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# HERALD

**BIG SPRING**

**MONDAY**  
DECEMBER 28, 2015  
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## Historic storm hits Crossroads

*Unofficial reports of 7 inches of snowfall in Big Spring Sunday*



By **STEVE REAGAN**  
Staff Writer

Winter hit the Crossroads with a vengeance this weekend, dropping as much as 6 to 7 inches of snow — and a generous portion of sleet and freezing rain, to boot — over much of the area.

Julie Phillipson, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service's Midland station, said a very slow-moving winter storm system that developed over the western United States slammed through the Permian Basin Saturday and Sunday,

blanketing the area in sleet and snow and sending temperatures plunging toward the teens.

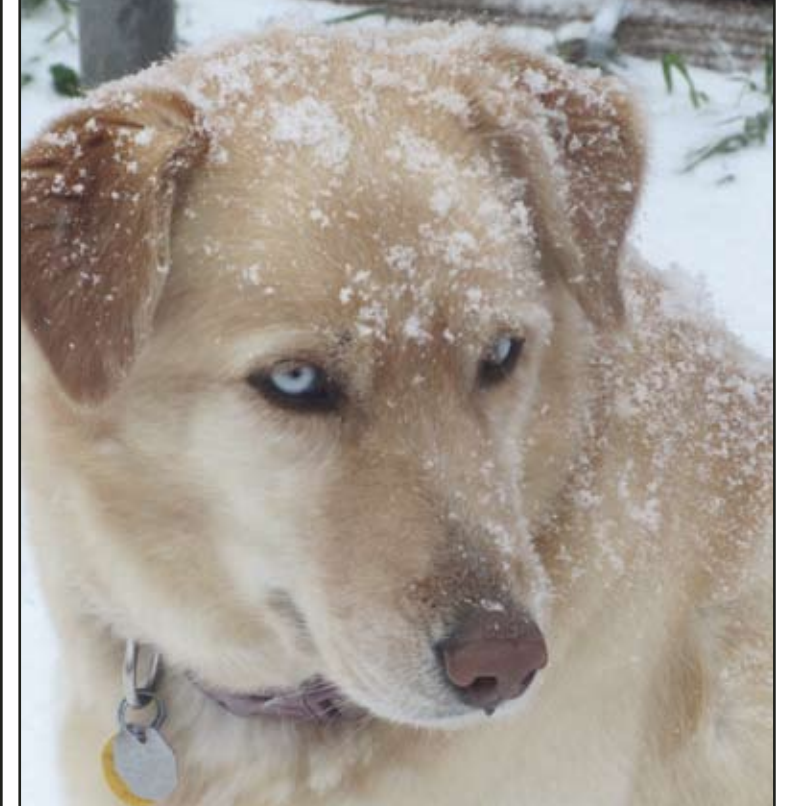
Unofficial reports of up to 7 inches of snow were reported in Big Spring, but the main brunt of the storm was felt in far west Texas and southeastern New Mexico. Phillipson said the NWS had received reports of 14 inches of snow in Hobbs and snow drifts up to 5 feet in height in parts of southeast New Mexico.

See, **SNOW**, Page 3



HERALD photos/Steve Reagan and Lyndel Moody  
Above, Main street is covered by snow. At right, a car navigates through heavy snow fall on Randolph St. Sunday afternoon. Caution was urged for travelers on the road beginning Saturday night

### You call this snow!?!?



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody  
Goldie, a Husky/Golden Retriever mix, doesn't seem phased by the blizzard that dumped an unofficial 7 inches of snow in the area Sunday

## DPS urges caution as severe weather impacts the state

AUSTIN — The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is urging Texans to monitor weather forecasts and take necessary precautions due to the threat of severe or winter weather in various parts of the state. Travelers are advised to monitor weather conditions along their route before traveling, and avoid unnecessary travel if possible in affected areas. Texans are encouraged to follow these safety tips in the event of severe weather or flooding:

When severe storms threaten, the safest place to be is indoors. See [dps.texas.gov/dem/threatawareness/weather\\_aware\\_severe .htm](http://dps.texas.gov/dem/threatawareness/weather_aware_severe.htm) for additional safety tips. Avoid areas already flooded and avoid any fast-flowing water. Be extremely cautious of any water on roads or in creeks, streams, storm drains or other areas — never attempt to cross flowing streams or drive across flooded roadways and always observe road barricades placed for your protection. (Please note it is against the law to go around barriers.) Dangerous waters can seem

deceptively calm, and if you encounter flooding, move to higher ground. Keep in mind that flood dangers are even harder to recognize at night. Stay informed by monitoring weather radios and news broadcasts for updated information on current and anticipated severe weather in your area. For additional safety tips related to flooding, see [www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/threatawareness/flash\\_floodawareness.htm](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/threatawareness/flash_floodawareness.htm).

See, **DPS**, Page 3

### Walking in a winter wonderland

A display at the Festival of Lights in Comanche Trail park sits among heavy snow.



HERALD photo Steve Reagan

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## Obituaries

### Verla Rae (Anderson) Doggett

Verla Rae (Anderson) Doggett, of Stanton, Texas, passed away Saturday, Dec. 26, 2015, at her home. Verla was born Sept. 24, 1927, to Mike and Vela Anderson, in Stanton. She attended the Stanton Schools. On May 15, 1950, Verla married James Richard Doggett and they made their home in Stanton, where Verla worked at the Post Office for 32 years, serving as Postmaster the last eight.

She grew up in a family that loved music and played the piano for the weekly Stamps-Baxter Gospel singings for many years. After she retired from the Post Office, she played the keyboard for the Martin County Senior Citizens Old Sorehead Band. You could easily pick her out. She was the one always smiling. Verla and her sister, "Babe" Lindsey, also played in a family band called "The Cousins" with their cousins Mary Ellis and Billie Miles.

Verla was preceded in death by her parents, sister Anna Lou Robinson, and her husband of 61 years, Richard. She is survived by her sister Juanita "Babe" Lindsey (husband Bud) of Stanton,

her daughters Doyla Haislip and Dinah Doggett, and grandson Bobby Haislip, all of Stanton, and by several special nieces and nephews.

The family would like to express great love and appreciation to the wonderful caregivers who took care of mom the past five years, Teresa Booth, Annie Garanzuay, Tami Holguin, Sally Armendarez, Adela Cantu, and Juanita Avalos and to the faithful employees of Home Hospice and Home Hospice Nurse Lisa Rackard.

Family and friends will gather to celebrate Verla's life Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2015, at 3 p.m., at the Hosanna Christian Fellowship of Stanton. The family will receive friends on Tuesday evening from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Gilbreath Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Martin County Senior Citizen Center or Home Hospice, 111 E. 7th St., Big Spring, TX 79720, or to your favorite charity.

"Sing to the Lord, a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth." Psalm 96:1

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences may be made at [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com)

*Paid obituary*

### Carlos Vega

Carlos Vega, 53, of Big Spring, died Friday, Dec. 25, 2015 in a local hospital. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2015 at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at the Mt Olive Memorial Park, Big Spring.

A Prayer Vigil will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2015 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel.

Carlos was born March 12, 1962 in Big Spring. He

worked for Pizza Inn.

He is survived by one daughter, Guadalupe Davis of Tupelo, Miss.; his mother, Irene Vega of Big Spring; five brothers, Mike Vega, Jesse Vega, Tony Vega, Ruben Vega, and Frank Vega, and wife, Kassi all of Big Spring; and three sisters, Mary Lou Burns of Waco, Arlene Rodriguez and husband, Rocky of Lubbock, and Estella Dominguez, and husband, David of Big Spring.

He was preceded in death by one brother, Francisco Vega; one grandmother, Concha Vega and an uncle, Manuel Vega.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences may be made at: [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com)

### Melissa Webster Loveless

Melissa Webster Loveless, 43, of Midland, formerly of Big Spring, died Sunday, Dec. 27, 2015 in a Midland hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory.

## Take Note

#### Meetings

The Big Spring Art Association meets every third Tuesday, September through May at 7 p.m. in the basement of the Howard County Library. Everyone is welcome to attend. Memberships are available. The annual dues are \$20.

The Big Spring Symphony Board of Directors meets every first Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the symphony office, 808 Scurry Street.

The Kiwanis Club of Big Spring meets at noon every Thursday in the Cactus Room at Howard College. Visitors are welcome.

