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H BIG SPRING HERALD

MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 2017



VOLUME 112, NUMBER 391 COPYRIGHT 2017 50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Sales tax allocations up across the Crossroads

By LYNDEL MOODY
 Staff Writer

A glimmer of hope might be on the horizon as on average sales tax revenue reimbursements to cities in the Permian Basin and Crossroads area saw a slight increase over last year, according to figures released by the Texas Comptroller's Office.

This slight uptick in sales tax collections breaks a downward trend over the past couple of years after the oil and gas industry in the area

slowed down following a multi-year economic boom.

Big Spring saw a slight 3.84 percent increase over this time last year with \$682,808.48 in tax dollars distributed to the city from the state, up from \$657,520. The city of Forsan saw a 72.16 percent increase. According to figures, \$19,096.38 was distributed to the city compared to \$11,091.89 last year.

Ackerly also a significant boost over last year's distribution. The

state sent \$6,657.49, up 48.48 percent over last year at this time which was \$4,483.73. However, the trend didn't lend itself to all Howard County cities. Coahoma saw a 22.06 percent drop in sales allocations. The state sent \$9,843.84 in sales allocations, down from \$12,630.75.

The following figures are the January payouts sent to area cities from the state. The sales tax was collected in November. Listed is the percentage of net gain or loss compared to

payment in the prior year.

Abilene: \$3 million, 5.04 percent
 Ackerly: \$6,657.49, 48.48 percent
 Amarillo: \$5.85 million, 7.10 percent
 Big Spring: \$682,808.48, 3.84 percent
 Coahoma: \$9,843.84, -22.06 percent
 Colorado City: \$44,731.23, -13.96 percent
 Forsan: \$19,096.38, 72.16 percent
 Lamesa: \$112,093.37, -4.57 percent
 Lubbock: \$5.30 million, 8.49 percent

See **TAX**, Page 3

CASA seeking volunteers

Special to the Herald

"Out with the old and in with the new"— is a phrase often used by those who make a list of resolutions at the start of every New Year.

Some resolve to kick bad habits like smoking or eating junk food; others may want to lose weight or spend less money.

Resolutions are different for everyone, but they all serve the same objective—to make life changes for the better. CASA of West Texas is hoping that citizens of the Crossroads will resolve to help others in need. More than 24,000 children in the Texas foster care system need caring adults to advocate for them. They need a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) volunteer to help get through the foster care system as quickly as possible, and into loving homes where all their needs are met and their dreams can flourish.

Last year, 46,823 abused and neglected children were in the Texas foster care system, and 174 were from Howard County. They were separated from their families, siblings, friends and other loved ones, and often placed in unfamiliar setting far away from their homes.

Child Protective Services workers usually handle two or three dozen cases, each of which can involve multiple children. As a result, many children fall through the cracks, stay in foster care longer than necessary and may not receive the help they need to begin to heal.

CASA of West Texas has served 454 children this year from seven West Texas counties. More than half of the children in care do not have CASA volunteers.

For more information visit www.casawtx.org or call Kathy Harmon 432.683.1114.

Foggy weekend in Big Spring



*HERALD photos/
 Lyndel Moody*

It was a foggy, cold weekend in Howard County. Heavy fog limited visibility for most of Saturday and Sunday. Pictured above is the VA Hospital enveloped in fog. At right, not too many families visited the state park playground Saturday. Slightly warmer temperatures are expected for the rest of the week.



USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service announces deadlines for FY2017

Special to the Herald

The USDA NRCS in Texas has established the agency's FY2017 timeline for application ranking deadlines for State and National priority areas as well as the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) through the 2014 Farm Bill's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

Ranking deadlines for State

Priority Areas and selected Initiatives is Jan. 27, 2017. The ranking deadline for Local Fund Pools is Feb. 27, 2017. This includes:

- Conservation Activity Plans
- HU-Socially Disadvantaged
- HU-Beginning Farmer
- High Tunnel System Initiative
- Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO)/Animal Feeding Operation (AFO)
- Beef, Dairy, Poultry
- Air Quality
- On-Farm Energy

See **DEADLINES**, Page 3

Revelers, rally-goers to clog DC for Trump's inauguration

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hundreds of thousands of people are expected to clog the nation's capital for Donald Trump's inauguration and a major demonstration the day after, but how many will actually arrive to party or protest is an open question.

Officials estimate that 800,000 to 900,000 people will be present Friday for the inauguration, a celebration that takes over the city, closing roads, taxing the city's Metro transit system and making getting around difficult. Trump himself has promised "massive crowds" but just what that will mean is unclear.

Hundreds of thousands of others are expected Saturday for the Women's March on Washington.

Trump showed he could draw crowds during the campaign, but his supporters weren't so quick to make plans to be in Washington for his inauguration.

Elliott Ferguson, the president of Destination DC, the city's convention and tourism bureau, said that before Election Day hotels had more events tentatively planned for a Hillary Clinton victory than a Donald Trump one. And when Trump won, the "level of enthusiasm" and demand for hotel rooms did not immediately reach that of past recent inaugurations, he said.

"No one's phones were ringing" on the day after the election, he said.

See **CLOG**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Richard "Rick" Alcantar



Richard "Rick" Alcantar, 57, of Dallas, formerly of Big Spring, died Thursday, Dec. 29, 2016, at Charlton Methodist Hospital.

Memorial service will be held at a later date.

He was born on Oct. 23, 1959, in Big Spring, Texas, to Ofelia Martinez Alcantar and Guillermo Alcantar. He worked at Shannon Medical Center in San Angelo, Texas, and later became self-employed.

He was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and was a Church of Christ member.

James Wiley Weaver



James Wiley Weaver, 80, died Jan. 13, 2017 at Vitas Hospice at Baylor Hospital in Carrollton.

A memorial service will be at 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 3, 2017 at Myers and Smith Chapel.

James was born on Aug. 28, 1936, to CM and Ethel Weaver in Big Spring. He owned The Transportation Center in Big Spring for decades.

He is survived by his mother, Ofelia Alcantar of Cedar Hill; two daughters, Connie Estrada and husband Carlos of San Angelo, and Ashley Leza and husband Joey of Charlotte, N.C.; one son, Guillermo W. Alcantar and wife Christina of Okinawa, Japan; one brother, Jesse Alcantar and wife Martha of Big Spring; two sisters, Linda Branch of Coahoma, and Teresa Cuellar and husband Joe of Cedar Hill; nine grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Guillermo Alcantar; and two brothers, Guillermo Alcantar Jr. and Simon Joe Alcantar.

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

James is survived by his wife, Beatrice Weaver; daughter Mary Braun; and son James Weaver; and five grandchildren; a brother, Marcellous "Boosie" Weaver; sisters Ramona Harris, Sonia Lusk, and Mary Jane Phillips; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers, RH Weaver and Aubrey Weaver; and his sister Helen Chapman.

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

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **VICTOR SOSA GONZALES**, 55, of 1514 Vines was arrested on a charge of assault causing bodily injury/family member; and on warrants for turning right too wide and no driver's license.

- **LUCAS ANTHONY LOPEZ**, 22, of 3619 Hamilton St. was arrested on charges of possession of a controlled substance (less than 1 gram) and tampering with or fabricating physical evidence.

- **SAMUEL JIMENEZ**, 30, of 2704 32nd St. in Lubbock was arrested on charges of assault/family violence (threat or offensive touch), and interfering with an emergency request for assistance.

- **JOHNNY LEE JUAREZ JR.**, 18, of 1222 E. 15th St. was arrested on an outstanding warrant.

- **LOGAN ROSE**, 34, of 140 Ori-

ole St. was arrested on warrants for defective head lamp(s), failure to appear, driving with an invalid license, and bail jumping/failure to appear; and on another outstanding warrant.

- **FRANCISCO OLIVAREZ JR.**, 55, of 1201 S. Johnson St. was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana (less than 2 oz.).

- **WILLIAM JEROD FRANKS**, 40, of 1501 S. Scurry St. was arrested on charges of failure to identify/fugitive giving false information and resisting arrest, search, or transport; and on an outstanding warrant.

- **TERRA LUANNE KEENEY**, 22, of 2901 Highway 176 was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- **STEVE SISTOS**, 28, of North County Road 23A and County Road 34 was arrested on a charge of assault/family or household

member (intentionally/recklessly impeding normal breathing or circulation).

- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 400 block of Washington Boulevard.

- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 1400 block of Dixie Avenue.

- **DISTURBANCE** was reported near the intersection of West County Road 30 and North County Road 23A.

