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BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY

NOVEMBER 5, 2012



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VOLUME 108, NUMBER 20

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HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

With the November general election falling square on his 18th birthday, Brady Weber of Big Spring will spend it taking advantage of one his constitutional rights — voting in his first election. Weber said voting is his civic duty and those who don't participate shouldn't complain about the results. The Big Spring High School senior plans to pursue a career in the medical field following graduation.

Area voters head to polls

Officials: ID needed in order for people to cast ballots today

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

Voters looking to get in and out of local polling places as quickly and easily as possible in today's general election should make sure they are prepared, according to election officials

Polling locations opened at 7 a.m. and are slated to be open until 7 p.m., according to Howard County Elections Administrator Sandra Bloom.

"Our staff and election clerks are ready," Bloom said. "They will be doing their best to get voters in and out of the polling places as quickly and easily as possible throughout the day."

Bloom said voters must have some form of identification when they head to the polls today and what type of ID they bring could determine how quickly they get in and out.

"All voters must have some form of identification, or they will not be allowed to vote," Bloom said. "The Texas Voter ID law was struck down



by the federal courts earlier this year, so the rules regarding what types of identification can be accepted aren't nearly as strict as they would have been if it had been put into effect. A voter certificate, driver's license, state ID card or even a work ID are all acceptable.

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Few surprises expected in state races

By **WILL WEISSERT**
 Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Texas' top races on Election Day 2012 likely won't have many surprises, and those who went to vote Tuesday morning had to go further down the ballot to find the contests that might turn heads.

The easy calls: Mitt Romney will almost certainly win the state's 36 presidential electoral votes on Tuesday and

tea party-backed Republican Ted Cruz will likely complete a once seemingly impossible rise from virtual unknown ex-state solicitor general to the first Hispanic from Texas elected to the U.S. Senate, replacing the retiring Kay Bailey Hutchison.

Cruz's contest against underfunded, former Democratic state Rep. Paul Sadler was expected to be easy compared to his upset victory in the fierce Republican Senate

primary, when he shocked Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, the choice of the mainstream GOP.

The flow of voters was steady at a Lubbock elementary school where two Texas Tech University employees waited about 10 minutes before casting ballots that favored the Democrats.

Betty Blanton, 60, said she voted for President Barack Obama because she didn't think Romney had "what it

takes to move us forward."

"The economy is part of it," Blanton said. "But people keep saying Obama has ruined the economy. Well, look at the world. I mean the whole world is in a recession and I don't know why people think the United States isn't going to be affected."

Blanton and 49-year-old Celeste Yoshinoba picked Sadler over Cruz, and Yoshi-

See **STATE**, Page 3

Gail residents ready to light up holidays

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

GAIL — The calendar has barely flipped over to November, but residents of this Borden County community are busily preparing for one of the area's brightest (if not exactly biggest) Christmas celebrations.

The 19th annual Lighting of the Star on Gail Mountain will be held the day after Thanksgiving, Nov. 23, but preparations are already under way.

The event began in 1993, said Sarah Sharp, whose husband Ross designed the star.

"Some friends of ours had seen a similar star at El Paso and they came back and asked if we could build something like that," she said in a 2010 interview. "Ross said, 'Sure.'"

The star, which measures 20 feet by 20 feet and sits on a 4-foot base, features 742 bulbs and can be seen for miles in almost every direction, Sharp said.

The Sharps receive plenty of

help in getting the star ready for its annual display.

"Everyone from county employees to private community members to 4-H kids ... offers to help," Sarah said. "It really is a community event."

On the day of the event, the county courthouse and museum will both open at 5:30 p.m. Along with refreshments, Santa Claus will pay a visit to hear what the children have in mind for Christmas gifts.

In addition, community residents are asked to donate toys and gifts for Buckner's

Children Home again this year. Donated items — intended for children ages newborn to 18 years — must be dropped off at the courthouse by Dec. 10, organizers said.

For more information on the star lighting and related events, e-mail lightsforgail@yahoo.com, or visit the event's Facebook page, Lighting of the Star on Gail Mountain.

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

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Obituaries

Maxine Coleman



Maxine Coleman, 93, of Big Spring died Sunday, Nov. 4, 2012, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 7, 2012, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Rick Cunningham, minister of 14th and Main Church of Christ, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 6, 2012, at the funeral home.

Maxine was born March 28, 1919, to Samuel Edward and Stella Barbara Smith in Coahoma, Texas. She grew up in Coahoma, moved to Stanton, Texas for five years, and then to Big Spring. She graduated from Big Spring High School in 1936. Later, she became the office manager of Burrs Department Store. In 1939, she married Carl A. Coleman. After being a housewife and mother for several years, she went to work for the family business, Smith and Coleman Oil Company, as a bookkeeper.

She was a member of 14th and Main Church of Christ, where she taught Bible classes for 20 years. She was a member of the Ladies Lions Auxiliary and The Women for Abilene Christian Auxiliary.

Maxine was an excellent seamstress. She loved God, her family, friends and traveling.

Survivors include three daughters, Kay Wilson and Sue Lane and husband, Kenneth all of Big Spring, and Gayle Butts and husband, Howard of Midland; seven grandchildren, Tony Lane and wife, Jenifer of Abilene, Wendi Jenkins and husband, Richard of Big Spring, D'Carlton Gomez and husband, Mark of Big Spring, and Kenye Kay Tranum, Devin Butts and wife, Stori, Britton Butts and Brennan Butts, all of Midland; 11 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; one sister, Natalie Peurifoy of Canyon; and a number of nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Sam and Stella Smith; her husband, Carl A. Coleman; and a sister, Eadie Falkner.

The family suggests memorials be made to the 14th and Main Church of Christ Youth Group, 1401 Main St., Big Spring, Texas 79720.

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

Paid obituary

David L. Doyle



David L. Doyle, 89, of Big Spring died Monday, Nov. 5, 2012, at Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home. Graveside services with military honors will be held at 11:15 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 8, 2012, at DFW National Cemetery in Dallas, Texas.

He was born Nov. 19, 1922, in Oneida, Ken., to Mary Jane (Abner) and Lee Doyle. He married Vada Ruth Browning on Oct. 2, 1962, in Weatherford, Texas. She preceded him in death Nov. 4, 2005.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and Air Force, serving during World War II and in Korea. He was a resident of Big Spring since 1973 and ran a café in the bus station. He was a member of Baptist Temple Church.

He is survived by two sons, Brad Browning of Greenville and Randy Browning of Palestine; three daughters, Debbie Johnson of Ormand Beach, Fla., Shannon Creswell and Kelly Reitzer, both of Big Spring; three grandsons; one granddaughter; and five great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by one daughter, Jackie Doyle; and by nine brothers and sisters.

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

Nancy J. Brehm

Nancy J. Brehm, 48, of Big Spring died Monday, Nov. 5, 2012, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

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

- MARTIN ALBARES MORA, 35, of 1401 Nolan, was arrested Monday on warrants for disregarding a stop sign and expired driver's license.
- TERRI LYNN YANEZ, 47, of 1105 Ridgeroad Dr., was arrested Monday on two warrants from other agencies.
- BURGLARY was reported in the 3300 block of Auburn.

Sheriff

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

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

- TERRI LYNN YANEZ, 47, was booked into the county detention center Monday by the BSPD on a

Edwina Baggett Welch-Reagan



Edwina Baggett Welch-Reagan, 87, of Big Spring died Sunday, Nov. 4, 2012, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 8, 2012, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 7, 2012, at the funeral home.

She was born May 31, 1925, four miles north of Temple, Texas. She married Thomas (Tommy) A. Welch on May 31, 1943, in Temple. Tommy died Aug. 18, 1971. She married Bascom (Backie) E. Reagan, Sept. 2, 1981. He died March 7, 1992.

Edwina graduated from Temple High School in 1942. She and Tommy moved to Big Spring April 4, 1946. She assisted her husband in the T.A. Welch Housemoving and Trucking as well as several other small businesses. She worked part-time for Hughes Optical, and had owned and operated rental property in Big Spring.

She was a longtime member of Airport Baptist Church and has recently attended Berea Baptist Church. Edwina volunteered at the VA Medical Center, Hospice of the Southwest, Inc., RSVP Senior Volunteer Program and the American Red Cross. She loved to travel and frequently traveled with RSVP Travelers and Bilbrey Tours.

Survivors include her son, Thomas A. Welch, Jr. of Big Spring; daughters Sharon Ann Fisher of Palestine and Debra Riddle and husband, Phillip of San Antonio; a daughter-in-law, Susie Welch of Big Spring; step-brother, A.N. Standard of Big Spring, sisters Mary Sue Puckett of Belton, Pearl Faye Vance of Bedford, Texas, and Ola Mae Rutherford and husband, Ralph, of Somerset, KY; and brother Sam Baggett and wife, Neva of Iowa Park, Texas; 11 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and three great-great granddaughters. She is also survived by Backie's children, Danny Reagan, Coy Reagan, Eve Martin, Steve Reagan and Jim Reagan and their children.

She was preceded in death by her son Jimmy Welch of Big Spring; mother, Jewel Dyess Baggett of Temple; father, Frank Baggett of Big Spring; son-in-law Tony Fisher of Palestine, Texas; brothers, Marion Dean (Bubba) of Baytown, Texas, Howard Baggett of Lakeside City, Texas, Texas Baggett of Baytown, Pete Baggett of Baytown, Donald Baggett of Belton; and by sisters, Vertie Ramirez of Temple and Louise Crawford of El Paso.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be made to The Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or a charity of your choice.

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

motion to revoke probation for forgery of a financial instrument (two counts).

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of Nolan. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 3300 block of E. FM 700. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of E. 11th Place. Service refused.
- AUTOMOBILE FIRE was reported near the 169 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 100 block of W. Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1400 block of Wood. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of Veterans Blvd. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1100 block of W. Third Street. No patient found.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 3700 block of Wright. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1100 block of E. 14th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1100 block of Ridgeroad. One person was transported to SMMC.
- GRASS FIRE was reported in the 200 block of W. Marcy.
- GRASS FIRE was reported in the 1800 block of Hamilton.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 100 block of E. Third Street. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of Avenue G in Forsan. One person was transported to SMMC.

