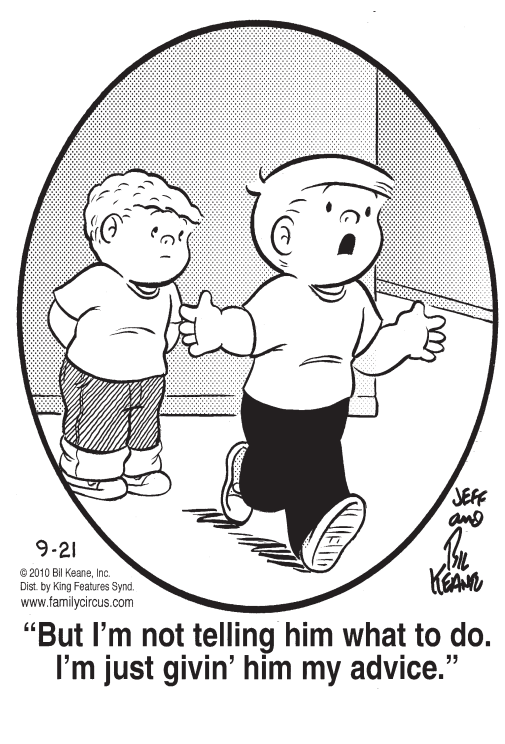
NIE Publishes Tuesday In the **BIG SPRING HERALD** (Newspapers in Education)

| | 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 | KWWT (14) 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 | Vida | Lopez | News | Noticias | News | King | Scrivner | BBC | Lyrics | Cash Cab | Movie: Mad Max, Hugh Keays-Byrne | Scene Investigation | Law & Order | 106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live | Good Sonny | Nation | SportsCenter |
| 6:PM | Jeopardy! | Liena de Amor (SS) | Two Men | News | El Cartel II | News | Seinfeld | Uri Harel | Business | Lyrics | Cash Cab | Movie: Mad Max 2: The Road Warrior | Ways Die | Bones | | Phineas | Football | Rise Up |
| 7:PM | Dancing With the Stars | Hasta que el Dinero | Glee | NCIS | El Clon | The Biggest Loser | Office | Upd | NOVA (DVS) | One Tree Hill | Swords: Life | Movie: Mad Max 2: The Road Warrior | Ways Die | Bones | Movie: The Perfect Holiday, Queen Latifah | Movie: High School Musical 2 | Baseball Tonight | 30 for 30 |
| 8:PM | | Soy Tu Dueña (SS) | Raising Wilde | NCIS: Los Angeles | El Fantasma de | | Office | Light of the Southwest | | Life Unexpected | Swords: Life | Movie: Mad Max 2: The Road Warrior | Ways Die | Law & Order | | Game | WNBA Basketball: Finals, Game 5 -- Dream at Storm | 2010 Poker |
| 9:PM | Detroit 1-8-7 | Aquí y Ahora (SS) | Simpsons | NCIS: Los Angeles | Alguien te Mira | Parenthood | Fam. Guy | Office | POV | Married King | The Colony | Movie: Mad Max 2: The Road Warrior | Ways Die | Law & Order | Game | Game | 2010 Poker | SportsCenter |
| 10:PM | News | Impacto | How I Met | News | Noticias | News | Lopez | Mark Cortes | Charlie Rose | South Pk | Swords: Life | Movie: The Terminator, Michael Biehn | Chappelle | Dark Blue | Wendy Williams | Hannah | Nation | NFL Live |
| 11:PM | Jimmy Kimmel Live | La Verdad Oculta | Law & Order: SVU | Late | Decisiones | Late Night | Earl | Sex & Upd | T. Smiley (Off Air) | South Pk | The Colony | Movie: Cold | CSI: Crime Scene | Dark Blue | Movie: Paper Soldiers, Damon Dash | Wizards | 2010 Poker | SportsCenter |
| 12:AM | Extra | Tontas Cielo | Paid | Insider | Pagado | News | Sex & Church | | | South Pk | Overhaul | Movie: Cold | Star Trek: Voyager | Leverage | Wizards Suite Life | 2010 Poker | SportsCenter | |
| 1:AM | Paid | Mujer... Cero | King-Hill | | Pagado | Poker After Dark | Lopez | Light of the Southwest | | South Pk | | | | | | | | |

