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BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2017



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Festival of Lights a success



The crew that planned and worked on this year's Festival of Lights poses with founder Pat Simmons (seated middle). The Festival of Lights is open in Comanche Trail Park until December 25.

By **ROGER CLINE**
Staff Writer

"Candy canes and silver lanes aglow" are the theme at Comanche Trail Park right now, and organizers of the Comanche Trail Park Festival of Lights say the event is in full swing and going well.

"I think we're on track to hit 25,000 this year," said City Councilman Jim DePauw, a Festival of Lights board member. "We've got more weekends this year, which is the key. We changed the dates this year so that it ends right at Christmas, because, in years past, after Christmas you only get 400 people a day or something."

City Councilman Howard Stewart, a coordinator of the event, said Wednesday that the Festival had seen nearly 18,000 guests.

"We just counted. It's 17,600. We've got six more nights left. Santa Claus has seen right at 200 kids in two nights," he said.

At that pace, the 25,000 goal is going to be a close thing, he said.

"It's close. It's going to depend on the weekend and the weather. Tell everybody to come out. Come see it every year. Spread the word."

Instead of Dec. 15, as in past seasons, the Festival started on Dec. 3 this year.

"We started on Dec. 3. We didn't want to conflict with the Herald's parade, so we started the day after the parade," DePauw said. "I just think it gets bigger and better every year. It's a little bit longer than last year. We got another electric pole put in there where the big candles are. It's spectacular."

Recent changes at the park haven't caused any disruption to the festivities, Stewart added.

"Not really," he said. "It just kind of continues on past the gift shop out there for another section."

Many of the Festival's attractions come from an unlikely source, DePauw said.

"Most of our things have been made over the years either at the GEO prisons or by the FCI prisoners," he said. "Even those big candles, Howard and Vicky (Stewart) got the idea for those big candles from a book they saw, and I think they were listed at \$40,000 or \$50,000 for four candles. So they just had some people in Big Spring make some up."

See **FOL**, Page 3

City offices to close for Christmas holiday

Special to the Herald

The city of Big Spring has released a list of city services that will be affected by the upcoming Christmas holiday:

- City Offices – The City of Big Spring will close all

offices at 3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 22, 2017, to begin the Christmas holidays. All offices will remain closed on Monday, Dec. 25, 2017; and Tuesday, Dec. 26, 2017.

- Landfill – Will close at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 23, 2017, and remain closed on Monday, Dec. 25, 2017. The

Landfill will open Tuesday, Dec. 26, 2017, at 8 a.m.

- Sanitation – Will close on Monday, Dec. 25, 2017; there will be no sanitation service on Monday, Dec. 25. Monday's routes will be picked up on Tuesday, Dec. 26, 2017; and Tuesday's routes will be picked

up on Wednesday, Dec. 27, 2017.

- Golf Course – Will be closed on Monday, Dec. 25, 2017.

- Emergency Services – Emergency services (Police, Fire, and

See **CITY**, Page 3

Car rams into pedestrians in Melbourne; 19 injured

By **TREVOR MARSHALLSEA**

Associated Press

SYDNEY (AP) — Australian police said there is no evidence of a terrorist link to a car ramming attack Thursday in central Melbourne that left 19 people injured.

Police said the driver was a

32-year-old Australian citizen of Afghan descent who has a history of drug use and mental health issues. The man was known to police for historical minor assault and traffic offenses.

"We don't at this time have any evidence or any intelligence to indicate there's a connection with

terrorism," said Victoria state police acting commissioner Shane Patton.

The streets outside the city's iconic Flinders Street railway station were crowded with Christmas shoppers late Thursday afternoon

See **CAR**, Page 3

Forsan students get hands-on experience with new AutoCAD program

By **ERIN STEPHENS**
Staff Writer

In early fall of this year, Forsan ISD received a check in the amount of \$10,000 from multinational agrochemical and biotechnology corporation, Monsanto. On Sept. 22, the check was presented to FISD school board president Lewis Boeker before one of the school's regular Friday night football games. Monsanto has a fund set up to support rural schools to aid in math and science education efforts.

According to FISD Superintendent Randy Johnson, part of the check from Monsanto went towards the purchase of a 3D printer that is meant to be used in conjunction with a program called AutoCAD, also known as "Computer Aided Design." AutoCAD is typically used to create blueprints for buildings, bridges, and computer chips, among other things.

"The 3D printers being used in my classroom are part of the newly started ag program here at FISD, and they're being used alongside the metal shop and math classes," said engineering graphics class instructor Gary Huckabee.

According to Huckabee, his classes have been designing projects throughout this part of the year and taken them into the AutoCAD program.

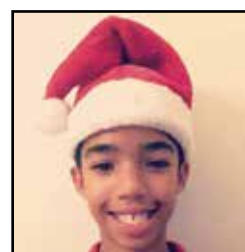
"Students have drawn the ideas so they can print out a 3D model of what has been invented, and then we'll transfer our 3D ideas as well as printouts of dimensional sizes on the inventions," he said. "We then go to the metal shop and the ag group and fabricate what we've come up with."

The material that comes out of the printer is a kind of "extruded filament" that is similar to plastic. The filament goes through the machine and into an extruder that heats up to 205 degrees.

See **FISD**, Page 3



Big Spring Herald's Christmas Countdown



Jaylen says
"Only 4 Days 'til Christmas!"
(Jaylen Martinez, Son Of Jennifer Martinez)

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Obituaries

Lyndel "Mac" McKaskle



Lyndel "Mac" McKaskle, 64, of Big Spring, died Sunday, Dec. 17, 2017, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 21, 2017, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Lyndel was born Dec. 15, 1953, in Big Spring, Texas. Lyndel "Mac" McKaskle marched to the beat of his own drum from a very early age. He attended Forsan High School where he excelled at science. Starting a fire in the chemistry lab, successfully procuring an early dismissal for the students. Taking a stand at his graduation, he and his classmates refused to shake the hand of the principal for the grief doled out to his senior class.

He worked for M&M Meter Service, the family business (with a name like M&M we know where he got his love for all things sweet), then moved to Perryton, Texas, where his daughter Chanel was born. The night of her birth, he and his sister, Dionne performed another experiment and came to the obvious conclusion that eggs will explode all over the place when boiled dry.

Mac was talented, with many skills. In his younger years he played his trumpet along with his Herb Alpert album resulting in being sent to the cotton fields to practice. He could jury rig anything (ex-

cept the legal system), and loved helping those less fortunate than himself.

He was quite knowledgeable on any subject and knew everything. If you don't believe it, just ask him...Oh wait. You can't. Yet, he could never figure out a one cup coffee maker only holds a cup of water.

Mac loved the martial arts. He was an avid martial artist earning black belts in various forms of discipline. Wow, Mac and discipline in the same sentence! He loved to practice his craft with his num chucks, various batons, and cracking a bull-whip made for him by his brother Kerry. These actions resulted in many phone calls about the crazy acting/looking dude cracking a whip!

He was a consummate Houdini; disappearing for years at a time. His philosophy about the family's concern was "No News is Good News." He trekked from New Orleans, La., to Eden, Texas, on his bicycle to rejoin his family at Christmas.

Lyndel was not a materialistic kind of guy. He was happy with his bicycle, good books, decent music, and in his later life, his family.

He is survived by his daughter, Chanel and his grandson, Eun and a family that loves him.

Sleep sweet Rolando.

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

Paid Obituary

Carmelita Johnson

Carmelita Johnson, 54, of Big Spring, died Saturday, Dec. 16, 2017, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Private family services will be held at a later date.

She was born Sept. 12, 1963, in California.

Carmelita is survived by one son, Trey Jackson of Lamesa; one brother: Fred "Chip" Carlquist Jr., of Nelson, Calif.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

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

Robert E. Baker



Robert E. Baker Sr., 68, of Big Spring, died Monday, Dec. 18, 2017, at Midland Memorial Hospital. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 22, 2017, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Elwin Collom, pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church, officiating.

Robert was born April, 13, 1949, in Big Spring, Texas, to Audie Loraine Turner Baker and Alvin Ernest Baker.

Robert is survived by four sons, Robert Baker, Jr. of Midland, Chad Lee Rader of Odessa, Michael Woellert and Larry Bounds, both of Abilene; four brothers, Alvin Baker and wife Edith of Coahoma, Nathan Baker of Big Spring, Jimmy Baker of Lubbock and Jesse Baker and wife Connie of Big Spring; two sisters, Glenda Bray and Susie Roach, both of Big Spring; eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one sister, Alice Rueda.

