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# HERALD

**BIG SPRING** MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2018



VOLUME 114, NUMBER 65 COPYRIGHT 2018 75 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

## MVPN to host social event for veterans and their families

**By ANNA GUTIERREZ**  
 Staff Writer

This Wednesday, December 19, the West Texas Centers – Military Veteran Peer Network (MVPN) will be hosting their first social event which is open to all veterans and their family members. This event will be held at Pizza Inn, located at 700 E. FM 700 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., and is sure to be filled with yummy food, fellowship, laughs and possibly even some story telling. A meal and a drink will be provided to those who attend.

MVPN stands for Military Veteran Peer Network, and the goal of the organization is to provide free peer-to-peer services to service members, veterans and their family members. Francisco Garza, a US Army veteran who did two tours in Iraq, is the MVPN Peer Service Coordinator with West Texas Centers, and he hopes to host more events like this on a regular basis and spread the word.



**Francisco Garza**

“Veterans helping veterans, that’s our creed. Our mission is to link service members, veterans, and their families with one another to provide them with access to local, state and federal resources,” he said. According to Garza, the MVPN primarily provides mental health services or referrals to other mental health providers, but can also provide information to other services, such as housing, job assistance, physical health and substance abuse. He is also looking for service members, veterans or family members who are interested in volunteering with the organization.

If you would like more information on the upcoming event, the organization itself or how to volunteer, please call Mr. Garza at 432-268-3003.

Contact Staff Writer Anna Gutierrez at 432-263-7331 ext. 232, or by email at citydesk@bigspringherald.com.

**Big Spring Herald's Christmas Countdown**



**Lillie** says  
 “Only 8 Days ‘til Christmas!”  
 (Lillie Green, Granddaughter of Sandra Green, Ad Designer)

**YMCA of Big Spring**  
 801 Owens St.  
 (432) 267-8234

## BSSO 'Home for the Holidays' concert sparkles with Christmas spirit



**HERALD photos/Roger Cline**

The Big Spring Symphony Orchestra, directed by Dr. Keith Graumann, and joined by the Big Spring High School Choir under the direction of Gershom Garcia, performed a variety of holiday music Saturday night during the "Home For the Holidays" concert. In the left photo, Garcia leads the BSHS Choir in an a cappella rendition of Pentatonix's "That's Christmas To Me." In the right photo, Graumann greets jolly old St. Nicholas and welcomes him to the program. Santa interacted with children during the intermission of the concert.

**By ROGER CLINE**  
 Staff Writer

Quite a few Howard County residents made their way out to the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium Saturday night to stay "Home for the Holidays."

The event was the holiday concert performed by the Big Spring Symphony Orchestra under the direction

of Dr. Keith Graumann, along with solo singers Lawrence Thibeault and Tara Trowbridge, and the combined Big Spring High School choirs under the direction of Gershom Garcia.

"This was one of the most fun concerts I've done in recent memory," Graumann said. "The orchestra played so very well, and we had a great variety of music that was fun to mix up, from traditional favorites

through a little bit of rock and roll, and some Israeli music in honor of Hanukkah. I'm especially proud of the Big Spring High School Choir with Mr. Gershom Garcia and Beth Spence, directors. They just did a tremendous job getting them ready for it, and we just had a great time. It was particularly fun singing 'The

See **BSSO**, Page 3

## Just For Kicks distributes shoes, hams and haircuts

**HERALD photo/Roger Cline**

The photos above show shoes on display to be donated as well as kids receiving hair trims during the 2018 Just for Kicks event. Big Spring's Family Faith Center and the Ludington Family held their annual "Just For Kicks" shoe drive for area students on Saturday. Hundreds of kids showed up to get one of the 650 pairs of shoes collected by volunteers during the weeks leading up to the event. This year, the church also offered free haircuts and distributed more than 150 hams to those in attendance.



