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HERALD

BIG SPRING WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2016



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Four arrested on OCA charges



Special to the Herald
 Four people were arrested on charges of organized criminal activity after a joint investigation by the Big Spring Police and the Howard County Sheriff's Office SWAT team found stolen weapons and drugs in a residence located in the 1300 block of Sycamore Tuesday afternoon.
 According to a news release, the two agencies executed a search warrant at 1302 Sycamore a little before 1 p.m. Tuesday following up on an investigation conducted by the Big Spring Police Department Narcotics Division.
 "Upon approaching the residence, Christopher Rios, 19, ran from the backyard of the residence but was quickly captured down the street by support

officers," the release stated. "The residence was secured and

following subjects were detained; Sabrina Hernandez, 18, Luz Juarez Delos Santos, 17, and Juan Enrique Lara, 22. "Within the residence and within a vehicle parked behind the residence, officer's located two Glock semi-automatic pistols, one Bersa .380 semi-automatic pistol, and three assault rifles (one AR-15, one AR-10 and one AK-47)," the release goes on to say. "Officers also located within the residence, numerous small baggies containing a small amount of crack cocaine and packaged ready for sale, a small amount of marijuana and a Kenwood radio transceiver which is suspected of recently being stolen during a



See **CHARGES**, Page 3

Ryan, officials tout park project

By LYNDEL MOODY
 Staff Writer
 Brint Ryan, owner of the historic Hotel Settles, is willing to invest another \$3½ million to help revitalize Big Spring's downtown district if the community is willing to step up and invest in itself.
 Ryan presented Cap Rock Holding's plan to create a downtown park connecting the hotel with another piece of Big Spring's history, the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium, through a private/public venture at a public hearing Tuesday night in the city council chambers.
 "We believe that the secret to a successful downtown...is to have a destination for people to come to downtown," Ryan said.
 Financing the project is similar to the original agreement with the city to restore the Hotel Settles. In this case, if the city would fund \$1 million for the project, Cap Rock Holdings will invest \$3½ million. However, in the Settles' case, Ryan actually ended up investing more than \$30 million of his own money to get the historic hotel back up and running, much more than he originally planned.
 Ryan said the Hotel Settles is already attracting people to Big Spring from the surrounding area to come and spend money in the community.
 "So we've proved the concept," he said.

A ground-breaking beginning



City leaders break ground on spring renovation
HERALD photo/Steve Reagan
 Dignitaries, including Big Spring Mayor Larry McLellan and members of the Big Spring City Council, participated in a ceremonial ground-breaking to mark the start of renovation of the historic Big Spring, located at Comanche Trail Park. Construction on the \$1.8 million is expected to begin soon. When completed, the spring will have features including plaza seating for 1,100, storyboards with accompanying educational signage, observation decks, a new artificial outflow which will create a waterfall at the spring, security features, and full handicap accessibility.

One dead after car accident

By AMANDA ELSTON
 Managing Editor
 A young girl died from her injuries sustained in a major car accident Tuesday morning, according to the Big Spring Police Department.
 At approximately 7:06 a.m., BSPD officers and EMS personnel were dispatched to the intersection of Fourth and Benton in reference to a major vehicle accident involving a 2001 silver Dodge Stratus and a 2012 white International Durastar.
 "The adult female driver and juvenile female passenger of the 2001 Dodge Stratus were transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center for treatment to injuries sustained," read a press release from the Big Spring Police Department.
 Around noon, BSPD was notified that the child had died.
 "Justice of the Peace Bennie Green pronounced the time of death at 11:48

See **ACCIDENT**, Page 3



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Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **BENJAMIN SAMUEL AGUERO**, 21, of 1203 Madison was arrested on outstanding warrants.
- **ROBERT EDWARD CRAIN**, 30, of 2503 Alamesa was arrested on warrants for operating an unregistered motor vehicle and driving with an invalid license.
- **CHRISTOPHER ROLLEN RIOS**, 19, of 1302 Sycamore St. was arrested on warrants for theft of property (less than \$100), driving with an invalid license, failure to appear, noise, no driver's license, defective stop lamps, and engaging in organized criminal activity; and on another outstanding warrant.
- **MICHAEL ALLAN GARZA**,

33, of 1110 Johnson St. was arrested on charges of assaulting a public servant and criminal trespassing.

- **ROY ALTON MCGEE**, 44, of 124 W. Dogwood St. in Denver City was arrested on a charge of open burning.
- **SABRINA HERNANDEZ**, 18, of 1302 Sycamore St. was arrested on a charge of engaging in organized criminal activity.
- **LUZ JUAREZ DELOSANTOS IV**, 17, of 1302 Sycamore St. was arrested on charges of engaging in organized criminal activity, no driver's license, expired registration, failure to appear, and failure to control speed.
- **JUAN ENRIQUE LARA**, 22, of 1302 Sycamore St. was arrested on charges of engaging in orga-

nized criminal activity and unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon.

- **CECIL ANTHONY CARSON**, 24, of 1304 Lamar Ave. was arrested on an outstanding warrant.
- **MICHAEL EUGENE MENEFIELD JR.**, 25, of 402 N. Aylesford was arrested on outstanding warrants.
- **TOMI JO MCPHERSON**, 19, of 3017 S. Moss Lake Rd. was arrested on a charge of theft of property (\$100 to \$750).
- **MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported in the 600 block of Goliad, the 2400 block of East FM 700, and the 600 block of East FM 700.
- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 3100 block of South Anderson Road.

Sheriff

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

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 88 inmates at the time of this report.

- **BENJAMIN SAMUEL AGUERO**, 21, was booked by BSPD on warrants for speeding and violation of promise to appear.
- **CECIL ANTHONY CARSON**, 24, was booked by BSPD on a motion to revoke probation for possession of marijuana (less than 2 oz.).
- **ROBERT EDWARD CRAIN**, 30, was booked by BSPD on warrants for driving with an invalid license and operating an unregistered motor vehicle.
- **LUZ JUAREZ DELOSAN-**

TOS IV, 17, was booked by BSPD on charges of engaging in organized criminal activity, no driver's license, expired registration, failure to appear, violation of promise to appear, and failure to control speed.

- **MICHAEL ALLAN GARZA**, 33, was booked by BSPD on charges of assaulting a public servant and criminal trespassing.
- **SABRINA HERNANDEZ**, 18, was booked by BSPD on a charge of engaging in organized criminal activity.
- **JUAN ENRIQUE LARA**, 22, was booked by BSPD on charges of engaging in organized criminal activity and unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon.
- **ROY ALTON MCGEE**, 44, was booked by BSPD on a charge

of open burning.

- **TOMI JO MCPHERSON**, 19, was booked by HCSO on a charge of theft of property (\$100 to \$750).
- **MICHAEL EUGENE MENEFIELD JR.**, 25, was booked by HCSO on warrants for assault causing bodily injury, possession of a controlled substance, and possession of drug paraphernalia.
- **CHRISTOPHER ROLLEN RIOS**, 19, was booked by BSPD on a motion to revoke probation for evading arrest or detention; and on warrants for theft of property (less than \$100), driving with an invalid license, failure to appear, excessive noise, no driver's license, defective stop lamps, and engaging in organized criminal activity.

Take Note

• The Salvation Army of Big Spring is seeking volunteers to ring a bell for their Red Kettle program this Christmas season. Each year, more than 25,000 Salvation Army volunteers raise money through the program to help serve more than 3 million people in need during the holiday season from Thanksgiving to Christmas. All money raised in the Red Kettle program stays in the communities where it is raised. For more information call 432-352-2005. If you don't have time to ring a bell, you can visit RedKettleReason.org to create an online kettle to raise funds for the program.

• Food 2 Kids Big Spring needs you! It is time to start sacking food for Big Spring elementary students who do not receive adequate food over the weekends. Members of the community can be a part by volunteering to sack the food. It just takes a couple hours of your time and the work is very rewarding. To volunteer, just show up at the time and dates listed. For more information, call, 432-935-3998.

The next sacking session will be at 5:30 p.m. Jan. 2 and 3 at the old Lakeview High School gym located at 1107 N.W. Seventh St. To get there, take Gregg Street north and turn left on Delaney, which is the block just past the Salvation Army retail store. Delaney turns into Seventh Street, you will go over the railroad tracks and the school is on the left.

If you want additional information about getting your child on this program please contact your child's school.

• Seniors and mature adults are invited to a dance on the first, third and fifth Friday of each month at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

Dances are from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. with live bands. No alcohol or smoking permitted. There will be a pot luck as well so bring a dish if you want to eat.

Cost is \$8 per person.

Meetings

• The Big Spring Art Association meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the basement of the Howard County Library.

• The Christensen-Tucker Post-2013 Veterans of Foreign Wars meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 pm at 500 Driver Road. For more information, contact David Leonard, Post Commander, at 432-816-6004. All combat veterans of foreign wars are invited to come.

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

• 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 ½ Main St. All Masons are welcome.

• Membership to the Big Spring Native American Association is open to the public. People interested in Native American culture are encouraged to find out more about the organization by calling Richard "Indio" Lesser at 432-935-0125,

Volunteer opportunities

• The Scenic Mountain Medical Center volunteer program is in need of volunteers. A variety of opportunities are open for members of the community. For more information, call Anita Cline at 268-4721.