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

Police, Sheriff reports

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **ANGEL JUNIOR VILLA**, 20, of 1108 S Austin St., was arrested on a warrant of no driver's license.
- **ANGELICA REQUAL MOJICA**, 18, of 1207 Sycamore, was arrested on warrants of two counts of theft of property of less than \$100, shoplifting.
- **ASHTON TAYLOR REYES**, 18, of 1604 E 16th St., was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana less than or equal too two ounces.
- **SHELBI KAY NELSON**, 19, of 1106 Austin, was arrested on charges of theft of property of less than \$100, shoplifting, and possession of marijuana less than or equal too two ounces.
- **SUMMER LEE BOUDREAU**, 18, of 1002 N Main St., was arrested on a charge of theft of property of less than \$100, shoplifting.

- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 2400 block of S Main St.
- **HARASSMENT** was reported in the 1300 block of Ridgeroad Dr.
- **STOLEN VEHICLE** was reported in the 300 block of Golf Course Rd
- **THEFT** was reported in the 200 block of W FM 700.
- **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 1300 block of Mesquite St.

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

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

- **SUMMER BOUDREAU**, 18, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of theft of property of less than \$100 to \$750.
- **BRYCE TAVIN GARZA**, 18, was arrested by HCSO on warrants of evading arrest detention

with vehicle, and evading arrest detention.

- **JESUS GONZALES-MUNOZ**, 43, was arrested by HCSO on a warrant of burglary habitation intend other.
- **ANGELICA RAQEL MOJICA**, 18, was arrested by BSPD on warrants of two counts of theft of property of less than \$100.
- **SARAH ALYSSABETH MORENO**, 29, was arrested by BSPD on warrants of no driver's license when unlicensed, failure to maintain financial responsibility, and failure to appear.
- **ASHTON TAYLOR REYES**, 18, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana less than or equal too two ounces.
- **WESLEY RAY RIGSBY**, 28, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- **ANGEL JUNIOR VILLA**, 20, was arrested by BSPD on a warrant of no driver's licensed when unlicensed.

Take Note

The Emergency Services Chaplains Corps is seeking volunteer chaplains.

The corps provides spiritual services to Howard County residents and visitors in crisis situations.

Prospective chaplains don't require any specific experience or education to qualify for the position, just a calling from God and a willingness to devote time to the program, which requires a 24- to 30-week training program and dedication of one day per week for emergency call-outs.

Those interested

should contact Senior Chaplain Joel Miller at 432-213-1221.

Big Spring's Centennial Lions Club is holding a drive to collect books for the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club.

Books for kids in kindergarten through about 10th grade will be accepted, with special preference for books for younger children in kindergarten through third grade.

Cash donations to allow the Lions to purchase additional books are also appreciated. Books or donations can

be taken to the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., or to the home of Lions member Ken Lawhon at 1707 E. 15th St.

For more information, contact Lawhon at 214-998-9716 or Lions member David Stives at 432-270-2251.

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.

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

Each week Kindred offers free health checks from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Corner House Coffee Shop, 1701 Scurry St.

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CAR

Continued from Page 1

When a white Suzuki SUV ran a red light and sped up to slam into pedestrians crossing the road before crashing into a traffic barrier.

While police had earlier said 14 people had been injured, Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews confirmed that 19 people had been taken to hospitals. The four listed in critical condition are believed to include a preschool-aged child, Australian media reported.

Andrews described the incident as "an act of evil and an act of cowardice, perpetrated against innocent bystanders."

Witnesses described a horrific scene.

"I was crossing Flinders Street on the way to the train station. I heard an engine rev behind me and heard a thump," one man identified only as David said on ABC TV. He said he turned around saw "people literally getting thrown into the air as it hit

them."

Bystanders rushed to drag the driver out of the vehicle before police arrived to arrest the man.

Early reports said there were two men in the car, but Patton confirmed the suspect was driving alone.

Confusion had arisen when a second man was seen being apprehended alongside the driver. Patton said this was a 24-year-old man who was seen filming the incident on his mobile phone and found carrying a bag containing three knives.

Patton said that man was taken into custody to determine whether he was connected.

"At this stage we don't believe that to be the case," he said.

Patton said the investigation would involve the force's counter-terrorism unit to ensure "that there isn't that connection, and that there is no ongoing threat," but that this was being treated as a singular incident. He said police were working with Australian intelligence agency ASIO, and with Australian Federal Police, and that there was no intelligence to suggest

the man was a person of interest to those bodies.

"We understand he's on a mental health plan and receiving treatment for a mental illness," Patton said.

Patton said while police numbers would be increased around Melbourne in the coming days, there was no increased danger threat surrounding the city over the busy holiday period.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull sent a tweet calling the incident "shocking" and said his thoughts and prayers were with the victims and those treating them.

It is the second time this year that Melbourne, regularly ranked one of the world's most livable cities, has been traumatized by a car attack.

In January, six people were killed and more than 30 were injured when a car was driven up a footpath in Bourke Street, near Thursday's incident. Police arrested the driver, who was known to police for a history of illicit drug use, family violence and mental health problems. Police said the case was not terrorism-related.

There have been a number of car attacks in other parts of the world in recent years, many of them linked to terrorism.

In October a man drove a truck down a New York City bicycle path, killing eight people. The driver is accused of providing material support to the Islamic State group among other charges including murder.

In an August attack, 13 people were killed and more than 100 were wounded when a vehicle rammed into pedestrians on a walking street in Barcelona. London has seen three such attacks this year, two linked to Islamic extremists and another seen as a reprisal attack outside a mosque, killing 13 people altogether.

A vehicle attack on a shopping street in Stockholm in April killed five people, while an attack on a Christmas market in Berlin last December killed 12.

The deadliest such attack in recent years took place in Nice, France, in July 2016 when a man drove a refrigerated truck weighing about 20 tons into a crowd, killing 86 people.

Pawlenty eyes return to national stage but in a new GOP era

By **THOMAS BEAUMONT and KYLE POTTER**

Associated Press.

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — Long ago, in a seemingly distant political universe, Tim Pawlenty was a fresh-faced Republican star with blue-collar appeal and presidential prospects.

Now, the former Minnesota governor is a high-powered banking lobbyist, and he's eyeing a climb back onto the national stage.

An unexpected Senate election next year, created by Democrat Al Franken's resignation after sexual harassment allegations, has created the opening. Some GOP power players are looking expectantly at Pawlenty as their best chance to take a Senate seat in a Democratic-leaning state with an unorthodox streak. A comeback bid could test whether a mild-mannered, establishment Republican and once-vocal critic of President Donald Trump fits into the Trump-era GOP.

"Ideology is going to trump a lot of other things, always, in a Republican convention. But they also are looking for someone who has the fire in the belly," Minnesota Republican operative Annette Meeks said. "I think Republicans are looking at it like this: We've got to win."

Pawlenty, 57, has said he is "reflecting" on the Senate race, 11 years since he last ran in Minnesota and six years since his short-lived presidential campaign fizzled. Since then, he's split his time between Washington, heading the financial industry's top lobbying group, and his home in Eagan, Minnesota.

While publicly insisting he's "politically retired," he had already been weighing a return to public office, including the governorship next year or the Senate in 2020, former Minnesota House Speaker Steve Sviggum said.

"The governor has that feeling in his stomach, that feeling in his gut about further public service," Sviggum said, recalling a recent lunch with Pawlenty.

Democratic Gov. Mark Dayton last week appointed Democratic Lt. Gov. Tina Smith to fill Franken's seat until a special election next November. Republican state Sen. Karin Housley, a real estate agent and wife of an NHL hockey coach, announced Tuesday that she was running. No Democrats have immediately stepped forward to challenge Smith.

Pawlenty, a Republican convert from a Democratic family in blue-collar south St. Paul, sought to appeal in his 2012 presidential bid to his party's Sam's Club — not country club — voters.

But he was quickly overshadowed in the race by then-Minnesota congresswoman Michele Bachmann. He also awkwardly balked during a Republican debate, failing to confront Mitt Romney face-to-face over the health care law he enacted in Massachusetts, even though he had telegraphed a plan to do so.

Pawlenty quit the race six months before the Iowa caucuses, and Romney went on to be the nominee.

Today, the "embarrassment" of Franken requires Pawlenty's seriousness, said Republican former Sen. Norm Coleman, whom Franken narrowly beat in 2008.

"He's a south St. Paul guy, whose character no one has ever questioned," said Coleman, who has discussed the race with Pawlenty.