Howard College will be hosting several "update meetings" throughout Howard County for interested citizens to gather more facts and information about Howard College as they prepare for the tax rate rollback election to be held in January 2016. Those dates are: Tuesday, Jan. 5, 12:30 p.m. Hall Center for the Arts Auditorium, Howard College Campus, 1001 Birdwell Lane, (sign language interpretation provided); and Tuesday, Jan. 5, 6:30 p.m. Hall Center for the Arts Auditorium, Howard College Campus, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

Order of the Eastern Star Big Spring Chapter 67 meets the third Tuesday of each month at 219 Main St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Lodge meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Jimmy Ruth at 271-2176.

Staked Plains Masonic Lodge No. 598 meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. (dinner is at 6 p.m.) at 219 1/2 Main St. All Masons are welcome.

#### Volunteer opportunities

Home Hospice is in need of volunteers of all ages. The organization is requesting volunteers to sit with patients, make items for patients and help with office work. Volunteers set their own hours. For more information, contact Sherry Hodnett at 264-7911 or 432-213-0150.

Mobile meals is in need of volunteer delivery drivers. If you donate one hour per week to help deliver meals to the elderly, call Kim Plew at 263-4016 or 213-7960.

Crossroads Hospice needs volunteers for patient care. Contact Eva at 263-5300.

Victim Services is a non-profit independent community-based program serving victims of all violent crime, including, but not limited to, assault, sexual assault and domestic violence. Victim Services advocates are available 24 hours of day, 365 days a year to provide crisis intervention or accompaniment to the hospital and law enforcement agencies as needed. If you can commit to 30-hour training, an interview process and a background check, we need you. For more information, call Linda Calvio at 432-263-3312.

## Support Groups

#### MONDAY

Alcoholics Anonymous, As Bill Sees it, 615 Settles, 6:06 p.m. to 7 p.m.

VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7-8 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.

Reformers Unanimous International is a faith-based addictions program helping people find freedom from addiction. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Mondays at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Enter at the main entrance of the church.

Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at Spring Town Plaza (inside the mall, next to Attitudes Hair Salon, down by Bealls). Open meeting at 7 p.m.

#### 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

VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.

Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; newcomers meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAY

RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy) a chronic pain disease, a support and informative group, meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 & 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

#### THURSDAY

Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m.

**BIG SPRING HERALD**

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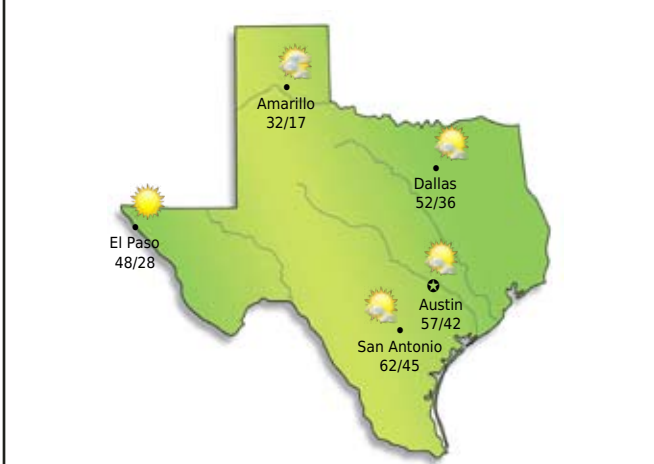
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Local 5-Day Forecast				
Tue 12/29	Wed 12/30	Thu 12/31	Fri 1/1	Sat 1/2
 <b>41/21</b> Partly cloudy. High 41F. Winds SSE at 5 to 10 mph.	 <b>42/19</b> Plenty of sun. Highs in the low 40s and lows in the upper teens.	 <b>38/24</b> Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 30s and lows in the mid 20s.	 <b>36/22</b> Cloudy. Highs in the mid 30s and lows in the low 20s.	 <b>43/23</b> Partly cloudy. Highs in the low 40s and lows in the low 20s.
Sunrise: 7:46 AM Sunset: 5:50 PM	Sunrise: 7:46 AM Sunset: 5:50 PM	Sunrise: 7:47 AM Sunset: 5:51 PM	Sunrise: 7:47 AM Sunset: 5:52 PM	Sunrise: 7:47 AM Sunset: 5:52 PM

#### Texas at a Glance



#### Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	37	21	Cloudy	Kingsville	61	42	Sunny/Wind
Amarillo	32	15	Sunny	Livingston	50	35	P Cloudy
Austin	50	34	P Cloudy	Longview	47	33	Cloudy
Beaumont	54	38	Sunny	Lubbock	35	18	P Clidy/Wind
Brownsville	64	48	P Cloudy	Lufkin	50	33	P Cloudy
Brownwood	40	23	Cloudy	Midland	38	23	P Cloudy
Corpus Christi	59	45	Sunny/Wind	Raymondville	65	45	Sunny
Corsicana	44	33	Cloudy	Rosenberg	53	39	M Sunny
Dallas	42	32	Cloudy	San Antonio	57	37	P Cloudy
Del Rio	54	34	M Cloudy	San Marcos	53	33	P Cloudy
El Paso	43	27	P Cloudy	Sulphur Springs	43	33	Showers/Wind
Fort Stockton	43	28	P Cloudy	Sweetwater	37	22	M Cloudy
Gainesville	38	26	Snow/Wind	Tyler	44	34	Cloudy
Greenville	41	31	Rn/Snw/Wind	Weatherford	41	27	Showers
Houston	54	39	P Cloudy	Wichita Falls	38	24	Cloudy

#### National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	71	60	Few Showers	Miami	83	75	P Cloudy
Boston	33	29	P Clidy/Wind	Minneapolis	23	21	Cloudy
Chicago	38	36	Frz Rain	New York	43	38	P Cloudy
Dallas	42	32	Cloudy	Phoenix	61	39	Sunny
Denver	30	8	Sunny	San Francisco	53	43	Cloudy
Houston	49	27	Showers	Seattle	41	33	Cloudy
Los Angeles	58	39	P Cloudy	Saint Louis	49	32	Showers/Wind

#### Moon Phases

First	Full	Last	New
Dec 18	Dec 25	Jan 2	Jan 10

#### UV Index

Tue 12/29	Wed 12/30	Thu 12/31	Fri 1/1	Sat 1/2
3	3	1	2	3
Moderate	Moderate	Low	Low	Moderate

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

## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

**JESSE MORENO MARQUEZ**, 32, of 830 E. 41st St. San Angelo was arrested on charges of burglary of a habitation and criminal mischief, more than \$750 but less than \$2,500.

**MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported in the 2200 block of Morrison St., the 1000 block of Stadium St., the intersection of FM 700 and Birdwell Lane and I-20 near exit 181.

**DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 1000 block of Bluebonnet Ave.

**HARASSMENT** was reported in the 500 block of Westover Rd.

**BURGLARY OF A BUILDING** was reported in the 1500 block of E. 4th St.



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## Christmas for our four-footed friends



Courtesy Photo

The Happy Day Humane Society accepted donations of toys for animals still awaiting adoption.

The Happy Day Humane Society did a giving tree this year. The toys were for animals still awaiting adoption.

"We are in awe of the out-pouring of generosity from our community," said Kristen Partee, co-founder and president of the

Yellow Rose Animal Rescue.

On Christmas Eve morning, stockings and gifts were delivered by Santa to the waiting animals.

— Julie Bass

## DPS

Continued from Page 1

DPS offers the following tips for staying safe during winter weather:

Avoid traveling when sleet, freezing rain or snow is predicted, and monitor road conditions by visiting [www.drivetexas.org](http://www.drivetexas.org).

Monitor local weather broadcasts and follow up-to-the-minute weather conditions, at [www.weather.gov/](http://www.weather.gov/).

Purchase an all-hazards weather radio for up-to-date warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information.

Sign up for your local emergency notification system.

On icy roads, drive slowly and increase distance required for stopping, and avoid using cruise control. Remember that ice often forms first on overpasses.

Watch for downed trees and power lines across roads. If power is out, treat all intersections as four-way stops.

Make sure your vehicle is properly maintained before any trip.

Keep your gas tank full.

Winterize your vehicle by checking the battery, windshield wipers (including appropriate freeze resistant fluid), tire pressure, tire tread, fluid levels, and lubricate door and trunk locks to prevent freezing. In addition, here is a list of emergency supplies drivers can keep in their vehicle:

Blankets/sleeping bags, extra clothing, gloves and a hat.

Cell phone, radio, flashlight and extra batteries.

First-aid kit and pocket knife.

High calorie, non-perishable food and bottled water.

Bag of sand or cat litter to provide traction for tires.

Windshield scraper, tool kit, booster cables, tow rope and a shovel.

Visit [www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/threatawareness/winterstorm.htm](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/threatawareness/winterstorm.htm) for additional information and tips regarding winter weather preparedness.

## Five BSFD firefighters complete high rescue training

The City of Big Spring Fire Department participate in advanced high-angle rescue training this week thanks to Troy Moore with DXP out of the Odessa branch, according to Craig Ferguson, Big Spring Fire Chief.