• The Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council is in need of volunteers to fill a variety of needs to assist the hospital's patients. Applications to become a volunteer can be picked up at The Chalet, 115 E. Second St., Tuesday through Saturday between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. or at the Big Spring State Hospital Community Relations Department, 1901 N. Hwy 87, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Volunteers can assist with a variety of functions, including The Chalet Resale Shop, various fund-raisers and patient events. For more information, contact Dee Lindsey, Big Spring State Hospital Director of Community Relations, (432) 268-7535 or danielle.lindsey@dshs.state.tx.us

• Home Hospice is in need of volunteers of all ages. The organization is requesting volunteers to visit patients. Volunteers set their own hours. For more information, contact Beverly Grant at 264-7599 or 432-967-0901.

• Mobile meals is in need of volunteer delivery drivers. If you would like to donate one hour per week to help deliver meals to the elderly, call Maria at 816-6474.

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2500 block of East 23rd St. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1400 block of Sycamore St. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported at the intersection of Fourth and Denton streets. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1600 block of South Lancaster. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1700 block of East FM 700. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1300 block of Sycamore St.
- **OUTSIDE TRASH FIRE** was reported in the 800 block of West Interstate 20.

Support Groups

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. Newcomers' meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

• A Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder support group meeting is at 6:30 p.m. at the VA Medical Center Veteran's Healing Center.

FRIDAY

• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 7 p.m. until 8 p.m.

MONDAY

• 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.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, As Bill Sees it, 615 Settles, 8 p.m. to 9 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.

• 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.

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PARK

Continued from Page 1

“Since 2006 when I first appeared before you, I have invested over \$35 million in Howard County. It’s gonna take a lot more than that, folks, to realize this vision. I love this community, I am a fourth generation Texan from here ... the reality is I am not going to invest in a community that is not going to invest in itself.

“I’ve heard people say, ‘Well, we’ve got more important things to worry about,’” he continued. “We’ve got to worry about our water. We’ve got to worry about our potholes. Like every community, we’ve got challenges, but I am telling the most important thing that I believe the council needs to focus on, the EDC (Big Spring Economic Development Board) needs to focus on, is building up the tax base.”

According to Ryan, the Hotel Settles is one of the top 10 employers in the county, employing almost 100 people and paying \$350,000 in taxes last year, much of which stayed in the community. As part of the original agreement with the city, the Hotel Settles has a 10-year tax abatement with the city, but Ryan pointed out after a question from Councilwoman Carmen Harbour regarding the issue, the abatement does not include the Big Spring ISD. Last year, he said, the hotel paid \$85,000 in taxes to the school district. Cap Rock Holdings is not asking for a tax abatement for the park, he added.

“This (the park) will connect the two most important architectural properties in the county — the auditorium building, the hotel — and it will create the first stage of the entertainment district,” Ryan explained. “Our plan for it, we are asking the city for significant financial support, \$1 million. In exchange for that, we are going to spend about \$3½ million to complete the park.

“The idea once that is complete, we are going to operate it,” he continued. “We will be responsible for all the maintenance and all upkeep. There will be no further cost by the city. There will be taxes made on the park. It’s a private park. We have worked with the city for a use agreement. So that use agreement is gonna provide for significant use by the public. This is not just going to be a closed up park for events. We will have lots of events but it will also be open to the public most of the time. It’s gonna be done well.”

At the beginning of the meeting, City Manager Todd Darden said the idea for a downtown park such as this came as part of the city’s master plan, approved back in March, to grow the city. It was one of the elements to help revitalize the downtown area and is part of the proposed entertainment district of the downtown. Those plans also call for the demolition of dilapidated structures and restoration of historic buildings.

Addressing the city’s aging infrastructure and

water issues, Ryan said the community also needs to balance quality of life projects if it ever hopes to attract businesses and people. He mentioned the Hotel Settles has received a number of awards for its restoration and even though admitting a little bias on his part, thinks it is one of the best historic projects in the state.

“That’s what creates a reason to come here, and for all you taxpayers out there, a reason to come here and spend money,” Ryan said, addressing a large crowd at the meeting. “Frankly, if we are not growing the tax base here, we are sinking the tax base, and your concerns are only going to become more acute. They are going to become more difficult to solve. Our overall plan is completing that entertainment district, and we now — Cap Rock — controls all of the major properties in that district. Going to stage this, that make sense.”

Now is the time to get the project rolling, Ryan said, before the oil and gas industry begins to ramp up as it is now projected to do with the announcement of OPEC’s (Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries) decision to cut back on oil production recently. According to many experts, the oil conglomerate intentionally kept the price of oil down by over-producing and creating a market glut in reaction to the strong return of the U.S. oil market produced from fracking technology.

“We want to do this now while construction cost are going to be the lowest we probably will see them in the longest time,” Ryan emphasized. “We are going to have an aggressive schedule in order to get this done. Ultimately, I think this is a key critical part to bring people to Big Spring.”

Ryan who is CEO of Ryan LLC, a major U.S. tax consulting firm, said he understands what businesses are looking for when they consider opening offices in a new town.

“I think the hotel created a wonderful asset, but we knew going into it was not enough,” he said. “We need to have a lot more work done so this is an attractive place. Yes, you have to have good roads. You have to have good water, but if you don’t have anything else to offer, people are not going to relocate here, people are not going to stay here.”

For the most part, the large crowd that attending Tuesday’s hearing seemed to react positively to Ryan’s presentation. Scott Emerson, who is a vocal proponent to saving tax dollars and lowering property tax, said he was in favor.

“I work in Midland/Odessa every day and it amazes me how many of my clients/customers utilize Brint’s Settles Hotel,” Emerson said. “It’s almost a weekend getaway. After watching what he has done in downtown Big Spring — just last weekend, my sons came in from Austin and they went to the Settles ... and then we went to the new train car, it already feels like Lubbock’s Depot District to me. I think he is well on his way.”

He added if anyone could accomplish this proj-

ect, “it would be Brint Ryan.”

However, he did question how the city would find \$1 million in a tight budget year.

“Where are we going to come up with a million bucks?” he asked. “Does one million dollars include Johnson Street? Does it include this (city council chambers) parking lot? Does it include the building lot where there is code enforcement or is it all cash and if it is were its coming from?”

“I know it can’t be CVB (Convention and Visitor’s Bureau) because the landfill just loaned them \$400,00 plus this year,” he continued. “They don’t have a million to spend. My only concern is where the money is going to come from. I truly believe if it gets done we can make it back in taxes and use, but at the same time, I know how strapped you are in this year’s budget. Citizen’s of Big Spring, I don’t want you to think I am selling out, but I think it is a great idea.”

Darden, who voiced support for the program, said the city council hasn’t decided yet how to proceed.

The city council will hold a second public hearing in January to hear citizen’s concerns before deciding how to proceed with the project.

“If anybody in the community would like to write the city a check for the million that would make our decision and staff a lot more easier...,” Darden quipped to the crowd.

Following the close of the hearing, city council members headed straight into the regular meeting and approved:

- To budget amendments to purchase a chiller for the Big Spring Auditorium and accept a TIFMAS grant used to help fund additional travel/training expenses.

- A bid by U.S. Bank Corp which provided the lowest interest rate of 1.93 percent on a financing package for various equipment.

- A \$61,231.50 bid by Zoll EKG monitors for two new monitors/defibrillators for the Big Spring Fire/EMS Department.

- Permission for city officials to bid for crack seal project for the city streets and for a baler for the landfill recycling program.

- The first reading of an ordinance to amend the city budget to purchase a radio repeater for the fire department to replace one that is not longer functional.

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Richard Sorenson, 48, died Friday. The family will receive friends from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM tonight at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 11:00 AM Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

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CHARGES

Continued from Page 3

burglary from a city vehicle.

Officers have already confirmed two of the firearms located were stolen from Coleman, Texas and are working to determine the origin of the others.”

All four were charged with engaging in organized criminal activity, a second degree felony, according to the release. Other charges were:

- Rios: warrants for motion to revoke probation, theft of property, driving while licenses invade,

four counts of failure to appear, no driver’s license, and defective defective stop lamps.

- Juarez Delos Santos: warrants for no driver’s license, expired registration, three counts of fail to appear, and failed to control speed.

- Lara was arrested on a charge of unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon, a third degree felony.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

ACCIDENT

Continued from Page 3

a.m.” read a press release from the Big Spring Police Department. “The Big Spring Police Department sends its prayers to the family of the young girl.”

Names of the passengers and of

the victim have not been released. BSPD is currently investigating the car accident and the investigation remains active.

