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BIG SPRING HERALD

FRIDAY

DECEMBER 30, 2011



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VOLUME 107, NUMBER 67

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Robbery suspect sought

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

The Big Spring Police Department is investigating an armed robbery that took place at a convenience store in the 800 block of East Inter-

state Highway 20 Thursday evening.

According to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the BSPD, officers were called to the Star Stop No. 8 at approximately 8:50 p.m. in response to an aggra-

vated robbery.

"The store clerk said she was working behind the counter when she saw a subject come in the door with a handgun pointed at her," Everett said. "The subject demanded all of the money

the clerk had. After the clerk complied, the suspect left the building and fled on foot, leaving to the west side of the store. At that time, the clerk locked the doors and called the police."

Everett said no injuries

were reported and the suspect made away with an undisclosed amount of cash.

The suspect is described as male with a heavy build, between 5 feet and 5 feet, 3

See **ROBBERY**, Page 3A

INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

A white Christmas? You bet

Howard County residents didn't have to dream of a white Christmas — they had one. Though most of the snow fell Christmas Eve, there was still plenty around for Sunday, making it the second time in a short while that it snowed on the day Christians celebrate Christ's birth. It also snowed Christmas Day 2006.

However, the snow wasn't the first of the winter for the area. Howard County got its first snowfall of the season Sunday, Dec. 4. Residents woke Monday to some four to six inches of snow, leading to some treacherous times as they made their way to work.

Fortunately, the snow had waited past the weekend, which was filled with a variety of traditional events, including the First Methodist Living Christmas Tree. Weather also turned out well for the Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade.

GEO Group won the Grand Marshal's award. Western Container won the Publisher's Award and Midway Baptist received Best of Show.

Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home, the Circuit Riders Cowboy Church, Cub Scouts of America, The Dance Gallery, First Russian Church Mother's Day Out



HERALD photo
Parkview Nursing Home residents were presented with a medley of traditional Christmas songs sung by kindergartners from Elbow Elementary.

2011, YEAR IN REVIEW

Don't risk DWI, officers warn

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Crossroads residents looking to celebrate the coming of the new year with a few drinks had better think twice before getting behind the wheel, as state and local law enforcement officials said they will be on the lookout for inebriated drivers.

"The officers on patrol this New Year holiday will be looking specifically for these types of violations, and make no mistake about it, they are very good at spotting them," Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the

Big Spring Police Department, said. "You may think you're fine, but there are a million different ways they can tell you've been drinking, and all it takes is for them to see one."

The BSPD won't be the only agency looking for drivers who have had one too many, as Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) troopers will be stepping up enforcement efforts to ensure safety on the roadways.

Additional troopers will be on the road targeting drunk

See **DWI**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno
Jo Stone, Howard County Humane Society coordinator, visits with some of the dogs housed at the shelter and offers them a treat. To adopt an animal, stop by the shelter, located on the access road off I-20. To find out more information, call 267-7832.

No doggone space at Humane Society shelter

By **AMANDA MORENO**
Staff Writer

There is no more room at the inn — the inn for animals, that is.

Howard County Humane Society is at a point where animals are having to be turned away. As of Thursday afternoon, the shelter was housing 159 dogs and 65 cats.

"If we can take an animal we will and the situation changes daily, but the normal flow is for every one animal we adopt

out we have one or two to take its place," Jo Stone, Humane Society coordinator, said.

The workload required to take care of the animals as well as the expense for food are also increased factors as the number of animals at the no-kill shelter continues to grow.

"We are lucky to have the help from the community that we do because without them we wouldn't be able to do what we do," Stone said.

"The community's help offers these animals a better life."

According to Stone, there are several members of the community who donate to the shelter regularly, whether it be money, food or other needed supplies.

"The community truly does care for these animals. It is really overwhelming just how many people really do care," Stone said. "Every donation

See **SHELTER**, Page 3A

Readers,
Just a reminder — the *Herald* office will be closed Saturday through Monday and there will be no Monday edition. Have a Happy New Year!



Elrod's Furniture
Wishing Big Spring A Happy New Year!

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Obituaries

Dean Forrest



Dean Forrest, 84, passed away peacefully Thursday, Dec. 29, 2011, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Memorial services will be held at First United Methodist Church, Fourth and Scurry Street, Big Spring, Texas, at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 31, 2011, with pastors Dr. Keith Wiseman and the Rev. Bill Ivins officiating. A reception will follow in Garrett Hall.

Dean, son of W.H. and Jewell Forrest, was born Nov. 22, 1927, in the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Tom Rogers. He was a lifetime resident of Howard County, Texas.

After graduation, he briefly farmed before he began his 38-year career with Texas Electric Service Co. Dean married JoAnne Jones on June 23, 1950, in First United Methodist Church in Stanton, Texas. After his retirement from Texas Electric, he began his lifelong passion as a true working cowboy. Dean was one of the founding members of the Howard County Youth Horseman Association, served on the board of the Big Spring State Hospital Corral and Volunteer Council and was an active supporter of the American Cancer Society and the Relay For Life. As an active, dedicated member of the First United Methodist Church and the Epworth Sunday School Class, Dean quietly served in many capacities.

Dean is survived by his wife of 61 years, Joanne; daughters Jann Caffey and husband Roddy of Big Spring and Jill Heith and husband Bobby of Buda, Texas. Known lovingly as Geep, he is survived by grandchildren Stacey Ream and wife Melodi of Midland, Texas, Kori Simon and husband Mike of Baton Rouge, La., Gage Heith of Buda, Texas, and Lindsey Childress and husband Daylan of Haslet, Texas; and great-grandchildren Forrest Ream, Reagan Ream, Ryan Simon, Lily and River Holland-Heith, and Finley Childress. He is also survived by a sister, Wanda Kuykendall of Midland, Texas; a brother, Terry Forrest and wife Vicci of Midland, Texas; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and granddaughter-in-law Tamy Ream.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to First United Methodist Church or to the Howard County Relay For Life at American Cancer Society, Relay for Life in care of Sandy Griffin, 1217 E. 17th, Big Spring, TX 79720.

The family wishes to thank the staff of Scenic Mountain Medical Center for their loving and compassionate care for Dean.

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

Paid obituary

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1100 block of Lamesa Highway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

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701 E. 2nd St. 432-267-6411

W.C. 'Curley' Hayes

W.C. "Curley" Hayes, 91, of Cleburne passed away Dec. 24, 2011, following a lengthy illness. Born Jan. 27, 1920, in Linden, Texas, to Ira and Lois Hayes, Curley had three sisters, Bertha, Oleta and Oneta and two brothers, Joe and Doyle. He wed Rita Duren in Big Spring, Texas, on Aug. 4, 1943.

He spent the early years of his life working in the oil fields of West Texas as a truck driver, becoming the supervisor/dispatcher for H.W. Smith Transport in Big Spring for a number of years. In 1966 he and Rita relocated to Cleburne and he started his own business, Hayes Sand and Gravel, which he operated until retirement. He served a number of years as head deacon of the Cleburne First Seventh-day Adventist Church where he was a long-time member.

Curley had a good sense of humor and was always ready with a funny story to bring a laugh. He liked watching the Dallas Cowboys on TV and helping the good guys win in old westerns. He never met a stranger and was always willing to lend a hand to those in need. He often nicknamed folks he spent time with, sometimes forgetting what their real names were. He played harmonica and guitar entertaining us with his renditions of old favorites.

Curley is survived by Rita, his wife of 68 years; daughter, Toni and husband Eddie Owen; grandchildren, Kimberlie and husband Joe Currier, Jason Owen, Rebecca and Bobby Ray Hayes; great-grandchildren, Savannah and Jerod Currier, Mead, Connor and Colin Owen; step-grandchild, Joy Currier; sister, Oleta Stone; and brothers, Joe and wife Barbara Hayes and Doyle Hayes; and numerous nieces, nephews, friends and a special black Lab, Molly. He was predeceased by his parents; son, Douglas Hayes; and two sisters, Bertha Hayes and Oneta Hagood.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 2, 2012, at Crosier Pearson Cleburne Funeral Chapel in Cleburne with Tony Torres, senior pastor of Cleburne First Seventh-day Adventist Church, officiating, assisted by Pastor Peter Duricheck and Pastor Harly Charles. Visitation will be Sunday, Jan. 1, 2012, from 6 to 8 p.m. Burial will follow Keene Cemetery, Keene, Texas. Crosier Pearson Cleburne Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Thank you to the staff at Freedom Hospice, Ridgeview Skilled Nursing and Rehab Center, and Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital.

Paid obituary

Robert E. Dalsing Sr.



Robert E. Dalsing Sr., 46, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2011, in a Snyder hospital. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 31, 2011, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Ron Sears officiating. Graveside services will be at noon Monday, Jan. 2, 2012, at the Texas State Veterans Cemetery in Abilene.

He was born Oct. 20, 1965, in Independence, Kan., and married Robyn Watson on Aug. 27, 1987, in Olathe, Kan.

Robert was currently serving as the pastor at Birdwell Lane Baptist Church in Big Spring and as a chaplain with Howard County.

Survivors include his wife, Robyn Dalsing of Big Spring; one son, Robert Dalsing Jr. of Big Spring; one daughter and son-in-law, Rachelle and Chuck Smith of Snyder; a grandson, Brentley Smith of Snyder; and his mother, Marjorie Dalsing of Gardner, Kan.

He was preceded in death by his father, Donald Wayne Dalsing.

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

Police blotter

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

- MICHAEL ANGELO GARZA, 23, of 601 N.W. Fifth St., was arrested Thursday on a charge of evading arrest/detention.
- AISHA MALIK, 22, of 3304 W. Highway 80 Apt. 40, was arrested Thursday on a charge of assault –

family violence.

• BRANDON DENNIS OLIVETTI, 19, of 1403 Oil Mill Rd., was arrested Thursday on a charge of assault – family violence.

• AVEL ABREO RAMIREZ, 64, of 1512 Wood, was arrested Thursday on charges of theft – less than \$1,500 with two or more previous convictions and theft – shoplifting.

• KARISSA RICQUEL MITCHELL, 26, of 1408 Tucson, was arrested Thursday on warrants for driving while license invalid, failure to appear (two counts) and failure to maintain financial responsibility.

• MARIA IRMA MENDOZA, 37, of 1002 N. Main St. Apt. 2, was arrested Thursday on a charge of theft - shoplifting.

• ISREAL EASY FRANCO, 25, of Snyder, was arrested Thursday on a charge of theft – shoplifting.

• ALBERT LAWRENCE HICKS III, 38, of 1425 E. Sixth St. Apt. 102, was arrested Thursday on charges of assault – family violence and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

• DAVID RUSSELL BARTLEY, 25, of Clyde, was arrested Friday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

• MATTHEW DELAYNE VAUGHAN, 30, of Pottsboro, was arrested Thursday on warrants for burglary of a habitation and theft of a firearm.

• THEFT was reported:
In the 1500 block of E. Fourth Street.
In the 200 block of W. FM 700.

Sheriff

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

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 64 inmates at the time of this report.

• MICHAEL ANGELO GARZA, 23, was booked into the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of evading arrest or detention.

• KARISSA RICQUEL MITCHELL, 26, was booked into the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of driving while license invalid, violation of promise to appear (two counts) and failure to maintain financial responsibility.

• MATTHEW DELAYNE VAUGHAN, 30, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on charges of possession of a stolen firearm and burglary of a habitation.

• BRANDON DENNIS OLIVETTE, 19, was booked into the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of assault – family violence.