Five employees attended training which included rope rescue techniques and confined space rescue. The firefighters received certification in advanced rescue operations.

"Troy Moore is a retired Odessa Fire Department Captain who understands the necessity for fire departments to stay current with the latest technology, safety practices, and skills required in today's dynamic economy," Ferguson said. "We appreciate Mr. Moore sharing his knowledge and abilities with our department and we look forward to continue training with DXP in the future."

— Lyndel Moody



HERALD Photo/Julie Bass

Trigger, a 6 month old Great Dane mix, took a break from his first experience of playing in the snow for a quick picture.

## SNOW

Continued from Page 1

Intermittent snow was expected to continue falling through the night Sunday, with the system finally making its way out of the area by early Monday.

Phillipson said no more precipitation is expected for the remainder of the week, but temperatures are expected to remain cold, with highs in the mid-to-low 30s and lows in the low 20s and high teens through next weekend.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at [reporter@bigspringherald.com](mailto:reporter@bigspringherald.com)

# Large storm brings twisters, floods — and it's not over yet

BY DAVID WARREN  
Associated Press

GARLAND, Texas (AP) — As residents of North Texas surveyed the destruction from deadly tornadoes, the same storm system brought winter storm woes to the Midwest on Monday, amplified flooding that's already blamed for more than a dozen deaths and prompted hundreds of flight cancellations.

At least 11 people died and dozens were injured in the tornadoes that swept through the Dallas area on Saturday and caused substantial damage. That, plus the flooding in Missouri and Illinois, was the latest in a succession of severe weather events across the country in the last week that led to at least 43 deaths.

A range of precipitation was forecast Monday for the country's midsection, including heavy snow, ice and blustery winds in parts of 11 states and heavy rain in already-waterlogged parts of Missouri

and Arkansas.

The system caused nearly 900 flights to be canceled — more than a third of which were at Chicago's two main airports — and another 500 to be delayed, according to flight-tracking service FlightAware. A typical day sees about 150 cancellations and 4,000 delays.

In North Texas, local officials estimated as many as 1,450 homes were damaged or destroyed by at least nine tornadoes.

"This is a huge impact on our community and we're all suffering," Garland Police Lt. Pedro Barineau said of the suburb about 20 miles northeast of Dallas, where eight people died, 15 were injured and about 600 structures, mostly single-family homes, were damaged.

The weather service said an EF-4 tornado, which is the second-most powerful with winds up to more than 200 mph, hit the community at about 6:45 p.m. Saturday.

Natalie Guzman, 33, took photos of her family's damaged home in a Garland neighborhood. The only part of the house that appeared to be spared was the master bathroom, where her brother-in-law took shelter Saturday night with his dogs.

"It was worse than I thought," Guzman said, comparing the scene to the photos he had sent Saturday.

In the nearby town of Rowlett, City Manager Brian Funderburk said Sunday morning that 23 people were injured, but that there were no deaths and no reports of missing people. The weather service said damage indicated it was likely an EF-3 tornado, which has winds up to

165 mph.

Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins said in a statement Sunday night that as many as 600 homes were damaged in Rowlett.

Three other people died in Collin County, about 45 miles northeast of Dallas, according to sheriff's deputy Chris Havey, although the circumstances were not immediately clear.

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott made disaster declarations Sunday for four counties — Dallas, Collin, Rockwall and Ellis — and warned that the number of victims could rise.

On the other side of the state, the Department of Public Safety in Amarillo strongly discouraged travel through-

out the entire Texas Panhandle — a 26-county area covering nearly 26,000 square miles — because blowing and drifting snow had made the roads impassable. Interstate 40, the main east-west highway across the Panhandle, was almost completely shut down; DPS said only a small section in Amarillo was open. Traffic was at an hours-long standstill in West Texas where Interstate 10 splits into Interstate 20 on Monday morning.

Vito Randazzo of California sat on I-10 for about 13 hours. "Everybody's just sleeping in their cars," said Randazzo, who added that the roadway was snow-packed and icy. "I

can't believe the road was left in this condition."

Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin declared a state of emergency after blizzard conditions affecting the western and central parts of the state and up to a foot of rain fell in the southern and eastern parts of the state. The National Weather Service has said "disastrous" flooding will happen in eastern Oklahoma.

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# Stars' Benn scores 23rd goal; Lehtonen shuts out Blues, 3-0

Playing for the first time since he was pulled from a game after less than 9 minutes, the Dallas goalie made 22 saves for his 33rd career shutout and his third this season, and the Stars beat the St. Louis Blues 3-0.

Coach Lindy Ruff had pulled Lehtonen after he gave up two goals on four shots at Minnesota on Dec. 21, but had no problem starting him on Sunday.

"We've got four games in six nights. Kari obviously had a couple struggles, but he's played good hockey for us," Ruff said. "There's going to be bumps in the road along that way. But I think his answer tonight was the answer we were all looking for."

Jamie Benn scored his

NHL-leading 23rd goal. Benn and Patrick Sharp each had a power-play goal and an assist. Cody Eakin scored into an empty net with 1:32 remaining.

The victory avenged Dallas' 3-2 shootout loss to the Blues in St. Louis on Saturday night. The Stars have a league-best 57 points, and Dallas and Washington are the only teams that have not lost consecutive games this season.

St. Louis, second to Dallas with 48 points, had won the previous four games between the teams.

"We seem to be doing well against them at home," Lehtonen said, "and they seem to outplay us in their building. Every game is tough. At the

same time, it's exciting." Lehtonen improved his season record to 12-2-0. He is 13-6-2 in his career against the Blues.

Sharp pushed in his own rebound with 1:57 left in the first period. Just 40 seconds into the third, Benn took a pass from Sharp and beat Brian Elliott.

Blues coach Ken Hitchcock said he thought Benn had cross-checked Jay Bouwmeester to get open in the slot.

"The one that really hurt us was the second goal. (Bouwmeester) was playing the front of the net, gets cross-checked from behind and the guy that cross-checks from behind scores a goal."

The game was played with

only one referee, Rob Martell, because Brad Meier had travel issues that kept him from reaching rain-soaked Dallas.

"If they call penalties both ways then yeah, for sure (Benn) did (cross-check)," Bouwmeester said, "but I mean one ref tonight."

The game featured two fights in the first 7 seconds of the second period and a total of 38 penalty minutes. First, Dallas' Antoine Roussel and St. Louis' Troy Brouwer tussled. Next, the Stars' Travis Moen took on Robert Bortuzzo, who had been penalized for slashing Benn late in the first.

"I thought the job that Roussel and Moen did was as key as anything, after the butt end to Benn," Ruff said, "and

I thought the fact that (Tyler) Seguin jumped in right away for his winger was impressive."

The Stars outshot St. Louis 38-22. Elliott made 35 saves.

"The part that disappoints everybody here," Hitchcock said, "is (Elliott) battled like crazy, he made great saves, he kept us right there and we couldn't get a goal for him."

Lehtonen's toughest stretch came late in the second period, when he stopped hard shots by Alexander Steen and Colton Parayko.

"I was able to make one good glove save on Steen, and right after that their defenseman I was able to make another glove save," Lehtonen said.

See STARS, Page 10

# Weeden, Texans closer to AFC South with 34-6 rout of Titans

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Houston can clinch the AFC South title and a playoff berth Monday night if Cincinnati wins at Denver. The Texans prefer to focus only on their regular season finale.

A division title is nice. Going into the postseason with both a victory and a winning record would be even better.

The Texans routed the Titans 34-6 on Sunday, putting them closer to the AFC South title.

Indianapolis beat Miami 18-12 to keep the Texans from clinching outright, but Houston could win the division on a strength-of-victory tiebreaker if Cincinnati wins.

"I'm sure I'll check it out here and there, but quite frankly it really doesn't matter what anybody else does," Texans defensive end J.J. Watt said. "We go out there, we win next week, that's all that matters."

The Texans (8-7) assured themselves of at least a .500 finish pending their game with Jacksonville despite starting their fourth quarterback this season in Brandon Weeden.

Tennessee (3-12) finishes with only one win at home this season after losing receiver Kendall Wright to an injured left knee and left



Houston Texans quarterback Brandon Weeden (5) celebrates with defensive end J.J. Watt (99) after Weeden scrambled 7 yards for a touchdown against the Tennessee Titans in the first half of an NFL football game Sunday, Dec. 27, 2015, in Nashville, Tenn. AP photo

tackle Taylor Lewan to a possible concussion in the first half. The Titans also turned it over four times, which Houston turned into 17 points.