Last fall, Pawlenty began re-establishing his Minnesota profile, speaking to Twin Cities-area cham-

bers of commerce about the ongoing technical revolution.

As CEO of the Financial Services Roundtable, Pawlenty has had a hand in federal policy, including tax legislation that passed the GOP-controlled Congress. The job also has offered him connections with potential donors, invaluable in an election less than a year away.

"There will be a very strong outpouring of support from Republican donors for Gov. Pawlenty if he runs for the Senate," said Wayne Berman, the finance chairman for Florida Sen. Marco Rubio's 2016 Republican presidential campaign.

The surprise Minnesota race is a gift for Republicans, whose two-seat Senate majority was halved by Alabama Democrat Doug Jones' win in last week's special election. It's a new headache for Democrats, who already faced defending 23 seats next year, including 10 in states Trump carried.

Pawlenty would elevate the race to a top target and trigger involvement from the Senate Leadership Fund, the political group associated with Republican Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, group president Steven Law said.

McConnell's group, allowed to raise unlimited amounts, is on pace to match the \$116 million it raised in 2016, Law said.

Such backing would hardly endear Pawlenty to his party's pro-Trump wing.

Former Trump strategist Steve Bannon has pledged to find primary challengers for Republican senators

facing re-election in 2018 who publicly broke with Trump during the 2016 campaign.

Pawlenty renounced Trump after the release of the 2005 "Access Hollywood" video that featured Trump asserting that fame enabled him to grope and make sexual advances toward women.

"Although I'd hoped he could have risen to the occasion, it's clear Trump is unwilling or unable to demonstrate even the most basic level of discipline, character and judgment necessary to lead our great nation," Pawlenty said in October 2016.

Minnesota is hardly a Trump hotbed. Rubio won Minnesota's presidential caucuses last year, handing Trump a rare primary defeat. But the state is prone to political surprises. Trump came within two percentage points of carrying Minnesota, once a bastion of liberalism.

If the White House in 2012 "wasn't his time," the Senate in 2018 is a timely second chance for Pawlenty, Coleman said.

CITY

Continued from Page 1

EMS) will continue normal operation throughout the holidays.

• Emergency Utilities Services – Emergency Utilities Services will be on call and can be contacted at 432-264-2392.

The city of Big Spring wishes everyone "Happy Holidays" and urges everyone to remember, "If you drink, please don't drive."

Lyndel Carson "Mac" McKaskle, 64, died Sunday. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. tonight at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Robert E. Baker, Sr., 68, died Monday. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 22, 2017, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Carmelita Johnson, 54, died Saturday. Private family services will be held at a later date.

Ellen Frances (Hale) Fulghum, 80, died Friday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson
267-8288

FISD

Continued from Page 1

FISD purchased two separate printers with filament packages, and each cost about \$3,000.

"Students participating in the ag program have been learning a lot of agriculture terms and processes throughout the semester, and they'll transition into the fabrication side of things soon where they'll build things with the help of 3D printers," said Huckabee.

The engineering graphics teacher believes students have

been very excited about the printers and how they work. He says they've been learning a lot about agriculture and aspects of it they've never thought of before like cultivation, production, cattle, ranching, and other areas. "This has given us a real boost in our ag program and getting it started and I think its something that will be self-sustaining," he said.

Contact Staff Writer Erin Stephens at 432-263-7331 ext. 232, or by email at citydesk@big-springherald.com.

FOL

Continued from Page 1

DePauw said he's proud to be part of the Festival of Lights crew.

"It's a great thing to be part of. It's a real chore to put that up. I think we spent four weeks or parts of four weeks this year...I think that one week of Thanksgiving, we missed a few days with Thanksgiving," he said. "I think back to

when I was a little boy, and how excited I would have been to have gone through something like that. That's kind of what keeps me doing it every year."

DePauw said he is confident the Festival of Lights will continue to grow and improve as a Big Spring tradition.

"Hopefully next year we'll be able to decorate more around the spring, because that was really neat what we

used to have down there with the poinsettias out there on the rocks in the middle of the spring," he said. "(Festival organizer) Vicki Stewart is just a really creative person, and it will be fun to see what she comes up with."

Contact Staff Writer Roger Cline at 432-263-7331 ext. 235, or by email at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

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Opinion

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—FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the writers and not those of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

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- Letters should be e-mailed to editor@big-springherald.com or mailed to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

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The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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DAILY PRAYER

Today, Lord, may we praise Your name and reveal Your gospel to others. Amen.

Can the FBI get away with getting Trump team emails?

Within hours of his victory in last year's presidential election, Donald Trump dispatched his lawyers to establish a nonprofit corporation to manage his transition from private life to the presidency.



JUDGE
ANDREW P.
NAPOLITANO

This was done pursuant to a federal statute that provides for taxpayer-funded assistance to the newly elected — but not yet inaugurated — president. The statutory term for the corporation is the presidential transition team, or PTT.

In addition to paying the PTT's bills, the General Services Administration, which manages all nonmilitary federal property, provided the PTT with government computers, software and a computer service provider. During the course of the PTT's existence, the folks who worked for it sent or received tens of thousands of emails. The PTT ceased to exist upon Trump's inauguration, and a receiver was hired to wind it down.

Last weekend, a lawyer for the receiver revealed a letter he sent to Congress complaining that special counsel Robert Mueller — who is investigating whether there was any agreement between the Trump campaign and the Kremlin that resulted in the now-well-known efforts by Russian intelligence to affect the outcome of the 2016 presidential election — dispatched FBI agents to the GSA looking for copies of all the PTT's emails and that the GSA surrendered them.

How did this happen? When the FBI is looking for documents or tangible things, it has several legal tools available. They range in their disruptive nature from a simple request to a grand jury subpoena to a judicially authorized search warrant.

The FBI request is the easiest for the government, and if FBI

agents ask you for something and you give it to them, you cannot later be heard to complain that your privacy rights regarding the things you surrendered were violated. If they seize your documents pursuant to a subpoena or a warrant, they normally get to use what they have seized.

The issue becomes more complex when the FBI comes calling for documents of yours that are legally in the hands of a custodian — such as your physician, lawyer, banker or accountant. In the case of Trump's PTT and Mueller's wish for all PTT emails, the sought-after data — the electronic copies of all the PTT's emails — were in custody of the GSA.

Anyone who has ever used a GSA computer is familiar with the warning that appears on the screen at the time of each use. It says that there is no right to privacy in the communications sent or received, as the electronic versions of those communications are the property of the federal government. This, no doubt, is the reason Hillary Clinton infamously used her husband's computer servers during her four years at the State Department rather than the government's.

We do not know whether Mueller's FBI agents merely requested the electronic data from the GSA or his prosecutors obtained a grand jury subpoena. If it was a simple FBI request and if the GSA simply complied, that was a lawful acquisition by the FBI of the PTT emails, yet in that case, the GSA violated its fiduciary duty to inform the PTT of the request before it complied with it.

If the FBI came calling on the GSA with a grand jury subpoena, that means Mueller's team must have presented evidence under oath to a grand jury and demonstrated that the sought-after items would more likely than not be helpful to the investigation. When a grand jury issues a subpoena to a custodian of records — no matter who the custodian is — it is the moral and fiduciary duty of the custodian, not the government, to inform the owner of the subpoenaed items that a subpoena has been

received.

In some cases, it is also the legal duty of the custodian to inform the owner, but it apparently was not in this case. As far as we can tell, there was no written agreement between the GSA and the PTT requiring the GSA to inform the PTT of any document requests or subpoenas. Had such a request been revealed, the lawyer for the receiver of the PTT would have had an opportunity to challenge the government before a judge. Without that notice there is no time for the challenge.

Until 1986, it was the duty of the government when seeking documents or tangible things from a custodian to inform the owner, as well as the custodian, of its intent. That fair procedure gave the owner of the records time to challenge the government before a judge. But the Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986 (which has nothing whatsoever to do with protecting privacy), enacted at the dawn of the digital age, did away with that requirement.

Now if the custodian remains silent in the face of an FBI request or a grand jury subpoena, the owner of the documents loses his opportunity to keep them from the government. That is what happened here.

But there is more.

The practical effect of Mueller's acquisition of the transition emails could be devastating to White House staff who once worked for the transition. Many of them have been interviewed by the FBI while no doubt being ignorant of the fact that the FBI had read their emails. Stated differently, the FBI was in a position to lead Trump White House staff members into a lying trap — just as it did with retired Lt. Gen. Michael Flynn — by asking them questions to which the FBI already had the answers.