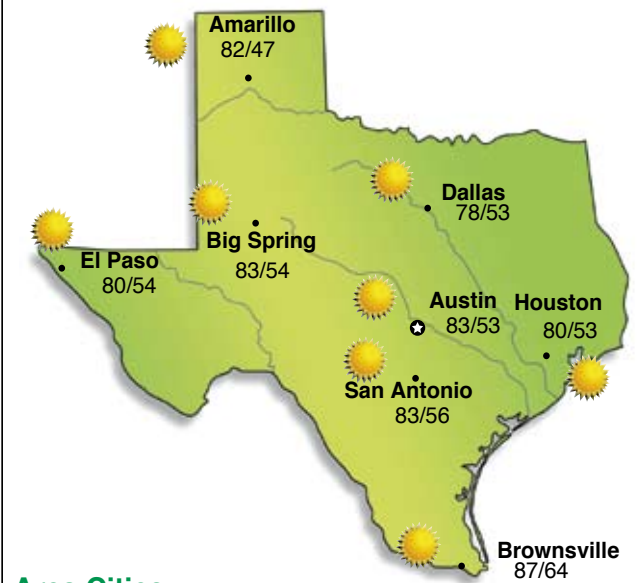
Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Thu 11/8	Fri 11/9	Sat 11/10	Sun 11/11	Mon 11/12
83/54 Sunny. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the mid 50s.	84/56 A few clouds. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the mid 50s.	83/57 Sunny. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the upper 50s.	81/52 Mainly sunny and windy. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the low 50s.	66/42 Windy with sunshine. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the low 40s.
Sunrise: 7:09 AM Sunset: 5:51 PM	Sunrise: 7:09 AM Sunset: 5:50 PM	Sunrise: 7:10 AM Sunset: 5:49 PM	Sunrise: 7:11 AM Sunset: 5:48 PM	Sunrise: 7:12 AM Sunset: 5:48 PM



Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	82	55	sunny	Kingsville	88	59	sunny
Amarillo	82	47	sunny	Livingston	79	46	sunny
Austin	83	53	sunny	Longview	74	47	sunny
Beaumont	77	49	sunny	Lubbock	81	48	sunny
Brownsville	87	64	sunny	Lufkin	79	48	sunny
Brownwood	84	54	sunny	Midland	83	55	sunny
Corpus Christi	84	62	sunny	Raymondville	88	60	sunny
Corsicana	78	51	sunny	Rosenberg	81	53	sunny
Dallas	78	53	sunny	San Antonio	83	56	sunny
Del Rio	86	56	sunny	San Marcos	83	52	sunny
El Paso	80	54	sunny	Sulphur Springs	74	50	sunny
Fort Stockton	85	56	sunny	Sweetwater	82	55	sunny
Gainesville	77	49	sunny	Tyler	76	49	sunny
Greenville	75	48	sunny	Weatherford	78	50	sunny
Houston	80	53	sunny	Wichita Falls	77	49	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	58	38	pt sunny	Minneapolis	44	35	sunny
Boston	46	40	rain	New York	43	39	rain
Chicago	45	33	mst sunny	Phoenix	87	60	sunny
Dallas	78	53	sunny	San Francisco	67	53	sunny
Denver	71	42	sunny	Seattle	50	39	rain
Houston	80	53	sunny	St. Louis	51	35	sunny
Los Angeles	75	57	sunny	Washington, DC	44	38	rain
Miami	76	55	sunny				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Thu 11/8	Fri 11/9	Sat 11/10	Sun 11/11	Mon 11/12
5	5	5	5	5
Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 3900 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 1600 block of S. State.
- OUTSIDE STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 4000 block of W. Highway 80.

Support Groups

TUESDAY

- Big Spring and Snyder Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month. This is a group for all Parkinson's disease patients, spouses and caregivers. For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-0942.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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Take note

- An account for the Bill Griffen family has been established at the Big Spring Education Employees Federal Credit Union, 1110 Benton. Griffen, a Big Spring resident, recently passed away and the family is in need of funds for funeral arrangements.
- Sonic is the Dine Out Day sponsor for United Way through Saturday. As a Dine Out Day sponsor, a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County 2013 campaign. Other sponsors for this year have included Papa Chons, Carlos, KC Steakhouse, Yellow Rose Café at Scenic Mountain, Cowboys and Crispy's. To find out how to contribute to the campaign, call Sandy Stewart at 267-5201.
- Adopt a Military Hero, Howard County's Christmas for the Troops, is accepting APO addresses for military members deployed to Afghanistan. E-Mail APOs to: adoptmilitaryhero@sbcglobal.net. All APOs should be turned in by Nov. 10. If you would like to "Adopt a Military Hero," boxes are available at 1606 E. Third or call 432-270-8554 for more information. All donations must be turned in by Nov.

- 21.
- An account has been set up at Western Bank for Kristen Lasater and family, who lost their home to a house fire. The account number, for those wanting to make a donation, is 1004597.
 - An account has been set up at Citizen's Credit Union for Emma Leos, who was recently diagnosed with colon cancer.
 - Jo Anna Bailey, an aide for many years at Washington Elementary School, has been diagnosed with cancer. A medical donation account has been established for her at the Big Spring Education Credit Union, located at 1110 Benton. Your generosity will enable her to have much-needed tests and treatment.
 - Compass Hospice is in need of your help. If you would be interested in offering your love and God's comfort to those who are suffering, or to their families, contact Michelle Coutermarsh at 263-5999 or come by 602 S. Main.

- Volunteers are needed in many categories including patient care. You may give as much or as little time as you wish. Any amount of time is greatly appreciated. Training is offered free of charge.
- An account has been established at Big Spring Community Federal Credit Union in the name of Glenda Berger, who was recently diagnosed with inoperable lung cancer. Donations will be used to help defer medical costs and mounting bills. All donations are greatly appreciated. Call Big Spring Community Federal Credit Union at 800-299-6761.
- The Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council needs assistance in The Chalet Resale Shoppe, 115 East Second St. The Chalet Resale Shoppe is a fast-paced retail shop specializing in gently worn clothing and small household appliance. Volunteers are needed to sort, price, check out and stock donated items. Volunteer hours are flexible. For more information, contact Jamey Stegall at james.stegall@dshs.state.tx.us or 432-268-7535.

ELECTION

Continued from Page 1

"Voters who have their voter certificate are going to be processed the quickest. Also, if you have your driver's license or state ID card, we can scan those and bring up your voter information very quickly. However, if you are using your ID from work, that's not something we can scan, so it will take slightly longer for us to look you up. If at all possible, voters should try to bring their voter certificate, driver's license or state ID when they come to the polls." Voters looking to cast

their ballots today can do so at the following polling places:

- County Election Precincts 11, 12, 12A, 13, 14, 16, 103 and 104 — Howard County Road and Bridge Office, located at 1000 N. San Antonio.
- County Election Precincts 24, 25, 26, 205 and 208 — Big Spring Mall, located at 1801 E. FM 700.
- County Election Precincts 32, 33, 34, 35 and 304 — First Baptist Church foyer, located at 705 W. FM 700.
- County Election Precincts 42, 45, 46, 404 and 405 — Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, located on the Howard College campus at 1001 Birdwell Lane.

- County Election Precincts 408 and 409 — First Baptist Church, located in Sand Springs at 8517 N. Service Rd.
- County Election Precincts 207 and 207C — Coahoma Community Center, located in Coahoma at 306 N. Avenue.

Voters have only one local race to decide the fate of, as the Precinct 1 seat on the Howard County Commissioners is contested with longtime Democratic incumbent Emma Brown facing Republican challenger Oscar Garcia.

The only other local issue on the ballot is aimed at balloters living within the Big Spring city limits, as the mu-

nicipal government is providing voters the opportunity to do away with the existing 4A economic development in favor of a new 4B economic development corporation.

The EDC sales tax was adopted by Big Spring voters May 5, 1990, and designated solely for use on Type A projects, which is restricted mainly to attracting employers and businesses to the Crossroads area and retaining jobs with existing employers.

However, a Type B corporation has looser restrictions placed on its spending, allowing for several other project types, including qual-

ity of life improvements such as professional and amateur sports and athletic facilities, related street, water and sewer facilities and affordable housing.

According to Texas law, however, Type A corporations can still approve Type B projects with voter approval. With a Type B corporation, no such vote from the public is required.

The move to change the corporation to a 4B comes on the heels of a Type B project to revamp the city's water treatment and wastewater facilities, approved in May.

In addition to the hotly contested presidential

race between incumbent Democratic nominee Barack Obama and Republican challenger Mitt Romney, voters are being asked to weigh in on the race for U.S. Senator between Dem Paul Sadler and GOP nominee Ted Cruz.

Races for Railroad Commissioner, Supreme Court Justice and Court of Criminal Appeals Judge are also on today's ballot.

For more information on the election, call 432-264-2273.

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

STATE

Continued from Page 1

noba said she was turned off by the tea party.

"It's just such a knee-jerk reaction," she said. "And what it's created is a lot of people to follow something they don't even know they're following. They're following an ideal that if they were to sit down and repeat it themselves, they'd be horrified that they were voting for these people."

Some of the nail-biters could come in the congressional races. Texas gets four new representatives in Congress thanks to adding 4.3 million residents between 2000 and 2010. Republicans are likely to take 23 seats Tuesday, one more than the 22 they won out of 32 possible seats two years ago.

A tight race is unfolding in a sprawling congressional district stretching from San Antonio to eastern El Paso County, where freshman Republican U.S. Rep. Francisco "Qui-co" Canseco is trying to fend off a challenge

from Democratic state Rep. Pete Gallego.

Another squeaker could be the race for the seat Ron Paul is giving up along the Gulf Coast, where Republican state Rep. Randy Weber is squaring off with former Democratic Congressman Nick Lampson.

In the likely winners with surprising backgrounds category is Republican former U.S. Rep. Steve Stockman, who served one term in Congress starting in 1994 but accused the government of "executing" members of the Branch Davidian cult after the siege near Waco. He's now likely headed back to Capitol Hill after waging a low-profile campaign for "re-election" in a district south of Houston.

Then there's Beto O'Rourke, a guitar-playing, twice-arrested former El Paso city councilman who once advocated for legalizing marijuana but nonetheless stunned eight-term incumbent Silvestre Reyes during the Democratic primary and now looks like a shoo-in to go to Congress from heavily Democratic District

16.

In the Texas House, Republicans look likely to lose the 102-vote supermajority that had allowed them to pass legislation even if their Democratic colleagues failed to show up for work. But the GOP will continue to dominate the legislative agenda. In all, 87 of the House's 150 seats are being contested, with 14 of those races looking truly competitive.

In the state Senate, all eyes are on an expensive and increasingly nasty battle between Fort Worth Democratic Sen. Wendy Davis and challenger and tea party Republican state Rep. Mark Shelton. A Davis victory should keep Republicans, who hold 19 of 31 seats, from moving closer to 21-seat supermajority.

Also being challenged is Democratic Sen. Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa in the Rio Grande Valley. State

Rep. Raul Torres gave up his Texas House seat to challenge Hinojosa, a 24-year veteran of the Legislature.

All 15 of the Texas Board of Education's seats are also on the ballot. The board's makeup of four Democrats and 11 Republicans could possibly change, though a larger question is if social conservatives will gain more influence.

Six of the board's current Republicans are already considered social conservatives — an ideological bloc that if it holds or strengthens could dominate discus-

sions next year as the state orders new science textbooks. That may mean a replay of 2009, when some school board members promoted creationism during discussions on curriculum while pushing for Texas public schools to teach "strengths and weaknesses" of evolution.

Voters will also decide on 29 positions for regional Court of Appeals districts, and Texas Supreme Court and Criminal Court of Appeals justices. Two of Texas' top judges are facing hefty ethics fines, but

are also expected to win re-election.

The \$100,000 fine in 2010 against Court of Criminal Appeals Presiding Judge Sharon Keller and the \$29,000 fine levied against state Supreme Court Justice Nathan Hecht in 2008 rank among the largest in state history. But both judges have appealed, and their cases will remain pending until after Election Day.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
24th & Johnson 267-8288

David L. Doyle, 89, died Monday. Graveside services with Military Honors will be held at 11:15 a.m. Thursday at DFW National Cemetery in Dallas, Texas.