## 10 Things to Know for Today

**By The Associated Press**

Your daily look at late-breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about today:

- SHUTDOWN THREAT LOOMS AS TRUMP DEMANDS WALL**  
 Pushing the government to the brink of a partial shutdown, the White House insists Congress provide \$5 billion to build a border wall. Both parties have suggested that President Trump would likely need to make the next move to resolve the impasse.
- HOW MIGRANT GIRL'S DEATH UNDERSCORES BORDER AGENT LANGUAGE CHALLENGES**  
 Shortly before a 7-year-old Guatemalan girl died in U.S. custody, her father signed a form stating that his daughter was in good health, but it's unclear how much the man understood because agents did not speak his native tongue.
- WHO SAYS TRUMP WILL TALK TO MUELLER 'OVER MY DEAD BODY'**  
 Rudy Giuliani says he would not allow the president to sit down for an interview with the special counsel

See **THINGS**, Page 3



**Trump**

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## Obituaries

### Jeannie Darden

Jeannie Darden, 78, of Midland, formerly of Coahoma died Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018. The family will receive friends from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral Services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday at the First Baptist Church of Coahoma with Elwin Collom, pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church, and David Newton, associate pastor of Crossroads Fellowship, officiating. Burial will be at the Coahoma Cemetery.

Jeannie was born May 27, 1940, in Kilgore to Floyd Bobo and Lou Alma Owens Bobo. She moved to Coahoma in 1952. She graduated from Coahoma Highschool. She married Billy Jack Darden, May 31, 1958, in Big Spring. She began her financial career at C.I.T. Finance in Big Spring for 13 years. She then began her banking career, working 33 years at State National Bank. She was a vice-president at State National Bank. She loved brush painting, traveling with Billy Jack, and being with her grandchildren. She was a member of the Crossroads Fellowship in Odessa.

She is survived by her husband, Billy Jack Darden of Midland; son, Billy Joe Darden of Midland; three grandchildren, Brandi Rice and her husband Shannon of Midland, Blake Darden and his wife Lori of Spring Branch, and Bryan Darden of Austin; great grandchildren; Kayleigh Rice, Tristen Rice, Hunter Darden, Addison Darden, Alea Darden and Baby Boy Darden due in April; one sister, Betty Parrish and her husband Charles of Coahoma; one brother James Bobo and his wife Jean of Arab, Alabama; several nieces, nephews and cousins.

In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by granddaughter -in-law Hanna Darden; two brothers, Bobby and Vernon Bobo; two sisters, her twin, Winnie Dodson and Era Horn.

Pallbearers are Blake Darden, Bryan Darden, Shannon Rice, Tristen Rice, Danny Dodson and Adam Norris.

The family suggests memorials to the First Baptist Church of Coahoma.

Arrangements under the direction of Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com).

*Paid Obituary*

### Delmar "Del" Hartin

Delmar "Del" Hartin, 83, of Big Spring, passed away Sunday, Dec. 16, 2018, at Midland Memorial Hospital. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

### Felipe "Israel" O'Guin

Felipe "Israel" O'Guin, 20, of Big Spring, passed away Saturday, Dec. 15, 2018. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

### James E. "Bad Penny" Gallaway



James E. "Bad Penny" Gallaway, 68, of Big Spring, died Sunday, Dec. 15, 2018, in a Lubbock hospital.

No services are planned at this time.

He was born Dec. 23, 1949, in San Angelo.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory.

## Police, Sheriff Report

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **BRITTANY CASTILLO**, 28, was arrested on BSPD on a warrants of theft property in between \$2,500, and possession of man disturbance.

- **STEVEN ALLEN SAVELL**, 33, was arrested on BSPD on warrants of evading arrest detention, and criminal mischief in between \$750 and \$2,500.

- **JOSEPH RAY BACA**, 33, was arrested on HCSO on a charge of possession of marijuana less than two ounces, and warrants fail to maintain financial, driving while license invalid.

- **BURGLARY OF BUILDING** was reported in the 3000 block of S Hwy 87.

- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 1300 block of Stadium Ave.

