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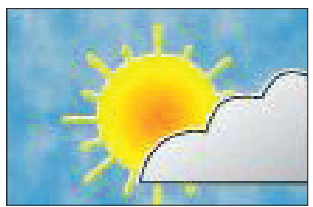
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# HIGH SPRING HERALD

**WEDNESDAY**

DECEMBER 1, 2010



VOLUME 105, NUMBER 303

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HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Diane Wood, co-chair for the 2011 Relay for Life, addresses the crowd during the event's kickoff reception Tuesday night at First Baptist Church.

## Big Spring to celebrate weekend of activities

By **STEVE REAGAN**  
Staff Writer

The Christmas season in Big Spring will start with a bang this weekend.

The Big Spring VA Medical Center will kick-start a weekend full of Christmas activities when it holds its 18<sup>th</sup> annual "Lighting of the Lights" ceremony Friday. The event, which will conclude with the lighting of thousands of lights decorating the hospital, will begin at 6 p.m. Because of ongoing construction in the main lobby, the event will be moved to the hospital's out-patient lobby.



HERALD file photo

Lighting of the lights at the Big Spring VA Medical Center takes place Friday.

Holiday carols will be led by veterans, refreshments will be served and, last but certainly not least, Santa will visit with all children, said Iva Jo Hanslik, community relations director for the medical center. VAMC Director Daniel Marsh, assisted by children in the audience, will light the lights on the indoor Christmas tree, simultaneously illuminating the display of outdoor lights. "We invite the community to join in this festive occasion," Hanslik said.

**Canterbury Christmas Bazaar**  
Persons looking for unique Christmas gifts

See **CELEBRATE**, Page 3A

## 'Relay' moved up a week; 2011 goal set at \$195,000

By **STEVE REAGAN**  
Staff Writer

The Howard-Glasscock Relay For Life has been exceeding expectations for years.

Now, if it can only avoid foul weather.

Relay For Life, a highly successful fund-raiser for the American Cancer Society, will hold its 2011 event a week earlier than normal in hopes of avoiding rainy weather that has plagued the event in recent years, it was announced during a Tuesday night kickoff reception.

The 2011 RFL will be held May 6 and 7 at Blankenship Field, said Vickie Stewart and Diane Wood, co-chairs for the event.

Rainy weather has either shortened or washed out the local RFL several times in the past few

years, although the event continues to be a rousing success, ACS officials said.

Brett Barnes, community manager for ACS, said the 2010 Howard-Glasscock RFL raised \$182,105, which was the largest amount raised per capita by any Relay event held in the seven-state region and seventh-most per capita in the United States.

"That's remarkable, because there are more Relay For Life events than there are Wal-Marts," Barnes said. "The reason for that success is definitely because of the local committee and the support the event receives from the community."

"Every year, there are at least 50 people here who are ready to jump in and help on the committee," Barnes added. "In most

areas, I'm lucky if I can find five people to help ... And the community is just so supportive of this event."

Because of that success, local organizers are setting their sights high in 2011 — Wood said next year's goal is \$195,000.

Wood said she is optimistic local response will meet the goal.

"So many people have been affected by this disease," she said. "You can't hardly talk to anyone who hasn't been touched by cancer in some way or form ... Plus, it's an event that any person, regardless of race, age, anything, can participate in."

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

**INDEX**

Comics 6B  
Classified 5-7B  
Nation 5-8A  
Obituaries 2A  
Opinion 4A  
Sports 1-4B

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## Shoe box count tops 1,000, organizers say

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

When local coordinators with the annual Operation Christmas Child program set a goal to gather 775 goody-filled shoe boxes for children all over the globe, they hoped

they would eclipse the number.

What they didn't plan on, however, was being able to overshoot the goal by nearly 250 shoe boxes, making this year's effort one of the most

See **BOXES**, Page 3A

Due to technical difficulties, the *Herald* has been later than normal the past few days. We apologize for any inconvenience and hope to resolve the problem soon. Please bear with us and thank you for your patience.

— Herald staff



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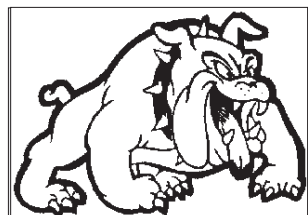
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### Coahoma basketball schedule

**Boys:** Coahoma Tournament begins Thursday and ends Saturday. The Bulldogs begin play against Big Spring JV 7:30 p.m. Thursday in Coahoma.

**Girls:** Crane Tournament begins Thursday and ends Saturday. The Bulldogettes could end up facing district opponent Stanton in the tourney. They start with Rankin at noon Thursday.

**BY ADAM COLEMAN**  
Sports Editor

COAHOMA — Defense makes a difference, no matter the size, strengths or weaknesses of a team.

The Coahoma Bulldogs are still figuring things out after a 78-27 rout of Klondike Tuesday in Coahoma, but they know they can force turnovers and play solid team defense.

Right now, that's the best attribute Kim Nichol's team has.

"I think our pressure hurt them a little bit early," Nichols said. "We want our defense to become our offense."

That's exactly what happened Tuesday night. The Bulldogs (2-0) forced 32 turnovers and

prevented the Cougars from scoring double-digits in all four quarters.

The Cougars only scored six points in the first, five in the second, seven in the third and nine in the fourth.

Other than the Bulldogs' defensive performance, Tanner Ruiz shined in a 21-point effort.

Hunter Williams stood out, too, crashing the boards, playing smart and taking charges.

Nichols said Ruiz's ability to penetrate defense and Williams' ability to grab rebounds will be vital to the team's success this season.

"He can get to the hole and if people don't stop off and help, he's going to cause some prob-

lems," he said of Ruiz. "Hunter battles on the boards."

After the 52-45 win in overtime against Kermit to open the season and this win, the Bulldogs are in good shape. However, Nichols said this team is far from what it can be.

The Bulldogs are still adding offenses. Nichols said they've put in one man and one zone defense so far. They still need to cut down the turnovers, keep taking advantage of fastbreak points and deal with the depth issues.

Coahoma has nine players on the squad this year and Nichols said all of them will be in the rotation regularly.

See **COAHOMA**, Page 2B

## Lady Steers win in OT, boys stumble in San Angelo

**BY ADAM COLEMAN**  
Sports Editor

GREENWOOD — Cerbi Ritchey was the go-to player when it mattered most and Greenwood probably knew that.

The Rangerettes just couldn't do much about it. The Lady Steers edged Greenwood in a 45-41 victory on the road thanks to nine points in overtime, six of which were from Ritchey.

In total, Ritchey had 21 points and Mackenzie Stone had 11 to lead the way. Stone had a team-high seven rebounds and Diamond Mayes had six boards.

Mayes and Ritchey in the post is becoming a lethal combination for head coach Mike Warren.

"I think they're going to be a good 1-2 punch," he said. "We just have to get them both playing well at the same time. We had an advantage in size. That hurt them a little bit."

Warren said overtime could have been avoided if the Lady Steers were 13-of-26 from the charity stripe, good for 50 percent.

The win was good considering the last time a game went down to the wire for the Lady Steers. Against Merkel last week, Big Spring lost on a late layup at home. It is the only loss of the year, putting the Lady Steers at 5-1.

Warren is still pleased with the start to the season, but the Andrews Tournament, which begins Thursday, will test his squad and show them where they're at as far as progress is concerned.

BIG SPRING 45, GREENWOOD 41 F/OT  
BSH 16 6 6 8 9 - 45  
GHS 4 12 14 6 5 - 41

Big Spring's top scorers  
Cerbi Ritchey 21 points, 6 rebounds  
Mackenzie Stone 11 points, 7 rebounds  
LaShaunte Anderson 4 points, 3 assists  
Logan Yarbar 3 points  
Taryn Kennedy 2 points  
Valerie Ross 2 points, 3 assists  
Diamond Mayes 6 rebounds  
Next game: Andrews Tournament, Thursday through Saturday in Andrews

### Big Spring boys

See BIG SPRING, Page 2B



HERALD Photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring center/power forward Cerbi Ritchey (44) had 21 points in the Lady Steers' winning effort against Greenwood Tuesday night.

### Area football playoff schedule

**Saturday**  
Garden City vs. Follett  
-8 p.m.  
Seymour

## Oklahoma St.'s Gundy wins Big 12 coach of the year

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — For Mike Gundy, part of becoming a better coach was learning to let go.

Once he yielded control of his offense and defense to his coordinators, he found himself better able to deal with all the day-to-day decisions that come with being the man in charge of a major college football program.

With first-year offensive coordinator Dana Holgorsen leading what would become the nation's third-highest scoring offense and Bill Young in charge of a defense that created 30 turnovers, Gundy was able to see the big picture and add his influence wherever his inexperienced Cowboys needed it.

The result: the first 10-win regular season in school history and Gundy's selec-

tion Tuesday as The Associated Press' Big 12 coach of the year.

"I'm humbled by it and I think that it's an award for our coaching staff," Gundy said in a telephone interview. "They've had a great year."

The 16th-ranked Cowboys (10-2, 6-2 Big 12) were picked to finish fifth in the Big 12 South after losing their starting quarterback, two NFL first-round draft picks and numerous starters but instead shared the division title with Oklahoma and Texas A&M.

Gundy received 12 of 20 first-place votes from the AP panel. Texas A&M's Mike Sherman got seven votes after a turnaround helped the Aggies win their final six games. Art Briles received the remaining vote after leading Baylor to bowl eligi-

bility for the first time since 1994.

Gundy was also named the Big 12 coach of the year in voting by the league's coaches. It's the first time he has received both honors.

In his sixth year as Oklahoma State's head coach, Gundy said he now fits better into the role. A former offensive coordinator, he had previously been heavily involved in the offense and play-calling. But when he brought in Holgorsen, he gave it up — for the better.

"I think it had a huge role in just me coaching attitude, player development, body language and time management," Gundy said. "I allowed Dana and Bill, of course, to do their jobs and my presence

See **OSU**, Page 2B

# Obituaries

## Ross Beck

Ross Beck, 47, of Berwyn Heights, Md., died Thursday, Nov. 25, 2010, at a Burtonsville, Md., nursing home after a brief illness with cancer. Graveside funeral services will be held at 1 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 4, 2010, at Mt. Olive Memorial Park in Big Spring.

He was born Jan. 15, 1963, in Orlando, Fla., and married Theresa Elaine Gill on Nov. 19, 1988, in Bowie, Md.

Ross grew up and attended elementary school in Big Spring. He and his family moved to Alaska and then to Maryland where he attended the University of Maryland. He owned and operated his own computer repair and programming business and was also an auto mechanic.

He was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Survivors include his wife, Theresa Beck of Berwyn Heights, Md.; his parents, Robert S. and Laura Beck of San Antonio; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by one brother, Richard Alex Beck on Feb. 9, 1997; and his grandparents, Maurice Brown and Clara Fisher Brown.

The family suggests memorials be made to American Cancer Society Memorial Program, in care of Carolyn Brooks, P. O. Box 2121, Big Spring 79721-2121.

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

## Weldon D. Peeples

Weldon D. Peeples, 78, of Big Spring, died Tuesday, Nov. 30, 2010, in a local hospital. In honor of Weldon's request, there will be no memorial service for him.

He was born Aug. 15, 1932, in Roby. He served for four years in the United States Navy and retired from the appraisal district in Big Spring.

Survivors include one brother and sister-in-law, Edwin and Barbara Peeples of Harrisonville, Mo.; and one sister, Gracie Williams of Roby.

He was preceded in death by his parents, George and Sabra Peeples; one brother, Milton Peeples; and one sister, Ramona Peeples.

The family suggests memorials be made to Longworth Cemetery Association, 573 CR 107, Roby 79543 or to a favorite charity.

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

## Festus McElreath

Festus McElreath, age 78, of Big Spring, died Monday, Nov. 29, 2010, at Midland Memorial Hospital. Services are pending with Henderson Funeral Home of Coleman.

# Support groups

### 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.

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# Police blotter

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

• JUAN JOSE OLIVAREZ, 27, of 1302 Wright, was arrested Tuesday on charges of driving while license suspended/invalid with a previous conviction, no driver's license - when unlicensed and failure to appear.

• STEPHANIE ELAINE BAKER, 30, of 1601 Cardinal, was arrested Tuesday on two warrants from other agencies.

• MARCUS JOE ANDERSON, 29, of 1015 Ridgeroad, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid with a previous conviction.

• RONNIE EUGENE LEAL, 20, of 1733 Purdue, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant from another agency.

• BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported: In the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.

In the 1200 block of Harding.

• STOLEN VEHICLE was reported in the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.

# Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 78 inmates at the time of this report.

• JUAN JOSE OLIVAREZ, 27, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of driving while license invalid with previous convictions, failure to appear and no driver's license.

• STEPHANIE ELAINE BAKER, 30, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on warrants for fraudulent possession of a controlled substance prescription and theft by check.

• MARCUS JOE ANDERSON, 29, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.

• RONNIE LEAL, 20, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a warrant for burglary of a building.

• QUETIN MARCEL VANDERBILT, 23, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on municipal warrants for failure to display driver's license, failure to appear (two counts) and unrestrained child under four years.

• FERRES WILLIAM SCHLIPF, 28, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on an indictment for indecency with a child - sexual contact.

• SHANE LEE NEWSOM, 46, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a capias pro fine for driving while license invalid and speeding.

• KEITH GENE WILSON, 39, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on charges of driving while license invalid and violation of a promise to appear.