"Just frustrated," Titans quarterback Zach Mettenberger said. "We are a better team than what we have shown a lot this year."

Here are some things to know about the Texans' big win over Tennessee:

**WEEDEN'S PERFORMANCE:** A week ago, Weeden came off the bench and led the Texans to their first win in Indianapolis to take over the AFC South lead. He started for the fourth time this season Sunday and won after

losing all three starts in place of injured Tony Romo in Dallas before being released last month. Weeden became the first quarterback in Texans' history to run for a touchdown and throw for two more.

Not bad for a quarterback discarded by both Cleveland and Dallas.

"It feels good, I'm more excited for this team," Weeden said. "We just keep plugging. It's fun to be a part of a team like that."

**HOYER STILL TEXANS' STARTER:** The Texans scratched Brian Hoyer for a second straight week as the quarterback recovers from his second concussion this month, giving

Weeden the start against Tennessee. Houston coach Bill O'Brien said Hoyer remains his starter. Asked if he might rest Hoyer against Jacksonville to prepare for the playoffs, O'Brien said only that the Texans need to play to win.

**BETTER PROTECTION:** The Texans sacked Mettenberger only once Sunday, a big improvement from Nov. 1 when Houston took the Titans quarterback down seven times. Watt sacked Mettenberger and stripped him of the ball in the fourth quarter. The Texans still hit Mettenberger seven other times as Houston

See TEXANS, Page 10

# Cowboys fail to get spark in QB Kellen Moore's first start

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys offense is still going nowhere without Tony Romo.

Add Kellen Moore to the Cowboys growing list of quarterbacks unable to provide a spark.

In making his first career start, Moore failed to produce one touchdown drive as Dallas settled for kicker Dan Bailey hitting two of three field-goal attempts in a 16-6 loss at the Buffalo Bills on Sunday.

"We can make excuses and all that stuff," said Moore, referring to an offense that was also minor injured star receiver Dez Bryant. "Bottom line is, we had an opportunity to score points, we didn't. Hopefully, we learn from this."

That time has all but run out for the Cowboys, who at 4-11 are eliminated from playoff contention in preparing to close their season hosting Washington next week.

The Bills (7-8), who are also eliminated from contention, sealed the win on Mike Gillislee's 50-yard touchdown run with 2:25 remaining.

The Cowboys dropped to 1-10 in games without Romo, who's sidelined by a broken collarbone.

Against Buffalo, they were limited to 307 yards of offense. They've combined to score just four touchdowns in their past five games. And Dallas has managed to score

one or fewer touchdowns eight times.

"We certainly need to get better offensively," coach Jason Garrett said. "We did a good job of running the football at different times. But, we weren't able to sustain drives."

Moore went 13 of 31 for 186 yards passing and an interception, a week after Matt Cassel was benched during a 19-16 loss to the New York Jets.

The Cowboys settled for Bailey's 22-yard field goal after Moore overthrew Brice Butler in the end zone on third-and-goal from the 4 in the second quarter.

In the third quarter, Moore led the Cowboys to the Buffalo 26 only to have his low pass tip off Butler's fingers and into the hands of linebacker A.J. Tarpley.

Garrett liked what he saw from Moore, but said he hasn't yet determined who will start next week.

"I thought he operated well and made some big plays in the game, but obviously not enough for us offensively," Garrett said. "We need to score more points."

Butler led the team with four catches for 74 yards. Darren McFadden had 99 yards rushing.

Tight end Jason Witten was limited to just one catch for 12 yards.

See COWBOYS, Page 10

## Scoreboard

NBA Saturday's Games	Monday's Games	NHL Monday's Games Saturday's Games	Monday's Games	National Hockey League	HARTFORD WOLF PACK
Washington 111, Brooklyn 96	Atlanta at Indiana, 7 p.m.	St. Louis 3, Dallas 2, SO	Washington at Buffalo, 7 p.m.	Los Angeles at Edmonton, 9 p.m.	— Recalled F Jack Combs from Greenville (ECHL). Announced F Josh Nicholls was reassigned to the team from Greenville. Released D Nick Petrecki from his professional tryout agreement.
Toronto 111, Milwaukee 90	New Orleans at Orlando, 7 p.m.	Buffalo 6, Boston 3	Montreal at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.	Chicago at Arizona, 9 p.m.	— SAN ANTONIO RAMPAGE — Recalled D Gabriel Beaupre and F Alex Belzile from Fort Wayne (ECHL).
New Orleans 110, Houston 108	L.A. Clippers at Washington, 7 p.m.	Tampa Bay 5, Columbus 2	N.Y. Rangers at Nashville, 8 p.m.	MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES — Reassigned F James Ennis to Iowa (NBADL).	— ECHL — Suspended Manchester's Danick Paquette indefinitely and fined him an undisclosed amount for his actions in a Dec. 26 game at Adirondack. Fined Norfolk's Tommy Mele an undisclosed amount for his actions in a Dec. 26 game at South Carolina.
Miami 108, Orlando 101	L.A. Lakers at Charlotte, 7 p.m.	Washington 3, Montreal 1	Detroit at Minnesota, 8 p.m.	NEW YORK ISLANDERS — Placed G Jaroslav Halak on injured reserve, retroactive to Dec. 21. Recalled G Christopher Gibson from New Haven (AHL).	— FLORIDA EVERBLADES — Agreed to terms with G Keegan Asmundson.
Charlotte 98, Memphis 92	Brooklyn at Miami, 7:30 p.m.	Carolina 3, New Jersey 1	Los Angeles at Vancouver, 10 p.m.	AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE BAKERSFIELD CONDORS — Announced D Brad Hunt was recalled by Edmonton (NHL).	
Boston 99, Detroit 93	Toronto at Chicago, 8 p.m.	Detroit 3, St. Louis 2	Colorado at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.	BRIDGEPORT SOUND TIGERS — Recalled G Parker Milner from Missouri (ECHL).	
Atlanta 117, New York 98	Minnesota at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.	Pittsburgh 3, Minnesota 1	Tuesday's Games		
Indiana 102, Minnesota 88	Milwaukee at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.	Los Angeles 4, Arizona 3, OT	Ottawa at Boston, 7 p.m.		
San Antonio 101, Denver 86	Philadelphia at Utah, 9 p.m.	Vancouver 2, Edmonton 1, OT	N.Y. Islanders at Toronto, 7 p.m.		
Dallas 118, Chicago 111	Cleveland at Phoenix, 9 p.m.	Sunday's Games	Carolina at New Jersey, 7 p.m.		
L.A. Clippers 109, Utah 104	Sacramento at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.	Ottawa 3, Boston 1	Dallas at Columbus, 7 p.m.		
Philadelphia 111, Phoenix 104	Tuesday's Games	Florida 3, Columbus 2	Montreal at Florida, 7:30 p.m.		
Portland 105, Cleveland 76	Detroit at New York, 7:30 p.m.	Toronto 3, N.Y. Islanders 1	Nashville at St. Louis, 8 p.m.		
Sunday's Games	Miami at Memphis, 8 p.m.	Dallas 3, St. Louis 0	Detroit at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.		
Memphis 96, L.A. Lakers 92	Atlanta at Houston, 8 p.m.	Carolina 2, Chicago 1	Anaheim at Calgary, 9 p.m.		
Oklahoma City 122, Denver 112		Winnipeg 2, Pittsburgh 0			
Boston 100, New York 91		Arizona 2, Colorado 1, OT			
Portland 98, Sacramento		Anaheim 4, Philadelphia 2			



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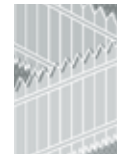
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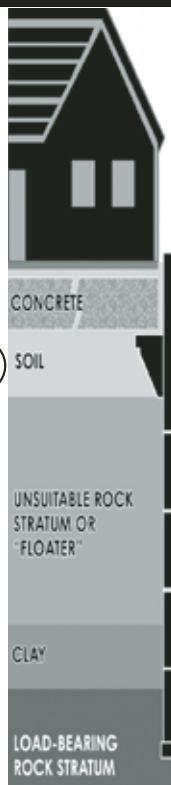
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## Leo Lunar-tainment

HOLIDAY  
MATHIS

The Leo moon is a showman and, as he forms harmonious relationships to moralistic Saturn and provocative Uranus, the lunar-tainment is most likely to delight in the end. As in most good drama, there will be suspense, fear and a decent amount of conflict to keep us tuned in. Suspend your disbelief; this is all in good fun.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). Your loved ones will support you in unselfish ways, so be quick with the gratitude and praise. Lay the positive reinforcement on thick and, unsurprisingly, you'll get more good stuff soon!