- **ASSAULT** was reported in the 1800 block of S Benton St., and in the 1500 block of State Park Dr.

- **STOLEN VEHICLE** was reported in the 8400 block of Gail Highway.

- **MISSING ADULT** was re-

ported in the 1100 block of Cypress St.

- **THEFT** was reported in the 1800 block of S Owens St.

- **FOLLOW UP REPORT** was reported in the 1300 block of Stadium Ave., and in the 1500 block of S Main St.

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 69 inmates at the time of this report.

- **MONTE RAVON ANDERSON**, 27, was arrested on a HCSO on warrant of resit arrest search or transport.

- **JOSEPH RAY BACA**, 33, was arrested on HCSO on a charge of possession of marijuana less than two ounces, and warrants fail to maintain financial, driving while license invalid.

- **BRITTANY CASTILLO**, 28, was arrested on BSPD on a warrants of theft property in between \$2,500, and possession of man disturbance.

- **PEGGY ANN EDMOND-**

**SON**, 39, was arrested on HCSO on a warrant of theft of property in between \$2,500 and \$30,00.

- **CLAUDIA VALENZUELA ENRIQUEZ**, 33, was arrested on DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- **TRADERO QUMAN GREEN**, 31, was arrested on HCSO on a warrant of bail jumping and failure to appear.

- **LEN KELLY LONG**, 48, was arrested on BSPD on a warrant of harassment.

- **LINDSAY ERIN LUCAS**, 34, was arrested on BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- **HENRY RAMIREZ**, 62, was arrested on BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- **STEVEN ALLEN SAVELL**, 33, was arrested on BSPD on warrants of evading arrest detention, and criminal mischief in between \$750 and \$2,500.

- **ANGEL VILLA SR.**, 43, was arrested on HCSO on a warrants of possession of marijuana less than two ounces, and on resist arrest search or transport.

## Take Note

- The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. We need your help. If you're interested in volunteering, contact Sara Basaldua at 1-877-316-8346 or visit [www.BecomeaCASA.org](http://www.BecomeaCASA.org) or [www.casawtx.org](http://www.casawtx.org).

- Big Spring and surrounding counties are in need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 432-263-9669.

- Maranatha Baptist Academy, 903 Johnson Big Spring, Texas 432-213-1046, Call today for educational needs. In School, High School graduation, Tutoring, homeschool. We are qualified to help you with your child's education, kindergarten through twelfth grade. Come by or give us a call. Open enrollment.

- Scenic Mountain Medical Center Auxiliary is looking for new members. If you have a heart for serving people, have at least four hours a week to spare, SMMC Auxiliary might be the fit for you. Duties include working in the gift shop, delivering newspapers

to inpatients, hospitality services, popcorn and more. To find out more about opportunities available with the SMMC Auxiliary, contact Amy Miramontes at 268-4809 or April Arms at 268-4907.

- The Crossroads Young Marines is taking applications for another boot camp. For more information, call 432-517-4791. Young Marines welcomes boys and girls ages 8 to 18 who are still attending school.

- The Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) is an independent national nonprofit dedicated to helping distressed homeowners navigate financial challenges and avoid mortgage foreclosure. If you want to stop mortgage foreclosure and are need of help, the time to call 888-995-HOPE is now. HPF can provide counseling free of charge, in English and 170 other languages, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. For free foreclosure help, call the hotline.

- The Howard County Democrats

will meet the second and fourth Monday of each month at 5:30 pm. at the Howard County Democratic Headquarters, 1408 Scurry, behind Prosperity Bank .

- 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.

## Dr. Rudy Haddad

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## Support Groups

### MONDAY

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

### TUESDAY

- Big Spring and Snyder Parkinson's 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.

- A six-week course in Wellness and Quality of Life with Chronic Pain will be held at Spring Creek Fellowship at the Spring Town Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700. There is no charge for the course, and a workbook will be provided. Contact Steve Purdy at 432-517-4840 for more information.