• BRUCE ERVIN ESSIX, 44, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid or suspended.

• ROBERT DUANE BUCK, 41, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of assault - family violence.

• BENJAMIN REYNOLDS, 65, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft of service.

• HENRY TREVINO FRANCO JR., 19, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of minor consuming alcohol.

# Fire/EMS

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

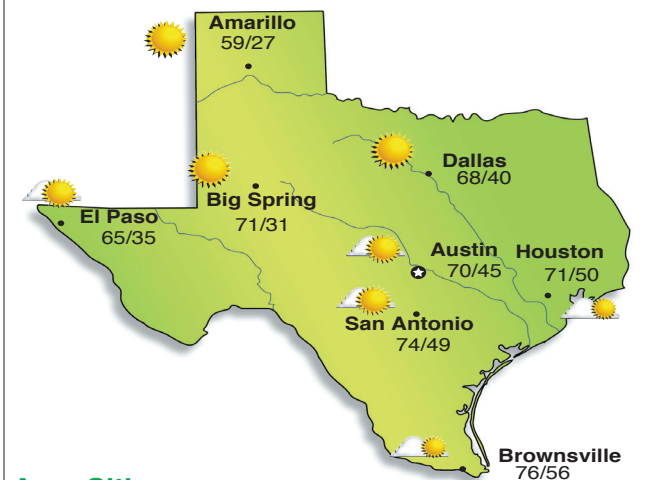
• MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of W.

## Today's Weather

### Local 5-Day Forecast

Thu 12/2	Fri 12/3	Sat 12/4	Sun 12/5	Mon 12/6
<b>71/31</b> Sunny skies. High 71F. Winds WNW at 5 to 10 mph.	<b>74/43</b> More sun than clouds. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the low 40s.	<b>80/39</b> Partly cloudy. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the upper 30s.	<b>69/34</b> Plenty of sun. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the mid 30s.	<b>51/32</b> Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the low 30s.
Sunrise: 7:30 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:31 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:32 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:32 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:33 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM

## Texas At A Glance



### Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Ablene	65	34	sunny	Kingsville	77	52	pt sunny
Amarillo	59	27	sunny	Livingston	69	44	mst sunny
Austin	70	45	pt sunny	Longview	66	43	mst sunny
Beaumont	69	49	mst sunny	Lubbock	63	26	sunny
Brownsville	76	56	pt sunny	Lufkin	69	44	mst sunny
Brownwood	71	36	sunny	Midland	69	33	sunny
Corpus Christi	74	53	pt sunny	Raymondville	78	53	pt sunny
Corsicana	68	40	sunny	Rosenberg	72	50	pt sunny
Dallas	68	40	sunny	San Antonio	74	49	mst sunny
Del Rio	70	44	sunny	San Marcos	71	45	mst sunny
El Paso	65	35	mst sunny	Sulphur Springs	66	40	mst sunny
Fort Stockton	70	34	sunny	Sweetwater	66	33	sunny
Gainesville	63	33	mst sunny	Tyler	65	39	mst sunny
Greenville	64	36	mst sunny	Weatherford	66	35	sunny
Houston	71	50	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	63	31	sunny

17th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of N. Scurry. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 7800 block of N. Service Road. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 100 block of Highland Cove. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 900 block of E. 12th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAUMA was reported in the 1500 block of S. Gregg Street. Service refused.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Stadium. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of N.E. Ninth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAUMA was reported near the 190 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 800 block of E. 14th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

## BIG SPRING HERALD

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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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# Forsan boys, girls struggle at home over Grape Creek

FORSAN — Things are getting tough for the Forsan boys basketball team.

The Buffs dropped a game to Grape Creek 45-33 Tuesday night at home to stay winless on the year.

Head coach Gary Huckabee said Grape Creek had a size advantage and that made a huge difference in the loss. Kolten Self led the Buffs with nine points and Jake Romas' 19 points was most of what Grape Creek needed to top Forsan.

The Buffs are hoping to find a spark in the upcoming Garden City Tournament.

GRAPE CREEK 45, FORSAN 33  
Grape Creek 13 10 9 13 - 45  
Forsan 12 4 5 12 - 33

Forsan's top scorers  
Kolten Self 9 points  
Patrick Robles 5 points

Elgen Suazo 4 points  
Dillon Bagnall 4 points  
Ty Johnson 5 points  
Brendan Roman 4 points  
Bryson Phillips 2 points  
Grape Creek's top scorers  
Jake Romas 19 points  
Donavan Broadway 9 points  
Nathan Fotenot 6 points  
Michael Miller 4 points  
Justin Doss 4 points  
Bobby Salcedo 3 points  
Next game: Garden City Tournament, Thursday through Saturday in Garden City

Forsan girls  
GRAPE CREEK 40, FORSAN 19

Other area results  
STANTON 71, REAGAN COUNTY 51

Stanton 12 8 22 29 - 71  
Reagan 14 12 15 10 - 51

Stanton's top scorers  
Tyler Fulton 20 points  
Trace Sidel 10 points  
Ryan Brantley 2 points  
Jorge Reyna 7 points  
Andres Chavez 3 points  
Ethan Mauldin 1 point  
Nathan Koonce 3 points  
Thomas Ramos 5 points  
Blake Evans 6 points  
Grayson Gray 14 points

Reagan County's top scorers  
Fernando Rey 8 points  
Jordon Garner 3 points  
Matt Harrison 2 points  
Omar Esquivel 6 points  
Tyson Tindol 2 points  
Anthony Marquez 11 points  
Casey Schweeman 19 points

3-point goals - Stanton 6 (Fulton 1, Reyna 1, Chavez 1, Koonce 1, Ramos 1 Gray 1). Reagan County 2 (Rey 2).

## COAHOMA

Continued from Page 1B

COAHOMA 78, KLONDIKE 27  
KHS 6 5 7 9 - 27  
CHS 21 19 21 17 - 78

Coahoma's top scorers  
T. Ruiz 21 points  
S. Cravens 10 points  
M. Molina 10 points  
G. Lopez 9 points  
R. Reid 8 points  
K. Martin 6 points  
J. Gonzalez 6 points  
J. Echavarria 2 points

### Coahoma girls

Coahoma girls' basketball coach Mitzi Bell knows more often than not, the Thanksgiving break slows things down at the wrong time.

Before the break, the Bulldogettes were riding a two-game win streak after dropping the first two games of the season. The break didn't slow Coahoma down enough for Klondike to steal a

win Tuesday night. The Bulldogettes took care of business in a 43-30 victory.

But Bell saw some warning signs early in the game, evidenced by a seven-point second quarter.

"I always tell the girls to play like we're down by 10," Bell said. "That's how they came out in the third quarter. They were really playing like they were down by 10. We went in the locker room and said 'Alright, that half is over. Just forget about it. We need a brand new ball game.' They came out doing what they normally had been doing."

Lynzi Ferrell jump-started the third quarter for Coahoma with two 3-pointers to put the Bulldogettes up 24-14. Later on in that quarter, three consecutive buckets — two from Jennifer Castilaw and one from Joanna Gonzales — had Coahoma up 30-16.

From there, Coahoma had a firm grip on the game. It was the kind of basketball Bell wanted to see.

Ferrell and Gonzales had a

team-high 11 points and Minnie Goodblanket was right behind them with 10. Ferrell also added five boards.

The highlight of the night for the Bulldogettes is how they consistently intercepted the passing lanes and took advantage of Klondike's mistakes. Coahoma had a season-high 21 steals.

Credit goes to the full-court press for the Bulldogettes. Bell said it's a defensive philosophy she wants her team to stick to this season.

"That's what we're trying to do is make the defense more aggressive to where they get hungry for steals," she said. You have to be hungry for them."

COAHOMA 43, KLONDIKE 30  
KHS 7 7 6 10 - 30  
CHS 11 7 19 6 - 43

Coahoma's top scorers  
Lynzie Ferrell 11 points  
Joanna Gonzales 11 points  
Minnie Goodblanket 10 points  
Jennifer Castilaw 7 points  
Haley Pace 4 points

## BIG SPRING

Continued from Page 1B

SAN ANGELO — Luke Adams is making a name for himself. Whether that's a good thing or not is to be determined.

The senior dropped 24 points in a losing effort as the Steers lost to San Angelo Central 64-52. So far, Adams has had an outstanding season. The 24-point effort Tuesday night is in addition to the 42-point performance against Odessa Permian and the clutch freethrows he hit down the stretch to help Big Spring beat Greenwood last week.

Central didn't necessarily limit Adams, but head coach Cliff Thompson said defenses are starting to key in on the senior.

"We've played four games and in two of them he's already got the Box-and-1," he said. "I think that's something we'll see in every game from here on out. They're going to try to do something different. That's just something we're going to have to become accustomed to and find ways to get him his

shots."

Tristain Clay added nine points, making it another game where Adams and Clay have been the top two scorers on the team.

Thompson said finding a third high scorer might make things a little bit easier on the Steers. A lot of players, including Dayvion Young, Devante Lloyd, DaVonte Anderson, Chris Turner and Seth Pearson have shown the ability to put up solid numbers for the Steers.

The key in this game, though, was the huge fourth quarter from Central, where Big Spring was outscored 20-9.

CENTRAL 64, BIG SPRING 52  
BSH 14 15 14 9 - 52  
CHS 10 19 15 20 - 64

Big Spring's top scorer's  
Luke Adams 24  
Tristain Clay 9  
Chazzell Robertson 6  
Next game: Andrews Tournament, Thursday through Saturday in Andrews

## Tiger Woods gets last chance for a win

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP) — The goal for Tiger Woods has always been to be better than he was the year before. Despite losing his marriage and every tournament he played, he still gave himself a passing grade.

"As a golfer, I learned so much more this year than any other year — and as a person, infinitely more," Woods said Tuesday. "So it's been a very successful year, even though it was a very painful year, as well."

That year comes to a close with the Chevron World Challenge, which starts Thursday featuring an 18-man field of players inside the top 50 in the world ranking.

Woods has won the last two times he played, although he missed the last two years — in 2008 while recovering from knee surgery, and last year because of the Thanksgiving night accident that led to revelations of his infidelity.

It was a year that Woods described as "harder than anyone could have imagined."

On Tuesday of tournament week a year ago, the Florida Highway Patrol cited him for reckless driving and fined him \$164 for running his SUV over a fire hydrant and into a tree outside his home, while a magazine had a cover story from a cocktail

See TIGER, Page 3B

# 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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

## OSU

Continued from Page 1B

on the sideline was much more calming because I wasn't having to get so involved in the play of an offensive lineman or receivers or quarterbacks and chew on them about something they did wrong."

Defensive players feel his influence more than ever before, and Gundy said he may have spent more time with defensive players than the offense this season for a change. He also had more time to spend on recruiting and during games, he was even more in tune with clock management and injuries.

During the week, Gundy could pop into any meeting instead of always meeting with quarterbacks.

"I really am OK with it because I think it helped our team and it makes my life much easier and gives me more patience," Gundy said. "I'm not always on edge in dealing with recruits, meeting with administration and just everything that's important."

Gundy also credited the Cowboys' unexpected success to the development of a new batch of playmakers — including Justin Blackmon, Brandon Weeden, Shaun Lewis, Brodrick Brown and Joseph

Randle — and strong returns from serious injuries by Orie Lemon and Andrew McGee.

"When you tie all that together, you end up with 10 wins and a season that everybody will look back on and say obviously it was the most wins we've ever had here in the regular season," he said.

Under Gundy, the Cowboys have played in four straight bowl games for the first time in school history and will make the postseason again, likely in the Cotton, Alamo or Insight bowls. It's a far better destination than anyone expected in what Gundy called a "rebuilding" year.

"If the consistency's there, it's going to allow us to recruit well enough each year to put us in a position that when we have a mature team and we have three or four big-time playmakers on both sides of the ball, then you have a chance to beat anybody you play," Gundy said.

"The continued success that we've had this year instead of falling off to a five- or six-win season is going to make a big difference in the next two or three years because it enables us to maintain a top-notch recruiting class."

## Steinbrenner: Jeter will stay with Yanks

NEW YORK (AP) — Hank Steinbrenner thinks Derek Jeter and the New York Yankees will agree to a new contract.

"I feel confident that Derek will remain with the Yankees, and my brother does, as well," New York's co-chairman said Tuesday night in a telephone interview with The Associated Press.

The Yankees resumed negotiations Tuesday with Jeter and his agent, Casey Close, a baseball official familiar with the discussion said. The official spoke on

condition of anonymity because the team and Close didn't make any announcements.

Neither the official nor Steinbrenner would discuss what took place directly between the sides in the talks, which were first reported by foxsports.com.

"I'm not going to get into who's met who," Steinbrenner said.

New York had offered Jeter a \$45 million, three-year contract at the start of negotiations. Going into Tuesday, the All-Star shortstop had not made a formal proposal.



By Steve Becker  
The Art of Good Salesmanship

East dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.  
NORTH  
♠ A Q 5 4  
♥ J 7  
♦ K J 8 6  
♣ 10 9 5

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

SOUTH  
♠ K 9 8 7 3  
♥ 8 5 3  
♦ A Q 10  
♣ K 2

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

Opening lead — king of hearts.

A defender who makes it a practice to falsecard regularly — in an effort to fool the declarer — will sometimes wind up fooling his partner instead and so defeat the very purpose of the falsecard.

However, there are hands where a defender can afford to deliberately deceive his partner — at the same time as he is trying to deceive declarer — because he knows that no harm, and perhaps some good, can come from his deceptive measures.

