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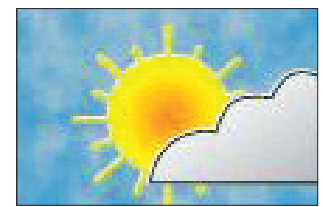
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BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 25, 2010



VOLUME 105, NUMBER 299

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DQ fire ruled arson

Owner hopes to reopen, not sure when

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Officials with the Big Spring Fire Department say the fire reported at the Fourth Street Dairy Queen late Tuesday night was set to cover up a burglary at the local restaurant.

Big Spring Fire Marshall Carl Condray said the fire, which was reported just after 11 p.m., has been ruled arson, an apparent attempt by the thief to cover his or her tracks.

"The fire was definitely set, and it looks like it was done so to cover up the burglary of the restaurant," Con-

dray said. "Right now it's hard to tell exactly what is missing and what was destroyed in the fire, but several items have already been identified as missing.

"The fire started in a store room in the building. There's extensive heat and smoke damage throughout the restaurant, however, we haven't been able to put a dollar amount to it just yet. I can tell you, however, that it will be substantial."

Condray said it took firefighters

See **ARSON**, Page 3A



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins
The Fourth Street Dairy Queen was closed Wednesday morning following a fire that ripped through the restaurant late Tuesday night. According to local officials, the fire has been ruled arson.



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins
Salvation Army Capt. Terri Cheshire takes a turkey out of the oven Wednesday morning as the local charity prepares to offer its annual Thanksgiving dinner Thursday between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

OPINION Our warmest Thanksgiving wishes to all

As we look to the sky today in its beautiful West Texas splendor ... as we watch the leaves turn color and gently float to the ground in advance of winter ... as we gather 'round the dinner table to share food with friends and family, let us give pause.

Thanksgiving is truly a time to give thanks ... for our good fortune, our friends, our family and so many other things in life we enjoy.

But this day is more than turkey and dressing and cranberry sauce, and it is more than the football games television networks pitch at is as "part of the Thanksgiving tradition."

And it is certainly more than a day off.

What is the Thanksgiving tradition?

In reality, its tradition lies within each of us, doesn't it?

Let's not forget as we give thanks for the various blessings we have received in life, that there are those in our community less fortunate.

To that end, let us give thanks for the opportunity to help others in the same manner we would want to be helped, were the shoe on the other foot.

From our extended family at the Herald, we wish that today we could all understand the true meaning of Thanksgiving and experience the warmth and joy of sharing our wealth with others.

Happy Thanksgiving.

Find us online at:
www.bigspringherald.com

To reach us:
Please call 263-7331.
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.



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Sheriff's office to round up toys for Crossroads youth

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Deputies and dispatchers with the Howard County Sheriff's Office will be doing their part to brighten the holiday season for children in the Crossroads area, as they kick off a toy drive to benefit the local Salvation Army's Angel

Tree.

Jessica Olivas, a dispatcher with the HCSO, said she and fellow dispatcher Jennifer Bakley came up with the idea to do the toy drive to not only help needy children, but to try to erase a nasty stereotype within the community.

"There are so many children out there who have been taught over the years

that law enforcement officers are bad people," said Olivas. "We see it every day. This toy drive is an opportunity to show them these officers and deputies care about them and are good people."

Donations of new, unwrapped toys will be turned over to the Big Spring

See **TOYS**, Page 3A

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Garrett recalls Turkey Day glory

IRVING (AP) — Knocking off the reigning Super Bowl champion New Orleans Saints for his third straight win since taking over the Dallas Cowboys would be one heck of a Thanksgiving feat for Jason Garrett.

It just wouldn't be his best. That distinction will always belong to Nov. 24, 1994, when Garrett filled in for injured starter Troy Aikman and ailing backup Rodney Peete to rally the two-time Super Bowl champion Cowboys to a 42-31 victory over Brett Favre, Reggie White and the Green Bay Packers.

"I'll never forget just how much they rallied around

this guy who probably wasn't good enough, to be honest with you," Garrett said. "It was a fun day."

In his two-plus weeks as Dallas' interim coach, Garrett has refused to look back at pretty much anything. He doesn't talk about what went wrong under predecessor Wade Phillips and he rarely reveals personal anecdotes. He reluctantly made an exception this week to discuss the signature performance of his 12-year playing career.

"I'm not so sure anybody really remembers that game," Garrett said at first, trying to change the subject. "Don't break out the film."

Sorry, coach. This one is as classic as Clint "The Mad Bomber" Longley replacing Roger Staubach in 1974 and throwing for long, late touchdowns to rally the Cowboys past the rival Redskins, and Leon Lett sliding through the snow to bring to life what should've been a dead ball, dooming Dallas in the final seconds of the 1993 Thanksgiving game against the Miami Dolphins.

The Cowboys were 9-2 and fighting San Francisco for the best record in the NFC while also trying to become the first team to win three straight Super Bowls. Barry Switzer was in his first year after replac-

ing Jimmy Johnson as coach, and the Triplets — future Hall of Famers Aikman, Michael Irvin and Emmitt Smith — were in their heyday.

However, as Thanksgiving 1994 approached, Aikman had a sprained knee. And Peete's right thumb was so sore he couldn't grip a football.

"The other two guys weren't able to play," Garrett said. "It was down to one."

At the time, Garrett was known as the brainy backup, the redhead from Princeton whose dad was a longtime team scout and whose resume included time in the World League and CFL. Everyone respected his insight; nobody

feared his arm.

He'd started once, going 2 of 6 for 25 yards and getting replaced by Bernie Kosar in November 1993. Garrett was 10 of 24 for his career going into the Packers game.

So when Dallas was down 17-3 late in the second quarter, the outcome seemed settled. A field goal before halftime did little to heighten the hopes of Cowboys fans.

Then came the most productive second half in franchise history. Garrett piloted a 36-point outburst that earned him a permanent spot in team lore long before he became

See **GARRETT**, Page 2B

OSU president: TCU, Boise not worthy of title

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Ohio State's president says TCU and Boise State don't deserve to be in the BCS title game even if they run the table.

In an interview with The Associated Press on Wednesday, E. Gordon Gee — whose school maintains the largest athletic program in the country — said that TCU and Boise State do not face a difficult enough schedule to play in the national championship game.

"Well, I don't know enough about the Xs and Os of college football," said Gee, formerly the president at West Virginia, Colorado, Brown and Vanderbilt universities. "I do know, having been both a Southeastern Conference president and a Big Ten president, that it's like murderer's row every week for these schools. We do not play the Little Sisters of the Poor. We play very fine schools on any given day. So I think until a university runs through that gantlet that there's some reason to believe that they not be the best teams to (be) in the big ballgame."

Gee, long an admirer of the BCS and the current bowl system, said he was against a playoff in the Football Bowl Subdivision.

"If you put a gun to my head and said, 'What are you going to do about a playoff system (if) the BCS system as it now exists goes away?' I would vote immediately to go back

to the bowl system," he said.

He said the current system is better for the student-athletes.

"It's not about this incessant drive to have a national championship because I think that's a slippery slope to professionalism," he said. "I'm a fan of the bowl system and I think that by and large it's worked very, very well."

He cited Ohio State's presence in the 2007 national title game as an example.

The Buckeyes won their first 10 games that season to rise to No. 1 before losing 26-21 at home to unranked Illinois. They fell all the way to No. 8 in the BCS rankings.

A series of upsets over the final weeks of the regular season and in other team's championship games led the Buckeyes climbing all the way back to the No. 1 spot in the final BCS rankings. They were matched against an LSU team with two losses.

Ohio State led 10-0 early only to have LSU come back and score the next 31 points in a 38-24 victory at the Louisiana Superdome.

While he was at Vanderbilt, Gee abolished the athletic department since it was underwritten by the university's general fund anyway. He said he has no problem with an Ohio State program that fields 36 intercollegiate varsity teams and has an annual budget exceeding \$120 million.



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton
Big Spring's Cerbi Ritchey (44) attempts a shot during the Lady Steers' loss to Merkel Tuesday in Steer Gym.

Bulldogs win season debut

KERMIT — Tanner Ruiz scored 16 points and Sheigh Cravens 13 to lead the Coahoma Bulldogs to a 52-45 overtime victory over Kermit in the Bulldogs' season opener Tuesday evening.

Coahoma had to rally from a nine-point deficit in the fourth quarter, but a pair of baskets by Keaton Martin forced overtime. The Bulldogs outscored Kermit 13-6 in the extra frame to secure the win.

"It was a good first outing," CHS Coach Kim Nichols said. "We were down by nine with four minutes to go, but the guys were able to come back and tie it."