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

### WEDNESDAY

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

### THURSDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Newcomers' meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

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

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

- Bring Everyone Into The Zone, or BEITZ Support Group, is a veteran-based peer group. The purpose of the group is to provide peer-to-peer support to service members, veterans and families, especially those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), military sexual trauma (MST) and other traumatic events in their lives. BEITZ meets every Thursday at 6 p.m. t 501 Birdwell Lane. For more information, email francisco.garza@wtc mhmr.org, or call 432-268-3003.

### FRIDAY

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

## BIG SPRING HERALD

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**MEMBER 2018**

**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**

# White House closer to partial shutdown with wall demand

By HOPE YEN

Associated Press  
WASHINGTON — Pushing the government to the brink of a partial shutdown, the White House is insisting that Congress provide \$5 billion to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border despite lawmaker resistance from both parties.

Without a resolution, parts of the federal government will shut down at midnight Friday.

"We're going to do whatever is necessary to build the border wall to stop this ongoing crisis of illegal immigration," White House senior adviser Stephen Miller said Sunday.

Asked if that meant having a government shutdown, he said: "If it comes to it, absolutely."

President Donald Trump said last week he would be "proud" to have a shutdown to get Congress to approve a \$5 billion down payment to fulfill his campaign promise to build a border wall. But the president doesn't have the votes from the Republican-controlled Congress to support funding for the wall at that level.

Both major political parties in Congress have suggested that Trump would likely need to make the next move to resolve the impasse. The House is taking an extended weekend break, returning Wednesday night. The Senate returns Monday after a three-day absence.

The Democratic congressional leaders, Sen. Chuck Schumer and Rep. Nancy Pelosi, have proposed no more than \$1.6 billion, as outlined in a bipartisan Senate bill. The money would not go for the wall but for fencing upgrades and other border security. Democrats also offered to simply keep funding at its current level, \$1.3 billion.

Showing no signs of budging, Schumer said Sunday that it was up to Trump to decide whether the federal government will partially shut down, sending thousands of federal employees home without pay during the holidays.

About one-quarter of the government would be affected, including the departments of Homeland Security, Transportation, Agriculture, State and Justice, as well as national parks. The U.S. Postal Service, busy delivering packages for the holiday season, wouldn't be affected by



AP photo

In this Dec. 11, 2018, file photo, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., speaks to reporters on Capitol Hill in Washington.

any government shutdown because it's an independent agency.

"He is not going to get the wall in any form," Schumer said.

Trump had neither accepted nor rejected the Democrats' proposal as of Friday, according to the Democrats, telling them he would take a look. Trump will need Democratic votes either way, now or in the new year, for passage.

Trump, during his 2016 presidential campaign, promised that Mexico would pay for the wall. Mexico refused.

Wyoming Sen. John Barrasso, the No. 3 Republican in the Senate, said Republicans remain hopeful they can come up with a proposal that can be acceptable to Trump and pass both chambers. He suggested that could take the form of a stopgap bill that extends funding until January or a longer-term bill that includes money for border security.

"There are a lot of things you need to do with border security," he said. "One is a physical barrier but also the technology, the manpower, the enforcement, all of those things, and our current laws are in some ways an incentive for people to come

to this country illegally, and they go through great risk and possibly great harm."

Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, urged senators to revisit a bill she helped push earlier this year that would provide \$2.5 billion for border security, including physical barriers as well as technology and border patrol agents.

Schumer declined to say whether Democrats would be willing to consider proposals other than the two options that he and Pelosi offered.

Republicans "should join us in one of these two proposals, which would get more than enough votes passed and avoid a shutdown," Schumer said. "Then, if the president wants to debate the wall next year, he can. I don't think he'll get it. But he shouldn't use innocent workers as hostage for his temper tantrum."

Miller and Barrasso spoke on CBS' "Face the Nation," Schumer appeared on NBC's "Meet the Press," and Collins was on ABC's "This Week."

## THINGS

Continued from Page 1

investigating Russian interference into the 2016 election.