Such situations are relatively rare, but they should be explored when the occasion arises.

Consider this deal where, if you look at all four hands, it seems that the outcome is preordained. Declarer's only losers are two hearts and a club, and he should therefore make four spades. But when the hand was played, South fell victim to a clever ruse by East and ended up down one.

West led the king of hearts. East overtook the king with the ace and returned the deuce of hearts to West's queen. West naturally assumed that his partner had started with the doubleton A-2 of hearts — which was exactly what East wanted him to think — so West continued with the ten of hearts at trick three.

Declarer could now have made the contract by ruffing low in dummy, but he elected to ruff high because he was afraid East would overruff a low spade and defeat the contract.

When East followed suit to the third round of hearts, declarer realized he'd been had, but it was too late to do anything about it. The damage had already been done, and East eventually scored a trump trick as well as the ace of clubs to sink the supposedly unbeatable game.

Tomorrow: Never say die.  
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# Texas briefs

## Survey: Texting while driving getting worse

AUSTIN (AP) — Texans believe texting and talking on phones while driving is getting worse and that roads are less safe than they were five years ago, despite declines in accident deaths.

A survey by the Texas Transportation Institute found that 52 percent of Texas drivers would support a law banning mobile phone use while driving. Up to 85 percent say texting or talking while driving is worse than it was five years ago.

The survey of 1,167 licensed drivers was conducted at 10 driver license stations operated by the Texas Department of Public Safety in September and October.

“People feel threatened” by drivers talking or texting on the road, said Bernie Fette, senior research specialist for the Texas Transportation Institute.

Although roadway deaths are down about 17 percent over the last five years — from 3,699 in 2004 to 3,089 in 2009 — more than a third of Texas drivers think the roads are less safe, the survey found. And

60 percent of those surveyed said aggressive driving has gotten worse.

The survey did not quiz drivers about their own driving behavior, but “people seem to be more mindful and concerned about the riskier behavior they see and are less likely to tolerate it,” Fette said.

Texas lawmakers convene the 2011 legislative session in January. Several bills to ban or limit wireless phone use while driving already have been filed.

One by Rep. Tom Craddick, R-Midland, would ban texting, instant messaging and e-mailing while driving.

## Open records program at odds with A&M System

HOUSTON (AP) — A program that teaches college journalism students about using public information laws has run into an ironic dilemma. Teachers at one of the state’s largest university systems can be disciplined — even fired — if they ask students

to file an open records request with their school.

While a spokesman for the Texas A&M University System said Tuesday the rule does not prevent students from getting public information, an official with the organization sponsoring the program called it an unlawful policy that censors the public’s right to know.

The issue began earlier this year when Tarleton State University in the Central Texas town of Stephenville asked the A&M University System whether a faculty member at the school could direct a student in his or her class to submit a public information request to the school under the Texas Public Information Act.

The instructor, Dan Malone, is co-chair of the Light of Day Project, a program run by the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas.

The project works with journalism departments at universities across the state to increase awareness and use of public information laws. As part of the project, students submit Texas Public Information Act requests to various governmental agencies, including universities.

## BOXES

Continued from Page 1A

prolific in the program’s local history.

Brenda Franklin, Operation Christmas Child relay center coordinator, said she was overwhelmed when she and her fellow volunteers counted 1,021 shoe boxes before taking the holiday vessels to the regional drop-off point in Odessa.

“God is awesome.

That’s all I could say when we got the final tally,” Franklin said. “We set the goal of 775 boxes, hoping we would be able to exceed it, but we only thought we would be able to get a few more than that. When we realized we had gathered more than 1,000 boxes, I was just overwhelmed.”

Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child, a project of international Christian relief organization Samaritan’s Purse headed by Franklin Graham, has

delivered more than 61 million gift-filled shoe boxes to needy children in some 130 countries.

Franklin is quick to point out the project was a group effort, bringing Crossroads men and women of all walks of life together to support the international cause.

“We had a lot of different churches and businesses participating in the program. Without them there’s no chance we would have been able to make our goal, much less exceed it,”

Franklin said. “This is a very giving community, and this project gives us a chance to show people throughout the world the love of God.”

Franklin said this year’s tally managed to top last year’s effort by 181 shoe boxes filled with toys, hygiene items and other much-needed items.

“The regional drop-off point in Odessa collected 6,283 shoe boxes, which is 621 more than last year,” Franklin said. “These boxes will

be the only thing many of these children will have to open Christmas morning. Many donors will put scriptures and words of encouragement in the gift, as well, so I feel like we’re helping to deliver a really good message.

“There is so much power in a simple gift,” she added. “Children around the world get a chance to hear of God’s love through a simple shoe box filled with many different items. It warms my heart to see

all the boxes collected and to know we can make a difference in a child’s life.”

## CELEBRATE

Continued from Page 1A

items might want to stop at the annual Canterbury Christmas Bazaar, which will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at Canterbury South, 1700 Lancaster.

“We’ll have at least 40 vendors on hand offering all sorts of arts and crafts, baked goods ... just a wide variety of Christmas gifts,” said Shannon Neighbors, executive director of the retirement community complex. “Also, we’ll have homemade burritos on sale. Proceeds from that will go to the Canterbury Auxiliary, a resident group which plans all the social activities for the year here.”

Neighbors said the event should have something for just about everybody, with price ranges to match.

“You can spend just a few dollars, or you can purchase original art or handmade jewelry that will cost a lot more,” she said. “There will be lots of baked goods for sale, as well as the Canterbury Cookbook, which includes recipes from our residents.”

For more information on the bazaar, call 263-1265.

## Christmas Parade

Preparations are almost complete for the 25th annual Big Spring Herald Lighted Community Christmas Parade, scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Saturday.

The parade will begin at the intersection of 24th and Gregg streets, travel north to Eighth Street, then east for a block before turning north on Scurry and concluding at the Heart of the City Park.

More than 40 entries have been received to date.

“This is going to be one of our biggest and best parades yet,” Herald Advertising Director Rick Nunez said. “As of Tuesday, we’ve received 45 entries, which is a little

more than last year.”

The theme for this year’s event is “A Star Spangled Christmas.” Retired Air Force Col. Jim Little, director of the Big Spring Airport, is scheduled to be grand marshal.

Entrants are eligible for three cash prizes — \$100 for the Best of Show Award (for best interpretation of theme); \$75 Publisher’s Award (for best use of lighting); and \$50 Grand Marshal’s Award (for best costuming).

In addition, first-place plaques will be awarded in the following categories — individual or family; civic group, school or church; commercial; and industrial. Also, a special award will be presented to the best sheriff’s posse, riding club or other mounted entry.

Only entries received prior to the deadline will be considered for prizes, but additional participants will be welcomed right up to the start of the parade. Nunez said that persons wishing to participate need to show up in the vicinity of 24th and Gregg streets by 4:30 p.m. the day of the parade.

Officials promise community residents a colorful start to the holiday season.

“We are very excited to once again be hosting the Community Christmas Parade,” Herald Publisher Ron Midkiff. “This is our Christmas gift to Howard County and we’re hoping for another successful event.”

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## Christmas Tree Forest

The fourth annual Christmas Tree Forest will debut Saturday and run through the holiday season at Heritage Museum, Director Nancy Raney said.

The theme for the exhibit this year is “Angels We Have Heard on High,” Raney said. Aside from more than 30 trees, the museum will also feature an exhibit of paintings from members of the Caboose Water Color Society reflecting the angel theme.

Also Saturday, the museum will hold “Breakfast With Santa,” in which local youngsters will get a chance to meet St. Nick and Mrs. Claus.

Children will be allowed to break bread with the big guy beginning at 9 a.m.

Cost is \$3. Local baking expert Gale Pittman will also be on hand to help chil-

dren design their own angel-shaped gingerbread cookie for the holiday season beginning at 10 a.m.

Also during the day-long event, kids will get the chance to have their picture taken with Santa, said Museum Director Nancy Raney.

A reception honoring the Caboose Water Color Society exhibit will be held at 4 p.m. and the museum will hold its annual Parade Watch Party from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

## Living Christmas Tree

The 32nd annual Living Christmas Tree will be held at 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

at First United Methodist Church, located at Fourth and Scurry. It is free to the public, but tickets must be obtained at the church office. A dress rehearsal at 2 p.m. Saturday also is open to the public.

The Living Christmas Tree, for the uninitiated, is exactly that — a 2,000-pound Christmas tree populated by more than 130 singers dressed as ornaments.

While the event will be familiar to those who have attended before, the program is tweaked every year to provide something new. Aside from long-time classics, newer holiday standards will be performed.

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# Tulowitzki gets \$157.75M from Rockies

DENVER (AP) — Troy Tulowitzki and the Colorado Rockies are looking ahead with 2020 vision. The sides agreed Tuesday to a new contract that pays Tulowitzki an additional \$132 million over seven seasons through 2020, a deal that means Colorado has guaranteed the All-Star shortstop \$157.75 million in the next decade.

"I'm really lucky," Tulowitzki said. "I can't wait to be here my entire career."  
Tulowitzki wanted to be like his idol, Baltimore's Cal Ripken Jr., who played in just one city, and not his mentor, St. Louis slugger Matt Holliday, whose departure from Denver a couple of years ago after 11 years in the Rockies organization deeply affected him.

"I didn't want that to happen to me," Tulowitzki said. "I wanted to stay here for my career and not deal with all the other stuff. I'm sure he's in a great place now and I know he's happy but at the same time, this is where I want to be."

Tulowitzki's 10-year contract is the eighth-highest in baseball history, trailing two of Alex Rodriguez's deals (\$275 million and \$252 million) and agreements for Derek Jeter (\$189 million), Joe Mauer (\$184 million), Mark Teixeira (\$180 million), CC Sabathia (\$161 million) and Manny Ramirez (\$160 million).

The genesis of the extension was a heart-to-heart

talk with general manager Dan O'Dowd in his office at season's end.

"They were just discussions about life," O'Dowd said. "The maturity of understanding the continuity and stability of things and what he's trying to become as a man led me to say to our owner, 'I think maybe we should explore this right now.'"

A second chat in O'Dowd's office, this time with team owner Dick Monfort sitting in, got the negotiations started.

"I said it definitely is a possibility I want to be here my whole career, but there's a lot of things that have to work out, such as money, such as a commitment to winning," Tulowitzki said. "And all the answers I received from the beginning stayed on a straight line. They never veered off. And they sold me."

And the Rockies paid him. Tulowitzki, 26, already had been guaranteed \$25.75 million through 2013 under the \$31 million, six-year contract he agreed to in January 2008.

Asked about the characterization that the Rockies ownership hasn't been committed to winning, O'Dowd said: "I will say this, that we're not committed to winning at all costs."

"Maybe there's a perception we're not committed to winning because we don't go out and do the Mike Hampton and Denny Neagle thing anymore, but if

you didn't notice that didn't work out too well," O'Dowd said of Colorado's colossal contracts that blew up in the franchise's face in the early 2000s. "And so we are committed to try to hold onto our own internal players before we hold onto anything external."

Both sides are taking risks: Tulowitzki will be 35 by the time the contract expires and he could have some monster years during that time.

Despite missing 33 games with a broken wrist last season, Tulowitzki won his first Gold Glove and NL Silver Slugger awards after hitting .315 with 27 homers and 95 RBIs.

"They felt like they had a guy they wanted to be the face of the franchise and they came after him," Tulowitzki said. "And on my side, I love the game and that's more than enough money than I'll ever need in my entire lifetime."

Tulowitzki said he believes the Rockies are on the cusp of something big and that ownership promised him he won't have to carry the load by himself.

The Rockies are hoping to have these kinds of big contract announcements regarding ace Ubaldo Jimenez and star slugger Carlos Gonzalez in winters to come, although it could prove an insurmountable challenge to keep both of them in purple pinstripes beyond 2014, when they would become free agents.

# James on Cleveland: 'Lot of thanks to those fans'

MIAMI (AP) — There's not much LeBron James can absolutely say about what awaits when he returns to Cleveland as an opponent on Thursday night.

Fun, weird, tough, draining. James cites them all as expectations.

He's likely right on each count, and who knows how many more ways the emotional gamut will swing on Thursday when the Miami Heat visit Cleveland, the city James scorned on July 8 when he announced in a nationally televised special that he was "taking my talents to South Beach."

It'll be James' first time back as a

visitor, and Cavaliers fans have been waiting months to not welcome him home.

"It's going to be tough, but I'm there to win a basketball game," James said after Tuesday's Heat practice and preparing for Wednesday's game against Detroit — almost forgotten given the magnitude of what looms Thursday. "I understand. I understand how passionate fans are about sports. I'm ready for whatever response that I'm going to get. It's going to be very emotional."

True, for all parties involved. But the NBA might have helped

James out a bit with this trip.

Because Miami plays at home Wednesday night, the Heat will not arrive in Cleveland until early Thursday morning. The team won't practice that day, just have meetings and a walkthrough at its hotel, which will be teeming with security — like always. They'll bus to the arena, play the game, head to the airport and leave for Miami.

No time to visit old haunts or old friends. A business trip, nothing more, nothing less, and James seems relieved by that.

"I think it's going to be very emo-

tional for myself," James said. "I've got a lot of great memories in that city. So many times, from ups and downs, and a lot of things that I've done in my life, I give a lot of thanks to that city, lot of thanks to those fans for giving me the opportunity to not only showcase my talent but grow from a young boy to a man."