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You're an active listener, even when what you're listening to is a bunch of griping. You'll make it known that you understand the other person's situation and feelings

about it. You're a good friend.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Feel like the gardener to another person's flower? Well, guess what? You're a flower too. Stop tending to the other flower, and point your inner bud toward the sunshine.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Even though you long ago forgave someone's hurtful behavior, you still feel the wound of it. How can you move to the "forget" stage? The better question is: Do you really want to? When you want to, you will.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You like to give, but you don't like the other person to feel obligated to reciprocate. That's why you may choose to deliver your kindness in secret and remain anonymous.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Dependency breeds closeness. If you don't need anything from the other person, it weakens the bond. Are you willing to be a little more vulnerable? You have good

## Tomorrow's Horoscope

reasons, whichever way you feel.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Ask for what you think you should want and you'll get it -- but it won't fulfill anything in you and the wanting will continue. So why not ask for what you really want? You may not get it, but at least you'll have a chance to.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Choosing the right opponent will be key to your self-improvement plan. Ultimately, the one to beat is your own last score, but a worthy competitor on the outside will be a necessary part of helping you get there.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). While having numerous relationships may make you popular, having one good relationship is all it takes to make you happy today, especially if that relationship is with your nearest and dearest.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Others get strength from interacting with

you. They are inspired by your battle. They are impressed with your mission. They are enamored by your presence.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Everything has a cost. Ask up front, "How much?" If you're not getting a dollar amount as an answer, think about the other forms of payment. How much is your time, energy and attention worth?

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). When there's something that doesn't seem right to you about a process, person or place, trust that. Also, consider every missed opportunity as a blessing. Maybe it's better you didn't get into all that!

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (Dec. 28). Satisfy your curiosity, even if you have to chase it down rabbit holes, across state lines or outside of the boundaries of usual life. Your curiosity will be a golden tether to your next source of outrageous good fortune. A special someone will track you down in February.

March and June represent financial high points. Virgo and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 28, 14, 44 and 49.

**ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS:** "I am a Virgo, born Sept. 1, 1981. I began dating a Sagittarius (Dec. 21, 1979) who is Jewish. I'm Christian. We dated for over a year, but he ended it because of religious differences. We never fought and these differences were never mentioned or addressed. Do our signs and religious differences prevent us from getting back together?"

This question may extend beyond the scope of what I can tackle in this column. I believe that people of differing faiths who fall in love can make it work, albeit with effort, and find a way to honor both and meet in the middle. However, matters beyond sun signs -- such as our respective families, cultures and personal beliefs -- influence our religions. Some Sagittarians want a partner who shares their worldview while most others revel in

diversity. He may be of the mindset that the right relationship shares the same faith. There's nothing wrong with this. This is a learning process for you both. Ask him what he sees himself willing and unwilling to compromise on regarding those beliefs and this will give you a better sense of whether this relationship has a future.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** John Legend is expecting his first baby with supermodel wife Chrissy Teigen and couldn't be more excited. The Capricorn R&B superstar started his career collaborating with chart-topping artists and soon went straight to the top himself with the No. 1 single "All of Me." The moon and Mercury in Sagittarius show a worldly point of view and a love of travel, culture and adventure.

To write to Holiday Mathis, visit [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com) and click "Write the Author" on her page. COPYRIGHT 2015 CREATORS.COM

## Annie's Mailbox

**Dear Annie:** Our oldest daughter is married to a nice man and they have a sweet 2-year-old daughter. My son-in-law makes good money and my daughter can afford to stay home, but they never seem to have enough to get ahead. My daughter has been known to spend foolishly. They only have one car and it doesn't run half the time. They can't

afford another. We let them live in our home for a year rent-free, so they could save enough to purchase their first house.

I know I've enabled my daughter for her entire life. She is very spoiled and self-centered. We argue a great deal and exchange hurtful words. Regularly, I surrender to her selfishness and give her money or run errands for her, even though

I work full-time. I do these things because she is a recovering alcoholic and drug addict, and I fear she will otherwise return to that life again. She doesn't attend her meetings anymore.

I don't know how to handle her. I'm either forced to defend myself or give in to her whims. She never appreciates anything I do for her and she never does anything for me. Her husband is no better. He is selfish and spoiled by his mother, and he also enables my daughter.

She's a good mother, but I babysit a lot. Her husband doesn't complain when she gets together with her friends, but he works long hours and they don't have much time together. I think he feels neglected.

How do I know when to do things for her and when not to? How do I tell the difference between enabling and being a

good mother? When she gets into one of her horrible, blaming moods, how do I handle that? This child has become a bitter pill to swallow, but I love her so much. -- Mother of a Narcissist

**Dear Mom:** You should back away from some of this drama. The hardest thing for a parent to do is watch a child fail, but you may need to step back and let it happen. Your daughter cannot learn to stand on her own two feet if Mom is always holding her up. Her marriage issues and whether she attends meetings are no longer your business. Don't give her money if she cannot manage it responsibly. When she blames you for not indulging her, remain calm and say, "I'm sorry you feel that way." Walk away if she cannot stop berating you. Look into Al-Anon for yourself (al-anon.org). A good mother teaches her child to be independent and self-reliant, even when the process is painful to watch, and helps her accept that the universe doesn't owe her everything she demands.

**Dear Annie:** This is in response to

"Not His Girlfriend," the woman whose husband objects to her acting as tour guide to a visiting male friend while the husband's at work. He obviously has a trust issue.

I regularly entertain my male friends of over 25 years at my house for lunch and conversation. My husband thinks this is fine. My children consider them uncles. Unless there are reasons for her husband not to trust her, he needs to chill out. -- Plattsburgh, N.Y.

**Dear N.Y.:** We agree that the husband is being overly suspicious, but his wife must be the one to decide how much of a ruckus she wants to make over this.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to [anniesmailbox@creators.com](mailto:anniesmailbox@creators.com), or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. You can also find Annie on Facebook.com/AskAnnie. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com). COPYRIGHT 2015 CREATORS.COM

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## Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

## Famous Hand

South dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.

## NORTH

♠K 10  
♥K Q 7  
♦J 10 8 6 4 2  
♣J 10

## EAST

♠9 6 5  
♥9 8  
♦Q 7 3  
♣A Q 5 4 2

## SOUTH

♠A Q 7  
♥A 10 3 2  
♦—  
♣K 9 8 7 6 3

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

Opening lead — king of diamonds.  
The best hands are those where a relatively simple way to assure the contract might be overlooked by novice and expert alike. Today's deal, from the 1993 Vanderbilt Teams, provides a case in point.

When the deal was first played, North-South reached five clubs doubled as shown. South's opening two-club bid showed 11 to 16 points and at least five clubs, and two diamonds asked for more information. The rest of the bidding was natural.

West led the king of diamonds, ruffed by South with the three. It might seem that with East holding

five trumps headed by the A-Q and declarer already reduced to just five trumps, there is no way he can maintain control of the hand. It appears that whenever East gains the lead with the club ace, he can force South to ruff another diamond and thus assure himself of a third trump trick. Then, too, there is the matter of what South will do with the ten of hearts.

Unfazed by these concerns, David Berkowitz, the declarer, found a virtually sure route to 11 tricks that was elegant in its simplicity. Noting that his clubs were solid apart from the A-Q, he cashed the K-Q of hearts followed by the K-Q-A of spades, discarding the seven of hearts from dummy. The ten of hearts was then ruffed with dummy's club ten.

If East refused to overruff, Berkowitz could ruff a diamond in his hand and ruff the ace of hearts with the club jack. South's only losers in that case would be the A-Q of clubs. If instead East overruffed the club ten with the queen and returned a low trump to prevent another heart ruff in dummy, South could win with the king and force out the ace of clubs, eventually scoring the heart ace as his 11th trick.

At the other table, South also played five clubs doubled but slipped by leading a heart to dummy at trick two in order to play a club toward his hand. East rose with the ace and forced declarer to ruff a diamond, and the contract went down one.

Tomorrow: Maintaining trump control.