Nancy J. Brehm, 48, died Monday. Services are pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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In Recognition Of
Veteran's Day

The Following Institutions Will Be Closed
Monday, November 12, 2012

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Citizens FCU
State National Bank

Howard County Community Health Center, a sub division of South Plains Rural Health Services, Inc. is pleased to announce the arrival of

Dr. Alexander Christy.

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Howard County Community Health Center
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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

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Sports Editor

Steve Reagan

Staff Writer

Thomas Jenkins

Staff Writer

OUR VIEW

Get out and vote

The *Herald* encourages readers to take the time to vote today if they haven't already. Polls are open until 7 p.m.

Among the key races on the ballot for Big Spring voters are President, U.S. Senator, Proposition 1 and Precinct 1 County Commissioner.

We won't comment on Proposition 1, the effort to abolish the Economic Development Corporation operating under 4A status and replace it with an EDC operating under 4B status. There's been plenty published about that already and we expect a solid voter turnout.

Your vote is going to be tossed in with millions in the Obama-Romney race, as well as the Sadler-Cruz Senate contest, but that shouldn't deter you from making your way to the polls anyway.

One race that is likely to come down to your vote — if you live in county Precinct 1 — is the one between Republican Oscar Garcia and incumbent Democrat Emma Puga Brown. We say “your vote” because these races — like school board and city council — don't usually draw a lot of voter interest, a hundred or two at the most. Voter turnout was very good during early balloting, so we expect that figure to go up, but still, only a limited number of residents are even eligible. So if you live in Precinct 1, make sure you put your two cents down on who will represent you in county government.

A list of voting polls can be found on Page 1. Just match it up with your precinct number, which is on your voter registration card.

ADDRESSES

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

• BARACK OBAMA

President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

• KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

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703 Hart Office Building
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• JOHN CORNYN

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• RANDY NEUGEBAUER

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STATE GOVERNMENT

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• JIM LANDTROOP

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Texas 85th District
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Phone: (432) 517-9894

• KEL SELIGER

State Senator
Texas 31st District
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Big Spring, 79720
Phone: (432) 268-9909

BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL

TOMMY DUNCAN, MAYOR —
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264-2350.

MARVIN BOYD — 263-8800
CARMEN HARBOUR — Work:
264-2401.

MARCUS FERNANDEZ —
Mobile: 816-3923

GLEN CARRIGAN — Home:
263-3207.

BOBBY McDONALD —
Home: 263-4835. Work:
263-1234.

CRAIG OLSON —
Cell: 270-0703.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we make You, Lord, our business partner and start every day with a prayer. Amen

I am confident Mitt will win

I want to give you an updated list of reasons I believe that Mitt Romney will win the election today. So much information, so much confusion, so much uncertainty. But I don't think it's so complex as it seems.

In 2008, a perfect storm developed for Barack Obama: an economic crisis, which was effectively, though unfairly, blamed on Republicans; war fatigue, which had been stoked by six years of Democratic anti-Bush propaganda; a messianic illusion personified in Obama, who was promising incomprehensibly wonderful yet undefined change and utopian-level bipartisanship; and a Republican opponent who all but forfeited the election to Obama (with the glorious exception of his selection of Sarah Palin as his running mate).

Despite all those factors benefiting Obama, he won less than 53 percent of the popular vote. That's impressive, but that's the very uppermost result he could ever expect with all signs coalescing in his favor. And things have changed radically since then. Consider:

— For all practical purposes, Obama was a blank slate in 2008. The liberal media did their best to conceal his liberal record and ideology. He enjoys no such luxury today, having established a disastrous economic record: the longest period of high unemployment and the worst recovery in 50 years and crushing national debt.

— Obama has shown no interest in tackling spending, restructuring entitlements or reducing our deficits and debt. He has wasted unconscionable sums on failed green projects, expanded government, entitlements and government dependency, and devastated the private sector. In his arrogance, he hasn't even produced a second-term agenda beyond promising more clichés — greater education spending as a panacea — and more “stimulus” spending.

— Obama is not only not promising us a brighter future but assuring us perpetual malaise.

— Since 2008, President “You

Didn't Build That” has proved himself to be an extreme leftist ideologue, which is very troubling to most Americans, twice as many of whom self-identify as conservative than liberal.

— Obama has systematically engaged in divisive politics, shattering his cultivated image as a post-racial, post-partisan statesman. He has undermined his class and economic warfare strategy through policies that have hit minorities and the middle class the hardest.

— Though he presented himself as a transcendent figure in 2008, since then — and especially during this presidential campaign — he has shown himself to be the direct opposite: a petty partisan figure appealing to people's worst fears and to the demons, not the better angels of our nature. Having no record to run on, his campaign has been childish and small, from Big Bird to “Romnesia” to the vulgar videos from his supporters.

— Obama has shattered the myth of his own likability through his conduct in office and, particularly, his behavior in the debates.

He now has a palpable air of desperation about him. He has dispirited his base, particularly young people, who will not go to the polls in numbers anything like the way they did in 2008.

— He has gratuitously offended Christians by disrespecting their views and trampling their liberties, and evangelicals and Catholics are eager to vote him out. And in an effort to incite his leftist base, he has alienated many women through his manufactured war on women.

— He has infuriated many Americans by apologizing to the world for the nation they love and for his abominable actions and cover-up on Libya.

— Obama wasted hundreds of millions trying to demonize Romney, only to be foiled by Romney's unfiltered display of his consummately gentlemanly nature during the widely viewed presidential debates, in which he also showed himself to be enormously likable, competent and informed.

— In contrast with Obama, Romney has exuded confidence and a presidential demeanor. He has been refreshingly bullish on America and entrepreneurship and has arrived on the national

stage at a time when America is hungriest for someone with business acumen and experience. He and Paul Ryan have offered a promising agenda with specific plans to turn around the economy and the nation's financial crisis. When they say “we can do this,” most people believe that they mean it and that they can actually do it.

— According to Gallup and Pew, Republicans are winning by 7 points in the early voting. In the crucial swing state of Ohio, Karl Rove and others say that Republicans are 256,000 votes ahead of where they were in early voting in 2008, and Obama only won the state in 2008 by 260,000 votes. Also, polls are tightening in Ohio, and regardless, Republicans traditionally do better in Ohio than pollsters predict. Moreover, the conventional wisdom that Democrats outperform Republicans in the “ground game” is being obliterated.

— Romney is recognized to be competitive in states that he was believed not to have had a remote chance to capture. There are no such anticipated swings in Obama's direction.

— Romney is killing it with independents and has narrowed the so-called gender gap.

— Republicans have never been more energized, as evidenced by the election of Scott Brown, Scott Walker and Ted Cruz, by the 2010 congressional races, by the universal outrage over Obamacare, by the robust tea party movement and by the spontaneous outpouring of support for Chick-fil-A. If this election is to be decided by turnout as everyone says, it's already over.

— Paul Ryan is an all-American phenom.

There is a Romney-Ryan spirit in the air.

David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. His latest book, “The Great Destroyer,” reached No. 2 on the New York Times best-seller list for nonfiction. Follow him on Twitter @davidlimbaugh and his website at www.davidlimbaugh.com. To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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The Romneys conflicts ‘R’ us

Have you been following the career of Mitt Romney's boy Tagg? As his dad runs for president denouncing “crony capitalism” and “big government,” Tagg has been gathering some of Mitt's richest friends into a private-equity fund called Solamere — a clever instrument for pursuing government subsidies, contracts and tax breaks should Romney win.

You see, disclosure laws would make it hard for a President Romney to hide many conflicts of interest. But if the money guys are in Tagg's Solamere, we don't know what conflicts of interest the Romney contributors are profiting from. We may not even know the investors' names.

“The close relationship with Romney and this investment opportunity looks to me like people are investing to buy access,” Bob Edgar, head of Common Cause, told me. “People are (literally) speculating that Romney may become the next president of the United States. It doesn't smell good.”

Before Solamere, Tagg's main claim to business fame was as a marketer for the Los Angeles Dodgers. Now he's playing financier. The interesting part is that whether Mitt wins or loses (and he and his wife have given Solamere \$10 million), Tagg and Spence Zwick — his campaign's finance chairman and a Solamere partner — make a pile.

Here's an example of the awful possibilities: One of Solamere's founding partners is Marc Leder, whose Sun Capital owns the Scooter Store. (It was at a fundraiser in Leder's Boca Raton, Fla., home that Romney dismissed 47 percent of Americans as wards of the government.)

You can't have missed those annoying Scooter Stores ads. A senior citizen rolls around on her motorized wheelchair, proclaiming, “... and I didn't pay a penny out of pocket for my power chair!” The message is that Medicare will pay. For a while, it did.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services found that 80 percent of the Scooter Store's sales did not meet Medicare rules.

In money terms, the Scooter Store had bilked taxpayers of nearly half a billion dollars.

The Scooter Store has spent nearly \$900,000 on lobbyists trying to stop Medicare from disqualifying its wares for taxpayer subsidies. Leder has also given a total of \$525,000 to Romney's campaign and a Republican PAC, and he's letting Tagg enrich himself by managing his money in Solamere. Do you believe for one minute that Leder will want nothing back from a Romney administration?

Fracking and other energy interests have put their money with Tagg. So have military contractors. Dental management companies have been targeted for pressuring dentists to perform expensive work on low-income children, the bill sent to Medicaid. They're in Solamere. So are the investor-owners of for-profit colleges, which Romney has

praised from the stump. Known for providing weak education, the for-profit schools draw 85 percent of their revenues from taxpayers. Romney a small-government president? My foot.

Solamere's private-equity partners, meanwhile, would surely object to tax reform that messes with the outrageous deal that taxes their earnings at only 15 percent — the sort of loophole that served Romney well at Bain Capital. True to form, Solamere has set up shop in the Cayman Islands to shield its investors from U.S. tax liabilities.

Let's not play the innocent here. In every administration, Republican or Democrat, campaign contributors seek favors. What's different is the awesome scope of the money involved and the unblinking sales pitch linking investments to an inside track that — via Solamere — would go under the radar.

Last June, Solamere held an investor conference in a Salt Lake City building next door to a fundraising retreat for wealthy Romney donors. That Solamere touts its “unparalleled networks” so openly is the scariest part. Politicians used to do these things in secret.

To find out more about Froma Harrop, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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DAVID LIMBAUGH



FROMA HARROP

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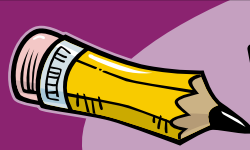


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Kid Scoop Together:

FUNNY FILLER

Ask a friend to give you each type of word to fill in the blanks. Then read your silly story aloud.

Persimmon Pie

My grandmother makes a

_____ persimmon
ADJECTIVE

pie that has won _____
PLURAL NOUN

at baking competitions.

It's an unusual recipe. She starts

with a freshly squeezed _____
NOUN

and sprinkles _____
PLURAL NOUN

over it. She heats up the _____
NOUN

to 350°. Then she pours the

_____ mixture into the
ADJECTIVE

pie crust.