He's not from Cleveland, but Akron, about 40 miles south. The Cavaliers' franchise was reborn when they won the right to pick James No. 1 overall in the 2003 draft, and together, they

See JAMES, Page 6

# Steelers' Harrison fined \$25K for Fitzpatrick hit

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Steelers linebacker James Harrison was fined \$25,000 on Tuesday for his penalized hit on Buffalo quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick.

Harrison has four fines this season totaling \$125,000.

Harrison drew a roughing-the-passer penalty for hitting Fitzpatrick helmet-first during Pittsburgh's 19-16 overtime victory Sunday.

"James Harrison was fined \$25,000 for rough-

ing the passer, specifically he made helmet contact to the chest of the Buffalo quarterback, who was in a defenseless position at the time the contact was made," the NFL said in an e-mail Tuesday to The Associated Press.

After the game, the three-time Pro Bowl linebacker said the play didn't warrant a fine. He compared it to his Nov. 21 roughing-the-passer penalty against Raiders quarterback Jason Campbell that did not

draw a fine. "I'm not expecting a fine," Harrison said. "It's the exact thing as last week. It was the same exact hit. I hit him (Fitzpatrick) the same way I did the quarterback from Oakland and I got the same flag but I didn't get a fine. ... I'm expecting the same thing on this."

Harrison previously was fined \$75,000 for a helmet hit on Browns wide receiver Mohamed Massaquoi, \$20,000 for a helmet-to-the-back hit

on Saints quarterback Drew Brees and \$5,000 for a hit on Titans quarterback Vince Young.

On Monday, the league rejected Harrison's appeals of the \$75,000 and \$20,000 fines, although the Steelers supported Harrison's appeal.

Steelers coach Mike Tomlin declined Tuesday to debate whether Harrison should have been fined for the Fitzpatrick play. But Tomlin suggested Harrison needs to alter his tackling style to conform

to the NFL's stricter enforcement of dangerous hits — a toughened stance that was prompted, in part, by the Massaquoi hit.

"Obviously he does because the league doesn't agree with him," Tomlin said. "My opinion doesn't matter."

Tomlin also was asked if it's fair that the league keeps singling out Harrison for large fines.

"Man, life isn't fair," Tomlin said. "I'm not concerned about fairness. I'm really not. I'm

concerned about preparing for the Baltimore Ravens" on Sunday.

Earlier this season, Tomlin and Steelers President Art Rooney II defended Harrison, and Tomlin told his players he doesn't want the league's stance to affect the way they play. Rooney also said the league was wrong for disciplining players for what he felt were legal hits, including the Harrison hit on Massaquoi.

## TIGER

Continued from Page 2B

waitress who said she had 300 text messages to prove her 31-month affair with Woods.

His personal life was just starting to unravel.

Woods said he never thought about walking away from golf for the entire year, shooting down speculation in a book that he would enlist

in the Navy. Woods said as a kid, he either wanted to be a pro golfer or a Navy SEAL.

"I love playing the game of golf," Woods said. "It's fun, it's certainly challenging, and it's also something that I know when I do it right, I'm pretty good at it."

That was not lost on Ian Poulter as he hit balls on the range Tuesday morning and talked about the world ranking, amazed that Woods

has lost more ranking points than any player has earned this year.

Poulter recalled a time not long ago when the distance between Woods and whoever was No. 2 in the world was greater than No. 2 and the player ranked 100th or lower.

"It shows how good," Poulter said, pausing. It sounded as though he was ready to say "how good he was," but the Englishman caught himself,

because he believes Woods will return. "It shows how good he can be when he's at his best."

Can he get it back? "I think it's in him even more," Poulter said.

Woods talked about the need to change his personal life and his golf swing, but he never explained until Tuesday why he had to change a swing that had brought him 31 tour victories, including six majors,

under Hank Haney.

"As I played throughout the summer, I kept trying to do the things that I was working on with Hank over the years, and it just wasn't working anymore, and it got to a point where I just couldn't do it," he said. "It's kind of hard to try and play tournament level golf, major championship golf especially, when at the time I was struggling with which way the ball was going to go."

# 9-3 A&M headed for Cotton Bowl Aggies first Cotton Bowl berth since 2005

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Texas A&M has accepted an invitation to play in the Cotton Bowl.

The 19th-ranked Aggies will learn on Sunday which team from the Southeastern Conference they will play. It will be Texas A&M's first appearance in the game since 2005 and their 12th overall.

Texas A&M (9-3) enters the game with a six-game winning streak and a victory in the game would give the Aggies their first 10-win season since 1998.

Senior linebacker/defensive end Von Miller says he is excited to play his last game close to home.



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# EDITORIAL

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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## OTHER VIEWS

# Signs point to profitable cotton crop

If rising prices across the country are any indication, cotton is going to be king this year in growing areas from here to Southern New Mexico.

Actually, much of the good fortune is due to bad fortune in distant parts of the world. Pakistan, the world's fourth-largest cotton producer, has been the victim of some devastating floods that have severely damaged the cotton crop.

India cut back on cotton exports this year, boosting prices. And in China, the world's largest cotton producer, has suffered from poor growing conditions.

Also, in general, there was reduced cotton production last year.

All of these factors combine to raise the price of cotton for sale and cotton futures. While we don't cheer the misfortunes of others, we certainly cheer the good news of higher prices and profits for American growers, particularly in this area.

The concern over cotton prices underscores the importance of agriculture as an economic force here.

It's almost automatic to think that Southern New Mexico and Chile go hand in hand. Of course, there's truth and pride there. Unapologetically, we say that the best chiles come from Southern New Mexico, and we'll put them up against the best that anyone else has to offer.

And the lush, green groves of pecan trees (thinking about driving under the soothing, leafy canopy at Stahmann Farms here) provide the country and world with the tasty treat that is also rich in protein, unsaturated fats and omega-6 fatty acids. So don't feel bad about popping a pecan or three this holiday season.

Also, some really good onions are pulled from the fields, and don't forget the viticulture and associated winemaking industry whose wines become more popular and accepted all the time.

Good prices for agricultural products are good for everyone.

But cotton is the current star, with its price recently hitting a 140-year high of \$1.51 per pound on the futures market. Of course, that price isn't set in stone. The market will fluctuate, for instance, with cotton sold at different times.

However, the picture is much better than it's been in previous years. With this area being so rooted in agriculture, it's great to see farmers and producers receive good prices for their products.

—THE EL PASO TIMES

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

If we do what You love, Lord, we will love what we do. Amen

# Abandon showers, shampoo, soap and deodorant? Really?

When our civilization has sunk like that of ancient Rome and "the new dark ages begin," the thrill of showering will be one of the first luxuries dragged to oblivion, muses the English novelist Ian McEwan.

"The old folk crouching by their peat fires will tell their disbelieving grandchildren of standing naked midwinter under jet streams of hot clean water, of lozenges of scented soaps and of viscous amber and vermilion liquids they rubbed into their hair to make it glossy and more voluminous than it really was, and of thick white towels as big as togas, waiting on warming racks," he writes.

But surely, surely this day will not come, will it? Sorry, but the barbarians are already at the gate, or if not barbarians, modernists giving dirty glances at a cleanliness once said to be next to godliness. They're abandoning daily showers, hair washing and underarm deodorant dabs.

If the new Dark Ages have not yet arrived, a perturbing trend called soap dodging has, its presence certified by The New York Times.

An article in the newspaper informs us that chief anti-shower motivations are water conservation and the safeguarding of natural skin oils. Water is not wholly evaded — use is made of sinks and washcloths selectively

applied — but deodorant sticks are out the window, repudiated superstitiously as cancer-causing.

Washing hair? That's a "hassle," says a piece in another paper, The Guardian, which reveals that large numbers in the United Kingdom have joined in this rebellion against bathing habits widespread in the Western world for something more than a half century.

It was a trudge getting to those habits. The ancient Romans gave the world the public bath, but the world eventually said "bah" to most things Roman, and what ensued was not pleasant.

A libertarian economist instructively provides blog readers with a few sentences in which the historian Thomas Macaulay portrays the life of a Scottish highlander in the post-Dark Ages 17th century:

"His lodging would sometimes have been in a hut of which every nook would have swarmed with vermin. He would have inhaled an atmosphere thick with peat smoke, and foul with a hundred noisome exhalations ... His couch would have been the bare earth, dry or wet as the weather might be; and from that couch he would have risen half poisoned with stench, half blind with the reek of turf, and half mad with the itch."

To learn how free exchange defeated such acute deprivation, turn to Matt Ridley's fundamentally important book, "The Rational Optimist," in which I found the McEwan quote.

Virtually every good we have beyond mere subsistence is de-

rived from trading the value of something we produce or do for something others produce or do, the author demonstrates. Industrialism has helped. Technology has helped. Science has helped.

In "The Secret Life of Germs," Philip Tierno Jr. relates how science 150 years ago began elucidating the way germs do their devilish thing, infecting and killing us. Just touching accounts for 80 percent of all germ transmissions, he observes, adding that frequent washing of hands is as important to health as not smoking.

And yet to get us to where we are today with bathing, we needed more innovations that only slowly crept our direction.

"We took a bath once a week whether we needed to or not," my father used to kid about his youth in the early part of the last century, not so terribly, terribly long ago.

He was still better off than Louis XIV, France's Sun King, who reportedly never took a bath, or today's soap dodgers, who of course have every right to scorn what civilization has wrought.

To no substantive avail as best I can see, theirs is a ritualistic return to something more natural — germs are very natural — and not all that big a deal except for a malodorous similarity to others who additionally insist through laws that we join them in their disdain for progress, living less happily and safely.

Jay Ambrose is former Washington director of editorial policy for Scripps Howard newspapers. Contact him at [SpeaktoJay@aol.com](mailto:SpeaktoJay@aol.com).

# Extremist label ratcheted up

With the advent of the tea party movement and President Obama's recent "shellacking," the left's long-established effort to marginalize mainstream conservative Americans as fringe extremists has reached a new stage of desperation.

For at least the past half-century, the dominant media culture has portrayed minority liberalism as mainstream and conservatives as shrill malcontents. From the time I started paying attention to politics as a young kid, liberals have been demonizing conservatives as reactionary throwback Neanderthal knuckle-dragging, warmongering extremists.

I'll never forget the "Daisy" ad from the LBJ presidential campaign, which featured a little girl picking petals from a daisy in a field as an ominous countdown from "10" led into footage of a nuclear explosion. The voice of LBJ then interceded with "These are the stakes, to make a world in which all of God's children can live or to go into the dark. We must either love each other, or we must die."

The unmistakable message was that Republican presidential candidate Barry Goldwater could not be trusted with his finger on the nuclear button. The ad resonated because the liberal media had already laid the foundation that conservative ideas were not just antiquated and obsolete but also dangerous.

Liberals similarly depicted Ronald Reagan as a bellicose buffoon itching to light up Moscow with his "Star Wars" nuclear toys; never mind that "Star Wars" was the left's pejorative shorthand for Reagan's proposed Strategic Defense Initiative, which was, as its title indicated, a defense system.

They also characterized Reagan's domestic policies, particularly his tax cuts, as extreme.

Never would it have occurred to them that top marginal income tax rates of 90 percent were extreme, but a mere 25 percent across-the-board cut — allowing American workers to keep a bit more of what they earned — was.

The left even branded the moderate George W. Bush as a conservative extremist because of his tax cuts and his fierce resolve and firm policies in the war on terror. He got no slack from libs for his no-federal-dollars-left-behind education program, the new prescription drug entitlement or his immigration policy, among others.

These same people, mind you, sold Barack Obama — National Journal's most liberal senator of 2007, member of the Rev. Jeremiah Wright's church, colleague of William Ayers', committed Alinskyite, consummate street agitator — as a refined, urbane, erudite Harvard Law School graduate who would usher in a new kind of post-racial, post-partisan politics and show us the virtues and possibilities of governing through compromise and consensus.

Even two years' worth of Obama's hyper-partisanship, race-baiting, thuggish Alinskyite tactics and policy extremism has not deterred liberals from denying his (and their) extremism.

Nor did the electorate's stunning repudiation of his agenda shake his or their resolve or their commitment to persist in portraying conservatives as extremists.

To this day, the liberal media largely ignore Obama's proven policy extremism and his dogmatic tactics in promoting it, from his stimulus package to reversing welfare reform to cap and trade to amnesty to swallowing up private businesses to excessive abuse of executive orders and his appointment of radical unaccountable czars to his appeasement approach on foreign policy and the war on terror to forcing Obamacare with its mandates down our collective throat.

They barely acknowledge that Obama remains immovably

dedicated to his agenda, preferring to quote him resurrecting his phony gestures of bipartisanship, as in, "I believe that if we stop talking at one another and start talking with one another, we can get a lot done." Does he mean like "I don't want the folks who created the mess (the ones he consigned to the back seat) to do a lot of talking"?

We read more about the alleged extremism of Sarah Palin and the tea partyers than we do about Obama and his soundly trounced agenda. Now here are the real extremists, they say. Obama's Homeland Security Department, you will recall, suggested they were domestic terrorists. Network television and cable liberals helped foster the notion that the protesters were wild-eyed bigots just one nurse shy of serial killer Richard Speck. Democratic operative Paul Begala recently said, "The party of Palin is so far to the right it makes Newt look like Che Guevara."

Yes, tea partyers are extremists because they refuse to compromise on our national solvency or to conspire with statist in converting America into a European-style socialist nation.