• MARIA IRMA MENDOZA, 37, was booked into the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of theft of property – more than \$50 and less than \$500.

• AISHA MALIK, 22, was booked into the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of assault – family violence.

• AVEL ABREO RAMIREZ, 64, was booked into the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of theft of property – less than \$1,500 with two or more previous convictions.

• ISREAL EASY FRANCO JR., 25, was booked into the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of theft of property – more than \$50 and less than \$500.

• ALBERT LAWRENCE HICKS III, 38, was booked into the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and assault of a family/household member.

• DAVID RUSSELL BARTLEY, 25, was booked into the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

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What's Happening

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Volunteer Coffee and Orientation Hangar 25 Museum
For more info contact the museum at 432-264-1999

Jan. 26
Healthy Woman "Three Thrilling Years"
Dora Roberts Community Center
Featuring special guest Lisa Smartt
For more info contact Kim Howell at 432-268-4842

Jan. 28
Fraternal Order of Eagles 10th Annual Chili Cook-Off
Eagles Lodge 703 W. 3rd St.
Benefiting WTC Children In Need Fund
For more info contact Landon Sturvidant at 264-3247

Jan. 31
Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet
Dorothy Garrett Coliseum 6pm-9pm
For more info contact the Chamber at 432-263-7641

Big Spring Convention & Visitors Bureau
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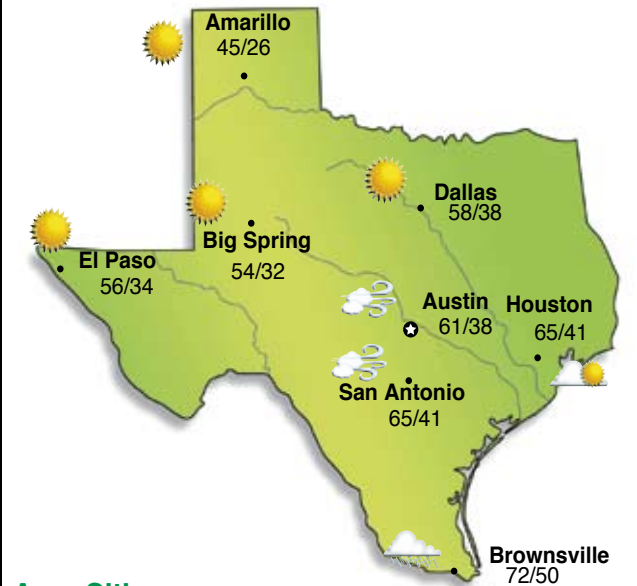
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Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast				
Sun 1/1	Mon 1/2	Tue 1/3	Wed 1/4	Thu 1/5
54/32	53/35	61/36	58/34	61/36
Abundant sunshine. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the low 30s.	Sunshine. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the mid 30s.	Sunshine. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the mid 30s.	Mainly sunny. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the mid 30s.	Sunshine. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the mid 30s.
Sunrise: 7:47 AM Sunset: 5:52 PM	Sunrise: 7:47 AM Sunset: 5:53 PM	Sunrise: 7:47 AM Sunset: 5:53 PM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 5:54 PM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 5:55 PM

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Amarillo	45	26	sunny	Kingsville	71	44	pt sunny
Abilene	54	33	sunny	Livingston	62	36	pt sunny
Austin	61	38	windy	Longview	58	36	sunny
Beaumont	66	41	pt sunny	Lubbock	49	26	sunny
Brownsville	72	50	rain	Lufkin	60	36	pt sunny
Brownwood	58	35	sunny	Midland	54	32	sunny
Corpus Christi	68	45	pt sunny	Raymondville	70	46	pt sunny
Corsicana	57	37	sunny	Rosenberg	66	41	pt sunny
Dallas	58	38	sunny	San Antonio	65	41	windy
Del Rio	65	38	sunny	San Marcos	62	38	windy
El Paso	56	34	sunny	Sulphur Springs	57	36	sunny
Fort Stockton	54	32	sunny	Sweetwater	54	33	sunny
Gainesville	58	38	sunny	Tyler	57	35	sunny
Greenville	56	34	sunny	Weatherford	55	33	sunny
Houston	65	41	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	54	31	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	60	34	cloudy	Minneapolis	28	12	windy
Boston	49	37	pt sunny	New York	52	37	pt sunny
Chicago	36	21	sn shower	Phoenix	76	48	sunny
Dallas	58	38	sunny	San Francisco	68	48	pt sunny
Denver	40	24	mst sunny	Seattle	47	42	mixed
Houston	65	41	pt sunny	St. Louis	46	29	windy
Los Angeles	80	48	sunny	Washington, DC	59	38	pt sunny
Miami	80	60	pt sunny				

Take Note

• A fund has been set up at Myers & Smith Funeral Home for Teresa "Terry" Gonzales, who died Monday, Dec. 19, in Lubbock, to help defray funeral costs. Contact the funeral home at 432-267-8288 for more information.

• An account has been set up at T&P Credit Union for Herchel Lewis who is trying to rebuild his house at 904 E. 12th after a recent house fire claimed the house and the life of Doris Lewis. Lewis is asking for help to gather funds in order to rebuild the house, which his family has called home for more than 30 years. For more information, contact Lewis at 432-517-4308.

• West Texas Opportunities Inc. will be closed Dec. 30 and will reopen for business Jan. 3 at its new location, 2001 Scurry.

• A benefit account for the Arguello family, who lost two family members in a recent house 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 con-

dition. 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 7938527277.

• 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.

• American Cancer Society will have its board meetings at noon on the second Tuesday of the month through April. Lunch will be furnished. Meetings will take place at Home Hospice, located at 111 E. Seventh.

• Home Hospice is seeking volunteers. Training will be provided and geared to your time frame. Volunteers are needed for in office duties as well as sitters, deliveries and crafts. To find out more information or to volunteer contact Sherry Hodnett at Home Hospice by calling 264-7599.

• Big Spring Education Employees Federal Credit Union is raising money to benefit cancer patient Maurine Pittman. For more information, call the credit union at 263-8393.

ROBBERY

Continued from Page 1A

inches tall, wearing a beige fleece jacket, possibly with black lettering on it. He was also believed to be wearing black pants and white tennis shoes.

"The suspect was wearing a red, rubber devil mask, and the clerk said he spoke with a Hispanic accent," Everett said. "Anyone with information regarding this robbery should contact the Big Spring Police Department at 432-264-2550."

Area residents with information regarding this — or any other crime — can also call the Big Spring Area Crimestoppers Hotline at 432-263-TIPS (8477) or 432-264-TIPS (8477). Information leading to an arrest or indictment could be worth up to \$1,000 and tipsters need not reveal their identity.

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

DWI

Continued from Page 1A

drivers in locations where alcohol-related crashes are most likely to occur. This effort is funded by a \$1.5 million grant from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for targeted DWI enforcement over various holidays throughout the year.

During the same holiday period in 2010 — Dec. 10 to Jan. 1 — troopers made 1,264 driving while intoxicated (DWI) arrests. Of those, 449

were made by troopers whose patrols were funded through the TxDOT grant. In addition, troopers issued 17,436 speeding citations, 2,426 safety restraint citations and 2,593 no insurance citations. Troopers also made 1,284 felony and fugitive arrests, and recovered 50 stolen vehicles.

DPS offers the following tips to ensure safe travels:

- Don't drink and drive; designate a driver.
- Be aware of, and prepared for, changing weather conditions.

• Don't text and drive and keep cell phone chatter to a minimum. Just drive.

• Make sure everyone in the car is buckled up.

• Don't travel fatigued. Switch drivers or find a safe location and take a break.

• Drive courteously.

• Make sure your vehicle is properly maintained.

And, if you think a trooper or BSPD officer might give you a free pass if you get pulled over this holiday, Everett said think again.

"Our approach to drinking and driving

is very simple: zero tolerance," Everett said. "That's not just during the New Year holiday. That's year round. So, if you've had a few drinks, don't chance it. Call a friend or a taxi. I promise you, whatever the cab fare might cost you is minor in comparison to what a DWI conviction will cost you."

SHELTER

Continued from Page 1A

is greatly appreciated." She said it is hard to reach out and ask for the community help due to the continuous support offered, but she said there is only so much the shelter can do and there does come a point when the answer sometimes has to be no.

"We receive so much help from the community and in return we do what we can to offer help back. We can't just think of our animals. We have to help all animals in the community," Stone said.

Part of the community support offered by the Humane Society is help with dog and cat food, assistance with spay and neutering and emergency veterinary visits.

In addition to the individual contributions,

the Humane Society receives financial support from the Dora Roberts Foundation as well as the local United Way.

For those wanting to adopt a dog the charge is \$65. Stone said before an animal can be adopted out there are a few requirements to be met.

"We want to make sure the animal is going to be taken care of, receive proper shelter and be able to enjoy a long life," Stone said.

Adoptions will only be made to those 18 years and older and adoptions of an animal must be

for the person adopting the animal, not for another person. Adequate shelter must be able to be provided as well as proper health care.

"One of the stipulations is that the dogs cannot be tied up and if they are going to be an outside dog then there needs to be a fenced area for it," Stone said. "The main thing is we want to make sure these ani-

mals are going to a good home and are going to be taken care of and receive the treatment they will need to live a healthy life."

For more information or to adopt a dog, stop by the Humane Society on the North Service Road of Interstate 20 or call the office at 267-7832. For those wanting to stop by and visit the animals, the Humane

Society is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

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



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Big Spring Travel Show Thursday, January 5 10:00 AM Dora Roberts Com. Center Comanche Trail Park 100 Whipkey Drive Big Spring, Texas	Abilene Travel Show Saturday, January 14 1:00 PM Southern Hill Church of Christ 3666 Buffalo Gap Road Abilene, Texas

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Sat: 1:20 4:10 7:10 9:30
Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) Fri: 1:30 4:30 7:30 9:45
Sat: 1:30 4:30 7:30 9:45

Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol (PG-13) Fri: 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00
Sat: 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00
Shrek Forever After (PG-13) Fri: 1:10 4:10 7:10 10:10
Sat: 1:10 4:10 7:10 10:10

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Bill McClellan Managing Editor	Ron Midkiff Publisher	Steve Reagan Staff Writer
Amanda Moreno Staff Writer	Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer	

We salute:

Each week, the Herald salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments.

We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play

This week we salute:

- Big Spring Symphony Guild and the Festival of Lights for teaming up and offering the gift shop during the Festival of Lights this year in order to allow visitors to purchase unique Christmas gifts.

- All members of the community who stepped up and donated to the Lewis family.

- All community residents who donated to the Salvation Army, Cossacks and other organizations who offered support to families in need during this Christmas season.

- City of Big Spring for setting up extra sanitation containers to help with the additional trash that occurs during the holiday season.

- All efforts that have been made to get the VA Medical Center renamed as the George H. O'Brien Jr. VA Medical Center in order to honor O'Brien, Big Spring's lone Medal of Honor recipient.

- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Convention and Visitors Bureau and the city of Big Spring for working together in order to restock Comanche Trail Lake each year with rainbow trout for a better winter fishing experience.

- All Big Spring Herald readers for supporting us this past year.

- All those who have contributed content to the Big Spring Herald and taken the time to work with us in order to bring the latest news and updates to the Crossroads area.

Is there an individual or organization in our community that you feel should be saluted? If so, please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.

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 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 newsdesk@bigspringherald.com

I will resolve to not resolve

As we approach a new year, many of us take stock of the past, set our sights on the future and make resolutions on what they plan to accomplish in the coming 12 months.