Lying traps are reprehensible, but they're lawful. And they are not unique to Mueller's practices; it is the way the feds work today. Can the FBI get away with getting the Trump team's emails? In a word: yes. This investigation is not going away soon.

From dying malls, downtown retailing grows

Teens of the '80s may recall shiny new shopping malls as the hot place for hanging out, their food courts the cafe society of adolescence. These chain-store palaces knocked off local mom and pop retailers one by one, turning their downtown habitat into drab places for the poor and dysfunctional.

Now online commerce is knocking off the malls, but guess what. Not only is downtown retail coming back but also the stores are proving themselves to be among the fittest of the bricks-and-mortar survivors.

Wausau, Wisconsin, for example, has not one vacant storefront in the entire downtown shopping area. The Wall Street Journal singled out Wausau as an important case study because it is America's most middle-class city. People there spend 30 percent more than the national average. Sales tax collections in the county are up 20 percent since 2011.

So wallets in Wausau are definitely open. But stores are fleeing the Wausau Center, a local mall at the city's edge. The mall's owner walked away as his tenants — Sears, J.C. Penney, Payless ShoeSource and such — closed their doors. (Dying malls are especially numerous in the rural Midwest, where distances to them make the trips even less appealing.)

What's happening? Like consumers everywhere, the people

of Wausau now do a lot of their shopping online. And they will make pilgrimages to warehouse stores — Costco and Sam's Club — for their two dozen rolls of paper towels. But they also are likelier to patronize smaller stores offering unusual items, personal attention and proximity to other downtown excitement.

The venerable Janke Book Store in Wausau is apparently doing very well, as are other in-

dependent bookstores. The number of independent bookstores nationally has jumped by over 30 percent since 2009, according to the American Booksellers Association.

Books are the easiest thing to buy online, but these intimate stores provide the added value of local authors, games, greeting cards and recommendations. And however speedily Amazon can whisk a book to my front door, only the bookstore offers instant gratification.

Successful bookstores make the most of their reputations as

“third places,” places to go other than home or work. They provide community in the form of book readings, and the ones for children are often jammed.

I prefer real stores for my clothes, and not because I haven't tried buying them online. What happens online is that the item idealized in the photo doesn't resemble what comes in the box. What size to order is anybody's guess.

I know, I know. Things can be returned, but that requires taking additional steps. So when an item arrives that's just a bit off, I keep it, figuring a return is not worth the hassle. In the end, I'm stuck with something that I would not have bought at a store.

Downtown retailers know to display merchandise you can't get clicking on Amazon. And there's another category — things you never knew existed but that, once eyed, become absolute, positive must-haves.

What will the retailing future bring? Drones dropping sets of barbecue utensils on the back deck? Three-D gadgets taking your measurement? Robots programmed to assess one's mood and have access to a databank of past purchases? Not exactly “The Shop Around the Corner.”

I recall watching one of the “Home Alone” movies years ago at a multiplex in some cavernous mall. There's this scene where little Kevin McAllister finds magic in the window of an old-fashioned toy store nested in a downtown streetscape. Here was a dream version of Main Street America, not unlike the real one that stood largely abandoned a few miles away.

They've tried to kill Main Street, but no luck yet.



FROMA
HARROP

Now online commerce is knocking off the malls, but guess what. Not only is downtown retail coming back but also the stores are proving themselves to be among the fittest of the bricks-and-mortar survivors.

Coahoma Junior High School shines at UIL

Special to the Herald

The Coahoma Junior High School academic team had a successful run at UIL competition held last week on the campus of Howard College. Coahoma middle school students grabbed 17 top spots in overall competition.

"Our students did very well at contest, and we are so excited," said Ashley Roberts, Coahoma Junior High School Principal. "The kids worked really hard to prepare and their coaches spent many hours to help push our kids to give their best effort. I am thrilled to see our students succeed at contest and very grateful to my staff for all the work their hard work and dedication to our students."

Art: McCray Jacobs, 1st; Isabella Cox, 2nd; Cayhill Lewis, 3rd; Barrett Howe, 5th
Calculator: Kenna Best, 1st; Barrett Howe, 2nd
Chess: Tucker Wegner, 6th
Editorial Writing: Netalie Roberts, 4th
Impromptu Speaking: Leah Grantom, 3rd; Netalie Roberts, 5th
Listening Skills: Netalie Roberts, 3rd
Maps, Charts, & Graphs: McCray Jacobs, 1st; Ryan Shifflett, 2nd; Reagan Chapman, 3rd
Mathematics: Reagan

Chapman, 2nd
Number Sense: McCray Jacobs, 2nd; Sophia Biddison, 4th
Music Memory: Keiston Harrison, 1st; JC Garza, 4th
Oral Reading: Ryan Shifflett, 5th
Ready Writing: Cassidy Walker, 2nd
Spelling: Reagan Chapman, 4th; Barrett Howe, 5th
Social Studies: Tucker Wegner, 1st; Grant Glidewell, 6th - tied

Seventh Grade
Art: Audrey Turnbough, 1st; Rance Redden, 2nd; Christopher Thurman, 4th
Calculator: Rance Redden, 1st; Brayden Maxwell, 2nd; Katie McDonald, 3rd
Chess Puzzle: Austin Herrod, 1st - tie; Matthew Coskey, 3rd
Dictionary Skills, Kaydence Dunlap, 6th.
Editorial Writing: Makayla Chavez, 6th
Impromptu Speaking: Neely Key, 2nd; Jessica Hamby, 3rd
Listening Skills: Serena Dobbs, 1st
Maps, Charts & Graphs: Blake Guerra, 3rd; Lacy Wilson, 5th
Modern Oratory: Jocelyn Young, 1st
Number Sense: Austin Herrod, 1st; MaCartney Fitzhugh, 2nd; Alexia Munoz, 4th.

Oral Reading: Jocelyn Young, 2nd; Jessica Hamby, 3rd.
Ready Writing: Makenna Webster, 4th
Science: Austin Herrod, 2nd
Spelling: Blake Guerra, 4th
Social Studies: Codi Edens, 4th - tied
Eighth Grade
Art: Cheyenne Smith, 1st; Emajin Braxton, 3rd; Krystal Lopez, 4th; Ethan Yager, 5th; Brysen Kerby, 6th
Calculator Apps: Jordon Muller, 3rd; Marcos Zamora, 6th
Chess Puzzle: Paula Hagins, 2nd; Forest Riley, 6h - tied
Dictionary Skills: Ethan Yager, 5th
Editorial Writing: Maddi Olivias, 2nd
Impromptu Speaking: Delia Rawls, 2nd; Tanner Atikins, 4th
Listening Skills, Krystal Lopez, 2nd; Ethan Yager, 4th
Maps, Charts & Graphs: Brysen Kerby, 2nd; Josh Ruiz, 6th
Mathematics: JB Mashburn, 1st; Grayson Jacobs, 2nd
Modern Oratory: Hailey Grant, 1st; Katelyn Johnson, 5th
Oral Reading: Hartlie Smithie, 2nd; Kaylie Kaczyk, 3rd; Tanner Atkins, 5th.
Ready Writing: Kaylie Kac-

zyk, 1st
Science: JB Mashburn, 1st
Spelling: Karissa Beeman, 5th
Social Studies: JB Mashburn, 1st; BJ Starr, 6th - tied

The Coahoma Elementary School academic team returned from UIL contest with 10 individual and four team first place finishes in competition held Wednesday in Stanton.

"I am very proud of how well our kids did yesterday at the elementary UIL competition," said Shawna Dobbs, Coahoma Elementary School Assistant Principal. "Their coaches devoted a lot of time helping them to do their very best. We will hold our awards assembly on Friday, Jan. 12, to recognize all the students who placed by presenting them their ribbons and medals. Also, all UIL participants will be given a participation certificate."

