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# BIG SPRING HERALD

WEDNESDAY

NOVEMBER 30, 2011



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## OFFERING A HELPING HAND



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Abby Long, an advertising executive with the *Big Spring Herald*, looks over the Angel Tree cards on the Salvation Army's Senior Angel Tree located in the lobby of the local newspaper. The local charity uses the trees — which are located at a number of Crossroads area merchants — to collect Christmas gifts for low income children and seniors to be distributed this Christmas holiday. See article, Page 3A.

## Wilkerson seeking DA post again

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

Howard County District Attorney Hardy Wilkerson will seek a fifth term in office in 2012, as he announced this week he has filed the necessary paperwork with state officials to run for re-election.



Wilkerson

Wilkerson, who has represented the 118<sup>th</sup> Judicial District for nearly 15 years, said the decision to run for re-election — which he will do on the Republican ticket — was a practical one for him.

"It really came down to asking myself a series of practical questions. Do I still enjoy what I am doing? Yes, I do," Wilkerson said. "Do I feel like I'm still being productive? Yes, I do."

"Do I feel like I'm still serving the community? I certainly do. So it was a very practical decision for me to file to run for re-election. I really feel like I'm doing what I should be doing."

When Wilkerson finishes

his current term in office, he will have already served 15 years as district attorney — in addition to a previous eight years as county attorney — giving him 23 years as a public servant in the Crossroads area.

The 118<sup>th</sup> Judicial District represents Howard, Glasscock and Martin counties, with voters in all three areas weighing in on the district attorney race.

As for the upcoming term, Wilkerson said there will be plenty of challenges to be met, both at the local and state level.

"Each year you have a number of challenges you face, both from the county and from the state legislature. It's hard to anticipate what they will be," he said. "I really feel like the toughest one we will face in the next four years will be just keeping up with the continued volume of cases coming at us. We have to be sure we handle each case appropriately."

"I really look forward to

See DA, Page 3A

## Girls Night Out going Uptown Thursday

By AMANDA MORENO  
Staff Writer

Healthy Woman is joining Uptown Salon and Day Spa in a special event for local ladies.

From 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, Girls Night Out will take place at 600 Runnels.

"Women are always so busy taking care of others and

sometimes they forget to take care of the most important person, themselves," said Kim Howell, Scenic Mountain Medical Center marketing director. "This is an opportunity for them to stop in for a few minutes and enjoy some laughter, fellowship and some good



Hernandez

treats."

Those attending will be able to take advantage of make-up demonstrations and discounted teeth whitening treatments. Refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be provided, as well.

"Every time we meet, we focus on a specific health purpose, but Healthy Women is about enhancing the mind, body and spirit," Howell

said.

"We hope that the time spent here makes them feel better," said Helen Hernandez, Healthy Women member and Uptown Salon and Day Spa owner.

During the two-hour event, purses will be discounted 25 percent, jewelry 20 percent and luggage 30 percent. Facials will be half-off for those who book and pay during the

event and 25 percent off for those who book a facial. Door prizes and giveaways will also take place during Girls Night Out.

"Sometimes gathering together with the girls, talking, shopping and sharing some good food is just the thing you need," Howell said.

The free event is open to

See UPTOWN, Page 3A

## African Children's Choir set to perform here Dec. 6

By AMANDA MORENO  
Staff Writer

All the world's a stage, especially for the 38<sup>th</sup> African Children's Choir, which will be returning to Big Spring.

First Presbyterian Church will host the choir Tuesday, Dec. 6. The 17-member choir will take the stage at 7 p.m. and perform children's songs,

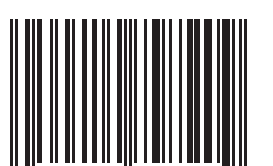
traditional spirituals and rhythmic gospel favorites.

"In spite of tragedy that has marred their young lives, the children are radiant with hope, musically gifted and always wonderfully entertaining," said tour guidance leader Sara Gordon.

See CHOIR, Page 3A



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## Obituaries

### Darlene Hickey

Darlene Hickey, 59, of Kileen, formerly of Big Spring died Sunday, Nov. 27, 2011, at her residence. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

## Take Note

• A benefit account for the Arguello family, who lost two family members and their home in a recent fire in Coahoma, has been established at Western Bank. Interested persons can contribute to the account at any of the bank's three locations (two in Big Spring; one in Coahoma). For more information, call 432-394-4256.

• An account has been established at Wells Fargo to help defray medical expenses for 4-year-old Zayde Stallings, who recently died of a rare heart condition. She was the daughter of Kenny and Renea Stallings of Big Spring. If you need more information, contact Four Seasons Insulation and Siding at 264-8610. The account number is 793-852-7277.

• A fund has been set up at Myers & Smith Funeral Home for Mike Williams, 39, a lifetime resident of Big Spring who died Nov. 1. He leaves behind a wife and seven children. Any donations can be brought to the funeral home office at 301 E. 24th St. For more information, call 267-8288.

• Every 10 years, Texas requires that marks and brands be re-registered in the county or counties in which you operate. The re-registration period began Aug. 31 and runs through Feb. 29, 2012. At the conclusion date, all marks and brands that have not been re-registered are automatically available for registration by another party. For additional information, contact the Howard County Clerk's Office at 264-2214 or 264-2213.

• Hangar 25 Air Museum needs your help! We are in need of volunteers to fill a variety of positions such as tour guides, front desk, clerical, events, and many others. Set your hours and days of the week you are available. Meet new people and enjoy a rewarding experience. For more information, contact Emma Bogard at 432-267-2963.

• A benefit fund has been established at Western Bank for Eric Kelly, a 24-year-old Big Spring resident with cystic fibrosis who is recovering from a double lung transplant in Dallas. All donations are appreciated. For more information, call 432-213-0795

• The Salvation Army is holding its annual heater drive and is in dire need of heaters. Community members can donate new or used heaters. Monetary donations are also welcomed. Donations can be made at the main office, located at 811 W. Fifth St., Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

• The Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) is an independent national nonprofit dedicated to helping distressed homeowners navigate financial challenges and avoid mortgage foreclosure. If you want to stop foreclosure and are in need of foreclosure help, the time to call 888-995-HOPE is now. The Homeowner's HOPE hotline is a counseling service provided by HPF to work with you to find a solution to your problem. HPF can provide counseling free of charge, in English and 170 other languages, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Free free foreclosure help, call the hotline.

## Police blotter

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

- JESSICA FAYE BROOKS, 24, of Lubbock, was arrested Tuesday on warrants for failure to maintain financial responsibility, driving while license invalid and a warrant from another agency.
- JOHN HENRY SCHENCK, 36, of 1513 Wood, was arrested Tuesday on charges of driving while license suspended/invalid – no insurance and failure to maintain financial responsibility (two counts).
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 600 block of Highland Drive.

## Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 70 inmates at the time of this report.

• LUCAS WAYNE HUMBLE, 17, was booked into the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of criminal mischief.

• RICKY RAY WINTERS JR., 25, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a judgment and sentence for manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance.

• JESSICA FAYE BROOKS, 24, was booked into the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a Lubbock warrant for criminal mischief to impair public service and municipal warrants for driving while license invalid and failure to maintain financial responsibility.

• STEPHEN KYLE GAY, 27, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of bail jumping – failure to appear.

• MONICA JANELLE MCGRUDER, 39, was arrested Tuesday on charges of stealing/receiving stolen checks (two counts), forgery of a financial instrument, a Bexar County warrant for credit/debit card abuse and municipal warrants for theft and failure to appear.

• NATHANIEL JAMAL AUSBIE, 28, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on judgment/sentence for possession of a controlled substance and evading arrest or detention with a vehicle.

• RICKY WAYNE WASHBURN, 52, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on judgment/sentence for possession of a controlled substance (two counts).

• JOHN HENRY SCHENCK, 36, was booked into the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension and municipal warrants for failure to maintain financial responsibility (two counts).

• ROBERTO VASQUEZ II, 20, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of bail jumping and failure to appear.

• DEBRA KAY LOMAS, 45, was booked into the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• DAMIAN ISMAEL LUJAN, 27, was booked into the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of failure to stop and render aid.

• COREY SHANE HUDSON, 35, was arrested Wednesday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated – open container.

## Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Lancaster. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Runnels. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of Dallas. One person was transported to SMMC.

## Today's Weather

### Local 5-Day Forecast

Thu 12/1	Fri 12/2	Sat 12/3	Sun 12/4	Mon 12/5
<b>67/31</b> Partly cloudy skies. High 67F. Winds SSE at 10 to 20 mph.	<b>38/32</b> Rain and freezing rain. Highs in the upper 30s and lows in the low 30s.	<b>61/31</b> A few thunderstorms possible. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the low 30s.	<b>43/30</b> Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 40s and lows in the low 30s.	<b>45/29</b> Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 40s and lows in the upper 20s.
<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:29 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 5:41 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:30 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 5:41 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:31 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 5:41 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:31 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 5:41 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:32 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 5:41 PM



## Texas At A Glance



### Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	66	36	pt sunny	Kingsville	83	62	sunny
Amarillo	43	23	windy	Livingston	69	45	mst sunny
Austin	71	56	pt sunny	Longview	64	43	mst sunny
Beaumont	69	46	mst sunny	Lubbock	51	28	mst sunny
Brownsville	82	63	mst sunny	Lufkin	69	43	mst sunny
Brownwood	67	45	pt sunny	Midland	65	31	mst sunny
Corpus Christi	80	63	sunny	Raymondville	84	62	sunny
Corsicana	65	48	cloudy	Rosenberg	73	55	mst sunny
Dallas	65	48	cloudy	San Antonio	77	59	pt sunny
Del Rio	71	55	pt sunny	San Marcos	73	55	pt sunny
El Paso	69	37	sunny	Sulphur Springs	65	47	mst sunny
Fort Stockton	74	37	pt sunny	Sweetwater	65	35	pt sunny
Gainesville	61	41	pt sunny	Tyler	64	44	mst sunny
Greenville	63	44	pt sunny	Weatherford	62	42	pt sunny
Houston	72	54	mst sunny	Wichita Falls	63	35	mst sunny