- **MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported in the 1900 block of South Birdwell Lane and near mile marker 177 on Interstate 20 eastbound.

- **MAJOR ACCIDENT** was reported at the intersection of Sixth and Settles streets and near mile marker 178 on Interstate 20 westbound.

- **THEFT** was reported in the 2900 block of West Eighth Street.

Take Note

- 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. 16 and 17 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.

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

Robert Harold Anthony

Robert Harold Anthony, 75, of Midland died Sunday, Jan. 15, 2017, at his home. Services are pending with Gilbreath Funeral Home in Stanton.

Gabina Bustamante

Gabina Bustamante, 85, of Big Spring died Sunday, Jan. 15, 2017, at her home. Services are pending at Myers and Smith Funeral Home.

Judy Dorman

Judy Dorman, 57, of Big Spring died Saturday, Jan. 14, 2017, at her home. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle and Welch Funeral Home & Crematory.

JoAnne Hyer

JoAnne Hyer, 78, of Big Spring died Monday, Jan. 16, 2017. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle and Welch Funeral Home and Crematory.

W.H. "Bert" Winbush

W.H. "Bert" Winbush, 76, of Big Spring died Saturday, Jan. 14, 2017, at Sterling County Nursing Home. Services are pending at Myers and Smith Funeral Home.

Weather

Today: Not as cool. Partly cloudy in the morning then clearing. Patchy fog in the morning. Highs in the upper 50s. West winds around 10 mph shifting to the northwest in the afternoon.

Tonight: Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 30s. Northeast winds around 10 mph.

Tuesday: Cooler. Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Highs in the upper 40s. Northeast winds around 10 mph. Chance of showers 20 percent.

Tuesday night: Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. Lows in the upper 30s. Light and variable winds. Chance of showers 40 percent.

Wednesday: Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 50s. Light and variable winds becoming southwest around 10 mph in the afternoon.

Wednesday night: Mostly clear. Lows around 40.

Thursday: Sunny. Highs in the lower 60s.

Thursday night: Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 40s.

Friday: Sunny. Highs in the mid 60s.

Friday night: Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s.

Saturday: Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 60s.

Saturday night: Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain. Lows around 40.

Sunday: Sunny. Highs in the upper 50s.

AP/National Weather Service reports for Borden, Scurry, Howard, and Mitchell counties including the cities of Gail, Snyder, Big Spring, and Colorado City.

Support Groups

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.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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Oman says it accepts 10 Guantanamo Bay inmates at US request

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Oman said Monday it accepted 10 inmates from the U.S. prison at Guantanamo Bay ahead of President Barack Obama leaving office, part of his efforts to shrink the facility he promised to close.

There was no immediate word from the U.S. Defense Department about the transfer.

Oman's Foreign Ministry said in a statement carried by the state-run Oman News Agency that it had accepted the prisoners at Obama's request. It did not name the prisoners.

Omani and U.S. military officials did not immediately respond to a request for comment from The Associated Press. The sultanate of Oman, on the eastern edge of the Arabian Peninsula, previously accepted 10 Guantanamo prisoners from Yemen in January 2016. Oman also took another six in June 2015.

Meanwhile, Oman's neighbor Saudi Arabia took four prisoners on Jan. 5 and the United Arab Emirates took 15 prisoners in the largest-single transfer during Obama's administration on Aug. 15.

South Korea seeks arrest of Samsung scion in graft scandal

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — In a departure from the leniency typically given South Korean big businesses, prosecutors on Monday requested the arrest of the de facto head of Samsung Electronics, the country's most valuable company, in an influence-peddling scandal that has toppled the country's president.

Lee Jae-yong, the 48-year-old vice chairman at Samsung Electronics, faces allegations of embezzlement, of lying under oath during a parliamentary hearing and of offering a bribe of 43 billion won (\$36 million) to a long-time friend of impeached President Park Geun-hye, according to Lee Kyu-chul, a spokesman for a special prosecutors' team investigating the

political scandal.

It will surprise many that prosecutors requested the arrest of the man who symbolizes the future of South Korea's most important chaebol, as family-controlled conglomerates are known. Such leaders tend to be treated as vital for the national economy.

Samsung Electronics is South Korea's most successful company and a source of pride for many who equate its huge global success with national prestige.

The company has gone through a rough patch in the past half-year, however, after its latest premium smartphone was found to be prone to catching fire.

Prosecutors understood worries that Lee's arrest could hurt the economy, but "we believed that it was even more important to carry out justice," Lee, the spokesman at the special prosecutors' team, told reporters.

Kyrgyzstan Health Ministry says cargo plane crash kills 37

BISHKEK, Kyrgyzstan (AP) — A cargo plane crashed Monday in a residential area just outside the main airport in Kyrgyzstan, killing at least 37 people, the Emergency Situations Ministry said on Monday.

The Turkish Boeing 747 crashed just outside the Manas airport, south of the capital Bishkek, killing people in the residential area adjacent to the airport as well as those on the plane.

Reports of the death toll on Monday ranged from 37 people according to emergency officials in the Central Asian nation, to 31 reported by the presidential press office which also said rescue teams had recovered parts of nine bodies. Fifteen people including six children have been hospitalized.

Images from the scene showed the nose of the plane stuck inside a brick house and large fragments of debris scattered around.

Several dozen private houses cluster just outside the metal fence separating the cottages from the runway. Manas has been considerably expanded since the United States began

to operate a military installation at the Manas airport, using it primarily for its operations in Afghanistan. American troops vacated the base and handed it over to the Kyrgyz military in 2014.

Civilian casualties mount as Iraqi forces advance in Mosul

IRBIL, Iraq (AP) — The mortar attack that left Um Yousef blind in one eye and killed two of her children came on the same day that Iraqi forces retook her neighborhood in eastern Mosul from the Islamic State group.

"We were supposed to be liberated that day," she said from her hospital bed in the nearby city of Irbil. She asked to only be identified by a nickname to protect her family members still living inside Mosul.

Doctors at West Irbil Emergency Hospital say cases like Um Yousef's are on the rise as Iraqi forces continue to make gains against IS in their effort to take control of Mosul.

The blast of the attack that wounded Um Yousef ripped open her daughter's stomach, killing her instantly. Her son Yousef was hit in the head with shrapnel and he slowly bled out as they waited for hours for help.

As Um Yousef was evacuated by the Iraqi military, her husband stayed behind in Mosul to bury the two children.

"I called him by phone, but he just cries, saying nothing," she said. Her youngest daughter, just over a year old who lost three of her toes to the blast, played in her lap.

Inspired by Nepalese, UK architect rebuilds ancient temple

CHANGU NARAYAN, Nepal (AP) — When a 7.8 magnitude earthquake rocked Nepal last year, villagers in Changu Narayan ran up the steep rocky path that cuts through their town to their renowned temple. Seeing the piles of rubble, they figured their lives were over. Less than two years later, the community is cleaning up their World Heritage Site themselves, and one of the world's leading architects has taken on the recovery as his pet project.

"I see now our world coming back alive," said Gyan Bahadur Bhadal, 61, one of many villagers who share responsibility for the temple's upkeep.

In a country where locals say there are more gods than people and more temples than houses, Changu Narayan still manages to stand out among the ancient holy places. It's believed to be the oldest Hindu place of worship in the country, its wooden walls intricately carved with hundreds of deities, perched atop a steep hill overlooking the Kathmandu Valley.

The 5th century temple is dedicated to Lord Vishnu, who locals say appeared there once. His image, in about a dozen incarnations, is carved into struts that hold up the roof. Stone lions with eagle heads guard the doors. Inside has long been a mystery: Only priests enter the two-tiered pagoda, and they don't explore.

TAX

Continued from Page 1

Midland: \$4.26 million, 0.63 percent
Odessa: \$3.19 million, -1.67 percent
San Angelo: \$1.90 million, 4.49 percent
Snyder: \$209,888.65, 3.89 percent
Stanton: \$52,829.90, 18.21 percent

Sterling City: \$13,334.27, -24.44 percent
Sweetwater: \$282,462.41, -4.80 percent
Information is provided by the Texas Comptroller's office.

Contact Staff Writer Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234 or by e-mailing citydesk@bigspringherald.com.