**4. WHAT CLIMATE RULES NEARLY 200 NATIONS ADOPT**

At the U.N. climate talks, the countries agree to measures that set out how they should report their emissions, along with efforts to reduce them.

**5. WHEN NEXT GENERATION GPS SATELLITES WILL HEAD TO SPACE**

This week, the U.S. Air Force prepares to launch the first of 32 new satellites critical to military and civilian use, including improved location and navigation services.

**6. SAUDI REJECTS US SENATE 'INTERFERENCE'**

Riyadh strongly dismisses the resolution blaming its crown prince for the killing of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

**7. LOCKED AWAY, FORTGOTTEN**

Pakistani men whose Muslim Uighur wives are held in China's re-education camps struggle to reunite their families.

**8. OFFICIALS FRET VAPING BOOM**

Teen drug use may be down, but twice as many high school students are using nicotine-tipped electronic cigarettes compared with last year, according to a large annual U.S. survey.

**9. 'I DIDN'T THINK THAT PLAYING BINGO WAS UP TO MY SPEED'**

Retired secretary Janet Fein, 84, will accomplish a long-held goal this week when she graduates from the University of Texas at Dallas with a bachelor's degree.

**10. STEELERS SNAP 3-GAME SKID IN RARE WIN OVER PATS**

Rookie running back Jaylen Samuels runs for a career-high 142 yards as Pittsburgh holds off New England, 17-10.

### MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Jimmy Max Self, 84, died Thursday. Graveside Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Coahoma Cemetery.

Jeannie Darden, 78, died Thursday. The family will receive friends from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral Services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday at the First Baptist Church of Coahoma with burial at the Coahoma Cemetery.

Felipe "Israel" O'Guin, 20, of Big Spring, passed away Saturday, Dec. 15, 2018. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Delmar "Del" Hartin, 83, of Big Spring, passed away Sunday, Dec. 16, 2018, at Memorial Hospital. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## BSSO

Continued from Page 1

Hallelujah Chorus' at the end. We feel like it was a great concert, and the audience seems to have enjoyed it also."

After the traditional "Star Spangled Banner" opening to the show, the orchestra led off with "Fanfare and Celebration," a medley of Christmas favorites, followed by "March of the Toys" from the movie "Babes in Toyland"; "Shepherds Hey"; and "Carol of the Drum," a fantasy on the Christmas song "The Little Drummer Boy."

Next, the soloists got into the act, as Thibeault performed J.S. Bach's "Ave Maria"; and, after orchestral arrangements of three rock-and-roll versions of Christmas favorites by Mannheim Steamroller, Trowbridge took the stage with "Pie Jesu" by Gabriel Faure.

Flutists Anna Whitlock Henry and Rebecca Webb were featured on "Fantasia on Greensleeves" by R. Vaughan Williams, and then a red-suited, white-bearded "Visitor From the North" made an ap-

pearance, promising to interact with kids in the lobby during intermission.

The audience got to participate a bit on "Christmas Pop Sing-A-Long" before the break.

After intermission, the orchestra wowed the audience with "Sleigh Ride" and "Fantasia on Yerushalayim Shel Zahav (Jerusalem of Gold)," a traditional Israeli patriotic song.

Thibeault and Trowbridge again took the stage with "The Christmas Song" and "Cantique de Noel (O Holy Night)" respectively.

The BSHS choir took the stage with the orchestra during another "Christmas Sing-A-Long," and then performed Pentatonix's "That's Christmas To Me" a cappella, followed by "Carol Cantata III" by Robert Russell Bennett, along with the orchestra.

The concert was capped off by "The Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's "Messiah" as an encore number.

After the concert, Garcia expressed pride in the BSHS choir, and Big Spring in general.

"I'm really proud of our community. I just think it's awe-

some that we have a great orchestra, and the choir did phenomenally well, I'm so proud of them," he said. "And the soloists, Larry Thibeault and Tara Trowbridge, they're outstanding singers and performers. I think Big Spring is very fortunate to have all these wonderful, talented people."