### National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	58	31	sunny	Minneapolis	32	21	sn shower
Boston	49	30	sunny	New York	51	35	sunny
Chicago	44	30	cloudy	Phoenix	59	45	rain
Dallas	65	48	cloudy	San Francisco	67	47	windy
Denver	26	9	snow	Seattle	45	35	mst sunny
Houston	72	54	mst sunny	St. Louis	52	34	pt sunny
Los Angeles	69	45	windy	Washington, DC	53	36	sunny
Miami	77	65	mst sunny				

### Moon Phases



## BIG SPRING HERALD

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# Angel Trees can make for brighter Christmas

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

As Crossroads residents begin their holiday shopping, officials with the local Salvation Army are hoping they will help those in need through the annual Angel Tree program. Applications for the program — which provides Christmas gifts for children of low-income families and area senior citizens in need of a helping hand — were handled in mid-October, and according to Ada Flores, a social worker with the local charity, the need for donations is definitely there. Last year, the Angel Tree program provided presents for more than 450 participants. This year, more than 500 area children and seniors have their names placed on the trees, which went up mid-

November. “We’ve set up Angel Trees at the Wal-Mart Supercenter, Bealls department store, the *Big Spring Herald* and the mall, right outside Blum’s Jewelers,” said Flores. “We also have trees at Scenic Mountain Medical Center, the Heritage Museum and the Howard County Library. We also have a tree at Higginbotham Bartlett and two of them at Alon USA.” According to Flores, participating in the program is simple. “They just take the Angel card from the tree and purchase Christmas gifts for that child or senior,” said Flores. “It doesn’t necessarily have to be what’s listed on the angel card. Once they purchase the items, they will attach the card to the gifts and bring them to our office, or drop

them off where they got the card from. It’s very important they tape or tie the card to the gift, however, so we can make sure it goes to the correct person.” Christmas gifts aren’t the only items on the local Salvation Army’s holiday wish list this year, as cold weather has made the need for warm coats, jackets and space heaters a top priority. “Most people don’t think anything of adjusting their thermostat. Whether it’s a bit too cold or warm, you just give it a bump and you’re ready to go,” Flores said. “However, there are many low-income residents and families in the Howard County and Big Spring area who don’t have that luxury. “In the summer, they have to fight back the heat with fans, and, in the winter,

they use space heaters and anything else they can find to keep their homes warm enough to live in. It’s not something most of us want to think about, but it happens everyday.” Flores said the Salvation Army — which holds fan drives during the summer — is currently holding a heater and blanket drive to gather space heaters and other items area low-income residents and families can use to warm their homes and stave off the frigid temperatures this winter. “We seem to go from sweltering heat to freezing cold in the blink of an eye here in West Texas,” Flores said. “Many of these families can barely put food on their table. There’s just no way they can afford something like a space heater.”

Flores said donations can be made in the form of new or used heaters — although they do need to be in good working order — or monetary donations so the local charity can purchase the heaters and distribute them. “Each heater costs an average of \$45,” Flores said. “So, as you can imagine, they go pretty fast, especially when the weather turns cold like it has the past several days. We’ve had some donations of coats lately, but we haven’t had any space heaters, and those are badly needed right now.” For more information on the coat drive or the Angel Tree effort, call 267-8239.

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

## Support Groups

**THURSDAY**  
• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion 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.  
• Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a faith-based support group for those who need help finding and continuing to walk down the path God has for each of us. Meetings are at 11 a.m. until noon and again at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.

**FRIDAY**  
• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study

meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.  
• Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program, is held at Cornerstone Covenant Church, 706 E. 12th St. at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call at 264-0015 or visit www.cccbigspring.org

**SATURDAY**  
• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish supper at 7 p.m.

**SUNDAY**  
• Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from 11 a.m. to

noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 7 p.m. until 8 p.m.

**MONDAY**  
• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, noon-1 p.m., 615 Settles.  
• PEP — Parent Education Program for CPS participating and non-participating parents, single parent, grandparents, adoptive or fostering parents. Every first and fourth Monday of the month from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Northside Community Center. Classes are free. For information, call 263-2673.

• Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting, 8-9 p.m., fourth floor, VA Medical Center.  
• Take Off Pounds Sensibly

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

**TUESDAY**  
• Big Spring Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month. This is a group for those with Parkinson’s Disease, Young Onset Parkinson’s, caregivers, and those interested in learning more about the illness. There is time for socializing and information. For more information about the support group or about Parkinson’s Disease, contact Jody at 432-699-6640 or midlandparkinsons@yahoo.com.

## UPTOWN

Continued from Page 1A

all Healthy Woman members, family and friends, as well as anyone wanting to know more about Healthy Woman. No reservations are needed. To find out more information, call Hernandez at 267-1544.

Contact Staff Writer Amanda Moreno at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at life@bigspringherald.com

**Contact the Herald at 263-7331**

## DA

Continued from Page 1A

working with the people of the 118<sup>th</sup> District in the coming term.” Other seats up for election in the 2012 election include Howard County sheriff, currently held by Stan Parker; county

attorney, held by Joshua Hamby; tax assessor collector, held by Kathy Sayles; Precinct 3 county commissioner, held by Jimmie Long; and Precinct 1 county commissioner, held by Emma Brown. To file candidacy with the Republican party, contact Chairman Craig Bailey at 267-2464. To

file with the Democratic party, contact Chairman Walter Shipman at 264-6660. The deadline for local candidates to file is Dec. 15. According to Sandra Bloom, Howard County elections administrator, the filing period for this year’s political primaries is much shorter than in years past.

“The legislature passed a law that basically moved everything up 30 days, so the beginning of filing should have begun in mid-November,” Bloom said. “However, because the redistricting was tied up in court, it didn’t. So the filing period this year has basically been cut in half.”

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

## CHOIR

Continued from Page 1A

Gordon said the main focus of the tour is to raise awareness for the thousands of children supported by this program. She said one of the main focuses of the choir is to bring support so the mission is possible.

First Presbyterian Church is located at 701 Runnels. Amanda Moreno at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at life@bigspringherald.com

Contact Staff Writer

We would like to express our gratitude for the many expressions of love shown with the passing of Richard “Dick” Battle. A special thanks to Nalley-Pickle, Coahoma Church of Christ and his many friends and relatives.

Vicki and LaNa Battle  
D.C. & Myrtia Lee  
Bill & Linda Battle  
Roger & Debbie Battle  
Karen & Tommy Halfmann  
Darlene Battle

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**MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL**  
24th & Johnson 267-8288  
Cheryl Yvonne Johnson Clark, 55, died Wednesday. Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. today at Miracle Temple Church of God in Christ in San Angelo, Texas with burial in Lawnhaven Cemetery. Tony H. Guzman, Sr., 75, died Saturday. Vigil services will be at 7 p.m. tonight at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, December 1, 2011 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

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**A Time to Remember**  
Community Wide Service of Remembrance  
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Gilbreath Funeral Home  
Sunday, December 11, 2011 - 2:00 PM  
Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel  
906 Gregg Street  
Christmas is a season for remembrance --- and a beautiful and joyous time to let your love shine through. However, for those who have lost a loved one it is a reminder of happier days gone by.  
If you have lost a loved one during the past year, please join us at our Service of Remembrance. Let us remember and celebrate that life --- together.  
For more information or to have your loved one’s name added to the book of memory, please RSVP to Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home by Wednesday, December 7, 2011 at 267-6331  
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www.npelch.com

# EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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Managing Editor

**Ron Midkiff**  
Publisher

**Steve Reagan**  
Staff Writer

**Amanda Moreno**  
Staff Writer

**Thomas Jenkins**  
Staff Writer

## OUR VIEWS

# Breakfast with the Clauses

Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus are on their way to Big Spring.

The Heritage Museum will be hosting the Clauses Saturday from 8:30 a.m. until 11 a.m.

A group of area children will have an opportunity to share donuts with Mr. and Mrs. Claus before decorating a gingerbread man and a Christmas ornament.

This is the second year the museum has hosted Breakfast with Santa for area children.

The cost of the breakfast is \$3 and a canned good. Once signed up, the groups of children will have 30 minutes with Santa. The canned donations will benefit the First Baptist Church food pantry.

Of course, after Santa and Mrs. Claus are done at the museum, there is still more work to be done, for the museum and the Clauses.

Later that evening, the *Big Spring Herald* community Christmas parade will take place at 5:30 p.m. The museum will be providing coffee, hot chocolate, cookies and popcorn, as well as a place for people to watch the parade in their annual Parade Watch.

Don't forget about the Christmas Tree Forest, as well, that is on display until Dec. 21. This year there are more than 50 trees scattered throughout the museum's two floors. Individuals from the community, as well as local organizations and businesses, have decorated trees in their own unique ways for the public to enjoy. Admission to the Christmas Tree Forest is \$3 for adults and \$2 for students and seniors.

While enjoying the tour through the forest, take a little time and visit the expanded gift shop and view the Caboose Water Color Society art display of old town Christmas paintings.

The museum is as festive as they can get and look forward to spreading the Christmas cheer.

Stop in, catch up on a bit of history and grab some Christmas spirit.

The Heritage Museum is located at 510 Scurry. To find out more about festivities at the museum, call 267-8255.

## HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor Bill McClellan at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Steve Reagan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

## LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we not be bashful about reaching out to You, Lord.

Amen

# 'I column as I see 'em' and my daughter says, easily entertained

There is a beautiful and brilliant young woman who lives near Raleigh, N.C. who has talked about me and my wife, Leah, for years.

Her name is Tiffany, the first-born of our four offspring, and I cannot argue with her evaluation of her dear parents relative to one thing. She says we are easy to entertain and seems to find even more amusement in the fact that we constantly entertain ourselves in the simplest ways.