Contact Managing Editor Amanda Elston at 432-263-7331, ext. 230, or email editor@bigspringherald.com

Charles Myers

Attorney At Law

Family Law And

Criminal Law

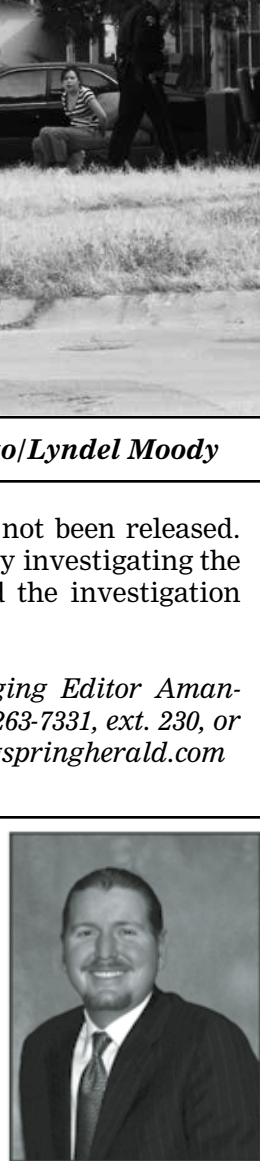
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-14-
COAHOMA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2016
Exhibit C-3

Data Control Codes	Description	Major Funds			98
		10 General Fund	50 Debt Service Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:					
5700	Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 3,990,815	\$ 861,360	\$ 228,697	\$ 5,080,872
5800	State Program Revenues	3,448,742	13,459	203,034	3,665,235
5900	Federal Program Revenues			295,647	295,647
5020	Total Revenues	\$ 7,439,557	\$ 874,819	\$ 727,378	\$ 9,041,754
Expenditures:					
0011	Instruction	\$ 4,119,566		\$ 286,194	\$ 4,405,760
0012	Instructional Resources and Media Services	94,662			94,662
0013	Curriculum and Staff Development	12,332		6,476	18,808
0021	Instructional Leadership	30,873			30,873
0023	School Leadership	507,307			507,307
0031	Guidance, Counseling, and Evaluation Services	233,093			233,093
0033	Health Services	57,081			57,081
0034	Student Transportation	178,910			178,910
0035	Food Services			447,282	447,282
0036	Extracurricular Activities	486,636			486,636
0041	General Administration	443,966			443,966
0051	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	1,226,925			1,226,925
0052	Security and Monitoring Services	86,173			86,173
0053	Data Processing Services	235,618			235,618
0071	Debt Service - Principal		395,000		395,000
0072	Debt Service - Interest		530,237		530,237
0073	Debt Service - Bond Issuance Cost and Fees		99,975		99,975
0093	Payments to Fiscal Agent	190,851			190,851
0099	Other Intergovernmental Charges	100,296			100,296
6030	Total Expenditures	\$ 8,004,289	\$ 1,025,212	\$ 739,952	\$ 9,769,453
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures					
		\$ (564,732)	\$ (150,393)	\$ (12,574)	\$ (727,699)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):					
7911	Bond Issuance		\$ 3,535,000		\$ 3,535,000
7915	Transfers In			9,474	9,474
7916	Premium on Issuance of Bonds		371,763		371,763
8911	Transfers Out	(9,474)			(9,474)
8949	Other Uses		(3,735,000)		(3,735,000)
7000	Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$ (9,474)	\$ 171,763	\$ 9,474	\$ 171,763
1200	Net Change in Fund Balance	\$ (574,206)	\$ 21,370	\$ (3,100)	\$ (555,936)
0100	September 1 - Fund Balance	2,855,479	830,615	3,100	3,689,194
3000	August 31 - Fund Balance	\$ 2,281,273	\$ 851,985	\$ 0	\$ 3,133,258

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

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CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Check this out at the Howard County Library

This week I'm going to list books that all have a common denominator-TEXAS. "A Strong West Wind" by Gail Caldwell (B CAL G), "Texas Monthly on Texas Women" by Evan Smith (305.409 SMI E), "Woman in Texas Music: Stories and Songs" by Kathleen Hudson (782.421 HUD K), "Fiction & Poetry by Texas Women" by Janice L. White (810.8 WHI J), "Texas Echoes" by Evanelle Ator Davis and Rebecca Diane Davis (810.809 DAV E), "Writing on the Wind" by Lou Halsell Rodenberger, Laura Payne Butler, and Jacqueline Kolosov (810.809 ROD L), "Gentle



MONICA MARTINEZ

Giants" by Iva Nell Elder (810.992 ELD I), "Texas Women Writers" by Sylvia Ann Grider & Lou Halsell Rodenberger (810.992 GRI S), "Talking with Texas Writers" by Patrick Bennett (810.997 BEN P), "Notes from Texas" by W. C. Jameson (810.997 JAM W), "Conversations with Texas Writers" by Frances Leonard and Ramona Cearley (810.997 LEO F), "Lone Star Lights" by Belle Hunt Shortridge (811 SHO B), "Texas Bound" by Kay Cattarulla (813.010 CAT K), "Lone Star Sleuths" by Bill Cunningham, Steven L. Davis & Rollo K. Newsom, "Let's Hear It" by Sylvia Ann Grider & Lou Halsell Rodenberger (813.010 GRI S), "Jane Gilmore Rushing" by Lou Halsell Rodenberger (813.54 ROD L), "Texas Woman of Letters" by Karle Wilson Baker (818.520 BAK K), & "Texas Women on the Cattle Trails" by Sara R. Massey (976.405 MAS S). For those of you who are interested in

Texas history, I'm hoping one of these will tickle your fancy.

I also have two books that deal with a difficult topic: cancer. "I'd Rather Do Chemo Than Clean Out the Garage" by Fran Di Giacomo (362.196 DIG F) is pearls of wisdom balanced by hilarious fun in this shameless exploitation of the chemo lifestyle. Fran Di Giacomo shares the game plan she has used for survival, for quality of life, and to maintain her career as a professional artist.

"A Promise Fulfilled" by William C. Thiel (616.994 THI W) is one couple's journey through misdiagnosis, breast cancer, and advocacy. This woman's story will change your life and the lives of women everywhere.

Keeping it short and sweet this week. Still continuing in the spirit of the holidays, I leave you with a quote from Josh Hatcher: "The truth is - no matter how "self-made" you think

you are, you are really made by many who have invested in your life.

Be known as a thankful and grateful person... and be known as the person that is investing in others to build them up, as well.

It's your way of paying back the debt that others have invested in you."

The Howard County Library is open Monday to Friday, 9 am to 6 pm; the internet/video room closes at 5:30. You may reach us at (432) 264-2260 and our fax number is (432) 264-2263. Our website is howard-county.ploud.net. Hope you have Christmas and all that comes with it under control. The library will be closed on Friday, December 23, 2016 and Monday, December 26, 2016 for the Christmas holiday. With the children out for the holiday, make time to visit the library.

Governor, tribal leader discuss reducing protest tensions

By BLAKE NICHOLSON

Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. — North Dakota Gov. Jack Dalrymple and Standing Rock Sioux Chairman Dave Archambault have met to discuss reducing tensions between law officers and Dakota Access oil pipeline opponents, as the main protest camp begins to clear out after the federal government stalled the \$3.8 billion project.

Developer Energy Transfer Partners and the Army are battling in court over permission for the pipeline to cross under the Missouri River in southern North Dakota, the last large chunk of construction for the project to move North Dakota oil 1,200 miles to a shipping point in Illinois. Thousands of opponents who have protested for months have been leaving their main camp in southern North Dakota in recent days due to the work stoppage and severe winter weather.

Archambault said Tuesday that the tribe estimates only about 300 people remain in the main camp. Dalrymple said in a statement that the camp might be vacated by Jan. 1, but Archambault said that's not the case. Some in the camp have said they need until the end of the year to complete their exit, while others plan to stay the winter, he said.

An unknown number of others remain in another camp nearby that's run by LaDonna Brave Bull Allard, a protest organizer. Allard didn't immediately respond to requests for comment Tuesday, but she said in a social media post Monday that "we are not going anywhere."

Some pipeline opponents fear a federal judge will give ETP permission to finish the project or that the administration of pro-energy President-elect Donald Trump will overturn an Army decision this month not to grant permission for the river crossing. The Associated Press reported Tuesday that according to people with knowledge of the decision former Texas Governor Rick Perry is Trump's choice to lead the Energy Department. Perry is on the board of ETP, although Archambault said that doesn't discourage him.

"We're not opposed to energy development — we're just asking that you don't do it off our backs," the chairman said.

The tribe and its supporters believe the pipeline threatens American Indian cultural sites and the tribe's drinking water, which is drawn from the Missouri. ETP disputes that.

Dalrymple and Archambault both said that efforts to normalize relations between the state and tribe rest heavily on reopening a state Highway 1806 bridge right outside the camp. The Backwater Bridge has been closed since being damaged by



AP photo
People walk along a snowy hillside at the Oceti Sakowin camp where people have gathered to protest the Dakota Access oil pipeline in Cannon Ball, N.D. on Monday, Dec. 5, 2016. (AP / David Goldman)

fire set by protesters in late October.

The state Transportation Department says the bridge won't be inspected until the safety of workers is ensured. Pipeline opponents think the state is deliberately leaving the bridge closed to block protesters in from the north.

"The bridge is the main issue," Archambault said. "How can we get (the blockade) removed as soon as possible so that it opens up emergency service routes, opens up commerce again for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe."

Dalrymple said the plan is to enlist the help of the Bureau of Indian Affairs to maintain safety while workers inspect the bridge. Archambault said a timeline wasn't developed during the Mon-

day meeting, which also was attended by other Tribal Council members and state officials.

"The meeting was constructive, an important step toward rebuilding long-term relationships," Dalrymple said.

Also, prosecutor Ladd Erickson said he wants people who have been arrested for protesting against the pipeline to reimburse the state for their court-appointed attorneys.

The protests have resulted in 570 arrests since August, creating an unprecedented burden for the state's court system. The Commission on Legal Counsel for Indigents plans to seek \$670,000 from the Legislature to help cover the costs of protest-related cases.