DENNIS THE MENACE



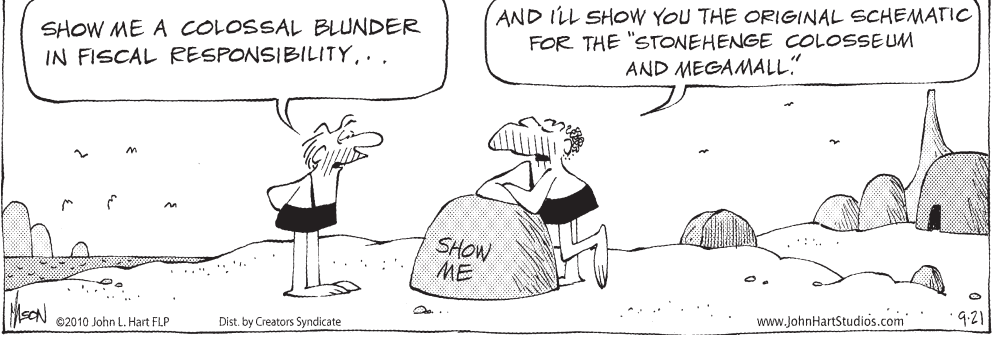
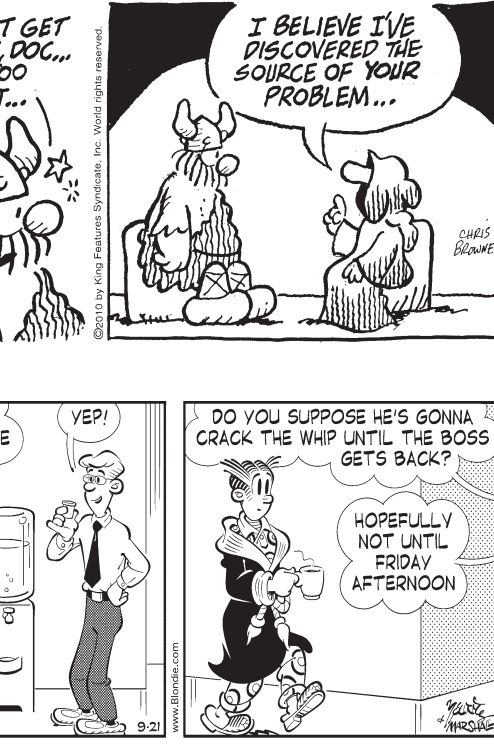
THE FAMILY CIRCUS



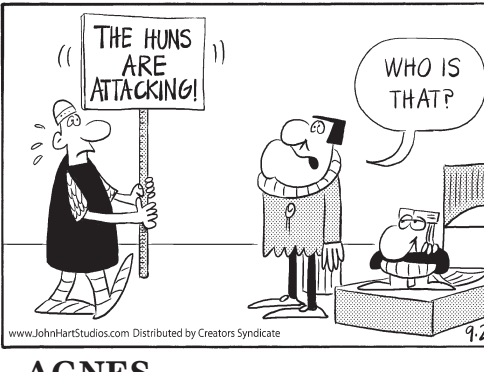
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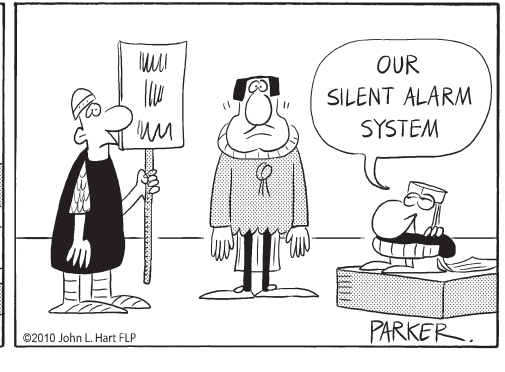
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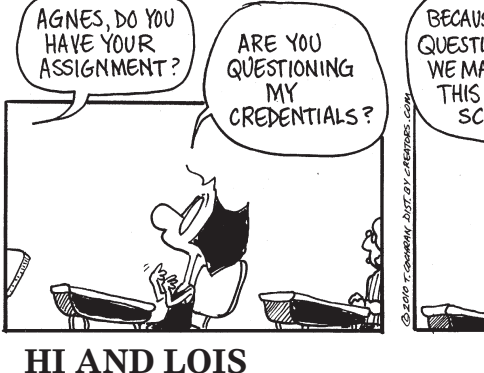
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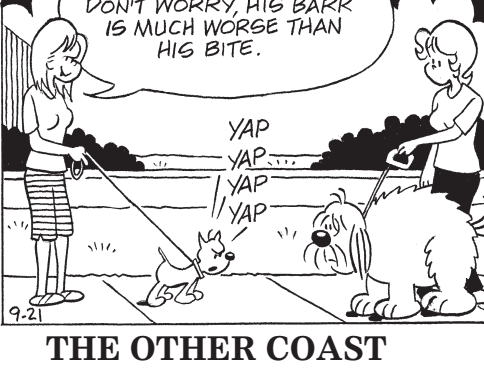
HI AND LOIS