The choir has experienced remarkable growth and improvement over the past several years.

"It's been exciting because the students that we are working with are enthusiastic and just excited about choral music, and they're working hard," Garcia said. "Each year, we've upped the number of students that have gone on to Region and to State, and also performing for Solo and Ensemble for UIL. This past year we had two outstanding soloists at the state Solo and Ensemble contest, which is a very rare thing to have. We had two from our school to make it. It was Charlie Correa and Josiah Garcia. I'm very proud of the kids."

Graumann said Thibeault and Trowbridge are phenomenal performers.

"They're both experienced

performers," he said. "Lawrence Thibeault just continues to improve. His range has now increased up to the tenor range, so I'm really proud of him for working up to that. He's a really great singer. And Tara Trowbridge is just such a beautiful lyric soprano that it will bring tears to your eyes when you hear her sing sometimes."

The Big Spring Symphony Guild held a reception with refreshments in the auditorium's lobby following the concert.

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

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Martin County Hospital

### Texans look ahead to bigger goals after reaching 10 wins

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Texans moved closer to clinching the AFC South by bouncing back from last week's loss with a win over the Jets.

Now they'll try to get banged-up players DeAndre Hopkins and Lamar Miller healthy before visiting the Super Bowl champion Eagles next week. A win could leave open the possibility of getting a first-round playoff bye.

The Texans (10-4) have won nine of their last 10 games after opening the season 0-3 to give coach Bill O'Brien 10 regular-season wins for the first time in his five years with the team. It's the first time the Texans have had 10 wins in the regular season since setting a franchise-record with 12 in 2012.

"It's great. I think 10 wins is hard to do in this league," O'Brien said. "I give our players and our coaching staff a ton of credit. Our players have worked very hard to get to this point in the season. There is a long way to go here."

The Texans led by 13 at halftime before the Jets rallied to take a 22-19 lead with 5:00 left in the fourth quarter. Deshaun Watson then connected with DeAndre Hopkins on a 14-yard touchdown to put the Texans on top, and they added a field goal after that to secure the 29-22 victory.

Hopkins injured his ankle in the fourth quarter and had to be helped off the field by teammates. But he returned after that and the injury doesn't appear serious.

Miller could be more of a concern after he hurt his ankle in the first quarter and returned for a series in the second before sitting out for the rest



AP photo

Houston Texans wide receiver DeAndre Hopkins (10) makes a touchdown catch on a pass from quarterback Deshaun Watson, not pictured, as New York Jets cornerback Morris Claiborne (21) defends during the second half of an NFL football game, Saturday, Dec. 15, 2018, in East Rutherford, N.J. The Texans won 29-22.

of the game. O'Brien said he doesn't think the injury is "major," but that he'd know more next week.

With Miller out on Saturday, Houston's only other active running back was Alfred Blue. Blue, who has been used this season to spell Miller, was ineffective against the Jets, finishing with nine carries for 6 yards.

If Miller is limited next week, the Texans could look to D'Onta Foreman to pick up the slack. Foreman was put on the active roster from the physically unable to perform on Dec. 4, but has been inactive in the two games since.

Foreman has been out since Nov. 19, 2017 when he tore his Achilles tendon after running for 327 yards and two touchdowns in his rookie season. O'Brien said they put him on the active roster because they thought he'd be able to help the team this season. He's been participating fully in practice, but it's unclear if he's ready to contribute in a game.

Another concern for the Texans this week is finding a way to better protect Watson. The second-year quarterback was taken down six times Saturday and has been sacked 52 times this season, most in the NFL.

"There is no doubt that there were too many sacks, absolutely no doubt about it," O'Brien said. "But ... I don't put all of that on the offensive line. Some of that is offensive line, some of it is route running, some of it is holding the ball too long, things like that. Some of it is play calling, and so hopefully we can get better."

Despite the sacks Watson had another solid game, throwing for 294 yards and two touchdowns.