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Beyond 'Oops': Perry's past may raise confirmation questions

By WILL WEISSERT

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Former Texas Gov. Rick Perry spent years perfecting his cowboy swagger — he rarely left home without his signature cowboy boots and even claims to have once used a .380-caliber Ruger pistol to gun down a coyote while jogging. He's probably best known, though, for the 40 seconds he spent on a 2011 presidential debate stage trying desperately to remember the third of three federal agencies he'd promised to shutter if elected, before sheepishly muttering "Oops."

The answer was the Energy Department, which President-elect Donald Trump has now tapped Perry to run, according to two people with knowledge of the decision.

But the longest-serving governor in Texas history has less publicized past episodes that could raise political or personal questions when Perry appears before the Senate for confirmation.

Here's a look at a some of them:

ENERGY FIRM TIES

Perry led Texas for more than 14 years, but mere weeks after he left office he began serving on the corporate boards of two energy firms linked to Texas billionaire and GOP mega-donor Kelcy Warren.

One company, Energy Transfer Partners, is attempting to build the Dakota Access Pipeline, a \$3.8 billion project carrying oil from North Dakota to Illinois that has sparked protests garnering national attention. The other, Sunoco Logistics Partners, recently announced plans to acquire Energy Transfer Partners in a \$21.3 billion deal.

Like Trump, Perry has in the past been a climate change skeptic and cheerleader for coal. In 2005, he issued an executive order fast-tracking construction of coal-fueled power plants around Texas — but those stalled amid legal challenges from environmental groups.

Texas also became a leading wind energy producer under Perry, and the governor's office used state incentive funds to funnel public dollars to companies promoting alternative energy.

"CRONY CAPITALISM?"

Perry oversaw two state funds meant to encourage job-creating investment in Texas or to lure top employers to the state. But critics accused him of "crony capitalism" after outside auditors condemned both for rewarding firms Perry had business or political ties to — some of which got funding with little transparency or scant evidence they'd actually create jobs.

In 2007, a Perry executive order mandated HPV vaccines for sixth-grade girls statewide, sparking such outcry that the governor was overruled by Texas' Republican-controlled Legislature. Perry



AP photo

Former Texas Gov. Rick Perry, right, enters Trump Tower with Trump aide Madeleine Westerhout, before meeting with President-elect Donald Trump, Monday, Dec. 12, 2016, in New York. (AP Photo/Kathy Willens)

said his move was to prevent the spread of a sexually transmitted disease that causes cervical cancer — but the vaccine maker, Merck, was a past Perry donor and employed one of his former aides as a lobbyist.

A remote West Texas waste dump site began in 2013 accepting low-level radioactive waste from Texas and other states. The 1,380-acre facility belongs to Waste Control Specialists, then owned by Harold Simmons, a billionaire who was a top donor to Perry and Republicans nationwide but who has since died.

The company has applied to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to begin taking higher level nuclear waste in West Texas as a stopgap measure since a plan for a permanent repository at Nevada's Yucca Mountain hasn't been federally approved. The Energy Department sets policy for nuclear materials' storage and handling, meaning Perry may make major decisions in an area he's already very familiar with.

INDICTMENT

Two years ago, Perry was indicted by a grand jury in Austin on coercion and abuse of power charges stemming from his publicly threatening — then executing — a veto of funding for state public corruption prosecutors. The move came after the

investigative unit's Democratic director rebuffed Perry's calls to resign following her drunken driving conviction.

Perry dismissed the case as politically motivated, and the coercion charge was tossed on appeal before Texas' highest criminal court voided the abuse of power charge in February. Still, Perry said it hurt his second White House run in 2015, which lasted barely three months.

BEYOND 'OOPS'

While his debate brain freeze was the hardest thing for Perry to live down, there's more in the former governor's public career that could resurface if he joins Trump's Cabinet.

In 2011, The Washington Post reported about a rock outside a hunting camp Perry's family once leased that was painted with the name "Niggerhead." Perry's campaign said the governor's father painted over the rock — located near Perry's West Texas childhood home of Paint Creek — soon after he began leasing the site in the early 1980s.

Perry also has drawn past criticism for not denouncing Texas secession forcefully enough. At a 2009 rally, Perry said of his state seceding, "We've got a great union," but added, "if Washington continues to thumb their nose at the American people, who knows what might come out of that."

Felon's involvement prompts Dallas to review its housing program

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas leaders are promising a review of the city's low-income housing program after learning a developer is a convicted felon who sold homes to his family and never built on other lots acquired from the city.

Jose Santos Coria has purchased three dozen lots since 2012 with the promise to build affordable homes. But in four years he's sold just 11, and four went to two of his sons, a daughter and a grandson.

Coria's children already owned larger residences when they bought the low-income homes, property records show. And the children were co-directors of his real estate company, The Dallas Morning News reported (<http://bit.ly/2hoPenR>).

Most of his lots remain vacant — well after the construction timetable he had promised the city — and it comes at a time when the low-income housing program is running out of land for other developers in parts of the city.

The program relies on the city acquiring empty lots from property owners who have long been delin-

quent on their taxes. It clears the liens and sells the lots to home builders once the city council approves their development plans for affordable housing.

The manager of the program, Terry Williams, said he didn't know about Coria's criminal conviction for felony theft until he was told by the newspaper. Coria was convicted in 2012 of buying stolen building supplies.

Prior to that, Denton police in 2009 seized more than \$350,000 in cash that Coria had hidden at his Dallas house after investigators traced stolen goods to his business, according to his court file. A Denton investigator said police suspected Coria of pouring illicit cash into real estate.

Coria declined to speak to the newspaper about his housing developments, commenting only that, "I don't have anything to say."

Officials said it appears the city's housing program has few written policies, and council member Scott Griggs said the housing department didn't properly vet Coria or verify the purchasers of his homes were low-income.

Texas man in 2010 videotaped beating case accused of murder

HOUSTON (AP) — A Houston man whose 2010 videotaped beating by police was cited by activists as an example of police brutality against minorities remained jailed Tuesday after being charged with capital murder.

Chad Holley, 22, appeared in court during a brief hearing in which prosecutors alleged he fatally shot a man in September during a robbery.

Police have accused Holley of killing David Trejo-Gonzalez, 42, as the victim was walking from his vehicle to his apartment in north Houston.

Court records didn't list an attorney for Holley.

Quanell X, a community activist who has worked with Holley and his family since the videotaped beating case, remained supportive.

"At the end of the day is he guilty of capital murder? I don't know," Quanell X said. "But the Chad Holley I do know, for years you might put some petty theft charge on him. But to turn him out to be a cold blooded killer, that's not the Chad Holley I know."

In March 2010, Holley was 15 years

old when he was caught as a burglary suspect.

Security video from a business showed officers appearing to kick and beat him.

In that case, Holley was convicted of burglary in juvenile court and received probation.

Four officers were indicted on misdemeanor charges in the beating case.

Two officers pleaded guilty, one was convicted and another was acquitted.

At the trial of one of the indicted officers, then-Houston Police Chief Charles McClelland Jr. testified the video sickened him and gave the department a "black eye."

Since the beating incident, Holley has had other encounters with law enforcement.

In 2012, Holley was arrested on another burglary charge and later sentenced to six months in jail.

When he was charged with capital murder this week, Holley was already in custody on separate charges of theft and trespassing.

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News in brief

Sikorsky reaches settlement over fatal '14 Navy copter crash

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — Connecticut-based Sikorsky Aircraft Corp. has agreed to settle wrongful death and negligence claims in a lawsuit filed over the 2014 crash of a Navy helicopter that killed three of the five crew members during a training exercise off the Virginia coast.

Court documents obtained by The Associated Press show that Sikorsky has reached a "settlement in principle" with the widows of the three crewmen and a survivor of the crash who filed the lawsuit in federal court in Connecticut last year. Terms of the deal haven't been disclosed.

The lawsuit blames Sikorsky and other companies for installing what it alleges was defective and unsafe wiring insulation that contributed to a fire that erupted aboard the MH-53E Sea Dragon copter and caused the accident.

A Sikorsky lawyer declined to comment.

Police: Notorious 86-year-old jewel thief strikes again

ATLANTA (AP) — Police just outside Atlanta say a notorious 86-year-old jewel thief has struck again.

Dunwoody police say Doris Payne was arrested Tuesday at a Von Maur department store. A police report says Payne put a \$2,000 necklace in her back pocket and tried to leave the store.

Authorities have said Payne has lifted pricey baubles from countless jewelry stores around the world in an illicit career that has spanned six decades. She was the subject of a 2013 documentary, "The Life and Crimes of Doris Payne."

When asked about her exploits in an interview with The Associated Press earlier this year, she said simply: "I was a thief."

Online jail records did not show any bond information, and it wasn't immediately clear whether Payne had an attorney who could comment.

Pokemon, Olympics, election among 2016's top Google searches

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif. (AP) — "Pokemon Go," the Olympics and the presidential election are among Google's top trending searches of 2016.

Powerball tops the list. The multi-state lottery handed out a record \$1.6 billion prize in January and a \$429 million payout in June.

Also in the top 10 are musical icons David Bowie and Prince, who died in January and April, respectively, and Hurricane Matthew, which barreled through the Caribbean and made landfall in the U.S. in October.

Brad Pitt is Google's top trending actor searched in 2016. Prince Harry's girlfriend, Megan Markle, trended most among actresses.

Beyonce topped musical searches. She was the most trending artist and her "Formation" was the top trending song in Google searches.