Hunter Williams had 11 rebounds and Ruiz added six assists for the Bulldogs.

Coahoma returns to action Tuesday when the Bulldogs host the Klondike Cougars.

Game time is 8 p.m. in the Coahoma Elementary gymnasium.

Young, Suh, Stoops lead all-time Big 12 team

By **JAIME ARON**

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — In the 15 seasons of the Big 12, the talent pool has been deep enough to produce perennial contenders for the national championship, the Heisman Trophy and all other measures of success.

But who was the best of the best?

Former Texas quarterback Vince Young, former Nebraska defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh and Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops rose to the top in voting for The Associated Press' all-time, all-Big 12 team, released Wednesday.

With the conference as we've known it going into its final weeks, the AP asked voters for this year's all-conference squad to pick a team based on the league's entire run. Voters were asked to take into account how a guy played over his entire tenure in the Big 12 and not to factor in whether the player became a star or a bust as a pro.

Suh and Young were chosen the top

players on each side of the ball. Suh and Stoops were runaway winners in the voting by 20 writers from newspapers across the seven states.

Young was a narrow choice over another Longhorns star, running back Ricky Williams. Of the 26 position players chosen, Suh and Williams were the only unanimously picks.

Four guys were named on all but one ballot: Texas Tech receiver Michael Crabtree, Texas linebacker Derrick Johnson, Texas A&M linebacker Dat Nguyen and Oklahoma safety Roy Williams.

Considering that Oklahoma has won seven of the 14 Big 12 South titles already settled, and could grab another this season, it's no surprise the Sooners dominate the list. Oklahoma led the way with seven honorees, five on defense.

Texas had six players honored, three on each side of the ball. Nebraska had four, two on each side.

Oklahoma State and Kansas State each had two players chosen.

There was one each from A&M, Bay-

lor, Texas Tech, Missouri and Colorado. Kansas and Iowa State didn't have any selections.

The Big 12 began in 1996, created by a merger of the Big Eight and the Southwest Conference. A conference team has played in seven BCS national championship games and four players have brought home the Heisman.

But after this year, Nebraska and Colorado are leaving for other conferences and the remaining 10 schools have decided to scrap their two-division, championship-game format and play each other every year. So this seemed like the perfect time for a nostalgic comparison of the top players — and to appreciate how tough some of the choices were, consider the players who did NOT make it.

Nebraska's Eric Crouch won a Heisman Trophy and Oklahoma's Jason White won a Heisman Trophy and a national championship, yet neither got a single vote. Neither did any of Texas Tech's record-setting quarterbacks or Kansas State's electrifying Michael Bishop.

Take Note

• The Big Spring YMCA will be offering six-week self-defense classes for men, women and children from the ages of 5 to 99 from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays. Master Samuel Saldana, who has 41 years of martial arts experience, will be teaching the course. For more information, contact the YMCA by calling 432-634-9191 or 267-8234.

• Nancy Michaelis of Big Spring retired from teaching and was asked to help establish an English speaking school in Seoul, South Korea. She lived and worked in Seoul for 18 months and has a fascinating insight into this interesting country and culture. She will share her experience with a photographic presentation at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 810 Scurry, on Thursday. The parish hall will be open at 6:30 p.m. and the program will begin at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Teresa Sheppard at 267-7163.

• An account has been set up to help Bob and Jeanine Fishback with Bob's medical and travel expenses: Bob Fishback Medical Account 915967, Big Spring Education Employees Federal Credit Union, 1110 Benton, Big Spring 79720. For more information, call 263-8393.

• A fund has been established at Citizen's Credit Union for the Lupe Chavarria family, who lost all of their possessions in a recent house fire. For more information, contact the credit union at 267-6373.

• 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. Flexible payment options.

• English as a Second Language (ESL) and computer sessions at the Northside Community Center are held during the day and evening on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Class sessions are from 10 a.m. to noon, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. For more information, call 263-2673.

• Mobile Meals is in need of volunteers to deliver meals to the homebound elderly in Big Spring. If you can donate at least one hour a week, call Macaria Cantu at 263-4016 and leave a message.

Obituaries

Sibyl N. North

Sibyl N. North, 88, of Stanton died Tuesday, Nov. 23, 2010, in a Midland hospital. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 26, 2010, at First Baptist Church in Stanton with the Rev. David Harp, pastor, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.



She was born Oct. 15, 1922, in Brewe, Ark., and married U.A. North Sr. on Jan. 30, 1944, in Arkansas. He preceded her in death in 1985.

She was a homemaker and a Baptist.

Survivors include her son, Ulen North and wife Beverley of Stanton; two grandsons; four great-grandchildren; one brother, Bernie Keaton and wife Pat of Midland; and one sister, Imogene Weatherby of Midland.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, Lee and Virginia Keaton; and two brothers, Wayne Keaton and Donald Keaton.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Reggy Robertson

Reggy Robertson, 60, of Weatherford, formerly of Big Spring died Saturday, Nov. 20, 2010, at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Ray F. White

Ray F. White, 85, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Nov. 24, 2010 at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Support Groups

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

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

MONDAY

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

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 6 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

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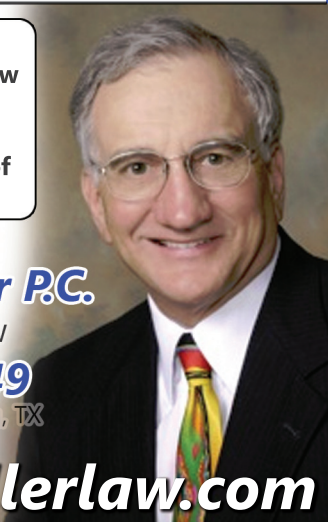
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GARRETT

Continued from Page 1B

the first former Dallas player to also coach the team.

"Today, Jason had a fairy godmother AND fairy godfather," offensive lineman Nate Newton said that afternoon.

Garrett finished 15 of 26 for 311 yards and two touchdowns. There was a 45-yarder that he lobbed and Alvin Harper took care of the rest, and a 35-yarder to Irvin. Garrett also had a 68-yard pass to Smith, who under other circumstances would've been the star of the game. The NFL rushing king-to-be ran for 133 yards and two touchdowns on 32 carries against a defense that hadn't allowed a 100-yard rusher all season, plus led the team in receiving with six catches and 95 yards.

"I don't think about it a lot, to be honest with you," Garrett said. "But what I do think about is it was a very special day. It really was. I think probably more than anything else, it was a great reminder of the importance of team."

Saints quarterback Drew Brees was a 15-year-old Cowboys fan growing up in Austin at the time.

He remembers Garrett's performance as "awesome."

The memories weren't exactly flowing in the Dallas locker room this week. Many guys were asking reporters for details.

"If you just do the math on it, they probably weren't even in kindergarten, a lot of those guys," Garrett said.

Coaches were so impressed by Garrett's outing that they let him start again ... in 1998.

No, Garrett the quarterback wasn't a star. But he did go 6-3 as a starter, with his best performance in the game that also meant the most.

Now he's the coach and the next game is always the most important. If he thinks he can improve the chances of winning Thursday by trotting out the old game film, or telling stories about his Thanksgiving surprise, then he'll try it. And if he doesn't think so, it'll be up to the TV networks to break out the archive footage.

"I know he respects his accomplishments as a player and has a lot of memories, and who he is today is a reflection of that," tight end Jason Witten said. "But he's such in-the-now that I think he'd be so happy just to get that win and for us to keep going forward."

2 coaches fired; who's next?

By BARRY WILNER

AP Pro Football Writer

The fallout for NFL coaches only began with the recent firings of Wade Phillips in Dallas and Brad Childress in Minnesota.

Next in line? There are plenty of candidates, although surprisingly strong performances this season by Jacksonville (Jack Del Rio), Chicago (Lovie Smith) and Oakland (Tom Cable) seem to have secured their coaches' positions.

Not so in Carolina, San Francisco, Cincinnati, Houston, Denver and possibly Cleveland or — get this — Tennessee. Meanwhile, a continued resurgence in Dallas should get the interim tag removed from Jason Garrett.

Leslie Frazier, one of the league's hottest prospects the last few years, will get every chance to earn the permanent spot in Minnesota.

As for the others: CAROLINA — John

Fox has been a lame duck since the end of last season, with virtually no chance of retaining his job outside of a surge in the standings. Instead, the Panthers have plummeted to the NFL's worst record with the worst offense and a minus-10 turnover differential.

Injuries have played a part, but except at running back and in the secondary, this team wasn't particularly talented before its depth was tested.