She's right about us. Even though they are fun, it really doesn't take a three-ring circus or a 300-million dollar movie with mind-boggling special effects to make our day. The simple pleasures of life do entertain us and we like it that way.

I'm not technologically ignorant or even remotely renitent to enjoying the amazing array of gadgets and devices at our fingertips in this supersonic age. Life is great with a glass of iced tea, my laptop and a fresh set of batteries in the remote. Sometimes I wonder how I survived as long as I did without my smartphone and I have a genuine affection for wifi and addresses that end with .com.

Every time I visit anyone who has just had a triple bypass I am reminded of how very thankful I am for technological and medical advances. It seems like almost everything in our bodies can be replaced now and the older I get the more I support

moving forward with research to find even more ways to make life better for us all.

But I honestly wonder if this generation, while experiencing some magnificent pleasures attributable to an ever-increasing inventory of amazing devices of entertainment, hasn't been deprived of the immeasurable beauty of the simple.

I genuinely feel sorry for kids today. I'm really not all that old but I remember how very much I enjoyed it when our family took trips. My maternal grandparents were commercial fishermen on the Texas Gulf Coast and my paternal grandparents were in the ministry in Florida. Our vacations were always to see family and I still treasure the memories of watching the magnificent countryside gliding past the rolled down windows of our family sedan as we made those magnificent journeys. A 21st century kid climbs into an SUV with dark tinted windows, puts headphones on and makes the journey to Grandma's without seeing anything but three movies on the overhead DVD player.

I know parents think the built-in HD babysitter is a godsend but I wonder if today's young people aren't being deprived of an appreciation for the simpler things that are incomparably capable of bringing pleasure and fulfillment to a human heart. I don't mean to sound judgmental, but I wonder if this consuming isolationist passion for personal entertainment isn't one of the contributing factors to many of the relationship problems our society is experiencing? It may be easier and more convenient than having conversation, but at what cost?



EDDY PRINCE

# Newt shocks by endorsing mercy

It was the most amazing of all the debates so far: A Republican candidate for president said, "Let's be humane about enforcing the law," and he was not booted.

And it was not just any candidate who actually endorsed mercy, but the Republican front-runner, Newt Gingrich.

"I'm prepared to take the heat," Gingrich said Tuesday night, explaining that he would not deport illegal immigrants who had been in the United States for 25 years or so and had put down roots. He said he did not want to break up families.

It was a new Newt. Gone was the haughtiness and disdain that had marked his previous performances. In the two-hour CNN broadcast, he complained about the debate format only once. Once! And he delivered his lines with steely confidence and a bulldog set to his jaw.

It was as if he truly believed — for the first time — he might actually win the Republican presidential nomination.

What else but newly found confidence could explain Gingrich's sudden championing of law-breakers in a party known since the time of Richard Nixon for being the law-and-order party? (Except when it came to breaking into Democratic National Committee headquarters, that is.)

And Newt instantly paid for it. Even before the debate was over, Michele Bachmann had blasted out an email that began: "Newt Gingrich's Open Door to Illegal Immigrant Amnesty."

Even Rick Perry, who had come under attack in previous debates for being squishy-soft on undocumented immigrants, emphasized on Tuesday police, aircraft and "strategic fencing" to stop illegals from infiltrating.

Perry promised that "within 12 months" of his taking the oath of office, illegal immigration "will

be shut down, and the border will be secure!"

In other words, what no U.S. president — Republican or Democrat — has been able to do in U.S. history, Perry would do in a year.

No matter. Debates are times for fantasy. Why else would the public put up with them?

Still, Mitt Romney, who had been the front-runner before Gingrich knocked him off his perch, played things very, very carefully.

"If I am president of the United States," Romney said solemnly, "my first trip will be to Israel."

Wow. Don't climb too far out on a limb there, Mitt. There might be some wood-pulp war with Canada that might require a trip to Ottawa first.

And it was Romney, in fact, who just plain fibbed right at the beginning of the debate.

CNN moderator Wolf Blitzer asked the candidates to introduce themselves very briefly, giving the example: "I'm Wolf Blitzer, and yes, that is my real name."

It got a laugh, and so Romney decided to be very daring and go for an unrehearsed joke.

"I'm Mitt Romney," he said, "and yes, Wolf, that's also my first name."

Except it isn't. His first name is Willard, and his middle name is Mitt. If he would produce his birth certificate — and I seriously doubt he can — it would prove that.

Ashley Parker of The New York Times, who covers Willard Mitt for a living, pointed out that on "internal campaign memos, he's frequently referred to by his initials — W.M.R."

Case closed. A man who cannot tell the truth about his own name has only a reasonable chance of becoming president.

Herman Cain, clearly rattled that he's no longer the flavor of the week, gave a lackluster performance, hedging almost all of his answers, saying that everything from providing military support to Israel to humanitarian aid to Africa would "depend upon priorities." Well, what doesn't?

I am not advocating a return to yesteryear. I don't want to be without today's marvelous toys. I don't want my black and white TV back and I can't imagine a day without my iPod. But there's a lot to be said for the simple pleasures of reading a good book, baking cookies for your elderly shut-in neighbor, playing catch in the back yard, or taking a leisurely walk through the park.

There are so many wonderful things to experience that aren't glittery and flashy. Our world is really a spectacular place to visit and it pains me to think that so many will wake up some day and realize they missed it while trying to satisfy an insatiable appetite for being entertained by some apparatus that will be obsolete before they get it figured out.

It's that time of the year when everybody's making their list and checking it twice. In a few weeks we will be giddy with excitement as we strip away the brightly-colored paper from our under-the-tree bounty and I'm wondering if we will be able to handle the disappointment if it's not the latest and greatest model that the advertisements say we can't live without?

Life is short no matter how long you live. Maybe the time is now for us to experience the joy that comes from simply slowing down and taking a look around at the pleasure and beauty that is so simply and readily accessible. You may not agree with anything I've said, but I column as I see 'em.

*Eddy Prince is the senior pastor at Grace Fellowship Church. Contact him at pastorprince@msn.com.*

Not that this saved Cain from a savage email from Bachmann that began: "Throughout his campaign for president, former Godfather's Pizza CEO Herman Cain has demonstrated unfamiliarity with basic foreign policy questions and shown he is not serious when it comes to securing America's borders."

What's more, the pizza sometimes sticks to the top of the box.

The rest of the evening was the usual melange of statements designed to grab some attention in a field destined to be crowded at least until after the Iowa caucuses in early January:

Perry promised to "privatize" airport security, perhaps forgetting that such privatized security made America so vulnerable to terrorist attack on Sept. 11, 2001.

Rick Santorum said he would use profiling to identify terrorists, and "obviously Muslims would be people we would look at."

Romney said that there has been a "failure on the part of the president to lead with strength" and that Barack Obama has been "friendly to our foes and disrespectful to our allies."

Even Jon Huntsman, who got a job from Obama as ambassador to China, said the White House had a "trust deficit" and bashed the president for intervening in Libya.

True, Libya was a victory in which not a single U.S. life was lost, but that was the tone of the evening: Obama has been an inept president who endangers the nation.

"This administration in particular has been an absolute failure," Perry said, when it comes to gathering intelligence.

Osama bin Laden? And the killing thereof? None of the Republican candidates mentioned that.

Which is why Ron Paul may have summed things up best.

"All this talk," he said, "is just talk."

*To find out more about Roger Simon, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com.*

# Why not check this out at the library?

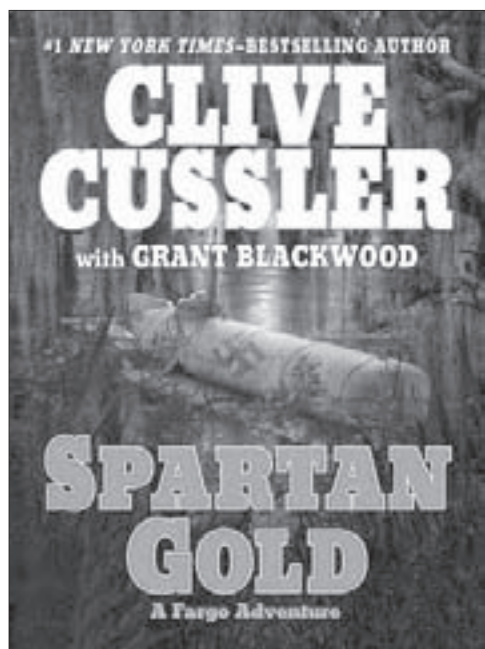
This will be the last column for a couple of months. As you may have noticed, I have mined some back columns to fill in because of the lack of new books coming in. All of our books we purchased during the last fiscal year and the donated books we received have been processed and placed on the shelves. There may be a few new books straggling in, but not many.

The library will close



HOLLIS  
MCCRIGHT

it. Donna Andrews has a series that is an ornithologist's dream. Like Goldy's books above that have a food title, Andrew's books always have a "bird" in the title. In her latest, "The Real Macaw" (M AND D), Meg Langslow, during a 2 a.m. feeding for her twins, goes downstairs to find her living room filled with dozens of animals —

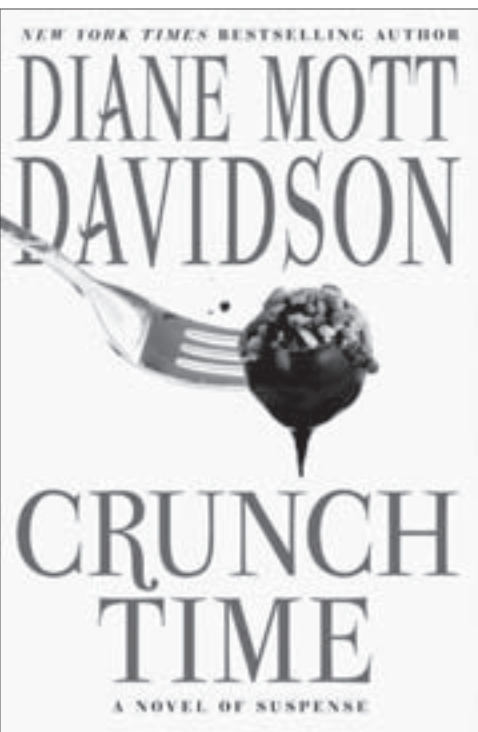


cats, dogs, gerbils, rabbits and a stunningly foul-mouthed macaw. She soon finds out that because of financial woes, the local no-kill shelter had to repeal its status as such. Her kind-hearted father and others broke into the shelter and liberated the animals and sheltered them at her house.

ron" (LP WELS A) by Allan V. Elston is ready to be checked out and read. After three days of riding, Johnnie Cameron and Blazer, his horse, were glad to stop for water. A burro pack train caught up with him and the elderly buckboard driver Don Ygnacio stopped and chatted awhile with Johnnie. After Johnnie and Blazer were back on the trail to Santa Fe, he heard shots and saw that the burro train was being held up.