DEADLINES

Continued from Page 1

- Organics Initiative
- Ogallala Aquifer Initiative
- Lesser Prairie Chicken Initiative
- Longleaf Pine Initiative
- StrikeForce Initiative
- Monarch Butterfly Habitat Development Project
- Eagle Mountain Lake
- Pronghorn Antelope
- Bob-white Quail
- Water Quality - Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
- Central Gulf Coast Irrigation
- Highland Lakes
- University Lands
- Nueces River Water Conservation
- Edwards Aquifer
- Gulf of Mexico Initiative
- Wildfire Mitigation
- Climate Change Mitigation
- Rio Grande/Ft Quitman
- Winter Garden Poultry-Energy

• North Plains Irrigation
Ranking deadlines for the Working Lands for Wildlife (WLFW), RCPP and the National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI) is March 31, 2017 and includes:

- RCPP 16 - High Plains Irrigation
- RCPP 16 - Monarch Butterfly
- NWQI - Chambers Creek
- NWQI - Leon River

NRCS accepts applications on a continual basis regardless of available funding or scheduled ranking periods.

For more information on the above State and National conservation opportunities and deadlines contact Mark Habiger, NRCS Texas assistant state conservationist for programs, visit your local USDA Service Center or www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov.

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Gabina Bustamante, 85, of Big Spring died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

W. H. "Bert" Winbush, 76, passed away Saturday. Services are pending.

James Wiley Weaver died Friday. Memorial service will be February 3, 2017, at Myers and Smith Chapel.

Richard "Rick" Alcantar, 57, died Thursday, December 29, 2016. Memorial service will be held at a later date.

CLOG

Continued from Page 1

Things started to pick up after New Year's but some hotels have cut back minimum-night stays from four nights to two. Some hotels are only 50 percent full, though higher-end hotels apparently have more bookings, he said.

"It's been much, much slower than anyone would have anticipated for a first-term president," he said.

Saturday's march has helped drive more reservations, he said.

"The moment it was confirmed it was happening in the city our hotels were seeing reservations take place," he said.

City planners are betting that Trump's inauguration is more like President Barack Obama's second inauguration in 2013, which drew more than 800,000, rather than Obama's first in 2009, which drew 1.8 million people. But while officials have experience and historical data to draw on to estimate crowds for Friday, guessing how many people will show up for Saturday's demonstration is harder. Women's March on Washington organizers said in applying for a demonstration permit that they expected 200,000 people.

Christopher Geldart, the District of Columbia's homeland security director, thinks the march will draw more than that. Some 1,800 buses have registered to park in the city on Jan. 21, which would mean nearly 100,000 people coming in just by bus, Geldart said. Amtrak trains into and out of the city are also fully booked on

that day, Geldart said.

"Usually when I look at things like that, that tells me we've got a pretty substantial crowd coming in. That leads me to believe we're definitely above the 200,000-person mark," Geldart said.

In contrast, approximately 400 buses have registered to park in the city on Inauguration Day, said Terry Owens, a spokesman for the District Department of Transportation, though he said that number is growing daily.

For their part, march organizers are trying to get a headcount by asking people who plan to participate to fill out a questionnaire on their website. That will help ensure they have the right number of things like portable toilets, medical tents and food trucks, said Janaye Ingram, who is handling march logistics. More than 100,000 people have already registered using the form, Ingram said.

Rally, a New York City-based transportation company that connects people with bus rides to events, has organized many of the buses coming to Washington for Saturday's march. The tally includes buses from more than 200 cities in 26 states. The company's president and co-founder Siheun Song said the northeastern portion of the United States has "largely become sold out of motor coaches" for the day. Demand is so great the company is using school buses to bring people to the march from Maryland,

she said.

"In six years of doing business we've never seen buses get sold out so quickly," she said.

For its part, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, which runs the city's rail and bus system, is planning an all-day effort to move people on Inauguration Day. The system is opening at 4 a.m. — an hour earlier than normal — and running rush hour service for 17 hours until 9 p.m. But the system hasn't seen a need to change its usual Saturday operations. The rail system will open at 7 a.m., its normal time for the day, and run on a regular Saturday schedule.

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—FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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DAILY PRAYER

Dear Lord, may we always begin and end each of our days in prayer with You. Amen.

Goodbye to one selfie president, hello to another?

On Feb. 12, 2015, President Obama made a selfie-stick video for BuzzFeed. You may remember it — or perhaps not — because if there's one thing Barack Obama delivered during his eight years in office, it was plenty of celebration of himself.

The country was treated to Obama slow-jamming the news with Jimmy Fallon, sharing his Final Four brackets, fantasizing about what superhero powers he'd most like to have, and on and on.

His fascination with himself was inexhaustible. Except the selfie day was different — because it was just hours after the president learned that another one of ISIS' American hostages had been killed.

President Obama had been criticized (even by The New York Times) for enjoying himself on the golf course after ISIS beheaded American James Foley in 2014 (he was photographed with that broad grin). And yet, his coldness persisted.

Kayla Mueller was a 25-year-old idealist from Arizona. A committed Christian, she felt drawn to aid to those most in need. In 2013, among the most desperate people on earth were the people of Aleppo, Syria.

Mueller traveled there from Turkey to volunteer for Doctors Without Borders. She was kidnapped by ISIS outside a hospital. What followed was the worst nightmare imaginable.

For 18 months, she was held in confinement, often solitary. We've learned, from the accounts of other hostages who were subsequently released, that she was incredibly brave. When one of her captors told others that she had converted to Islam,

she contradicted him. ISIS terrorists denied her sleep and medical care. They shaved her head, repeatedly raped her and pulled out her fingernails.

Her frantic parents attempted everything they could to secure her release, only to be threatened by the Obama administration with criminal liability for aiding terrorists if they paid ransom. (There was an attempted military rescue, but it failed.)

There is a good argument for not negotiating with terrorists, obviously. But the Obama administration was inconsistent. The principle seems to have escaped them when they exchanged five terrorists held at Guantanamo for deserter Bowe Bergdahl (to say nothing of the Iran deal). But even granting that not paying ransom for kidnapped Americans is the right policy, it doesn't explain the weird emotional detachment Obama consistently displayed.

On Feb. 10, 2015, the Muellers learned that Kayla had been killed — and that was the week that Obama clowning around at the White House for BuzzFeed's amusement. To jaunty music, the president filmed himself practicing speeches, sticking his tongue out in the mirror, dunking cookies in milk, and snapping selfies. It was all about him.

Why mention this now, when he's got one foot out the door? Well, his elevation to the presidency, and the fact that his narcissism received relatively little mockery (on the contrary, many in the press were its enablers), seems to be the malady of our time.

Obama's extreme self-regard proved to be a severe weakness. If he had shown just a little less arrogance, he might have welcomed some Republican cooperation on health care reform, for example, which would in turn have cemented the health care law as a bipartisan initiative. In that case, it would not now be on the chopping block.

Donald Trump is Obama's

rival in the narcissism sweepstakes.

Many of Trump's early decisions — most of his appointments — have been reassuring. But that ol' devil of vanity keeps tripping him up. He might want to consider how badly the trait served his predecessor.

Regarding Vladimir Putin, Trump's nearly unyielding praise for the strongman may arise from his misinterpretation of an anodyne remark Putin offered in 2015.

He called Trump “colorful” and “talented.” Trump passed this through the translator in his head and converted it to “Putin called me a genius.”

He didn't.

But so what? Even if Putin had called him a genius, Putin remains Putin, i.e., a ruthless, bitterly anti-American international menace and killer. Is whether one praises Trump the only yardstick of people's worth? If Putin criticizes him tomorrow, will Trump suddenly decide that Putin is a loser whose nation is failing? Is that really the level at which Trump wants to operate now?

This is deadly serious business.

The realm of reality-show one-upmanship has no place in international affairs. In some ways, particularly his choices for heading the Departments of Education and Defense, and perhaps most of all in reaching out to Gov. Nikki Haley (who opposed him), Trump has shown signs of shedding some of his old skin for his new status.

The example of Barack Obama, who arrived in office on a cloud of goodwill and squandered it due in part to delusions of grandeur, should be cautionary.

Mona Charen is a Senior Fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center. To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com.

This 'fake news' may be real

When Donald Trump denounced the latest hints of his collusion with the Kremlin as “FAKE NEWS!” on Twitter, it was hard not to wonder what he meant exactly.

Having barraged us all for years with fake news about a wide variety of important matters such as Barack Obama's true birthplace, the charitable work of the Clinton Foundation, the assassination of John F. Kennedy, and the dangers of childhood vaccination, does Trump mean we should believe the Russians conspired to help him win the 2016 election?

Or does he mean that, unlike all of his favorite fake news stories, we shouldn't believe this one?

Whatever Trump may mean when he complains about fake news, the story of Russian interference on his behalf in the 2016 election is undeniably real. So the president-elect himself finally admitted when, at his press conference, he acknowledged the accuracy of U.S. intelligence assessments of the Kremlin's culpability in hacking the Democrats. Following a private conversation with James Clapper, the director of national intelligence, he finally stopped trying to deny and cover up those nefarious thefts of information by his Russian supporters.

