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MONDAY
OCTOBER 31, 2011
 
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VOLUME 106, NUMBER 323 COPYRIGHT 2011 50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Baby beaten, couple jailed

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer
 A local couple was arrested Friday on charges stemming from the alleged beating of a 1-year-old girl, according to investigators with the Big Spring Police Department.
 Johnny Michael Edmondson II, 21, of 300 S. Tulane, was arrested Friday by the BSPD on a charge of injury to

a child with intent to cause bodily injury. Also arrested was the girl's mother, Vanessa Ann Armendarez, 26, also of 300 S. Tulane. She was jailed on a charge of abandoning/endangering a child - imminent danger of bodily injury.
 According to Sgt. Tony Ev-



Edmondson



Armendarez

erett, public information officer with the BSPD, officers responded to the couple's apartment at approximately 4:36 p.m. Friday in reference to a report of an injured child.
 "The child had severe swelling around her eyes and jaw, as well as bruising to her face

and chest," Everett said. "The child also had red welts on her legs. Officers called for an ambulance and the girl was transported to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. She was later flown to Lubbock as a precaution due to the possibility of a closed head injury. Her condition was not available as of Monday morning."
 Everett said both Edmond-

son and Armendarez were present in the apartment when officers arrived.
 "The mother (Armendarez) lives in the apartment with two children," Everett said. "No injuries were found on the second child. The investigation centered on Edmondson because he had been with the child overnight while the
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HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Randi Froman, owner of Alley Kat Designs, volunteers to test one of the polling machines being used for early voting in this year's constitutional amendments election. Early voting continues wthrough Friday, with Election Day slated for Nov. 8.

Early voting polls open late two times this week

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer
 Area residents hoping to cast their ballots early in this year's constitutional amendment election are running out of time, as this week marks the last days in early voting before the November election.
 Voting has been slow, at best, according to Howard County Elections Administrator Sandra Bloom, averaging around a dozen ballots cast each day last week.
 "I've been communicating with other counties and they are seeing similar numbers through most of the state," Bloom said. "The only places that are seeing a better turnout are counties where they are holding special elections, which usually mean a pro-

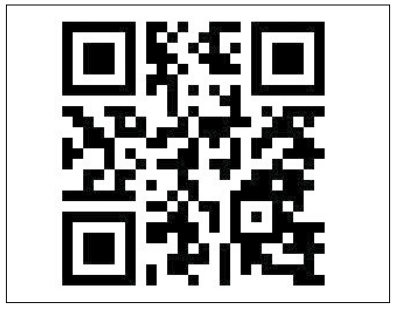
posed bond or candidates.
 "Anytime we're going into an amendment election, we already know the turnout is going to be much lower than what we see during elections that feature actual candidates. So, the early voting polls may be pretty deserted throughout the day, but it's something we expected."
 With approximately 72 ballots cast during the first week of early voting, Bloom said she hopes to see at least a slight increase in totals, thanks to extended hours this week and the last minute rush.
 "Tuesday and Thursday

we will be offering extended hours," Bloom said. "The early voting polls will be open from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. both days. We hope by extending our hours on those days, it will give people a chance to come in and cast their ballots early when they might not normally get the opportunity because of their work hours."
 Early voting polls are located in the County Elections Office, which is situated on the third floor of the county courthouse.
 For more information on early voting — or Election Day, slated for Nov. 8 — contact bloom at 264-2273.
 Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

'Halloween' activities

- Today, Oct. 31**
- Howard College Women's Dorm will hold trick or treat for all area youth from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
 - First Baptist Church will host its fall festival in the downstairs area of the church for the children of Big Spring. Costumes are encouraged, but no scary ones. The festival begins at 6 p.m.
 - For the sixth consecutive year, the Great Pumpkin will be making a stop at 911 Goliad. Members of First Christian Church and St. Mary's Episcopal Church will come together to circle their cars

and vans to open their trunks filled with candy to share with children of Big Spring. From 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., cars will be set up for people to come by to get treats, smiles and warm welcomes. There will be awards for the best decorated trunks. This year they will be offering hot dogs and soft drinks.



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

Trinity Baptist Church was among a number of churches and other organizations that held Halloween or fall festival type activities for area youth over the weekend. The festivities continue this evening at several locations. Motorists are asked to watch out for young witches and goblins going door to door in pursuit of treats.

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Obituaries

Robert 'Pepper' Martin



Robert "Pepper" Martin, 89, passed away Friday, Oct. 28, 2011. Pepper was born July 22, 1922, in Big Spring. He eloped with his high school sweetheart, Hope Sisson, in 1941. From 1943 to 1945 he served in the South Pacific during World War II.

A minor league baseball player and manager early in life, Pepper made his career in bowling and was instrumental in starting Columbia Bowling Industries. Later in life, Pepper developed a passion for horses and opened Alamo Stud Farm.

After the death of his wife in 1995, Pepper married Beth Holden in 1997.

More than anything, Pepper will be remembered as an honorable man who inspired admiration and respect. A friendly, straight shooter, Pepper also had a playful and mischievous streak that kept everyone around him smiling. He will be missed by all.

He is survived by his wife, children, grandchildren and many friends.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 5, 2011, at Porter Loring North Chapel.

The family requests memorial contributions be made in lieu of flowers. You are invited to sign the guestbook at www.porterloring.com

Arrangements entrusted to Porter Loring Mortuary Nother, 2102 N. Loop 1604 East, San Antonio, Texas 78232, 210-495-8221.

Paid obituary

Victor Garza



Victor Garza, 81, of Big Spring died Friday, Oct. 28, 2011, in a local nursing home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, Oct. 31, 2011, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Rosary services will be held at 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 30, 2011, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel.

He was born Jan. 4, 1930, in Karnes City, Texas, and married Aurora Perez on Nov. 23, 1947, in Big Spring, Texas. She preceded him in death May 11, 1993.