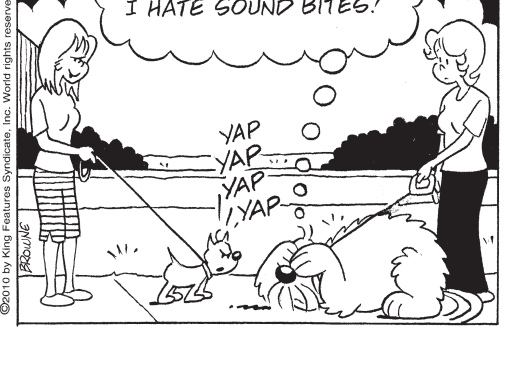
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Sept. 21, the 264th day of 2010. There are 101 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On Sept. 21, 1893, one of America's first horseless carriages was taken for a short test drive in Springfield, Mass. by Frank Duryea, who had designed the gasoline-powered vehicle with his brother, Charles.

On this date:
In 1792, the French National Convention voted to abolish the monarchy.
In 1897, the New York Sun ran its famous editorial that declared, "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus."
In 1931, Britain went off the gold standard.
In 1937, "The Hobbit," by J.R.R. Tolkien, was first published.
In 1938, a hurricane struck parts of New York and New England, causing widespread damage and claiming some 700 lives.

In 1948, Milton Berle made his debut as permanent host of "The Texaco Star Theater" on NBC-TV.
In 1970, "NFL Monday Night Football" made its debut on ABC-TV as the Cleveland Browns defeated the visiting New York Jets, 31-21.
In 1982, Amin Gemayel, brother of Lebanon's assassinated president-elect, Bashir Gemayel, was himself elected president. National Football League players began a 57-day strike, their first regular-season walkout ever.
In 1987, NFL players called a strike, mainly over the issue of free agency. (The 24-day walkout prompted football owners to hire replacement players.)
In 1989, Hurricane Hugo, packing sustained winds up to 135 mph, crashed into Charleston, S.C. Twenty-one students in Alton, Texas, died when their school bus, involved in a collision with a soft-drink delivery truck, careened into a water-filled pit.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Karl Slover ("The Wizard of Oz") is 92. Actor Larry Hagman is 79. Poet-songwriter Leonard Cohen is 76. Author-comedian Fannie Flagg is 66. Author Stephen King is 63. Producer Jerry Bruckheimer is 63. Musician Don Felder is 63. Retired NBA All-Star Artis Gilmore is 61. Actor-comedian Bill Murray is 60. Hall of Fame jockey Eddie Delahoussaye is 59. Rock musician Philthy Animal is 56. Former Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd is 53. Movie producer-writer Ethan Coen is 53. Actor-comedian Dave Coulier is 51. Actor David James Elliott is 50. Actress Serena Scott-Thomas is 49. Actress Nancy Travis is 49. Actor Rob Morrow is 48. Retired MLB All-Star Cecil Fielder is 47. Actress Cheryl Hines is 45. Country singer Faith Hill is 43. Rock musician Tyler Stewart (Barenaked Ladies) is 43.