See **TEXANS**, Page 10

### Colts use Mack attack, defense to shut down Cowboys 23-0



AP photo

Indianapolis Colts' Marlon Mack (25) is tackled by Dallas Cowboys' Leighton Vander Esch (55) as he jumps over Xavier Woods (25) during the first half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Dec. 16, 2018, in Indianapolis.

By MICHAEL MAROT

AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Indianapolis Colts running back Marlon Mack kept his eyes down the field and his legs churning Sunday.

His teammates took the cue.

The offensive line created enough space for Mack to run for a career-high 139 yards and two scores, an improving defense smothered the league's hottest offense and the Colts rolled past Dallas 23-0 to stay in the AFC playoff hunt.

"When I saw those holes, I was like 'Yeah, it might be a good day,'" Mack said. "Holes like that don't come often."

If Mack continues to exploit the creases, there's no telling what the Colts (8-6) could do if they earn a post-season trip.

Since losing five of their first six, Indy has won seven of eight. Andrew Luck continues to play the best football of his career and Mack appears ready to thrive with starting center Ryan Kelly back in the lineup.

The Colts' vastly improved defense has allowed 27 points over the past three weeks including two games against division leaders, Houston and Dallas, and has its first shutout since a 27-0 victory over Cincinnati on Oct. 19, 2014.

"Against that team, with the guys

they have, it's tough," coach Frank Reich said. "They have some of the best (offensive) guys in the NFL."

While the Colts (8-6) celebrated, Dallas was dismayed.

The Cowboys (8-6) came out flat on offense, wore down on defense and failed to clinch the NFC East title as a five-game winning streak ended.

Ezekiel Elliott ran 18 times for 87 yards and caught seven passes for 41 yards. Amari Cooper had four catches for 32 yards and Dak Prescott was 24 of 39 for 206 yards with one interception.

But Mack set the tone with a physical 19-yard run on his first carry, ran 22 times and matched his career best for scoring runs — all against the league's No. 3 run defense.

The result: Dallas gave up its first 100-yard game since Week 9 and endured its first shutout since losing 12-0 to the Patriots on Nov. 16, 2003.

"Obviously, we didn't play well enough in any phase of our game to win," Cowboys coach Jason Garrett said. "We can't allow them to run the ball the way they want to run it."

That wasn't the only problem.

The Colts repeatedly took advantage of Cowboys' miscues.

When Denico Autry blocked a Dallas field-goal attempt, Mack capitalized with a 1-yard TD plunge.

See **COWBOYS**, Page 10

### Back in the game: Foles leads Eagles past Rams 30-23



AP photo

Los Angeles Rams tight end Tyler Higbee is tackled by Philadelphia Eagles cornerback Cre'von LeBlanc, top, and cornerback Rasul Douglas during the first half in an NFL football game Sunday, Dec. 16, 2018, in Los Angeles.

By GREG BEACHAM

AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Philadelphia Eagles already knew Nick Foles could do it.

After all, it was only last December when the veteran quarterback replaced the injured Carson Wentz and upset the Los Angeles Rams at the Coliseum. Less than two months after that breakthrough game, he was an improbable Super Bowl MVP.

One season later in the same arena, Foles went back into Wentz's spot under center after three months without game action.

Foles promptly recaptured the magic, passing for 270 yards and confidently leading the Eagles to a 30-23 win over the Rams on Sunday night with plenty of help from his defense and his playmakers.

Foles' encore may not end in the Super Bowl again. It might not even include the playoffs. But after guiding Philadelphia to another win with a grace and poise belying his inactivity, the Eagles are thrilled to have him back in the game.

"It's been really emotional," said Foles, who went 24 of 31 with one interception. "You hate for your teammate to get hurt. I feel really bad for Carson. ... What you've done in the past, what I've done in the past, it doesn't matter when you step on that

field. It's a new day. So I was dealing with the emotions, but prepping as hard as I could, and then realizing I'm not alone. I have great teammates out there. All I have to do is spread the ball around, lean on them, stay in the moment, and we were able to do that tonight. Today was a huge win for us."