Victor was a longtime resident of Big Spring. He worked for Bud and Joe Hughes for more than 40 years and continued working for them off and on until a couple of years ago. He was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

Survivors include 10 sons, Robert Garza of Belton, Armando Garza and wife Adela, and Fernando Garza and wife Lupe, all of Cleburne, Raul Garza and wife Tina of Joshua, Oscar Garza and wife Martha, Marcos Garza and wife JoElda, all of Big Spring, Joe Garza and wife Lupe of Fort Worth, David Garza and wife Lucy, Lupe Garza and wife Rachel and Albert Garza and wife Patsy, all of Big Spring; five daughters, Irma Lozano and husband Joe of Big Spring, Olga Galan and husband Avel of Kerrville, Ellie Hilario and husband Robert, and Gloria Garza and Esperanza Garza, all of Big Spring; two brothers, Tomas Garza of Fort Worth and Salvador Garza of Odessa; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was also preceded in death by his parents, Juan and Lionisia Garza; two sons, Victor Garza Jr. and Enrique Garza; four sisters and three brothers.

The family suggests memorials be made to American Cancer Society, c/o Carolyn Brooks, P.O. Box 2121, Big Spring, Texas 79721-2121.

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

Kevin Kyle Shoemaker

Kevin Kyle Shoemaker, 53, of Stanton died Sunday, Oct. 30, 2011, in a Midland hospital. His services are pending with Gilbreath Funeral Home in Stanton.

Thelma Fern Smith

Thelma Fern Smith, 88, of Big Spring died Saturday, Oct. 29, 2011, at her residence. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

J.V. Anderson

J.V. Anderson, 93, of Big Spring died Sunday, Oct. 30, 2011, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The family will receive friends from 5:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Mt. Olive Memorial Park with the Rev. Carroll Kohl officiating.

He was born Nov. 12, 1917. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving as a medic in the Calvary. He married Maxine McGee on Jan. 18, 1941. They owned several businesses in Big Spring. She preceded him in death Jan. 12, 2006. He was a member of the Church of Christ.

He is survived by one son, Jimmy Anderson of Big Spring; one daughter, Judy Marrow of Levelland; and three grandchildren.

In addition to his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by one granddaughter.

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

Zayda Stallings

Zayda Stallings, 4, of Big Spring died Saturday, Oct. 29, 2011, in Lubbock. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Ciria Morelion Esquibel

Ciria Morelion Esquibel, 83, of Big Spring died Saturday, Oct. 29, 2011, at her residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 9 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today:

- MICHAEL DWAYNE RENTERIA, 42, of 1514 E. 17th St., was arrested Sunday on warrants for possession of drug paraphernalia, failure to appear (two counts) and driving while license invalid.

- LAQUANTHUS LAMAR RANDALL, 21, of 2524 Hunter, was arrested Sunday on a charge of possession of a dangerous drug.

- BLANCA ESTHELA FERNANDEZ-FAZ, 43, of 710 E. 14th St., was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.

- SAMMY GALAN HILARIO, 43, of 1802 State, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.

- JORDAN ALLEN MCLEOD, 20, of 618 Tulane, was arrested Sunday on warrants for consumption of alcohol by a minor (three counts), driving while license invalid and a warrant from another agency.

- NICOLE MARIE IVIE, 38, of 4042 Vicky, was arrested Sunday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- MIGUEL ANTONIO RODRIGUEZ II, 18, of 504 S. Goliad, was arrested Sunday on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less and a warrant from another agency.

- BRENDAN THOMAS PAYTE, 20, of 304 Circle, was arrested Sunday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- THEFT was reported in the 3600 block of W. Highway 80.

- ASSAULT was reported in the 3600 block of W. Highway 80.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 59 inmates at the time of this report.

- TONYA LEE SENTER, 34, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of theft of service.

- TRINITY LEWIS OWEN, 32, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of burglary of a habitation.

- BRANDON CHARLES LENDERMON, 25, was

arrested Friday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while intoxicated.

- VANESSA ANN ARMENDAREZ, 26, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of abandoning/endangering a child in imminent danger of bodily injury.

- JOHN MICHAEL EDMONDSON JR., 21, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of injury to a child with intent to cause bodily injury.

- AMY NICOLE FAZ, 29, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of interfering with police officers discharging official duties.

- JESSE JOE GUZMAN, 28, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of evading arrest or detention with a vehicle, a Lubbock County warrant for bond surrender – robbery and a Potter County warrant for bond surrender – possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.

- MICHAEL ANTHONY JUAREZ, 26, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of assault causing bodily injury – family violence.

- RONALD ALVIN BAKLEY JR., 36, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- RUTHIE MARIE MURPHREE, 41, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a motion to revoke probation for possession of a controlled substance, an Ector County warrant for failure to appear and a municipal warrant for evading arrest or detention with a vehicle.

- KELLI ANN MCADAMS, 30, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.

- LAQUANTHUS LAMAR RANDALL, 21, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a dangerous drug.

- JOEL ERASMO MORALES, 20, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- MICHAEL DWAYNE RENTERIA, 42, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, failure to appear (two counts) and driving while license invalid.

- JOSHUA THOMAS LIRA, 22, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.

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- NICOLE MARIE IVIE GIBSON, 38, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

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- JORDAN ALLEN MCLEOD, 20, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on warrants for consumption of alcohol by a minor (three counts), driving while license invalid and a warrant from another agency.

- MIGUEL RODRIGUEZ, 18, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of failure to attend school, possession of marijuana – two ounces or less and failure to maintain financial responsibility.

- RANDY LYNN MCCUTCHAN, 40, was arrested Monday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 800 block of Scott. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Cardinal. One person was transported to SMMC.

- TRAUMA was reported at the Big Spring Mall. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 3500 block of Gail Highway. Service refused.