Fox will get hired quickly in January, likely as a defensive coordinator but possibly as a head coach.

SAN FRANCISCO — What we have here is a failure to communicate. The 49ers, preseason favorites in the NFC West, have been dragged down as much by unclear instructions and muddled messages from the coaching staff as they have by poor play.

It was an issue last sea-

son and is again this year, which bodes poorly for Mike Singletary.

Just as bad is the lack of progress by some of San Francisco's younger players, even though the 49ers have drafted relatively high for years.

CINCINNATI — Does Marvin Lewis seem like he wants out of Cincinnati? He turned down a contract extension last season, while the Bengals were winning the AFC North and going 6-0 in the division. Lewis has insisted the franchise needs to get up to speed with the competition in a variety of areas, including practice facilities and scouting.

Another guy who won't be out of work long, Lewis can look forward to fewer headaches without his diva receivers wherever he lands. Remember, too, should Lewis not land a head coaching gig, this is one of the best defensive coordinators around.

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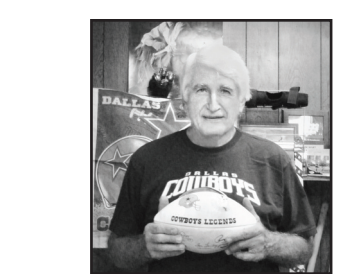
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Conservatives at odds with Vatican over condoms

RACHEL ZOLLAP

Religion Writer
NEW YORK — Faced with a changing outlook from Pope Benedict XVI on condoms and their role in preventing the spread of HIV, many prominent conservative Roman Catholics in the U.S. are rejecting the Vatican's own explanation of what the pope said.

Several orthodox Catholics said they would only accept a more formal papal pronouncement. Others insisted that journalists were purposely misrepresenting Benedict's comments. Some questioned whether the papal spokesman, the Rev. Frederico Lombardi, accurately quoted the pope.

Bishops and the experts who advise them were scrambling to make sense of the news.

"It's a mess," said John Haas, president of the National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia, which advises church leaders, hospitals and Vatican offices. "I'm not ready to say that the pope said what Lombardi said."

The uproar is over comments Benedict made in the new book, "Light of the World: The Pope, the Church and the Signs of the Times."

In an exchange with the author about AIDS in Africa, Benedict said that for some people, such as male prostitutes, using condoms could be a step in assuming moral responsibility because the intent is to "reduce the risk of infection."

At a news conference Tuesday in Rome, Lombardi said Benedict knew his comments would provoke intense debate, and that the pope meant for his remarks to apply not just to male prostitutes, but also "if you're a man, a woman, or a transsexual."

The pope did not suggest using condoms as birth control, which is banned by the Roman Catholic Church, and said condoms were not a "real or moral solution" to the AIDS crisis.

Still, his remarks were a watershed in the long debate among theologians and church officials over the morality of using condoms for disease prevention.

Jenn Giroux, executive director of Human Life International America, which promotes Catholic teaching on contraception, abortion and other moral issues, said more clarification from the Vatican was needed.

"I am watching very carefully, as everyone is

right now, before making a final pronouncement," said Giroux, a registered nurse and mother of nine. "We just got something from a spokesperson. As always, we look to church doctrine on statements like this."

Germain Grisez, a prominent moral theologian who advises bishops, said that promoting condoms as protection against disease would be "pernicious" because it assumes a person does not have the capacity to make good, moral choices. He lamented that the pope's comments "can be — and are being — misused to sow doubt about Catholic teaching."

"Many of Jesus' own sayings were misused, and he no doubt foresaw that they would be misused. But he nevertheless said what he thought would lead to salvation those who were open to his teaching," Grisez wrote in an e-mail. "I assume that Pope Benedict's intention in speaking out as he does is similar to Jesus' intention. But Benedict's judgment about what to say may not be as sound as Jesus' judgment was."

Haas, also a moral theologian, said he fielded calls all day Tuesday

from bishops confused by what Lombardi had said. Benedict's comments come at a time when bishops in the United States are intensely focused on upholding Catholic orthodoxy on marriage and sexuality.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops did not respond to requests Tuesday for comment.

Philip Lawler, editor of Catholic World News, demanded the resignation of the editor of the Vatican newspaper, L'Osservatore Romano, after the daily printed the pope's quotes on condoms and other topics in a Saturday edition, despite an embargo on the much-anticipated book.

Lawler and many other orthodox Catholics argued that the newspaper undermined the pope by quoting him without the proper context. Lawler stood by his criticism and call for the editor's resignation after Lombardi's news conference Tuesday.

"I think the clarification was confusing and frustrating," Lawler said.

Catholic teaching has never totally barred condom use for protection against HIV and the Vatican has no official, authoritative policy on

the issue. In 1987, the U.S. bishops' conference issued the statement, "The Many Face of AIDS," that stressed limiting sex to marriage as the best protection against the virus, but said public education "could include accurate information about prophylactic devices" to prevent transmission. The document was criticized at the time by conservatives and some Vatican officials.

Years ago, Vatican officials reportedly began studying the topic, with the goal of writing a document on the morality of condom use as protection against AIDS, but no statement was issued.

The pope's comments in a book interview do not amount to an official teaching, a point conservative Catholics made repeatedly and vociferously Tuesday. They argued that the pope was only noting that by using a condom, a person with HIV is displaying some moral sense about the consequences of his behavior.

"I maintain that nothing new has happened, that the church's teaching hasn't changed," said the Rev. Joseph Fessio of Ignatius Press, the English publisher of

the book, in a phone interview from Rome.

Yet, the pope's remarks are still seen as significant and must be analyzed and explained by church leaders. U.S. bishops oversee AIDS care programs through local and national Catholic Charities and Catholic Relief Services. In a brief statement, Catholic Relief Services said, "Our current policy holds: we do not purchase, distribute or promote the use of condoms."

Very few U.S. bishops or church officials have commented since the pope's remarks were published last Saturday.

"We're in for a long period of confusion," said Russell Shaw, a writer for the Catholic publication Our Sunday Visitor and former spokesman for the U.S. bishops' conference.

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ARSON

Continued from Page 1A

a short period of time to get the fire out.

"They were able to get the fire out pretty quick," he said. "The fire was completely out and the firefighters were able to leave the scene just after 1 a.m. No injuries were reported as a result of the fire, and the

damage didn't spread beyond the Dairy Queen building."

Rick Spencer, owner of the local Dairy Queen restaurants, said no time line has been established for repairing and reopening the eatery, but said he has no intentions at this time to simply walk away from the location.

"Until we hear back from the insurance company, there's really

no way to know how long the Fourth Street location will be closed," Spencer said Wednesday afternoon. "It's a mess, and the water and smoke damage is more than I'm equipped to handle, so we'll definitely have to have someone come in and do the work."

"I have no plans to walk away from the location, I can certainly say that. However, until

the adjusters can look at the damage and we can get things squared away with the insurance company, how long we'll be closed is anyone's guess. Looking at it now, however, I'd have to say it's going to be a while before we'll be able to open the doors again."

Spencer owns a second Dairy Queen location in Big Spring, on the Lamesa Highway.

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

TOYS

Continued from Page 1A

Salvation Army to be used in the local charity's annual Angel Tree program, which provides Christmas gifts to area low-income children and seniors.

Olivas said two drop-off points have been established.

"We have a drop-off point set up at the Howard County Detention Center, which is locat-

ed at 3611 W. Highway 80," said Olivas. "We'll be accepting toys there until Sunday, Dec. 12, at noon. Donors can also drop off their toys at the Sheriff's Office, which is located on the first floor of the county courthouse."

Once collected, the toys will be delivered to the Salvation Army Tuesday, Dec. 14, in time for them to be distributed as part of the annual Angel Tree program.

For more information

on the toy drive, contact Olivas or Bakley at the detention center by calling (432) 264-2244 or the Sheriff's Office at (432) 264-2231.

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 The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press.
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 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.
 USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
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 - Charla Scott

AN ENCOURAGING WORD

 By Eddy Pitchford

Thanksgiving is an opportunity to reflect on blessings of the present and to celebrate the family members of today. However, it is also a time to remember holiday gatherings of yesteryear and to reflect upon memories of family members, who have graduated from this life.

As your family gets together for food and football, remember that some folks are alone and separated from family members by miles, years or attitudes. Pray for them and invite them to your celebration.

Above all, include the Lord in your family dinner and discussion. Were it not for His love and blessing, there would be no thanks to give.

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Cincinnati, Jets heading in opposite directions

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. (AP) — Chad Ochocinco toned it down a bit for a change.