Individual results are as follow:
Second Grade
Spelling: Brooklyn Beck, 2nd.
Creative Writing: Kian Mulkey, 1st; Kohen Grantom, 4th; Kara Melton, 6th.
Storytelling: Cash Mitchell, 1st; Kinzlin Kemper; 2nd; Kobl Wright, 5th.
Third Grade:

Spelling: Ava Alaman, 3rd.
Ready Writing: Andrea Rochelle, 1st; Lilly Dugan, 3rd; Lillian Orosco, 4th; Carly Crisp, 5th.
Oral Reading: Brailee Bennett, 5th; Blake Hamby, 6th
Music Memory: Andrea Rochelle, 1st; Story McKinnon and Belle Holleman, 3rd - Tie; Elle Fitzhugh - 1st Place Team.
Fourth Grade
Music Memory: Andrew Smith, 6th - 3rd Place Team.
Art: Boyd Cox, 1st; Kobi Olivias, 2nd; Gage Wegner, 5th - 1st Place Team.
Fifth Grade:
Spelling: Kierstyn Beeman, 1st
Number Sense: Levi Arista, 2nd; Sara Manning, 5th.
Listening Skills: Syllas Privett, 1st; Kaylee Key, 4th; Savannah Cantu, 4th.
Dictionary: Gavin Rochelle, 3rd.
Oral Reading: Savannah Cantu, 3rd; Addi Arguello, 5th
Music Memory: Gavin Rochelle, 1st; Emma Alaman, 4th - 1st Place Team.
Maps/Graphs/Charts: Gavin Rochelle, 1st; Blake Hamby, 6th.
Art: Kierstyn Beeman, 1st; Kiera Lopez, 2nd; Merick Alvarez, 3rd; Kylee Key, 4th; Savannah Cantu, 5th - 1st Place team.

Cardinal Law, disgraced figure in church scandal, dead at 86

By RACHEL ZOLL and NICOLE WINFIELD

Associated Press

hop of Boston whose failure to stop child molesters in the priesthood triggered the worst crisis in American Catholicism, died Wednesday in Rome at age 86.

Law, who spent the final years of his career leading an important basilica in Rome and continued to wield considerable influence inside the Vatican, had been sick and was recently hospitalized.

Law was once one of the most important figures in the U.S. church, serving in one of its most visible and storied posts. From 1984 until he resigned under pressure 18 years later, he was spiritual leader in Boston, the nation's fourth-largest archdiocese, with 1.8 million Catholics.

In 2002, though, The Boston Globe began a series of stories that revealed that Law and his predecessors had transferred child-molesting priests from parish to parish without alerting parents or police — a scandal later chronicled in the Oscar-winning film "Spotlight."

Within months, Catholics around the country demanded to know whether their bishops had done the same. And the scandal quickly spread overseas, to Ireland, Belgium, Chile, Australia and beyond.

In Boston, Law's death was met with anger and bitterness among some.

"I hope the gates of hell are swinging wide to allow him entrance," said Alexa MacPherson, who says she was abused for six years as a child. "I won't shed a tear for him. I might shed a tear for everyone who's been a victim under him."

Robert Costello called Law "a cruel, selfish bastard," while fellow abuse victim Phil Saviano wondered: "How is he going to explain this when he comes face to face with his maker?"

Law's successor as archbishop, Cardinal Sean O'Malley, said it was a "sad reality" that Law's legacy will forever be tied to the abuse scandal, when the church "seriously failed" to care for its flock and protect children.

Pope Francis, who is being watched closely by the faithful over his handling of bishops who shield pedophiles, is set to preside over Law's funeral rites at a Mass on Thursday at St. Peter's Basilica, an honor ac-

corded to all Rome-based cardinals.

The pope said nothing about Law's death during his weekly general audience Wednesday, and in a condolence letter he made no direct mention of the cardinal's tenure in Boston.

"I raise prayers for the repose of his soul, that the Lord God, who is rich in mercy, may welcome him in His eternal peace, and I send my apostolic blessing to those who share in mourning the passing of the cardinal," Francis wrote.

Since 1950, more than 6,500 of the nation's priests, or about 6 percent, have been accused of molesting children, and the American church has paid over \$3 billion in settlements, according to news reports and studies commissioned by the U.S. bishops. As the leader of the archdiocese at the epicenter of the scandal, Law became a powerful symbol of the crisis. His fall from grace was swift.

Law tried to manage the scandal at first by refusing to comment, then by apologizing and promising reform. But the release of thousands more church records exposed additional cases in which Law and others expressed more concern for accused priests than for victims.

Amid a groundswell against him, including rare public rebukes from some of his own priests, Law asked to resign and the pope said yes.

"To all those who have suffered from my shortcomings and mistakes, I both apologize and from them beg forgiveness," Law said in stepping down in 2002.

Still, Law retained some support in the Vatican. In 2004, he was appointed archpriest of the Basilica of St. Mary Major, one of four principal basilicas in Rome. When Pope John Paul II died the next year, Law was among the bishops who presided at a Mass for the pontiff in St. Peter's.

Law also continued to serve on Vatican policy-making committees, including one that recommends bishops' appointments to the pope, before retiring in 2011 from his church assignments.

Victims' advocates saw his continued influence in Rome as a slap in the face from an unre-

pentant church.

"Cardinal Law's soft landing in Rome, after his Boston disgrace, reminds us that prelate privilege remains the rule in Catholicism," said Terence McKiernan of BishopAccountability.org, a database of the global scandal in the church.

Mitchell Garabedian, a Boston lawyer who has represented dozens of people who say they were abused by priests, said Law "turned his back on innocent children and allowed them to be sexually abused and then received a promotion in Rome."

Fifteen years after the scandal broke, holding bishops accountable remains a fraught issue for the church. Francis had promised to go after bishops but backed off a proposed Vatican tribunal to prosecute them and opted instead to use existing measures.

SNAP, the main U.S. advocacy group for those who were abused, urged Francis to keep the victims in mind during the funeral and said Law doesn't deserve the pomp. "This celebratory focus on abuse enablers like Law must end," said SNAP's Joelle Casteix.

Law is expected to be buried in Rome, O'Malley said. The location hasn't been disclosed, but Law would be entitled to burial at St. Mary Major.

Born Nov. 4, 1931, in Torreon, Mexico, Law was the only child of a U.S. Air Force colonel and a mother who was a Presbyterian convert to Catholicism. He

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★★ Two Front Teeth ★★

There are lots of funny Christmas songs out there. One such song is "All I Want for Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth." Donald Yetter Gardner wrote the song in 1944 while teaching music to schoolchildren in Smithtown, NY.

With Christmas just around the corner, Gardner asked his young students what they wanted that year. As they answered, Gardner noticed that almost all of them had lost one, if not both, of their front teeth.

Inspired, Gardner wrote "All I Want for Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth" in about half an hour. Spike Jones and the City Slickers recorded the song, and it was an instant hit, climbing to the top of the music charts. Since then, the song has become a Christmas favorite that has been recorded by many others including Alvin and the Chipmunks.



Jokes and Riddles

Q: What do reindeer hang on their Christmas trees?
A: Hornaments.

Q: What do snowmen like to eat for lunch?
A: Icebergers!

What Rhymes with...

NOTES

List 10 words that rhyme with "notes." 1. _____

2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____

5. _____ 6. _____ 7. _____

8. _____ 9. _____ 10. _____

Some answers: boats, coats, dots, floats, goats, goats, quotes, throats, totes, votes

FACT OR FICTION?

Twelve Days Challenge

"The Twelve Days of Christmas" is a popular Christmas carol. Here are some questions about it. How many can you answer correctly?

- The gift on the fifth day is jewelry. **Fact or Fiction?**
- The gift on the 12th day is pipers piping. **Fact or Fiction?**
- The gift on the first day is a turtledove. **Fact or Fiction?**
- The gift on the eighth day is swans a-swimming. **Fact or Fiction?**
- The gift on the third day is French hens. **Fact or Fiction?**
- The gift on the ninth day is ladies dancing. **Fact or Fiction?**
- The gift on the fourth day is geese a-laying. **Fact or Fiction?**
- The gift on the 10th day is lords a-leaping. **Fact or Fiction?**
- The gift on the 13th day is silver. **Fact or Fiction?**
- The person giving the gifts is "my true love." **Fact or Fiction?**

Answers: 1) Fact, five golden rings, 2) Fiction, 12 drummers drumming, 3) Fiction, a partridge in a pear tree, 4) Fiction, eight maids a-milking, 5) Fact, 6) Fact, 7) Fiction, four calling birds, 8) Fact, 9) Fiction, the song ends on the 12th day, 10) Fact

NAME THAT SONG

Each of the following is a popular Christmas song. Fill in the blanks to name that song.

- RU__OL__ THE R__D-
__O__ED__ EIN__EE__
- DE__ THE HA__S

- __ILE__ NI__T
- I S__W MO__Y
KI__IN__
SAN__A__AUS
- __IN__LE__E__S
- S__N__A C__AU__ IS
C__MIN__ TO T__WN
- F__O__Y THE
__OWM__N

Answers: 1) Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, 2) Deck the Halls, 3) Silent Night, 4) I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus, 5) Jingle Bells, 6) Santa Claus Is Coming to Town, 7) Frosty the Snowman

Lady Buffs dominate Miles 52-25 for second district win

By STEVE BELVIN
Staff Writer

The Forsan Lady Buffaloes rolled to their Forsan District 7-2A win at home Tuesday night, making easy work of the Miles Lady Dogs and cruising to a 52-25 victory. The win lifts Forsan's district mark to 2-1. After losing their district opener to Christoval, the Lady Buffs have rallied two wins over Waco and now Miles. Miles falls to 0-2 in league play and 3-6 overall.