- TRAUMA was reported in the 1300 block of E. 11th Place. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

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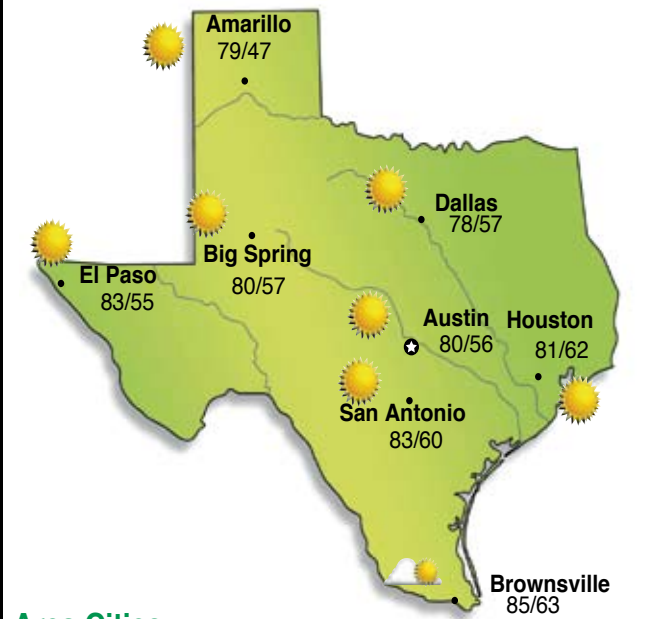
Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Tue 11/1	Wed 11/2	Thu 11/3	Fri 11/4	Sat 11/5
80/57	74/41	66/49	83/57	75/46
A mainly sunny sky. Warm. High around 80F. Winds S at 20 to 30 mph.	Windy with a few clouds. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the low 40s.	Sunny. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the upper 40s.	Mainly sunny. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the upper 50s.	Mainly sunny. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the mid 40s.
Sunrise: 8:03 AM Sunset: 6:56 PM	Sunrise: 8:04 AM Sunset: 6:55 PM	Sunrise: 8:04 AM Sunset: 6:54 PM	Sunrise: 8:05 AM Sunset: 6:53 PM	Sunrise: 8:06 AM Sunset: 6:53 PM



Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	77	58	sunny	Kingsville	86	62	pt sunny
Amarillo	79	47	sunny	Livingston	80	52	sunny
Austin	80	56	sunny	Longview	76	51	pt sunny
Beaumont	78	55	sunny	Lubbock	77	49	sunny
Brownsville	85	63	pt sunny	Lufkin	80	50	sunny
Brownwood	79	57	sunny	Midland	80	57	sunny
Corpus Christi	83	65	pt sunny	Raymondville	87	61	mst sunny
Corsicana	77	55	sunny	Rosenberg	81	62	sunny
Dallas	78	57	sunny	San Antonio	83	60	sunny
Del Rio	79	58	windy	San Marcos	81	56	sunny
El Paso	83	55	sunny	Sulphur Springs	77	54	pt sunny
Fort Stockton	87	55	sunny	Sweetwater	77	57	windy
Gainesville	75	54	sunny	Tyler	76	51	pt sunny
Greenville	76	53	sunny	Weatherford	76	55	sunny
Houston	81	62	sunny	Wichita Falls	77	54	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	67	40	sunny	Minneapolis	61	37	cloudy
Boston	53	38	cloudy	New York	54	41	rain
Chicago	62	43	mst sunny	Phoenix	85	56	mst sunny
Dallas	78	57	sunny	San Francisco	73	49	sunny
Denver	55	26	mst sunny	Seattle	52	37	mst sunny
Houston	81	62	sunny	St. Louis	73	49	sunny
Los Angeles	70	52	pt sunny	Washington, DC	58	40	pt sunny
Miami	81	71	rain				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Tue 11/1	Wed 11/2	Thu 11/3	Fri 11/4	Sat 11/5
5	5	5	5	5
Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection.

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State briefs

Girl allegedly taken from Texas complex found dead

CARROLLTON (AP) — Police say a 10-year-old Oklahoma City girl apparently abducted while with her family visiting relatives in the Dallas area has been found dead.

Carrollton police say Jasmen Gonzalez was last seen Saturday night at an apartment complex. Her body was located Sunday afternoon several blocks away behind a residence.

Autopsy results were pending Monday.

Police initially said the girl may have wandered away from where the family was staying, but Lt. Doug Mitchell says police now believe the child was abducted. Mitchell says the killing is not believed to have been random.

He says investigators have examined an SUV and that a person of interest has been interviewed.

Police say no one has been arrested.

Hidalgo County deputy shot, hospitalized

ELSA (AP) — A South Texas sheriff's deputy has been shot while investigating an alleged kidnapping and drug deal in a traffic stop that left a suspect dead.

Hidalgo County Sheriff Lupe Trevino says the officer, whose name wasn't immediately released, is hospitalized but should recover.

Deputies received a call Sunday afternoon about a possible kidnapping and stopped a vehicle, carrying four people, near Elsa.

Trevino says a passenger opened fire, striking a deputy wearing bulletproof vest. Two bullets hit the vest, while another struck the deputy's abdomen.

Trevino says the gunman was fatally shot by deputies and two other suspects were wounded. Details on their conditions weren't immediately released. The other person in the vehicle was detained.

Hearing Monday on temporary district maps

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A hearing is scheduled in federal court in South Texas that could determine what district lines can be used temporarily as election officials prepare for next year's primaries.

Monday's hearing in San Antonio involves a combination of several lawsuits filed by minority and Democratic groups. A final resolution is stalled while a Justice Department challenge to lines proposed by the state is pending before a three-judge panel in Washington.

The Justice Department contends that the new state voting maps for U.S. and Texas House races were drawn with discriminatory intent against minority voters. It has asked the tribunal to throw out those lines.

The state, represented by Attorney General Greg Abbott, contends that the plans maintain or increase the voting strength of minorities and are in compliance with the law.

Judge to be questioned in wrongful conviction case

GEORGETOWN (AP) — A former prosecutor who is now a Texas judge is to be questioned behind closed doors by attorneys for a man who is claiming he was wrongfully sent to prison for nearly 25 years because evidence was suppressed in his case.

Ken Anderson was to give a deposition Monday in the Williamson County courthouse in Georgetown, where he is a judge.

He will be questioned by attorneys for Michael Morton, freed this month based on new DNA evi-

dence after serving 24 years of a life sentence in the 1986 murder of his wife in Williamson County, located near Austin.

Anderson's deposition is part of efforts investigating accusations he concealed evidence at Morton's trial while he was a prosecutor.

An appeals court last week denied his attempt to stop the deposition.

Group tries to save 826-foot Asarco smokestack

EL PASO (AP) — A group of El Paso residents is working to save the city's iconic 826-foot Asarco smelter smokestack from demolition.

The 45-year-old smokestack that towers over El Paso's west side was scheduled to fall in the spring, but the contractor in charge of the demolition agreed to a one-year delay to allow the group time to raise money for its preservation.