Soon, the whole _____
NOUN

is filled with the _____
NOUN

of the _____ treat.
ADJECTIVE

My grandpa sometimes invites

the _____ over
PLURAL NOUN

because they can smell the pie

baking and can't wait to

_____ into a slice.
VERB

My grandparents have a

persimmon tree in their

_____. When the leaves
NOUN

start to fall off, the

_____ persimmons look
ADJECTIVE

like _____ on a
PLURAL NOUN

Christmas tree.

Remember that if _____ if you

_____ into a persimmon
VERB

before it is ripe, it has a very

_____ taste!
ADJECTIVE

Kid Scoop-doku

Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word ORANGE in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you.

O	R	A	N	G	E
E			N		
N	G				A
R		O			
G					
A	E				R

A special fall treat!



HARVEST OF THE MONTH

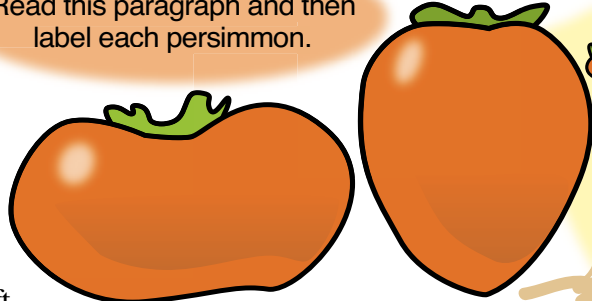
PERSIMMONS

Persimmons grow on trees. In the late fall, the tree loses its leaves, while the bright orange persimmons remain dangling from the bare branches. The tree looks a bit like it is decorated for the holidays!

Standards Link: Health: Know nutritional value of certain foods.



Read this paragraph and then label each persimmon.



How many persimmons can you find in this tree? How many on this page?

Two Varieties

There are two varieties of persimmons. The **fuyu** is shorter in size and has a crunchy texture. A fuyu persimmon can be eaten when crunchy. The **hachiya** has a very sharp, astringent (bitter) taste when unripe. It is more egg-shaped and taller than the fuyu. If you bit into an unripe hachiya, you would know you had made a mistake. But the bright red, soft texture of an over-ripe hachiya persimmon is sweet and delicious.

Standards Link: Health: Know nutritional value of certain foods.

Nutrition Facts

Serving Size: 1/2 medium persimmon (84g)
Calories 59 Calories from Fat 1

	% Daily Value
Total Fat 0g	0%
Saturated Fat 0g	0%
Trans Fat 0g	
Cholesterol 0mg	0%
Sodium 1mg	0%
Total Carbohydrate 16g	5%
Dietary Fiber 3g	12%
Sugars 11g	
Protein 0g	
Vitamin A 27%	Calcium 1%
Vitamin C 11%	Iron 1%

Just the Facts

Use the Nutrition Facts Label to complete the following sentences about persimmons:

- One serving of a persimmon is _____ of a medium persimmon and has _____ calories.
- A persimmon has _____ g of fat.
- A persimmon has _____ g of sugar.

Standards Link: Health: Know nutritional value of certain foods.

Persimmon ABCs

Look through the newspaper for five or more adjectives that describe a persimmon. Put these words in alphabetical order.

Standards Link: Spelling: Alphabetize words.

Unscramble these foods that are high in beta-carotene. What is the same about all of them?

RACSTRO

KIPNUMP

GANSOM

WESTE TOPTOASE

YAPAPSA

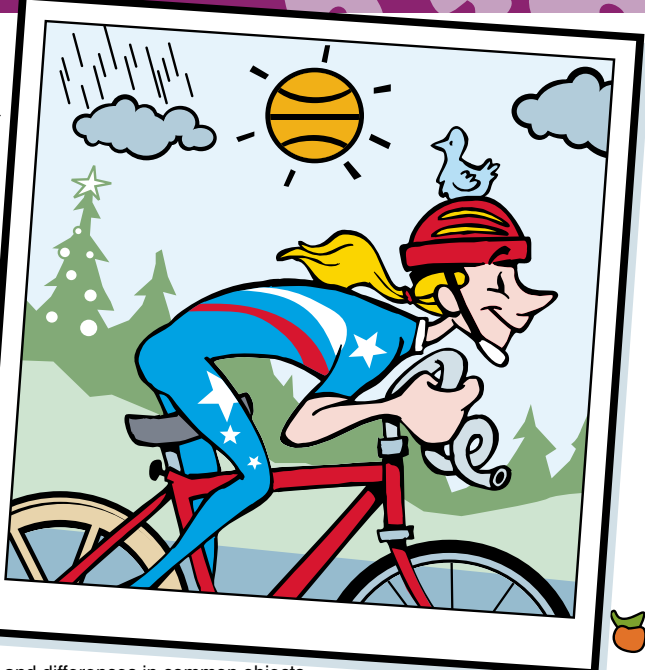
TALPOUEANC

Materials adapted from Network for a Healthy California, Harvest of the Month resources.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Sonia took a picture of the bike races.

Find five or more silly things in Sonia's cycling photo.



Standards Link: Investigation: Find similarities and differences in common objects.

Double Double Word Search

- PERSIMMONS
- DELICIOUS
- HACHIYA
- HARVEST
- VITAMIN
- CRUNCHY
- UNRIPE
- TASTE
- TREAT
- MONTH
- FUYU
- FALL
- SKIN
- GAME
- FAT

Find the words in the puzzle. Then look for each word in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

I	S	U	O	I	C	I	L	E	D
F	V	I	T	A	M	I	N	T	I
G	H	T	A	E	R	T	A	S	E
S	N	O	M	M	I	S	R	E	P
T	K	A	A	O	T	I	N	V	I
F	G	I	L	E	N	F	E	R	R
T	U	L	N	C	T	T	I	A	N
A	A	Y	I	H	C	A	H	H	U
F	C	R	U	N	C	H	Y	O	N

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

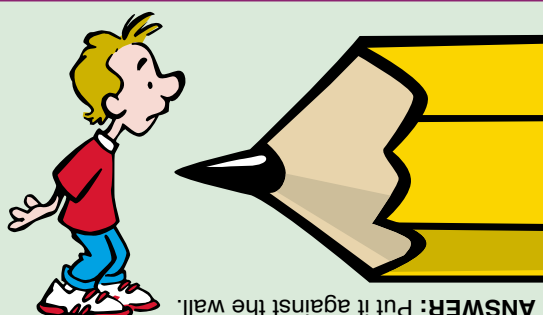
FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Expressing Opinion

Circle all the articles and pictures in the newspaper in which an opinion is expressed. Which section of the newspaper has the most circles? Graph and discuss your results.

Standards Link: Reading: Identify fact and opinion.

How can you place a pencil on the floor so that no one can jump over it?



ANSWER: Put it against the wall.

Write On!

Fruit Facts

Write a paragraph about your favorite fruit. Include two facts and two opinions.

News in brief

Suspense to the finish, Obama and Romney now cede stage to voters for Election Day decision

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two fierce competitors who've given their all, President Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney now yield center stage to voters for an Election Day choice that will frame the contours of government and the nation for years to come.

After a grinding presidential campaign that packed suspense to the finish, Americans head into polling places in sleepy hollows, bustling cities and superstorm-ravaged beach towns deeply divided. All sides are awaiting, in particular, a verdict from the nine battleground states whose votes will determine which man can piece together the 270 electoral votes needed for victory.

Obama has more options for getting there. So Romney decided to make a late dash to Cleveland and Pittsburgh on Tuesday while running mate Paul Ryan threw in stops in Cleveland and Richmond, Va. Obama opted to make a dozen radio and satellite TV interviews from his hometown of Chicago to keep his closing arguments fresh in voters' minds.

Both sides cast the Election Day choice as one with far-reaching repercussions for a nation still recovering from the biggest economic downturn since the Great Depression and at odds over how big a role government should play in solving the country's problems.

"It's a choice between two different visions for America," Obama declared in Madison, Wis., asking voters to let him complete work on the economic turnaround that began in his first term. "It's a choice between returning to the top-down policies that crashed our economy, or a future that's built on providing opportunity to everybody and growing a strong middle class."

No matter who wins White House, new Congress a likely problem for new president's agenda

WASHINGTON (AP) — No matter who is elected president, he's likely to find that the next Congress will remain what the current one has been for President Barack Obama — a headache.

Months of speeches, saturation TV advertising, uncountable events and more than \$2 billion in campaign spending are coming together to produce a new Congress strikingly similar to the one that exists now: a House that Republicans will run with about a 50-seat margin, and a Senate narrowly controlled by Democrats.

Republicans started this year thinking they would grab control of the Senate because they were only defending 10 of the 33 seats at stake on Election Day. That seems unlikely now thanks to controversial rape statements by GOP candidates in Missouri and Indiana, the retirement of popular Maine GOP Sen. Olympia Snowe, and strong races run by Democratic incumbents in Florida and Michigan.

Democrats seem certain to fall short of adding the 25 seats they need to take over the House, and at best may gain a handful of districts. With Republicans gaining governorships and state legislatures in the 2010 elections, the GOP was better able to draw new district lines reflecting the latest census to protect their incumbents and put Democratic House members in less friendly terrain.

"My sense is no one will have a mandate coming out of this," GOP consultant Matt Mackowiak said Monday. "And clearly we're going to have divided government. And that's going to make the next two years very difficult."

While other issues have surfaced, economy remains single most important one in this election

WASHINGTON (AP) — The race for the White House is pretty much back where it started, after thousands of ads, billions of dollars in spending,

two conventions and three presidential debates. Despite some detours, the emphasis is heavily on the nation's lukewarm economy and President Barack Obama's stewardship of it.

But if Tuesday's election does amount to a referendum on the Obama economy, the outcome likely won't shine a bright light on how to fix it. There's too much polarization in the nation's capital and in the country as a whole — regardless of who wins — to produce a clear consensus plan for averting a looming "fiscal cliff" of higher taxes and deep automatic cuts in military and domestic spending.

Last week's devastating East Coast storm, the campaign debates and controversy over the deadly terrorist attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya, scrambled things a bit in the home stretch.

But as millions of Americans vote for president, Congress and thousands of state and local posts, the excruciatingly slow economic recovery and continued high joblessness were clearly weighing on their minds.

Obama's Republican challenger, Mitt Romney, doggedly tried to keep the focus on the economy. Its poor performance on Obama's watch has been his main theme. He cites his own business background in presenting himself as the person who can heal it and restore jobs.

Housing, voting, power: Problems abound post-Sandy, and another storm is on the way

NEW YORK (AP) — From trying to figure out where people would live to how they would be able to vote and when all the lights will finally come on, government officials are still facing multiple fronts in the efforts to recover from Superstorm Sandy. All that, and there's another storm coming.

Where to house potentially tens of thousands of people left homeless by the storm is the most pressing crisis, as cold weather sets in.

"It's not going to be a simple task. It's going to be one of the most complicated and long-term recovery efforts in U.S. history," said Mark Merritt, president of Witt Associates, a Washington crisis management consulting firm founded by former Federal Emergency Management Agency director James Lee Witt.

FEMA said it has already dispensed close to \$200 million in emergency housing assistance and has put 34,000 people in New York and New Jersey up in hotels and motels. But local, state and federal officials have yet to lay out a specific, comprehensive plan for finding them long-term places to live. And given the scarcity and high cost of housing there and the lack of open space, it could prove a monumental undertaking.