Christmas trees for free after Ohio donor buys the lot

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — An anonymous donor has given people who couldn't afford a Christmas tree a chance to take one home after paying for all the remaining trees on a lot at a Catholic elementary school in Columbus.

The Columbus Dispatch reports a man showed up Monday afternoon and paid for dozens of trees priced at \$40 and \$50.

People cleared the lot Tuesday morning after the principal of St. Mary School in the German Village neighborhood posted on Facebook on Monday night that the trees were free to anyone in need.

Proceeds from the annual tree sale are split between two charity groups, including one that provides the school with supplies and other financial help.

St. Mary principal Kayla Walton says the donor provided a "beautiful expression" of the Christmas spirit.

Uber self-driving cars hit the streets of San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Uber is bringing a small number of self-driving cars to its ride-hailing service in San Francisco — a move likely to excite the city's tech-savvy population and certain to antagonize California regulators.

The Wednesday launch in Uber's hometown expands a public pilot program the company started in Pittsburgh in September. The testing lets everyday people experience the cars as Uber works to identify glitches before expanding the technology's use in San Francisco and elsewhere.

California law, however, requires a test permit for self-driving prototype vehicles, and Uber does not have one. The company argues that the law doesn't apply because its cars require a human backup.

Uber has a history of testing legal boundaries. Although the company has been around less than a decade, it has argued with authorities around



In this photo taken Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2016, an Uber driverless car heads out for a test drive in San Francisco. Uber is bringing a small number of self-driving cars to its ride-hailing service in San Francisco - a move likely to both excite the city's tech-savvy population and spark a conflict with California regulators. The Wednesday, Dec. 14, launch in Uber's hometown expands a public pilot program the company started in Pittsburgh in September. (AP Photo/Eric Risberg)

the world about how much of its drivers' histories should be covered in background checks and whether those drivers should be treated as contractors ineligible for employee benefits.

Uber's self-driving tests in San Francisco will begin with a "handful" of Volvo luxury SUVs — the company wouldn't release an exact number — that have been tricked out with sensors so they can steer, accelerate and brake, and even decide to change lanes. The cars will have an Uber employee behind the wheel to take over should the technology fail. Users of the app may be matched with a self-driving car, but can opt out if they prefer a human driver. Self-driven rides cost the same as ordinary ones.

The cars will be put to the test in the congested streets of San Francisco. The city can be a daunting place to drive given its famously steep hills, frequent fog, street and cable cars, an active bicycle culture, and roads that are constantly being repaved, remarked and restricted for bike lanes and traffic management.

Uber believes its technology is ready to handle all this safely, though its executives concede the vehicles are nowhere near able to drive without a human ready to take control in dicey situations.

There was room for improvement during a Tuesday test drive attended by The Associated Press. The car was destined for a local pizza parlor, but didn't pull directly in front of the restaurant, and instead stopped in the middle of the street.

The cars may strike some riders as over-cautious, too.

During the test drive, one idled in a traffic jam even though an adjacent lane was clear, prompting the human driver to make the move himself.

Uber's fleet of Volvo XC90s won't be the first self-driving cars on San Francisco streets — several other companies visit regularly with test prototypes, though none offers public rides.

parent and an enlightened husband, working from home to help tend the kids while his wife revived her career.

But Thicke's character anchored a sitcom that was also 1950s-retro, part of television's renewed embrace of the traditional nuclear family after a string of single-parent shows. "Growing Pains" debuted in 1985, one year after "The Cosby Show" showed the old formula could be made new.

While Bill Cosby's NBC series touched on social issues, ABC's "Growing Pains" was pure comfort food about a suburban family with a genial, father-knows-best patriarch, cheerful mom (Joanna Kerns) and a brood that included breakout heart-throb Kirk Cameron as teenager Mike and, in the show's final 1991-92 season, Leonardo DiCaprio.

Thicke, who died Tuesday at age 69, said a 1985 interview with The Associated Press that he wouldn't have pitched a show like "Growing Pains" but suggested it fit the times.

"Ronald Reagan is president and there's no war, maybe that creates an environment for a show like ours," he said.

The Canadian-born TV host, writer, composer and actor died of a heart attack, said Carleen Donovan, who is a publicist for Thicke's son, singer Robin Thicke. She had no further details.

"I spent Monday through Friday for seven important years with Alan Thicke as my 'TV dad,'" Cameron said in a statement. "I'm shocked and truly heartbroken today at the news of his death. Alan was a generous, kind and loving man. I am so blessed to have grown up with him."

Other celebrities who had crossed paths with Thicke, whether through music, acting or simply as friends, expressed their sorrow at news of his death.

"I grew up watching him and got to know him through Robin. He was always so kind to me," John Legend posted on Twitter.

'Growing Pains' star and TV host Alan Thicke dies at age 69.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Alan Thicke's 1980s TV dad credentials were neatly in order on "Growing Pains." His Dr. Jason Seaver was an open-hearted



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Lady Buffs win district opener

Down league favorite Christoval

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer

FORSAN — Winning basketball games are big. Winning district basketball games are very big. And winning district basketball games against the league favorites? That's huge.

The Forsan Lady Buffaloes achieved that winning trifecta Tuesday night, opening district play with a 44-36 victory against preseason favorite Christoval at the Forsan High School gym.

Forsan spotted the Lady Cougars a quick 9-1 lead, but cut that deficit to one point entering the second quarter, then continued stalking Christoval the rest of the half, tying the game at 20-all on a three-pointer by Kendall Phillips with 2:25 to go before intermission.

But it was the third quarter that saw the tide turn in Forsan's favor. The Lady Buffs opened the second half with an 11-2 run that gave them a 31-24 lead going into the fourth quarter, and they were never seriously threatened after that.

Forsan Coach Lloyd Vedder credited defense — particularly the

team's interior defense led by Jenna Evans — as the major reason behind his team's victory.

"That's one thing we hang our hat on — defense," Vedder said. "We've told them, 'We can be really good, as long as we control the boards, control the inside game and limit the other teams' outside capabilities,' and I thought tonight was a good example of what we can do."

Rhian Cunningham and Macey Evans led the Lady Buffs (11-4) with 15 and 10 points, respectively, while Naomi Dixon led Christoval (14-2) with 13 points.

After the game, Vedder talked about the importance of getting off to a good start in district action.

"It's always important to start district with a win," he said. "For these girls, it was huge, but they believe in themselves. I asked them after the game, 'How many people believed we could do what we just did?'"

Forsan returns to action Friday at Winters. Game time is 6:30 p.m.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 432-263-7331, ext. 235, or email reporter@bigspringherald.com



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Forsan's Jenna Evans (42) lines up a free-throw shot during the Lady Buffaloes' game with Christoval Tuesday in Forsan.

Forsan wears down Stanton for 62-47 victory

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer

FORSAN — If you're looking for sympathy, the basketball court is apparently the last place you want to go.

The Stanton Buffalos went into their Tuesday night game missing their top scorer and two other front-line players — and the Forsan Buffaloes cared not one whit. Forsan used its superior numbers and a non-stop defensive pressure to claim a 62-47 win in a non-district clash here Tuesday night.

Stanton, which suited up only eight players, was able to hang with Forsan for much of first half, tying the game at 18 apiece on a Sebastian Escamilla layup with 4:12 remaining in the second quarter, but Forsan quickly responded on a trio of Josh Evans field goals — one of them a three-pointer — to give the hosts some breathing room, and Stanton was forced into catch-up mode for the rest of the game.

Stanton was able to cut its

deficit to three points on a basket-and-one from Colby Gordon and an Austin Luna jumper early in the third, but Forsan's Kobe Richardson responded with a three-pointer, Jacob Valdez contibuted a basket-and-one and Tearell McVae added a lay-in to push the margin back to double figures, and Stanton never threatened after that.

Taking advantage of a short-handed opponent isn't cruel, just good strategy, both coaches agreed.

"They were a little short-handed tonight, and we knew that going in, and we said if we can wear them down a little in the third and fourth quarters, we can win the game, and that's what happened," Forsan Coach Cory Richardson said.

Stanton Coach Doug Gordon agreed Forsan's defense and superior numbers was the difference in the game.

"They have all 10 of their players who can score, they can all hustle for boards and they

See **BUFFS**, Page 13



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Stanton's Reed Thomas (4) attempts to inbound the ball while being guarded by Kobe Richardson during the their game Tuesday night in Forsan.



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring's John Ibanez takes a shot during the Steers' 77-59 loss at Midland Greenwood Tuesday night.

Stars score 5 goals in 3rd to down Ducks

DALLAS (AP) — Dan Hamhuis didn't tell his Dallas teammates it was his 34th birthday.

Instead, he gave them a gift with his first goal for the Stars, opening a five-goal third period that beat the Anaheim Ducks 6-2 on Tuesday night.

Hamhuis tipped in Jamie Benn's cross-ice pass on the power play, tying it 2-all at 5:41.

"When you get to this age, (birthdays) aren't that important," Hamhuis said.

"It was nice to get that first one out of the way. Jamie made a great play. It wasn't very hard for me to put that one in after he made that great pass. It was nice to be involved in key goal, too, to get our rally started."

After that, Adam Cracknell, Patrick Eaves and Benn scored to drive Anaheim goalie John Gibson from the game at 12:24. Radek Faksa added an empty-netter at 13:57.

Stephen Johns scored the first goal of the game for Dallas in the second period.