Contractor Roberto Puga said the organization, led by Gary Sapp and Robert Ardovino, must raise money to preserve the stack and a neighboring 610-foot concrete chimney.

"We came to an agreement that if they can show me there's a real groundswell of support to keep it up, then I'm willing to give them a one-year moratorium," Puga told the El Paso Times.

Ardovino is an environmental activist who worked for years to close the smelter. He and Sapp said the stacks are symbols of an industry that shaped the growth of the West Texas city and its environs.

ARRESTS

Continued from Page 1

mother worked. When the mother returned home from work Friday morning, no effort was made (by Armendarez and Edmondson) to get the baby medical help. Police had been notified by an individual not of the home."

"The mother was arrested and charged with endangering a child due to not seeking medical attention and leaving the child in what law enforcement officials feel was an unsafe situation," Everett said.

Bond has been set for Edmondson at \$25,000, while Armendarez's bond was set at \$10,000. Both were still in the custody of the Howard

County Detention Center Monday morning, according to jail officials.

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

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J. V. Anderson, 93, died Sunday. Visitation will be 5:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside service will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Zayda Stallings, 4, died Saturday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Ciria Morelion Esquibel, 83, died Saturday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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Proposed constitutional amendments

Early voting is going on now at the county courthouse. Election day is Nov. 8.

Proposition Number 1 (SJR 14)

SJR 14 would amend the constitution to authorize the legislature to provide the surviving spouse of a 100 percent or totally disabled veteran with an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the surviving spouse's residence homestead as long as the surviving spouse has not remarried, the property was the residence homestead of the surviving spouse when the qualifying veteran died, and the property remains the residence homestead of the surviving spouse.

The proposed amendment appears on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a 100 percent or totally disabled veteran."

Proposition Number 2 (SJR 4)

SJR 4 would amend the constitution to authorize the Texas Water Development Board to issue additional general obligation bonds on a continuing basis for one or more accounts of the Texas Water Development Fund II, with the restriction that the total amount of bonds outstanding at any time does not exceed \$6 billion.

The proposed amendment appears on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing for the issuance of additional general obligation bonds by the Texas Water Development Board in an amount not to exceed \$6 billion at any time outstanding."

Proposition Number 3 (SJR 50)

SJR 50 would amend the constitution to authorize the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board or its successors to issue and sell general obligation bonds on a continuing basis for the purpose of financing educational loans for students, subject to certain constitutional restrictions,



including a restriction as to the maximum principal amount of bonds outstanding at any one time.

The proposed amendment appears on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing for the issuance of general obligation bonds of the State of Texas to finance educational loans to students."

Proposition Number 4 (HJR 63)

HJR 63 would amend the constitution to authorize the legislature to permit a county to issue bonds or notes to finance the development or redevelopment of an unproductive, underdeveloped, or blighted area within the county, and to pledge increases in ad valorem tax revenues imposed on property in the area by the county for repayment of such bonds or notes. The amendment does not provide independent authority for increasing ad valorem tax rates.

The proposed amendment appears on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit a county to issue bonds or notes to finance the development or redevelopment of an unproductive, underdeveloped, or blighted area and to pledge for repayment of the bonds or notes increases in ad valorem taxes imposed by the county on property in the area. The amendment does not provide authority for increasing ad valorem tax rates."

Proposition Number 5 (SJR 26)

SJR 26 would amend the constitution to authorize the legislature to allow cities and counties to enter into interlocal contracts with other cities and counties without having to assess an ad valorem tax and set aside a specified amount of funds for the payment of costs under the interlocal contract.

The proposed amendment appears on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to allow cities or counties to enter into interlocal contracts with other cities or counties without the imposition of a tax or the provision of a sinking fund."

Proposition Number 6 (HJR 109)

HJR 109 would amend the constitution to increase the amount of principal that is available for withdrawal from the permanent school fund each year and would also clarify certain references to that fund in the constitution. Increased access to the principal of the state public education trust fund would be based upon HJR 109 granting the authority to consider alternative market calculations when determining the amount of principal that is available for distribution to the available school fund. HJR 109 would also provide authority to distribute to the available school fund annual revenue from school fund land or other properties up to \$300 million per year.

The proposed amendment appears on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment clarifying references to the permanent school fund, allowing the General Land Office to distribute revenue from permanent school fund land or other properties to the available school fund to provide additional funding for public education, and providing for an increase in the market value of the permanent school fund for the purpose of allowing increased distributions from the available school fund."

Proposition Number 7 (SJR 28)

SJR 28 would amend the constitution by adding El Paso County to the list of counties authorized to create conservation and reclamation districts to develop parks and recreational facilities financed by taxes.

The proposed amendment appears on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit conservation and reclamation districts in El Paso County to issue bonds supported by ad valorem taxes to fund the development and maintenance of parks and recreational facilities."

Proposition Number 8 (SJR 16)

SJR 16 would amend the constitution by requiring the legislature to provide for taxation of open space land devoted to water stewardship purposes on the basis of its productive capacity.

The proposed amendment appears on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing for the appraisal for ad valorem tax purposes of open-space land devoted to water-stewardship purposes on the basis of its productive capacity."

Proposition Number 9 (SJR 9)

SJR 9 would amend the constitution to authorize the governor, on the written recommendation and advice of the Board of Pardons and Paroles, to grant a pardon, reprieve, or commutation of punishment to a person who successfully completes a term of deferred adjudication community supervision.

The proposed amendment appears on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the governor to grant a pardon to a person who successfully completes a term of deferred adjudication community supervision."

Proposition Number 10 (SJR 37)

SJR 37 would amend the constitution by extending the length of the unexpired term that causes the automatic resignation of certain local elected officeholders if they announce candidacy or become candidates for another office from one year to one year and 30 days.

The proposed amendment appears on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to change the length of the unexpired term that causes the automatic resignation of certain elected county or district officeholders if they become candidates for another office."