Sandy killed more 100 people in 10 states but vented the worst of its fury on New Jersey and New York. A week after the storm slammed the mid-Atlantic and the Northeast, more than 1 million homes and businesses remained without power.

Gunmen assassinate brother of parliament speaker in Syrian capital

BEIRUT (AP) — Syria's state-run TV reports that gunmen have assassinated the brother of the parliament speaker.

The report on Tuesday said Mohammed Osama Laham was killed in the Damascus neighborhood of Midan. It did not say when it happened, but a Syrian official said Laham was killed Monday night.

The TV and the Syrian official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to media, said Laham was a brother of Parliament Speaker Jihad Laham.

A number of officials and top army officers have been assassinated in Syria since the uprising against President Bashar Assad began in March last year.

Prosecutor: U.S. soldier watched revenge killing movie, drank before Afghan village massacre

JOINT BASE LEWIS-McCHORD, Wash. (AP) —

Staff Sgt. Robert Bales spent the evening on his remote outpost in southern Afghanistan with fellow soldiers, watching a movie about revenge killings, sharing whiskey from a plastic bottle and discussing an attack that cost one of their friends his leg.

Within hours, a prosecutor said Monday, a cape-wearing Bales embarked on a killing spree of his own, slaughtering 16 Afghan civilians before returning to the base in predawn darkness, bloody and incredulous that his comrades ordered him to surrender his weapons.

"I thought I was doing the right thing," a fellow soldier recalled him saying.

The details emerged at the opening of a preliminary hearing in Bales' case at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, offering the clearest picture yet of one of the worst atrocities of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

The prosecutor, Lt. Col. Jay Morse, said that after Bales attacked one village near his post at Camp Belambay, he returned, woke a colleague to report what he had done, and said that he was headed out to attack another village.

Ballot measures highlighted by historic votes to legalize gay marriage, recreational marijuana

(AP) — Lady Gaga and Brad Pitt have weighed in on one side, evangelist icon Billy Graham on the other as the four-state showdown over same-sex marriage reaches its Election Day conclusion with the potential for a historic breakthrough.

Until now, same-sex marriage has been rejected in all 32 states that have held popular votes on the issue. Gay-rights advocates believe they have a chance to break that streak as Maine, Maryland and Washington state vote on whether to legalize same-sex marriage, and Minnesota votes on whether to place a ban on gay marriage in the state constitution.

In all, there are 176 measures on the ballots in 38 states, according to the Initiative and Referendum Institute at the University of Southern California. Washington, Oregon and Colorado could become the first to legalize recreational use of marijuana; Massachusetts is considering whether to allow physician-assisted suicide; Californians have a chance to repeal the death penalty.

But no other issue has generated the star power or multistate intensity of the same-sex marriage measures.

In just the past week, Lady Gaga released a video backing same-sex marriage, while Pitt donated \$100,000 to support the cause.

On the other side, Graham, 93, took out newspaper ads asking voters to support "the biblical definition of marriage between a man and a woman."

NY, NJ officials go to considerable lengths to help residents vote in wake of superstorm

NEW YORK (AP) — Authorities in New York and New Jersey were set to drive some displaced voters to their polling sites and direct others to cast ballots elsewhere as residents insisted the devastation wrought by Superstorm Sandy wouldn't stop them from participating in Tuesday's election.

"Nothing is more important than voting. What is the connection between voting and this?" said Alex Shamis, a resident of hard-hit Staten Island, gesturing to his mud-filled home.

Election officials in both states were guardedly optimistic that power would be restored and most polling places would be open in all but the worst-hit areas.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo signed an executive order Monday allowing residents to cast a so-called affidavit, or provisional ballot, at any polling place in the state for president and statewide office holders, an opportunity New Jersey was extending to voters as well.

"Compared to what we have had to deal with in the past week, this will be a walk in the park when it comes to voting," Cuomo said.

Provisional ballots are counted after elected officials confirm a voter's eligibility.

Defense to begin in fatal day care fire trial

HOUSTON (AP) — Attorneys for a Texas woman facing a murder charge after a fire at her home day care killed four children and injured three other kids could begin presenting their case to jurors.

However, Jessica Tata's defense team declined to say how many witnesses, if any, they planned to call Tuesday to testify in a Houston courtroom.

Prosecutors rested their case against Tata

on Monday after calling about 30 witnesses over nearly two weeks.

Investigators allege that Tata had left the seven children she was caring for alone at her home to go shopping at a nearby Target store

when oil in a pan ignited atop a stovetop burner that had been left on. The children in the February 2011 fire ranged in age from 16 months to 3 years old.

Tata's attorneys insist she never intended to harm the children and

that she tried to save them from the fire.

Tata, 24, is charged with four counts of felony murder but is currently being tried only in the death of 16-month-old Elias Castillo. She faces up to life in prison if convicted.

During Tata's trial, which began Oct. 24, surveillance video was presented that showed her shopping at Target just before the fire occurred. A former Target manager told jurors that Tata did not seem to be in a hurry after realizing she had left the stove top burner on while the kids were at the day care.

Tata went through an orientation class in which she was told of her responsibilities as

a child care provider, according to Susan Lahmeyer, a former district director of licensing with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.

"The cardinal rule in child care is supervision of children," said Lahmeyer.

DeGeurin, Tata's attorney, has suggested to jurors that the deadly blaze could have been sparked by a malfunctioning stove.

Neighbors testified about hearing the children crying during their unsuccessful attempts to reach them during the blaze. Parents of the children who died or were injured told jurors they had trusted Tata, believing she was qualified.



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ANSWERS

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Bird Poop: Julie's owl makes a nice recovery

Even though it was a Saturday, the traffic on Interstate 20 between Odessa and Midland was frightening. As a man kept his vehicle to the right, fracking trucks, tankers, and semis lined up to pass him. As they hurried down the highway, these massive hulks of metal created a swirling turbulence of loose dirt and grit. A few minutes passed before another diesel approached from the rear.



BEBE McCASLAND

As his passenger glanced to the right, he noticed an area not far from the shoulder of the highway. Against a chain-link fence leaned a large gray object. When another gust of debris hit it, the passenger realized what he was seeing. "We have to go back!" he shouted. Having been unable to take his eyes from the roadway, the driver wondered what his friend had seen.

The truck that had passed them had sent a gust of wind rushing toward the fence. Reacting to the impact, feathers had risen in several directions.

"There's a large bird back there. It could be an owl or hawk," said his friend. "Turn around!"

After spotting familiar parts of the landscape, the two men felt they could find the bird again. Taking the near-

est exit, they used the service roads to return to the area.

Pulling off the pavement and onto ankle-high grasses, the driver parked not far from the bird. The arrival of their vehicle, doors opening and shutting and their footsteps caused no movement by the bird of prey.

Head bowed, eyes closed, the raptor needed help. If not for the fence, this great horned owl would have toppled to the ground.

Knowing that a woman in Midland would know whom to contact, the driver placed a call. He told her they would remain with the owl until she arrived.

Describing the owl's condition, Carol Griffin told me the bird had sustained head trauma. With one eye swollen shut and a broken wing, it required immediate attention.

"Call Julie Marshall in Odessa." As a vet tech with Eighth Street Animal Hospital, Julie had previously helped us with birds in her area.

Later, Julie called. After confirming Carol's earlier description, she added that one eye was scratched. Although X-rays had shown a broken bone in a wing, she felt the great horn had a chance. After saying, "If nothing else is wrong," Julie promised to call with up-dates on its condition.

Medications to reduce swelling and antibiotics to prevent infection in the eye were administered. Veterinarian Steve Wade thought the best method for treating the break was to isolate part of the wing. X-rays



Courtesy photo

An aggressive raptor, the great horned owl searches for rabbits, rats, mice, skunks, raccoons, snakes, and even porcupines. Adaptable to open country, canyons, and hills, it hunts at night, but will pursue game in the daytime when feeding its young.

could help monitor the healing process.

Weekly news was encouraging. Swelling was reduced and scratches to the eye healed. Calcification and knitting of the bone showed that Julie's owl was making progress.

As it recovered, the owl regained its sight, strength, tenacity and temperament. Thirty-six days after being rescued, Julie took it to the clinic for a final look-see. Seizing the slightest of opportunities, the raptor managed to get loose and fly within the confines of

the building.

A call that afternoon alerted us that the owl was ready for a trip to Lubbock and their flight facilities. The next day we met Julie at the Horseshoe arena parking lot.

As the owl was removed from her carrier, we noticed it had the coloration of great horns often found in the southwestern parts of Texas. Pale in comparison to those found further east and north, the raptor was a bundle of energy.

More grayish, it had the typical barred chest

and belly, ear tufts, facial discs rimmed with black, white throat, yellow eyes and large black bill. The mottled appearance of its wings resembled old tree bark.

The following day at the wildlife center, the great horned owl was placed in a mew in the barn. Accessing the roosts and eager for further challenges, the raptor was soon taken to the flight cage. Seven days after being delivered to Lubbock, the owl was released at Ransom Canyon.

Forty-five days had

passed since the incident on the interstate brought the owl to the ground. Whether it had been a victim of traffic, or flown into the fence would never be known.

Because of the efforts of two travelers, a volunteer, vet tech, veterinarian and the wildlife center, Julie's owl regained the night skies with strong, silent wings.

Bebe McCasland is author of "The Scoop from Bird Poop." She is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.

Think before you rush to a conclusion

Have you ever been accused of putting two and two together and making five? If so, someone is thinking that you have jumped to the wrong conclusion. In today's world, we are always under pressure to act now, rather than spend time reasoning things through and thinking about the true facts. Not only can this lead us to a wrong conclusion, but it can also cause conflict with other people, who may have drawn quite different conclusions on the same matter.

In this fast-moving environment, we need to make sure our actions and decisions are founded on reality. Similarly, when we accept or challenge other people's conclusions, we need to be confident that their reasoning, and ours, is firmly based on the facts. Interestingly enough, there is a thinking process that leads us to these conclusions. Our beliefs have a big effect on how we select from reality and can lead us to ignore the true facts altogether. Soon, we are literally jumping to conclusions by missing facts and skipping steps in the reasoning process. In the beginning, we have reality and facts. From there, we experience these selectively based on our beliefs and prior experience. Then we interpret what they mean by applying our existing assumptions, sometimes without considering them. We then draw conclusions based on the interpreted facts and our assumptions

and develop beliefs based on these conclusions. Then we take actions that seem "right" because they are based on what we believe. This is jumping to conclusions.

What we should do is learn the facts and use our beliefs and experiences to positively effect, rather than allowing them to narrow our field of judgment. We should ask ourselves the following questions to judge whether we are

making the correct assumption: Is this the "right" conclusion? Why am I making these assumptions? Why do I think this is the "right" thing to do? Is this really based on all the facts? Why does this person believe that?

If we are challenging someone else's conclusions, it is especially important to be able to explain our reasoning so that we can explain it to that person in a

way that helps us reach a shared conclusion and avoid conflict.

In the old television show of Daniel Boone a bit of advice was given. (I don't know if Daniel Boone actually said this but he did in the show).