Forsan came out hot in the opening quarter as Jena Evans fed fellow post player Chasidy Grantham inside for an easy bucket. Macey Evans hit a three-pointer and Jena Evans fed Grantham inside again for another basket.

Skyler Brooks answered for Miles with two free throws, but the Lady Buffs dominated from then on, thanks to Grantham and M. Evans, who combined for 13 points in the quarter. M. Evans ended the quarter with a 15-foot bank shot off her own offensive rebound.

Forsan shot well in the first quarter as they made eight of their 15 shots,

which propelled them to an early 19-7 lead.

The Lady Buffs' attack would continue in the second period as M. Evans hit another three and J. Evans converted a three-point play by sinking the "and one". By then Forsan was up 25-7 with 6:01 left in the first half.

What made this performance so impressive was how Forsan adjusted after losing their starting post player Emily Garcia, who was out with the flu. Mikahaela Willard started in her place and did an admirable job working hard under the basket. She only scored two points, but she tallied up five rebounds.

J. Evans and Grantham took up the void left by Garcia. They controlled the boards and made some great

passes to teammates for easy buckets. Grantham ended up with 11 points, going five-for-seven from the floor. She also had five rebounds. J. Evans finished with 12 points and had a team-leading 11 rebounds.

M. Evans however was the star of the game. The shooting guard butchered Miles from the outside. She went 8-of-17 from the floor, five of them threes, and finished with a game-high 22 points to go along with three steals.

Forsan led 32-11 at the half and really sealed the deal from the start of the third quarter. M. Evans hit a three-pointer, Grantham scored inside and J. Evans and Grantham each made a free throw to add onto their comfortable lead and put the score at 39-11 just three minutes into the third

quarter. In a losing battle for Miles, guard Brooks put up quite a fight herself. She was constantly on the floor, diving for loose balls and battling the taller Forsan opponents for rebounds. She finished the contest with 17 points, eight rebounds and three steals.

The Lady Buffs will return to action on Friday, January 5 against Irion County.

GAME STATS:

Forsan
Rylee Evans 1-0-3
Chasidy Grantham 5-1-11
Macey Evans 8-0-22
Jenna Evans 4-4-12
Mikahaela Willard 1-0-2
Haley Patterson 2-0-4
totals 20-5-52

Miles
Skyler Brooks 5-4-17
Tycie Lange 1-0-2
Halle Hudson 2-0-6
totals 8-4-25

SCORES BY QUARTER:
Forsan - 19 - 13 - 13 - 7 52
Miles - 7 - 4 - 3 - 9 25



Wednesday's Scores

PREP FOOTBALL
State Championship
2A Division I
Mart 34, Refugio 21
Class 1A 6-Man Division I
Borden County 60, Jonesboro 22
Class 1A 6-Man Division II
Strawn 78, Balmorhea 42

By SCHUYLER DIXON
AP Pro Football Writer

FRISCO, Texas — Ezekiel Elliott's Dallas teammates aluded to the happy-go-lucky locker room personality they missed — during the football skills — during the star running back's six-game suspension.

Elliott wasn't interested in sharing that side of himself, or much of anything else in a 70-second session with reporters that last year's NFL rushing leader abruptly ended because he didn't want questions about his time away from the team.

"All right, I'm done," Elliott said after the fifth such question — why he didn't want to talk about what he did in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, where he spent almost all of the six-game suspension over domestic violence allegations.

Cowboys star Elliott mum on hiatus in return from suspension

Elliott fought Commissioner Roger Goodell's decision for two months in federal courts in three states. His legal team won injunctions and other rulings that kept him on the field for eight games before abandoning the case when an appeals court in New York denied an injunction.

Soon after announcing that he was ending the appeal, Elliott went to Mexico. There were photos of him running on a beach, and apparently a planned documentary that has yet to be released. Elliott didn't want to talk about that either.

"Just watch it," he said. "Tell me the message you get."

Elliott's agents said six weeks ago that the former Ohio State star would release a "personal statement" before his return, but it never happened.

The closest thing was his only answer of substance Wednesday, when Elliott responded to a question about what he learned by saying he didn't walk to talk about the



Dallas Cowboys wide receiver Dez Bryant (88) talks with running back Ezekiel Elliott (21) as they stretch together at NFL football practice in Frisco, Texas, Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2017.

episode and then thanking the Cowboys, his family and the fans. "Especially the Cowboys fans who stuck by me through this tough time and have a little faith in me," Elliott said. "I'm not going to talk about it anymore. This is the last time you're going to hear me speak about it. So please don't even ask me about it." The Cowboys went 3-3 See ELLIOTT, Page 13



Aldridge, Gasol lead Spurs to 93-91 win over Trail Blazers

By NICK DASCHEL
Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — Short-handed on bodies but not competitive spirit, the San Antonio Spurs found a way to grind out a win against a Trail Blazers team desperate to end its home losing streak.

LaMarcus Aldridge scored 22 points, and Pau Gasol had 20 points and a

AP Photo

On the left, Spurs forward LaMarcus Aldridge drives to the basket past Portland Trail Blazers forward Al-Farouq Aminu during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Portland, Ore., Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2017.

season-high 17 rebounds as the Spurs beat Portland 93-91 on Wednesday night.

San Antonio, which trailed by six in the fourth quarter, took an 86-85 lead with 5:04 remaining on a layup by Manu Ginobili, but didn't secure the victory until C.J. McCollum's 3-point shot glanced off the rim at the buzzer.

The Spurs (22-10) were without starters Kawhi Leonard and Tony Parker. Recovering from quadriceps injuries, both were rested on the first night of a back-to-back. Portland, com-

ing off a 3-2 road trip, lost its fifth consecutive home game. The Blazers (16-15) are the only NBA team with a winning overall record but a losing mark at home.

San Antonio also overcame a season-high 22 turnovers, and lows in free throws made (five) and attempted (six).

"I told them if I could bottle that effort at the end of the game, they'd win 82 games," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. "I thought we hung in there pretty good. Didn't play great, but I'm really proud of the effort."

San Antonio persevered by outrebounding Portland 53-38 and getting strong

performances from Aldridge and Gasol.

"He played big down there. He was more determined to get to the rim, and (was) making strong moves for us," Aldridge said of Gasol.

The sloppiness wasn't lost on the Spurs, however.

"We didn't take care of the ball. That's what kept them in the game for the most part. We've got to do a better job of being aware of the value of the ball and make better decisions," Gasol said.