Good luck with that.

Don't get me wrong — I'm not mocking people who make New Year's resolutions. In fact, I admire anyone with the wherewithal and determination to take a stand and declare to the world that they will so such-and-such to make themselves better human beings in the coming 12 months.

I envy those people for their faith (and possible naivete). I used to envision myself as one of those people. However, I am not one of those people.

In one of his "Dirty Harry" movies, Clint Eastwood uttered words which should serve as a beacon of caution when one is making resolutions: "A man ought to know his limitations."

I learned the truth of these words the hard way. I have lost count of the well-meaning and earnest promises I made to myself at this time of the year. Depending on the time and circumstance, I have promised to either quit some harmful form of behavior (like smoking) or do something beneficial (like save more money).

I'm not saying I struck out on all my resolutions, but my batting average is pretty pitiful. It's not that I'm some sort of spineless lout who's incapable of seeing things through to conclusion (honestly, I'm not!). I just failed to heed Mr. Eastwood's warning.

Let's take smoking as an example.

Everyone (including pig-headed me) knows that smoking is harmful and frequently leads to major inconveniences like disease or early death. And

there has been many a New Year where I figuratively dug in my heels and promised that this was the year, by golly, that I was finally going to boot Demon Tobacco to the curb.

All those resolutions, however, went up in a puff of smoke (pun intended), not because of a lack of sincerity but because of a lack of determination and proper motivation. The truth of the matter was, I enjoyed smoking too much and the health risks were, I figured at the time, something which happened to other people and not me.

In other words, I didn't appreciate my limitations. I finally quit smoking, but it had nothing to do with any New Year's resolution and everything to do with the simple truth that cancer and death weren't such abstract concepts anymore. Armed with the realization that I wasn't quite ready to die yet, it became much easier to kick the habit.

As far as saving money goes, let's just say I haven't been successful and leave it at that. Trust me, you don't want to see me cry. It's a pitiful sight.

Again, I'm not saying you shouldn't make resolutions. Just because my record is so horrible doesn't mean you will meet the same fate. Instead, think of me as some sort of object lesson — in other words, what not to do when making resolutions.

Allow me to make the following suggestions:

- Be specific — Too many people get too grandiose at this time of year. They're going to save a ton of money or shed a boatload of pounds or some other laudable goal. When they realize just how tough it will be to meet that promise, however, a lot of folks figuratively fold their tents.

Like Dirty Harry said, know your limitations. Maybe you can't save enough money to buy a new car, but who says you can't save, say, \$10 a paycheck? And maybe you won't be able to lose enough weight to fit into that bathing suit you've admired, but there's nothing wrong with setting your sights

on losing, for example, a couple of pounds a month.

These are realistic, highly attainable benchmarks and will put you well on your way toward reaching your ultimate goals. Like the Chinese proverb goes, a savings account of \$1,000 starts with a single deposit (or something like that).

- There's a reason God made erasers — Few, if any, New Year's resolutions go off without a hitch. There will be hiccups along the way, potholes in your path, flies in your ointment ... well, you catch my drift.

When the inevitable difficulties arise, remember my famous admonition to try, try again. (What's that you say? Somebody said that first? Well, remember it anyway. It's a really good saying.)

There's nothing in the rules of New Year's resolutions saying you can't have do-overs. Actually, there's no official rules of New Year's resolutions, but I trust you get my point.

Just don't quit, OK? Keep at it. Pick yourself up, dust yourself off, and get back in the game. When God closes a door, he opens a window (don't stop me ... I'm on a roll).

- Don't beat yourself up — I know I'm sounding like Debbie Downer here, but there's a good chance your efforts will be somewhat less than successful. If that happens, you will likely berate yourself as the losing loser who ever lost.

Take it from me — you aren't. If your resolution crashes and burns, take solace from the fact you're in good company.

Lots of wonderful people have less than sterling records in the resolution-keeping business.

If nothing else, look at yourself in the mirror and say, "At least I didn't do as bad as that Reagan fellow."

OK, now I'm depressed.

Happy New Year's, everyone.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 235, or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com



How to make a resolution

For the first few decades of my life, I always knew what my New Year's resolution would be: Lose weight. Get to the number on my license.

After my son was born and I was really fat for the first time (which came as a shock when I finally figured it out since I'd been convinced that I'd been fat all my life), I finally figured out that if I treated losing weight like I did everything else in my life — with concentration, determination and a real plan — I could actually succeed. I even wrote a book about it: "Making the Case for Yourself," which came out within days of the Monica Lewinsky scandal.

For weeks, I crisscrossed the country on a book tour that had me invited on every show everywhere I went — to talk about Monica Lewinsky. I managed to sell books nonetheless, with lines such as "If Monica Lewinsky had been on my diet, she wouldn't have felt like she belonged under the desk."

Which actually has some truth

to it. Feeling awful about yourself — waking up every morning and castigating yourself as you stand on the scale — doesn't do wonders for your self-esteem.

When the reporters would ask me how a feminist could write a diet book, I'd always tell them that feeling good enough about yourself to be comfortable in your own skin was as important as one of those "dress for success" suits. And it is.

But it's not the be-all and the end-all. That took me almost as long to learn.

One good thing about writing a diet book is that unless you're a mega-celebrity like Oprah, you feel pretty stupid about gaining all the weight back.

So for the next decade or so, I struggled to keep it off, or at least down. Creep up five, go down three; creep up five more, make the cabbage soup; creep up again, go back to steamed vegetables.

I went from a size 6 to an 8 — packed up the tight jeans and told myself that an 8 wasn't so bad for a 50-something-year-old, which it definitely isn't.

And then my youngest went to college, and I felt like I'd gotten hit by a truck; I took on another job to pay the tuition, and the stomachaches that have accom-

panied me through life came back. There was no one to make dinner for or eat dinner with, and for the first time in my life, I lost weight without even trying. Or noticing, in particular.

I would go to try on a pair of pants and take in the 8 by habit. Then the salesperson would bring me the 6, and then the 4. Size 4? I weigh what I wished for in high school.

And no, I'm not writing this to make you jealous. Just the opposite. Here's the truth: It didn't matter. Not at all. Imagine that.

My life is no different when I see the magical number on the scale. It's not a recipe for happiness and satisfaction. It really isn't a measure of anything.

So when you're making your New Year's resolutions, remember this.

Be healthy. Listen to your doctor. Do what you need to do. But don't make the mistake I did. A number on the scale is not the road to happiness. It's just a number. Like 2012.

Happy New Year.

To find out more about Susan Estrich and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.

Church News

First United Methodist Church

Saturday at 8:30 p.m., EPIC will be sponsoring a New Year's Eve Party for sixth-12th grade at First Methodist Church at Fourth and Scurry. There will be food, games and dancing until 12:30 a.m. Youth Director Beau Niewoehner is available at 806-316-0969 if you would like further information.

Sunday's worship services are back on regular schedule with an early service at 8:30 a.m. and another at 10:50 a.m. with Pastor Bill Ivins preaching. Sunday school class is at 9:45 a.m. During the late service children have the opportunity to go to Children's church in youth hall following the Children's sermon.

Sunday there will be a church-wide New Year's Day dinner in Garrett Hall following the late service. This event is sponsored by the Senior Adult Ministry better known as "SAM." The group will be furnishing black-eyed peas, corn bread and ham; the congregation is asked to bring a side dish or dessert.

Church offices will be closed Monday, Jan. 2, but will resume the regular schedule the remainder of the week. This will include Children's Day Out Program on Wednesday as well as Noon Bible study and lunch at noon and Real Life Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 8, Pastor Bill and Beau Niewoehner will be doing a new type of children's sermon called "Sermon in a Sack." They need the help of our kids to make it successful. Encourage your kids to bring something of their own from home each week to put in the sack. Pastor Bill or Beau will randomly pull one item out of the sack and do a spontaneous sermon based on that item. Also Jan. 8, Pastor Bill and members of the admin council will be hosting a new member's dinner at the Parsonage 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Sincere thanks to all those who contributed so generously to our Christmas fund to assist missionaries, Dustin and Mallory Covington and Joyce Chellis, as they serve in the Bihar region of India.

During the month of January 2012, First Methodist Church will begin broadcasting its 10:50 a.m. worship service on KXCS 105.5 FM. The 8:30 a.m. service will continue to be heard Sunday mornings on KBYG-1400 AM/FM.

Spring Creek Fellowship

New's Year's Day schedule will be "Holy Grounds Café" at 10:15 a.m. and worship at 10:45 a.m. No Sunday school classes.

Here are a few of the offerings for 2012: "The School of the Spirit," "Financial Peace University," "Celebrate Recovery," "Weird: Because Normal Isn't Working," "Experiencing God," "Breaking Free," "The Secret to the Marriage You Want," "Be Prepared" (parenting).

Regular activities will resume Wednesday with a meal at 5:30 p.m, Bible study, youth and children's activities at 6:15 p.m. and praise team practice at 7 p.m. Youth meets Wednesday evenings. Men's prayer breakfast and fellowship is scheduled at 7:30 a.m. Saturday in the dining room at the church. "Between the Lines" Women's Ministry will meet Saturday, Jan. 18, 2012.

"Manna House" food pantry is low on supplies. Contact Casie Fillingim and Jennifer Boyd for more information.

"Free Indeed," a ministry of Spring Creek Fellowship, is in need of donations of new underwear, socks, coats, etc. for the cold months ahead. Mon-

etary donations would be appreciated as well.

If you would like any further information regarding any of our ministries or events, contact the church office. Spring Creek Fellowship meets at the College Park Shopping Center at 501 Birdwell. Contact us at 432-714-4584 or visit our website at www.springcreekfellowship.org

First Presbyterian Church, Big Spring

The Lectionary Bible study, led by Craig Holstedt and Tom Koger, at 5:17 p.m. in the church library will resume weekly meetings Wednesday. Children's choir will meet again starting at 4:30 p.m. Jan. 11. The Chancel choir will practice Wednesday at 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 8 will be the ordination and installation of church officers during worship.

The lectionary for the First Sunday after Christmas is Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 14:8; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40. Chancel choir will lead the congregation in singing the carols "Angels We Have Heard on High," "Away in a Manger," and "Go Tell It on the Mountain," and sing "The Angel Gabriel" arranged by Alan Smith for the offertory. The Rev. Craig Holstedt will deliver the sermon and officiate at communion during worship.

Listen on KBST 1490 AM. at 11 a.m. To have a printed bulletin for Sunday services, call the church office at 263-4211. See what's happening at the church by visiting our website www.fpcbs.org.

First Presbyterian Church, Coahoma

We meet at 11 a.m. Sunday led by Commissioned Lay Pastor Tom Koger. The lectionary Bible study, led by Tom and Craig Holstedt, at 5:17 p.m. at First Presbyterian in Big Spring meets Wednesdays.

The session will meet Thursday, Jan. 5, at 5:57 p.m. in the social hall.

The lectionary is Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40. Following worship we will have our first Sunday covered dish dinner.

Alive in Christ Lutheran Church LCMS

We are located at 2805 Lynn Drive. Our church phone number is 432-264-7818. Our website is http://www.m2ctexas.org/chweb/aliveinchrist/. Our e-mail address is aliveinchrist@crcom.net.

Sunday service is at 9 a.m. Sunday school is at 10:15 a.m.

DCE Chuck Eaton, from Grace Lutheran Church in Midland will conduct the worship service Sunday. His sermon title is "Beginning with Bloodshed" based on Luke 2:21.