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## sudoku

ANSWERS

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

[www.sudoku-puzzles.net](http://www.sudoku-puzzles.net)



	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery
5:PM	News	Hotel	Big Bang	News	Tele	News	Uri Harel	Over	CHiPs	American	American	Knight Rises, Tom Hardy (DVS)	Monday Night Countdown	Lane Bowl -- Central Michigan vs. Minnesota.	Inside Baylor Sports	NCIS: Los Angeles	The First 48	Fast N' Loud
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Muchacha	Mod Fam	News	Noticiero	News	D Stringer	Business	CBS	American	American				Big 12	NCIS: Los Angeles	The First 48	Fast N' Loud
7:PM	Wheel	Antes Muerta que	Big Bang	ET	Celia (SS)	Super Upd	Discovery	Antiques Roadshow	Griffith	Penn & Teller	Fam. Guy		(:15) NFL Football: Cincinnati Bengals at Denver Broncos.	Mavs Live	WWE Monday Night RAW	Juvenile Lifers	Fast N' Loud	
8:PM	Charlie Brown	Pasión y Poder	Bones (DVS)	Scorpion	Bajo el Mismo Cielo	Super Upd	Discovery	Antiques Roadshow	Hap.Days	Penn & Teller	Fam. Guy	Legends	Women's College Basketball	NBA Basketball: Bucks at Mavericks		Behind Bars	Fast N' Loud	
9:PM	Castle	Creo/los Hombres	TMZ	NCIS: Los Angeles	Señora Acero (SS)	Blindspot	Independent Lens	Heroes	Seinfeld	Big Bang	Legends		Ball Up			Kids Behind Bars: Lost for Life	Fast N' Loud	
10:PM	News	Impacto	Mod Fam	News	Tele	News	House	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett	Cougar	Conan	Legends	Ball Up	Mavs Live	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Fast N' Loud	
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Noticiero	Two Men	Late Show- Colbert	Titulares	Tonight Show	Mani	Rocks	Perry Mason	Cougar			(:20) SportsCenter	Summer Chall.	Cowboys	Killer Kids	Fast N' Loud	
12:AM	Extra	Corona de lágrimas	Friends	Insider	News	1st Fruits	Yohanan	T. Smiley	McMillan and Wife	King	Conan	(:04) Leg-ends	NBA	College Basketball: IU/PUI at Butler.	CSI: Crime Scene	Behind Bars	Fast N' Loud	
1:AM	Paid	Alma	Law Order: CI	ET	Paid		Pagado	Light of the Southwest	Gallery	King	Movie: Bro-	(:03) Law & Order	College Football: Duke vs. ...	CSI: Crime Scene	Kids Behind Bars: Lost for ...	Fast N' Loud		

DENNIS THE MENACE



"IT SAYS 'FOR AGES 5 TO 9'. DEAR, MAYBE THAT'S WHY YOU CAN'T PUT IT TOGETHER."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I don't feel so good, Mommy. I think I finally had a little too much Christmas fun."

HAGAR



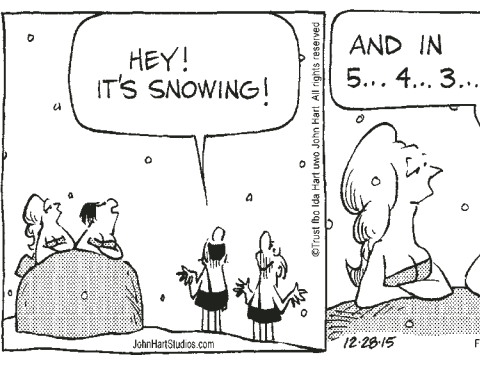
IF YOU WEREN'T A VIKING RAIDER, WHAT WOULD YOU BE DOING?

BLONDIE

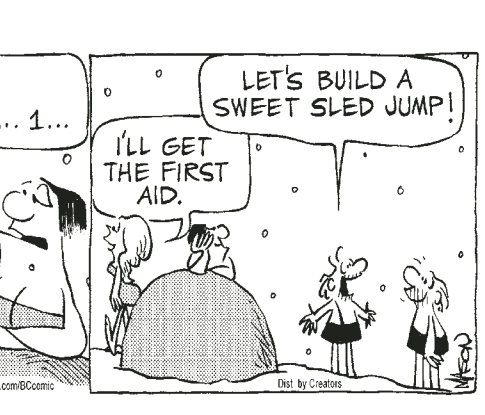


...I'D BE A MIRROR CLEANER! THAT'S A JOB I COULD REALLY SEE MYSELF DOING!

BC

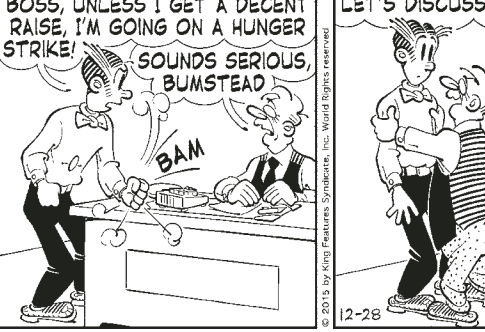


HEY! IT'S SNOWING!



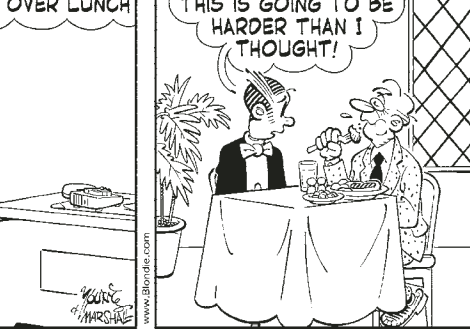
AND IN 5... 4... 3... 2... 1...

BLONDIE



BOSS, UNLESS I GET A DECENT RAISE, I'M GOING ON A HUNGER STRIKE!

BLONDIE



THIS IS GOING TO BE HARDER THAN I THOUGHT!

This Date In History

Today is Monday, Dec. 28, the 362nd day of 2015. There are three days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 28, 1945, Congress officially recognized the Pledge of Allegiance.

On this date:

In 1612, Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei observed the planet Neptune, but mistook it for a star. (Neptune wasn't officially discovered until 1846 by Johann Gottfried Galle.)

In 1832, John C. Calhoun became the first vice president of the United States to resign, stepping down because of differences with President Andrew Jackson.

In 1846, Iowa became the 29th state to be admitted to the Union.

In 1856, the 28th president of the United States, Thomas Woodrow Wilson, was born in Staunton (STAN'-tun), Virginia.

In 1895, the Lumiere brothers, Auguste and Louis, held the first public showing of their movies in Paris.

In 1917, the New York Evening Mail published "A Neglected Anniversary," a fac-

tionous essay by H.L. Mencken supposedly recounting the history of bathtubs in America.

In 1937, composer Maurice Ravel died in Paris at age 62.

In 1944, the musical "On the Town," with music by Leonard Bernstein and book and lyrics by Betty Comden and Adolph Green, opened on Broadway.

In 1945, Fritz Lang's film noir, "Scarlet Street," starring Edward G. Robinson and Joan Bennett, was released by Universal Pictures. Author Theodore Dreiser, 74, died in Hollywood.

In 1961, the Tennessee Williams play "Night of the Iguana" opened on Broadway. Former first lady Edith Bolling Galt Wilson, the second wife of President Woodrow Wilson, died in Washington at age 89.

In 1975, the "Hail Mary pass" entered the football lexicon as Dallas quarterback Roger Staubach tossed the ball to Drew Pearson for an improbable 50-yard touchdown with 24 seconds left to help the Cowboys come back to edge the Minnesota Vikings 17-14.

In 1989, Alexander Dubcek (DOOB'-chek), the former Czechoslovak Communist leader who was deposed in a Soviet-led Warsaw Pact invasion in 1968, was named president of the country's parliament.

Ten years ago: Barry Cowsill, a member of the popular 1960s

singing family The Cowsills, was found dead on a New Orleans wharf nearly four months after he disappeared when Hurricane Katrina flooded the city.

Five years ago: Eight young people were killed in a fire that swept through an abandoned New Orleans warehouse (some of the victims were squatters who had been living inside the building).

One year ago: AirAsia Flight 8501, an Airbus A-320, crashed during a flight from Indonesia to Singapore, killing all 162 people on board. A fire broke out aboard the ferry MS Norman Atlantic off the coast of Albania, leaving at least 11 people dead and 18 missing.

Thought for Today:  
"There is no luck except where there is discipline."  
Irish proverb.