Explanation of amendments provided by the Texas Secretary of State at www.votexas.org

sudoku

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

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

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A Q 9 7 6
♥ 4
♦ 10 6 4 3
♣ K Q 6

EAST
♠ 10 5
♥ K Q J 9 8
♦ Q J 9
♣ 9 8 5

SOUTH
♠ K J 2
♥ A 7 2
♦ A K 5
♣ A J 7 3

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♥ Dble Pass
3 ♠ Pass 3 ♥ Pass
3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
4 ♠ Pass 4 ♥ Pass
4 ♠ Pass 4 NT Pass
5 ♠ Pass 5 ♥ Pass
5 NT Pass 7 ♣

Opening lead — three of hearts.
Most of the top players use natural bidding, but some employ highly artificial methods to improve their chances of reaching the perfect contract on every deal. Today's hand, on which North-South reached the perfect contract of seven clubs on a 4-3 fit, provides an apt illustration.

The deal occurred in the annual Reisinger team championship. North was Ron Rubin, and South

was Mike Becker, both multinational champions. They reached the club grand slam after one of the longest bidding sequences on record.

It started with a normal one-spade bid by North, but from then on most bids were artificial, with South asking North at each turn to describe his hand. Two clubs was artificial and game-forcing, and two hearts showed unbalanced distribution. Three diamonds over East's double of two hearts indicated precisely five spades and four diamonds!

Three hearts was once again artificial and said "Tell me more." Three spades showed one heart and three clubs!

Four clubs said "Tell me more," and four diamonds said "I have a minimum opening bid." Four hearts asked for the number of controls (ace equals two, king equals one), and four spades showed three. Four notrump asked "Where are they?"

Five diamonds showed the king of clubs; five hearts said "Tell me more." Five notrump showed the ace of spades and denied the queen of diamonds!

So Becker concluded that his partner had both black queens for his opening bid and therefore bid seven clubs, which he made easily after ruffing a heart in the dummy.

Purists will note that only with clubs as trump can 13 tricks be made. Only 12 tricks are available in either spades or notrump.

Tomorrow: Look before you leap.

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HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME BASKETBALL? — Not content to wait for the end of football season, the Big Spring Lady Steers and the Coahoma Bulldogettes met this weekend in scrimmage action.

Eagles fly high against Cowboys

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The “All-Hype” team finally played up to their super expectations.

Michael Vick threw two touchdown passes, LeSean McCoy had a career-best 185 yards rushing and two scores and the Philadelphia Eagles routed the Dallas Cowboys 34-7 Sunday night.

Dallas defensive coordinator Rob Ryan fired up the Eagles with some trash-talking during the summer after they added several big-name players.

Ryan, the son of beloved former Philadelphia coach Buddy Ryan, called the Eagles the

“all-hype” team and predicted the Cowboys would “beat their (butt).”

He was way off.

The Eagles (3-4) dominated right from the start, improved to 13-0 after a bye under coach Andy Reid and snapped a five-game losing streak at Lincoln Financial Field that dated to last season.

The long-haired Ryan paced the sideline and desperately tried to figure out how to stop Vick and Co. It didn't happen until the fourth quarter when the game was out of reach.

The Eagles racked up 495 total yards and held the ball for 42:09. They thoroughly out-

played a defense that came in ranked seventh in the NFL.

DeMarcus Ware was one of the few players who played well for Dallas (3-4). He had four sacks, and has 12 this season.

Coming off a 253-yard rushing performance in a win over St. Louis, Cowboys rookie DeMarco Murray was held to 74 yards on only eight carries.

The defending NFC East champion Eagles entered the season with a Super Bowl-or-bust mentality after adding six former Pro Bowl players in free agency and trades.

But a 1-4 start had people wondering if the self-pro-

claimed “Dream Team” — backed quarterback Vince Young gave the Eagles that label after signing a one-year deal — was overhyped as Ryan boldly declared in August.

After two straight wins, the Eagles are in a three-way tie with Dallas and Washington for second place behind the New York Giants (5-2).

Vick completed 21 of 28 passes for 279 yards and led the Eagles to points on their first six possessions. He also ran for 50 yards.

A swarming defense harassed Tony Romo throughout the game. Romo got

sacked four times and threw an interception to Nnamdi Asomugha.

McCoy had 80 of Philadelphia's 115 yards rushing in the first quarter. That was more than Dallas allowed in any game this season. The Eagles entered with the No. 1-ranked rushing offense and the Cowboys had the top-ranked run defense.

The Eagles took the kickoff and drove 79 yards for their first opening-drive TD this season.

Vick was sacked by Ware on the first play, but he connected with Jeremy Maclin for 24 yards on the next one. McCoy had a 21-yard run and Vick scrambled 15 yards to the Cowboys 13.

On third-and-9 from the 12, Vick tossed a screen pass to Maclin, who followed a lead block by Jason Peters into the end zone.

Vick led the Eagles 90 yards with McCoy running in from the 2 for a 14-0 lead. McCoy had runs of 11 and 34 yards before scoring for the seventh straight game.

He's one short of Steve Van Buren's team record set in 1947.

Asomugha set up Philadelphia's third scoring drive by picking off Romo's pass at the Eagles 33 after the ball bounced off Martellus Bennett's hands.

Vick kept the drive going with a 9-yard run on third-and-8, and made a perfect pass to Jason Avant for a 20-yard gain on another third-and-8. He threw a strike to Brent Celek in the back of the end zone on the next play for a 9-yard TD and a 21-0 lead.

The Eagles had a first down at the Cowboys 6 on their fourth possession, but settled for a 23-yard field goal by Alex Henery that made it 24-0.

Henery kicked a 26-yarder to make it 27-0 in the third quarter. McCoy's 13-yard run put Philadelphia up 34-0 in the fourth.

But the Cowboys spoiled the shutout bid on the ensuing possession when Romo threw a 70-yard TD pass to Laurent Robinson.