Daniel would say, "Be sure you're right, then go ahead!" This is good advice that we should all remember.

Darrell Ryan is director of federal programs for the Big Spring Inde-

By Steve Becker

Contract Bridge A Matter of Priorities

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ 10 7 6 2
♥ A Q J 4
♦ J 5
♣ K 9 3
WEST
♠ K 9 3
♥ K 8 3
♦ Q 9 7 6 2
♣ 7 4
EAST
♠ J 8 5 4
♥ 10 9 6 5
♦ A K 8 4
♣ 6
SOUTH
♠ A Q
♥ 7 2
♦ 10 3
♣ A Q J 10 8 5 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♣ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
2 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass
5 ♣

Opening lead — six of diamonds.
A simple finesse is essentially a 50-50 proposition, and as such its success or failure is primarily a matter of luck. When confronted by a finessing situation, a declarer should first look for an alternative line of play that might improve on or eliminate the luck factor. But when there is no choice, declarer should bear in mind that some finesses are more advantageous than others.

Consider this deal where many declarers might instinctively go

wrong. West leads a diamond against five clubs, and East cashes his K-A before shifting to a spade. It is tempting to finesse the queen of spades, but it would be wrong to do so. The fact is that a spade finesse, whether successful or not, has nothing to do with the chances of making five clubs. Taking a spade finesse would jeopardize the contract without increasing the possibility of making it.

The outcome depends, pure and simple, on whether West has the king of hearts. Therefore, declarer should put up the ace of spades at trick three, draw two rounds of trumps and take a heart finesse. If it succeeds, he returns to his hand with a trump and takes another heart finesse, then discards the queen of spades on the ace of hearts to make the contract.

It is true that if your only concern were to make two spade tricks instead of one, you would finesse the queen of spades. But here the goal is to make five clubs, and that overrides the question of making two spade tricks.

It is also true that if East has both major-suit kings, you can go down only one by finessing the spade return at trick three, but that is immaterial under the circumstances. Making the contract is the principal consideration.

Tomorrow: Seeing is believing.

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sudoku

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

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

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New clinic offers free lice checks

FARMINGTON HILLS, Mich. (AP) — Scalp feeling itchy?

A lice clinic is celebrating a grand opening Saturday in Oakland County, and the owner is offering free head checks from noon to 6 p.m. Refreshments, too.

It's called Rapunzel's Lice Boutique on Farmington Road in Farmington Hills. Owner Sarah Casello-Rees says she was inspired to start the business through an unfortunate personal experience. She got head lice from her son, who was 5 years old at the time. She says lice bugged her long, curly hair for a year.



DARRELL RYAN

Sports Calendar

TODAY

Volleyball
• Big Spring (No. 17) vs. Lubbock Cooper (No. 18), Regional Semifinal, Lamesa Middle School, 7 p.m. (Corner of N. Bryant & S. First Streets).

FRIDAY

Football
• Big Spring (5-4) at Monahans (5-5), 7:30 p.m.
• Winters (2-7) at Forsan (5-4), 7:30 p.m.
• Alpine (8-1) at Coahoma (2-7), 7:30 p.m.
• Reagan County (5-4) at Stanton (3-6), 7:30 p.m.
• Grady (6-3) at Klondike (6-3), 7:30 p.m.
• Garden City (3-6) at Rankin (6-2), 7:30 p.m.
• Wellman-Union (1-8) at Sands (4-5), 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Cross Country
• State championship, Old Settlers Park, Round Rock, noon.

To submit a calendar item, please call 263-7331, ext. 237, or e-mail sports@bigspringherald.com



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

The Lady Steers volleyball squad will continue their playoff run today when they face Lubbock Cooper at the Lamesa Middle School gym to determine the regional semifinal champion.



AP photo

Dallas' Darren Collison leaps over Portland defenders during the Mavs 114-91 win over the Trailblazers on Monday.

Mavs down Trailblazers

DALLAS (AP) — O.J. Mayo is feeling right at home with the Dallas Mavericks.

Mayo celebrated his 25th birthday with 32 points, his second consecutive 30-point home game to start the season, and the Mavericks used a fourth-quarter surge to beat the Portland Trail Blazers 114-91 on Monday night.

Chris Kaman and Darren Collison are also fitting in with the Mavericks, who are still without injured star Dirk Nowitzki.

Collison had his second consecutive double-double with 14 points, 13 assists and only one turnover. Kaman scored

16 points on 8-of-10 shooting.

"In the offseason, the Mavericks lost some good players, but we also got some good players. I think some underrated players," Kaman said. "Some guys can really score the basketball on this team and are very creating, starting with Darren and O.J."

Asked about the fast-paced Mavericks offense, which has shot at least 60 percent from the field in consecutive games for the first time in team history, Mayo described it as organized street ball. "We have spots to fill, but we

See MAVS, Page 14

Spurs beat Pacers for first 4-0 start

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The San Antonio Spurs have won four NBA championships, made 32 playoff appearances and captured 18 division titles in their 40-year history.

Yet for all their success, they had never opened a season with four straight victories.

Tim Duncan, Tony Parker and the Spurs finally did so Monday night, rolling past the Indiana Pacers 101-79 to remain unbeaten. "I'm surprised we're still doing records," Parker said. "It seems like we did everything, but that's another one. That's great."

It's an unprecedented start for San Antonio, albeit one that left players scratching their heads.

"It's just a stat, not that important in the

long-term," Manu Ginobili said. "(But) at this point we are enjoying it. It's curious that a team this successful hasn't started that well before."

The Spurs upended the Pacers (2-2) with what has become a familiar formula in recent years — a little Parker, a little Duncan and a lot off the bench.

Gary Neal scored 17 points, DeJuan Blair 14 and Stephen Jackson 12 to pace San Antonio's reserves. The Spurs outscored the Pacers' bench 57-35.

"That's kind of been our motto," Neal said. "With Manu coming off and Stephen Jackson, those guys could be starting on any team in the NBA. We are a deep team. We've just got to

See SPURS, Page 13

Cowboys' Coach Garrett keeping focus on next game

IRVING, Texas (AP) — After another close loss, the Dallas Cowboys hit the midway point of their season with only three victories.

At the two-year mark of Jason Garrett's promotion to head coach, the Cowboys (3-5) have lost four of their last five games since a promising start to the season.

Even before Dallas lost 19-13 at undefeated Atlanta on Sunday night, there were reports that suspended New Orleans Saints coach Sean Payton, a former Cowboys assistant, could be available after the season.

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones has since said he has "a lot of faith" in Garrett and dismissed the idea that he might be interested in bringing in Payton next season.

As for Garrett, who is 16-16 since taking over when Wade Phillips was fired in the middle

of the 2010 season, he's keeping his focus on his team and preparing to play at Philadelphia next Sunday.

"We need to clean up what happened in the game yesterday and build on some of the good and correct the bad and get ready for the Eagles," Garrett said Monday. "That's what our focus is. We're focused on being our best day to day and week to week."

Asked if he knew about the speculation regarding Payton, Garrett responded, "There's a lot of stories that circulate around our game, so certainly some people bring those kind of things to my attention. But again, we're focused on what we need to do."

The Cowboys need to win some games to save this season.

Dallas, which won the season opener at the New York Giants before losing to the defending

Super Bowl champions at home, has four NFC East games left, two each against Philadelphia (3-4) and Washington (3-6). The only team left on the Cowboys' schedule currently with a winning record is Pittsburgh (5-3).

Plus, after going to Philadelphia, the Cowboys play five of their next six games at home in a stretch that ends with a game against the Saints.

The Cowboys' last three losses have been by a combined 13 points, including 13 points, and to the Baltimore Ravens and the Giants.

Against Atlanta, the NFL's only undefeated team, the Cowboys had a six-play, 78-yard drive midway through the fourth quarter to get within 16-13. The Falcons responded by going 66 yards for another field goal, converting two third downs on misplays by the Dallas

defense.

The Cowboys settled for field goals on their first two drives of the game after reaching the red zone. They missed a field goal on the next drive, then punted four times before their only possession that produced a touchdown.

"There have been too many different things. ... (Teams) that are good in this league are consistent. That's not what we've been," tight end Jason Witten said. "Each week it's different, and you've got to eliminate it and get it fixed. ... The results have got to come soon."

The loss doused any celebration of Witten passing Hall of Fame receiver Michael Irvin to become the team's career receptions leader with 754.

"We have to be able to

See COACH, Page 13

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Hadaway Consulting and Engineering is seeking a contract pumper in the Big Spring area. Please send resume and references to narron@hadeng.com or fax to 806-323-8723.

CROSSROADS HOSPICE

is hiring for the position of Volunteer Coordinator. This is a part-time position approx 24 hrs/wk. Fax resume to Debbie Read @ 432-263-5304 or come by 421 South Main to complete an application. (EOE)



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Must have a desire to work in a team environment and the ability to follow directions. Must have at least 1 yr maintenance experience. Abilities to include: painting experience; general plumbing, general sheetrock repair and texture and HVAC skills. Must have own tools, ability to take afterhours and weekend calls; valid TX drivers license and liability insurance. Apply in person at Bent Tree Apartments, 1 Courtney Place.

GLASSCOCK COUNTY Bank in Garden City seeking full time Teller. Skills: Money handler, people skills, computer/10 key. Contact Susan Pryor 432-354-2595 or email resume spryor@thefnbsc.com

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Apply in person: Human Resources Department 206 West Fifth Street Odessa, Texas or download application from www.gopb.org and email to delma.lozano@gopb.org Or mail to: GOPB, Inc. Attn: HR P.O. Box 3922 Odessa, Texas 79760

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Applicants must have at least 2 to 5 years Medical Records experience in an acute care hospital. Must possess strong secretarial skills, including data entry and, proficient organizational skills with attention to detail. This position will report directly to Medical Records Director and be immediate assistant with all special projects and reporting. Applicant must also be a transcriptionist, including surgical and inpatient. Knowledge of CPSI software a plus. Salary to be discussed. Contact: Martin County Hospital District @ 432-607-3227 HR Dir Paula Dority or send Resume to pdority@martinch.org

NEED SUBSTITUTE childcare provider and office positions. Must be able to pass a criminal history and fingerprint check. Must also pass drug test before employment. Apply in person at 118 Cedar Rd..

NEIGHBORS CONVENIENCE Store now hiring cooks, cashiers, stockers. All Shifts. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700.

NOW HIRING for full time Office Manager/Bookkeeper. Quickbooks experience a plus. Apply in person Westex Auto Parts, 1511 Hwy. 350 in Big Spring.