Cracknell's winner came 52 seconds after Hamhuis' score.

Cracknell and Devin Shore rushed the net, and the puck went in off the stick of Anaheim's Corey Perry.

"If Shore doesn't drive, that doesn't go off of Perry's stick," Stars coach Lindy Ruff said. "He got to the inside, he did the right thing: He stopped, got to the paint."

Dallas had lost six of eight. Anaheim was 6-1-1 in its previous eight.

"There was a lot of good inside the game," Ruff said. "I thought our penalty killing was good, especially when you treat that team to two 5-on-3s."

The Ducks outshot the Stars 36-27, but Antti Niemi made 34 saves to improve to 6-1-1 at home this season. He had not played in the previous five games.

"Antti gave us a great game tonight, which allowed us to finish this one off," Ruff said.

Anaheim coach Randy Carlyle said his team should have scored more.

"When we have as many opportunities, point blank and 2-on-1s on the goaltender, we've got to score more goals

than we did tonight, that's for sure," he said.

Cracknell said the Stars remained confident even after falling behind in the third period.

"We had the feeling in the room that if you keep on giving them power plays, they're going to get their chances," he said. "Antti played great. He saved us in the first. We knew if we stayed within our system, we were going to get our wins."

Perry and Ryan Getzlaf scored for the Ducks. Getzlaf assisted on Perry's power-play goal.

Benn had a goal and two assists. His brother, Jordie, and Tyler Seguin each had two assists.

Perry got his seventh of the season for a 2-1 lead 5 seconds after a two-man advantage ended in the third period.

Dallas killed a 5-on-3 situation for 1:09 in the first period. Niemi made four saves during the two-man advantage, one on Getzlaf's slap shot from the blue line with Ryan Kesler hovering on the doorstep.

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

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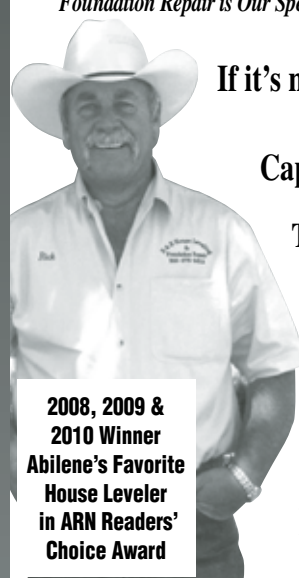


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5

By Mail...
P.O. Box 1431



Tomorrow's Horoscope



HOLIDAY MATHIS

20-May 20). This process you're going through now is a kind of evolution. The elegance of evolution is especially obvious when the circumstances change. You might be surprised by what survives and prevails.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The mystery that baffles you in the a.m. will be so utterly explainable tonight that it all seems rather obvious. You'll either help the others understand, or you'll help them be baffled so they can enjoy the discovery process, too.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). As for the thing that's been gnawing at your curiosity: It's time to investigate it. You'll get lucky. There are a lot of questions that will be answered when one or two facts have come to light.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Everyone is selfish from time to time, but if it happens frequently, it's more about your own tolerance than anything else. Stand up for yourself. Get on your own team. You don't do anyone favors by letting them behave

badly.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It's said that to forgive is divine, but there's no heavenly choir of angels to accompany you when you let go of your grievances today. Still, life will get better for the gesture, and that counts for something.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Does it really matter if you were born this way or got there through living? Embrace it; no further questions are necessary. To fully accept yourself will be your best move yet.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You may not understand all of the factors that got you here, but accept them. Humility is better than arrogance; contribute as though you deserve to be where you are. If you didn't, you wouldn't be there.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You can be proud of the relationships you've built and even more proud of the fact that you keep building. Friendships, after all, need continual maintenance to thrive.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).

You're emotionally flexible and quite strong. Still, you shouldn't have to bend over backward to get your love. If you find yourself doing this trick time and again, seek different sources of support.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Information has a way of expanding to the capacity of your curiosity. So the thing to ask yourself is: "How much do I really want and/or need to know?" Today will bring a case where more is not necessarily better.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). From keys and phones to friendships and jobs, most of the things a person can lose in life can be replaced. Not time. It's the most precious of your resources, which is why you're so mindful now not to waste it.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 14). Friedrich Nietzsche said: "Art is the proper task of life." You'll flip it and turn proper tasks into art. Your way of living will bring beauty and harmony to others. You'll continually get stronger as you home in on invigorating

choices. Friendships will blossom and multiply through the spring. Singles will marry in June. Aquarius and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 30, 25, 16 and 4.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I want to change my diet, but I've failed every program I've ever tried. I even fail at taking vitamins. I ordered a special berry that is supposed to aid with weight loss, and then I didn't even have the discipline to take the pill! What is wrong with me? Once in a while I'll do something that works. I lose some weight, and then in about a month or two I get sick of the program and go back to my old ways. Will I ever get a hold of this horrible issue? I hate being fat. I'm a Leo."

Have you ever considered giving up the whole diet thing? It's very possible that you are so focused on your dissatisfaction with your weight that you just create more and more of the dissatisfaction by attempting all of these different weight-loss methods. What's the

real issue here, anyway? Maybe it's your stressful lifestyle or your habit of putting everyone else's needs before your own. Leos love to have the approval and acceptance of the whole entire world (and massive applause is always a bonus!), but they need to learn how to give that acceptance to themselves, too. Accept yourself and love yourself the way you are.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: "High School Musical" leading lady Vanessa Hudgens will star in "Powerless," a comedy series about an insurance company's dealings with the destruction caused by superheroes. While there may not be singing in this project, Hudgens is sure to get back to it soon enough: her Jupiter in Taurus, the sign of big voices, couples with her sensitive Pisces moon, singing of the music in her soul.

To write to Holiday Mathis, visit www.creators.com/author/holiday-mathis and click "Contact." COPYRIGHT 2016 CREATORS.COM

Moon Emphasizes Survival of the Fittest

In this elegantly designed universe, the best ideas move forward and the worst fade away. We don't know from the start which ideas are best. Eventually, what prevails, by definition, is the strongest. Survival wins. As the moon trines Mars on her way to Cancer, accept what is. To resist life's process is futile. Acceptance is the first step of change.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Yes, life is full of contradiction. It's also full of tautology. Redundancy is validation. It's comforting when things are as they seem to be, people work together as a team and love behaves lovingly.

TAURUS (April

fortunate as we are. It makes our giving complete.

For the past few years, we have had Christmas at my stepdaughter and her family's home a few hours away. We tell them in advance that we will be donating to an animal shelter and ask that they do, too, instead of giving us gifts.

But on Christmas Day, there under the tree will be gifts from all of them to both of us, and we bring nothing for them. It really makes us feel out of sorts. They don't seem to understand when we say that the only thing we want as a gift is for them to donate to an animal shelter. Is there a way we could make ourselves feel more gracious for receiving the gifts they get for us? Should we bring gifts for them? I know that after going through this for a few years, we should get the hint, but our hearts aren't in it. -- Feel Like a Grinch

Dear Grinch: I commend your charitable intentions, but we don't get to decide what gifts we receive. The most we can do is share our wishes, which you've already done several times. It seems that this family simply enjoys watching loved ones unwrap presents. Let them have that experience.

You do not have to reciprocate with material gifts. But if you feel so uncomfortable showing up empty-handed that it spoils your time, it might be worth it for your own peace of mind to bring a little something for them to unwrap. It

doesn't have to be extravagant -- perhaps a small gift from a company that donates some of its proceeds to a charity you like.

Dear Annie: I live in the Midwest. A few months ago, I took a part-time job as a valet at a nearby casino hotel to help supplement my regular income. I have consistently been courteous with the patrons. I have smiled, thanked them for coming and replied with a heartwarming "you're welcome" at every opportunity. However, most drivers will not offer a tip.

I have gone to their parked cars (considerable distances from the valet drive lane) to retrieve forgotten cellphones, cigarettes, wallets and various other personal items, yet I seldom receive more than a simple "thank you."

I am very grateful for the drivers who do tip. Unfortunately, there are not enough of these kind and generous people to make it worthwhile for me to keep working here, given the meager salary. I have given my two-week notice because I have found another part-time job.

I write this letter in the hope that you will bring this to pub-

lic light. Maybe a few readers will realize that valets are very dependent on tips to provide a reasonable income. I do not advocate tipping for insufficient service, but when excellent service is provided, I cannot fathom why anyone would not offer a tip. -- Valet No More

Dear Valet: Perhaps it's the venue. When someone is leaving a casino having just gambled away three months' worth of mortgage payments, the last thing he wants to do is hand over more money. But that doesn't make it OK to stiff someone who is just trying to make an honest living. Thanks for the reminder that if you're looking to save money, cutting back on tips isn't a fair or even efficient method. Instead, start by going out to bars and restaurants (and definitely casinos) less often.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com. To find out more about Annie Lane and read features by other Creators Syndicate columnists and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.