Bo Vizcaino will be reading the liturgy. The readings are Numbers 6:22-27, Psalm 8, Galatians 3:23-29, and Luke 2:21.

Anyone interested in reading contact Dolline Budke.

The poinsettias on the altar are given in Glory to God and in Honor of Jesus Christ's birth by the members of Alive in Christ Lutheran Church.

If you are interested in donating flowers, please sign up on the flower chart. The general consensus is to plan on using the flowers two or three weeks. Please schedule accordingly when donating.

Pastor Carroll Kohl is on KBYG every morning for a devotion sponsored in part by the Lutheran Hour. Tune in to 106.3 FM or 1400 AM between 6:45 and 6:50 each morning for these devotions: "Morning Meditation Thoughts."

Lutheran Hour Ministries can be heard on KBYG

each Sunday morning.

On Jan. 11, we will resume our Wednesday Midweek School for all ages.

Join us at 6:00-6:30 p.m. for the meal and at 6:30-7:15 p.m. for the Bible studies.

The pastoral call committee is still meeting. Thank you for your dedication in its huge endeavor which is a slow but complicated process. The call committee has done an excellent job representing our members and church during this extremely critical process. Please continue to pray for God's guidance in this endeavor and add our call committee to your prayer list.

A new website offered by The Lutheran Hour Ministries is available. The site, www.jcplayzone.com, promises fun and Christian educational based games and videos. Fun for all ages and offered in several languages, this SAFE internet site is something you might want to check out.

Scheduled meetings for January include: January 9th, the LWML will serve coffee/juice/refreshments at the VA. The Board of Education will meet Jan. 10 at 7 p.m. at the church. The LWML will meet Jan. 12, at 7 p.m. at the church.

The Elders meet Jan. 19 at 7 p.m. at the church. The Board of Assimilation will meet Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. at the church.

Other boards and groups are continuing to meet and make plans for the various activities of the church.

Gateway Baptist Church

Gateway Baptist Church is located at 2302 Gatesville Road. Sunday service is at 10 a.m. for Sunday school and 11 a.m. for worship service with Pastor Jim Mills leading the service.

Sunday night service will be at 6 and Wednesday night service is at 6:30.

Both evening services are followed with a fellowship meal.

Both evening services are studying the Book of Revelations.

Gateway has a clothing ministry and food pantry for individuals who need assistance with these items. They are open Thursday's from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

First Christian Church

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is located at 911 Goliad. Sunday fellowship is at 9:30 a.m. Sunday school is at 9:45 a.m. Church service is at 10:50 a.m.

Sunday the Rev. Ken McIntosh will bring the message from Galatians 4: 4-7 "Putting On Heirs."

Elders will be Hollis and Joe McCright; Deacons will be Ken Johnson, Mary Meth Johnson, Barbara Ervin, Dan Miracle; Worship leader will be Mary Terrazas; Communion prep will be Barbara Ervin and Mary Beth Johnson; greeter will be Dan Miracle; Homebound communion will be Hollis McCright.

Monday and Tuesday Isaiah 58 will be closed and there will be no food delivery from the food bank out of Odessa.

Wednesday at 6 p.m. there will be choir practice in the choir room. Youth will meet at the church at 6 p.m. for their weekly meeting. Thursday the CWF noon time group will meet at a restaurant for their monthly meeting, call Joyce for details.

For questions or further information, call the church office 432-517-4821 or view our website at www.fcbs125@yahoo.com or email to fcbs125@yahoo.com.

Here we go again

Here we go again! Those Christmas packages we wrapped at the last minute have all been ripped open.

The floor around the base of the Christmas tree is visible again. The refrigerator is looking bare and the excitement we felt a

short time ago is starting to fizzle into exhaustion. But wait.

We still have one more holiday to celebrate. It's time to start another year. Whether we sing in the New Year, ring in the New Year, or bring it in some other way, in a few days we will all be flipping our calendars to 2012.

For many, a new year means a chance to start over in some aspect of our lives. As soon

as our celebration has ended, we make resolutions of improving our health, our wealth, or the relationships in our lives. Whether our resolution is to eat healthier food, lose weight, exercise more, save money, or be nicer to our neighbors, we usually start the year out with good intentions.

Most of us, however, will become disillusioned with our resolutions before the end of January. Our good intentions will fade away, and our goals may get deleted from our memory banks before we put our plans into action. We often allow busy routines, problems and added interruptions to derail our attempts for self-improvement, success and happiness.

Although we should feel some excitement about starting another span of time, we often begin a new year with the same level of fatigue and discouragement we felt at the end of the last year. We sometimes lack the strength to celebrate or to feel excited about the prospects of enjoying the upcoming year.

However, the scripture promises us when we rely on a source of strength other than our own, we will not become weary: "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint" (Isaiah 40:31 KJV).

Here we go again. It is time to start another year, but when we wait upon the Lord instead of using all our energy trying to keep resolutions we have made, God gives us the strength to face whatever the New Year may bring.

Bonnie Wheat is an author and a minister's wife. She can be contacted at brwheat@suddenlink.net.



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Reflections

A people who sit in darkness

This week the control of North Korea is expected to pass into the hands of Kim Jong-un, the young son of Kim Jong Il who died last week. He will be the third generation dictator to rule North Korea since it was established in 1948. He inherits a country still officially at war with South Korea.

Since a cease-fire truce was signed in 1953, the two nations have gone in radically different directions. South Korea, pursued democracy and religious freedom. As a result, South Korea has prospered becoming the fourth largest economy and the second largest missions sending country in the world. By contrast, North Korea is the last Communist dynasty. It remains mired in poverty, boasting the largest standing army in the world armed with nuclear weapons. According to the Open Doors website, Christians in North Korea suffer the most severe persecution of any nation in the world.

The stories behind the history and headlines are personal. I first met Robert about five years ago. He survived the Korean conflict on the streets of Seoul as a child. After the war, he was one of the orphans rescued by Pearl S. Buck and given an education in the United States. He achieved a prosperous and promising career in finance living in Canada, but was battling dependency and contemplating suicide until he met Christ. He is now pastor of a Korean church in the United States. Several years ago he began

planting churches in Cuba. He said he hoped working in Cuba would help him prepare for the day when he would be able to carry the gospel into North Korea.

My good friend Benjamin, also Korean, watched his father killed by North Korean soldiers. For years he harbored hatred toward the North Koreans for what they did to his father, but he found forgiveness through faith in Christ. In recent years he has been helping plant churches in China. Like Robert, he hopes to carry the gospel to North Korea. When asked why he wants to do this, he says, "Jesus told me to love my enemies."

Last year a young North Korean student told her story to the Lausanne Congress on World Evangelism. Her father was an assistant to Kim Jong Il before coming to faith in Christ. As a result of his faith, he was later imprisoned. She has not heard from him since he was imprisoned in 2006 and suspects he was executed. You can hear and view her testimony on the Lausanne.org website (click on Capetown 2010 videos). I have watched the video many times and still find it difficult to watch without weeping.

In these days following our Christmas celebrations, we need to join our Korean brothers and sisters in prayer. Let us pray God will "shine upon those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace." (Luke 1:79; Matthew 4:18).

Bill Tinsley reflects on current events and life experience from a faith perspective. For more info, visit www.tinsleycenter.com. Email bill@tinsleycenter.com.



BILL TINSLEY

If you can't resolve 'em, perfect last year's mistakes

By Rev. James L. Snyder

An old year is fading and a new year is upon us again. Each year I go kicking and screaming into the New Year, and not because I am against change. My pants pocket is full of change.

I simply cannot remember to change the year on the checks I write until May. By the time, I remember the correct year I have forgotten to make deposits into my checking account. I need a reality check, which with any luck will not bounce as high as my checkbook.

That is not the only reason I hesitate going into a new year. The biggest reason has to do with the mistakes I made during the old year.

Looking back over the old year, I worry my blunders were not as bad as they could have been. Did I make all the gaffes I possibly could? Did I fill my quota? What is my quota, anyway?

For many people, the New Year offers the opportunity to start over again. Actually, what happens is people simply make new mistakes curiously similar to the mistakes made during the old year.

If I have any resolution for the New Year it would be to perfect the mistakes I have already made. I do not see any sense in making new bloopers when I can easily requisition the old ones for duty during the New Year.

And what is wrong with my old mistakes? The only thing I can think of is I did not work hard enough to make the most of them. It is one thing to make a mistake, but it is quite another thing to perfect the art of making a mistake so you do not have to repeat it ever again. Too many amateurs have given mistake-making a bad name.

Most of my mistakes have been so poorly discharged that in the coming New Year I will have to re-do many of them. And, frankly, I am tired of it all. I am anxious to move on to new areas of mistake making.

I am convinced there are faux pas to make which I have not dreamed of at this point in my life. Believe me, I have been dreaming. Actually, the gracious mistress of the Parsonage thinks they are all nightmares. However, my horsing around is not limited to the nighttime.

With that in mind, my resolution for the New Year is to make sure all mistakes I make (and there will be plenty, I assure you) will be as thorough as possible. I refuse to execute any mistake before its time.

Some mistakes take lots of time to fully mature, but when its time comes, I want to make sure it is implemented as smoothly and as perfectly as possible.

If I am any judge of character, the majority of people will not make any new mistakes this com-

ing New Year. Oh, they think they are making new mistakes but in reality, they are dusting off old ones and re-dating them for the current year. What a waste of time, in my opinion.

For those who take mistake-making seriously, allow me to offer some help to guide this pursuit in the coming New Year.

Look back over the old year and make a list of all of the mistakes you have made. If you are a husband, solicit help from your wife, who will be able to remember all of those mistakes you have forgotten. (Not to mention one or two you did not make.)

Go over each mistake on your list and determine if it needs repeated for the New Year. It does not make sense in doing new mistakes if you are not finished with the old ones. Nothing is more disheartening than a half-baked mistake.

For every mistake from the previous year not needing repeated, place a nice red star in front of it. That mistake can now go into your Hall of Blame, which you will never have to repeat again.

Of course, you will have some mistakes, even though they have been perfectly executed are well worth repeating. You know which ones they are. Don't you?

Now look at all of those mistakes listed for repeating during the New Year. Prioritize them so you can begin the New Year with a good plan.

As you prioritize this list, think of ways in which you can improve on your mistakes over the past year. No satisfaction compares with doing something as good as you can. One man's blunder is another man's gaffe.

Everyone generates mistakes, which is healthy. What is unhealthy is thinking you have not made any mistakes, which is a mistake. Some people have the strange idea they live a completely mistake free life.

A mistake well executed is a mistake never needing repeating. During the New Year, execute as many mistakes as your conscience will allow.

The Bible, an authority on mistakes, says this; "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us." (1 John 1:8-10 KJV.)

The great hope we have is there is no mistake bigger than God's ability to forgive.

The Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 352-687-4240 or e-mail jamesnyder2@att.net. The church website is www.whatafel-lowship.com.

Reader's Corner

Attitude

Let God be true

I was searching for the meaning of faith, I know the scriptures definition for faith is in Hebrews 11:1. Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

John W. Ritenbaugh wrote that faith is the foundation for what we hope, the foundation for our relationship with God and everything that implies within His purpose. Faith is the very beginning of everything that really matters spiritually. Romans 4:17. Even God calls those things that are not as though they were. John 6:68.

"Then Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Joel Osteen a well known minister said God does not call you what you are; He calls you the way He sees you. That's because He creates with His words and you do to. In Genesis, you see where He spoke the world into existence. Now as I continue to write, I think well Adam was literally created, he was formed from the dust of the ground, God breathed life into him and he became a living soul. Amazing how what God spoke into existence He used to form Adam.