In the run-up to the 2012 elections, we're going to see a growing intensity in the liberals' frantic and fraudulent effort to depict tea partyers, Sarah Palin and other real conservatives as extremists.

As this scenario inevitably plays out, we must remember that adherence to a fixed set of tried-and-true principles, otherwise known as America's founding ideals, is hardly extremism. Besides, to quote the victim of the "Daisy" ad, "extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice."

David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. His new book, "Crimes Against Liberty," was No. 1 on the New York Times best-seller list for nonfiction for its first two weeks. To find out more about David Limbaugh, please visit his website at [www.DavidLimbaugh.com](http://www.DavidLimbaugh.com).

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JAY  
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DAVID  
LIMBAUGH

JAMES

Continued from Page 3B

soared. Cleveland won 349 games during James' seven

seasons, second-most in the Eastern Conference over that span, and the Cavaliers' 127 wins in 2008-09 and 2009-10 — James' MVP years — topped the NBA charts.

So when he became a free

agent, there was angst in Cleveland, understandably.

Angst turned to anger at 9:27 p.m. on July 8, when James revealed his decision.

"I think it's going to be something that none of us

have ever seen before," Heat guard Dwyane Wade said of what's coming on Thursday. "If we can be a fan and watch it from afar, we all would, and not go. I would love to watch it and see as a fan, but I'm in-

volved in it. It's going to be entertainment for everyone to watch."

Some Heat fans will gather to watch, at a team-sponsored event known as a "road rally."

US eyes 2022 World Cup with big hopes for soccer

NEW YORK (AP) — As Americans celebrated the Fourth of July in 1988, a present arrived from Zurich: The World Cup was headed to the United States for the first time.

"The richest land in the world simply cannot be allowed to remain a blank spot on the world map of soccer any longer," Hermann Neuberger, president of West German soccer's governing body, said at the time.

More than two decades since that watershed 1994 World Cup, the global game is now very much a part of the country's sports landscape. There's a national team that's played in six straight World Cups, three television networks that are pretty much all soccer, constant additional exposure on ESPN2 and a growing league preparing for its 16th season — albeit one still struggling to gain attention in a market dominated by the NFL, Major League Baseball and the NBA.

Bidders promise another burst of explosive growth if FIFA's executive committee awards the 2022 tournament to the United States when it votes Thursday in Zurich. Australia, Japan, Qatar and South Korea are the competi-

tion. "We've got all of the infrastructure in place, and it's extraordi-

nary infrastructure, which allows us to focus on growing the game and using the World Cup to do that in the United States and have the U.S. become an important part of the global community in this," U.S. Soccer Federation President Sunil Gulati said in an interview with The Associated Press. "I think it changes the economics in a positive way for FIFA and other associations."

The 1994 World Cup transformed FIFA's business side.

Names on the backs of players' jerseys?

It started in the U.S.

Corporate tents?

First made in America.

All-Star teams and relentless promotion?

Ditto.

Much of soccer has never seen anything like Dallas Cowboys Stadium, with its 50-yard-wide video screen hovering above field, 10,000 club seats and 300 luxury suites ringing five levels — the expensive seats alone just about match the 20,224 total capacity of Portsmouth's Fratton Park.

Hard to compare that with those in the original bid presented by the U.S. 22 years ago, which included such antiques as Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis, Md., John F. Kennedy Stadium in Philadelphia and Palmer Stadium in Princ-

eton, N.J.

FIFA's technical report says attendance at a U.S. World Cup could average 76,000, breaking the record of 68,991 set in 1994. It says there is medium legal risk because of a lack of government guarantees, which would require federal legislation after a bid is awarded.

"Clearly for us, there is nothing that we could do in the United States, whether it be our federation or Major League Soccer, that would be more important than having the World Cup here in our country," MLS Commissioner Don Garber said.

"Hosting the World Cup in the U.S. is by far the biggest opportunity for our league to capitalize on the growing interest for the sport and ultimately convert that interest to a deeper connection with our league, our clubs and our players."

Gulati and his delegation have spent months lobbying the 22 voters.

They'll bring along a group for the final presentation that includes former President Bill Clinton, Attorney General Eric Holder, actor Morgan Freeman, national team star Landon Donovan, former women's team star Mia Hamm and her husband, former Boston Red Sox star Nomar Garciaparra.

In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



In the Dough

Using her grandmother's recipe, Patricia "Sister Schubert" Barnes has turned her home kitchen business into a nationally branded line of baked goods.

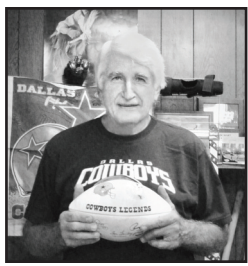
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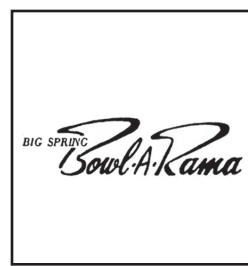
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4. \_\_\_\_\_
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# News in brief

## N. Korean soldier at border wishes for peace as U.S., S. Korea finish war maneuvers after attack

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — As the United States and South Korea finished up war maneuvers Wednesday aimed at North Korea after its deadly attack on a front-line island, a North Korean soldier at the heavily armed border said he hopes for peace.

The soldier, interviewed in the Panmunjom village inside the Demilitarized Zone, told the television news agency APTN that he was aware of his country's deadly attack and hoped tensions between the two sides would be eased "as soon as possible, in a peaceful way."

"I know that there were casualties on the South side," Lieutenant Choe Song Il told the APTN crew from Pyongyang. "I hope that such military conflict between North and South should never happen again."

The comments were unusually candid given the tensions between the rivals, especially since the North's attack on Yeonpyeong Island on Nov. 23. The attack killed four South Koreans and wounded 18.

His comments came as China tried to restart the aid-for-nuclear-disarmament talks coveted by the North. But Washington, Tokyo and Seoul are wary of talking with the North.

## WikiLeaks website blocked behind Chinese firewall amid potentially embarrassing claims

BEIJING (AP) — China, one of the biggest Internet policers, took no chances with the latest online sensation and blocked the WikiLeaks website Wednesday amid potentially embarrassing claims made in leaked U.S. diplomatic memos posted there.

Attempts to access wikileaks.org and cablegate.wikileaks.org were met with a notice saying the connection had been reset, or were diverted the user to popular Chinese search engine Baidu. That's the standard response when the connection to an overseas-based website has been cut.

The U.S. Embassy memos — called cables, though they are mostly encrypted electronic communication — contain some frank talk about and attributed to Chinese figures and their North Korean allies.

In one, a Chinese diplomat is quoted describing North Korea as a "spoiled child" for attempting to win U.S. attention with a provocative missile test.

China's representative to six-nation disarmament talks, meanwhile, is described by a South Korean diplomat as an "arrogant, Marx-spouting former Red Guard who 'knows nothing about North Korea, nothing about nonproliferation.'"

## Deficit commission to begin debate on co-chairs' plan, including Social Security benefit cuts

WASHINGTON (AP) — The members of President Barack Obama's deficit commission will begin to go on the record Wednesday as they debate politically explosive budget cuts, including proposals to lower Social Security benefits, in a revised plan to wrestle the national debt under control.

The new plan by panel co-chairmen Erskine

Bowles and Alan Simpson, to be unveiled Wednesday, faces an uphill slog because of proposals to raise the Social Security retirement age and lower cost-of-living increases, cut Medicare costs, curtail a huge assortment of tax breaks, like the deduction for mortgage interest, and almost double the federal tax on a gallon of gasoline.

Though the plan appears unlikely to win enough bipartisan support from the panel to be approved for a vote in Congress this year or next, Bowles has already declared victory, saying he and Simpson have at least succeeded in initiating an "adult conversation" in the country about the pain it will take to cut the deficit.

The plan faces resistance from many commission members. House Republicans appear uniformly against tax increases, while liberal Democrats like Jan Schakowsky of Illinois appear unlikely to be able to accept big cuts in federal programs for seniors.

Obama named the commission in hopes of bringing a deficit-fighting plan up for a vote in Congress this year, but it appears to be falling well short of the 14-vote bipartisan supermajority needed.

## Congress set to pass bill protecting whistle-blowers from retaliation for reporting corruption

WASHINGTON (AP) — Following the latest barbing of U.S. secrets on the Internet, Congress is poised to pass legislation giving employees in the most sensitive government jobs a way to report corruption, waste and mismanagement without turning to outside organizations like WikiLeaks.

President Barack Obama is expected to sign the bill, and it is viewed by supporters as a way to discourage leaks of classified information. It would give intelligence agency whistle-blowers a way to raise concerns within their agencies instead of giving classified materials to WikiLeaks or other outlets, which is illegal.

Without protections spelled out in law, whistle-blowers risk being fired or demoted for informing their chains of command about misconduct, according to Tom Devine, legal director at the Government Accountability Project. That leaves no alternative to anonymous — and potentially damaging — leaks unless whistle-blowers are willing to jeopardize their careers, he said.

"Until this law is passed, WikiLeaks will continue to be the safest option for whistle-blowers unwilling to engage in professional suicide," said Devine, who is coordinating support for the bill from a coalition of more than 60 public interest and advocacy groups.

The Senate is expected to approve the bill this week and send it to the House, where Democrats are planning to pass it quickly.

## Clinton seeks more European help in Afghanistan at security summit overshadowed by WikiLeaks

ASTANA, Kazakhstan (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton called on a European security organization Wednesday to play a bigger role in helping stabilize Afghanistan and to do more to strengthen the voice of human rights groups worldwide.

In the aftermath of the leak of huge numbers of sensitive U.S. diplomatic cables by the WikiLeaks anti-secrecy website, Clinton also urged a greater commitment to press freedom, but she made no overt reference to the embarrassing episode.

"It is not enough for a constitution to guarantee freedom of the press if, in reality, journalists are put under intense pressure and even assaulted,"

she told the opening session of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe's first summit meeting in 11 years.

She made no explicit mention of WikiLeaks, nor did it come up in other officials' speeches on the first day of the summit.

On the sidelines of the summit, Clinton and her Belarussian counterpart, Sergei Martynov, announced that the former Soviet republic of Belarus will give up its stockpile of material used to make nuclear weapons by 2012.

## Wis. high school reopens after death of 15-year-old student who held class hostage at gunpoint

MARINETTE, Wis. (AP) — Teachers and counselors prepared reassurances of safety and support as Marinette High School reopened Wednesday, a day after sophomore who had held a classroom hostage for several hours died from the gunshot he inflicted on himself as police approached.

Sam Hengel brought two handguns into a Monday afternoon social studies class and held about two dozen fellow students and his teacher at bay for about six hours. The standoff ended when the 15-year-old shot himself.

All the hostages escaped unharmed, but Hengel died Tuesday.

Marinette High School serves about 700 students in the city of 12,000 that sits on the border with Michigan's Upper Peninsula. District officials had closed the building Tuesday as investigators combed through the classroom and interviewed students at their homes, but classes were set to resume Wednesday.

"I don't know what's going to happen," said 15-year-old Austin Biehl, a wide receiver and point guard on the school's junior varsity football and basketball teams who was in the class Hengel took over. "It's going to be strange."

## NYC pilot program expands organ recovery to at-home deaths; initiative is 1st in U.S.

NEW YORK (AP) — Families choosing whether to donate a loved one's organs usually have days to grapple with their decision, all while the patient lies hooked up to machines in a hospital bed.

But they would have only about 20 minutes to make the choice in a new pilot program meant to recover organs from patients who die at home.

That's roughly how long a team of organ specialists will have after a cardiac-arrest patient is declared dead to arrive at the home, check a donor registry, determine medical eligibility, obtain a family member's consent and get the person into a specialized ambulance.

The program launching Wednesday — the first of its kind in the U.S., according to organizers and other experts — could eventually lead to thousands more organs donated each year nationwide. But the six-month trial, a collaboration between Bellevue Hospital and New York City's police and fire departments, could be declared a success without a single organ being recovered, organizers said.

Instead, what's being tested is the ability of the team — composed of two EMTs, an organ donor family services specialist and a Bellevue emergency physician — to successfully interact with grieving and shocked family members in the limited time available before it is too late to use a person's organs.

A police detective will arrive at the scene before the team to make sure there's nothing about the death that warrants a criminal investigation.



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LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

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# 'King of Pot' on lam 2 years after giant raid

**BRETT BARROQUERE**

Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Ky. — With authorities closing in to seize 2,400 marijuana plants on John Robert Boone's farm two years ago, the legendary Kentucky outlaw vanished like a puff of smoke. The prolific grower has been dodging the law ever since, his folk-hero status growing with every sale of a "Run, Johnny, Run" T-shirt and click on his Facebook fan page.

Tracking down the fugitive who resembles a tattooed Santa Claus has proven as hard as "trying to catch a ghost" for the federal authorities canvassing tightlipped residents among the small farms in a rural area southeast of Louisville. Boone, who's trying to avoid the life sentence he would get if convicted a third time of growing pot, has plenty of sympathizers in an area where many farmers down on their luck have planted marijuana.

"That's all he's ever done, raising pot," said longtime friend Larry Hawkins, who owns a bar and restaurant called Hawk's Place. "He never hurt nobody."

As Hawkins puts it, there are two kinds of growers: "You've got the caught and the uncaught." And, at least for now, the 67-year-old Boone is a bit of both.

He spent more than a decade in federal prison after being convicted in the late 1980s of taking part in what federal prosecutors called the "largest domestic marijuana syndicate in American history," a string of 29 farms in Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Nebraska, Missouri, Kansas and Wisconsin.