Answer to previous puzzle

| | | |
|-----------|---------|-------|
| MOLT | SHALE | FUJII |
| ARIA | COLOR | ONUS |
| SEEN | AUTOS | UTIL |
| COUGH | DROP | PRICE |
| LESS | BALLET | |
| EDGER | ORATE | |
| BRA | OUTWIT | AGES |
| BEGINNING | OFF | ALL |
| SWAN | FRESNO | LSU |
| | CRIER | CHEER |
| DEFEAT | STAY | |
| AMONG | DOUBLED | IP |
| WARS | VIRGO | NERO |
| NITE | PECAN | ALOT |
| SLED | STARE | SINS |

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Jewelry fastener
 - 6 Omelet ingredients
 - 10 Applaud
 - 14 Soda-bottle size
 - 15 Fluctuate
 - 16 Angel's topper
 - 17 In flames
 - 18 Rams' mates
 - 19 CPR specialists
 - 20 Stick-in-the-mud
 - 22 Washday woe
 - 23 Drink daintily
 - 24 Flower parts
 - 26 TV commercials, e.g.
 - 29 AWOL's pursuers
 - 31 Fitted together nicely
 - 35 Beer-keg insert
 - 36 Boys
 - 39 Teacher's request
 - 40 Awkwardly uncomfortable event
 - 44 Spine-tingling
 - 45 Health resorts
 - 46 City roads: Abbr.
 - 47 Letter writer's sign-off
 - 49 Boring routine
 - 51 Driving-range prop
 - 52 Not skillful
 - 55 Rainbow shape
 - 57 Cry loudly
 - 60 Place to bring stained shirts
 - 65 Jai ___
 - 66 Ready for picking
 - 67 Battery terminal
- DOWN**
- 1 Cat's weapon
 - 2 Vivacity
 - 3 Have a go ___ (try)
 - 4 Belgrade natives
 - 5 Qualifying bout, for short
 - 6 Tied, as a score
 - 7 Stares conspicuously
 - 8 Say "Welcome!" to
 - 9 Method
 - 10 Place for bishops and pawns
 - 11 Night-table light
 - 12 Palo __, CA
 - 13 Military base
 - 21 Answer a job listing
 - 25 Flat-topped elevation
 - 26 On the ocean
 - 27 Sees socially
 - 28 Cathedral topper
 - 30 Talk back to
 - 32 Bank robbery
 - 33 Overdo it, on stage
 - 34 Tightly packed
 - 37 Quick swim
 - 38 Top-billed actor
 - 41 One not in uniform
 - 42 Quick-witted
 - 43 Same-old
 - 48 Made another sketch of
 - 50 Picks up the tab
 - 53 Group of lions
 - 54 Does some keyboarding
 - 56 Man-made waterway
 - 57 Low singing voice
 - 58 Ointment ingredient
 - 59 Walk through water
 - 61 Penny
 - 62 Opposite of "all"
 - 63 Outer limit
 - 64 Take a breather

PAINT TEST by Gail Grabowski Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 65 | | | | | 66 | | | | | 67 | | | |
| 68 | | | | | 69 | | | | | 70 | | | |
| 71 | | | | | 72 | | | | | 73 | | | |

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Courtesy Photo

The Playmakers 99 fastpitch travel team competed in the Eighth Annual Harvestfest this weekend in Temple. The players placed first out of 26 teams in their age division and went undefeated throughout the tourney. Pictured top row from left to right: Tenea Love (San Angelo), Ysabel Soliz (Big Spring), Rylee Morales (San Angelo), Alyssa Benitez (Snyder), Gabby Carrillo (Ralls); bottom row from left to right: Kendall Phillips (Forsan), Marisa Cruz (San Angelo), Destiny Mata (Big Spring), Kylee Davis (Snyder). Not pictured Karson Botts (Snyder). Coaches are Jaime Soliz (Big Spring), Eddie Benitez (Snyder), Mike Cruz (San Angelo).

Big fifth lifts Astros past Nats for win

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bud Norris kept his cool after allowing two early runs, and the resurgent right-hander was rewarded by some unlikely power sources.