P/T DRIVER needed to run 2-3 days/wk on route from Big Spring to Odessa & Hobbs, NM. Route pays \$110 and is approx 110-240 miles. Must be 21, be drug free with clean driving record and use own reliable/econ. vehicle. EOE. Apply at: http://medicalogistic solutions.applicantpro.com

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Mercury goes retrograde in the afternoon promising unexpected news on this U.S. Election Day. Sagittarius will continue the backward motion into Scorpio in a cycle that ends November 26th. Travel plans also will be affected, though perhaps not negatively. Look for better offers, and be ready to bail in favor of a better plan.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll get off to an excellent start, as the

moon in your fellow fire sign adds fuel to your motivation. Make the most of the morning's mental clarity by taking an hour to plan one of the more complex parts of your life.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Having a schedule and checking it several times throughout the day will help you stay on track. However, don't be bound to this list of tasks. Important options will surface unexpectedly in the late afternoon.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). As your guiding planet decides to travel backward, you start to work a problem with a

different approach. You could very well figure this one out by the day's end.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The dangerous temptation of electronic envy could be a problem now, as the glossy allure of other people's digitally accessible "alleged" lives is only a click away. Keep in mind that much depends on the photographer.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The moon in your sign empowers your playful urges. It's true that not everyone understands your sense of humor, but as long as the majority of people in the room "get it," the others will go along for the ride.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). As your guiding planet, Mercury, changes direction, messages could be misconstrued, lost or forgotten. Luckily, when something is really

important to you, you'll write it on your heart.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It is easy for you to accept what you cannot change. What's hard is figuring out whether or not something falls into that category. Sometimes it looks like you have control when you really don't.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Others only know you up to a certain point, and you will continue to protect your privacy so well that the majority of people don't even realize there is more of you to know.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). To overcome an obstacle is usually a commendable feat. But what if the obstacle was self-invented? In that case, conquering it is not only a feat; it's also a duty.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your recuperative powers are strong. Also, you have the resourceful ability to make something new out of something old. At the very least, you'll remember to recycle.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Not only do you pay lip service to your devotions; you prove your devotion in the way you schedule your time. Your strong attachment to home and family will be apparent in your lifestyle.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The amount of love you give is not always equal to the amount of love you receive from a particular individual. But your love always comes back from somewhere and in a multiplied form.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 6). You'll be emboldened to take risks that weren't options until now. This month brings a professional boost. Developments in your love life lead to December travel. You'll use your resources to enhance your image in January. Your name goes into a hat in February, and if you want the opportunity, it's yours. Leo and Gemini people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 45, 1, 14, 34 and 26.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I recently found out that my girlfriend started seeing

someone else. Yes, we were exclusive, and yes, she was cheating. When I saw who she was cheating with, the words 'clown shoes' came to mind. She says that if she's forced to choose, she's not sure who she'll go with. I can't believe she's thinking of dumping me for a guy who doesn't even have a job. When I asked her why she likes him, she said he's fun. So I guess my question is: How can this Capricorn keep his super-hot Pisces girlfriend and quickly become more fun?"

First of all, become more fun for you, not for your super-hot girlfriend. Whatever you do for her sake at this point won't work because she's already lost respect for you; her infidelity is evidence of that. Your best bet is to break it off and then become "fun" on your own terms, developing your own interests and hobbies without regard to their possible impact on your romantic life. There are plenty of women who would appreciate the serious, ambitious, career-driven side of you, especially when it's balanced with a healthy dose of play.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: It could be argued that gorgeous Scorpio actress Emma Stone is the new "it" girl, with a slew of movie projects in the works and a recent run of magazine covers cementing her status as the celebrity fashionista to watch. Her sun, Mercury and Pluto in magnetic Scorpio suggests a soulful, sensual allure, while her moon and Venus in artistic, intellectual Libra adds a friendly lightness to the mix.

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

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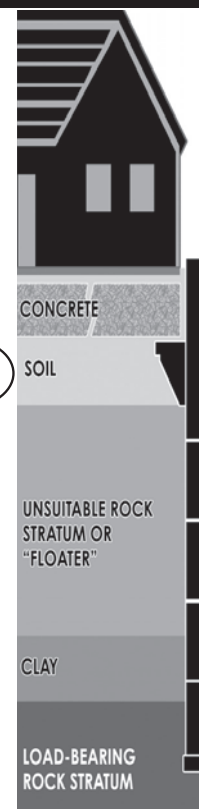
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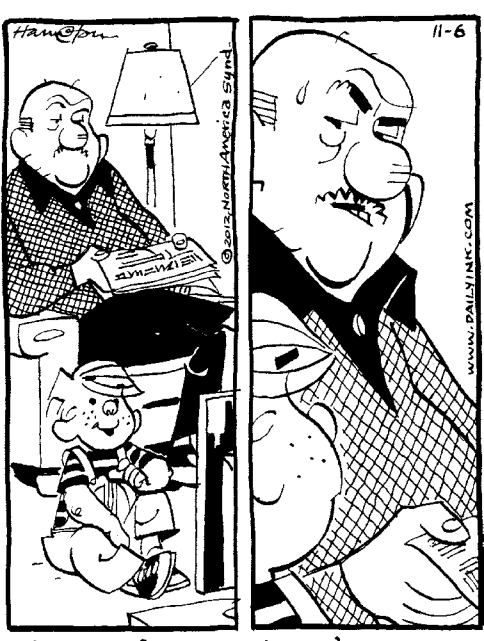
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DENNIS THE MENACE



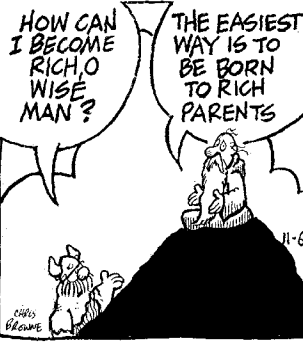
"SOMEDAY, I'M GONNA RUN FOR PRESIDENT." "AND I'LL RUN FOR COVER!"

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"The only homework my teacher gave me was to make sure you and Daddy read this!"

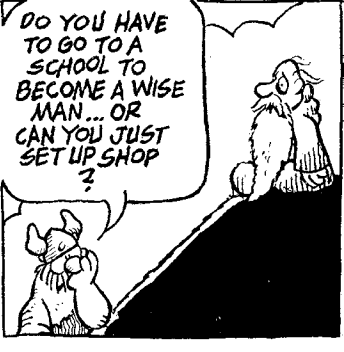
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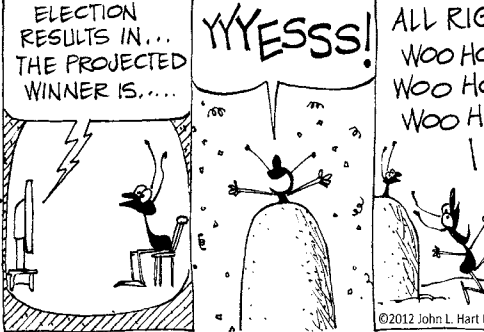
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This Date In History

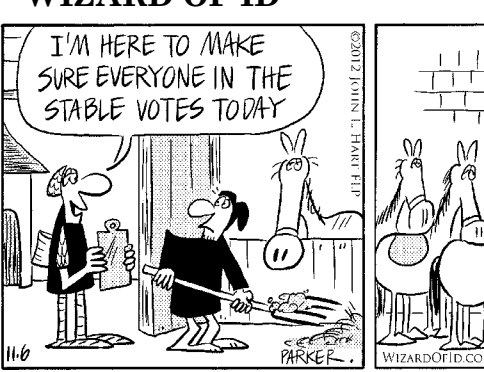
Today is Tuesday, Nov. 6, the 311th day of 2012. There are 55 days left in the year. This is Election Day. Today's Highlight in History: On Nov. 6, 1888, Republican Benjamin Harrison won the presidential election, defeating Democratic incumbent Grover Cleveland with an electoral vote count of 233-168, even though Cleveland led in the popular vote.

Petersburg, Russia, at age 53. In 1928, in a first, the results of Republican Herbert Hoover's election victory over Democrat Alfred E. Smith were flashed onto an electric wraparound sign on the New York Times building. In 1934, Nebraska voters approved dissolving their two-chamber legislature in favor of a nonpartisan, single (or "unicameral") legislative body, which was implemented in 1937.

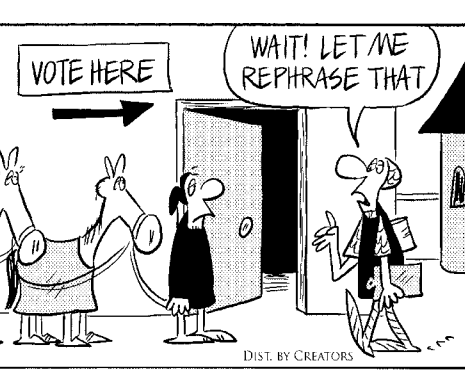
through Toccoa Falls College in Georgia. In 1990, about one-fifth of the Universal Studios backlot in southern California was destroyed in an arson fire. Today's Birthdays: Director Mike Nichols is 81. Country singer Stonewall Jackson is 80. Singer Eugene Pitt (The Jive Five) is 75. Singer P.J. Proby is 74. Country singer Guy Clark is 71. Actress Sally Field is 66. Pop singer-musician Glenn Frey (The Eagles) is 64. Singer Rory Block is 63. Jazz musician Arturo Sandoval is 63. TV host Catherine Crier is 58. California's former first lady, Maria Shriver, is 57. Actress Lori Singer is 55. Actor Lance Kerwin is 52.

Answer to previous puzzle crossword grid with words like COPAY, KEY, HERE, UNITE, IRE, OXIDE, RAZES, CIA, TEPEE, BIZ, MAKES, SCENE, RANAT, TIP, ONTOP, DOCTOR, SPAM, IDOL, TROOP, TELESCOPIC, SIGHT, ISAAC, RENO, MASS, ROSTER, STUMP, PIE, POSTS, POINTOFVIEW, RAM, DUNCE, LID, ELITE, ACTOR, ACE, REBUS, HOSS, TEA, STEPS.

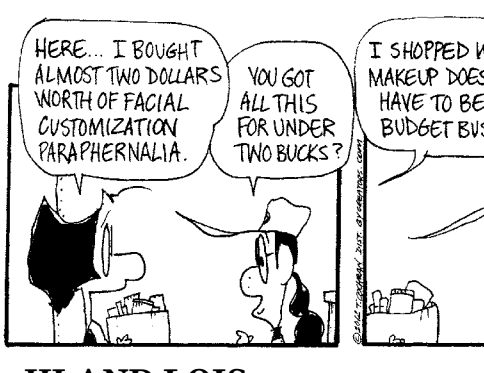
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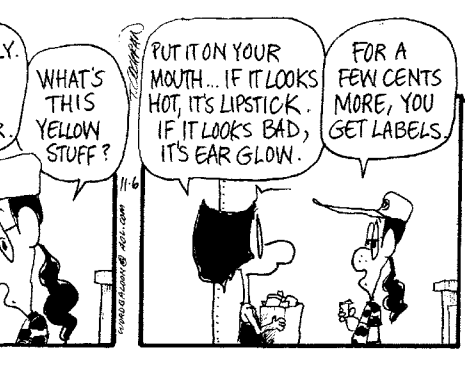
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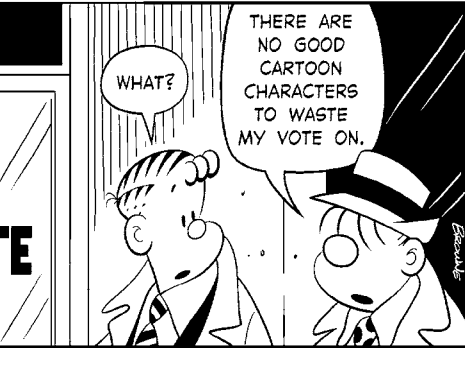
THE OTHER COAST



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Newsday Crossword

BEWARE OF DOG by Billie Truitt Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

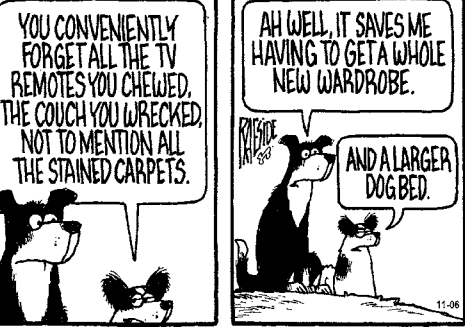
- ACROSS 1 Jeweler's weight measure 6 Achy 10 African snakes 14 44th president 15 Those people 16 Dance move 17 Pie nut 18 Cincinnati's state 19 Suffix for table or Tupper 20 Antlered beast 21 Stop early on, as a problem 24 Camcorder button 25 ___ over (faint) 26 Rose Bowl city 31 Camel's South American cousin 35 CPR experts 36 Eventually turned into 39 Film director ___ Howard 40 Look alert immediately 43 Infant 44 Full range 45 Angel's topper 46 Beer mug 48 "Obey me!" 50 Transmission selection 53 ___ Suffer, NV 54 Vuger defeat 59 Cinemax alternative 62 Make revisions 63 Airport postings: Abbr. 64 Driver's reversal 66 Sandwich shop

Newsday crossword grid with numbered squares and a list of answers on the right side.