Prov. 18:21, death and life are in the power of the tongue and they who love it shall eat the fruit thereof. You need to read the Bible on a daily basis, find out what God says about you. In His word He talks about the righteous. He promises. He talks about the unsaved and how much He loves them. How He longs to be reconciled to them. He talks about His plans for us are not to harm us, but to give us life, hope and a future.

Faith is being sure what we hope for, certain of what we do not see. I know there are many who have fasted and prayed and believed in God for a miracle, healing, a loved one to be saved, deliverance, but yet it never came to pass. Isaiah 53:10-11, "Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him because by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities." So does this mean God has forgotten us? No it doesn't, does it mean He doesn't care if we perish, if we hurt, if we die? How can we say that when He gave His only begotten son for us.

Why would He withhold any good thing from us. Romans 8:32. The word of God says we cannot please him without faith.

As I study about faith, it almost seems like a person, If you take the time out to read the book of James you will find that faith has an attitude, it's not partial, it conducts itself in a Godly manner. Faith controls the way one think, speak, in fact it is one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit and the fruits of the Holy Spirit represents and expresses the character of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Faith in the word of God develops and strengthens your relationship with God. When you go to church your faith is strengthened.

Romans 10:17, Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. As I continue to speak on faith, I can't help but think of Jesus as he prayed at the garden. He knew what was coming. He knew God could deliver him. Send 10,000 angels, but yet he prayed not my will but thy be done. Job said because he trusted in God's word, he knew God. He said though he slay will I trust Him.

Job 13:15. I pray you trust Him one more time for that need in your life, and take him at his word, stand on his word for his promises are yea and amen. For He is a God who cannot lie. Numbers 23:19, God is not man, that he should lie. Neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall He not do it or hath He spoken and shall not make it good. Romans 3:4 God for bid; yea let God be true and every man a liar.

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TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Alon USA, LP has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an amendment to and renewal of Air Quality Permit No 50209, which would authorize modification to and continued operation of a petroleum refinery located at 200 Refinery Road, Big Spring, Howard County, Texas 79720. Additional information concerning these applications is contained in the public notice section of this newspaper.

A TODAS LAS PERSONAS Y PARTES INTERESADAS::

Alon USA, LP ha solicitado a la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental de Texas (TCEQ) la RENOVACIÓN del Permiso Num. 50209 para Calidad Atmosférica, que autoriza la continua operación de una Big Spring Petroleum Refinery ubicada en at 200 Refinery Road, Big Spring, Texas 79720, Howard County, Condado, Texas. En la sección de avisos PÚBLICOS de este periódico se encuentra información adicional de esta solicitud.



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HERALD file photo

Logan Yarbar goes up for an easy score in recent Lady Steers action. The Lady Steers, currently ranked No. 19 in 3A, will travel to Abilene Tuesday for a game with Abilene High.

Lady Steers unable to sink Sunset

To play Abilene High Tuesday

By **ROBERT GRIFFIN**

Sports Editor

LUBBOCK — Down by only one point at the half, the Lady Steers were unable to complete the comeback Thursday in the Caprock basketball tournament in Lubbock and were eliminated by Sundown 60-52.

Cerbi Ritchey scored a game-high 21 points (12 rebounds) for Big Spring in the game, but Sundown had two players reach 14 points or higher and three more with eight or more points.

Sundown took an early lead when they outscored the Lady Steers 19-12 in the game's opening period, but the Black and Gold rallied back in the second frame to come to within one point at the half, trailing 31-30.

Dyrshae Vanderbilt etched eight points for Big Spring in the game, followed by LaShaunte Anderson and Bridgette Tuitt with six each.

Big Spring played some good defense in the second half, holding Sundown to 29 points in the remaining two quarters, but they were unable to get the points they needed to come out on top.

Mackenzie Stone and Diamond Mayes (11 rebounds) added five points apiece in the match, while Ambra Hill was good for one point.

The Lady Steers will be in Abilene Tuesday night for a 6 p.m. match with Abilene High.

Baylor shines at Alamo Bowl

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — If that really was Heisman Trophy winner Robert Griffin III's final college game, what an incredible way to go out.

Just ask him.

"We went out in style!" Griffin shouted to his teammates.

It was amazing the Baylor quarterback had any breath left at all. Not after a record-shattering Alamo Bowl that might not only be remembered as the highest-scoring regulation bowl game in history, but also possibly as Griffin's last addition to his legacy in Waco.

The AP Player of the Year wasn't dazzling Thursday night, but he didn't need to be as No. 15 Baylor still pulled out an incredible 67-52 victory over Washington.

If it was RG3's final showcase before jumping to the NFL, it was a gripping goodbye to watch. One of the nation's most electrifying players was upstaged by an even more exciting nail-biter that shattered the previous record for points in regulation set in the 2001 GMAC Bowl.

Fans showered Griffin with chants of "One more year! One more year!" as he paraded the Alamo Bowl trophy around the field. He stopped at the front-row stands and showed off his prize to his mother, who has already been looking at her son's NFL draft prospects.

Griffin said he'll start looking, too, soon enough.

For now, there was still the craziness of this game to sort through.

"I want Baylor nation to enjoy this," Griffin said. "It's not about me. I've got about two weeks. I'll enjoy this the next day, and then the next day, and then I'll make it."

The previous bowl re-

cord for a regulation game was 102 points in the 2001 GMAC Bowl between Marshall and East Carolina. That game ended with overtime and ended with a combined 125 points, which still stands as the overall bowl record.

Baylor, which a bowl game for the first time since 1992, and Washington (7-6) also set a bowl record for total offense with 1,397 yards.

"We just knew we needed to score," Washington quarterback Keith Price said. "We needed to score fast, just to give our defense a boost."

Griffin had an unremarkable night, throwing just one touchdown pass and running for another score. But Terrance Ganaway starred ably in his place, rushing for 200 yards and five touchdowns. His last was a 43-yard run with 2:28 left to seal Baylor's first 10-win season since 1980.

Price outplayed his Heisman counterpart, going 23 for 27 with 438 yards and four touchdowns. He also ran for another three scores.

"I think we'll have a hard time this bowl season to see a quarterback play as well as he did," Washington coach Steve Sarkisian.

Griffin was 24 of 33 for 295 yards — and his only touchdown throw came on the game's opening drive.

Blown out in four other games against ranked opponents this season, the Huskies finally made one interesting. Not that it started that way after Baylor ran up 245 yards of offense alone in the first quarter — awful even by the standards of Washington's defense, which is among the nation's worst.

Price, a sophomore who

See **BAYLOR**, Page 3B

Durant downs Mavs with a last-second 3-point shot

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Kevin Durant thought he might have just given away a victory and let the Dallas Mavericks steal another one in heartbreaking fashion.

Then he found a way to take it right back.

Durant scored 30 points and hit a 3-pointer at the final buzzer to lift the Oklahoma City Thunder to a 104-102 win against Dallas on Thursday night in a rematch of last season's Western Conference finals.

"As a kid, of course you

dream about hitting a game-winning shot in the NBA," said Durant, who has hit two other game-winners at the buzzer in his five seasons.

"It's a dream come true."

The Thunder let Dallas wipe away a five-point deficit in the final 46 seconds to go ahead on Vince Carter's 3-pointer with 1.4 seconds remaining. That was just enough time for Thabo Sefolosha to get the ball to Durant, who drilled a 3 from the right wing that improved his team to 4-0.

"It was crazy, a crazy course

of events," Durant said. "When two tough teams always go at it, it always comes down to the last play."

Dirk Nowitzki had 29 points and 10 rebounds to lead the Mavericks, whose title defense is off to a 0-3 start. Dallas had been blown out in its first two losses against Miami and Denver before letting a close one slip away.

"I think the more we go out and just play the game itself more, good things happen on

See **MAVS**, Page 3B

Florida State tops the Irish

ORLANDO (AP) — There were moments during the Champs Sports Bowl when Florida State and Notre Dame resembled the dominant programs they were a decade ago.

There also were moments when it was clear that though both have made progress the past two years under their young, eager coaches, it's not time to celebrate their returns just yet.

That sentiment was not lost on Florida State coach Jimbo Fisher after the No. 25 Seminoles rallied to beat the Irish 18-14 on Thursday night.

"This team has been through a lot," Fisher said. "We've had a lot of trials and tribulations with injuries, tightly played games, and a lot of people doubted it. But I said all along this team has a special character to it. It always does. It competes."

He was proud of how his team overcame a dismal first half and 14-point third-quarter deficit.

E.J. Manuel threw two touchdown passes, and Dustin Hopkins made two field goals to help to the Seminoles earn their fourth straight bowl victory and second straight under Fisher.

Florida State receiver Rashad Greene, who

caught one of Manuel's touchdown passes and had a team-high five catches for 99 yards, was selected the game's MVP.

It all helped put a happy face on a night when the Seminoles' offensive line surrendered at least five sacks for the second time this year and the offense had a fumble returned for a touchdown.

Due to injuries, Fisher was forced to start four freshmen on the line.

The Seminoles finished the game with 290 yards, went 3 for 14 on third down, and got an efficient night from Manuel. He played behind a young offensive line, but was 20 for 31 passing for 249 yards.

Manuel said none of the early miscues mattered at the end of the game, though.

"We had a very good finish," Manuel said. "We play for each other, not individual stats and performance. We just beat Notre Dame. We're going to feel good for months."

The Irish had three turnovers — all

See **IRISH**, Page 3B



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BAYLOR

From Page 1B

threw a school-record 29 touchdown passes in his first year as the starter, began cutting into a 21-7 deficit with a 12-yard scoring strike to James Johnson. Seven minutes later, Washington tied it when Devin Aguilar somersaulted over the goal line after catching a 1-yard lob.

The overwhelming crowd of Baylor fans — decked in green-and-gold Heisman shirts and armed with signs such as “Superman wears RG3 socks” — stood in stunned silence. That gave way to disbelieving gasps on the next series, when the typically sure-handed Griffin fumbled after getting popped by Andrew Hudson.

After that, it was practically a free-for-all of big plays.

A 56-yard touchdown dash by Chris Polk. An 80-yard touchdown catch by Washington's Jermaine Kearse two plays into the second half. An 89-yard scoring rumble Ganaway. Kearse again, catching and darting for 60 yards before getting dragged down, setting up Price's fourth touchdown toss the next play.

Back and forth, back and forth. One after another. In all, five plays covered 50 or more yards, three of them for scores.

“That was crazy,” Baylor coach Art Briles said.

For an Alamo Bowl short on drama and light on matchups in recent years, it was a thrilling scoring spree that overshadowed the mere novelty of featuring the Heisman winner. And that in itself was a rarity for a bowl of this stature. Not since Ty Detmer took BYU to the Holiday Bowl in 1990, had a Heisman winner played in a bowl before New Year's Day.

Plenty came to see this one.

Anticipating a surge of Heisman gawkers, Alamo Bowl officials added 800 temporary seats and opened up others with obstructed views that required ticket-buyers to sign a form acknowledging the poor sightlines. Those seats sold, anyway, and the announced attendance of 65,256 was the fifth-largest in the bowl's history.

Others had better seats.

That includes Miami Dolphins general manager Jeff Ireland, who kicked for Baylor in the late 1980s but was here on business scouting Griffin in case the fourth-year junior enters the draft. Griffin's parents, two sisters and fiancée watched from front-row seats.