Humberto Quintero and Geoff Blum each homered in a seven-run fifth inning, Norris won for the seventh time in eight decisions and the Houston Astros beat the mistake-prone Washington Nationals 8-2 Monday night.

Norris (9-8) allowed two runs and six hits in 6 2-3 innings. The right-hander walked four and struck out six. The Astros are 10-1 in Norris' previous 11 starts. He is 7-1 with a 3.52 ERA over

that span.

"Earlier in the year, (Norris) wasn't able to stop the inning right there with two runs," said Astros manager Brad Mills. "Sometimes they'd put up three and four, and that's tough to come back (from). Tonight, he was able to stop it right there and then put up six more real good solid innings."

Houston has won six of eight and is 12-6 in September. Washington lost its fourth straight.

The Nationals committed three errors leading to four unearned runs in the fifth, when the Astros erased Washington's 2-1 lead.

Brees marches Saints to 25-22 victory over 49ers

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — For nearly 59 minutes, coach Mike Singletary's bold proclamation that San Francisco would stop Drew Brees and the high-powered New Orleans Saints looked prophetic.

Then with one late drive worthy of the Super Bowl champions, Brees eked out another victory for the Saints.

Garrett Hartley's deflected 37-yard field goal fluttered over the cross bar after time expired to cap the winning drive that gave the Saints a 25-22 victory over the 49ers on Monday night.

"We won the game and that's all

that counts," Brees said. "There were definitely things you wish you would have done a little bit differently but the fact of the matter is we found a way to win at the end."

The Saints (2-0) took advantage of four turnovers, an errant shotgun snap that gave them a safety and a kick that barely made it through the uprights to spoil the home opener for San Francisco (0-2).

In a testy television interview last week, Singletary bristled at a question about how the Niners would try to stop Brees.

"We will not try to stop Drew Brees,"

he told KPIX-TV. "We will stop Drew Brees. Next question."

The Niners held Brees and the Saints to 231 yards of offense until the final drive. The game appeared headed to overtime when Frank Gore scored on a 7-yard run with 1:19 remaining and Alex Smith completed a 2-point conversion to Vernon Davis that needed a replay review to count.

But there was enough time for Brees, who had the wind at his back. He completed two short passes to Pierre Thomas to move the ball into San Francisco territory and a 30-yarder to Marques Colston to get into field

goal range. "We've been here before," Brees said. "We knew exactly what we had to do, just find a way to win. We've shown that we can win in a lot of ways. To be battle tested like this, just in the first two weeks of the season, is going to serve us very well as we go forward."

After another short pass to Jeremy Shockey and a false start penalty, Hartley came on with 2 seconds left for his first game-winning attempt since winning the NFC championship with a 40-yarder in overtime against Minnesota in January.

Houston Texans turn corner in comeback win in Washington

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Texans have a history of blown leads and heart-breaking losses. Coach Gary Kubiak thinks they may have finally blossomed into a team that wins those kinds of games.

The Texans (2-0) rallied

from 17 points down in the second half to beat Washington 30-27 on Sunday, an improbable victory that previous Houston teams would not have pulled off.

All-Pro receiver Andre Johnson said during training camp that he sensed a more

confident, determined vibe from these Texans and so far it's shown with two breakthrough wins to start the season: They snapped a six-game losing streak to Peyton Manning and the Colts in the opener and earned the franchise's first overtime win in

electrifying fashion on Sunday.

Houston plays Dallas (0-2) this week, another chance for a meaningful victory. While the Cowboys are reeling, the Texans are 2-0 for the second time in nine seasons and have won six straight games dating

to last year — the franchise's longest victory streak.

"We've matured, we've grown up," Kubiak said Monday. "We've come to expect to play in great football games, and get in them, and be will-

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RANGERS

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never know what's going to happen."

As a result of Oakland's 3-0 win over the Chicago White Sox, the Rangers lead the Athletics by eight games with 13 to play — including a four-game road series against the A's that begins Thursday night.