The chatty Cincinnati Bengals wide receiver is never at a loss for words, but he couldn't bring himself to stir things up the way he usually does.

"It's hard to give you the good stuff when we're 2-8, so I have to be sort of in the humbling spirit right now," Ochocinco said Tuesday on a conference call with New York reporters.

"I apologize."
That's a far cry from last season when Ochocinco play-

fully popped off before the regular-season finale between the Bengals and Jets, declaring that New York cornerback Darrelle Revis couldn't cover him "in a brown paper bag on a corner of a Manhattan street inside a phone booth."

Well, Revis did shut him down. And, he did it again the following week in the playoffs as the Jets beat the Bengals in consecutive games. The teams, facing each other again Thursday night, have gone in opposite directions since.

The Jets are tied for the best record in the NFL at 8-2,

while the Bengals are mired in a seven-game skid.

So, Chad, what happened? "Oh, my God, man. I mean, where do I start?" he said. "It's been nothing like we expected. One minute, we're doing well one quarter, the next quarter, we're flat. ... It's always something different each week, and we've yet to play a complete game."

The same might be said of the Jets, who are winning despite some flaws.

"They are kind of doing what we did last year," Bengals quarterback Carson Palmer said, "pulling games

out at the end and making plays to win games at the end."

New York became the first team to win consecutive overtime games on the road and followed that up with a stunning 30-27 win over Houston with 10 seconds left after blowing a 16-point lead in the fourth quarter.

"I think the most important thing is that we've won them," quarterback Mark Sanchez said. "These are the same games during this stretch of last year that we lost."

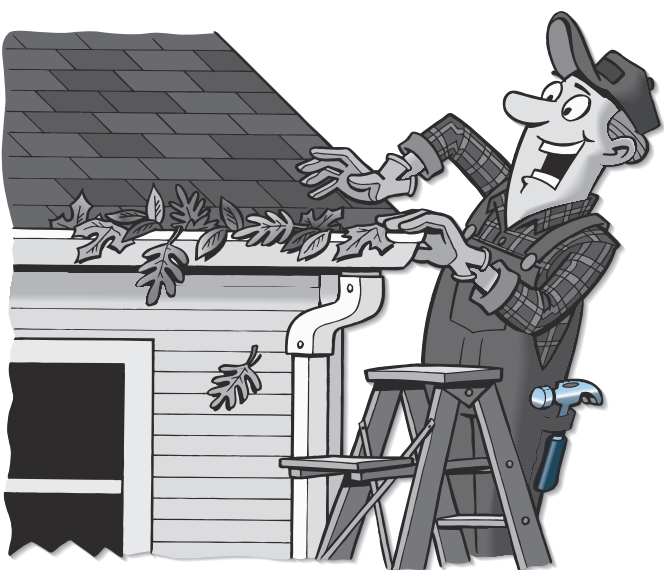
He's right. At this time last season, the Jets were 4-6 and

a playoff appearance seemed unlikely. Meanwhile, the Bengals were 7-3.

The Jets got things turned around and soared all the way to the AFC championship game. Big things were expected again this season — coach Rex Ryan has predicted a Super Bowl.

"I'll tell you, it's been one incredible season so far," running back LaDainian Tomlinson said. "To go through a stretch like this: two overtime games and then to come back in the last few seconds to win another game, it's been pretty exciting."

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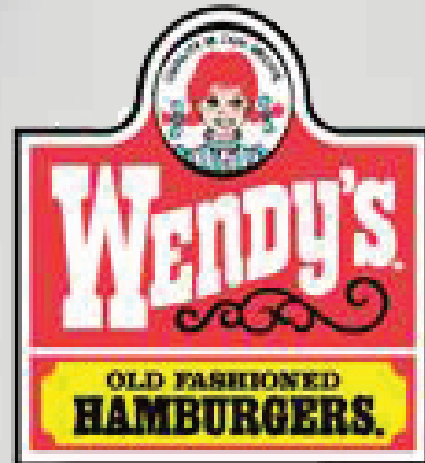
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The Sagittarius sun makes us aware of what others have and don't have. The comparison is useful in deciding what you're grateful for in your own life. One caution: Mercury is unfortunately a tele aspected, so no talking about religion, politics or any other touchy subject at the dinner table. The only feathers you need to ruffle belong to a turkey.

HOLIDAY
MATHIS

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Though you're not trying to be particularly clever or profound, special insights will come to you from on high. These are worth sharing with others in a lighthearted, good-natured way.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You have all sorts of ideas popping into your head, and a lot of them don't make a great deal of sense to you right now. Maybe this is present information. Make a prediction. Later, you can test your accuracy!

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You are in charge of your own emotions. Do not let anyone lead you away from feeling as good as you want to feel. You can be strong and lighthearted. Take back the power.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You don't have to be demanding to be commanding. You make your requests with a good dose of sweetness, and you get exactly what you want and need.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You'll take turns being a worker, serving your loved ones and being the royalty who gets served. Both modes will be enjoyable for you, though serving others is probably your favorite.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Why do the hard jobs fall to you? Because your speed and efficiency are unparalleled. In fact, in your hands, these jobs can't really be called "hard." You'll work with a smile on your face.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Economic matters will be resolved, and so will longstanding tensions between family members. Any negativity that could possibly surface will dissolve into the happy scene you create.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 25). Your attitude attracts many

good times to you this year. Whatever you do, you make it fun. In December, you'll find out that a large number of people agree with you and will support you. You'll put a large sum of money in the bank in December and July. There's terrific news about family in January. Capricorn and Virgo people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 14, 25, 3 and 15.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "Do you believe in aliens from other worlds? Do you think I could talk to an alien, have a friendship with one or even a relationship? Sometimes I think I just don't get along with humankind. I feel like I don't fit in anywhere on Earth. Is it because I'm really an alien? Just curious. By the way, I'm a Libra."

I make it a policy not to rule anything out. Aliens, mermaids, fairies, trolls, hobbits, nice vampires — they all exist in some state of being. Whether that state is real or imaginary doesn't seem to make a difference in the amount of mental space they take up as I regard them. Anyway, it's a big universe, and I'm quite certain that you fit into it somewhere and are, in fact, a more essential part of it than you realize. By the way, astronomers have their eyes on a planet from your constellation of Libra right now. Planet Gliese 581 d is about as far away from the star Gliese 581 as we are from our sun, suggesting that it may be a habitable place, though you'll have to travel 20 light years to find out.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Christina Applegate's parents were in the entertainment industry, and this savvy Sagittarian got her first acting job when she was 5 months old! Five luminaries in Sagittarius make for an adventurous and outgoing personality. One might even say she's fearless. Her moon and Mars in Pisces indicates

a highly developed intuitive sense and a love of learning about ethereal and spiritual topics.

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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Have an idea? Comment? Suggestion? Contact the Herald at 263-7331
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Annie's Mailbox®

Dear Readers: Happy Thanksgiving! We hope you are fortunate enough to be spending the holiday with family and friends, and that you remembered those who are alone today and would love to be part of your family on this occasion. For those readers who are spending the day volunteering at shelters and soup kitchens, bless you for your kind hearts and generosity of spirit. Many families have had a difficult year, and it may be hard to think of things to be grateful for, so we have provided some reminders:

"Everyday Thanksgiving"
(Author Unknown)

Even though I clutch my blanket and growl when the alarm rings each morning, thank you, Lord, that I can hear. There are many who are deaf.

Even though I keep my eyes tightly closed against the morning light as long as possible, thank you, Lord, that I can see. There are many who are blind.

Even though I huddle in my bed and put off the effort of rising, thank you, Lord, that I have the strength to rise. There are many who are bedridden.

Even though the first hour of my day is hectic, when socks are lost, toast is burned and tempers are short, thank you, Lord, for my family. There are many who are lonely.

Even though our breakfast table never looks like the pictures in magazines and the menu is at times unbalanced, thank you, Lord, for the food we have. There are many who are hungry.

KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

Even though the routine of my job is often monotonous, thank you, Lord, for the opportunity to work. There are many who have no job.

Even though I grumble and bemoan my fate from day to day and wish my circumstances were not so modest, thank you, Lord, for the gift of life.

"Thanksgiving Prayer"
(Author Unknown)

We come to this table today, O Lord, humble and thankful and glad. We thank Thee first for the great miracle of life, for the exaltation of being human, for the capacity to love.

We thank Thee for joys both great and simple —

For wonder, dreams and hope; For the newness of each day; For laughter and song and a merry heart; For compassion waiting within to be kindled;

For the forbearance of friends and the smile of a stranger;

For the arching of the earth and trees and heavens and the fruit of all three;

For the wisdom of the old;

For the courage of the young;

For the promise of the

child;
For the strength that comes when needed;
For this family united here today.
Of those to whom much is given, much is required. May we and our children remember this. Amen.