Patty Mills and Ginobili came off the bench to score 10 points apiece for San

See SPURS, Page 13



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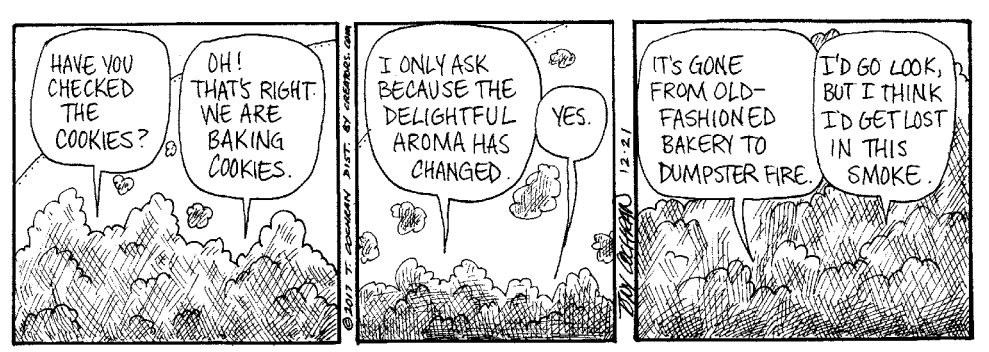
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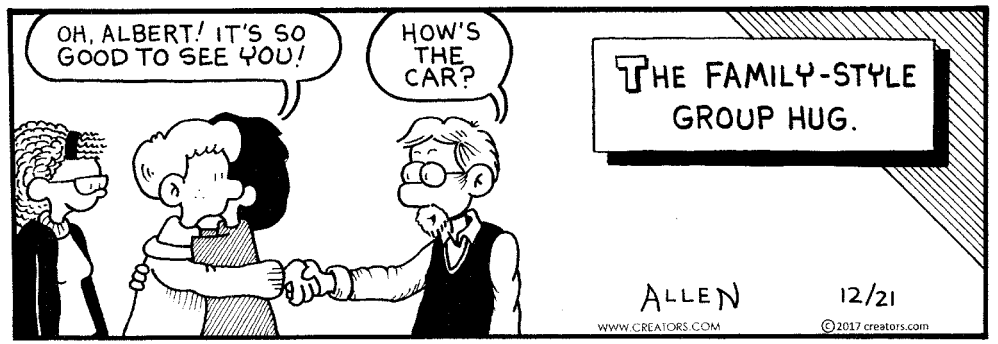
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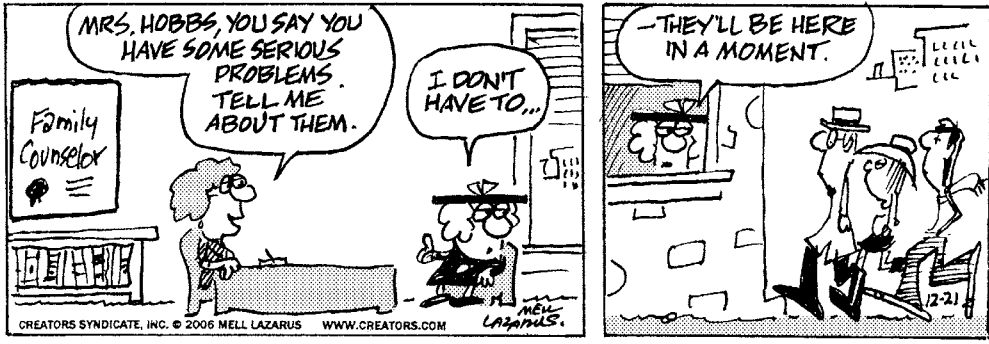
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This Date In History

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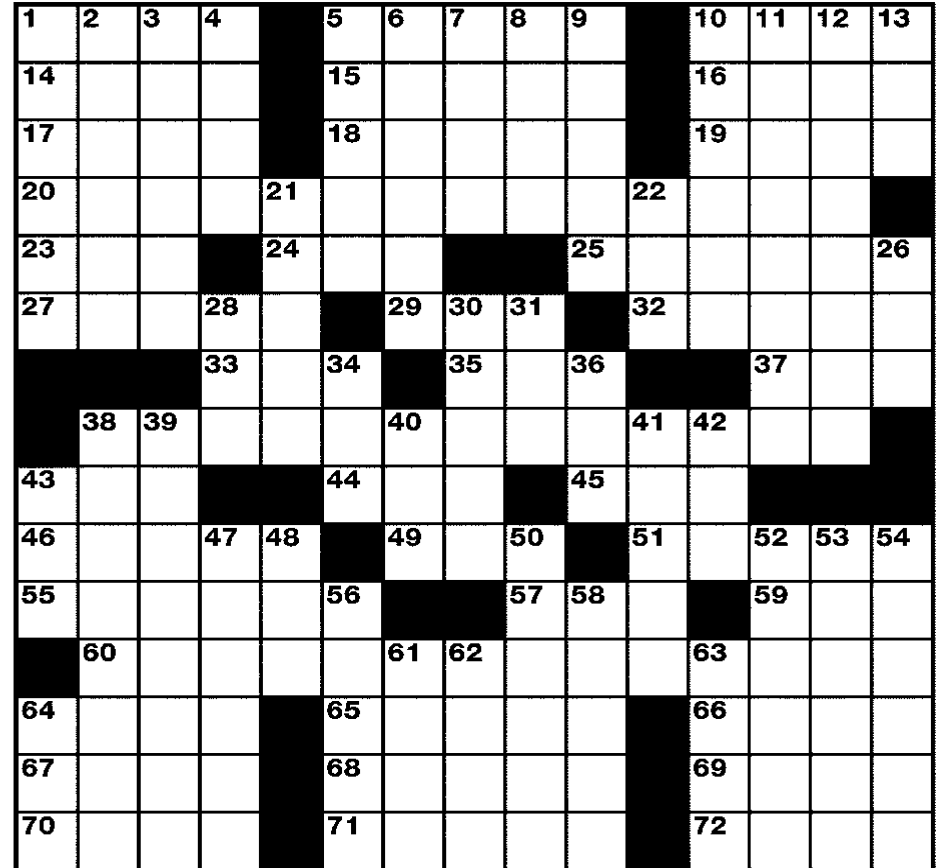
World Golf Hall of Famer Karrie Webb is 43. Rock singer Lukas Rossi (Rock Star Supernova) is 41.

Thought for Today: "The time will come when Winter will ask us: 'What were you doing all the Summer?'"

Newsday Crossword

NO-L NOEL by Mark McC. Edited by Stan Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS 1 Other name for Mars 5 Igneous rocks, once 10 Part of Cajun stews 14 Printed words 15 Brainy introvert 16 Nine, on the Seine 17 "Masking" stuff 18 Wingding 19 Canvas structure 20 "Seagoing" December song 23 Director Howard 24 Strange 25 Book of Judges strongman 27 Wound down 29 Hang down 32 Throw with might 33 Tiny bit 35 Tavern container 37 Tavern container 38 "No crib" December song 43 Certain nest egg 44 Dispenser sweet 45 Diner dessert 46 Brief instant 49 Metaphor for deceit 51 Heavy gas 55 With the upshot being 57 Guitar cousin 59 Feminine "a" in French 60 "Merry and bright" December song 64 Signed off on 65 Horse to ride 66 Be at the edge of 67 Used to be 68 Name on western Washington maps 69 Wingding 70 Checked out 71 Paper's essays 72 Stomped (on) 8 Hand (out) 9 Deep fissure 10 Just when expected 11 Memento 12 Exceeds, as budgeted time 13 Sternward 21 The present 22 "That's what you think!" 26 Darkroom abbr. 28 Theta preceder 30 Knock the socks off 31 Checkout counter item 34 Ice cream amount 36 Discontinuity 38 Cursor mover 39 "Don't move!" 40 Contemporary 41 Doesn't sign off on 42 "I'm impressed!" 43 Part of TGIF 47 Reprimanded 48 Have something 50 Got angry, so to speak 52 Part of PIN 53 Preprogrammed, perhaps 54 Got comfy 56 Adagio, for instance 58 Saint ___ and Nevis 61 Great success 62 Gargantuan 63 27th president 64 Have debt



Answer to previous puzzle PLOP CHAR PLATE FLOP RARE OASIS EVER INON PIKES PARKING METERS SAG AWAY UMA MEW RECESS MILES DAVIS RACE PALE KIN OGRE ETAL FEET OF CLAY DAYS PA OUR EPA RICH TAP RAILROAD YARDS HEINZ ELMO YEAH EMOTE DEMO MENU MUTES ODOR EDEN



Dallas Cowboys running back Ezekiel Elliott (21) practices with teammates at NFL football practice in Frisco, Texas, Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2017.

ELLIOTT

Continued from Page 7

without Elliott, losing the first three before the current three-game winning streak that has kept them alive in the NFC wild-card race. Dallas must win its final two games, starting Sunday at home against Seattle, and get help from several teams.

Elliott ran with the first team in his first practice Wednesday, and a Dallas offense that sputtered even while winning games when he was gone figures to be more efficient with the versatile runner, pass-catcher and blitz blocker.

"It just makes our offense that much better, that much more powerful," said quarterback Dak Prescott, the NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year last season with fellow first-star Elliott as his backfield mate.

"It's hard to scheme and play us. You can load the box if you want, the way we've been going in the passing game, we'll beat you that way. If you want to lighten the box up and let him go, we'll do that too."

Since he was first emerging as a star, Elliott's teammates say they've fed off what they see as his fun-loving nature. He's shown it for the cameras a few times as well, most notably when he jumped into a large Salvation Army red kettle after a touchdown on Thanksgiving last year.

Elliott was suspended for the Thanksgiving game this year.

"He helps us out a lot doing that, being able to come in here, run around with his ...," said defensive end DeMarcus Lawrence, deciding he wasn't quite ready to share this particular Elliott anecdote. "He's crazy. It's fun just to have a guy like that in the locker room."

Once they lost three straight games without him, the Cowboys figured they would need to win all five remaining games to make the playoffs a year after Prescott and Elliott led them to an NFC-best 13 wins.