The critical question remaining is just how far the Russians went in promoting Trump's election — and whether Trump and his campaign are implicated.

Only a series of fully empowered probes by law enforcement and Congressional authorities can uncover the truth,

but already there are many investigative trails to follow. Consider this week's stunning news reports of a 35-page dossier compiled by a former British intelligence officer about Trump, his campaign and the Russians, which provoked his enraged “fake news” tweet. Mesmerized by the dossier's references to alleged videotape of a Trump encounter in Russia with prostitutes hired to perform a perverse ritual, many journalists dismissed the document as gossip.

Such dismissals revealed nothing except the ignorance of those who uttered them, none of whom appears to understand the nature and purpose of what spooks call “humint,” or human intelligence (as distinguished from surveillance and other data).

The Trump dossier is an intelligence file, not a prosecution memo; its purpose is not to prove a case but to point a direction.

And as subsequent coverage in the Guardian and Financial Times indicated, its author Christopher Steele is no mere purveyor of gossip. He is a highly respected and experienced former official of MI6, the British foreign intelligence service, where he oversaw the agency's work in Russia and Eastern Europe for decades. Nobody who knows anything about Steele doubts his access of the top ranks of Moscow's political and business sectors.

Indeed, much of what Steele's dossier reports about alleged contacts between the Trump camp and the Kremlin matches what U.S. and other intelligence agencies learned last year from their own Russian sources — which is why the director of national intelligence and the directors of the CIA, FBI and NSA believed the dossier worthy of briefing to both Trump and President Obama.

The details also match many troubling facts already known

about Trump and his associates. It is clear, for instance, that former Trump campaign manager Paul Manafort has worked to advance the interests of the Putin regime for well over a decade.

It is also clear that Manafort and his longtime business partner, Washington lobbyist Rick Davis, have cultivated business ties with major Russian oligarchs in Putin's orbit.

The most notorious of those oligarchs is Oleg Deripaska, a billionaire aluminum magnate of dubious repute who was barred from entering the United States. More than ten years ago, in 2006, Davis was preparing to launch the nascent presidential campaign of the leading Republican candidate — Senator John McCain.

As the Nation and other news outlets later reported, Davis and Manafort introduced McCain to Deripaska on a yacht anchored in the port of Montenegro, where the oligarch hosted a “birthday party” for the Arizona senator. If Deripaska and Manafort were attempting to gain a White House foothold, their initiative evaporated when Obama defeated McCain two years later.

But with that shady episode behind him, McCain probably understands better than most of his colleagues why the Steele dossier — which he personally delivered to the FBI director — demands much more than snarky repartee about “watersports.” Not everything that Steele heard is likely to be true. But if even a fraction proves accurate, the Trump campaign's Moscow connection will become the biggest political scandal in American history.

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



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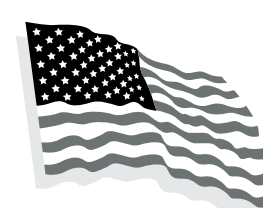
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Forsan at Christoval, 6:30 p.m.

Boys' basketball
Big Spring at Brownwood, 7:30 p.m.
Coahoma at Merkel, 8 p.m.
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Worth the weight



Big Spring's Cory Roberts successfully lifts 235 pounds during the BSHS Powerlifting Meet at the Athletic Training Center Saturday.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Disappointing end, promising future for Dallas

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones is more convinced than ever that his rookie quarterback can play at the highest level.

And that the Cowboys were good enough to maybe win the Super Bowl this season with Dak Prescott and fellow rookie Ezekiel Elliott.

But another Super Bowl shot will have to wait for another season after an impressive Prescott-led comeback came up just short in the NFC divisional playoff game against Aaron Rodgers and the Green Bay Packers, who won 34-31 on a game-ending field goal Sunday.

"I know now that this team was capable of playing all the way through this thing, and even with rookies in key spots I know now we were ready to have a win," Jones said. "We didn't. That's very real. ... It hurts, it really hurts."

After the Cowboys were down 21-3 midway through the second quarter, their largest deficit in a season when they won 13 games and were the NFC's top seed, Prescott threw a 40-yard touchdown pass to Dez Bryant.

Prescott, who replaced injured veteran Tony Romo in the preseason, threw two more touchdowns in the fourth quarter. After finding Bryant again, Prescott powered through the middle for the 2-point conversion that tied the game at 28.

Then came an exchange of long field goals only 58 seconds apart after the two-minute warning before Rodgers and the Packers got one more shot, and set up Mason Crosby's 51-yard field goal.

Asked about his emotions, Prescott responded, "I think as low as they could get at this

See DALLAS, Page 12

Thomas caps off record week with Sony Open win

HONOLULU (AP) — One last putt. One more record. And two unforgettable weeks in Hawaii for Justin Thomas.

Thomas began the Sony Open with a 15-foot eagle putt on his final hole to shoot 59. He ended it Sunday with a two-putt birdie from 60 feet that gave him yet another entry in the PGA Tour record book for the lowest 72-hole score in history.

His record was to stand before the members of Waialae Country Club, champagne flute

in hand for the traditional toast. Thomas chugged it down, smiled and said to them, "I think I had a glass with a hole in it."

The 23-year-old from Kentucky gave the best glimpse yet of his potential with a game that was at times overpowering and never more efficient. He closed with a 5-under 65 for a seven-shot victory, which gave him as much satisfaction as his score of 253 to set the record.

Thomas, who won the

CIMB Classic in Malaysia last fall, became only the third player since 1970 to win three times in his first five tournaments to start a PGA Tour season. The others were Tiger Woods (three times) and Johnny Miller (twice).

His victory came one week after he won the SBS Tournament of Champions by three weeks at Kapalua.

"It's been an unbelievable week. Unforgettable," Thomas said before going to sign his historic card.

Thomas was more nervous than ever when he arrived Sunday from endless mentions that no one had ever lost a seven-shot lead on the PGA Tour. No one got closer than five shots all day, and with four birdies in a five-hole stretch around the turn, Thomas took aim at the record book.

That was his only real challenge Sunday.

Tommy Armour held the previous 72-hole mark at 254 in the 2003 Texas Open. Thomas also set the 36-hole re-

cord (123) and tied Steve Stricker for the 54-hole record (188). And while his 18-hole score of 59 is no longer a record, it's still a magic number.

"I'm not joking when I say I won the other tournament," Justin Rose said after a 64 that was only good for second place. "Had he had a bad day, I was there to pick up the pieces. But that was never going to happen. He's on cruise control right now."

Rose beat out Jordan Spieth, who also was playing for second

place. Spieth shot 63 and finished alone in third.

The first full-field event of the year on the PGA Tour was a one-man show.

"He's got full control of his game, full confidence, and he's executing under pressure," Spieth said. "It's a lot of fun to see. Certainly stuff that myself and a lot of our peers have seen going back almost 10 years now. He's certainly showing the world what he's capable

See SONY, Page 12

Rockets snap 2-game skid

NEW YORK (AP) — Even an offense as potent as Houston's can go cold during the long NBA winter.

"It happens," James Harden said. "But as long as we stay at an even level, we just continue to get better, continue to learn from our mistakes, we'll be all right."

Especially against a defenseless team like Brooklyn.

Harden had 22 points, 11 rebounds and 11 assists in his 12th triple-double of the season and the Rockets easily ended their first losing streak by beating the Nets 137-112 on Sunday night.

Held to 105 points in losses to Minnesota and Memphis, the Rockets bounced back with 104 after three quarters and handed the Nets their 10th straight loss.

Eric Gordon led the Rockets with 24 points and Trevor Ariza added 23. Houston made 21 3-pointers and had five players with at least 16 points.

Houston shot just 40.8 percent during its two losses, well below its 46.8 season average, while being held nearly 10 points below its season scoring average. But the Rockets had no trouble bouncing back against the Nets, who allow an NBA-worst 114.3 per game.

"We just could never stop them," Nets coach Kenny Atkinson said. "I don't think we stopped them the whole night."

The Rockets matched their season high with a 74-point first half, though the Nets hung with them pretty well and only trailed by eight. Houston opened the third quarter with a 13-2 run to build an 87-68 cushion that grew to 20 later in the period when Harden found Sam Dekker with an alley-oop pass.

Trevor Booker scored 18 points for the Nets, who were still without Jeremy Lin (strained left hamstring) on the night they gave out his bobblehead and also rested Brook Lopez.