"Things to Be Thankful For"
(Author Unknown)

Be thankful for the clothes that fit a little too snug, because it means you have enough to eat.

Be thankful for the mess you clean up after a party, because it means you have been surrounded by friends.

Be thankful for the taxes you pay, because it means that you're employed.

Be thankful that your lawn needs mowing and your windows need fixing, because it means you have a home.

Be thankful for your heating bill, because it means you are warm.

Be thankful for the laundry, because it means you have clothes to wear.

Be thankful for the space you find at the far end of the parking lot, because it means you can walk.

Be thankful for the lady who sings off-key behind you in church, because it means you can hear.

Be thankful people complain about the government, because it means we have freedom of speech.

Be thankful for the alarm that goes off in the early morning hours, because it means you're alive.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column.
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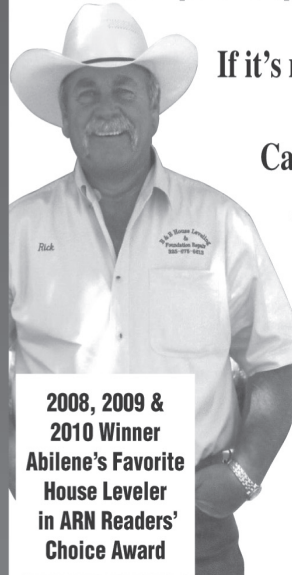
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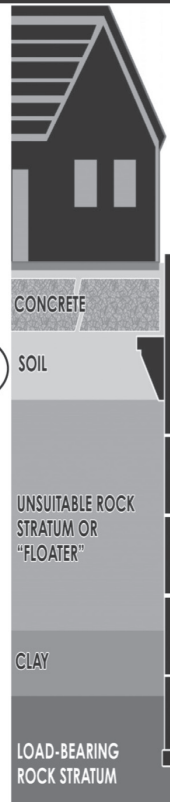
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Utilities thrilled but also worried about electric cars

JONATHAN FAHEY

AP Energy Writer

NEW YORK — The first mass-market electric cars go on sale next month, and the nation's electric utilities couldn't be more thrilled — or worried.

Plugged into a socket, an electric car can draw as much power as a small house. The surge in demand could knock out power to a home, or even a neighborhood. That has utilities in parts of California, Texas and North Carolina scrambling to upgrade transformers and other equipment in neighborhoods where the Nissan Leaf and Chevrolet Volt are expected to be in high demand.

Not since air conditioning spread across the country in the 1950s and 1960s has the power industry faced such a growth opportunity. Last year, Americans spent \$325 billion on gasoline, and utilities would love even a small piece of that market.

The main obstacles to wide-scale use of electric cars are high cost and limited range, at least until a network of charging stations is built. But utility executives fret that difficulties keeping the lights on for the first crop of buyers and their neighbors could slow the growth of this new niche.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," says Mike Rowand, who is in charge of electric vehicle planning at Duke Energy.

Auto executives say it's inevitable that utilities will experience some difficulties early on. "We are all going to be a lot smarter two years from now," says Mark Perry, director of product planning for Nissan North America.

Electric cars run on big batteries that are charged by plugging into a standard wall socket or a more powerful charging station. A combined 30,000 Nissan Leafs and Chevrolet Volts are expected to be sold over the next year. Over the next two years, Ford, Toyota and every other major automaker also plan to offer electric

cars.

Governments are promoting the expensive technology as a way to reduce dependence on foreign oil, cut greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality. Congress is offering electric car buyers a \$7,500 tax credit and some states and cities provide additional subsidies that can total \$8,000. The Leaf sells for \$33,000 and the Volt sells for \$41,000.

Electric cars produce no emissions, but the electricity they are charged with is made mostly from fossil fuels like coal and natural gas that do. Still, electric cars produce two-thirds fewer greenhouse gas emissions, on average, than a similarly sized car that runs on gasoline, according to the Natural Resources Defense Council.

Driving 10,000 miles on electricity will use about 2,500 kilowatt-hours, or 20 percent more than the average annual consumption of U.S. homes. At an average utility rate of 11 cents per kilowatt-hour, that's \$275 for a year of fuel, equivalent to about 70 cents per gallon of gasoline.

"Electric vehicles have the potential to completely transform our business," says David Owens, executive vice president of the Edison Electric Institute, a trade group.

Nationwide, utilities have enough power plants and equipment to power hundreds of thousands of electric cars. Problems could crop up long before that many are sold, though, because of a phenomenon carmakers and utilities call "clustering."

Electric vehicle clusters are expected in neighborhoods where:

- Generous subsidies are offered by states and localities
 - Weather is mild, because batteries tend to perform better in warmer climates
 - High-income and environmentally conscious commuters live
- So while states like North Dakota

See **ELECTRIC**, Page 8A



The Tesla Roadster, an electric sports car with a huge battery, can draw 16,800 watts. That's the equivalent of 280 60-watt light bulbs.



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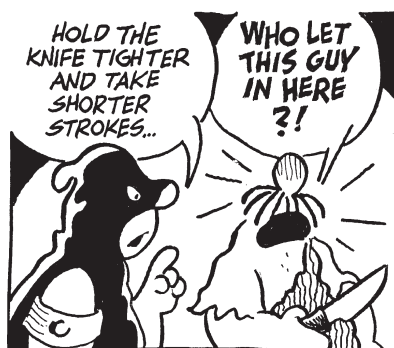
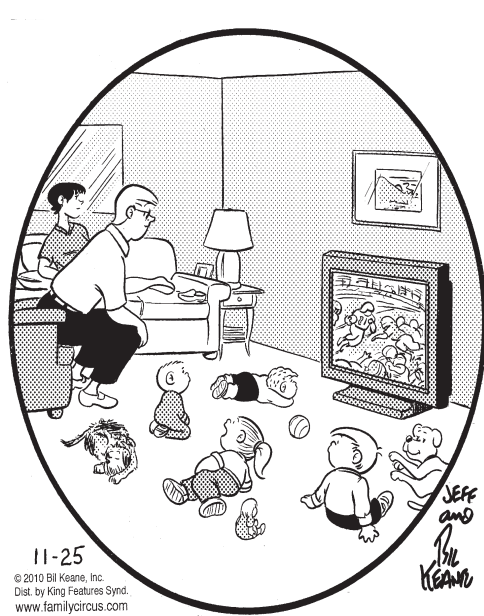
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	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM	News ABC	Alma Notic.	Dallas Cow-boys.	News	Noticias	News	King	Dr. Diana Brad	BBC Business	Lyrics!	MythBusters		Gangland	Law & Order		Good Fish	Score.	SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Lo Mejor de... Mira Quién Baila	Two Men	News	Pelicula: El Ministro y Yo (SS)	News	King	Sala Charles	PBS News-Hour	70s Show	MythBusters		Gangland	Law & Order	Soul Train Awards 2009	Movie: The Incredibles	College Basketball: Old Spice Classic	SportsCenter
7:PM	Charlie Brown	Movie: The Simpsons Movie	Movie: The Simpsons Movie	Ent	Big Bang Dad Says	Ent	King	Charles	Texas Parks	The Vampire Diaries	Punkin Chunkin 2010	Movie: The Godfather, James Caan	Gangland	NBA Basketball: Wizards at Hawks	Black Girls Rock!	Deck Deck Good Good	College Basketball: Old Spice Classic	College Football: Texas A&M at Texas.
8:PM	Family Beyoncé's: 1 Am... World Tour	Dos Grandes de México (SS)	Simpsons How I Met	News	Pelicula: El Barrendero, Ursula Prats (SS)	People of the Year	King	Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	Nikita		Movie: The Godfather, Part II, Diane Keaton	TNA Wrestling	NBA Basketball: Kings at Clippers	The Mo'Nique	Fish Fish	College Basketball: 76 Classic	SportsCenter
9:PM	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	How I Met Raymond	News	Noticias Titulares	News	King	Alewine Van Impe	Charlie Rose	King	Punkin Chunkin 2010	Movie: The Godfather, Part II, Diane Keaton	Son	Wendy Williams	Hannah Hannah	Wizards Wizards	MMA Live	SportsCenter
10:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	La Verdad Oculta	Law & Order: SVU	Late	Pelicula: Abajo el Telón (SS)	Late Night	King	Swallow	T. Smiley (Off Air)	South Pk	Brew Masters	Trailers MAN	Inside the NBA	Movie: Get Rich or Die Tryin', Walter Alza	Suite Life Suite Life	Suite Life	2010 World Series of Baseball	SportsCenter
11:PM	Extra	Tontas Cielo	Raymond	Insider	Pagado	News	King	World	World	ACTIVE	MythBusters	The Unit	Leverage					
12:AM	Paid	Mujer... Cero	TMZ	Ent	Pagado	Poker After Dark	King	Light of the Southwest	Light of the Southwest									
1:AM	Paid		King-Hill															