Griffin acknowledged this week his parents are looking at his draft prospects but denies having any substantial talks with them.

Win or lose, it was an impressive finale for Washington after stumbling into the postseason losing four of its last six. Particularly against a ranked team after then-Top 25 opponents Nebraska, Stanford, Oregon and USC all crushed the Huskies by an average of 24 points.

IRISH

From Page 1B

interceptions by quarterbacks Tommy Rees and Andrew Hendrix — and gave up four sacks of their own.

Notre Dame shuffled between Rees and Hendrix throughout the game, but both struggled. They were a combined 19 for 35 for 187 yards. The Irish also were a paltry 1 for 3 inside the red zone.

Florida State scored on all four of its red-zone chances.

“We know what we need to do,” Irish coach Brian Kelly said. We've already talked about it, and the players that are going to be back for the 2012 football season will be committed to getting that end done.”

The Irish also were without

their biggest offensive star, with receiver Michael Floyd being forced to the sideline following a third-quarter touchdown catch with what Kelly described as an “upper-body injury.”

Floyd returned to the game, but was a non-factor. Kelly, who made Floyd a game captain in his final college game, said he hated to see Floyd in that predicament.

“You remember the guys that overcome, the guys that compete in battle, and he did that today,” Kelly said.

One of the guys that the Irish will have back is junior linebacker Manti Te'o. He led Notre Dame with 13 tackles and a got in on one of the sacks. He said fatigue wasn't a factor in the Irish not being able to maintain pressure on Manuel in the fourth quarter. Though they held Florida State's

offense under its season average of 31 points, Te'o said he knows the players coming back weren't please, which is a welcomed sign for next season.

“We still allowed the opposing offense to put points on the board, and that's not something we want to do, but we just have to keep good enough off of this year,” he said. “... We'll start to get better as a team, not only as a defense because we're going to win or lose as a team. It doesn't matter, and we just have to stay together and just focus on the little things.”

After some stagnant offense on both sides in the first half, Florida State trailed 14-0 early in the third quarter before finding some momentum through the air. The Seminoles cut it to 14-9 on Manuel's 18-yard touchdown to Bert Reed to open the fourth quarter.

MAVS

From Page 1B

the court,” Shawn Marion said.

“We've got to just go out there and stop worrying about other things and just go out there and just play the game and just play hard.”

Russell Westbrook had 16 points in his second straight subpar performance, but he made up for it with a few critical plays down the stretch.

He started the game 3 for 11 — with one of the makes coming when Jason Kidd blocked his shot and Brendan Haywood tipped it up and in — and had seven turnovers before getting a longer-than-usual benching in favor of Eric Maynor.

Westbrook returned when the game got close midway through the fourth quarter, providing a momentary lead with a two-handed breakaway dunk that turned into a three-point play.

He followed that with a

17-footer from the right wing for a 96-93 lead, but the Mavericks — who made it a habit to stage late comebacks against Oklahoma City in last season's West finals — had a few tricks left.

Nowitzki tied it at 96 with a 3-pointer but, after a Durant jumper, was called for a technical foul for arguing an offensive foul. Durant hit that foul shot and Westbrook added another jumper from the right elbow to put Oklahoma City up 101-96 with 46 seconds left.

Jason Terry hit a 3-pointer to get Dallas within two. Durant then missed a 3-pointer at the other end and Serge Ibaka missed both of his free throws after getting fouled on an offensive rebound.

Nowitzki pitched it back to Carter for the go-ahead 3, and Durant blamed himself for going for a block against Nowitzki and leaving Carter open. Durant returned to the bench for a timeout, with rookie

Reggie Jackson screaming encouragement that he was going to hit the game-winner.

“I just tried to be confident, tell myself I could make it and luckily I did,” Durant said.

“It's special to hit a game-winner,” he added.

“The season's still young. To beat the champs in the early season is always pretty cool, but we've got to move on and get ready for the next game.”

Ibaka finished with 16 points, eight rebounds and three blocks for Oklahoma City.

Terry had 16 points and nine assists, and DeLonte West scored 15 for the Mavericks, who rallied from 15 points down in the final 5 minutes of regulation in Game 4 of the West finals — the teams' last meeting that counted in the arena. Dallas also overcame an eight-point, fourth-quarter deficit in the clinching Game 5.

Before the game, both Oklahoma City All-Stars downplayed a report in The Oklahoman of a dispute between them during the team's win at Memphis a night earlier.

sudoku

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

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

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Bidding Quiz

You have the following hand. What would you bid?
 ♠ A Q 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
 ♥ A K J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
 ♦ A K J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
 ♣ A K J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

1. Partner bids 4♦. Diamond, not a trump suit. You should pass. (4♦ is a weak bid, but you should pass because you have a better hand.)
2. Your right-hand opponent has bid 4♦. You should pass. (4♦ is a weak bid, but you should pass because you have a better hand.)
3. After two passes, you are dealt your hand. You should bid 4♦. (You have a good hand, and you should bid 4♦.)
4. You open 4♦. Partner bids 4♥. You should pass. (4♥ is a weak bid, but you should pass because you have a better hand.)

1. Four Notrump. Partner bids 4♥. You should pass. (4♥ is a weak bid, but you should pass because you have a better hand.)

2. Three Hearts. You should bid 4♥. (You have a good hand, and you should bid 4♥.)

3. Three Clubs. When you bid 3♣, partner will bid 3♦. You should pass. (3♦ is a weak bid, but you should pass because you have a better hand.)

4. Four Notrump. You should bid 4NT. (You have a good hand, and you should bid 4NT.)

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McCoy still not cleared to practice

BEREA, Ohio (AP) — Colt McCoy didn't want to relive any of what happened to him three weeks ago.

It's not clear if he remembers that night in Pittsburgh. The Browns' young quarterback wants to move on from a concussion that ended his season, spawned a controversy and prompted the NFL to do more to treat injured players.

Sporting a newly grown beard, McCoy said Thursday that he's "feeling better" and making progress from the concussion he sustained on Dec. 8 from a helmet-to-helmet hit delivered by Steelers linebacker James Harrison. McCoy, who has not been medically cleared to practice since he was blasted by Harrison, refused to answer questions about what he recalls from the hit or what transpired in its aftermath.

McCoy, though, did praise Cleveland's medical staff for its handling of his concussion despite the team not testing him for a head injury on the sideline and sending him back in the game after sitting

out just two plays.

"Our medical staff does an outstanding job and that should never be in question," said McCoy, speaking for the first time since he was diagnosed with the concussion.

McCoy didn't want to talk about the vicious hit by Harrison, who lowered his head and delivered a crushing blow to the QB's facemask, knocking his feet out from under him and sprawling him on his back. McCoy also declined to reveal any of his symptoms or why he hasn't been allowed to return to the field.

"I just don't want to go there guys," McCoy said. "I really don't want to recreate anything. I don't even want to think about it. I can tell you that I'm feeling a lot better, especially of late. I really feel like I'm coming out of this, and I hope to at least be able to be out there this weekend and help my team."

McCoy was asked if he thought Harrison's hit was a cheap shot.

"No," he said. "I really have no opinion. I think the league

has handled that, and I'm doing the best that I can to move forward and do the best I can to get healthy and get back and help our team."

McCoy was equally vague when asked if Harrison deserved more than the one-game suspension he received.

"I really have no opinion on that," he said. "That's a league matter. That's completely out of my control."

Wearing a flannel overcoat and jeans, McCoy stood in front of his locker for nearly 10 minutes. He was typically polite and alert while addressing his injury, which has overshadowed the final month of Cleveland's season. Other than driving away from the team's facility, McCoy had not been seen since that fateful night at Heinz Field.

McCoy would not say if he has sought any outside medical opinions on his injury, and took the chance to again compliment the Browns' medical personnel.

"I don't want to go there, but our staff here has really been first class through all this and

they are doing a great job and again I really am making really good progress," he said. "They've said the same thing to me and I'm telling you the same thing. I'm feeling much better."

McCoy can't practice and it's obvious he won't play Sunday against the Steelers. Backup Seneca Wallace will make his third start in a row in place of McCoy, who won't get a final chance to prove to the Browns that he should be their long-term starter.

McCoy had an inconsistent second pro season, his first running coach Pat Shurmur's West Coast offense. McCoy expects to be evaluated in the offseason by Shurmur, general manager Tom Heckert and president Mike Holmgren like any other player.

"There's two things I can control: One, I can control how hard I work, how hard I prepare; and the second one is I can control how I feel," he said. "I want to be here. I love this city. I love my teammates. I'll do anything. I want to be here, so after that ... speculation has never gotten

me anywhere. I'm a factual guy. That's all I've got."

The Browns were criticized in many corners for their handling of McCoy's concussion. In the days that followed, the NFL sent a medical team to Cleveland to meet with the Browns and representative of the Players Association also took part in discussions to see what more could have been done.

Holmgren said the team did not test McCoy for a concussion during the game because trainers and doctors were busy treating other players and did not see Harrison's hit.

Those meetings led to the league instituting a change in its game-day policy on injuries. Teams must have a certified athletic trainer in the press box to monitor play and provide medical staffs with information to help them assist injured players.

Also, in the hours after McCoy was injured, his father condemned the Browns for not checking McCoy more thoroughly and sending him back into the game.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Poets and dreamers unite under the waxing moon in Pisces. Even those who do not usually identify with such titles may find themselves lost in a private vision, defining feelings in some new way or dancing to distant music that no one else seems to be able to hear. Life is likely to surprise us as we explore different realities.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll take the role of "guardian" quite seriously, and you'll start by guarding your own time and monitoring your own behavior. You realize that you can't change something if you can't account for it in the first place.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your environment will make a difference in how you feel. Place pictures of your supporters and those you admire

where you'll see them often. The right images around you will help you to work hard and be successful.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Each person has their own unique emotional makeup, so feelings may be more or less mutual, but not exactly. You'll connect in a way that feels right to you, and so will the other person.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You know that you have the courage and the power to accomplish your goal. The question is: Do you have the stamina? Will you keep going even



HOLIDAY MATHIS

after it's not as fun, glamorous or new? Today you prove that you will.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll see the first signs that someone is attracted to you, and you'll enjoy the attention to the extent that it's appropriate for your life. You'll take everyone's feelings into account.

sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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Howard County Junior College District STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS Year Ended August 31, 2011

REVENUES	2011
Operating revenues	
Tuition and fees (net of discounts of \$4,154,939)	\$3,539,834
Federal grants and contracts	2,405,435
State grants and contracts	1,203,469
Local grants and contracts	31,254
Nongovernmental grants and contracts	1,579,904
Sales and services of educational activities	338,381
Auxiliary enterprises (net of discounts of \$966,257)	423,853
Other operating revenues	556,058
Total operating revenues	<u>10,078,188</u>
EXPENSES	
Operating expenses	
Instruction	12,249,845
Public service	1,119,832
Academic support	1,590,954
Student services	2,685,368
Institutional support	6,151,810
Operation and maintenance of plant	3,527,994
Scholarships and fellowships	5,018,877
Auxiliary enterprises	1,555,125
Depreciation	1,357,850
Total operating expenses	<u>32,257,655</u>
Operating loss	(25,179,467)
NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)	
State appropriations	13,496,753
Property taxes for operations	4,388,681
Property taxes for debt service	1,724,889
Payments in lieu of taxes	134,825
Federal revenue, non operating	7,291,166
Investment income (net of investment expenses)	16,493
Interest on capital related debt	(698,967)
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	(594)
Other non-operating revenues	404,833
Net non-operating revenues	<u>26,758,079</u>
Income before other revenue	1,578,612
Other revenue	
Capital contributions	879,103
Increase in net assets	2,457,715
Net assets - beginning of year	<u>33,143,569</u>
Net assets - end of year	<u>\$35,601,284</u>

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS AND INTENT TO OBTAIN AIR PERMIT AMENDMENT AND RENEWAL AIR QUALITY PERMIT NUMBER 50209

APPLICATION Alon USA, L.P., has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an amendment to and renewal of Air Quality Permit Number 50209, which would authorize modifications to and continued operation of the petroleum refinery located at 200 Refinery Road, Big Spring, Howard County, Texas 79720. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to application.