Ariza, just 1 for 6 from 3-point range in a loss to the Grizzlies on Friday, was 6 for 10 on Sunday.



Dallas Mavericks guard Deron Williams (8) bumps Minnesota Timberwolves guard Ricky Rubio (9) as he drives toward the basket during the second half of their NBA basketball game Sunday in Dallas.

AP photo

Matthews leads Mavs over Timberwolves

DALLAS (AP) — Playing against a much younger team that beat them six days ago, the Dallas Mavericks turned to their depth and veteran savvy.

Wesley Matthews had 19 points and Dirk Nowitzki added 17 as the Mavericks spread out the scoring and beat the Minnesota Timberwolves 98-87 on Sunday.

Dallas dressed four players with 10 or more years in the NBA — Minnesota has none — and all of them reached double figures.

J.J. Barea had 15 points Deron Williams had 13 points and 10 assists for the Mavs.

"That's how we've got to play," Matthews said. "That brand of basketball is fun. Everybody has

energy, and we're moving the ball well. They're team shots as opposed to one-person shots."

Gorgui Dieng scored 21 points and Andrew Wiggins had 19 for the Timberwolves, who had won three in a row. Minnesota's last four-game winning streak was in December 2012.

Karl-Anthony Towns had 18 points and nine

rebounds, but the Mavericks largely held him in check after he had 34 points and 11 boards in the Wolves' 101-92 home win over Dallas on Monday.

"We didn't do anything that we usually do to win the game," Towns said. "That's why our winning streak is over."

See MAVS, Page 12

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AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS, AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 034-2016 WHICH ADOPTED THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2016 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017 TO INCREASE THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR THE PURPOSE OF PURCHASING A RADIO REPEATER FOR THE BIG SPRING FIRE DEPARTMENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

16, JANUARY, 2017
17, JANUARY, 2017
TAMI L. DAVIS
ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY

#9277 January 16 & 17, 2017

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS, AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 034-2016 WHICH ADOPTED THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2016 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017; RE-APPROPRIATING BUDGETED FUNDS LEFT OVER WITHIN THE ENTERPRISE FUND FROM FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2015 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2016; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

16, JANUARY, 2017
17, JANUARY, 2017
TAMI L. DAVIS
ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY

#9279 January 16 & 17, 2017

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

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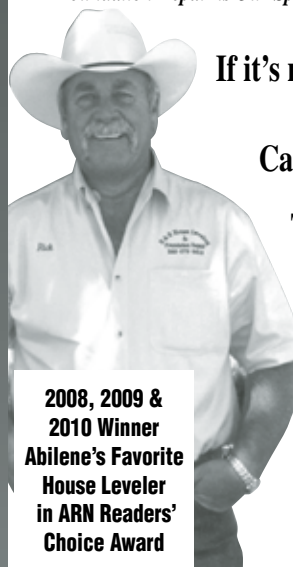


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HOLIDAY
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Capricorn Sun
Cliffhanger

Keep in mind in these last days of the Capricorn sun that as much as people like closure, in life things don't always end with dessert and a tip on the table. Conversations hang; business goes unfinished; debts go unpaid. As it is in any good cliffhanger, the unresolved bits will lead you into the next adventure.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're in learning mode. You'll note how people interact and how they solve problems, and you'll get valuable tips. You'll absorb a week's worth of experience in one day.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). If you

want the change badly enough, you'll start now, which just happens to be the best, if not the only, time. If you don't want the change badly enough, start now anyway; you won't regret it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Setting your expectations well -- that's grace. Setbacks are normal. They will certainly happen. It's something to accept, along with the responsibility of getting back up and into the game.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). "Liberty" is a concept. "Happiness" is an emotional state. And "love," well, it's debatable. You tend to think of it as an action, and you won't go wrong if you live it that way, too.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The energy of rebellion is churning below the surface of you today. It's not that you have authority issues per se; it's just that you're ready to take the lead in your life, and anyone else who tries will be out of his or her depth.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Should you give your trust upfront and then withdraw it if

the person proves untrustworthy, or should you withhold your trust until you have sufficient proof? The first way will be more exciting.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You don't mind being needed, but when it's every single time, you start to wonder whether you're being taken advantage of. In a give-and-take relationship, it's your duty to make sure that you're doing a little of both.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It's important you supportively interact with yourself. High stress levels make this harder. Reduce the stress! It's not because you want an easy life; it's because you're not helping anyone by having a hard one.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Those who know the harsh northern winters say there is no such thing as bad weather, only unsuitable clothes. You can apply this adage and suit up well for today's "weather," in whatever form it may come.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Get

your reverse calendar going, because the best way to tackle this goal is backward. When you start your plan at the end, you're likelier to gravitate toward the steps that are relevant and reasonable.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You are determined, brave and willing to act even when the reward is out of reach. You're extremely attractive to those who share this rare and very true grit.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Giving people too much time to do a task is actually demotivating, and the same goes for yourself. With a deadline, you'll excel. Without one, you'll waste precious moments.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 16). The next three months exude a feeling of comfort and kindness; you appreciate coziness where you see it and create it where you don't. In March, you'll win a game. May is your chance at a top position; think carefully about whether the sacrifices will be worth it. Love and relationships are the treasure

of your life. Gemini and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 30, 34, 2 and 15.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "Holiday, I just don't like my job. But in this economy, I don't want to quit. That would seem irresponsible. Yet I can't stand going to work every day. I work in a tiny cubicle even though I graduated college with a major in science. I thought I'd be working outdoors or in a laboratory, not at a tedious desk job with people I can't relate to and a boss who really has it out for me. Going to work makes me feel gloomy. I'm totally trapped. Please advise a miserable Gemini."

Quitting would be too easy for you at this point. Use this work situation as a tool to building your character and helping you become a remarkable leader of others and of your own career. As an intellectual air sign, you need your work to involve you in the constant solving of problems. You see your current job as easy and boring, but

you're missing the obvious challenges involved. Give yourself a private assignment -- for example, beating the clock on a task, winning over your boss or turning a colleague into a trusted teammate on a shared mission -- from time to time. In the process of changing your attitude about your current work, you will attract work that you will like better.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Supermodel extraordinaire Kate Moss teamed up with Elvis Presley to glam up the music video for an incredible posthumous release of the King crooning with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Moss is an ambitious Capricorn born under a seductive Scorpio moon, giving her a magnetic appeal that's as versatile as it is enduring. Capricorn sun people are known to enjoy career longevity.

To write to Holiday Mathis, visit www.creators.com/author/holiday-mathis and click "Contact."
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Annie's Mailbox

A Suspicious Trip?

Dear Annie: My wife and I are in our 30s and live next to a very kind gentleman in his 60s, whose wife passed away four years ago. We get along very well with him and have been very generous in looking after him. He has always made his gratitude for our filling the void in his life very apparent.

He hired my wife two years ago to come over weekly to prepare meals, clean the house and do his laundry. He pays her

well. Recently, he asked us whether she would accompany him when he travels for three weeks on business to do those same tasks at the condo where he is staying. My wife wants to help him out while spending time in a city she has always wanted to see. I agreed to it with the understanding that they have separate bedrooms. I am not the jealous or suspicious type. However, my friends think I am being naive and this request is unacceptable. What is your opinion or advice?

-- Torn

Dear Torn: If you listen to the opinions of others, you will always flip-flop on your decisions and never be able to stand on your own two feet. A job is a job, and if she enjoys her work and wants to see a new city, I don't see anything wrong with her going. People travel all the time for work with their bosses; it doesn't mean they're having affairs.

In the future, try not to let your friends' opinions of your marriage dictate how you should feel about something. No one knows your marriage better than you and your wife, so allow the decisions that you make as a couple to be made only by the

two of you.

Dear Annie: I would appreciate your comments on this situation. I have the power of attorney for my 89-year-old mother, who has early dementia and is homebound. Her assets should last for the rest of her life.

However, my 64-year-old sister and her two 25-year-old sons, who are living with my mom and are capable of working, don't work, and my sister has been supplemented financially by my mother all her life, largely because of poor financial decisions. My sister continually whines to Mom about her woes that involve large sums of money. Mom is so softhearted that she wants to always give

in to the requests. I continually share with Mom that she needs to keep her money for her care, but she responds as if she doesn't care about her own future.

I have shared more than once with my sister that her drain on Mom's money needs to stop. However, my sister has taken very few, if any, steps to stop. About two years ago, I sat with my sister and made a budget. I showed her that she could avoid wasting \$1,000 per month if she would change her habits. This led to very little change. Any suggestions on how to be sure Mom's money will last her? -- Worried About Mom

Dear Worried:

What your sister is doing may be a form of financial elder abuse and thus illegal. Having power of attorney, you're in a position to act to protect your mom's finances -- and I suggest you act quickly. The best course might be for you to take control of your mother's checking account. Consult an elder law attorney in your area. Bless you for looking out for your mom.