"You know you're on

the cusp of accomplishing something," Texas manager Ron Washington said. "I've been in the game a long time and I've seen a lot of collapses. So I'm just trying to stay focused on what's at hand today and trying to keep those guys on the field focused on what's at hand. Whatever's built up inside of me, and whatever's built up inside of them, let's contain it until it's

ours." Texas entered this three-game set knowing it could eliminate the Angels from postseason contention by beating them twice. But it won't be easy, with Ervin Santana and Dan Haren scheduled to pitch for

the three-time defending AL West champions.

"It wouldn't add to any satisfaction," Washington said. "I'm not into satisfaction at someone else's expense. I'm just into trying to win."

Weaver (13-11) allowed three runs.

COWBOYS

Continued from Page 8

Consecutive games against last year's Super Bowl teams, New Orleans on Thanksgiving Day and then at Indianapolis, start a closing six-game stretch against five opponents that won at least 10 games and went to the playoffs last season.

The other team in that span is Washington, which has already beaten the Cowboys this season.

Tony Romo was 34 of 51 passing for 374 yards and a touchdown against the Bears, Miles Austin caught 10 passes for 142 yards and rookie Dez Bryant returned a punt 62 yards for a TD.

But the Cowboys sacked turnover-prone Jay Cutler only once, on the second play of the game, and didn't have an interception. That's zero forced turnovers in two games.

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ENTRY FORM IN WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY EDITION OF THE BIG SPRING HERALD

UCLA's 66-3 romp over UT in 1997 was staggering

AUSTIN (AP) — The audacity of the final score was staggering: UCLA 66, Texas 3.

In 1997, the Bruins romped over the Longhorns in one of the biggest routs since Davy Crockett and the boys got whipped at the Alamo.

Texas fans fumed. Some cried. Most were gone by halftime.

The humiliation lasted until November. One season after winning the Big 12, "Rout 66" drove the Longhorns into a complete collapse and a 4-7 season that ended with the firing of coach John Mackovic.

On Saturday, the Bruins (1-2) come back to Austin. The current Longhorns (3-0) were hardly in grade school in 1997, but fans and former players will always remember the day UCLA jammed a big ol' stick right into the eyes of Texas.

Most would like to just forget it.

"Nooooooo! Not that game!" former wide receiver Wane McGarity responded when contacted by e-mail to discuss the game.

"Dang, I never saw us look so (bad)," said Texas mega-booster Joe Jamail, a

billionaire trial lawyer from Houston. "Hopefully we can return the favor."

Just that season Texas had named the field at Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium after Jamail, a colorful character who peppers his language with curse words.

"I had made a very large contribution to the university, I don't know how many millions, and they decided to stick my name on the field. I was proud and pleased," Jamail said.

But after the game, when only a few die-hard fans had stayed to sing "The Eyes of Texas," Jamail saw athletic director DeLoss Dodds and asked him a hard question. He didn't hold back the cussing: "Deloss, how much ... money will it take to get my name off that ... field?"

The score reverberated throughout the country.

In Chapel Hill, N.C., then-Tar Heels coach Mack Brown was in the fourth quarter of a tough game against Stanford when the Texas score was announced.

"Bad night to be in Austin, Texas," Brown thought to himself.

Texas entered the 1997 season expecting great things.

The Longhorns won the '96 Big 12 championship with a stunning upset of Nebraska. Quarterback James Brown was being hyped as a possible Heisman Trophy contender and the Longhorns were ranked No. 11 after a 48-14 win over Rutgers.

But not all was perfect. James Brown hurt his ankle against Rutgers and realized the score was misleading. He looked around and saw a young team still living off the championship of 1996 and not ready for prime time.

"I was like, 'Wow, we are definitely not as powerful as we think we are,'" said James Brown. He is now an assistant coach at Lamar University in Beaumont.

With Brown hurt, backup Richard Walton started. Texas was still favored to win at home against a UCLA team that had lost its first two games.

And then all hell broke loose. Texas had eight turnovers. UCLA romped to a 38-0 lead. Cade McNown threw a school-record five touchdown passes in the first half. Texas fans

were stunned, then quickly disgusted by what they were seeing. The booing started early and many were pouring out of the stadium by halftime.

"They'd have burned the place if they could have," Jamail said.