<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=32.269444&lng=101.421388&zoom=13&type=r>

The existing facility and/or related facilities will emit the following air contaminants: nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, organic compounds, and particulate matter including particulate matter with diameters of 10 microns or less and 2.5 microns or less.

The applications were submitted to the TCEQ on November 28, 2011. The permit renewal will be issued in conjunction with the amendment. This permitting action also includes the incorporation of the following previous authorizations or changes to authorized facilities related to this permit: standard permits and changes in emission factors. The reasons for any changes or incorporations, to the extent they are included in the renewed permit, may include the enhancement of operational control at the plant or enforceability of the permit. The applications will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ central office, the TCEQ Midland regional office, and the Howard County Library, 500 South Main Street, Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The facility's compliance file, if any exists, is available for public review in the Midland regional office of the TCEQ.

The executive director has determined the applications are administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application.

PUBLIC COMMENT/PUBLIC MEETING You may submit public comments, a request for a public meeting, or request a contested case hearing to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. The TCEQ will consider all public comments in developing a final decision on the applications. The deadline to submit public comments is 30 days after newspaper notice is published.

The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or ask questions about the applications. A public meeting about the applications will be held if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the applications or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

If only comments are received on the applications, the response to comments, along with notice of the executive director's action on the applications, will be mailed to everyone who submitted comments or is on the mailing list for these applications.

The executive director will complete the technical review, issue a

preliminary decision on the applications, and a Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision will be published and mailed to those who are on the mailing list for these applications. That notice will contain the final deadline for submitting public comments. If a hearing request is timely filed in Response to this Notice of Receipt of Application and Intent to Obtain Air Permit, the time period for requesting a contested case hearing will be extended to thirty days after the mailing of the executive director's response to comments.

After the final deadline for public comments following the Notice of application and Preliminary Decision, the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. If comments are received, the response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the applications, will then be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or is on a mailing list for these applications.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING You may request a contested case hearing. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court. Unless a written request for a contested case hearing is filed within 30 days from this notice, the executive director may approve the applications. A contested case hearing will only be granted based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decisions on the applications. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on issues raised by you or others during the public comment period and not withdrawn.

A person who may be affected by emissions of air contaminants from the facility is entitled to request a hearing. If requesting a contested case hearing, you must submit the following: (1) your name (or for a group or association, an official representative), mailing address, daytime phone number, and fax number, if any; (2) applicant's name and permit number; (3) the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing;" (4) a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the application and air emissions from the facility in a way not common to the general public; (5) the location and distance of your property relative to the facility; and (6) a description of how you use the property which may be impacted by the facility. If the request is made by a group or an association, the one or more members who have standing to request a hearing and the interests which the group or association seeks to protect, must also be identified. You may also submit your proposed adjustments to the applications/permit which would satisfy your concerns.

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the executive director will forward the applications and any requests for contested case hearing to the Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact relating to relevant and material air quality concerns raised during the comment period. Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the Commission's jurisdiction to address in this proceeding.

Legals

MAILING LIST In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list to receive future public notices for this specific applications mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk by sending a written request to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html, or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. If you communicate with the TCEQ electronically, please be aware that your email address, like your physical mailing address, will become part of the agency's public record. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the Public Education Program toll free at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea informacion en Espanol, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from Alon USA, L.P., P.O. Box 1311, Big Spring, Texas 79721-1311 or by calling Mr. Weinan Chen, Environmental Group Leader at (432)263-9214. Notice Issuance Date: December 5, 2011

COMISION DE CALIDAD AMBIENTAL DEL ESTADO DE TEXAS AVISO DE RECEPCION DE SOLICITUD E INTENCION DE OBTENER RENOVACION DE PERMISO ATMOSFERICO PERMISO NUM. 50209

SOLICITUD Alon USA Big Spring Refinery, ha solicitado a la Comision de Calidad Ambiental del Estado de Tejas (TCEQ por sus siglas en ingles) renovacion del Permiso Num. 50209 de Calidad Atmosferica el cual autorizaria la operacion continua de una Big Spring Refinery Ground Rubber Asphalt (GTR) Facilities Interstate Highway 20 and Refinery Road, Big Spring, Condado de Howard, Tejas. Este enlace a un mapa electronico de la ubicacion general del sitio o de la instalacion es proporcionado como una cortesia y no es parte de la solicitud o del aviso. Para la ubicacion exacta, consulte la solicitud.

<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=32.269444&lng=101.421388&zoom=13&type=r>

La planta existente tiene la autorizacion de emitir los siguientes contaminantes atmosfericos: compuesto organicos, NOx (oxidos de nitrogeno CO (monoxido de carbono), SO2 (oxidos de azufre), H2S (sulfuro de hidrogeno), materia en particulas, y amonaco (PM incluido PM10 or less and 2.5 microns or less).

Esta solicitud se le presento a TCEQ el November 28, 2011. La solicitud estaran disponibles para ser revisados y copiados en la Oficina central de TCEQ, para revisarla y sacarle copia, en la oficina regional de TCEQ en Midland regional office, y Howard County Library, 500 South Main, Big Spring, Howard County, Tejas. El expediente de cumplimiento de la planta, si existe alguno, esta disponible para su revision en la oficina regional del TCEQ en the Midland regional office..

El director ejecutivo de TCEQ ha determinado que la solicitud esta administrativamente completa y llevara a cabo una revision tecnica de la solicitud. La informacion que se incluye en la solicitud indica que esta renovacion del permiso no resultaria en un aumento de emisiones permisibles y no

resultaria en la emision de un contaminante atmosferico que no hubiera emitido anteriormente. TCEQ puede actuar en esta solicitud sin buscar comentarios publicos adicionales o dar la oportunidad para una audiencia de caso impugnado si se cumple con ciertos criterios.

COMENTARIOS PUBLICOS Usted puede presentar comentarios publicos, o solicitar una audiencia de caso impugnado a la Oficina del Funcionario Jefe al domicilio a continuacion. TCEQ tomara en cuenta todos los comentarios publicos en la decision final de la solicitud. La fecha limite para presentar comentarios publicos es 15 dias despues de que se publique el aviso en el periodico. Despues de la fecha limite para comentarios publicos, el director ejecutivo preparara una respuesta para todos los comentarios publicos pertinentes y materiales o importantes. Valor de la propiedad, ruido, seguridad de trafico y zonificacion se encuentran fuera de la jurisdiccion de TCEQ para abordar en el proceso del permiso.

Despues de que se concluya la revision tecnica de la solicitud, el director ejecutivo tomara en cuenta los comentarios y preparara una respuesta para todos los comentarios publicos pertinentes y materiales o significativos. Si solo se reciben comentarios, la respuesta a los comentarios, junto con la decision del director ejecutivo con respecto a la solicitud se enviara por correo a todas aquellas personas que presentaron comentarios publicos o que se encuentran en la lista de correos para esta solicitud, a no ser que la solicitud se refiera directamente a una audiencia de caso impugnado.

OPORTUNIDAD PARA UNA AUDIENCIA DE CASO IMPUGNADO Usted puede solicitar una audiencia de caso impugnado. El solicitante o el director ejecutivo tambien pueden presentar una peticion para que la solicitud haga referencia directamente a una audiencia de caso impugnado despues de la revision tecnica de la solicitud. Una audiencia de caso impugnado es un proceso legal similar a un juicio civil en el tribunal de distrito del estado. A menos que se presente una solicitud para una audiencia de caso impugnado dentro de 15 dias de esta notificacion, el director ejecutivo puede autorizar la solicitud. Si no se recibe una solicitud para audiencia dentro de 15 dias, no se dara otra oportunidad para una audiencia. De acuerdo a la Ley del Aire Limpio del Estado de Tejas § 382.056(o) solo se puede conceder una audiencia de caso impugnado si el historial de cumplimiento del solicitante se encuentra en la clasificacion mas baja de acuerdo a los requisitos de historial de cumplimiento que aplican y si la peticion para audiencia esta basada en cuestiones debatibles de hecho que son pertinentes y materiales para la decision de la Comision con respecto a la solicitud. Ademmas, la Comision solo concedera una audiencia sobre cuestiones que se presenten durante el periodo de comentarios publicos y no se retiran.

Una persona que puede estar afectada por contaminantes de emisiones atmosfericas de una planta tiene derecho a solicitar una audiencia. Si se solicita una audiencia de caso impugnado, debe presentar lo siguiente: (1) su nombre (o para un grupo o asociacion, un representante oficial), direccion, numero del telefono y numero de facsimile si lo tiene; (2) el nombre del solicitante y numero de permiso;

(3) la declaracion "[yo/nosotros] solicito una audiencia de un caso impugnado", (4) una descripcion especifica de como se veria adversamente afectado por la solicitud y emisiones atmosfericas de la planta de manera que no es comun para el publico en general; (5) la ubicacion y distancia de su propiedad con relacion a la planta; y (6) una Descripcion de como emplea la propiedad a la cual pueda ser impactada por la planta. Si la peticion la hace un grupo o asociacion, el miembro o miembros que tienen derecho a solicitar una audiencia y los intereses que el grupo o la asociacion busca proteger, tambien se deben identificar. Tambien puede presentar los ajustes que propone hacer a la solicitud/ permiso que pueden satisfacer sus preocupaciones. Las peticiones para una audiencia de caso impugnado se deben presentar por escrito dentro de 15 dia despues de aviso, a la Oficina del Funcionario Jefe a la direccion a continuacion.

Si se registra oportunamente una peticion para audiencia de caso impugnado, el director ejecutivo enviara la solicitud y cualquier peticion para una audiencia de caso impugnado a los comisionados de TCEQ para su consideracion durante la reunion programada de la Comision. Excepto si la solicitud se refiere directamente a una audiencia de caso impugnado, el director ejecutivo enviara por correo la respuesta a los comentarios junto con la notificacion de la reunion de la Comision a todas aquellas personas que hayan hecho comentarios o si se encuentran en la lista de correspondencia para esta solicitud. Si se concede la audiencia, el tema de la audiencia estara limitado a casos debatibles de hecho relacionados a intereses pertinentes y materiales de calidad atmosferica que se hayan presentado durante el periodo del comentarios. Cuestiones tales como valor de la propiedad, ruido, seguridad de trafico y zonificacion no estan dentro de la jurisdiccion de la Comision para abordar en este proceso judicial.

LISTA DE CORRESPONDENCIA Aparte de presentar comentarios publicos, puede solicitar que lo /la incluyan en la lista de correos para recibir en el futuro avisos publicos para esta solicitud especifica que envia por correo la Oficina del Funcionario Jefe enviando una peticion por escrito a la Oficina del Funcionario Jefe de TCEQ a la direccion a continuacion.