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	5	2	0	.714	211	147
New Eng	5	2	0	.714	202	160
N.Y. Jets	4	3	0	.571	172	152
Miami	0	7	0	.000	107	166

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Houston	5	3	0	.625	206	145
Tennessee	4	3	0	.571	139	145
Jacksonville	2	6	0	.250	98	163
Indianapolis	0	8	0	.000	121	252

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	6	2	0	.750	176	139
Cincinnati	5	2	0	.714	171	123
Baltimore	5	2	0	.714	185	110
Cleveland	3	4	0	.429	107	140

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
San Diego	4	2	0	.667	141	136
Oakland	4	3	0	.571	160	178
Kansas City	3	3	0	.500	105	150
Denver	2	5	0	.286	133	200

Green Bay	7	0	0	1.000	230	141
Detroit	6	2	0	.750	239	147
Chicago	4	3	0	.571	170	150
Minnesota	2	6	0	.250	172	199

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
San Fran	6	1	0	.857	187	107
Seattle	2	5	0	.286	109	162
St. Louis	1	6	0	.143	87	192
Arizona	1	6	0	.143	143	183

Sunday's games:

Tennessee 27, Indianapolis 10

St. Louis 31, New Orleans 21

Houston 24, Jacksonville 14

N.Y. Giants 20, Miami 17

Minnesota 24, Carolina 21

Baltimore 30, Arizona 27

Detroit 45, Denver 10

Buffalo 23, Washington 0

San Francisco 20, Cleveland 10

Cincinnati 34, Seattle 12

Pittsburgh 25, New England 17

Philadelphia 34, Dallas 7

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Atlanta, Chicago, Green Bay, N.Y. Jets, Oakland, Tampa Bay

Monday's Game

San Diego at Kansas City, 8:30 p.m.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Giants	5	2	0	.714	174	164
Dallas	3	3	0	.500	149	128
Washington	3	4	0	.429	116	139
Philadelphia	2	4	0	.333	145	145

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New Orleans	5	3	0	.625	260	189
Tampa Bay	4	3	0	.571	131	169
Atlanta	4	3	0	.571	158	163
Carolina	2	6	0	.250	187	207

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Halloween reminds us that the Scorpio sun rules matters of life, death and transformation. What's so scary about that? Mainly that being born, dying and undergoing radical changes of life are happenings not entirely under our control. Trust the process of life. Believe at a very deep level that forces seen and unseen are on your side!

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your daring mood will be amplified by the opportunities of the day. Your Halloween alter ego: a risk taker extraordinaire. Think: stunt man, surfer or shark-bite victim.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You have a connection to the land and the spirit of the Old West. Your Halloween alter ego: an American Indian, a cowboy or cowgirl, or a country-music star such as Tim McGraw or Taylor Swift.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll be in an expressive if not rambunctious mood, which is why people love to invite you to celebrate with them. Your Halloween alter ego: a reality-television star such as Snooki, Pauly or Kim Kardashian.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You have a strong and mystical connection with the past. You may freak someone out with an eerily accurate insight. Your Halloween alter ego: an Egyptian such as Cleopatra or King Tut, or a mummy.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your need to be center stage is highlighted, and you will entertain until late in the evening. Your Halloween alter ego: a pop star, dead or alive, such as Elvis, MJ, Ke\$ha or Justin Bieber.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your attention to detail makes your work easier and your play more memorable. Your Halloween alter ego: a character from a blockbuster movie such as "The Wizard of Oz," "Star Wars" or any horror film.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your diplomatic nature will help you make business contacts and fast friendships. Your Halloween alter ego: a political leader or royalty from any era from Obama to Marie Antoinette.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You are fearless when it comes to the underworld. You're a sharp dresser, and you don't mind the sight of blood. Therefore, you're perfectly suited to your Halloween alter ego: a vampire, zombie, werewolf or other night creature.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your expansive mindset makes you a fascinating conversational partner. Your Halloween alter ego: a space adventurer such as an astronaut, an intergalactic traveler from the realm of science fiction or a space alien.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Too much acting and dressing your age has a dulling effect. And you're anything but dull. Costume or not, do something delightfully immature. Your Halloween alter ego: a baby, a flirty angel or a naughty devil.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You honor the animal kingdom by giving protective and nurturing attention to the creatures around you. Your Halloween alter ego: an animal such as a gorilla, Scooby Doo, The Cat in the Hat or the Easter Bunny.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll play in the land of imagination, where the rules are entirely different. You'll feel so free that you might be reluctant to come back down to Earth. Your Halloween alter ego: a mystical creature such as a dragon, fairy or elf.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 31). Your ambitions make you ultra-attractive to truly interesting people. In the next 10 weeks, you'll likely bite off more than you can chew and will be glad you did. Otherwise, you would never reach out for help like you will in December. You'll be surprised at who shows up to assist you in meeting your goal.

Gemini and Pisces people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 1, 24, 33 and 19.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm having a Halloween seance at my house in honor of Harry Houdini. Please tell me how I might get the great magician to come through."

Every October 31, seances are conducted all over the world to invite the spirit of Harry Houdini to lend a few words or perhaps a fantastic magic trick to enliven Halloween night. It was Houdini's request that his wife try to contact him on this day, and she dutifully carried out the ritual, to no avail. Before he died, Houdini gave his wife a secret phrase that would authenticate his presence through the medium. The phrase never came up. While others reported earth-bound ghosts and spirits coming through in similar rituals, it seemed the great escape artist had decided to make a clean break to the great beyond, unshackled from this earthly plane and never to return. On Oct. 31, 1936, Bess Houdini announced that she was through with trying. But that doesn't stop the rest of the world.

Since Harry Houdini is highly unlikely to come through for you, in the spirit of the great magician, my suggestion is to make your celebration fun, theatrical, artful, entertaining — and fake. The more tricks the better the treat!

CELEBRITY PROFILES: In her third single, a collaboration with chart-topper rapper/singer Nicki Minaj, Willow Smith suggests that she's the "fireball of the party." Her astrological chart supports this, as the young pop star was born when the moon, Venus and Pluto were in the vivacious, adventurous fire sign of Sagittarius. Her sun and Mercury in soulful Scorpio indicates that Smith may be a young girl, but she's an old soul.

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

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"Classic" Annie®: For some last voice message is a sweet reminder

"Editor's Note: Hundreds of Ann Landers' loyal readers have requested that newspapers continue to publish her columns. These letters originally appeared in 1999.

Dear Ann Landers:

Your response to "Tom in Atkinson," whose friend still had his deceased wife's voice on the answering machine, was heavy-handed.

I married my wife after her father died. Her mother still keeps his voice on their answering machine,

even though it's been five years since he passed away.

The message he left is very funny, saying he's a robot. Whenever my wife calls and gets the machine, she says, "Hello, Daddy-bot" and leaves her message.

Nobody expects him to call back, nor do we think he's really alive somewhere.