Now they know they have to win the last two, while getting a rare late-season boost with the return of one of their best players.

"He gets guys juiced up," receiver Dez Bryant said. "We are excited to have him back and get to rolling."

AP Photo

SPURS

Continued from Page 7

Antonio.

The Blazers struggled offensively, as their starting backcourt of McCollum and Damian Lillard combined to shoot 11 of 39. Lillard, hobbled throughout most of the second half by a sore knee, led Portland with 17 points. Jusuf Nurkic scored 15, while Evan Turner and Shabazz Napier scored 14 each for the Blazers.

McCollum, who was 5 of 22, had 13 points.

Portland coach Terry Stotts said Lillard's lack of mobility affected his play-calling late in the game.

"I think if I'm able to play, we win that game. No question about it," Lillard said.

San Antonio led 54-46 at half-time after a torrid first half from Aldridge and Gasol, who combined to shoot 15 of 20 from the floor.

The Spurs withstood a rough stretch during the third quarter, when Nurkic scored 11 points during a 17-4 run that gave the Blazers a 64-61 lead. But the Spurs recovered, grabbing a 74-72 lead after three quarters on Kyle Anderson's buzzer-beating 3-pointer.

TIP-INS

Spurs: San Antonio attempted only one free throw in the first half. Neither team shot a free throw during the first quarter. ... Anderson (left MCL sprain) returned to action for the first time in nine games. Also back after missing two games was Danny Green (groin). ... Leonard averaged 28.3 points in three games against Portland last season.

Trail Blazers: A semi-truck hauling a large trash bin lost control while driving down a steep road in Southwest Portland, plunging into Turner's swimming pool Wednesday morning. Turner was home in bed at the time. The driver was taken to Oregon Health and Science University Medical Center with serious injuries.



San Antonio Spurs guard Dejounte Murray drives to the basket past Portland Trail Blazers guard Evan Turner during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Portland, Ore., Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2017.

AP Photo

... McCollum missed his first 11 shots before finally hitting a 12-footer midway through the third quarter. ... Portland tied a season high with 12 steals.

UP NEXT

Spurs: Thursday at Utah.

Trail Blazers: Friday at home against Denver.

Smith's return, Barnes' 25 lift Mavs over Pistons 110-93

By SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — Dennis Smith Jr. fooled Reggie Jackson by faking one way, spinning the other and hitting a jumper while drawing a foul as Detroit's veteran guard scrambled back to the Dallas rookie.

The ninth overall pick in the draft returned after missing six games with a strained left hip, and Rick Carlisle certainly noticed the difference in a 110-93 victory over the Pistons on Wednesday night, even though the coach called Smith's return "bad, great, shaky and good."

"When he came back in the second quarter, his stretch was the decisive stretch of the game," Carlisle said. "It got our crowd into it, energized the team. Nobody else on our team can make those plays like he can."

Harrison Barnes scored 25 points, Smith had 15 points and five assists and the Mavericks, last in the Western Conference, won for just the second time in eight games — five of those losses without Smith.

Anthony Tolliver led Detroit with a season-high 18 points, going 4 of 6 from 3-point range. Stanley

See **MAVS**, Page 14

AP Photo

On the left, Dallas Mavericks guard Dennis Smith Jr. (1) dribbles during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Detroit Pistons in Dallas, Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2017. The Mavericks 110-93.



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MAVS

Continued from Page 13

Johnson also had a season high with 16 points, and Andre Drummond had 11 points and 13 rebounds while battling foul trouble.

The Mavericks shot 79 percent (15 of 19) in the second quarter for their highest-scoring quarter (43) and half (65) of the season, taking a 12-point lead after trailing by nine in the first quarter.

Smith capped a 17-4 finishing run in the first half with a 3-pointer followed by the play against Jackson, who finished with six points of 3-of-9 shooting. Smith was 5 of 10 from the field with five rebounds.

"No resistance whatsoever," Detroit coach Stan Van Gundy said. "We couldn't contain any of their guards. They were right by us all night long."

Smith struggled against Jackson early, and the Mavericks started their rally with him on the bench. But they went ahead for good with him on the floor during his 11-point second quarter.

"I was just coming out trying to do what I do," Smith said. "My legs were heavy at first. I had to get my second wind. The bad, the good, the shaky, I don't know about that."

Barnes was 8 of 15 from the field, 3 of 5 from long range and made all six of his free throws while leading Dallas with seven rebounds.

Dirk Nowitzki scored 12 points, including a 3-pointer for Dallas' biggest lead to that point, a 23-point edge (92-69) early in the fourth quarter. J.J. Barea had one of his game-high seven assists on the bucket.

Tobias Harris, Detroit's leading scorer, scored 10 points on 4-of-16 shooting, missing all four shots from 3.

TIP-INS

Pistons: Drummond had nine rebounds in 17 minutes at halftime, leaving with 3 1/2 minutes left with his third foul. He picked up his fourth and went back to the bench with seven minutes left the third. ... Ish Smith scored 15 points, two shy of his season high.

Mavericks: G Kyle Collinsworth scored his first NBA points on a 3 in his debut a day after signing a two-way contract. ... C Salah Mejri had four blocks and was called for goaltending twice in the first half.

J. COLE SIGHTING

Smith said it wasn't a big deal to have hip hop artist and fellow Fayetteville, North Carolina, product J. Cole watching courtside — and cheering demonstratively. Smith said Cole was a frequent visitor for games at North Carolina State, and during the summer league in Las Vegas. The pair was planning to grab dinner after the game.

As for Cole going onto the court briefly to celebrate Smith's three-point play, Smith said he wasn't surprised. "That's how he is," Smith said with a smile.

THIRD-QUARTER CLUNKER

The problem was offense for Detroit in the third, with the Pistons going seven minutes without a field goal and shooting 22 percent (4 of 18) after holding Dallas scoreless the first 3 1/2 minutes of the quarter.

UP NEXT

Pistons: Home against the Knicks on Friday night.

Mavericks: At Miami on Friday night to start a stretch of five of six on the road.

No. 18 Baylor wins 5th straight, 80-60 over Southern

By JASON ORTS

Associated Press

WACO, Texas — With one eye looking forward to Christmas break and Big 12 play, No. 18 Baylor didn't look sharp for stretches Wednesday night.

But Bears coach Scott Drew is always quick to point out the number of upsets college basketball produces, almost on a nightly basis, so he was happy to see his team avoid that trap.

Manu Lecomte scored 22 points and Baylor won its fifth straight, 80-60 over Southern.

"It was a great night. Most importantly going into Christmas, we got the win," Drew said. "This is a Southern team that has played a lot of teams close. Duke was a single-digit game most of the way and ended up being 17. There's a reason Texas Southern and Southern have been the teams to go to the NCAA Tournament from the SWAC in recent history the most."

Baylor went on a 13-0 run in the first half to pull away, then had an 11-2 spurt after Southern cut its lead to 46-40 midway through the second half.

The Bears (10-2) shot 63 percent from the field (31 for 49), including 11 for 22 from 3-point range. Lecomte was 6 for 9 on 3s. King McClure added 13 points on 5-of-6 shooting for Baylor, which won despite turning the ball over 21 times compared to six for Southern.

"We did a bad job taking care of the ball. We didn't do a great job (offensive) rebounding," Drew said. "Other than that, I'm happy with the guys, and most of all happy they get to go home for a happy Christmas. The shooting percentages are pretty good. The turnovers have been great up until the last two games. So I guess Scrooge got in the building the last two games. We've got to get him out of here. We know we can't win in the Big 12 with 21 turnovers."

The Bears' inside game made its presence felt, especially on the defensive end. Baylor had a 41-26 rebound advantage and blocked 10 shots. Tristan Clark led the Baylor frontcourt with 11 points.

"I thought we just kind of ran out of gas," Southern coach Morris Scott said. "Those guys are a great team, and they've got a lot of bigs that can come in and pound you on the inside. They do a



AP Photo

Baylor guard Manu Lecomte (20) shoots a 3-pointer over Southern University guard LaQuentin Collins during the first half of an NCAA college basketball game, Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2017, in Waco, Texas.

great job with their team, and they knocked down some 3s and kind of got away from us in the second half."

Jared Sam led the Jaguars (3-9) with 21 points, and Jamar Sandifer had 14. Southern shot 27 for 72 from the field (38 percent) but was only 2 for 15 from 3-point range (13 percent).

UP NEXT

Southern will return home to meet Ecclesia College on Dec. 29.

Baylor begins Big 12 play on the road against No. 21 Texas Tech on Dec. 29.

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