INFORMACION Los comentarios publicos o peticiones para una reunion publica o audiencia de caso impugnado se debe presentar a la Oficina del Funcionario Jefe, MC-105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Tejas 78711-3087, o por el Internet al

www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments/html

Para mayor informacion acerca de esta solicitud para permiso o el proceso para permisos, favor de llamar a la Oficina de Asistencia al Publico, al 1-800-687-4040. Si requiere informacion general de TCEQ dirigirse al portal electronico www.tceq.state.tx.us.

Se puede obtener informacion adicional del Alon USA, L.P. P.O. Box 1311, Big Spring, Tejas, 79721-1311, o al llamar Dr. Weinan Chen, Environmental Group Leader at (432)263-9214. Fecha de Expedicion: December 5, 2011

#7197 December 30, 2011

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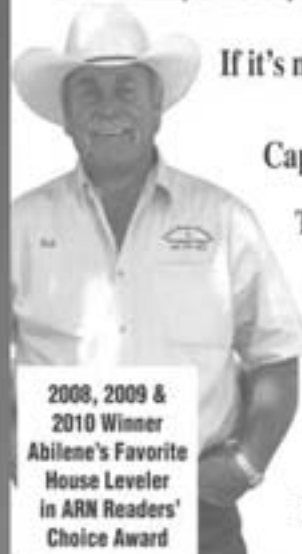
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5:PM	News ABC	Alma Notic.	Big Bang Big Bang	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News News	King King	Bible Enarson	Charlie Rose	Til Death King	Gold Rush	Wild West, Kenneth Branagh	Best of PRIDE	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Shake It Good	NFL32	
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Cuando Me	Two Men Two Men	News Ent	Pelicula: 2 Fast 2 Furious (SS)	News Millionaire	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Dr. Denis Upd	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Gold Rush		Best of PRIDE	Law & Order		Good Jessie	College Basketball	College Football: Franklin American Mortgage Music City Bowl
7:PM	Chronicles of Narnia: Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe	Una Familia con Suerte (SS)	Kitchen Nightmares	A Gifted Man		Chuck	Payne Payne	Door-Wisdom	Wash. Need	The Secret Circle	Gold Rush	Movie: The Addams Family	UFC Un-leashed	Movie: Transformers, Josh Duhamel	Movie: Undercover Brother	Austin A.N.T. Farm	College Basketball	
8:PM		Rosa de Guadalupe	Simpsons How I Met	Blue Bloods			Payne Payne	Best of Light of the Southwest	American Masters	The Secret Circle	Gold Rush		UFC 141 Prelims		Movie: Soul Plane, Method Man	Good Good		College Football: Insight Bowl -- Iowa vs. Oklahoma.
9:PM			Raymond	Letterman	Noticias Titulares	News Sin Senos	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Upd Alewine	Stamp	Cops Til Death	Gold Rush	Movie: Ad-dams Family Values	Gangland		Movie: Deep Impact, Elijah Wood	Austin Austin	SportsCenter	
10:PM	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	How I Met Raymond	Letterman	Noticias Titulares	News Sin Senos	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Upd Alewine	Stamp	Cops Til Death	Gold Rush	Movie: Ad-dams Family Values	Gangland		Movie: Deep Impact, Elijah Wood	Austin Austin	SportsCenter	
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Hasta-Dinero	Law Order: CI	Late	Decisiones (SS)	Late Night	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Upd Alewine	Stamp	Cops Til Death	Gold Rush	Movie: Ad-dams Family Values	Gangland		Movie: Deep Impact, Elijah Wood	Austin Austin	SportsCenter	
12:AM	Extra Paid	Mañana-Siempre	Raymond Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	Holiday Gift Guide	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Upd Alewine	Stamp	Cops Til Death	Gold Rush	Movie: Ad-dams Family Values	Gangland		Movie: Deep Impact, Elijah Wood	Austin Austin	SportsCenter	
1:AM	Paid	La Jaula Par Ases	American Ent	Paid	Paid	Today	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Upd Alewine	Stamp	Cops Til Death	Gold Rush	Movie: Ad-dams Family Values	Gangland		Movie: Deep Impact, Elijah Wood	Austin Austin	SportsCenter	

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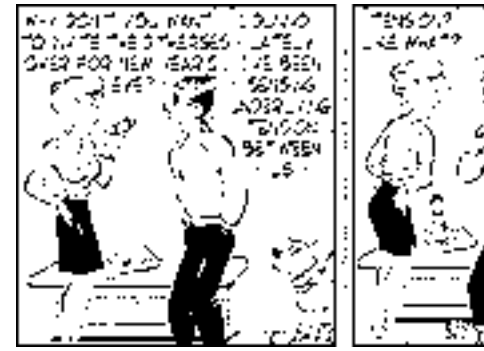


"Reaching down and liftin' somebody up."

HAGAR



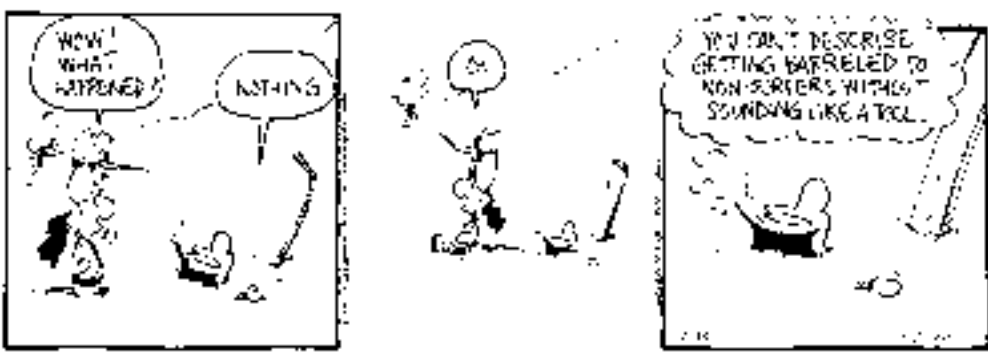
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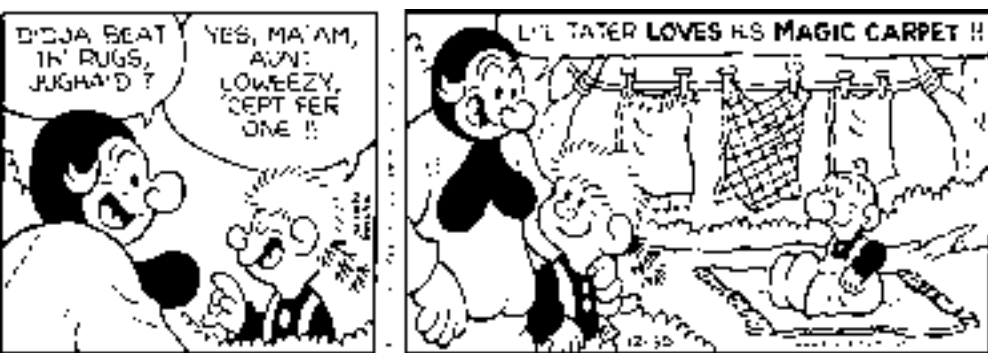
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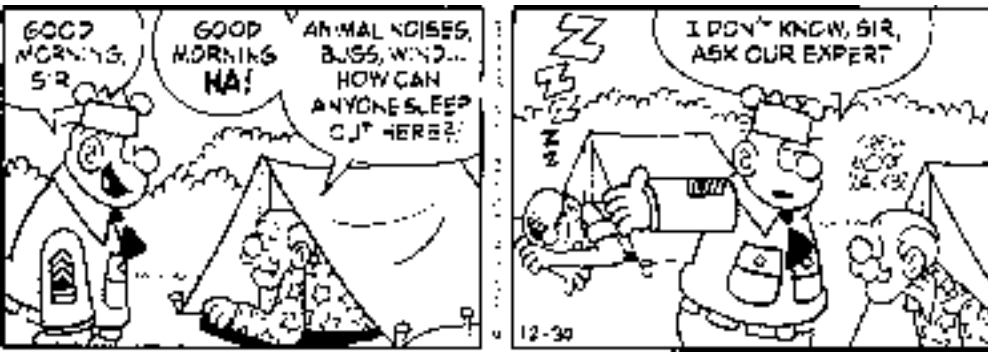
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Friday, Dec. 30, the 364th day of 2011. There is one day left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 30, 1936, the United Auto Workers union staged its first "sit-down" strike at the General Motors Fisher Body Plant No. 1 in Flint, Mich. (The strike lasted until Feb. 11, 1937.)

On this date:

In 1813, the British burned Buffalo, N.Y., during the War of 1812.

In 1853, the United States and Mexico signed a treaty under which the U.S. agreed to buy some 45,000 square miles of land from Mexico for \$10 million in a deal known as the Gadsden Purchase.

In 1860, 10 days after South Carolina seceded from the Union, the state militia seized the United States Arsenal in Charleston.

In 1903, about 600 people died when fire broke out at the

recently opened Iroquois Theater in Chicago.

In 1922, Vladimir I. Lenin proclaimed the establishment of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

In 1940, California's first freeway, the Arroyo Seco Parkway connecting Los Angeles and Pasadena, was officially opened by Gov. Culbert L. Olson.

In 1948, the Cole Porter musical "Kiss Me, Kate" opened on Broadway.

In 1965, Ferdinand Marcos was inaugurated for his first term as president of the Philippines.

In 1972, the United States halted its heavy bombing of North Vietnam.

In 1994, a gunman walked into a pair of suburban Boston abortion clinics and opened fire, killing two employees. (John C. Salvi III was later convicted of murder; he died in prison, an apparent suicide.)

Today's Birthdays: Actor Joseph Bologna is 77. Actor Russ Tamblyn is 77. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Sandy Koufax is 76. Actor Jack Riley is 76. Folk singer Noel Paul Stookey is 74. TV director James Burrows is 71. Actor Fred Ward is 69.

Singer-musician Michael Nesmith is 69. Singer Davy Jones is 66. Actress Concetta Tomei (toh-MAY) is 66. Singer Patti Smith is 65. Rock singer-musician Jeff Lynne is 64. TV host Meredith Vieira is 58. Actress Sheryl Lee Ralph is 56. Actress Patricia Kalember is 55. Country singer Suzy Bogguss is 55. "Today" show co-host Matt Lauer is 54. Actress-comedian Tracey Ullman is 52. Rock musician Rob Hotchkiss is 51. Radio-TV commentator Sean Hannity is 50. Sprinter Ben Johnson is 50. Actor George Newbern is 48. Singer Jay Kay (Jamiroquai) is 42. Rock musician Byron McMackin (Pennywise) is 42. Actress Meredith Monroe is 42.

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Newsday Crossword

A+ by Richard Silvestr Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanwordz.com

- ACROSS
- 1 Business brass
- 5 Patrol areas
- 10 Judo school
- 14 Reunion attendees perhaps
- 15 Assign
- 16 Say it is so
- 17 Language of Pakistan
- 18 Aquarium fish
- 19 Measure roll
- 20 Cape Canaveral statistician?
- 23 Hershey brand
- 24 Reagan mil program
- 25 General on Chinese menus
- 28 Prone to scheming
- 29 Nut pudding ingredient
- 32 Disentangles
- 34 Why Bugs Bunny's dying?
- 35 Jazz singer name
- 39 Just like
- 40 precedent
- 41 What ghost chickens do?
- 45 Paissorie offering
- 47 Petro-Canada competitor
- 48 PD alert
- 51 Citizen Kane stucco
- 52 Enthusiasm
- 54 High pitched goat-ran?
- 60 Senate leadership post
- 62 Pra se highly
- 63 Fails to be

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