My wife is not living in denial. It's just a sweet way to remember her father's voice. — Greg in Lanham-Seabrook, Md.

Dear Greg: I see your point and stand corrected. Thanks for hauling me up short. I had it coming. As I said before — to each his own. If keeping a loved one's voice on the answering

machine is comforting, so be it.

Dear Ann Landers: This is not a "how we met" letter; this is a "how THEY met" letter.

It was at my house over dinner. My daughter had asked me to invite two of her friends who didn't know each other. No matchmaking, just a nice dinner.

Conversation during the first course was animated and amicable. By the time the main course came around, the conversation had taken a sharp turn.

I realized I had two politically polarized individuals, one conservative and the other liberal.

By dessert, they came very near to pelting each other with key

lime pie.

After dinner, they went their separate ways, and I said to myself, "That was certainly a disaster. Those two hated each other."

Three weeks later, my daughter phoned to say, "Well, they're engaged."

I thought to myself, "That marriage is going to be a catastrophe. Those two are like fire and water."

Well, Ann, they have been married 27 years and are the most loving couple I've ever seen.

Whoever said opposites attract certainly knew what he or she was talking about. — Coral Gables, Fla.

Dear Coral Gables: I learned long ago never to try to second-guess

Cupid. You'll get tripped up every time.

Ann Landers' booklet "Nuggets and Doozies" has everything from the outrageously funny to the poignantly insightful. Send a self-addressed, long, business-sized envelope and a check or money order for \$5.25 (this includes postage and handling) to: Nuggets, c/o Ann Landers, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. To find out more about Ann Landers and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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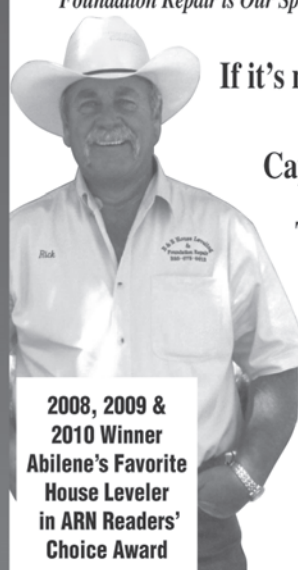
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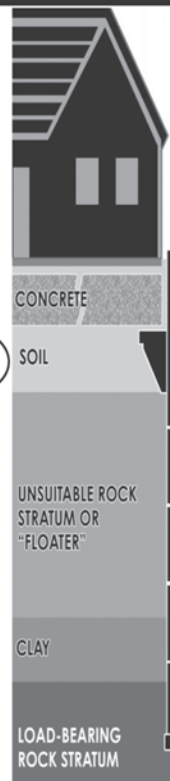
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7:30	Jug Jugg	Alma	Big Bang	News	Noticias	News	Frietas	renataion	Cyber	rus	Discovery	Classics	Ways Die	Law & Order	Parkers	Jessie	Nation	Paroon	
8:00	News	ABC	Big Bang	News	Noticias	News	King	Schwarz	News	Til Death	American	Movie: Hal-	Ways Die	Law & Order	106 & Park:	Buttowski	NFL32	SportsCenter	
8:30	Jeopardy!	Quando Me	Two Men	News	Caso Cer-	News	King	Yohanar	Business	King	Chopper	Movie: H2O:	Ways Die	Law & Order	BET's Top 10	Fish			
9:00	Wheel	Quando Me	Two Men	Ent	Caso Cer-	News	Seinfeld	Van Impe	PBS News-	Seinfeld	American	Later	Ways Die	Law & Order	Live	Phineas	SportsCenter	Monday	
9:30	Shrekless	Familia-	Terra Nova	How I Met	Mi Corazon	Millionaire	Seinfeld	McGee	Hour	Seinfeld	Chopper		Ways Die	Law & Order		Random		Count-	
10:00	Dancing With	Fuerza-Des-	House	Broke Girl	Flor Salva-	The Sing-Off	Fam. Guy	Upd	Antiques	Ringer	American	Movie: Sister	Ways Die	Law & Order	Movie: Sister	Good	ANT Farm	World, Poker	NFL Football:
10:30	the Stars	tin	Two Men	Ent	Flor Salva-		Fam. Guy	Hansen	Roadshow	Chopper	Chopper	Act 2: Back	Ways Die	Law & Order	in the Habit	Shake It	Jessie	World, Poker	San Diego
11:00	(01) Castle	Don Fran-	Simpsons	Hawaii	La Casa de	Rock Center	Fam. Guy	Light of the	Will Ferrell:	Southwest	Chopper	Movie: Hal-	Ways Die	Law & Order	Movie: B.A.P.S.	Wizards	Nation	Chargers at	Kansas City
11:30	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	House	Cops	American	Movie: Hal-	Ways Die	Law & Order	Movie: B.A.P.S.	Wizards	Nation	Chargers at	Kansas City	Chiefs.
12:00	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	House	Cops	American	Movie: Hal-	Ways Die	Law & Order	Movie: B.A.P.S.	Wizards	Nation	Chargers at	Kansas City	Chiefs.
12:30	Nightline	Noticiero	Raymond	Letterman	Sin Senos no	Jay Leno	Office	Andrew Ga-	World	T. Smiley	(Off Air)	Halloween	Ways Die	CSI: NY	Wendy Willi-	Wizards	Nation	Chargers at	Kansas City
1:00	Jimmy Kim-	Hasta que el	Law Order:	Late	Decisiones	Late Night	Office	Andrew Ga-	World	T. Smiley	(Off Air)	Halloween	Ways Die	CSI: NY	Wendy Willi-	Wizards	Nation	Chargers at	Kansas City
1:30	Extra	Destilando	Raymond	Insider	Pagado	(06) Today	Conan	Upd	Roseanne	American	Chopper	Halloween	Ways Die	CSI: NY	Wendy Willi-	Wizards	Nation	Chargers at	Kansas City
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3:00	Paid	Amor	Fam. Guy	Paid	Pagado	(06) Today	Conan	Upd	Roseanne	American	Chopper	Halloween	Ways Die	CSI: NY	Wendy Willi-	Wizards	Nation	Chargers at	Kansas City
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Texans remain on top of AFC South with win

HOUSTON (AP) — The Texans are learning how to win, even when their high-powered offense has an off day.