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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By Steve Becker
Famous Hand

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ Q 8 6
♥ 9 5
♦ Q J 10 8 5
♣ Q 5 4

WEST
♠ A 5
♥ 7 4 3 2
♦ 9 7 3
♣ K 8 6 2

EAST
♠ 10 9 7 2
♥ 10 8 6
♦ 6 4 2
♣ J 10 7

SOUTH
♠ K J 4 3
♥ A K Q J
♦ A K
♣ A 9 3

The bidding:
South West North East
2 ♠ Pass 2 ♦ Pass
3 NT Pass 4 NT

East's ten with the ace.
South then cashed the A-K of diamonds and led a spade toward dummy. Had West followed low, declarer would have had no difficulty scoring five diamonds, four hearts, a spade and a club for 11 tricks in all.
But West, multinational champion Ron Andersen, did not mechanically follow low on the spade lead. Instead, he rose with the ace and made the diabolical return of a low club!
With the Q-5 of clubs in dummy opposite the 9-3 in his hand, declarer now had to guess the adverse club position. If West had the jack and East the king, the winning play was a low club from dummy; if West had the king and East the jack, the winning play was the queen.
Declarer stewed for a long, long time and finally elected to play low from dummy. East won with the jack and returned a club to West's king, and the eight of clubs scored the setting trick.
At the second table, Andersen's teammates arrived at six notrump and easily made 12 tricks after an innocuous heart lead from West. Had West led a club, however, South would have had no choice but to play dummy's queen at trick one, and the slam would have come rolling home.

Tomorrow: Steppingstone to success.
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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.

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

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BIG SPRING
LITTLE LEAGUE

Big Spring Little League will hold signups for 2017 season on Saturday, January 14th from 10AM - 3 PM at the Springtown Mall. Signups will also be held on Saturday, January 21st from 10 - 3 and Monday - Friday January 23 - 27 from 5:30 PM - 7PM with the final day being Saturday, January 28th from 10-3. Ages 4 -16 can play. Cost is \$90 a child and a birth certificate is required. For more information contact Robert Smith at (432) 816-8161 or Corey Wood at (432) 213-0427.

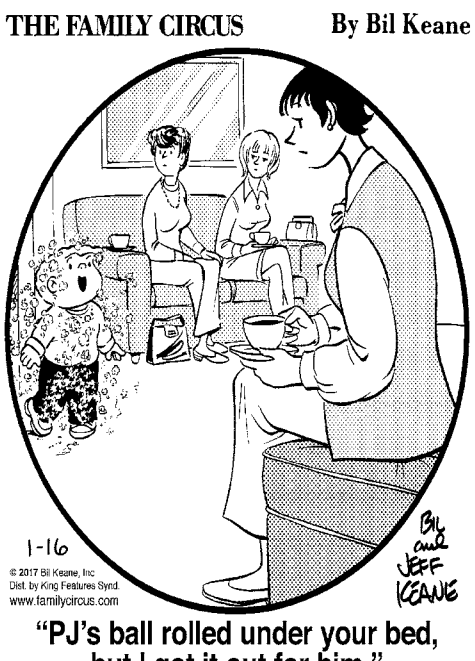


	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery
5 :PM	Local 2	Hotel	The List	News	Tele	News	Uri Harel	Over	Mama's	American	Fam. Guy		SportsCenter	Around	Champ	Law & Order:	Intervention	Fast N' Loud
5 :30	ABC	Notic.	Mod Fam	CBS	Noticiero	News	D Stringer	Business	Mama's	American	Fam. Guy			Pardon	Spotlight	SVU		
6 :PM	Jeopardy!	Rosa de	Big Bang	News	Caso Cer-	News	McDonald	PBS News-	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	NBA Tip-Off	College	Women's	C'boys	Law & Order:	Leah Remini	Fast N' Loud:
6 :30	Wheel	Guadalupe	Big Bang	ET	Radio	News	R. Booker	Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy		Basketball	College	Sportsday	SVU		Revved Up
7 :PM	The Bachelor	Despertar	Gotham	Kevin Can	Silvana Sin	The New	Upd	Antiques	Griffith	Howie	Fam. Guy	NBA	College	Women's	High School	WWE Mon-	Leah Remini	
7 :30		Contigo	(DVS)	Man-Plan	Lana	Celebrity	Discovery	Roadshow	Griffith	Mandel All-	American	Basketball:	College	Women's	Football	Night		
8 :PM		Vino el Amor	(:01) Lucifer	Broke Girl	La Doña	Apprentice	Light of the	Antiques	MacGyver	Star Comedy	American	Cavaliers at	College	Women's	RAW			
8 :30				Odd Cple	(SS)		Southwest	Roadshow		Gala	Fam. Guy	Warriors	College	Women's				
9 :PM	Big Fan	El color de la	News	Scorpion	El Chema	Timeless		Independent	Heroes	Seinfeld	Fam. Guy	NBA Basket-	College	Women's	2017 Aus-			
9 :30	ABC	pasión	TMZ		(SS)			Lens	Heroes	Seinfeld	Fam. Guy	ball: Thunder	College	Women's	Tennis: First			
10 :PM	Local 2	Impacto	Mod Fam	News	Tele	News	House	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett	King	Conan	ball: Thunder	SportsCenter		Round.			
10 :30	ABC	Noticiero	Mod Fam	CBS	Tele	News	Mani		Perry Mason	King		Clippers	SportsCenter			UFC	(:05) Colony	Leah Remini
11 :PM	Jimmy Kim-	Contacto	Two Men	Late Show-	Titulares	Tonight	Rocks	Newsline	Rules	Rules	Broke Girl		SportsCenter			Cowboys		
11 :30	me Live	Deportivo	How I Met	James	(SS)	Seth Meyers	Yohanan	T. Smiley	Rules	Conan			SportsCenter			Focused	CSI: Crime	Leah Remini
12 :AM	Extra	La Mujer del	How I Met	Corden	El Chema	(SS)	Upd	(Off Air)	Raising			Inside the	SportsCenter			NHL Hockey:	CSI: Crime	Leah Remini
12 :30	Cowboys	Middle	Insider	Insider	(SS)	News	1st Fruits		Cheaters	Seinfeld		NBA	SportsCenter			Stars at	CSI: Crime	Leah Remini
1 :AM	Paid	A Que No	Law Order:	ET	Pagado	(:08) Today	Light of the		Mannix	Daddy's	Movie:	Basketball:	SportsCenter			Sabres	CSI: Crime	Leah Remini
1 :30	Paid	Me Dejas	CI	Paid	Pagado	Southwest				Little Girl		Cavaliers at	SportsCenter				Scene	(:02) Fast N' Loud

DENNIS THE MENACE



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



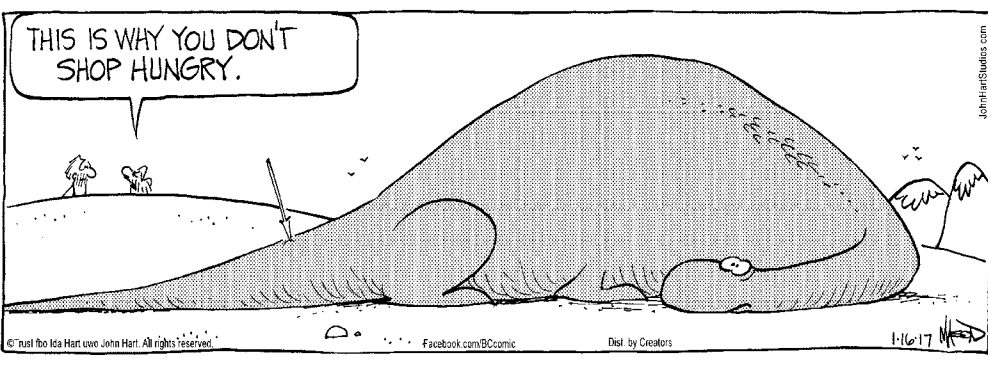
HAGAR



BLONDIE



BC



This Date In History

Today is Monday, Jan. 16, the 16th day of 2017. There are 349 days left in the year. This is the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 16, 1942, actress Carole Lombard, 33, her mother, Elizabeth, and 20 other people were killed when their plane crashed near Las Vegas, Nevada, while en route to California from a war-bond promotion tour.