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Annie's Mailbox

Please, No Gifts

Dear Annie: For the past few years, my sister, her family, my husband and I have been donating at Christmastime to an animal shelter in our area. We are old enough to really want nothing for Christmas, so we donate to those who aren't so



By Steve Becker

The long-term view

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♠6 2
♥A J 7 4
♦A 9 3
♣10 9 6 2
WEST
♠Q J 9 7
♥Q 8 5 2
♦6
♣K Q 7 4
EAST
♠K 10 8 5 4
♥K 10 9 3
♦7 4
♣5 3
SOUTH
♠A 3
♥6
♦K Q J 10 8 5 2
♣A J 8
The bidding:
South West North East
1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass
3♦ Pass 4♦ Pass
5♦
Opening lead — queen of spades.
From the time dummy appears in today's deal, declarer should be concerned that West might have both missing club honors and that the contract will go down if he (South) relies strictly on two club finesses.
South should then seek a way to overcome that possibility if it exists. Further analysis should lead South to conclude that his best chance is to try for an elimination play that will

assure a favorable outcome regardless of where the K-Q of clubs are actually located.
Accordingly, he wins the opening spade lead with the ace, plays a heart to the ace, ruffs a heart, enters dummy with a trump, ruffs another heart, leads a second trump to dummy and ruffs the jack of hearts.
When South next exits with the three of spades, the defenders are helpless. If West wins the trick, he can do no better than return a club, automatically limiting South's losers to one spade and one club. If West returns a spade instead, South ruffs in dummy and discards a club from his hand to hold himself to one club loser.
Alternatively, if East wins the spade lead, declarer simply plays low on the club return. After winning the trick, West then has the choice of returning either a club or a spade, handing South the contract.
By adopting this line of play, South can guarantee a favorable outcome as soon as the missing trumps divide 2-1. But to attain the desired result, declarer must begin to lay the groundwork for the prospective end-play from the very outset, making sure to trump a heart in his hand at every opportunity.
Tomorrow: Sylvia.
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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.

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

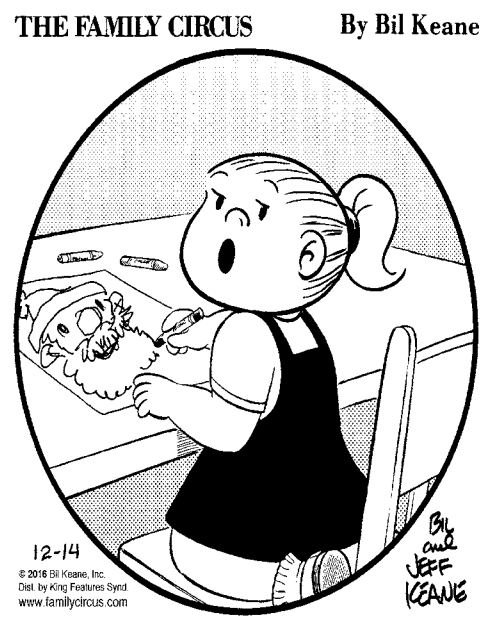
	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery
5 :PM	Local 2 ABC	Hotel Notic.	The List	News CBS	Tele Noticiero	News	With Scholars	Scully Business	Mama's	American	Seinfeld	The Wizard of Oz (DVS)	SportsCenter	Around Pardon	C'boys Cowboys	NCIS (DVS)	The First 48	Alaskan Bush
6 :30	Jeopardy!	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang	News ET	Caso Cerrado	News	Mani House	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	NBA Basketball: Indiana Pacers at Miami Heat.	SportCtr 30 for 30	Texas High School	NCIS (DVS)	Duck D.	Alaskan Bush	
7 :30	Gold Speech	Despertar Contigo	Empire (DVS)	Survivor	Silvana Sin Lana	Pentatonix Special	Upd Dollars	Nature (DVS)	Griffith	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	Grinch	Mavs Pre. NBA Basketball: Detroit Pistons at Dallas Mavericks.	WWE Tribute to the Troops	Duck D.	Alaskan Bush		
8 :30	blackish	Vino el Amor	Star (DVS)	Survivor	La Doña (SS)	Saturday Night Live	Light of the Southwest	NOVA (DVS)	Hap.Days Gilligan	To Be Announced	Big Bang	Movie: Fred Claus, Miranda Richardson (DVS)	NBA Basketball: Celtics at Spurs	SportsCenter	Mavs Mavericks.	Movie: A Madea Christmas (DVS)	Wahlburg Legend	
9 :30	Designated Survivor	El color de la pasión	News TMZ	Survivor	El Chema (SS)			Secrets of the Dead	Heroes	Seinfeld	Big Bang			SportsCenter	Mavs			
10 :30	Local 2 ABC	Impacto	Mod Fam	News	Tele Titulares	News	HaYesod	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett	King	Conan			SportsCenter	Cowboys			
11 :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Noticiero	Two Men Contacto	Late Show-C Colbert	La Doña (SS)	Tonight Show	M.25 Chevalme	Newsline	Perry Mason	Rules	Broke Girl	Movie: Fred Claus, Miranda Richardson (DVS)	NBA Basketball: Pacers	NFL Live	Road to Champ.	Mod Fam	Duck D.	
12 :30	Nightline	Deportivo	How I Met James Corden	Insider	El Chema (SS)	Seth Meyers	McDonald	T. Smiley	Twi. Zone	Rules	Conan		SportsCenter	Football Jalen	NBA Basketball: Pistons at Mavericks	Law & Order: SVU	Duck D.	
1 :30	Paid	La Mujer del Middle	Insider	Insider	El Chema (SS)	News	Zola Lev.	Alfred Hitchcock Hr.	Alfred Hitchcock Hr.	Cheaters	Seinfeld		SportsCenter	NBA Basketball: Pacers	Law Order: CI	Wahlburg Legend		

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I'M SURE GLAD CHRISTMAS IS ONLY ONCE A YEAR. IT'S TOO MUCH PRESSURE!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



"I'll bet if Santa shaved his beard he'd look 500 years younger."

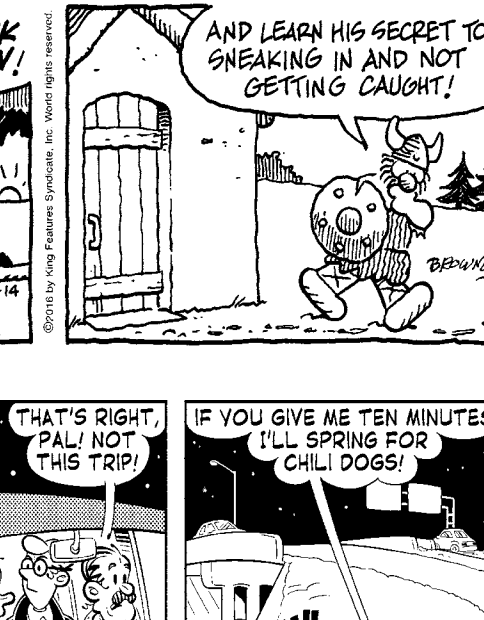
HAGAR



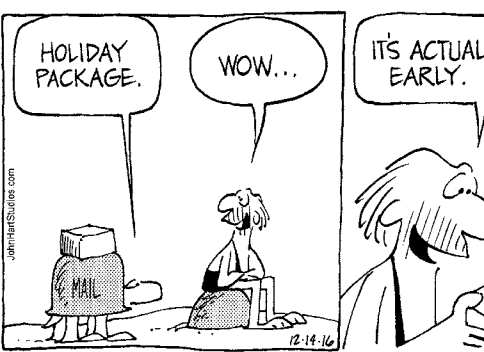
BLONDIE



THE OTHER COAST



BC



WIZARD OF ID



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Dec. 14, the 349th day of 2016. There are 17 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 14, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson vetoed an immigration measure aimed at preventing "undesirables" and anyone born in the "Asiatic Barred Zone" from entering the U.S. (Congress overrode Wilson's veto in Feb. 1917.)

On this date: In 1799, the first president of the United States, George Washington, died at his Mount Vernon, Virginia, home at age 67.

In 1819, Alabama joined the Union as the 22nd state.

In 1911, Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen (ROH'-ahl AH'-mun-suhn) and his team became the first men to reach the South Pole, beating out a British expedition led by Robert F. Scott.

In 1918, "Il Trittico," a trio of one-act operas by Giacomo Puccini, premiered at New York's Metropolitan Opera House. (The third opera, "Gianni Schicchi (SKEE'-kee)," featured the aria "O Mio Babbino Caro," which was an instant hit.)

In 1936, the comedy "You

Can't Take It With You" by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart opened on Broadway.

In 1946, the United Nations General Assembly voted to establish the U.N.'s headquarters in New York.

In 1964, the U.S. Supreme Court, in Heart of Atlanta Motel v. United States, ruled that Congress was within its authority to enforce the Civil Rights Act of 1964 against racial discrimination by private businesses (in this case, a motel that refused to cater to blacks).

In 1972, Apollo 17 astronauts Harrison Schmitt and Eugene Cernan concluded their third and final moonwalk and blasted off for their rendezvous with the command module.

In 1981, Israel annexed the Golan Heights, which it had seized from Syria in 1967.

In 1986, the experimental aircraft Voyager, piloted by Dick Rutan and Jeana Yeager, took off from Edwards Air Force Base in California on the first non-stop, non-refueled flight around the world.

In 1996, a freighter lost power on the Mississippi River and barreled into the Riverwalk complex in New Orleans; miraculously, no one was killed.

In 2012, a gunman with a semi-automatic rifle killed 20 first-graders and six educators at Sandy Hook Elementary

School in Newtown, Connecticut, then committed suicide as police arrived; 20-year-old Adam Lanza had also fatally shot his mother at their home before carrying out the attack on the school.