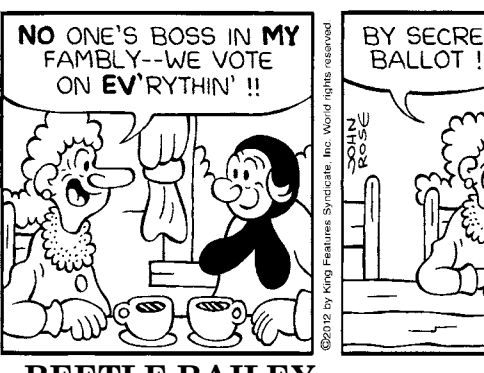
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BEETLE BAILEY



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Home field no advantage in Big 12

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — There's proving to be no home-field advantage in the Big 12 this season.

Road teams are on track to have a winning record for the first time in the conference's history, taking 16 of 27 games so far this year for a .593 winning percentage. That's almost an exact reversal of the historical trend, with home teams winning at a .594 clip over the league's first 16 years.

"It's a little mind-boggling. It's just the strength of the teams. You can pretty much win anywhere," said Texas Tech coach Tommy Tuberville, who understands the trend more than anyone else.

"Two of our conference games, we've won on

the road and we've lost a couple at home. So, you just don't know. It just depends on the frame of mind of your players and how they handle pressure and how they handle travel."

TCU has had a bewildering season, too, by going 3-1 on the road in the Big 12 while starting out 0-2 at home in its first season in the league. The Horned Frogs had won 40 of 43 games over the previous eight seasons and hadn't lost back-to-back home games in the same year since 1998.

"I think we've even played better on the road. On the road you're playing in front of crowds of 50,000 to 85,000 people and I think your kids get more jazzed up to play," Frogs coach Gary Patterson said Monday.

SPURS

Continued from Page 8

maintain effort when the bench comes in."

Duncan added 14 points and 11 rebounds, and Parker finished with six points, seven assists and only one turnover.

Former Spurs guard George Hill led Indiana with 15 points. Paul George added 14 points and David West had 10.

The Spurs needed a boost from their bench after a sluggish start.

Both teams aggressively defended the point early, resulting in a combined 4-for-16 shooting from the field in the first 5 minutes.

The Spurs then scored nine straight points to take a 14-9 lead after sharing the ball more. Boris Diaw capped the run with a layup off a bounce pass from Parker with 5 minutes left in the first quarter.

Parker later fed a cutting Ginobili, who made a tip pass to Blair for a layup with 1 second left in the first quarter for a 26-18 lead.

"We moved the ball well," Ginobili said. "Gary was impressive today. But yeah, we changed the tempo of the game. We did good — much better than the last game."

Parker had three of

the team's seven assists in the first quarter.

Parker sat for 9 minutes in the second period after playing the entire first. With the All-Star point guard on the bench, Jackson and Neal combined for nine points in an 11-0 run that gave the Spurs a 37-18 lead to open the second.

Indiana did not surpass 20 points until West dunked off an offensive rebound with 7 minutes left in the first half.

West kept the Pacers in contention, scoring all 10 of his points in the second quarter while going 4 for 5 from the field. His 23-foot jumper cut San Antonio's lead to 47-38 at halftime.

The Spurs maintained a double-digit lead for nearly all of the second half.

The Pacers shot just 35 percent for the game. San Antonio forced 14 turnovers in the second half.

"Their continuity is evident just watching them play," Indiana coach Frank Vogel said. "Thirteen of their 14 guys were here last year and their core guys have been here for many years winning championships. It's a system they are familiar with. They are a well-oiled machine and they play extremely hard on both sides of the court."

COACH

Continued from Page 8

play a complete game," Witten said. "That's why these games hurt, because we feel like we've got the guys that can do it. We've got to stay the course."

That's the exact message Garrett was emphasizing, one he said would be the same even if the team was coming off a big victory and had a winning record.

"It's the nature of what we do," Garrett said. "There's always urgency to that message. ... Don't focus on that big win you just had or that big loss that you just had. That's irrelevant. You've got to learn from it and go forward."

Payton was suspended for the season by the NFL for his role in the Saints' bounty scandal. The league has taken issue with a clause in the contract extension he agreed to more than a

year ago, which was to have kept him in New Orleans through 2015.

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, speaking to reporters before Sunday night's game in Atlanta, said he did not know if Payton might become a coaching free agent after the season.

"The one contract that they sent in to us ... we told them what the issue was," Goodell said. "Now it's up to the team and Sean Payton. So until I get something back, it's up to them."

Jones said he had no idea about the possibility of Payton coaching the Cowboys if he's available, and expressed his continued support for Garrett.

"Jason's future is ahead of him. I know how hard he works," Jones said. "I like his philosophy, so I've got a lot of confidence, a lot of faith. One of the brightest spots I see is our head coaching and our coaching in the future."

Dolphins reach crossroads at midpoint of season

DAVIE, Fla. (AP) — As the Miami Dolphins reach the midway point in their season, they've also arrived at a crossroads.

The Dolphins (4-4) began preparing Monday for two games in five days. With a sweep — and they'll likely be favored in both games — Miami will remain part of the AFC playoff race. Anything less, and the franchise turnaround led by new coach Joe Philbin could stall.

The Dolphins play host Sunday to Tennessee (3-5), then make their 2012 prime-time debut the following Thursday at Buffalo (3-5).

"We've had some good games, some not-so-good games, and some bad games," quarterback Ryan Tannehill said. "You have to realize where you are at and push forward. We are at a critical point in the season, halfway through, and it can go either way from here."

The Dolphins missed a chance to tie for the AFC East lead when they lost 23-20 Sunday at Indianapolis to snap a three-game winning streak. It was Miami's

third three-point defeat, with the previous two coming in overtime.

Indy's Andrew Luck threw for an NFL rookie record 433 yards. The Dolphins have been out-gained 1,341 yards to 793 in the past three games.

But Philbin said he's more worried about points than yards. While his team has outscored opponents 170-149, it has been outscored 60-31 after the third quarter.

"We've got to make more plays at critical times to win games," he said.

Other areas of concern include a shaky secondary and a ground game that has lost steam after an encouraging start.

Tannehill, by contrast, looks more efficient with each passing week. The rookie wobbled on the final series when Miami had a chance to rally, but finished 22 of 38 for 290 yards and one touchdown, while playing on a sore left leg that limited his practice time last week.

"I couldn't ask for a better job out of him," teammate Reggie

Bush said. "He's really poised back there. I thought he played like a champion."

Tannehill struggled with interceptions early in the season, but hasn't thrown one since September.

"Don't jinx us," Philbin said with a smile. "That speaks to his decision-making. That's a positive."

Tannehill played well despite being sacked twice and hit half a dozen other times. Several hits were the result of lapses by Jake Long, and Philbin wasn't happy with the play of his Pro Bowl left tackle.

"Like the rest of the offensive line, it's got to be better," Philbin said. "Overall our offensive line play wasn't good enough, and he's part of that."

The Dolphins have netted less than 100 yards rushing each of the past five games, and Bush — who set a goal of leading the NFL this year — instead ranks 16th with 534 yards.

Personnel changes in the secondary are possible, Philbin said.

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MAVS

Continued from Page 8

continue moving," Mayo said. "It's kind of hard to guard. We don't do something constant or something you can scout. We pretty much ready the defense and work off that."

Mayo made six 3-pointers and capped his night with a running dunk with 1:18 left. After shooting 7 for 22 in his first two Dallas games on the road, he is 22 of 35 at home with 13 3-point-

ers.

The Trail Blazers, coached by Terry Stotts, a Mavericks assistant the past four seasons under Rick Carlisle, were within 85-83 with 10:17 left.

But Kaman, who was 8-of-9 shooting in his Dallas debut Saturday after missing the first two games with a strained right calf, made a 17-foot jumper. That was the sixth consecutive shot he made Monday, and it started a game-ending 29-8 run.

"Obviously, we didn't

do a good enough job defensively. I think Dallas put on a flow clinic in the second half," said Stotts, who was the Mavs' primary offensive coach. "The ball was moving, they were setting good screens. They made their shots, got to the rim."

LaMarcus Aldridge, a Dallas native, and Wesley Matthews had 20 points each for Portland. Nicholas Batum had 14 points, while J.J. Hickson grabbed 11 rebounds.

Rookie point guard Damian Lillard had 13 points and five assists

in his fourth NBA game. He had two quick fouls and missed extending some historic achievements.

Lillard had matched Geoff Petrie as the only players in Blazers history to score 20 or more points in his first three games. He had joined Oscar Robertson as the only players in NBA history with at least 20 points and seven assists in his first three career games.

Mayo hit 3-pointers from the right wing and then the left wing in the third quarter. He hit another from long range

to put Dallas up 70-67 with 5½ minutes left in the period, breaking the only tie of the second half.

After Sasha Pavlovic beat the shot-clock buzzer with a 3-pointer to get Portland within 75-73, Collison passed to Vince Carter for a 3-pointer. Mayo added another 3 before the end of the third to stretch the lead to 83-77.

Mayo scored seven points in the first 5 minutes of the game and had 12 of the Mavericks' first 22 as they built an early 10-point lead.

"He's one of the hard-

est workers on this team. He's constantly shooting every day," Collison said. "That 3-point shot is like a mid-range shot to him. ... If he continues to shoot like that, we're all going to have a very good season."

Portland got even at 43 on two free throws by Lillard before Aldridge's three-point play gave the Trail Blazers their first lead. But Lillard shot only 2 of 13, including 1 of 8 on 3-pointers.

"It was a tough night. I got some good looks, didn't make shots," Lillard said. "That's pretty much it."

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