On this date: In 27 B.C., Caesar Augustus was declared the first Emperor of the Roman Empire by the Senate.

In 1547, Ivan IV of Russia (popularly known as "Ivan the Terrible") was crowned Czar.

In 1865, Union Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman decreed that 400,000 acres of land in the South would be divided into 40-acre lots and given to former slaves. (The order, later revoked by President Andrew Johnson, is believed to have inspired the expression, "Forty acres and a mule.")

In 1920, Prohibition began in the United States as the 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution took effect, one year to the day after its ratifica-

tion. (It was later repealed by the 21st Amendment.)

In 1935, fugitive gangster Fred Barker and his mother, Kate "Ma" Barker, were killed in a shootout with the FBI at Lake Weir, Florida.

In 1957, three B-52's took off from Castle Air Force Base in California on the first non-stop, round-the-world flight by jet planes, which lasted 45 hours and 19 minutes. Classical music conductor Arturo Toscanini died in New York at age 89.

In 1967, Alan S. Boyd was sworn in as the first U.S. secretary of transportation.

In 1978, NASA named 35 candidates to fly on the space shuttle, including Sally K. Ride, who became America's first woman in space, and Guion S. Bluford Jr., who became America's first black astronaut in space.

In 1987, Hu Yaobang resigned as head of China's Communist Party, declaring he'd made mistakes in dealing with student turmoil and intellectual challenges to the system. Broadway columnist Earl Wilson died in Yonkers, New York, at age 79.

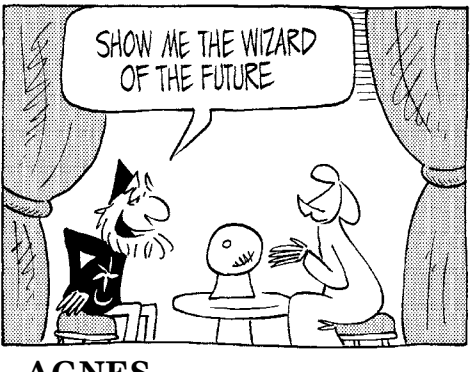
In 1991, the White House announced the start of Operation Desert Storm to drive Iraqi forces out of Kuwait. (Allied forces prevailed on Feb. 28, 1991.)

In 1992, officials of the government of El Salvador and rebel leaders signed a pact in Mexico City ending 12 years of civil war that had left at least 75,000 people dead.

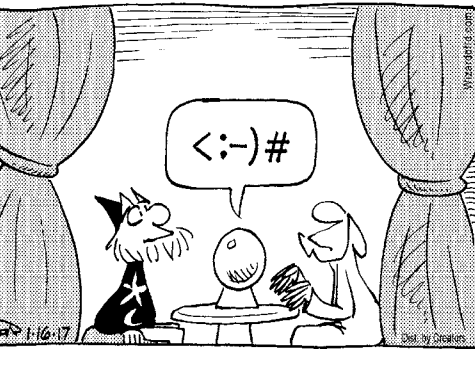
In 1997, entertainer Bill Cosby's only son, Ennis, was shot to death in Los Angeles during an apparent roadside robbery attempt. (Mikhail Markhasev was later convicted of Ennis Cosby's killing, and sentenced to life in prison.) Two bomb blasts an hour apart rocked a building in Sandy Springs, Georgia, containing an abortion clinic (serial bomber Eric Rudolph later admitted responsibility).

Ten years ago: Jury selection began in the CIA leak trial of former White House aide I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby. (Libby was later convicted of perjury, obstruction and lying to the FBI; President George W. Bush ended up commuting Libby's 30-month prison term.)

WIZARD OF ID



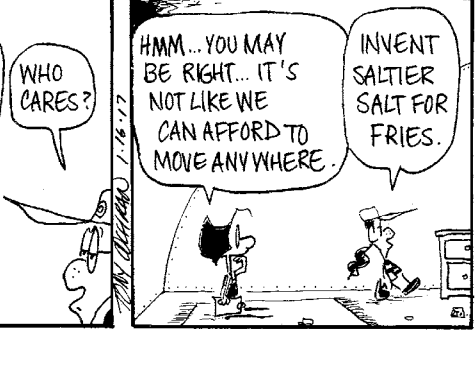
AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Spinning toys
 - 5 Poem
 - 10 Initials on invitations
 - 14 Region
 - 15 "... the bombs bursting ___"
 - 16 List-shortening abbr.
 - 17 Behind everyone else in line
 - 18 Refines, as a manuscript
 - 19 Job for a detective
 - 20 Place of bliss
 - 22 Ready for a nap
 - 23 ___ and raves
 - 24 Drinks slowly
 - 25 Fleet of warships
 - 28 Erases
 - 31 Shoes for snowy days
 - 32 Tease
 - 34 Not cooked
 - 35 Clarinet cousin
 - 36 Feeling ho-hum
 - 37 Writer's inspiration
 - 38 Unpleasant noise
 - 39 Savings institutions
 - 40 Walked back and forth
 - 41 Catch in a trap
 - 43 Annoy
 - 44 Trunpet or bugle
 - 45 Land for farming
 - 47 Cost
 - 49 Tall yellow-petaled plant
 - 53 Nevada city
 - 54 Remove the soap from
 - 55 Exist
- DOWN
- 1 Bath-powder mineral
 - 2 Word-of-mouth
 - 3 Coin in Mexico
 - 4 Thoroughly soak
 - 5 Capital of Austria
 - 6 Call off a project
 - 7 Drizzles or showers
 - 8 Location
 - 9 Urgent-care hospital areas: Abbr.
 - 10 Cookbook entry
 - 11 Captivated by celebrities
 - 12 Bouquet holder
 - 13 Said "Not guilty," for example
 - 21 Moms' mates
 - 22 Lean to one side
 - 24 Drop into the mailbox
 - 25 "Humble" residence
 - 26 Batman's partner
 - 27 Maker of illegal liquor
 - 28 Membership fees
 - 29 Artist's stand
 - 30 Person from Stockholm
 - 32 Voicemail sound
 - 33 Noah's boat
 - 36 Hayloft locale
 - 37 Teardrop-shaped stringed instrument
 - 39 Undecorated
 - 40 Feeling of gloom
 - 42 On the house
 - 43 Alludes (to)
 - 45 Provides the cash for
 - 46 Atlas closeup map
 - 47 Stage-play accessory
 - 48 Make over, as a kitchen
 - 49 ___ dish (potato or rice)
 - 50 Like EEE shoes
 - 51 Hardly ___ (rarely)
 - 52 Enjoy a book
 - 54 Go bad, as fruit

LOOK UP by Gail Grabowski

Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com



Answer to previous puzzle

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

1/16/17

MAVS

Continued from Page 6

Dallas broke open a two-point game by closing the third quarter on an 11-4 run, then Barea scored his team's first nine points of the fourth quarter. His bank shot in the lane with 8:01 to go extended the lead to 88-76.

"We're in a good place right now," Barea said. "We know we still have a lot of work to do, but we've got a good feeling in this locker room right now."

Seth Curry then scored the next five points with a 3 and a fast-break layup to give Dallas its largest lead of the game.

START IT UP

The Mavericks moved up the gametime to 1 p.m. to accommodate the Dallas Cowboys' late-afternoon kickoff at home against Green Bay in the NFL playoffs.

TIP-INS

Timberwolves: Zach LaVine had missed the past two games with a hip bruise, but warmed up before the game and coach Tom Thibodeau declared him ready to go. He scored 11 points.

Mavericks: Announced the signing of guard Pierre Jackson to a 10-day contract. Jackson played for the Mavericks from Dec. 27 to Jan. 6, averaging three points, before being waived. ... Dallas also recalled forward Nicolas Brussino from the Texas Legends of the NBA Development League, where he was averaging 16 points and eight rebounds.

VINTAGE DIRK

Nowitzki's 17-point effort included a second-quarter stretch in which he scored seven Dallas points in a row. He

scored on a leaper in the lane, then on a long pull-up jumper.

Then, as the trailer on the fast break, he hit a long 3 that gave the Mavericks their largest lead of the first half, 44-29, sending the crowd into a frenzy and forcing a Timberwolves timeout.

"If I get some daylight, I feel like I have a decent rhythm right now," Nowitzki said. "We had a little run going and sometimes you want to use the momentum. I let it ride and somehow it rode in."

Nowitzki's 28 minutes played gave him 47,621 in his career, passing Reggie Miller for ninth place all-time.