DENNIS THE MENACE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

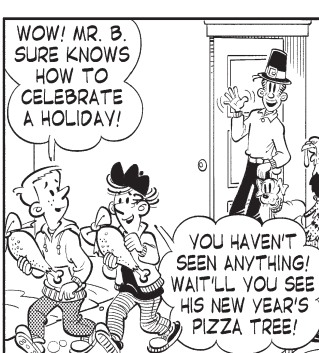
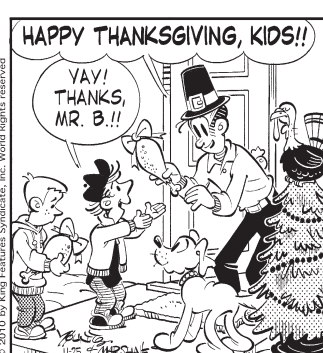
HAGAR



"I'D RATHER HAVE A BURGER FOR THANKSGIVING, BUT BURGERS DON'T HAVE DRUMSTICKS."

"So, what did we watch before football season started?"

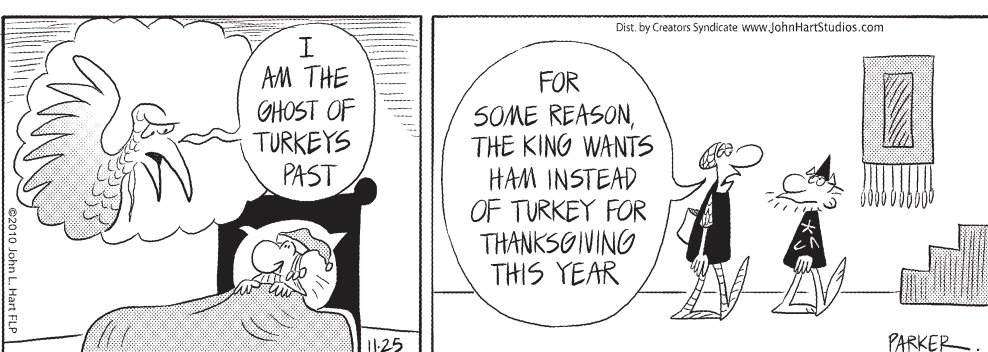
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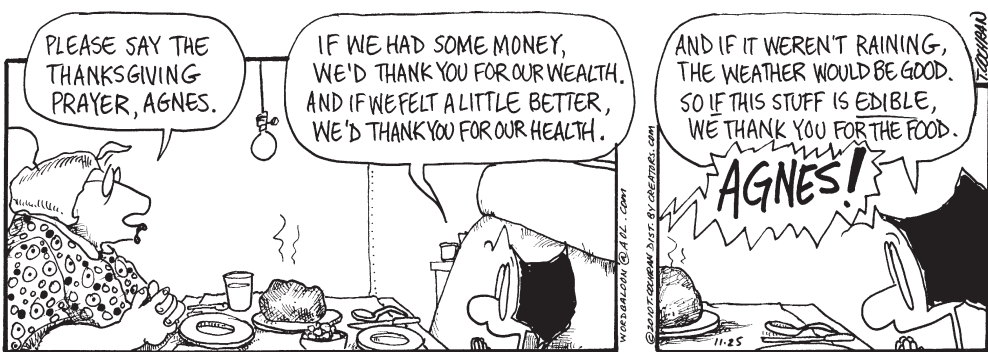
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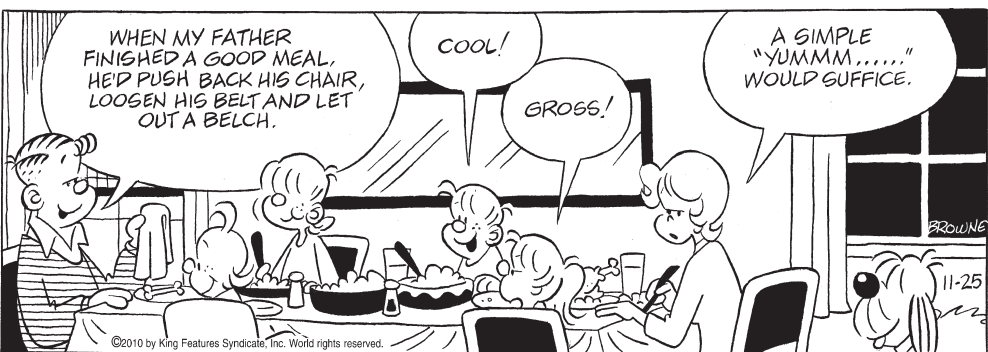
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AGNES



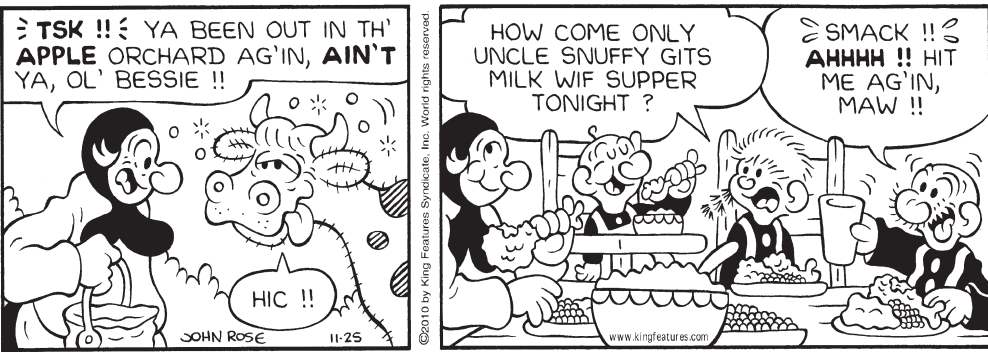
HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Nov. 25, the 329th day of 2010. There are 36 days left in the year. This is Thanksgiving Day.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 25, 1963, the body of President John F. Kennedy was laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery; his widow, first lady Jacqueline Kennedy, lighted an "eternal flame" at the gravesite.

On this date: In 1783, the British evacuated New York, their last military position in the United States during the Revolutionary War.

In 1908, the first issue of The Christian Science Monitor was published.

In 1940, the cartoon character Woody Woodpecker made his debut in the animated short "Knock Knock."

In 1957, President Dwight D. Eisenhower suffered a slight stroke.

In 1960, Dominican Republic activists Patria, Minerva and

Maria Mirabal, opponents of President Rafael Trujillo, were murdered.

In 1973, Greek President George Papadopoulos was ousted in a bloodless military coup.

In 1980, Sugar Ray Leonard regained the World Boxing Council welterweight championship when Roberto Duran abruptly quit in the eighth round at the Louisiana Superdome.

In 1986, the Iran-Contra affair erupted as President Ronald Reagan and Attorney General Edwin Meese revealed that profits from secret arms sales to Iran had been diverted to Nicaraguan rebels.

In 1999, five-year-old Elian Gonzalez was rescued by a pair of sport fishermen off the coast of Florida, setting off an international custody battle.

In 2002, President George W. Bush signed legislation creating the Department of Homeland Security and appointed Tom Ridge to be its head.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Noel Neill is 90. Playwright Murray Schisgal is 84. Actress Kathryn Crosby is 77. Actor Matt Clark is 74. Actor

Christopher Riordan is 73. Playwright Shelagh Delaney is 71. Singer Percy Sledge is 70. Pro Football Hall of Fame coach Joe Gibbs is 70. Author, actor and economist Ben Stein is 66. Singer Bob Lind is 66. Actor John Larroquette is 63. Actor Tracey Walter is 63. Movie director Jonathan Kaplan is 63. Author Charlaune Harris is 59. Retired MLB All-Star Bucky Dent is 59. Singer Amy Grant is 50. Rock musician Eric Grossman (K's Choice) is 46. Rock singer Mark Lanegan is 46. Rock singer-musician Tim Armstrong is 45. Singer Stacy Lattisaw is 44. Rock musician Rodney Sheppard (Sugar Ray) is 44. Rapper-producer Erick Sermon is 42.