With gun in hand, he went to their aid. In the melee, Blazer was shot. Though Johnnie earned the thanks of Don Ygnacio, he also earned the enmity of the man in black leather who got away and who vowed revenge on Johnnie. You need to read it to see how it turns out.

This is an unusual Western about the mighty Colorado River. Zane Grey has written "Boulder Dam" (LP W GRE Z), about the men who worked to build the dam. Men from all over America have flocked to the site to make money by day and gamble by night in nearby Las Vegas. To Lynn Weston, a rich man's son, working on the dam means a chance to prove his independence and prove his physical courage. But a great challenge appears: He discovers a girl who has escaped her captors in the back seat of his car and he becomes her protector.



ter and liberated the animals and sheltered them at her house. Then the volunteer who was to transport them to new homes was murdered. What is a mother with twins to do? Well, solve the murder, of course.

For the Western lover, four of them have come in. Wayne D. Overholser has written "Return of the Kid" (LP W OVE W). When Jim Dunn came back to Cairo, the last thing he expected was to find his new stepmother in control of the ranch with an outlaw crew and his father dead in his grave. He wasn't about to give up without a fight. Jim (aka the "Kid") has swapped lead with the best of them in the Wild West and he wasn't going to let a bunch of gun tramps back him down. "Guns of the Cimar-

This is a different kind of book from Grey. "Spartan Gold" (F CUS C) from Clive Cussler and Grant Blackwood (A Fargo Adventure) is a collaboration between the two. Thousands of years ago, two super-powers of the ancient world went to war and a treasure of immense value was lost. In 1800, while crossing the Penine Range, Napoleon

stumbled across a stunning discovery. Unable to transport it, he created a cryptic map on the label of 12 bottles of a rare wine. The treasure team of Sam and Remi Fargo are exploring the Great Pocomoke Swamp in Maryland when they find a World War II German U-boat and inside they find a bottle from the famous "Lost Cellar." Fascinated, they

start searching for the rest of the collection. However, so is someone else. The hunt is on. We are open Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.; the internet/video room closes at 5:30 p.m. on weekdays. Our website is <http://wtls.tsl.state.tx.us/howard-county>. Our phone number is 264-2260; the fax number is 264-2263.

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## Odds and ends

### Man sues former hostages

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Can there be no trust between a kidnapper and his hostages? A man who held a Kansas couple hostage in their home while fleeing from authorities is suing them, claiming they broke an oral contract made when he promised them money in exchange for hiding him from police. The couple has asked a judge to dismiss the suit.

The Topeka Capital-Journal (<http://bit.ly/skb0RI>) reported that Dimmick filed a breach of contract suit in Shawnee County District Court, in response to a suit the Rowleys filed in September seeking \$75,000 from him for intruding in their home and causing emotional stress. Dimmick contends he told the couple he was being chased by someone, most likely the police, who wanted to kill him.

Jesse Dimmick of suburban Denver is serving an 11-year sentence after bursting into Jared and Lindsay Rowley's Topeka-area home in September 2009. He was wanted for questioning in the beating death of a Colorado man and a chase had begun in in Geary County.

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# TV Guide/Shopper

## COMING SOON!!

## News in brief

### Drug raid leads to more than 20 arrests

MIDLAND (AP) — Prosecutors say two dozen suspects have been arrested in the investigation of a West Texas marijuana distribution ring.

A federal grand jury in Midland returned four indictments earlier in November. All were unsealed Tuesday, leading to the arrest of suspects from Andrews, Midland, Odessa and Snyder.

Prosecutors say the charges include conspiracy to distribute cocaine and marijuana, money laundering and maintaining a residence to cultivate and distribute marijuana, grown in a hydroponic operation.

Authorities have seized about 60 pounds of marijuana, firearms and more than \$45,000.

Investigators say more suspects are sought.

### Perry denies reports of shakeup in campaign staff

DERRY, N.H. (AP) — Republican presidential contender Rick Perry denied Tuesday that his campaign was in the middle of a major staff shakeup.

Perry, the Texas governor, said he had spoken recently to senior strategist Dave Carney and campaign manager

Rob Johnson and that there's been no change in their roles with the campaign.

Politico reported that Joe Allbaugh would now be Perry's campaign manager, Tony Fabrizio its main strategist, and Carney focusing on New Hampshire.

"News to me," Perry told reporters when asked whether Carney or Johnson had been demoted.

"I've talked to both of them, as a matter of fact, in the last 24 hours," Perry said. "If they have, news to me. I would suggest to you that that's just scuttlebutt. Highly technical Aggie term for 'not correct.'"

Perry, who has struggled for support according to recent polls, was campaigning in New Hampshire on Tuesday and Wednesday.

### Woman guilty over 4 deaths in San Antonio wreck

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A driver who was legally drunk has pleaded guilty over a South Texas traffic accident in which four people in another vehicle were killed.

Valeri Andrews pleaded guilty Tuesday in San Antonio to four counts of murder over the August 2010 collision that also left her injured.

A judge will sentence Andrews on Jan. 19. The plea agreement means Andrews faces at least 40 years in prison.

San Antonio police say the accident killed 55-year-old Maria Aguilar de Perez, her two daughters and her 4-year-old grandson.

Police say Andrews, who was being chased by police after running a red light, had a blood alcohol level of .11. The legal limit for driving in Texas is .08.

Andrews, if convicted of murder, could have faced life in prison.

### Teen fights for life after bonfire accident

FORT WORTH (AP) — A rural North Texas teen has been put in a medically induced coma following a bonfire accident at his relatives' home, a family spokeswoman said.

Garrison Rayne Newby suffered burns over 90 percent of his body the day before Thanksgiving, said family spokeswoman Suzy Cooper of Weatherford.

The Millsap Middle School eighth-grader was trying to re-ignite the bonfire near Pottsboro when a container of diesel fuel ignited, engulfing the boy in flames, she told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Newby was conscious when he was taken to the burn unit at Park-

land Memorial Hospital in Dallas but has been placed in a medically induced coma, Cooper said. Newby received his first skin graft Monday, according to friends and a "Praying for Rayne Newby" Facebook page tracking his recovery. Doctors have given the boy a 50 percent chance of recovery, she said.

"Doctors are going to keep it at that because of the chances for infection," she told the newspaper.

Even if all goes well, Newby faces six months to a year of recovery in the hospital and another two months of intensive rehabilitation, Cooper said.

Meanwhile, Millsap residents have been scheduling fundraisers for Newby's family and blood drives for Newby.

Millsap is a town of less than 500 residents about 40 miles west of Fort Worth. Pottsboro is a Red River town of around 2,200 residents about 65 miles north of Dallas.

### Man gets 12 years over drugs, South Texas chase

McALLEN (AP) — A driver convicted of drug trafficking and assault after ramming a Border Patrol vehicle in South Texas has been sentenced to 12 years in prison.

A federal judge in McAllen sentenced 40-year-old Martin Gonzalez-Ramirez, who's been in custody since the May incident.

Investigators say Gonzalez-Ramirez was driving a truck, at a high rate of speed, near Rio Grande City when officers began chasing

the vehicle. Gonzalez-Ramirez cut through a parking lot and hit a law enforcement vehicle. An agent in the vehicle escaped serious injury.

Gonzalez-Ramirez was captured after a foot chase. Agents recovered more than 300 pounds of marijuana hidden in the truck.

### American Air travelers react to bankruptcy news

(AP) — American Airlines' trip to bankruptcy court on Tuesday had passengers talking about what they like and don't like about one of the most iconic carriers in the U.S.

Corina Fallbacher, 47, had just flown American home to Chicago from Orlando, Fla., when she found out about the bankruptcy filing.

"I would definitely be less likely to book with them," she said while waiting at baggage claim. "I would be afraid they'd be less likely to keep their flights."

Sue Kronich and Edward Shumsky were traveling together from New York back home to Miami Beach, Fla. Kronich remembered a time she left an art catalog on a flight on purpose, because she was finished with it. An American employee found the catalog, and three days later someone met her with it at the American ticket counter in New York.

"These are good employees who give caring service," she said.

Steve Varraso, 39, an event planner from Boston, speaking at baggage claim at Chicago O'Hare: "Their service is OK. Nothing that exceeds expectations. I find a lot of their front desk people a little bit weathered, a little bit tired."

Mike Baird of Westbury, N.Y., at LaGuardia: "Flying on every airline has changed. They cut everything. The legroom is smaller, seats are smaller. They pack you in tighter."

"They're all cattle cars," he said. "It doesn't really matter what you fly."

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- Bedtime@The Museum: *I was the Night Before Christmas*, 6:30pm
- Stargazing on the Plaza with the South Plains Astronomy Club, dusk

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## News in brief

### Europe delays major debt decisions for 10 days; Dec. 9 summit of leaders could be do or die

BRUSSELS (AP) — Under pressure to deliver shock treatment to the ailing euro, European finance ministers failed to come up with a plan for European countries to spend within their means. Such a plan is needed before Europe's central bank and the International Monetary Fund consider stepping in to stem an escalating threat to the global economy.