Arian Foster rushed for 112 yards and a touchdown, and Houston shut down rookie quarterback Blaine Gabbert and the NFL's worst offense in a 24-14 win over the Jaguars on Sunday.

Matt Schaub threw a touchdown pass and ran for another score for Houston (5-3), off to its best eight-game start. The Texans also took one more step toward the franchise's first division title and playoff berth by improving to 3-0 in the AFC South.

"We knew it was going to be a tough, dirty game," said Houston linebacker Brian Cushing, who led his team with seven tackles. "In

this league, it's tough to get a win. We just had to do what we had to do."

The Texans have outscored their division opponents by a total score of 99-28. This was the closest of the three games, mostly due to two Houston fumbles that led to Jacksonville touchdowns.

Schaub completed 16 of 30 passes and was sacked twice, and the Texans once again missed star receiver Andre Johnson, who sat out for the fourth straight game with a hamstring injury.

Unlike past seasons, Houston can rely on its defense to pick up the slack.

The Texans stayed in control by holding Jacksonville to 61 yards and five first downs in the second half. Gabbert, making his sixth career

start, completed 10 of 30 passes for 97 yards and two interceptions in the game, for an anemic 26.7 rating.

"We had a defense that stood up and said, 'We're gonna win the game,'" Houston coach Gary Kubiak said. "They were excellent all day, exceptional."

The Jaguars (2-6) couldn't carry over momentum from their surprising 12-7 win over Baltimore on Monday night. Maurice Jones-Drew was limited to 63 yards on 18 carries, and says the entire offense bears some of the blame for Gabbert's struggles.

"We have to continue to give him time in the pocket. We have to catch the ball when he throws it," Jones-Drew said. "The quarterback is only as good as the players around him. So obviously, if he's not do-

ing well, we're not doing well."

The Texans got off to another fast start, scoring on their opening series for the fifth time. Schaub went 4 for 5 and then sprinted for a 2-yard touchdown with 8:21 left in the first quarter.

Jacksonville's sixth-ranked defense held Baltimore to 34 yards rushing Monday night, but Houston matched that total on its first three possessions.

Gabbert was hurt on Jacksonville's first series.

Forced to scramble, he slid awkwardly at the end of an 11-yard run and was hit by safety Glover Quin and Cushing.

Trainers helped Gabbert off the field with bruised ribs, and Luke McCown replaced him. Gabbert returned on

Jacksonville's next possession, then threw five straight incompletions.

The Texans' offense bogged down, too, failing to convert three consecutive third downs.

"We wanted to get everyone involved," Schaub said. "We had some opportunities down the field, and I missed a few of the throws. I've got to make those plays for us to be successful as an offense."

A slick play by Jacksonville's defense midway through the second quarter created the Jaguars' best scoring chance of the game.

Clint Session sacked Schaub and forced a fumble, triggering an impromptu double-lateral.

Defensive end Matt Roth scooped it up, then flipped the ball backward to defensive

tackle Terrance Knighton. Knighton chugged 7 yards, then pitched to Session who reached the Texans 10 before Foster tackled him.

Two snaps later, Gabbert threw a short TD pass to Jason Hill, Jacksonville's first touchdown since the third quarter of a 17-13 loss to Pittsburgh two weeks ago.

The Jaguars were lucky to be tied at halftime after producing 113 yards in the half.

"We are working our butts off," Jacksonville coach Jack Del Rio said, "and I'd sure like to have a little more validation for the type of effort that's being put forth."

Jacoby Jones returned a punt to the Jaguars 44 early in the third quarter, and Schaub threw a 7-yard touchdown pass to Joel Dreessen.

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Alves wins bull riding title

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Silvano Alves held on to his sizable lead to win the Professional Bull Riders world title and \$1 million bonus, and Robson Palermo jumped from fourth to first place Sunday to take home \$250,000 as the winner of the six-round event at Thomas & Mack Center.

Alves, from Pilar Do Sul, Brazil, finished with a 2,706.25-point margin over Palermo, from Rio Branco, Brazil, for his

first PBR season title. He earned just over \$1.4 million in 2011.

Alves scored 88.25 on Big Iron in the fifth round, and was third with a 92.25 on Yellow Jacket Jr. in the championship round, both Sunday.

"That (Yellow Jacket Jr.) was a really hard bucking bull," Alves said. "He bucked away from my hand to make it more difficult to ride him. It took everything that I know how to do, all my knowledge, to stay on his back. I knew that I had to ride him today."

"I managed to do this without becoming injured this year. All I can really say is that I'm going to keep trying next year to do it again."

I can't predict what will happen, and I'm just going to keep doing what I'm doing."

Palermo, who earned \$301,000 in the event and \$618,000 overall for 2011, won the championship round with a 93.25 on King of Hearts that propelled him to his second event title with 446.25 points.

Caleb Sanderson of Kissimmee, Fla., who was second in the championship round with a 92.5 on RMEF Gunpowder and Lead, finished second in the event standings with 440.75 points. Alves was third with 434.5.

"I was bucked off one bull and rode the rest," Palermo said. "My shoulder has been bothering me, but I tried

hard and kept going and gave everything I got."

Rubens Barbosa of Monte Aprazivel, Brazil, took the event lead in round five and clinched the 2011 PBR Rookie of the Year Award with a score of 92.5 on Priceless.

Barbosa's fourth successful ride in five rounds gave him 357.25 points and put him ahead of Sanderson, who was bucked off Unser Racing Bull in 5.18 seconds in round five. Sanderson was the lone rider to have ridden all of his first four bulls for a score.

Barbosa entered the championship round ahead of Palermo with 353 points, Guilherme Marchi of Leme, Brazil, with 351, Sanderson with 348.25, Alves with 342.5 and J.B. Mauney of Mooresville, N.C., with 333.5. The top six were the lone riders to have gone 4-for-5 over the first five rounds.

Barbosa was trying to become the third competitor to claim the event and Rookie of the Year titles during the same year of this 18-year-old event.

Luke Snyder (2001) and Jody Newberry (2003) were the only rookies who had won the PBR World Finals in past years.

"For me it's a very big deal to win Rookie of the Year, especially because I got here halfway through the year," Barbosa said. "I think it's really difficult to win with only half a season, so for me it's an awesome honor."



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