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Answer to previous puzzle

BASH	SAGA	BARN	AREAS
ALTO	TWIN	AREAS	AREAS
NOON	RAFT	ROAST	ROAST
JUNE	CARTER	CASH	CASH
ODE	LID	OARS	OARS
	PAN	BLUR	UPI
ORSON	BRAN	IRAN	IRAN
BACKGROUND	CHECK	CHECK	CHECK
OPRY	ONCE	LODES	LODES
ETA	HUGE	REP	REP
	TRIG	SEA	IRA
ACADEMIC	CREDIT	CREDIT	CREDIT
APHID	ACRE	GENE	GENE
GEESE	READ	GAGA	GAGA
ESSEN	EDGE	SLOT	SLOT

Newsday Crossword

UNDER ARREST by Doug Peterson

Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Elaborate meal | 1 Fruity soft-drink brand | 66 Set free | 10 Football gear |
| 6 Entryway piece | 2 Net receipts? | 67 Actress Diane or Cheryl | 11 Where scenes are shot |
| 10 Scenery spoiler | 3 Leaning | 68 Exercise discipline | 12 Port east of Tangier |
| 14 "Are not!" rejoinder | 4 Sun's name | 69 Toady's answers | 13 West Side Story group |
| 15 Football great | 5 Group in charge | | 18 Send packing |
| 16 Circle dance | 6 Knock for a loop | | 23 All-out conflict |
| 17 Salon application | 7 "Look __ this way..." | | 25 Cry of dismay |
| 19 Russian version of John | 8 Geog. features | | 26 Striking impression |
| 20 Up to, in brief | 9 Hippie-influenced fashion trend | | 28 Baked-potato topping |
| 21 Goat's attack | | | 29 Start of a toast |
| 22 With the title to tables | | | 30 Pale tan |
| 24 Tabernacle | | | 31 Type of terrier |
| 26 Land or sea ending | | | 32 Grab with a fork setting |
| 27 T-shirt slogans, perhaps | | | 33 Hawaii Five-O abruptly |
| 32 Wallops | | | 39 Derby site |
| 35 Welox for port | | | |
| 36 Liner level | | | |
| 37 Street sealer | | | |
| 38 Auto-roof attachment | | | |
| 41 Make an effort | | | |
| 42 "I got it!" shouts | | | |
| 44 Busy travel days | | | |
| 45 Debate topic | | | |
| 47 Work like a dog | | | |
| 50 Stags | | | |
| 51 Pizza Hut competitor | | | |
| 55 California beach city | | | |
| 57 Lose intensity | | | |
| 59 Lifeboat mover | | | |
| 60 Indiana senator | | | |
| 61 Shoulder-blade neighbor | | | |
| 64 Cellar stuff | | | |
| 65 Etch A Sketch controller | | | |

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

How to prep your home for an electric car

JONATHAN FAHEY

AP Energy Writer
NEW YORK — Getting your home ready to charge an electric car will require little time or money — or a couple months and thousands of dollars.

It depends on what kind of electric car you buy, the wiring in your home and how quickly you want to juice your ride.

Electric cars are powered by batteries that are charged by plugging them into a standard wall socket or a

more powerful charging station. The charging station will cut your charging time roughly in half, and reduce the chance you'll trip a circuit in your home. But it will likely cost \$2,000 or more, including installation. The price will rise if you need a new electrical panel, which could add another \$2,000.

The main thing to consider is how you are going to use your electric car.

If your commute is short, or there's a charging

station near your office, you might not need much of a charge at home. You can get away with topping off your battery overnight.

A standard 120-volt wall socket will give a car about five miles of driving for every hour of charging. That means if you had a 40 mile round-trip commute you'd be able to charge in 8 hours.

If you deplete your battery all the way most days, a charging station that is connected to a 240-volt socket, like ones

used for most electric dryers, could be worthwhile.

The \$41,000 Chevrolet Volt and the \$33,000 Nissan Leaf are set to go on sale next month. Buyers qualify for a federal tax credit of \$7,500 and additional state and local subsidies in some states.

The two cars have different batteries, and different charging requirements:

— The Volt has a relatively small battery because it also has a gasoline-powered gen-

erator that powers the car when the battery runs out. Chevy expects the car to be able to go 25 to 50 miles on electricity and then an extra 300 miles or so with the help of the gas motor. A standard socket will fully charge the Volt in about eight hours. A charger will do it in four. Chevy recommends drivers first try to get by without a charger.

— The Leaf is powered entirely by electricity, and therefore has a much bigger battery. Nissan says the Leaf

can go about 100 miles on a full charge. It will take 20 hours to do this with a standard outlet, and eight hours with a charger. Nissan strongly recommends a charger.

Installing a home charging station could take anywhere from a few days to a couple of months. It depends on the time it takes to get a local work permit and to have the charging station inspected after installation. The installation itself should only take a few hours.

ELECTRIC

Continued from Page 7A

and Montana may see very few electric cars, California cities like Santa Monica, Santa Barbara and Monrovia could see several vehicles on a block. SoCal Edison expects to be charging 100,000 cars by 2015. California has set a goal of 1 million electric vehicles by 2020.

Progress Energy is expecting electric car clusters to form in Raleigh, Cary and Asheville, N.C. and around Orlando and Tampa, Fla. Duke Energy is expecting the same in Charlotte and Indianapolis. The entire territory of Texas' Austin Energy will likely be an electric vehicle hot spot.

Adding an electric vehicle or two to a neighborhood can be like adding another house, and it can stress the equipment that services those houses. "We're talking about doubling the load of a conventional

home," says Karl Rabago, who leads Austin Energy's electric vehicle-readiness program. "It's big."

How big depends on the size of the battery in the car, and how fast the car is charged.

When plugged into a standard 120-volt socket, the electric car will draw 1,500 watts. By comparison, a medium-sized air conditioner or a countertop microwave oven will draw about 1,000 watts.

But the car can be charged faster, and therefore draw more power, when plugged into a home charging station. The first Leafs and Volts can draw 3,300 watts, and both carmakers may boost that to 6,600 watts soon. The Tesla Roadster, an electric sports car with a huge battery, can draw 16,800 watts. That's the equivalent of 280 60-watt light bulbs.

A modest home in the San Francisco Bay area that doesn't need air conditioning might draw 3,000 watts at most.

Transformers that dis-

tribute power from the electrical grid to homes are often designed to handle fewer than a dozen.

Extra stress on a transformer from one or two electric vehicles could cause it to overheat and fail, knocking out power to the block.

The "nightmare" scenario, according to Austin Energy's Rabago: People come home from work on a hot afternoon, turn on the air conditioner and the plasma television, blend some frozen cocktail, start cooking dinner on an electric stove—and plug their car into a home charging station.

An electric vehicle plugged into a standard wall socket poses a different problem. It will put less stress on a transformer, but it could trip a circuit breaker if the circuit serves other appliances. Power would go off in part of the house.

To head off problems, teams of workers at utilities are gathering information from Nissan and Chevrolet, doing

customer surveys and looking at buying patterns of hybrid gas-electric cars like the Toyota Prius to try to predict where they might see clusters of electric car buyers.

They are comparing that data with maps of their systems to determine what equipment might need upgrading first in hopes of avoiding blown circuits in the neighborhoods of early buyers.

Utilities also hope to convince drivers to program their cars to charge late at night, when rates are low and most appliances are switched off.

Replacing a neighborhood transformer costs a utility between \$7,000 and \$9,000, according to SoCal Edison. This is work a utility will often want to do. With the approval of public utility commissions, utilities can add the cost of these kinds of upgrades to the rates they charge customers across their territory.

Utility executives hope the popularity of

electric cars will grow as the vehicles' costs come down and as pub-

lic charging stations are made available at malls and along highways.

The Living Christmas Tree



First United Methodist Church
December 4 & 5, 2010
8:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Dress Rehearsal Open To Public
Saturday, December 4, at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets available in Church Office
Free Limited Seating
Nursery Available

217308

Your Christmas Gift Headquarters

Upholstered Footstool \$19⁹⁵

Bean Bags starting at \$47⁰⁰

Jewelry Armoire starting at \$97⁰⁰

Kiddie Recliners w/Cup Holder, Choice of colors, Cowboys, Aggies, Longhorns, Red Raiders starting at \$97⁰⁰

Magic Globe Aquarium \$88⁰⁰

Mossy Oak or Dallas Cowboy Recliner only \$497⁰⁰

Vanity & Stool Cherry or Oak Finish \$97⁰⁰

Cheval Mirror Cherry or Oak Finish \$37⁰⁰

Cedar Chest w/Padded Seat Only \$197⁰⁰

Pillowtop Queen Size Mattress Sets only \$297⁰⁰

Ashley Recliner Choice of Colors Starting at only \$197⁰⁰

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Microfiber Sofas starting at \$297⁰⁰

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► Odd news

W.Pa. shop owner sells himself \$1.8M lotto ticket

BELLE VERNON, Pa. (AP) — A western Pennsylvania shop owner sold himself a \$1.8M Pennsylvania lottery ticket and will get an extra \$10,000 as the seller of the ticket.