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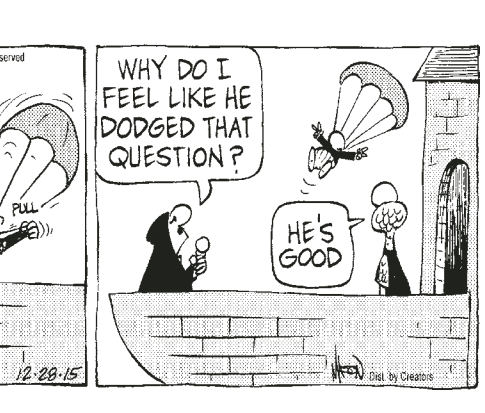
Answer to previous puzzle

J	A	C	J	A	Z	I	S	T	I	L	L	E	R
E	R	O	S	I	O	N	C	O	D	E	I	N	E
T	R	E	E	T	O	P	R	U	L	I	N	G	S
B	A	R	I	M	A	G	E	R	Y	E	A	U	
O	N	C	E	S	T	R	E	S	F	O	R	M	
A	G	E	N	T	N	U	N	P	R	O	D	E	
T	E	S	L	A	S	B	E	S	E	A	T	E	
A	X	I	S	R	A	P	S						
A	P	E	R	I	T	I	F	E	G	I	T	A	R
D	I	N	G	S	G	A	S	P	E	R	S	E	
M	A	D	E	R	H	I	N	O	R	A	I	D	
I	N	N	M	A	T	R	O	N	S	I	N	A	
R	I	O	T	I	N	G	O	C	E	A	N	I	
E	S	T	O	N	I	A	P	O	P	T	E	N	
S	T	E	W	I	N	G	S	E	T	T	E	E	S

WIZARD OF ID



DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS REGARDING YOUR COURT'S LATEST SEX SCANDAL?



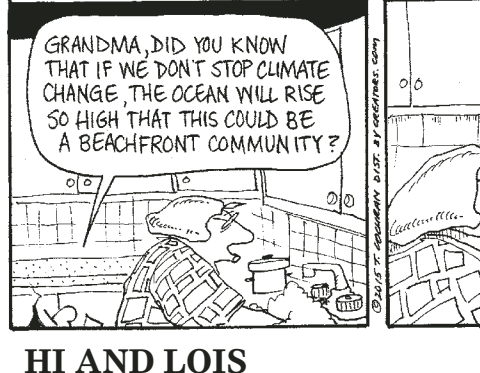
AND IN 5... 4... 3... 2... 1...

Newsday Crossword

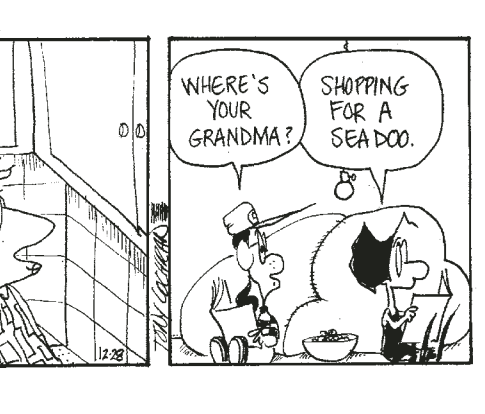
- ACROSS
- 1 Do the laundry
  - 5 Perform at the piano
  - 9 Basketball or hockey
  - 14 Luau dance
  - 15 Narrow road
  - 16 Little laugh
  - 17 Wedding vow exchanges
  - 18 Business envelope abbr.
  - 19 Arrested, informally
  - 20 "Now!"
  - 23 Weed-removing tool
  - 24 Very small
  - 25 British "Bye-bye!"
  - 28 Postgame summary
  - 31 Little green veggie
  - 34 Hair stylist's shop
  - 35 Beachball filler
  - 36 Thick slice
  - 37 "Don't decide too quickly"
  - 41 Top-notch
  - 42 Have the deed to
  - 43 Maximum road speed
  - 44 Insect
  - 45 Just out of the oven
  - 47 Unlock
  - 48 Written promise to pay
  - 49 Donkey
  - 51 6:30 p.m., for example
  - 60 Receded
  - 61 Take a risk
  - 62 Catch sight of
- DOWN
- 1 Blender sound
  - 2 German auto
  - 3 Trudge (through)
  - 4 \_\_\_-brown potatoes
  - 5 Greek philosopher
  - 6 Soap suds
  - 7 Prefix meaning "against"
  - 8 Strong desires
  - 9 Actress Meryl
  - 10 Serenity
  - 11 "That's terrible!"
  - 12 Harness strap
  - 13 Be likely (to)
  - 21 Express gratitude to
  - 22 Bunch of hornets
  - 25 Western resort lake
  - 26 Drop \_\_\_ to (write)
  - 27 Voice-mail signal
  - 29 Deserves
  - 30 US espionage org.
  - 31 Fancy feather
  - 32 Send out for lunch
  - 33 Help with, as a crime
  - 34 Rough guess
  - 36 Scissors sound
  - 38 Discussion venue
  - 39 Have to pay
  - 40 "You defeated me"
  - 45 Gourmet, slangily
  - 46 Intense dislike
  - 48 Agenda listings
  - 50 Tool-storage structures
  - 51 Highest in quality
  - 52 Woodwind instrument
  - 53 Skier's lift
  - 54 Aroma
  - 55 Not genuine
  - 56 What a furnace provides
  - 57 Norway's capital
  - 58 "Once \_\_\_ a time ..."
  - 59 Some bakery loaves

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20				21					22			
				23					24			
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60					61				62			
63					64				65			
66					67				68			

AGNES

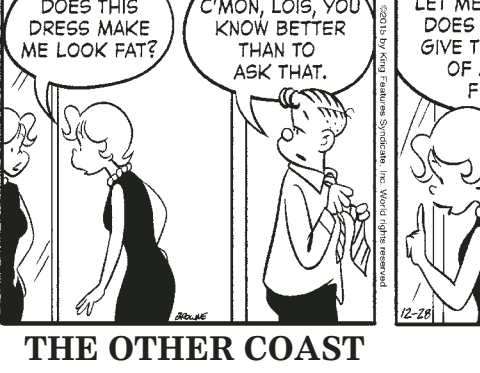


GRANDMA, DID YOU KNOW THAT IF WE DON'T STOP CLIMATE CHANGE, THE OCEAN WILL RISE SO HIGH THAT THIS COULD BE A BEACHFRONT COMMUNITY?

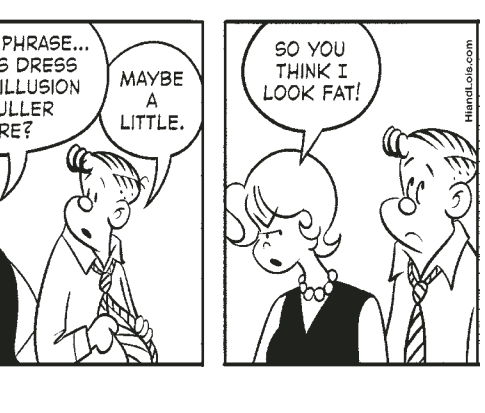


WHERE'S YOUR GRANDMA? SHOPPING FOR A SEA DOG.

HI AND LOIS

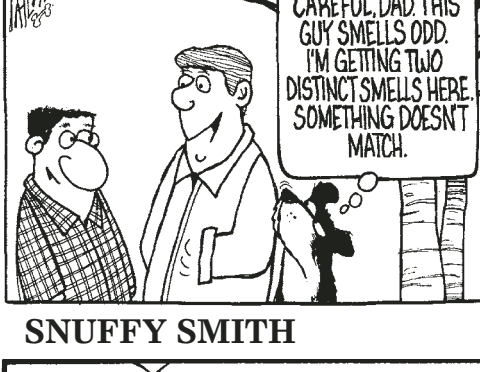


DOES THIS DRESS MAKE ME LOOK FAT?



LET ME REPHRASE... DOES THIS DRESS GIVE THE ILLUSION OF A FULLER FIGURE?

THE OTHER COAST

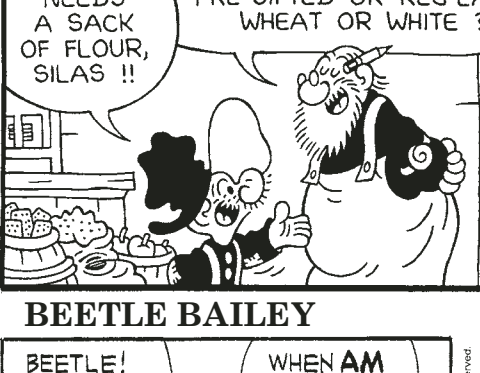


CAREFUL, DAD. THIS GUY SMELLS ODD. I'M GETTING TWO DISTINCT SMELLS HERE. SOMETHING DOESN'T MATCH.



I GOT IT. HE'S WEARING A HAIRPIECE!

SNUFFY SMITH

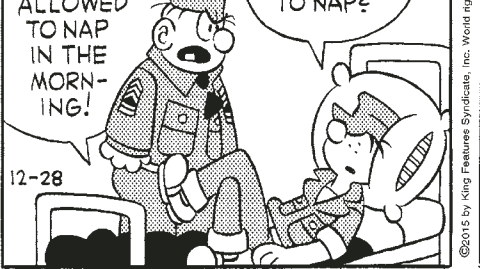


MAW NEEDS A SACK OF FLOUR, SILAS !! BLEACHED OR UNBLEACHED? PRE-SIFTED OR REG'LAR? WHEAT OR WHITE?