The ministers delayed action on major financial issues — such as the concept of a closer fiscal union that would guarantee more budgetary discipline — until their bosses meet next week in Brussels.

Stock markets fell Wednesday as a top EU official conceded that the future of the euro now rests heavily on the meeting of European heads of state on Dec. 9. Stock markets had risen this week on hopes that intense bond market pressure would finally force the eurozone into quicker and more robust action.

"We are now entering the critical period of 10 days to complete and conclude the crisis response of the European Union," EU Monetary Affairs Commissioner Olli Rehn said, adding: "There is no one single silver bullet that will get us out of this crisis."

At a meeting Tuesday night, finance ministers for the 17 countries that use the euro handed Greece a promised € billion (\$10.7 billion) rescue loan to fend off its immediate cash crisis and promised to increase the firepower of a fund to help bail out ailing eurozone countries.

### Pressing on, Cain likely to hear from backers and doubters in wake of allegation of affair

ATLANTA (AP) — Herman Cain says he must gauge the response of supporters before deciding whether his presidential candidacy can survive another allegation of inappropriate sexual behavior. He's likely to hear from backers and doubters alike over the next few days.

With a bus tour of Ohio set to begin Wednesday, Cain faced an early test of whether he could get back on track when he delivered a national security speech to nearly 1,000 people at conservative Hillsdale College in Michigan on Tuesday. He didn't address a Georgia businesswoman's accusation of a 13-year extramarital affair; he also avoided speaking to reporters and stuck to his plan to present his foreign policy vision, one in which the U.S. would stand by friendly nations such as Israel, quit giving money to countries he considered enemies and spend more on defense.

"Rather than the current philosophy of cut, cut, cut, I believe our philosophy should be invest, invest, invest," Cain said to an audience that gave

him a standing ovation. "I happen to believe that we have allowed our military to get too weak."

Questions lingered over whether Cain's campaign for the Republican presidential nomination could continue. In a conference call with supporters Tuesday, he acknowledged the "firestorm" sparked by Ginger White's interview with an Atlanta TV station and admitted he was assessing whether her claims — he flatly denies them — are too much for his candidacy to go forward.

"If a decision is made, different than to plow ahead, you all will be the first to know," Cain said during the call, according to a transcript from the National Review, which listened in.

### LA police move in to dismantle Occupy encampment at City Hall, arrest protesters

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Police in Los Angeles and Philadelphia stormed Occupy Wall Street encampments in both cities Wednesday, demanding protesters leave demonstration sites that had become two of the movement's largest after evictions upended others across the country.

Dozens of officers in riot gear flooded down the steps of Los Angeles City Hall just after midnight and started dismantling the two-month-old camp two days after a deadline passed for campers to leave the City Hall lawn. The raid had a military precision and officers in helmets and wielding batons moved in and began making arrests after several orders were given to leave the small park.

The raid in Los Angeles came after demonstrators with the movement in Philadelphia marched through the streets after being evicted from their site. Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa raised public safety and health concerns in announcing plans for the eviction last week, while Philadelphia officials said protesters must clear their site to make room for a \$50 million renovation project.

Defiant Los Angeles campers who were chanting slogans as the officers surrounded the park, booed when an unlawful assembly was declared, paving the way for officers to begin arresting those who didn't leave.

In the first moments of the raid, officers tore down a tent and tackled a tattooed man with a camera on City Hall steps and wrestled him to the ground. Someone yelled "police brutality."

### Secret audio helped sway judge to send Jackson doctor to jail for singer's death

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The voice of Michael Jackson helped put the man who killed him behind bars.

It wasn't the familiar voice of hits such as "Billie Jean" and "Thriller," but the slow, slurring record-

ing of the singer that was found on his physician's cell phone that helped convince a judge to sentence the doctor to jail for four years.

The four-minute recording was one of the blockbuster revelations of Dr. Conrad Murray's involuntary manslaughter trial.

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# News in brief

## U.S. finds reassurance in peacefulness of Egyptian vote

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration offered tempered praise this week as millions of Egyptians cast ballots in an election likely to be the country's freest and fairest ever — a vote the U.S. insisted go forward despite objections by pro-democracy street protesters.

The administration wanted timely elections even though they risked leaving the U.S. with less influence and fewer friends in the Middle East.

After two days of largely peaceful voting marked by high turnouts, U.S. spokesmen termed Egypt's first vote since Hosni Mubarak's ouster a success. They focused on the openness of the parliamentary election and not on the Islamic hardliners who may end up the big winners — or what that might mean for U.S. policy or U.S. ally Israel.

"As much as it's important to protest in Tahrir Square, the real future — the democratic future — of Egypt will be decided in the ballot box," State Department spokesman Mark Toner said. "The Egyptian people are now exercising their democratic right in a peaceful fashion that will lead to real democratic change in the long term for Egypt. That's a very good thing."

## Ex-Ivory Coast president sent to ICC, charged with crimes against humanity

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — The International Criminal Court charged former Ivory Coast President Laurent Gbagbo with murder, rape, persecution and inhuman acts Wednesday, crimes allegedly committed as his backers fought brutal battles to keep him in power after last year's elections.

Gbagbo, 66, is the first former head of state taken into custody by the court since it was established in 2002, although prosecutors also have charged Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir with genocide and Libya's former leader, the late Moammar Gadhafi, with crimes against humanity.

"Mr. Gbagbo is brought to account for his individual responsibility in the attacks against civilians committed by forces acting on his behalf," Prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo said in a statement.

Moreno-Ocampo stressed that both sides of the political divide in Ivory Coast committed crimes in the post-election chaos and that his investigation was continuing.

## N.J. man arrested in death of 2-year-old daughter

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — New Jersey prosecutors say they will move quickly to extradite a man suspected of killing his 2-year-old daughter by tossing her into a creek while she was still strapped in her car seat.

Twenty-seven-year-old Arthur Morgan III

was captured without incident late Tuesday afternoon at a home in San Diego, Calif. The arrest came one week after he allegedly killed Tierra Morgan-Glover during a court-approved visit and then fled the state.

Morgan, who could not be reached for comment, had been the subject of a nationwide manhunt and had been featured on the website of "America's Most Wanted." He was being held early Wednesday in California, and it was not yet known when an extradition hearing would be scheduled.

The girl's mother, Imani Benton, called police after Morgan failed to return the child on Nov. 21. She had spent several hours speaking with investigators on Tuesday and learned of Morgan's arrest when she arrived at a friend's home Tuesday night and heard people cheering.

## Clinton to press greater openness in isolated Myanmar

BUSAN, South Korea (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said Wednesday she is looking forward

to her historic trip to isolated Myanmar this week and will suggest specific reforms to the country's leadership to improve ties with the United States.

Clinton travels to Myanmar's capital later Wednesday on the first visit to the Southeast Asian nation by a secretary of state in more than 50 years. She told reporters at an international aid conference in South Korea before her departure that she was

cautiously optimistic about her trip but said Myanmar would have to implement more reforms before the U.S. will reciprocate.

"I am obviously looking to determine for myself and on behalf of our government what is the intention of the current government with respect to continuing reforms both political and economic," she said.

She declined to discuss the specific measures she would suggest

or how the U.S. might reciprocate.

After meeting with senior Myanmar officials on Thursday, Clinton will travel to the commercial capital of Yangon where she will see opposition leader and Nobel peace laureate Aung San Suu Kyi.

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# Lady Steers improve to 5-1 with win

## Leading all the way

By ROBERT GRIFFIN

Sports Editor

The Lady Steers of Big Spring got back to winning Tuesday night as they defeated visiting Greenwood 52-45. The Lady Steers jumped out to a 28-16 halftime lead and held on for the win as Greenwood tried to rally late.

Scoring 14 points in each of the first two periods, Big Spring held the visitors to six points in the first frame and 10 in the second. Greenwood would outscore the Lady Steers 29-24 in the second half, but the damage had already been done, as Big Spring improves to 5-1 on the year.

Bridgette Tuitt and Cerbi Ritchey each put up 11 points in the win, followed closely by Mackenzie Stone with nine, all coming on her three 3-pointers.

Ambra Hill added six points, LaShaunte Anderson had five and Logan Yarbar scored four points in the winning effort.

Diamond Mayes, Yaneria-Tuitt and Dyrshae Vanderbilt each recorded two points to round out the stat sheet for Big Spring.

The Lady Steers will play Thursday in the Andrews tournament. Their first game will be at 1:30 p.m. against Amarillo Caprock.



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

REACHING FOR EXCELLENCE — Dyrshae Vanderbilt scores her two points at a critical point in Big Spring's game against Greenwood Tuesday.

# Lady Buffs come from behind for exciting victory

By ROBERT GRIFFIN

Sports Editor

The Forsan Lady Buffs spotted Grape Creek a nine-point lead in the first quarter before storming back to take a commanding decision in Tuesday night's basketball action.

Cheyenne Galloway led the girls with 10 points and six rebounds as the Lady Buffs shut the door on Grape Creek, starting in the second quarter and rolling through the second half.

"The kids played great defense in the second half," Head Coach Robert Hillinger said. "They limited Grape Creek to two field goals in the entire half."

After falling behind 11-2 after the first frame, Forsan

outscored Grape Creek 11-5 in the second period, 9-3 in the third and 11-2 in the final frame for a 33-21 victory, improving their record to 3-2 on the year.

Like Galloway, Jahnia Willard and Ali Knight both grabbed six rebounds. Willard and Knight also added six and four points respectively.

Raegan Haggard hit for five points while grabbing five rebounds, with Maria Ortiz putting up two points with her five rebounds.

Brittney Hergert recorded four points and Kayla Tilley added two.

The Lady Buffs will be playing in the Bearkat Booster Club Classic tournament in Garden City Thursday at 11:30 a.m.

# Colts fire defensive coordinator and replace Dan Orlovsky at quarterback

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Curtis Painter and Larry Coyer are out in Indianapolis, and it could be just the start of the changes for the winless Colts.