Walton and third-team quarterback Marty Cherry were smothered by blitzing Bruins. Ricky Williams, who would win the Heisman Trophy in 1998 and finish his career as the leading rusher in major college history, ran for just 36 yards.

"I remember sitting back watching Marty take a beating," McGarity said. "They beat us so bad they sent a guy into modeling."

Indeed. The UCLA game was Cherry's last for the Longhorns. He quit before the season ended to pursue a male modeling career, eventually landing much softer gigs with Abercrombie & Fitch and Ralph Lauren.

It was 45-0 before Texas managed to do something right: kick a field goal.

"They just couldn't stop us. And they could not block our defense," said then-UCLA coach Bob Toledo, who is now the head coach at Tulane.

Broncos WR McKinley found dead

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP) — For the third time in four years, the Denver Broncos are dealing with the death of a teammate.

Wide receiver Kenny McKinley was found dead in his home Monday in an apparent suicide.

Arapahoe County Sheriff Grayson Robinson said authorities were called to McKinley's home in Centennial at 3:35 p.m. local time and found McKinley's body in the second-floor master bedroom. He said detectives believe McKinley, 23, was killed by a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

McKinley played quarterback for South Cobb High School in Austell, Ga.

Robinson said author-

ities were called by a female friend of McKinley's who discovered the body after returning from an errand with his child. The sheriff declined to say if authorities found a suicide note.

"It's still part of our investigation and probably nothing we'll talk about right now," he said.

McKinley was on injured reserve after hurting his left knee in August for the second time in eight months. He was known for his infectious smile and good sense of humor.

His death is the latest in a series of tragedies for the Broncos in recent years. Cornerback Darrent Williams was slain in a drive-by shooting on New Year's Day 2007,

and three months later backup running back Damien Nash collapsed and died after a charity basketball game in St. Louis.

McKinley was a fifth-round draft choice out of South Carolina in 2009. He remains South Carolina's all-time leading receiver with 207 catches for 2,781 yards. He returned to the school earlier this month, watching the Gamecocks beat Georgia 17-6 and visiting with his college coach, Steve Spurrier.

"Had a wonderful smile just like he always did," Spurrier remembered.

The news of McKinley's death spread quickly at the end of South Carolina's practice Monday.

RCR warned on Bowyer's Chase-clinching car

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — NASCAR warned Richard Childress Racing that Clint Bowyer's car came close to failing inspection after his Chase-clinching drive at Richmond.

NASCAR scheduled a Tuesday meeting with RCR officials to go over the No. 33 Chevrolet and determine if the team had not made a mistake in its own calculations.

"They were in the box, but getting close to some of the tolerances and we asked them to come in to see if they aren't getting off on one of their build sheets," NASCAR vice president of competition Robin Pemberton told The Associated

Press.

"We have had their cars in quite a bit, and they were always spot-on. This one just seemed to be different, and we felt we owed it to them to make sure they just aren't off in one area."

Bowyer's car was chosen by NASCAR for random inspection following his sixth-place finish at the Sept. 11 race. The run gave him the 12th and final spot in the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship, which began Sunday in New Hampshire.

Bowyer won the opener to vault from 12th in the standings to second, and he's in the thick of the championship hunt.

But as his team celebrated the victory, rival teams began to gossip about a potential problem with Bowyer's car from the week before. NASCAR on Tuesday confirmed that once the car got back to its North Carolina research and development center, it was discovered that the back end of the Chevrolet was very close to the mandated tolerance levels.

NASCAR still has the car in its possession, and won't give it back to RCR until the team meets with the sanctioning body.

But Pemberton shot down speculation that RCR was given a pass.

TEXANS

Continued from Page 13

ing to make the play and be the difference maker."

Kubiak, in his fifth season, witnessed his team's resolve again after the Texans fell behind the Redskins 20-7 at halftime. He said the players and coaches vented some frustration in the locker room, then quickly regained their focus.

"There were a lot of disappointed people," Kubiak said. "But yet, once that was over, there was a calm about, 'Hey, we're 13 points down."

"Let's go win a half of football."

"It wasn't like we took any frustration or panic to the field in the second half," he said.

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