NEVER MIND--JEST GIMME A LOAF OF BREAD !!

BEEBLE BAILEY



BEEBLE! YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO NAP IN THE MORNING!



HERE'S THE ARMY'S LIST OF THINGS ALLOWED AND A LIST OF THINGS THEY DON'T ALLOW...



# Panthers still in control of home-field advantage in NFC

ATLANTA (AP) — The Carolina Panthers can still clinch home-field advantage in the NFC playoffs with a victory next week, so quarterback Cam Newton likes where they stand.

Newton, though, was hardly pleased Sunday that his team couldn't rally from a fourth-quarter deficit for the fifth time this season, losing 20-13 to the Atlanta Falcons.

It marked the first defeat in 19 regular-season games for Carolina (14-1). The Panthers host Tampa Bay next Sunday.

"Some plays that we left out there — we knew it — yet we know what we're capable of," Newton said.

For the Atlanta Falcons and quarterback Matt Ryan, the best hope

is to beat New Orleans and finish with a winning record. Minnesota's win Sunday night over the New York Giants eliminated Atlanta from playoff contention.

But after snapping a six-game slide last week at Jacksonville, at least the Falcons (8-7) have something to play for at home against New Orleans.

"Even more so, to come out and play like we're capable of when we haven't done that at different times of the year — that felt really good," Ryan said.

### ELITE FOR A REASON

In a matchup of Pro Bowl players, Julius Jones got the best of linebacker Luke Kuechly on a 70-yard touchdown catch that gave

**"Some plays that we left out there — we knew it — yet we know what we're capable of," Newton said.**

the Falcons a 14-10 lead.

Quarterback Matt Ryan scrambled to his left and took a shot from cornerback Charles Tillman as he threw a deep ball down the left sideline from the Atlanta 30.

Jones timed his jump perfectly, snatching the ball from behind Kuechly at the 17 and running untouched to the end zone. Free safety Kurt Coleman fell down near both players and had no chance to stop Jones.

Jones had nine catches for 178 yards and has 127 receptions this year to rank third on the NFL single-season list. Indianapolis' Marvin Harri-

son set the record with 142 catches in 2002.

"I know the team depends on me," Jones said. "So when my number is called I just try to go out there and deliver."

**HARD TO SAY**  
Carolina coach Ron Rivera wasn't sure if officials made the right call on Tillman's unnecessary roughness penalty against Roddy White on the Falcons' opening drive.

Atlanta took the free third-down conversion to finish a 16-play drive that tied the score at 7-all.

"It was huge," Rivera said. "We'll have to talk to the league officials about what transpired and we'll go from there, but there's nothing we can do about it. We didn't get off the field.

We're not making any excuses."

**SIGNATURE PLAY**  
Falcons rookie defensive end Vic Beasley, the No. 8 overall draft pick, had the first breakout moment of his career, sacking Newton for a 10-yard loss in the closing minute and causing a fumble that sealed the victory.

"I've been able to give pressure to quarterbacks throughout the year," Beasley said, "but we've been continuing to work together and we were in a great place this week to get it done."

### GOING ABOUT HIS BUSINESS

Panthers cornerback Josh Norman stayed clear of fallout from the last two games after exchanging heated words with White on Dec. 13 and getting fined over

\$26,000 in his confrontational role with Giants receiver Odell Beckham Jr. last week.

His biggest play was a fumble recovery that led to a fourth-quarter field goal and cut the lead to 14-13, but Norman wasn't interested in grandstanding.

"I think the guys came out and fought hard and in even in our failure we still give thanks," Norman said. "This is not going to define us."

### RIVALRY STILL GRINDING

Dropping to 4-1 in the NFC South, the Panthers lost to Atlanta for just the second time in seven games. The Falcons are 1-4 in the division. They have lost 14 of 19 to New Orleans. Carolina has won five straight and seven of nine against Tampa Bay.

## TEXANS

Continued from Page 4

held Tennessee to 257 yards total offense.

**HOPKINS' DAY:** DeAndre Hopkins caught seven passes for 117 yards and a touchdown despite working with yet another quarterback this season. Hopkins said he sees the revolving quarterbacks

as a challenge for himself.

"That's the kind of player I am," Hopkins said. "I think the guys they've brought in are high-IQ football guys, so it hasn't been frustrating. They got me to the Pro Bowl,

so it's definitely not frustrating at all."

**METTAGAIN?:** Titans rookie quarterback Marcus Mariota sat out this game recovering from a sprained right knee, and he is scheduled to

be re-evaluated Monday to see if he has healed enough to play in the season finale at Indianapolis. Mettenberger said he believes he'll get a chance to play and is looking forward to playing the Colts.

## COWBOYS

Continued from Page 4

But that was still enough for Witten to extend his streak of games

with a reception to 118, to set the franchise record — one more than Hall of Fame receiver Michael Irvin.

Safety Barry Church, who forced a fumble, broke his right arm.

The Bills had used more than 4 minutes when Gillislee scored.

Facing second-and-5 at midfield, Gillislee took a handoff to the right and got key blocks from guard Richie Incognito and receiver Chris Hogan.

Another miscue then sealed the loss for Dallas.

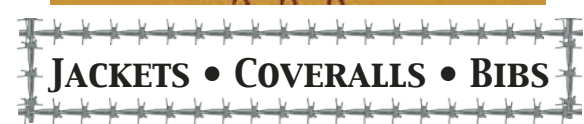
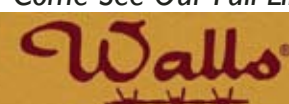
Lucky Whitehead was

stripped of the ball by Tarpley and fumbled the kickoff following Gillislee's touchdown. That allowed Buffalo to run out the clock.

Buffalo snapped a two-game skid and won for just the second time in six games.

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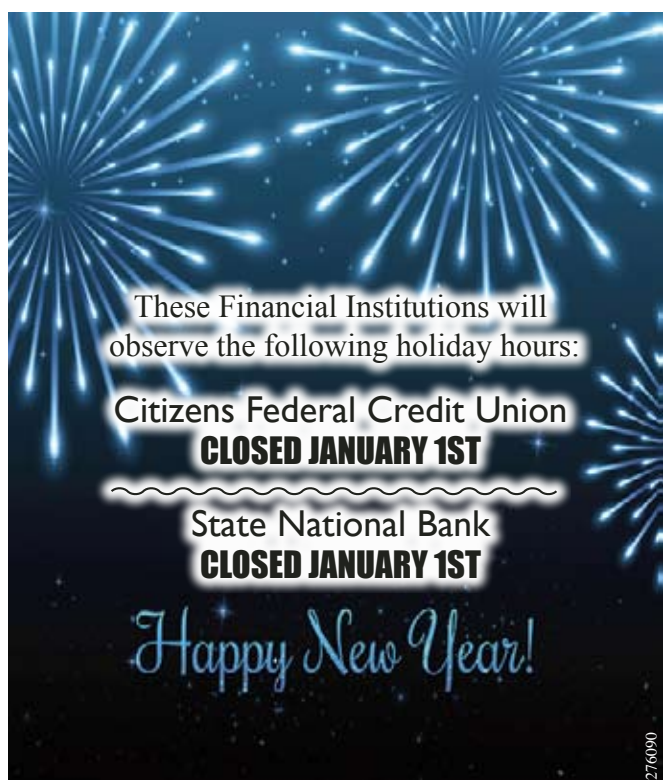
## STARS

Continued from Page 4

"At that point of the game, being 1-0, they were important."

**NOTES:** The teams had totaled only 10 penalty minutes on Saturday night. ... Benn and the Blues' Vladimir Tarasenko entered the game tied for the NHL lead with 22 goals. Then they tied up in front of the benches and went off for roughing at 5:55 of the first period. Benn has 31 points (17 goals, 14 assists) in 19 home games. ... Sharp's goal extended his point streak to five games. He has had one assist in each game. ... Los Angeles Dodgers Cy Young Award-winning pitcher Clayton Kershaw, from Dallas, dropped the ceremonial first puck.

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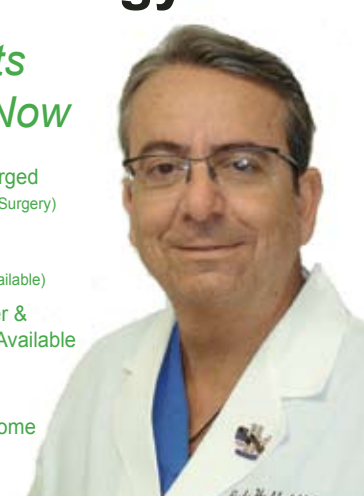
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