The group became known as the "Cornbread Mafia" and Boone was tagged by prosecutors as their leader,

earning him the nicknames "King of Pot" and "Godfather of Grass." Eventually, 70 Kentuckians were accused of growing 182 tons of marijuana.

Boone's looks are a mixture of grandfatherly and sinister: Around the time of the 2008 raid on his property 60 miles southeast of Louisville, Boone sported white hair on his balding head and a shaggy white beard. Yet across his back are large, tattooed letters spelling "Omer-ta," the infamous Sicilian word that describes the underworld code of silence.

While federal authorities don't describe him as violent, his criminal record dates back to the 1960s and also includes charges of wanton endangerment and illegal firearm possession.

Deputy U.S. Marshal James Habib and Boone's friends call him an innovator — separating male from female plants on a large scale to increase potency and experimenting with seeds from around the world in different climates.

"He was the player. There might have been one or two close to him," said Jack Smith, a former federal prosecutor who represented Boone in the 1980s case. "I never heard of anybody who was bigger."

While Smith said some see marijuana growers as harmless, he points out large-scale operations can fund other illegal activities such as prostitution or lead to violence between dealers. Large marijuana fields in Kentucky and elsewhere are sometimes booby-trapped or patrolled by armed growers.

"It's illegal for a reason," Smith said.

Boone's rough-edged stomping grounds — dotted with small towns, corn fields and bourbon distilleries — have a colorful history of fostering illicit activities.

The area was home to moonshine runners during Prohibition, who often darted into rows of corn stalks and

barns to hide from federal agents. In the early 1980s, as the economy soured and prices for tobacco and farm products dropped, parts of central Kentucky had unemployment rates nearing 14 percent. The rate in the area now is around 9 percent — similar to the national average.

"A lot of the sons of moonshine makers turned to marijuana," said Smith, a native of the area who now practices in Louisville. "That particular part of the state, that was the hometown of marijuana."

Boone himself invoked the area's hardships during the 1988 court hearing at which he was sentenced to 20 years in prison.

"With the poverty at home, marijuana is sometimes one of the things that puts bread on the table," Boone said. "We were working with our hands on earth God gave us."

Boone's estranged wife, Marilyn, declined to speak to The Associated Press at her house. Other family members also declined to respond to phone calls and letters. And in the towns of central Kentucky — Springfield, Raywick, Loretto and Lebanon — many people acknowledged knowing of Boone, but either professed not to know him well or wouldn't speak about him to a reporter.

"Even if I knew where he was, I wouldn't tell you," said James "Jim Bean" Cecil, a 64-year-old Lebanon, Ky., resident who spent time in prison with Boone.

Those who would talk about Boone offered similar descriptions — a friendly, nonconfrontational man who was quick to open his wallet when friends were having trouble making ends meet. For example, a man who mowed the grass on Boone's sprawling property was given twice the fee he requested at the end of the job.

When Cecil got out of prison, Boone gave him money to get back on

his feet.

"He never asked me to pay him back," Cecil said.

Friends also recall him as a heck of a farmer who grew corn and who just happened to also grow marijuana, which to some locals made Boone an outlaw, not a criminal. A Facebook page set up for him has 1,600 fans.

"He was just a good ol' country boy, a farmer," said Joe Pendleton, a Boone acquaintance whose shop sells the "Run, Johnny, Run" T-shirts in nearby Campbellsville. "He's not robbing banks or nothing."

Boone's latest trouble came in 2008, when Kentucky State Police doing aerial surveillance spotted marijuana plants on trailers on Boone's farm near Springfield.

A raid turned up more than 2,400 plants, but no Boone.

"As soon as he found out they were there, he split," said Jim Higdon, a writer based in Lebanon, Ky., who interviewed Boone for a book project. "It was a death sentence. He became a fugitive."

Boone, who has marijuana-growing contacts in Central America, could be anywhere. Then again, Habib said he could still be hiding out in the rural, tight-knit area around his farm.

"It's like trying to catch a ghost," former Deputy U.S. Marshal Rich Knighten said shortly after Boone's indictment in 2008.

If Boone's friends have their way, he'll remain uncaught. Some

complain it's not worth a life sentence — which Boone faces under the federal three-strikes provision — for a non-violent drug charge.

"I never seen nobody get mad in my life smoking dope," said former Raywick mayor Charlie Bickett, who runs Charlie's Place, a bar filled with hand-painted milk cans and saws, including a painting of Boone looking out over the water while smoking a joint.

Even free, Bickett said, Boone is serving a sentence — wondering each day if he'll be caught and knowing he can't return to his family.

"I guarantee you, he'd love to be back home, Johnny would," Bickett said. "I really miss him. I sure do."



Boone

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# 2 million lose jobless benefits as holidays arrive

**TOM BREEN**  
Associated Press  
Extended unemployment benefits for nearly 2 million Americans begin to run out Wednesday, cutting off a steady stream of income and guaranteeing a dismal holiday season for people already struggling with bills they cannot pay.

Unless Congress changes its mind, benefits that had been extended up to 99 weeks will end this month.

That means Christmas is out of the question for Wayne Pittman, 46, of Lawrenceville, Ga., and his wife and 9-year-old son. The carpenter was working up to 80 hours a week at the beginning of the decade, but saw that gradually drop to 15 hours before it dried up completely. His last \$297 check will go to necessities, not presents.

"I have a little boy, and that's kind of hard to explain to him," Pittman said.

The average weekly unemployment benefit in the U.S. is \$302.90, though it varies widely depending on how states calculate the payment. Because of supplemental state programs and other factors, it's hard to know for sure who will lose their benefits at any given time. But the Labor Department estimates that, without a Congress-approved ex-

ension, about 2 million people will be cut off by Christmas.

Congressional opponents of extending the benefits beyond this month say fiscal responsibility should come first. Republicans in the House and Senate, along with a handful of conservative Democrats, say they're open to extending benefits, but not if it means adding to the \$13.8 trillion national debt.

Even if Congress does lengthen benefits, cash assistance is at best a stopgap measure, said Carol Hardison, executive director of Crisis Assistance Ministry in Charlotte, N.C., which has seen 20,000 new clients since the Great Recession started in December 2007.

"We're going to have to have a new conversation with the people who are still suffering, about the potentially drastic changes they're going to have to make to stay out of the homeless shelter," she said.

Forget Christmas presents. What the so-called "99ers" want most of all is what remains elusive in the worst economy in generations: a job.

"I am not searching for a job, I am begging for one," said Felicia Robbins, 30, as she prepared to move out of a homeless shelter in Pensacola, Fla., where she

and her five children have been living. She is using the last of her cash reserves, about \$500, to move into a small, unfurnished rental home.

Robbins lost her job as a juvenile justice worker in 2009 and her last \$235 unemployment check will arrive Dec. 13. Her 10-year-old car isn't running, and she walks each day to the local unemployment office to look for work.

Jeanne Reinman, 61, of Greenville, S.C., still has her house, but even that comes with a downside.

After losing her computer design job a year and a half ago, Reinman scraped by with her savings and a weekly \$351 unemployment check. When her nest egg vanished in July, she started using her unemployment to pay off her mortgage and stopped paying her credit card bills. She recently informed a creditor she couldn't make payments on a loan because her benefits were ending.

"I'm more concerned about trying to hang onto my house than paying you," she told the creditor.

Ninety-nine weeks may seem like a long time to find a job. But even as the economy grows, jobs that vanished in the Great Recession have not returned. The private sector add-

ed about 159,000 jobs in October — half as many as needed to reduce the unemployment rate of 9.6 percent, which the Federal Reserve expects will hover around 9 percent for all of next year.

"I apply for at least two jobs a day," said Silvia Lewis, of Nashville, Tenn., who's also drained her 401(k) and most of her other savings. "The constant thing that I hear, and a lot of my friends are in the same boat, is that you're overqualified."

JoAnn Sampson of Charlotte hears the same thing. A former cart driver at U.S. Airways, she and her husband are both facing the end of unemployment benefits, and she can't get so much as an entry-level job.

"When you try to apply for retail or fast food, they say 'You're overqualified,' they say 'We don't pay that much money,' they say, 'You don't want this job,'" she said.

Sampson counts her blessings: At least her two children, a teenager and a college student, are too old to expect much from Christmas this year.

Shawn Slonsky's three children aren't expecting much either. The 44-year-old union electrician in northeast Ohio won't be able to afford presents or even a Christmas tree.

His sons and daughter haven't bothered to send him holiday wish lists with the latest gizmos and gadgets.

Things used to be dif-

ferent. Before work dried up, Slonsky earned about \$100,000 a year and he and his wife lived in a three-bedroom house where deer meandered through the backyard.

For Christmas, he bought his aspiring doctor daughter medical books, a guitar, a unicycle.

Then he and his wife lost their jobs. Their house went into foreclosure and they had to move in with his 73-year-old father.

Now, Slonsky is dreading the holidays as he tries to stretch his last unemployment check to cover child support, gas, groceries and utilities.

"You don't even get in the frame of mind for Christmas when things are bad," he said.

# Police: CA crossing guard is beaten in front of kids

**THOMAS WATKINS**  
Associated Press  
LOS ANGELES — As frightened children watched, a crossing guard was beaten and robbed of her stop sign and whistle as she tried to get an SUV to stop near an elementary school, authorities said Tuesday.

The 59-year-old guard did not appear to be seriously injured, but she had a bruise on her face after the attack, said John Sayers, principal of nearby Russell Elementary School.

"She was more upset about the children having to see that than what happened to her," Sayers said.

The crossing guard, whose name was not released, was helping about 20 children across a street in the unincorporated Florence area of South Los Angeles when she tried to stop an SUV on Monday, the Sheriff's Department said in a statement.

As the vehicle drove toward her, she held her sign aloft and said, "'You have to stop, the children come first,'" according to the statement.

Authorities said the driver, Jose Hernandez, 27, yelled that he was not stopping. As he was shouting, passenger Vanessa Del Pilar Martinez, 20, left the SUV. When the guard tried to walk away, Martinez punched her and knocked her to the ground, authorities said.

The driver then got out the SUV and grabbed the guard's ID tag from around her neck, as well as her whistle and stop sign, according to the statement said.

down the license plate number of the SUV, and deputies later arrested the two suspects for investigation of robbery. They were being held in lieu of \$50,000 bond with arraignment set for Wednesday.

They had not yet been assigned attorneys.

Children who witnessed the attack were offered counseling, Say-

ers said.

Margo Minecki, a spokeswoman with the county's department of education, said it was the first time she had heard of a crossing guard being attacked.

"The guards may face some hostility from motorists, but none has been beaten up," Minecki said. "It really doesn't happen."

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The moon is in Libra, the sign of partnership, couples, diplomacy and just plain getting along. This intellectual air-sign placement brings relationship harmony even through the semi-organized chaos of the Sagittarius sun. Life seems to be whizzing by, but you can make it stand still by holding the hand of your beloved.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You feel like you need to present an idea all fleshed out. But be careful not to overdo it. You'll be most successful when you leave a little room for others to fill in some details with their imagination, too.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You have a terrific sense of purpose. There are people around you who know the way to the prize you desire. Find out what they recommend for you going forward.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You have two wonderful options available, and unfortunately, there is no way to do both of them. Your conscience will be your guide in making the optimum choice.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). You are amazingly adaptable, especially when it comes to work. You'll be making inroads in an area you know little about. Do your research to find out what has historically been effective in this regard.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). Self-consciousness is the enemy of creativity. Give yourself over to the spirit of your work — lose yourself in it completely. And if you're not working today, give yourself over completely to your play.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your approach softens today. You're just not in the mood to move

and shake — you'd rather whisper and glide your way through. You still want what you want, but you're finding a different way to get it.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Intellectual knowledge is all well and good, but knowing better won't necessarily affect your habits, attitudes or behavior. It's not about learning solutions; it's about living them.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There are some kinds of crazy you simply should not be a part of. Getting involved will make you crazy, too. When the red flags go up, don't take it as a warning — it's a directive to run in the other direction.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You have a stack of magazines that is growing by the month. You will be inspired to dig in and hit the highlights and then do your ecological duty at the recycling bin.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). When you make the ethical choice, you win. Your gains may not be as immediate as they would be if you took the easy street, but they will be real and lasting.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll be lucky when you enter a new and unknown arena. Knowing the rules and the limits puts you in the same category as the others. If you don't know what can be done, you will stand out from the crowd.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). As the sign of the fish, you realize how difficult it is to swim against the tide. And yet, sometimes (and you can ask any salmon you know) it is absolutely necessary to head upstream.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (Dec. 1). You don't guess or wonder what to do next; you just know. It's worth it to do what you really want to do this month, so rearrange your priorities and make it happen. Next month, there's a favorable shift in your finances. A new family

addition comes in March. July is your chance at a new professional position. Pisces and Scorpio people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 3, 11, 28 and 18.

**ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS:** "I am being socially excluded because a woman in my circle has poisoned my friends against me. My friends don't call me back. I am so busy with my family and my work that it took me several weeks to realize fully that I am being shunned! This has never happened to me before, and I don't know why I've

been singled out for persecution. I have been a good friend to these people. I asked two friends whether anything was wrong, and they both said "no," but then I found out that there were these events going on that I wasn't invited to. I know it's this Aries woman, but I can't prove it. What should I do to fix this? I'm a Capricorn."