PEER RECOGNITION

As head of the National Basketball Coaches Association (NBCA), Mavericks coach Rick Carlisle talked about the association's announcement of the Michael H. Goldberg NBCA Coach of the Year Award. The award will be the only one chosen by an NBA coach's peers and will be announced at the end of the regular season. Goldberg was the first executive director of the NBCA.

"Michael Goldberg is a beloved figure in the coaching world," Carlisle said. "We felt it was time to honor the work that he's done. This is a unique award because it's going to be voted on by peers only. It will have a little extra meaning for coaches. It's really time for something like this to happen."

UP NEXT

Timberwolves: Stay in Texas with a visit to San Antonio on Tuesday.

Mavericks: Visit Chicago on Tuesday for the first of a two-game road trip.

In final year on ballot, Tim Raines looking for Hall entry

MONTREAL (AP) — The 1982 All-Star Game at Olympic Stadium was the first outside the United States, the host Montreal Expos giving the event a distinctive international flair.

As Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau and baseball Commissioner Bowie Kuhn looked on, center fielder Andre Dawson, catcher Gary Carter and left fielder Tim Raines were among five players wearing that tri-color hat of the hometown team.

On Wednesday, Raines is likely to join Dawson and Carter as Expos in the Hall of Fame, expected to be voted the honor in his 10th and final year of eligibility.

"If I get in, that's the team I deserve to go in for, regardless if they no longer have a team," Raines said in a phone interview from his home in Phoenix on Tuesday. "That was the team I played with and I'm real comfortable with that."

Despite falling short of the 75 percent of votes necessary for election last year, Raines was named on 69.8 percent of the ballots cast by eligible members of the Baseball Writers of America.

That was up significantly from 2015, when he finished seventh in voting with 55 percent.

"I was happy that I had gained a lot more votes," Raines said. "I was only 23 short and this is actually the first year of the 10 years that I really feel pretty excited about the prospect of it happening. But this will be the first year that I really feel that I have a legitimate shot."

An All-Star in each of his first seven seasons with the Expos, Raines is the only player to have four seasons hitting .300 or higher with at least 70 stolen bases; Ty Cobb and Rickey Henderson each had three.

A switch-hitter, Raines batted .294 with 2,605 hits, including 713 for extra bases, and 1,330

walks. He scored 1,571 runs and ranks fifth with 808 stolen bases in a career from 1979 to 2002 with Montreal, the Chicago White Sox, New York Yankees, Oakland, Baltimore and Florida.

His 84.7 percent stolen base success rate is the best of any player with at least 400 attempts. Raines finished with a .385 on-base average.

"When you think about the caliber of career that Timmy had, he was an impact player," Dawson said in a phone interview from Miami on Monday. "You think about all the greatest leadoff hitters of all time, he measures right there."

To some, Raines' only fault was that he wasn't as great as Rickey Henderson, considered the best leadoff man ever.

Carter became the first player inducted into the Hall with an Expos cap on his plaque in 2003, his sixth year on the ballot. Dawson was inducted in 2010 after his ninth try.

"I think it's a tribute to that organization that they are probably going to have three Hall of Famers that were teammates at the same time," Dawson said. "I do think that it's going to happen, first of all, but you didn't really get the notoriety, you didn't really get the same publicity as if you had been playing in the States. So it was a really, really tough environment I think playing across the border when it came to recognition."

Traded by Montreal after the 1990 season, Raines spent five seasons with the White Sox. He hit .444 and scored five runs in the 1993 AL Championship Series, which Chicago lost to the Toronto Blue Jays, and then won the World Series twice in three seasons with the Yankees from 1996-98.

He signed with Oakland as a free agent in 1999 but was diagnosed with lupus midway through the season.

A failed bid to make the Unit-

ed States Olympic team in 2000 fueled Raines' desire to prove he could still play, and Montreal offered him that opportunity in 2001.

Raines was greeted with a standing ovation when he returned to Olympic Stadium as the starting left fielder for the Expos' home opener. The crowd of 45,183 remained on its feet all through his first plate appearance and cheered wildly when he drew a walk from Mets starter Glendon Rusch.

"The ovation that I got was really, really emotional," Raines said. "I remember I stole my 800th base against the Expos with the Yankees, and that was kind of emotional. The fans gave me a really big standing ovation, but the ovation I got in '01 topped anything that I could have even imagined, and at that time I knew that I was in love with Montreal."

Raines got to play with Vladimir Guerrero, who is on the ballot for the first time this year and could also enter the Hall as an Expos player if he is elected.

Late in the 2001 season, the Expos traded Raines to Baltimore to give him the opportunity to play with his son, Tim Jr., who was called up to make his major league debut with the Orioles.

Raines, who retired after playing with Florida in 2002, was back with the Expos as a special coach at the end of the 2004 season when Major League Baseball announced that the team, which joined the National League in the 1969 expansion, was moving to Washington, D.C.

The world's second-largest French-speaking city, which embraced Jackie Robinson when he played for the Montreal Royals of the International League in 1946, still pines for "nos amours," a term of endearment so profoundly French that it defies appropriate translation into English other than to say Montrealers love their Expos.

SONY

Continued from Page 6

of."

Thomas joined Ernie Els in 2003 as the only players to sweep Hawaii, and this performance might have been even better. Thomas was 49-under par for his two weeks, compared with Els at

47 under.

He said on Friday that he hasn't "shown the world my best golf." He came pretty close these last two weeks.

"I'm not going to sit here and tell you I'm playing OK," Thomas said. "I would take the golf I played the last few weeks every week I play."

He moved to No. 8 in the world.

Thomas, thinking more

about the trophy and another record when he started the final round, took no chances early on. He was 1 over through seven holes, making a soft bogey with a three-putt from 45 feet on No. 4 and a tough par save on No. 6, and still no one got closer than five shots.

But when he poured in a 20-foot birdie putt on the eighth, Thomas shifted into

another gear. That was the start of four birdies in five holes — the exception was a birdie putt he missed from just inside 10 feet — and he stretched his lead to as many as nine shots.

Waialae was vulnerable all week with not much wind, fast fairways and greens that were softer than usual. Thomas produced the eighth sub-60 round in PGA Tour history

Thursday. Kevin Kisner had a shot at 59 on Saturday until missing a 9-foot eagle putt on his final hole. And on Sunday, Chez Reavie made a hole-in-one with a 6-iron on the 17th hole that gave him a shot at a sub-60 round. Only a bogey on the sixth hole (he started on No. 10) stopping him, and he had to settle for a 61. That matched the third-best score of the week.

DALLAS

Continued from Page 6

point. This is a terrible feeling."

Prescott threw for 302 yards while becoming the first rookie in the Super Bowl era with three TD passes in a playoff game. After his lone interception in the third quarter, the Cowboys responded with one off Rodgers. Elliott ran for 125 yards.

With the loss, the Cowboys (13-4) have now failed to make it past the divisional game in their nine playoff appearances since winning their most recent Super Bowl 21 seasons ago.

"Once we put that behind us, I think there's nothing but good things looking forward in what this team can do," Prescott said.

Prescott had an 11-game winning streak during the regular season, and kept the starting job after Romo was ready to return from the back injury he suffered in the third preseason game.

Jones wasn't yet ready to address the future for Romo, a starter for 10 seasons.

"We'll obviously look at what we're doing. We won't do it tomorrow. We won't do it the next day," Jones said. "We'll be looking at where we are relative to Tony and relative to other players, but not tonight."

The Cowboys almost became the third team in the Super Bowl era to win in the playoffs after trailing by 15 points in the fourth quarter.

The first was Dallas in 1972, when Hall of Famer and two-time Super Bowl champion Roger

Staubach rallied the Cowboys for a 30-28 win over San Francisco.

After Mason Crosby kicked a tiebreaking 56-yard field goal for Green Bay with 1:33 left, Prescott was ready for another shot.

"He didn't blink. He didn't do anything but lead, as well as play, in a way that you can win championships," Jones

said.

All Prescott thought about were the two-minute drills that end Thursday practices.

"I don't think about what this means, what this exact drive means, just concentrate on each and every play coach called," he said.

Prescott had two completions for 35 yards to the 40 before spiking the

ball to stop the clock. After a 7-yard catch by Cole Beasley, Prescott's third-and-2 pass was knocked down at the line.

Dan Bailey then kicked his third field goal, but Rodgers — the Super Bowl MVP when the Packers became champions in the same building six seasons ago — still had 35 seconds.

His scrambling 36-yard pass to a toe-dragging Jared Cook on the sideline set up the winning kick.

"It was a great game all the way around, just hate to be on the losing end," Prescott said. "These are games I dreamed of as a little kid of playing, and plan to play in many more of them."

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