Coach Jim Caldwell broke up a normally quiet Tuesday by announcing that Coyer had been fired as defensive coordinator and that Dan Orlovsky would replace Painter at quarterback when the Colts play at New England on Sunday. Longtime linebackers coach Mike Murphy will replace Coyer.

The moves come in the midst of a shocking 0-11 season, Indianapolis' worst start since 1986, and two days after Indy may have lost its last chance at a victory.

"It's not an easy day," Caldwell said. "Anybody that would tell you any differently is cold-hearted and callous, and that's not me."

The relationship between the two coaches dates to the 1970s when Coyer was an assistant coach at Iowa and Caldwell was a player there. And over the past three seasons, Caldwell has gone out of his way to back Painter even after Painter was serenaded by boos when he failed to save Indy's perfect season in his NFL debut two years ago. Caldwell yanked Peyton Manning in the third quarter against the New York Jets in

2009, and Indy lost 29-15, dropping its record to 14-1.

As recently as Monday, Caldwell still seemed to back Painter, saying the Indiana native and Purdue alumni had improved in Sunday's 27-19 loss to Carolina. Painter rallied the Colts after another slow start and got them in position, twice, to force overtime late. Both times Painter threw interceptions in the end zone.

Some thought these changes were overdue and could have been made during the Colts' recent bye week.

But this could be just the start for Indianapolis.

All this losing has prompted fans to call for the firing of Caldwell, vice chairman Bill Polian and general manager Chris Polian, both of whom stood behind Caldwell during Tuesday's news conference. The decision to fire Coyer, Caldwell's first hire and close friend, will undoubtedly create more speculation about the fate of Indy's head coach.

In an interview earlier this month, team owner Jim Irsay said he strongly backed the Polians. He showed more tepid support for keeping Caldwell.

The front office also faces a busy offseason in which it will have to make big decisions about Manning, who still hasn't healed from neck

surgery in September, and at least a half-dozen other key veterans. As the clear front-runner for the No. 1 pick, Indy will probably need to decide whether to use a first-round pick on Manning's successor, presumably Andrew Luck.

On Monday night, Bill Polian told listeners on his weekly radio show that changes were coming.

"The message isn't getting across as clearly as it should be," Polian said as he talked about the defense. "We probably have to make some changes there and when you're in the position we are, you should probably be making changes."

Caldwell acknowledged there was a communication gap between the pipe-smoking, 68-year-old Coyer and his players. The defense is ranked 29th overall and 31st against the pass.

But it's not just the defense struggling.

Painter's quarterback rating of 66.6 is the second-lowest among all qualified NFL starters. Only Jacksonville rookie Blaine Gabbert (62.2) has a lower mark.

Still, it's unclear if Painter anticipated that a change was coming after throwing eight interceptions and one TD in

See COLTS, Page 2B

## Briefs

### Bowl-A-Rama Christmas tournament

Bowl-A-Rama of Big Spring will host their second annual Christmas tournament Thursday, Dec. 15 at 7 p.m.

Bowlers must be checked in by 6 p.m. Entry fee is \$25 if paid by Dec. 13 and \$30 afterward. The tournament is open to all bowlers and the handicap is 100 percent of 230.

Eight places will be paid, including a \$150 first place prize and \$100 for second. For more information, visit the website at: www.bowlarama.com.

### Hawk Buddies B-ball program

Howard College's Earl Diddle and Jamie Fisher will be hosting a basketball clinic Dec. 10 for girls in grades K-8. The fee is \$20 and space is limited to the first 100 kids. For more information, call Coach Diddle at 264-5043 or Coach Fisher at 264-5155.

# Coahoma girls fall to Klondike

By ROBERT GRIFFIN

Sports Editor

The Bulldogettes of Coahoma fell to Klondike Tuesday night 53-40. Down by four points after one period and only six at the half, with the score 26-20 in favor of Klondike, Coahoma's girls were unable to close the gap in the second half.

Head Coach Mitzi Bell credited it to their performance at the free-throw line, as it compared to Klondike's.

"We got into foul trouble early," Coach Bell said. "Klondike didn't miss much at the line and we missed 11."

The Bulldogettes will be playing in the Coahoma tournament this week with four games scheduled through Saturday.

They will play Grape Creek at noon Thursday and then Midland Christian's JV at 6 p.m.

Friday, they will hit the courts again, with a game against Fort Stockton scheduled at 6 p.m. Saturday, the Bulldogettes will face Stanton. That game is also scheduled for a 6 p.m. tipoff.

**COLTS**

From Page 1B

his last five games. "I think coming out of this past game we were able to move the ball and score some points, so I think we have a little bit of confidence," he said Monday. "We just have to trust that we'll get it done on all sides of the ball, and it won't be a big scoring shootout."

Now, it's Orlovksy's job. The seven-year NFL veteran has appeared in three games this season. He's started seven career games, all with the 0-16 Detroit Lions in 2008. Orlovksy is 14 of 21 for 122 yards with no touchdowns or interceptions this season.

What can be accomplished by making these moves so late in the season?

"Obviously, it's going to be very, very difficult to say you're going to see a wholesale change (on defense) in three days," Caldwell said. "But I do think that you're going to see effort, hustle and good, sound principles and practices, and football in the way in which we know how to play. We just expect to be better in all areas. Now that's going to take, like I said, it's going to take us a little time."

The season has been full of twists and turns for Indy, most involving Manning's absence.

The four-time league MVP had surgery in May to re-

pair a damaged nerve that was causing weakness in his throwing shoulder, then signed a new 5-year, \$90 million contract just before the start of training camp. When his recovery went slower than expected, the Colts signed 17-year NFL veteran Kerry Collins to a \$4 million deal as Manning's top backup.

Then on Sept. 8, Manning underwent a spinal fusion and has not been able to practice since. If he has a good checkup Wednesday, he could start throwing at practice in December.

Collins started the first three games before sustaining a season-ending concussion late in Week 3. Painter replaced Collins in that loss, then played well in his first three starts before posting four straight quarterback ratings below 51.0.

Coyer was a defensive assistant for two years in Tampa Bay and in Denver from 2000-06 before joining the Colts in 2009. In his first season with Indy, the Colts ranked eighth in the NFL in scoring defense (19.2 points per game). But the defense has gotten progressively worse each of the last two seasons.

"I've known him a long-time, he coached me in college," Caldwell said. "(He is) a good man, (a) hard-worker and I certainly appreciate everything he's done for us. I think we can make a change, and you're going to see some results."

**Grady, GC boys and girls split games**

**BOYS**

GRADY — 58  
GARDEN CITY — 38  
GARDEN CITY — Grady's boys defeated Garden City 58-38 in Tuesday night's non-district clash on the basketball courts. Branson Richards' 14 points was only overshadowed by Zeke Clay's 17 for Grady in the win.

Corbin Davis led the Bearkats of Garden City with nine points. Grady is now 4-0 and Garden City falls to 1-3 on the season.

**Girls**

GARDEN CITY — 34  
GRADY — 21  
GARDEN CITY — Grady's girls jumped out to a quick

13-7 first-quarter lead in Tuesday night's game in Garden City, but they would be outscored 28-8 for the rest of the game, as Garden City came screaming back to take the game decisively.

Hannah Halfmann scored 11 points in the win for the Lady Kats, with Lexi Schaefer hitting for eight. Taylor Hughes and Magdaly Huerta each scored four in the game as well for 4-2 Garden City.

Grady was led by Charmynee Arnold with seven points, followed by Sarah Clay with six. Lupica Jimenez and Kristen Blocker each recorded three points for 2-3 Grady.

**Jags fire Jack Del Rio**

JACKSONVILLE (AP) — The Jacksonville Jaguars are headed in a completely new direction.

And Los Angeles doesn't appear to be the destination.

Team owner Wayne Weaver fired longtime coach Jack Del Rio on Tuesday after a 3-8 start and agreed to sell the Jaguars to Illinois businessman Shahid Khan. Weaver named defensive coordinator Mel Tucker the interim coach and gave general manager Gene Smith a three-year contract extension, putting him in charge of the coaching search.

The moves marked the most significant changes for the small-market franchise since its inception in 1993.

"It's the right thing at the right time and for the right reasons," Weaver said. "We deserve better; the community deserves better. We've been very average over the last few years. I take responsibility for a lot of that, making mistakes in some personnel things, but look positive ahead that this team is not far away from being a very competitive football team."

Forbes reported the sale to be worth \$760 million.

Weaver, who will turn 77 in January, had been looking for an "exit strategy" for years, wanting to find someone to buy the team and keep it in Jacksonville. He had tears in his eyes several times as he announced his impending departure.

"It's a little bittersweet, honestly, that it came as soon as it did," Weaver said. "But the main motivation for the exit strategy was to find someone that has the same passion about the NFL, had the same passion about football in Jacksonville as we do, and I found that person."

Khan, 61, believes he is the right choice, too.

"Wayne's legacy will be lasting, and I will always be grateful for Wayne's trust and confidence in my commitment to the Jaguars, the NFL and the people of the Jacksonville community," Khan said in a statement.

Born in Pakistan, Khan left home at age 16 to attend the University of Illinois. He graduated in 1971, a year after he started working for Flex-N-Gate Corp. in Urbana, Ill.

He purchased the company in 1980. Today, Flex-N-Gate is a major manufacturer of bumper systems for pickup trucks and sport utility vehicles built in North America.

Khan tried to buy controlling interest in the St. Louis Rams last year.

His purchase of the Jaguars is subject to NFL approval. League owners will vote to ratify the deal Dec. 14, and if it passes, would become official Jan. 4.

The Jaguars could have a new coach in place before then.

"There's a lot of good things that will happen in the future," Smith said.

Del Rio's job security had been tenuous since Weaver said the coach needed to make the playoffs to secure a 10th season in Jacksonville. The Jaguars were essentially eliminated with Sunday's 20-13 loss to AFC South-leading Houston.

"It's the nature of the beast," tight end Mercedes Lewis said. "Change is good sometimes. Obviously, it's an unfortunate situation. ... This is the NFL

and unfortunate things happen sometimes."