You have a strong social veneer. Capricorns can be cool on demand. But this is one time when your ability to be stoic isn't helping you at all. Make an impassioned plea to the best friend you have

in this group. Let her see how much this is hurting you. Let her hear your side of the story with all the emotion you feel. She will crack, and you will get to the bottom of this, dispel the lies and repair your social life.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** Most famous for his distinctive filmmaking, Woody Allen is a multitasking Sagittarius who is accomplished in many fields, including jazz music. In his most recent film, "You Will Meet a Tall Dark Stranger," a main character surrenders her

reason to the half-baked advice of a fortuneteller. Allen has his natal Saturn, the planet of lessons, in psychic Pisces and has learned to always follow his own intuition.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to [www.creators.com](http://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](http://www.creators.com). © 2010 CREATORS.COM

Annie's Mailbox

**Dear Annie:** I read your column daily and have never seen a story like ours.

My ex-husband and I have two daughters. He favors the younger one and talks to her often, but has had almost zero contact with our older daughter, "Dyan," in more than 10 years.

He didn't even contribute one cent toward her wedding. The only explanation I can think of is that when my ex was dating his current wife, she said she couldn't handle teenage girls. But that was years ago.

Dyan is now divorced with a child of her own. The divorce was horrible, and she and her son are living in my home.

My ex and his wife have gone behind Dyan's back to meet with her ex-husband in order to visit with my grandson.

We have told them they are welcome to come to our home and pick the boy up and take him elsewhere, but my ex refuses because he doesn't want to see Dyan.

When there are family gatherings on the paternal side, my ex has his 93-year-old mother call to invite Dyan and her son because otherwise it would look bad.

He doesn't have the backbone to call her himself. That is the only time he sees his daughter, but it's infrequent and he doesn't actually speak to her.

Dyan is heartbroken and devastated by her father's actions. She has tried many times to meet with him, but he won't return her calls. Do you have any suggestions? — Mom from Michigan

**Dear Mom:** It's possible Dad curtailed contact with Dyan because of his wife and, after several years, found it so difficult to reacquaint himself with his daughter that he decided it was easier to avoid her altogether.



KATHY MITCHELL  
MARCY SUGAR

But that's no excuse for being a lousy father and abandoning his child. Since he won't speak to Dyan, you (or your younger daughter) should talk to him directly and find out why he is behaving so abominably, and perhaps offer to help fix things so they can have a fresh start.

**Dear Annie:** I went on a trip to Europe with my longtime boyfriend, "Conor," whom I love dearly. While there, he struck up a friendship with one of the women in our group.

After a few days, she started making teasing comments, saying, "I'm coming to visit you tonight, Conor." The next morning she would say, "You were wonderful last night," and he would answer, "Was it good for you, too? Did the earth move?"

After a week of hearing this banter every night and morning, I blew up and told him that they were both incredibly rude, and that if I heard such flirtatious dialogue one more time, we were through.

Conor says it was just a joke and that I overreacted. He says he loves only me, and if I had spoken up sooner, he would have stopped. He claims not to be

attracted to her. Did I overreact? — Wounded

**Dear Wounded:** You were not wrong to find this rude, but you did overreact by waiting to say something until you were angry.

You should have spoken up at the first such conversation and let Conor know it was disrespectful of your relationship.

Tell him he owes you an apology and not to let it happen again. Then forgive him.

**Dear Annie:** I had to write about "Crowded by the Ex," who is upset that her husband's ex-wife is in their lives. She needs to wake up and smell the roses.

My husband's ex is now deceased, but I actually grew to love that woman and miss her terribly.

Getting along made it so much easier on everyone — my husband, his children, the grandchildren and me.

Family gatherings were so much happier with everyone together. No one had to "choose" who to spend the holidays with, and no one was left alone.

It's time we accept the hand we have been dealt and enjoy life. — Second Wife in Indianapolis

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the *Annie Landers* column. Please e-mail your questions to [anniesmailbox@comcast.net](mailto: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](http://www.creators.com). © 2010 CREATORS.COM

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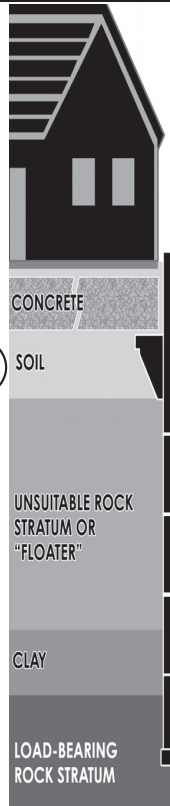
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# Scientists trick cells into switching identities

MALCOLM RITTER

AP Science Writer

NEW YORK — Scientists are reporting early success at transforming one kind of specialized cell into another, a feat of biological alchemy that doctors may someday perform inside a patient's body to restore health.

So if a heart attack damages muscle tissue in the heart, for example, doctors may someday be able to get other cells in that organ to become muscle to help the heart pump.

That's a futuristic idea, but researchers are enthusiastic about the potential for the new direct-conversion approach.

"I think everyone believes this is really the future of so-called stem-cell biology," says John Gearhart of the University of Pennsylvania, one of many researchers pursuing this approach.

The concept is two steps beyond the familiar story of embryonic stem cells, versatile entities that can be coaxed to become cells of all types, like brain and blood. Scientists are learning to guide those transformations, which someday may provide transplant tissue for treating diseases like Parkinson's or diabetes.

It's still experimental. But at its root, it's really just harnessing and speeding up what happens in nature: a versatile but immature cell matures into a more specialized one.

The first step beyond that came in 2007, when researchers reversed the process. They got skin cells to revert to a state resembling embryonic stem cells. That opened the door to a two-part strategy: turn skin cells from a person into stem cells in the lab, and then run the clock forward to get whatever specialized cell you want for transplant.

The new direct-conversion approach avoids embryonic stem cells and the whole notion of returning to an early state. Why not just go directly from one specialized cell to another? It's like flying direct rather than scheduling a stop-over.

Even short of researchers' dreams of fixing internal organs from within, Gearhart says direct conversion may offer some other advantages over more established ways of producing specialized cells. Using embryonic stem cells is proving to be inefficient and more difficult than expected, scientists say. For example, the heart muscle cells developed from them aren't fully mature, Gearhart noted.

And there's no satisfactory way yet to make mature insulin-producing cells of the pancreas, which might be useful for treating diabetes, says George Daley of Children's Hospital Boston and the Harvard Stem Cell Institute.

So direct conversion might offer a more effi-

cient and faster way of getting the kinds of cells scientists want.

A glimpse of what might be possible through direct conversion emerged in 2008. Researchers got one kind of pancreatic cell to turn into another kind within living mice.

But far more dramatic changes have been reported in the past year in lab dishes, with scientists converting mouse skin cells into nerve cells and heart muscle cells. And just this month came success with human cells, turning skin cells into early stage blood cells.

The secret to these transformations is the fact that all cells of a person's body carry the same DNA code. But not all the genes are active at any one time. In fact, a cell's identity depends on its lineup of active genes. So, to convert a cell, scientists alter that combination by inserting chemical signals to activate particular genes.

"This is something that's really caught fire because it's an easy strategy to use," Gearhart said. "Everyone's out there trying their different combinations (of chemical signals) to see if they can succeed."

But success is not so easy. "There's a lot of experiments failing," Daley said. "A lot of people are just taking a trial-and-error approach, and that's fundamentally inefficient.

And yet, it may create a breakthrough."

Scientists trick cells into switching identities

Even when the experiments work, there are plenty of questions to answer. Can this technique reliably produce transformed cells? Are these new cells normal? Or do they retain some hidden vestiges of their original identity that might cause trouble later on?

"When we make a duck look like a cat, it may look like a cat and meow, but whether it still has feathers is an issue," Daley said.

And ultimately: Would it be safe to transplant these cells into patients?

"We're a long way from showing safety and efficacy for any of these things," Gearhart said. "This stuff is all so new that we have a lot of work to do."

In any case, he and Daley said, scientists will still work with embryonic stem cells and the man-made versions first produced in 2007, called iPS cells. Those technologies clearly have places in various kinds of research, and it's not yet clear whether they or direct conversion will eventually prove best for manufacturing replacement cells for people.

That question, Daley said, "is way, way open."

## Simple: Mediterranean chicken breasts stuffed with spinach

4 (4-oz.) chicken breasts, boneless and skinless  
1/2 tsp. dried Italian spices, divided  
1/2 tsp. freshly ground black pepper, divided  
Salt to taste, optional  
4 tsp. extra virgin olive oil, divided  
1 garlic clove, minced  
1/2 cup frozen spinach (thaw, then wrap in a kitchen cloth and squeeze out all extra water and set aside)  
3 Tbsp. sun-dried tomatoes (the ones packed in olive oil) drained and chopped  
2 Tbsp. herbed goat cheese  
2 Tbsp. reduced-fat cream cheese  
16 toothpicks (or however many are needed)

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Slice into chicken breasts at thickest part to create a pocket, being careful not to cut all the way through.

Season chicken with 1/4 teaspoon of the Italian spices, 1/4 teaspoon pepper and salt, if using. Cover with clear wrap and set aside.

In large skillet heat 2 teaspoons olive oil over medium heat. Add garlic. Cook for about 1 minute or until it becomes light golden brown, being careful not to burn. Add spinach and stir with oil and garlic. Then add tomatoes along with remaining spices and pepper. Stir well and cook for about 3 minutes. Remove from heat. Add cheeses and fold well to create stuffing for chicken breasts.

Divide stuffing evenly among chicken breasts, using toothpicks to secure the opening with about 4 per breast to ensure stuffing remains inside. Work with each breast until all are stuffed and closed with toothpicks.

In heavy bottomed, oven proof pan, heat remaining olive oil over medium-high heat for 1 to 2 minutes, making sure pan is really hot but not smoking. Lower heat to medium and add one breast at a time, making sure there is enough room in pan to thoroughly brown breasts. Cook on first side for about 4 minutes and then turn over for another 4 minutes. Do not flip chicken more than once or meat will dry out and filling might fall out. Brown chicken in batches if necessary.

Once chicken is browned, turn off heat. Place pan in oven. Bake for about 15 minutes or until thermometer in the thickest part reads 170 degrees.

Take chicken out and let rest for about 5 minutes covered with tented foil before serving. Make sure to remove toothpicks. Spoon any juices left in bottom of baking dish over top of chicken.

Makes 4 servings.

Per serving: 220 calories, 9 g total fat (3 g saturated fat), 3 g carbohydrate, 29 g protein, 1 g dietary fiber, 190 mg sodium.

## HealthTalk

**Q: I love the New American Plate as a simple model for healthy eating. Does it matter how much of the 2/3 of your plate that is plant foods comes from vegetables?**

A: Lots of people find the model developed by American Institute for Cancer Research, called the New American Plate, a helpful way to simplify messages about healthy meals that can promote a healthy weight, decrease cancer risk and support overall health.

This simple model advises that each time you eat, make plant foods (vegetables, fruits, whole grains and beans) at least two-thirds of your plate, and animal protein (poultry, seafood and red meat) no more than one-third.

The ideal proportion of plant foods within that two-thirds varies with individual nutritional needs and overall eating habits. As long as they're not loaded with fat, most non-starchy vegetables are lower in calories than the same portion of grains (rice, pasta, bread), beans (like kidney and garbanzo beans and lentils) and even most fruits.

If you are trying to lose weight or have a low activity level that

poses a challenge for weight maintenance, vegetables with no or little added fat as a major portion of the plate can be a great strategy. On the other hand, if you like to choose raw vegetables and fruits as snacks, need extra calories (for example, if you're very physically active) or are choosing meatless meals, then substantial portions of whole grains and beans may be important for you.

Look at how your current habits are working for you in promoting a healthy weight and in achieving the total amounts recommended for you in the MyPyramid Plan section of MyPyramid. For more individualized assessment from a registered dietitian, go to [www.eatright.org](http://www.eatright.org) and click on "Find a Registered Dietitian."

**Q: Are the chicken nuggets better than a burger at fast food restaurants?**

A: Chicken offers the obvious advantage of helping you avoid the excess red meat (beyond 18 ounces a week) that increases risk of colon cancer. However, the smallest "adult" portion of chicken nuggets, usually 3.5 to 4 ounces (about five to eight pieces), is in many other ways comparable to a small hamburger.

The two choices are about equal in calories and protein, and nuggets are likely to be only about one gram lower

in cholesterol-raising fats (saturated plus trans fats). Compared to the somewhat larger "single" or quarter-pound size burger, the chicken nuggets are much lower in calories and cholesterol-raising fat.

Sodium in chicken nuggets varies widely; some contain less than a condiment-loaded hamburger, while others are just as high or higher. Most fast food dipping sauces however can add anywhere from 150 to 800 mg of sodium.

But why limit yourself to these two options? A grilled (unbreaded) chicken sandwich is a healthier option. Because of the bun, calories are a little higher than the nuggets; but if you add fries to your chicken nugget order, the grilled chicken on a bun comes out lower in calories and saturated fat.

Some restaurants offer wraps made with grilled chicken, which may be lower in calories and higher in fiber than a sandwich on a white bread bun. Individual fast food restaurants may offer other healthier options, too.

There are two main issues to consider when you eat at a fast food restaurant: First, regardless of what you choose, portion control is vital.

And second, with any of these options we are still left asking, "Where are the fruits and vegetables?" For a balanced meal, be sure to include a salad, fresh fruit or both.