Ron Rea owns Tobacco World stores in Uniontown and Belle Vernon and bought the winning ticket for the Nov. 18 Match 6 Lotto drawing at the Belle Vernon outlet.

Rea says he doesn't play the lottery's Daily Number, but spends about \$20 a day on tickets for games with higher odds, telling the *Herald-Standard* of Uniontown that's because, "If you hit, your life's changed."

Rea's ticket was worth \$1,782,432. A lottery spokeswoman confirmed Rea's claim to the winning ticket.

Rea is 68 and says the winnings will help he and his wife of 38 years, Rita, build their retirement funds.

Woman hurt in wayward cow attack

LANCASTER, Pa. (AP) — The cow just wouldn't moooooooooove.

Police say a central Pennsylvania woman had to be taken to a hospital after she was knocked down by a cow she tried to shoo off the road.

Southern Regional Police say the woman encountered a cow standing in the road Tuesday night in Conestoga Township, Lancaster County. Fearing the cow would be struck by another motorist, Officer Dianne Carter says the woman stopped her car and tried to herd the cow off the road.

But Carter tells the *Intelligencer Journal/Lancaster New Era* the

cow turned on the good Samaritan, head-butting her in the abdomen and knocking her down a hill.

The woman was transported to a hospital with head, neck and arm pain but Carter said she was expected to be fine.

N.Y. man accused of refund fraud

WOODMERE, N.Y. (AP) — A Long Island man allegedly went to great lengths to get a refund.

Nassau County police say Rabin Purnsrian purchased products at several CVS stores, then replaced them with imitation products before repacking them and returning the items for a full refund.

Police say the man also altered the store's receipts for additional refunds. They say some of the products were restocked and later sold.

The 43-year-old North Woodmere suspect was arrested Tuesday. Police charged him with grand larceny, falsifying business records, scheme to defraud and other charges. He was to be arraigned in First District Court in Hempstead on Wednesday.

It was not immediately known if he had retained a lawyer.

J-E-L-L-Uh-Oh: Gelatin, pudding cups spill

RUDD, Iowa (AP) — Northern Iowa authorities say they've cleaned up a slippery mess after a tipped semitrailer spilled Jell-O and pudding cups across a county road.

The Floyd County sheriff's office says 52 pallets of gelatin and pudding fell from the trailer when its top ripped open near Rudd early Tuesday. It took crews three hours to clean up the debris.

The sheriff's office says 39-year-old semitrailer driver Eric Young of Charleston, S.C., wasn't able to make a turn and went into the ditch where the rig rolled onto its

side. Young and 32-year-old passenger Martin Brandon, of Bridgeport, Conn., suffered minor injuries.

The Globe-Gazette in Mason City said damage to the semitrailer is estimated at \$50,000.

Rowdy Pa. school bus makes stop at police station

SWISSVALE, Pa. (AP) — A Pittsburgh-area school district is promising to discipline some junior high students who got so rowdy their bus driver made an unscheduled stop at a police station to quiet them down.

Woodland Hills School District spokeswoman Maria McCool says the incident happened Friday when the driver for A.J. Myers and Sons was taking students home from an after-school activity about 5 p.m.

McCool says the driver stopped at the Swissvale police station, where an officer quieted the students. Some students opted to walk home from the station but McCool says no students were ejected from the bus and all were offered rides home or were given the option of calling their parents.

McCool says the district is still trying to determine how many students were involved and how they'll be disciplined.

Thanksgiving parade sinks Mayflower plans

DETROIT (AP) — Think your holiday travel plans are tough? Imagine being a Mayflower descendant who's been bumped from Detroit's annual Thanksgiving parade.

June Gorman, governor and historian of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in Michigan, said she thought Thursday's 1.5-mile trek down Woodward Avenue would be a perfect match for the nonprofit group with more than 500 Michigan members.

Gorman said the plan was to have eight to 10 members dressed in period garb carry the organization's banner.

Instead, she said its application was denied without reason.

The group had allotted more than \$1,000 for

costume rentals and the creation of a banner.

"We thought this would be a perfect match for our organization," Gorman told *The Detroit News*. "If it hadn't been for our ancestors, there wouldn't even be a Thanksgiving."

Anthony Michaels, parade president and chief executive, said the group failed to include a video and pictures with its application. He said it's not uncommon to get rebuffed from the "entertainment-oriented parade" that has about 150 groups vying for 64 available slots.

"There is a large demand (for spots in the parade)," Michaels told the *News*. "And there are tons of people who don't get in each year. In fact, we still have people calling who want to be in this year's parade."

Mass. pizza parlor stifled by fake Dylan rep

AMHERST, Mass. (AP) — A man wearing a Bob Dylan backstage pass who ordered 178 pizzas from a Massachusetts pizza parlor has left the restaurant blowin' in the wind.

The man walked into Antonio's in the college town of Amherst early Saturday morning shortly after Dylan performed at the University of Massachusetts and ordered \$3,900 worth of pies.

He said he would return in several hours and deliver them to Dylan's crew. But he never returned and the manager called police.

Restaurant employees stayed until 5:30 a.m. making the pizzas.

Antonio's owner Walter Pacheco tells *The Daily Hampshire Gazette* his workers had no reason to doubt the man worked with Dylan but "got taken."

Pacheco said he gave some of the pizzas away, but had to throw out most of them.

Erie-area pharmacy robber poked in eye, runs off

ERIE, Pa. (AP) — State police say they're still looking for two men who tried to force their way into an Erie-area drug store before the pharmacist got them to leave by poking one of

the men in the eye.

State police say the investigation is continuing into Thursday evening's incident at the Waterford Pharmacy, in the Erie suburb of Waterford Township.

Pharmacist Michael Allgeier tells the *Erie Times-News* that he was on the phone when one of the men, wearing a black mask and carrying a crow bar, tried to force open the drug store's back door about 6:15 p.m. Allgeier says he reached his hand through the narrow space the man had forced the door opened and poked the robber in the eye.

Allgeier says it was the first attempted robbery in his 16 years at the business.

Men hold up N.Y. pizza makers, flee with wrong dough

NEW YORK (AP) — Police in New York City say thieves held up the owners of a pizzeria and then fled with a bag of full dough — the kind that crusts are made of.

Police say Salvatore LaRosa was charged with robbery after surrendering to police.

According to court papers, LaRosa and an accomplice followed the owners of Brothers Pizzeria on Staten Island. After donning masks, the papers say, they pointed guns and demanded the men turn over a bag they believed held the day's proceeds.

But instead, the bag was full of pizza dough. LaRosa was released on \$1 million bail on Monday. His attorney, James Froccaro, declined to comment.

1,000 rescued rats up for adoption

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — About a thousand rats are awaiting adoption in California after being rescued from a house featured on the A&E reality TV show "Hoarders."


The Humane Society trucked the rodents over the weekend from Los Angeles to San Jose, where more than 30 volunteers and nonprofit staff helped move the rats into Andy's Pet Shop in San Jose, which agreed to temporarily house them.

Lauren Paul of the nonprofit North Star Rescue told the *San Jose Mercury News* that the previous owner's daughter had brought home a pregnant rat one day and the litter began multiplying quickly.

The man's neighbors called "Hoarders" producers after the rats began tearing apart the house.

Paul says she hopes rat lovers will come forward and give them a new home.

Contract Bridge



By Steve Becker

Improving on the Probabilities

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

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

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♦	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
7♣			

Opening lead — ten of diamonds.

This deal from a knockout team-of-four contest presents an interesting play problem. North-South reached seven clubs as shown, and West led the ten of diamonds. How would you proceed?

It's easy to make the grand slam — provided you have the privilege of peeking. You simply discard a heart on the ace of diamonds, later capture East's queen of spades and finish with 13 tricks.

But the actual declarer did not

Tomorrow: Test your play.
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COMBINE HOME, AUTO AND LIFE. SAVE AN AVERAGE OF \$522. Yes, insurance can be that simple. Fact is, that's what a Farmers® agent's here to do. We even compare your current coverage to our own comprehensive policies. That way, you see the savings clearly for yourself. Call me, your local agent, and find out how much you can save.

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85-8983 (5/08)

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.

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

sudoku

ANSWERS

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net