Ten years ago: South Korea's Ban Ki-moon was sworn in as the eighth secretary-general of the United Nations. A British police inquiry concluded that the deaths of Princess Diana and her boyfriend, Dodi Fayed, in a 1997 Paris car crash were a "tragic accident," and that allegations of a murder conspiracy were unfounded. Atlantic Records founder Ahmet Ertegun (AH'-meht EHR'-teh-guhn) died in New York at age 83. Actor Mike Evans, who played Lionel Jefferson on "All in the Family" and "The Jeffersons," died in Twentynine Palms, California, at age 57.

AGNES



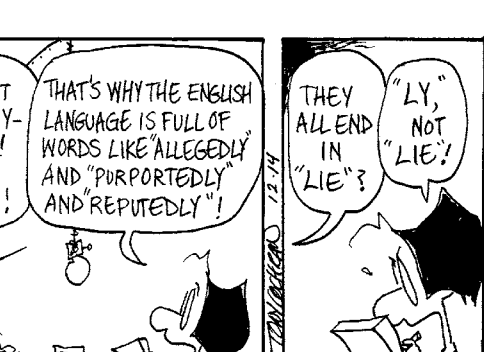
HI AND LOIS



BEETLE BAILEY



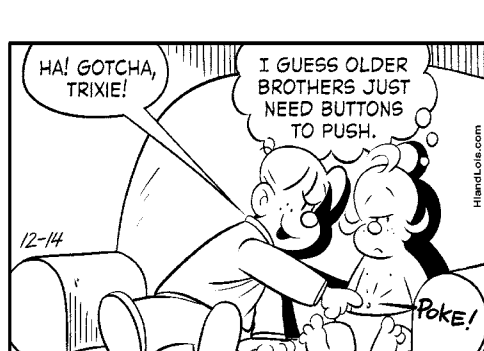
SNUFFY SMITH



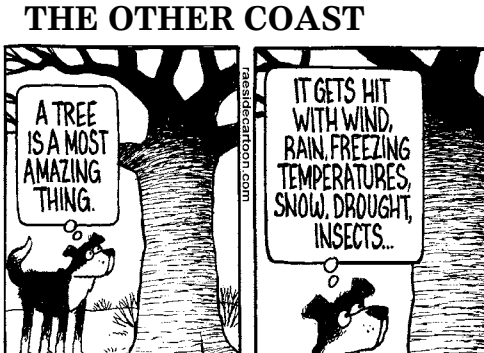
THE WIZARD OF ID



BLONDIE



DENNIS THE MENACE



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Sound of shock
 - 5 Forgoes food
 - 10 Genie's offering
 - 14 "___ fair in love ..."
 - 15 First Greek letter
 - 16 Brainstorm
 - 17 Brit's exclamation
 - 18 Motorist's reversal
 - 19 Imperfection
 - 20 Weight-loss plan
 - 23 Bonnet or beret
 - 24 Move to and ___
 - 25 Aspirations
 - 28 Command to Rover
 - 30 Brownd bread
 - 35 Small bill
 - 36 Help out
 - 37 Per annum
 - 38 Pink-center entrée
 - 42 Coarse in one's talking
 - 43 Use a pogo stick
 - 44 Hotshot pilot
 - 45 Walk through puddles
 - 46 Unruly bunch
 - 47 Sunbathes
 - 49 Find a purpose for
 - 51 Is able to
 - 52 Upper income range, per Form 1040
 - 60 Meet head-on
 - 61 See eye to eye
 - 62 Learn about
 - 63 Line on a list
 - 64 Pores over
- DOWN**
- 1 Author Sheehy
 - 2 Besides
 - 3 Shredded cabbage
 - 4 Personality structure
 - 5 Geological fracture
 - 6 Female voice range
 - 7 Spiked wheel on a boot
 - 8 Frugality
 - 9 More reasonable
 - 10 Internet cafe connection
 - 11 Inactive
 - 12 Chair or bench
 - 13 Hem and ___
 - 21 Small batteries
 - 22 Is overly fond
 - 25 Real-estate listings
 - 26 Hoops great Shaq
 - 27 Pierre, in Spain
 - 28 Knightly title
 - 29 Potato state
 - 31 Cereal grain
 - 32 Neighborhoods
 - 33 Not at all taut
 - 34 Tricycle riders
 - 36 Poehler of TV
 - 37 Informal agreement
 - 39 Part of TGIF
 - 40 Informal agreement
 - 41 Steal from
 - 46 Scanty
 - 47 Sheep sound
 - 48 Top newscaster
 - 50 Get underway
 - 51 Mountain peak
 - 52 Detest
 - 53 Cooled down with cubes
 - 54 Precious stones
 - 55 Dental exam image
 - 56 River bottoms
 - 57 Casino numbers game
 - 58 Has lunch
 - 59 Iliad locale
 - 60 Evergreen tree

RISK ASSESSMENT by Carolyn Stewart Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

Answer to previous puzzle

BASIL	BEFOG	BRR
EZINE	ATOLL	LOU
RUNTO	THREE	ATM
GREEN	CHEESE	COB
SEWN	BERN	OKRA
SASS	SAYAH	
SORER	PINAFOR	
AWE	BIFOCAL	LEA
OLDWORLD	ERECT	
PARKA	BLUE	
RELY	MULE	LINE
ERA	WHITEDWARFS	
BAN	YENTA	OPALS
USE	EAGER	ESTEE
SET	STORY	SEERS

12/14/16

Jackson voted AP player of the year

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — For someone who is not completely comfortable in the spotlight, Lamar Jackson has come to embrace it all: the speeches, the truckload of trophies, even all those tweets about his outfits.

But after a week of award shows, interviews and photo opportunities, the Louisville quarterback just wants to get back to the place that made him the most decorated college football player of the year.

"It feels like I haven't played football in a year, I've been away so long," Jackson said. "I can't wait to get back out there, put on those pads and grind."

Jackson returns to Louisville as The Associated Press college football Player of the Year, the latest addition to the sophomore's haul of postseason awards.

The youngest Heisman Trophy winner received 42 of 61 first-place votes from AP's panel of media voters. Jackson received 153 points overall, followed by Clemson quarterback Deshaun Watson (73) and Alabama defensive lineman Jonathan Allen (32). Watson received 10 first-place votes and Allen three.

Jackson's runaway selection seemed fitting in a season in which he outraced defenders on his way to an impressive collection of highlights and hardware.

The 19-year-old opened the season by accounting for a school-record eight touchdowns against Charlotte.



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring's Alexis Starr (10) battles a Greenwood defender for possession of the basketball during their non-district game Tuesday in Greenwood. The Lady Steers were defeated, 68-23.

LSU hires OC Canada away from Pitt

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — LSU has hired Pittsburgh offensive coordinator Matt Canada away from the Panthers in hopes he can make the Tigers' run-heavy offense more dynamic and productive against some of the nation's better defenses.

Canada's unit at Pitt enjoyed a prolific season,

averaging 42.3 points and 447.5 yards for Pitt, which went 8-4 this season and next meets Northwestern in the Pinstripe Bowl in Dec. 28, and Canada is expected to remain with the Panthers through that game.

Canada's offenses have been defined by balance, creativity and misdirection.

Of Pitt's 5,370 total net yards of offense this season, 2,757 have come on the ground and 2,613 through the air.

The hiring of Canada marks the first significant staff addition made by LSU coach Ed Orgeron, who took over on an interim basis after Les Miles was fired in late September and received the job

on a permanent basis after going 5-2.

Orgeron also has retained defensive coordinator Dave Aranda, whose unit allowed just 15.4 points per game.

"We have a real opportunity under coach Orgeron to propel LSU football to another level," Canada said in a statement released by LSU.

BUFFS

Continued from Page 7

all play good defense," Gordon said. "They're a very solid team."

Kobe Richardson led the Forsan attack with 26 points — 21 of those coming from behind the three-point line — while Teareall chipped in 10 points. Escamilla and Austin Fryar led Stanton with 10 points each.

The win improved Forsan's record to 7-1 for the season.

"We've had eight games and four practices," Coach Richardson said of his team, which had a late start to basketball season because of the football team's playoff run this year.

"So we look like a team that's had four practices.

"But like I said a couple of weeks ago, if our effort continues like that and we keep getting better, we're going to be a team to reckon with in district," he added

For Stanton (8-4), the key is much simpler — just get over the injury bug.

"We've just got to get healthy," Gordon said.

"But that's how you get better — you don't get better by playing teams that can't play. This game made us better today. That team (Forsan) is pretty good, and we're 8-4 with a chance to be 9-4 next game. That's a nice turnaround for us."

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 432-263-7331, ext. 235, or email reporter@bigspringherald.com

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SANTA BUSINESS CONTEST

Match The Santa To His Workshop!!



Santa No.

- Wiggins Worthy Wellness**
- Gale's Bakery & Deli**
- Walmart**
- Big Spring Herald**
- Diana's Hair Designs**
- Elrod's Furniture**
- Skateland Reloaded**
- Blum's**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY: _____

PHONE: _____

This entry form must be received by Friday, December 16 at 5 p.m. Drop off your form at the Big Spring Herald at 710 Scurry St. The winner will be the one who correctly matches the most Santas to his business/workshop. Gift certificates will be given away to use at the participating businesses. Winners will be announced in the Wednesday, December 21st Edition of the Big Spring Herald!

All decisions are final at the discretion of the Big Spring Herald

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