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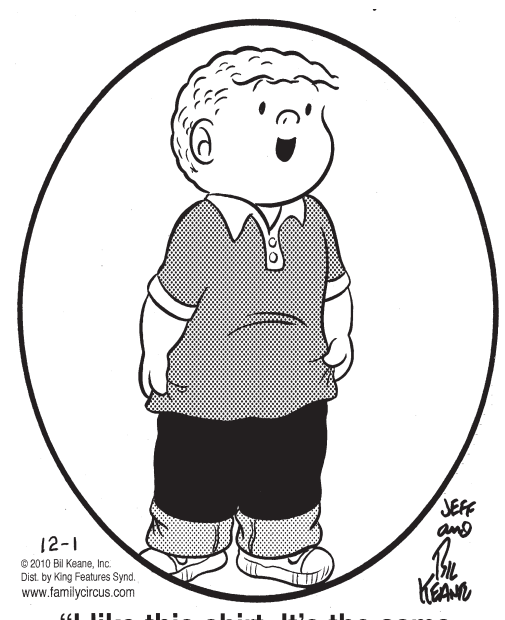
	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM :30	News ABC	Alma Lopez	Lopez News	News Noticias	Noticias Noticiero	News News	King King	CCM Mark	World Business	Lyrics! Lyrics!	Storm Chasers	Movie: Bowfinger, Heather Graham	CSI: Crime Scene	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Wizards Shake it	Nation Pardon	SportsCenter
6:PM :30	Jeopardy!	Llena de Amor (SS)	Two Men Two Men	News Ent	Caso Cer-rado	News Millionaire	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Faye H. Cortes	PBS News-Hour	'70s '70s	Storm Chasers	UFC Un-leashed	Bones			Hannah Hannah	College Basketball	Valvano's College Basketball
7:PM :30	Middle Better	Eva Luna (SS)	Human Target	Survivor: Nicaragua	Aurora (SS)	Undercovers	Payne House	Upd Celtic C'mas	Top Model	Storm Chasers	Movie: Scrooged, John For-sythe	UFC Un-leashed	Bones	Movie: American Gangster, Chiwetel Ejiofor			College Basketball	
8:PM :30	Family Cougar	Soy Tu Dueña (SS)	Hell's Kitchen	Criminal Minds	El Fantasma de	Law & Order: SVU	Browns Browns	Light of the Southwest	Great Perfor-mances	Hellcats	Storm Chasers	The Ultimate Fighter	Bones				Fish Sonny	College Basketball
9:PM :30	The Whole Truth	Don Fran-cisco	Simpsons How I Met	Grammy	Alguien te Mira (SS)	Law-Order L.A.	Browns Browns			Married Married	Storm Chasers	Movie: Scrooged, John For-sythe	Bones				Sonny	College Basketball
10:PM :30	News Nightline	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	Uri Harel Dr. Young	Charlie Rose	King King	Storm Chasers	Blue Blue	Southland	The Mo'Nique	Hannah Hannah	(:15) Sports-Nation	SportsCenter	
11:PM :30	Jimmy Kim-mel Live	La Verdad Oculta	Law & Order: SVU	Late	Decisiones (SS)		Lopez Tonight	Jim Israel	World T. Smiley (Off Air)	South Pk South Pk	Storm Chasers	Movie: Bowfinger, Heather Graham	The Ultimate Fighter	CSI: NY	Wendy Wil-liams	Hannah Hannah	NFL Live	
12:AM :30	Extra Paid	Tontas Cielo	Tri-Vita	Insider	Decision		Conan	Israel		Cops Focus 4	Storm Chasers	Movie: Spaceballs, Rick Moranis	CSI: NY	Movie: American Gangster, Chiwetel Ejiofor	Wizards Suite Life	SportsNation	SportsCenter	
1:AM :30	Paid	Mujer... Cero	King-Hill	(:37) Up to the Minute	Pagado	News	Lopez Tonight	Light of the Southwest		Tripp			Blue Blue	Leverage	Suite Life	2010 Poker	SportsCenter	

DENNIS THE MENACE



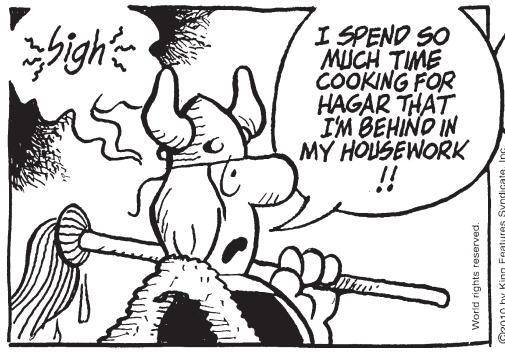
IF ANYONE INVITES DENNIS TO SLEEP OVER AGAIN, THEY HAVE TO KEEP HIM 'TIL MORNING!!

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I like this shirt. It's the same color as my dirt."

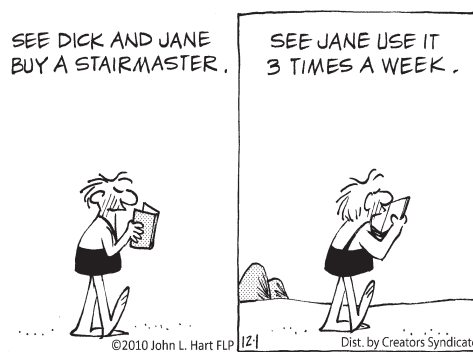
HAGAR



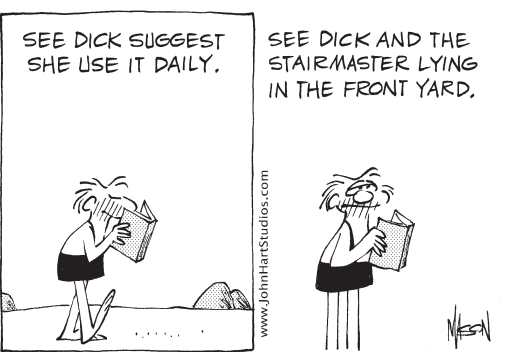
BLONDIE



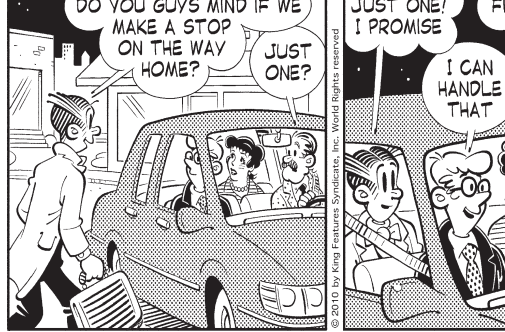
BC



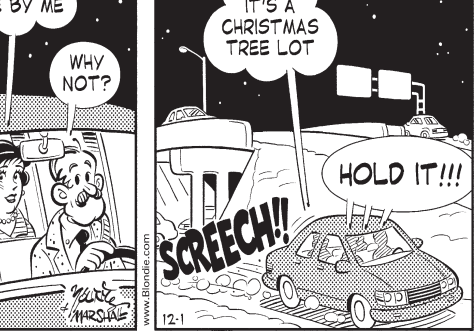
WIZARD OF ID



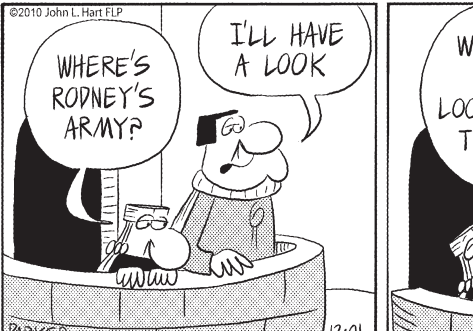
AGNES



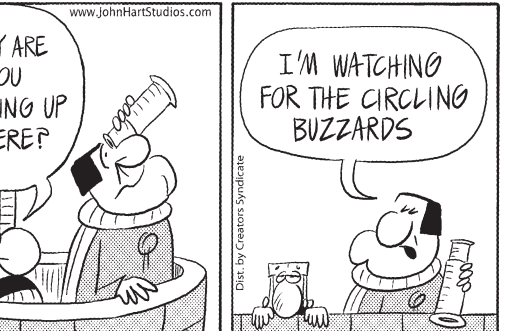
HI AND LOIS



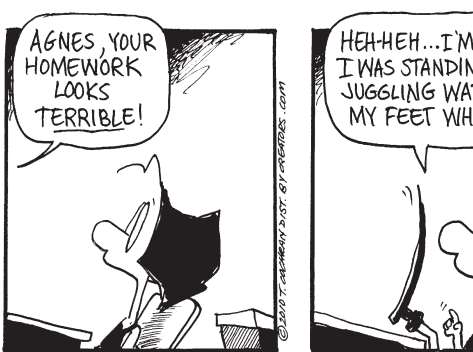
THE OTHER COAST



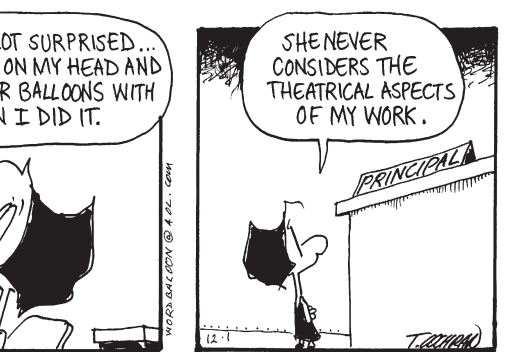
SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



AGNES



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Dec. 1, the 335th day of 2010. There are 30 days left in the year. The Jewish Festival of Lights, Hanukkah, begins at sunset.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 1, 1955, Rosa Parks, a black seamstress, was arrested after refusing to give up her seat to a white man on a Montgomery, Ala., city bus. The incident sparked a year-long boycott of the buses by blacks.

On this date:

In 1824, the presidential election was turned over to the U.S. House of Representatives when a deadlock developed between John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson, William H. Crawford and Henry Clay. (Adams ended up the winner.)

In 1860, the Charles Dickens novel "Great Expectations" was first published in weekly serial form.

In 1909, the first kibbutz was founded in the Jordan Valley

by a group of Jewish pioneers; the collective settlement became known as Degania Alef.

In 1910, Porfirio Diaz was inaugurated for an eighth term as President of Mexico. (He was overthrown in the Mexican Revolution and forced to flee the following year.) The Miami Herald was first published under that name (it was known under previous ownership as the Miami Morning News-Record).

In 1921, the Navy flew the first nonrigid dirigible to use helium; the C-7 traveled from Hampton Roads, Va., to Washington, D.C.

In 1934, Soviet communist official Sergei M. Kirov, an associate of Josef Stalin, was assassinated in Leningrad, resulting in a massive purge.

In 1944, Bela Bartok's Concerto for Orchestra was premiered by the Boston Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Serge Koussevitzky.

In 1969, the U.S. government held its first draft lottery since World War II.

In 1973, David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first prime minister, died in Tel Aviv at age 87.

In 1990, British and French workers digging the Channel Tunnel between their countries finally met after knocking out a passage in a service tunnel large enough to walk through and shake hands.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Paul Picerni is 88. Former CIA director Stansfield Turner is 87. Singer Billy Paul is 76. Actor-director Woody Allen is 75. World Golf Hall of Famer Lee Trevino is 71. Singer Dianne Lennon (The Lennon Sisters) is 71. Country musician Casey Van Beek (The Tractors) is 68. Television producer David Salzman is 67. Rock singer-musician Eric Bloom (Blue Oyster Cult) is 66.

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Newsday Crossword

WHAT'S YOUR BEEF? by Fred Piscop Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS
- 1 Stress-free neighborhood
- 5 Drama with music
- 10 "Get lost!"
- 14 English-horn kin
- 15 Emperor, for instance
- 16 One way to pay
- 17 Toon moose
- 19 Palo \_\_, CA
- 20 Train stops
- 21 Supporting fully
- 23 Practice, as a trade
- 24 Introduction
- 25 Court order
- 29 Man-goat of myth
- 30 Work the aisles, informally
- 33 For all to hear
- 34 Pig out
- 35 HBO alternative
- 36 Suburb, for instance
- 37 Toast starter
- 38 Read the
- 39 Across of
- 40 Picnic throwaways
- 41 Ball girl
- 42 "Give \_\_ break!"
- 43 Wished undone
- 44 Without hindrance
- 45 Swear by
- 47 Place to graze
- 48 Like secret messages
- 50 Retrieves from a shipwreck

- DOWN
- 1 Picnic throwaways
- 2 Touch on
- 3 Damn Yankees woman
- 4 Unfreeze
- 5 Baltimore baseballer
- 6 Wordplay-filled
- 7 Deer-family members
- 8 Fam. member
- 9 Floor coverings
- 10 Gym fixture
- 11 Achilles-tendon attachment
- 12 Concerning
- 13 Hammer-wielding god
- 18 Used a squeegee
- 22 Unescorted
- 24 Glazier's glass
- 25 Single fact
- 26 Run off for romance
- 27 Steam locomotive's front
- 28 Seek a seat
- 29 Enthusiastic, with "up"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

NORTH	MOPS	SKIM
OHARA	EPIC	PITA
UNPIN	SAGA	OWED
NOTFORALONG	TIME	
LIE	USO	
MOTE	CAPT	TEAMS
EMU	DELI	GOALIE
LADIES	INWAITING	
THORNS	TILT	BTU
SARAN	TOGO	WISE
IRE	SPA	
CROSSING	THELINE	
AIDE	SURE	REOIL
SLOW	ERIN	STUCK
HERS	SENT	ESSES