The timing of the move made sense since the Jaguars are struggling to sell tickets and host a Monday night game against San Diego. The team needs to sell about 9,000 tickets to avoid a local television blackout for a prime-time game.

Making a coaching change could boost sales.

Del Rio leaves with a 69-73 record, including 1-2 in two playoffs appearances. The Jaguars didn't win the AFC South in any of his nine seasons.

Weaver gave Del Rio a four-year extension worth \$21 million after Jacksonville won a playoff game following the 2007 season. The team stumbled to a 5-11 finish the following season, and Weaver overhauled the roster but decided to keep Del Rio.

Weaver considered firing Del Rio again after last season, but kept him partly because of the uncertainty surrounding the NFL lockout. Weaver refused to give contract extensions to any of Del Rio's assistants, putting everyone on alert that this was a win-or-lose season.

Del Rio told The Associated Press in a text message that his family was "blessed with nine good years" in Jacksonville.

Fans would disagree.

They will remember Del Rio's tenure as one that lasted too long and was filled with quarterback chaos, inconsistency, staff turnover and late-season collapses. There also was the decision to place an ax and a wooden stump in the locker room to remind players to "keep chopping wood." It backfired miserably when punter Chris Hanson accidentally hacked into his leg and was placed on injured reserve.

This season, Del Rio released veteran quarterback David Garrard five days before the season opener, then benched journeyman Luke McCown after two games. He turned things over to rookie Blaine Gabbert, who has panicked under pressure, misfired on short throws and shown little progress in nine starts.

Del Rio also botched quarterback decisions involving Mark Brunell and Byron Leftwich in 2003, and Leftwich and Garrard in 2007.

**Nine Lady Steers honored with District 5-3A honors**

*Ritchey named to All-Region team*

By **ROBERT GRIFFIN**, Sports Editor

After a very successful season, the Lady Steers' volleyball team received some great news.

Nine players from the team were recognized for their performance during the 2011 season with district honors recently.

Cerbi Ritchey was named to the All-Region team, as well as being dubbed District 5-3A Hitter of the Year. Carson Reibe was named District 5-3A Defensive Player of the Year.

First Team All-District honors went to Taylor Seaton, Morgan Seaton and Diamond Mayes, while Clara Benavides, Logan Yarbar and Julianna Rodriguez were named to the Second Team All-District team. Haley Dimidjian was

given Honorable Mention. The Texas Girls Coaches Association (TGCA) has not announced the selections to the All-State team or the All-Star team as of Tuesday.

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# NBA arenas ready to be unlocked

MIAMI (AP) — NBA arenas are about to be unlocked.

For the first time since the lockout began on July 1, NBA players are going to be welcomed back to their team facilities, said league spokesman Tim Frank. The league sent a memo to clubs Tuesday announcing the move, plus giving teams permission to begin speaking with agents at 9 a.m. Wednesday — though deals cannot yet be offered, and no contracts can be signed before Dec. 9.

Teams may host "voluntary player workouts" and physicals. Training camps will not open until Dec. 9, and the regular season is expected to begin Christmas Day with marquee matchups, including a Miami-Dallas rematch of last season's NBA finals.

A person familiar with the league's Christmas schedule told The Associated Press on Tuesday that the NBA will feature five games this year on Dec. 25 instead of the originally planned three. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the NBA does not plan to announce the Christmas lineup until later this week. The decision for the league to schedule five Christmas games was first reported by The New York Times.

It's not quite business-as-usual yet, but getting facilities open again is a huge boost for both teams and players.

The league also said owners, general managers, and coaches are now free to comment publicly about things such as contracts, plans for future free agent signings, the team's prospects for the upcoming season, and other comments on typical topics. Teams have not been allowed to do that during the lockout and clubs were allowed to make contact with players only with preapproval from the league.

And they still can't talk about the league's collective bargaining agreement. At least, not yet.

Since the NBA and its players reached a tentative agreement on how

to end the lockout early Saturday morning, neither side has known if workouts would be permitted before camps begin.

Such informal workouts are customary, typically beginning two to three weeks before camp as players begin getting themselves into the best possible condition.

When NFL camps opened after that league's lockout earlier this year, a number of players — it seemed more than usual — were either injured in the pre-season or rehabilitated from offseason surgeries at a slower pace than first anticipated.

One of the byproducts of the lockout is that it kept players from meeting with team physicians and trainers, as many had been used to for years, and teams tried to find the right balance between conditioning and protecting players from risking injury by doing too much too soon.

By opening at least a week before training camps formally begin, the NBA may be able to minimize those problems somewhat.

While most of the league's players have been working out on their own or in small groups for weeks anyway, many have said that little can replicate the experience of being at an NBA facility, replete with training rooms, whirlpools, ice tubs and other aids to recovery and rehabilitation.

Some players, including LeBron James and Dwyane Wade, spent time earlier this month at a makeshift training camp in Oregon in an effort to replicate the NBA workout environment.

"Anything you can do to get your body ready before training camp will help," Wade said at the time, before the tentative settlement was reached.

Allowing teams and agents to resume dialogue is also significant, since there are dozens of players who had contracts expire when last season ended and will try to either re-sign with

their most recent teams or find new clubs.

Most NBA teams need to make several roster moves just to have enough players under contract for training camp, so having agents and club executives speaking now will speed up that process.

Among the notable free agents available: Nene, Tyson Chandler, Jamal Crawford, David West, Shane Battier, Caron Butler, Grant Hill, Josh Howard and Samuel Dalembert.

The players and owners eventually came to agreement on the framework of a new 10-year collective bargaining deal, which either side may opt out of after six years.

It leaves the NBA with its second shortened season (the first was the 50-game 1998-99 season), with the hope of getting in 66 games instead of a full 82-game schedule.

# Valentine to manage the Boston Red Sox

BOSTON (AP) — When Terry Francona left the Boston Red Sox, he said they needed "a new voice" in the manager's office.

They've certainly chosen a brash one.

Two months after a record collapse kept them out of the playoffs, the Red Sox picked Bobby Valentine to be their next manager. The sides were working to complete a contract, a person familiar with the decision told The Associated Press on Tuesday night.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because no announcement had been made. Several media outlets in Boston, citing anonymous sources, reported earlier in the evening that Valentine would be the team's new manager.

An announcement could come by Thursday.

"He's got it. I just spoke to him a little while ago," Hall of Famer Tommy Lasorda, who managed Valentine in the minors with the Los Angeles Dodgers, said in a telephone interview with the AP.

Blunt, cocky and sometimes controversial, Valentine is quite a departure from Francona, a player's manager who rarely went public with criticism of players or internal team problems.

As manager of the New York Mets from 1996-2002, Valentine

clashed with general manager Steve Phillips.

In April 2000, he criticized the team's front office and some players, including Bobby Bonilla and Rickey Henderson, while speaking to students at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business.

And famously, after being ejected from a game in 1999, he returned to the dugout wearing a fake mustache and sunglasses. Major League Baseball fined him \$5,000 and suspended him for three games.

More recently, the 61-year-old Valentine has been working as an analyst for ESPN, where he has commented on several Red Sox players, saying pitcher Josh Beckett should work faster and left fielder Carl Crawford should close his stance.

Valentine's style can be abrasive, sure, but few question his baseball acumen. He guided the Mets to consecutive playoff appearances, culminating in a trip to the 2000 World Series, where they lost to the New York Yankees. He went to Japan and managed the Chiba Lotte Marines to a championship in 2005.

"He's matured, and I think managing in Japan helped him a great deal," Lasorda said.

## Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

### Two Chances Are Better

**North**  
♠ A K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2  
♥ A K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2  
♦ A K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2  
♣ A K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

**South**  
♠ A K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2  
♥ A K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2  
♦ A K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2  
♣ A K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

**East**  
♠ A K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2  
♥ A K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2  
♦ A K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2  
♣ A K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

**West**  
♠ A K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2  
♥ A K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2  
♦ A K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2  
♣ A K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

In many hands, you can make the contract only if a particular card is favorably placed. But in some cases, you can make the contract even when the cards have a split placement. You can play a trick.

Assume you're in five diamonds and West leads a spade. You see the ace but the diamond honors are split. Can you make the contract?

By Steve Becker

## In Sunday's Big Spring Herald

### Giants of the Forest

Scientists and volunteers are working to restore the towering trees decimated by blight during the first half of the 20th century.

AmericanProfile

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# 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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

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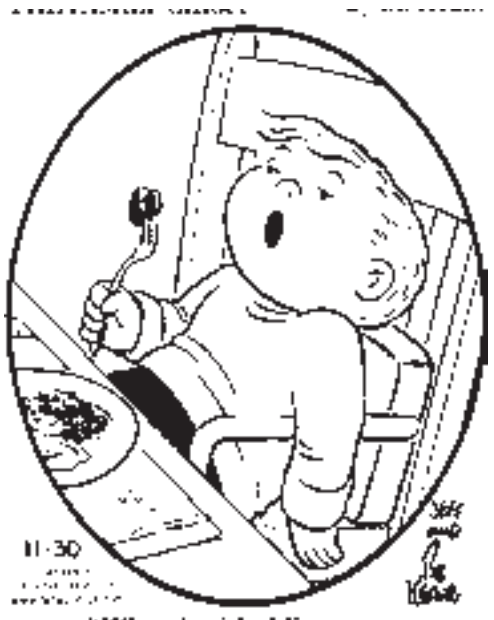
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	Midland	Spanish	Odesa	Odesa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odesa	Odesa	Odesa	Discovery	Classics	Spike TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports
5:PM	News	Alma	Big Bang	News	Noticias	News	King	Swallow	News	'Til Death	MythBusters	Professor II: The Klumps	UFC Un-leashed	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Shake It Good	NFL32	SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Quando Me	Two Men	News	Caso Cer-rado	News	Seinfeld	Dr. Diana	Business	Seinfeld	MythBusters		UFC Un-leashed	The Mental-ist		Good	College Basketball	Valvano's College Basketball
7:PM	Middle Wheel	Familia-Suerte	The X Factor	Survivor-Pacific	Una Maid en	Rockefeller Ctr.	Fam. Guy	Upd	Nature (DVS)	Muppets: Letters	MythBusters	Movie: Scrooged, John For-sythe	UFC Un-leashed	The Mental-ist	Movie: American Gangster, Chivwetel Ejiolor	Shake It Good		
8:PM	Family Happy	Fuerza-Des-tino	Daughter	Criminal Minds	Flor Salvaje (SS)	Harry's Law	Fam. Guy	Baruch of the Southwest	NOVA (DVS)	Top Model		UFC Un-leashed	Movie: Rico-chet, Kelly Overton			Shake It High	College Basketball	
9:PM	Revenge	Protagonis-tas (SS)	Simpsons-How I Met	Grammy	La Casa de al Lado	Law & Order: SVU	Big Bang		Years of Tele-scope	Cops	MythBusters	Movie: Scrooged, John For-sythe	The Ultimate Fighter	Leverage	Game	Shake It Good	College Basketball	SportsCenter
10:PM	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	McGee	Charlie Rose	King	MythBusters		Blue Moun-tain State	Game	Shake It Good	College Basketball	SportsCenter	
11:PM	Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Hasta que el Dinero	Law Order: CI	Late	Una Maid en	Late Night	Office	Yohanan	World	South Pk	MythBusters	Movie: The Sandlot, Pat-rick Renna	UFC Un-leashed	Movie: Rico-chet, Kelly Overton	Wendy Wil-liams	Wizards		
12:AM	Extra	Destilando Amor	Raymond Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	News	Office	Dr. Denis	T. Smiley	Roseanne	MythBusters		The Ultimate Fighter		Movie: American Gangster, Chivwetel Ejiolor	Good	(12:15) NFL Live	SportsCenter
1:AM	Paid	La Jaula	American TMZ	Paid	Pagado	(.06) Today	Seinfeld	Light		7th Street	MythBusters		Blue Moun-tain State	Falling Skies	Random	(15) Sports-Nation	SportsCenter	

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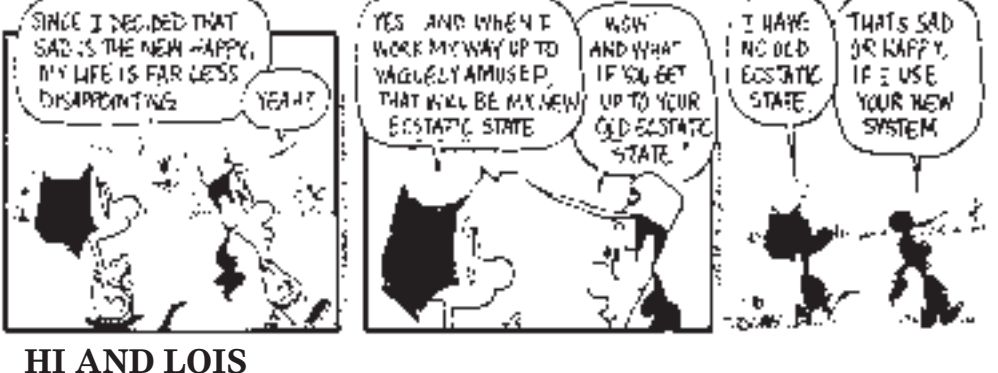
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WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



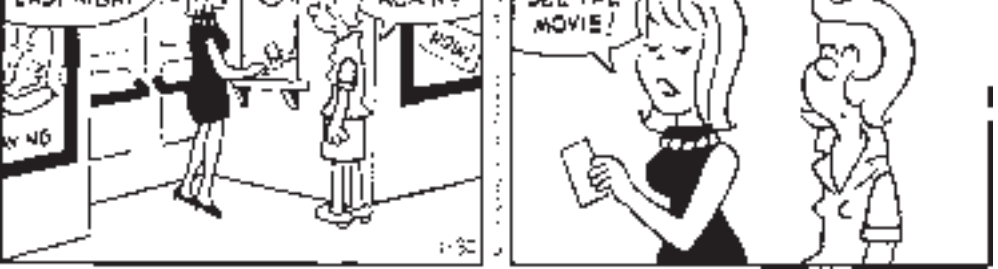
THE OTHER COAST



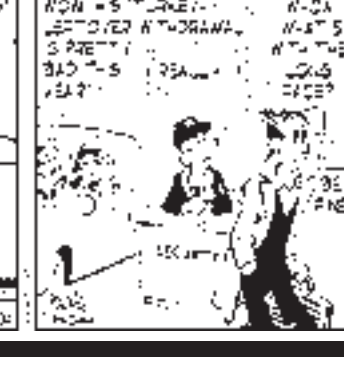
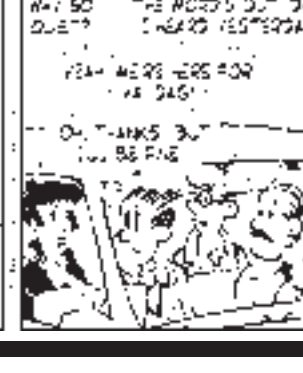
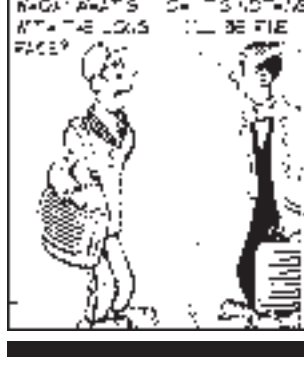
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This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Nov. 30, the 334th day of 2011. There are 31 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:**  
On Nov. 30, 1835, Samuel Langhorne Clemens, a better known as Mark Twain, was born in Florida, Mo.

**On this date:**  
In 1782, the United States and Britain signed preliminary peace articles in Paris, ending the Revolutionary War.

In 1803, Spain completed the process of ceding Louisiana to France, which had sold it to the United States.

In 1874, British statesman Sir Winston Churchill was born at Blenheim Palace.

In 1900, Irish writer Oscar Wilde died in Paris at age 46.

In 1936, London's famed Crystal Palace, constructed for the Great Exhibition of 1851, was destroyed in a fire.

In 1939, the Winter War began as Soviet troops invaded Finland. (The conflict ended

the following March with a Soviet victory.)

In 1960, the last DeSoto was built by Chrysler, which had decided to retire the brand after 32 years.

In 1962, U Thant of Burma, who had been acting secretary-general of the United Nations following the death of Dag Hammarskjöld the year before, was elected to a four-year term.

In 1966, the former British colony of Barbados became independent.

In 1981, the United States and the Soviet Union opened negotiations in Geneva aimed at reducing nuclear weapons in Europe.

**Today's Birthdays:** Historian Jacques Barzun is 104. Actor Efram Zimbalist Jr. is 93. Actor Robert Guillaume is 84. TV personality and producer Dick Clark is 82. Radio talk show host G. Gordon Liddy is 81. Country singer-recording executive Jimmy Bowen is 74. Movie director Ridley Scott is 74. Movie writer-director Terrence Malick is 68. Rock musician Roger Glover (Deep Purple) is 66. Playwright David Mamet (MA-meht) is 64. Actress Margaret Whitton is

61. Actor Mandy Patinkin is 59. Musician Shuggie Otis is 58. Country singer Jeannie Kendall is 57. Singer Billy Idol is 56. Historian Michael Beschloss is 56. Rock musician John Ashton (The Psychedelic Furs) is 54. Comedian Colin Mochrie is 54. Former football and baseball player Bo Jackson is 49. Rapper Jilil (Whodini) is 48. Actor-director Ben Stiller is 46. Rock musician Mike Stone is 42. Actress Sandra Oh is 41. Country singer Mindy McCready is 36. Singer Clay Aiken is 33. Actress Elisha Cuthbert is 29. Actress Kaley Cuoco (KWOH'-koh) is 26. Actress Christel Khalil is 24.

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Newsday Crossword

KING-DOM by Charles Stack  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**  
1 First Greek letter  
6 Quantity of fish caught  
10 Prosperous period  
14 43 Across, for one  
15 Like the toughest problems  
17 Stephen King's talent  
19 Rim  
20 AP successors  
21 Shine upon  
22 Brit's bowling game  
25 Subversive assistant  
29 That guy's tease  
30 Tease  
33 Newton or Asimov  
34 The ones yonder  
36 Side (authentic)  
37 Don King's talent  
40 Biblical paradise  
41 Rodeo accessory  
42 Gardening gear  
43 Spectrum component  
44 Dove sound  
45 Small restaurant  
46 Destructive episodes  
49 Consumed  
52 Grassy field  
53 Furthermore  
57 Harry King's talent  
61 Some Hande works  
62 Perfect example
- 63 Costco competitor  
64 Otherwise  
65 Tortellini topping
- DOWN**  
1 Year  
2 Truck contents  
3 Slip, as a leak  
4 Sharpen  
5 Creative expression  
6 Language of India  
7 Feeling of dread  
8 Battleship designation  
9 Parcel to build on  
10 Tree bumps  
11 Theater award  
12 Ring cheers  
13 Cluttered condition  
16 Car parts  
18 Dislikeful  
22 Religious group  
23 Gist of a story  
24 50 Down's ride  
25 Career soldier  
26 Stage whisper  
27 Confined in a way  
28 Actress Madeline  
30 Fowl's perch  
31 Deeply felt  
32 Certain opera singer  
34 Boy Scout unit  
35 Short-paired flight snoot  
38 Series' dance
- 39 The one close by  
44 Part of a long poem  
45 Endure  
46 Takes five  
47 Certain opera singer's  
48 Formation-liers  
49 Swelled heads  
50 Subtle glow  
51 Common-goa group  
53 Right-hand person  
54 Barrel-bottom ros du  
55 Smack  
56 Scandinavian capital  
58 Angry feeling  
59 Zich  
60 Big shot