Wendell Smallwood rushed for two touchdowns and rookie Josh Adams ran for another score as the Eagles (7-7) kept their playoff hopes quite viable with a gritty victory over the Rams (11-3), who lost consecutive regular-season games for the first time in coach Sean McVay's tenure.

Foles hadn't played since Week 2, but Wentz is out with a back injury that could sideline him for the rest of the season. Philadelphia coach Doug Pederson declined to say whether Foles would start next week against Houston, but Foles' teammates know what they've got after he slipped right back into his old role in a simplified offensive game plan.

"That's a guy with true character," Smallwood said of Foles. "We're just comfortable with him back there. We don't feel like anything has fallen off. We know he's going to step up there and do the job. We rode that guy and we stuck with him (last year), and he went out and played for us tonight."

See **EAGLES**, Page 10

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## Annie's Mailbox

### Untrustworthy Fiance

**Dear Annie:** I got engaged in June 2017. My fiance and I are planning the wedding for next year, in November 2019. But I'm having some doubts about my fiance. He does not trust me. He keeps accusing me of having another boyfriend. He does not want me to be friends with anyone, male or female. I have a close friend whom he says he hates intensely, and he tells me repeatedly that he does not like the friendship. I asked this friend to be my bridesmaid, and he has a serious problem with that. When problems arise or he has issues with me, he does not tell me to my face; he goes and tells my cousin every time, and she will tell me. He's also been sending flirty messages to this cousin's friend. I suspect he is having an affair with her. He is not taking an active role in the wedding planning process. He has not given me his guest list; he doesn't want to discuss a budget for the wedding. Should I go on with the wedding or just cancel and let it be? -- Confused About Life

**Dear Confused About Life:** Cheaters are always quick to accuse

others of cheating. He's most likely paranoid that you have a boyfriend because he has a girlfriend. Even if not, all the other behavior you mentioned is reason enough to call off the wedding. The way he's attempted to isolate you from your friends is deeply troubling and could be a sign of emotional abuse. (You can call The National Domestic Violence Hotline to learn more about this or just to talk to someone about your situation: 800-799-7233.) It's not easy getting out of bad relationships, but it's even harder staying in them. You deserve much better than this.

**Dear Annie:** Speaking up is hard for me. Mean-spirited people have taught me that my opinions don't matter as much as others'. This is causing problems for me in the workplace. I'm giving 110 percent at my job, but I'm not making my voice heard as much as I should be. Getting past my timidity is even harder in a professional setting, as I often feel overwhelmed by the pressure to perform -- as if there are always eyes on me. How can I overcome my learned shyness? I want to be the best employee and co-worker I can be. -- Shy but Striving

**Dear Shy but Striving:** Shyness can inhibit your career growth, so it's good you're striving to overcome it. First, know that feeling that there are always eyes on you is just that -- a feeling. In the workplace as in life in general, most people are too consumed with their own image to pay too close attention to others'. I don't mean that your supervisors won't notice your performance at work; I'm more talking about such things as getting tongue-tied while trying to speak at a meeting. No one other than you is going to be thinking about it that night. Second, you don't have to take a huge leap. Little hops will do just fine. Start by saying one thing during a smaller meeting. Do this a few times. The more you do this the more your confidence will snowball, until you feel comfortable speaking up at larger meetings. It will get easier every time. If your anxiety is simply too paralyzing, consider seeking counseling. Cognitive behavioral therapy has been shown to be an effective treatment for social anxiety.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to [dearannie@creators.com](mailto:dearannie@creators.com). COPYRIGHT 2018 CREATORS.COM

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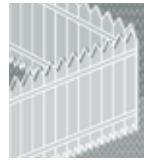
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# Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

## Famous Hand

East dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

<b>NORTH</b>		<b>EAST</b>	
♠ K 9 8 5 4		♠ Q J 3 2	
♥ A 5 3 2		♥ Q 10 8	
♦ 8 6		♦ A 5	
♣ 6 5		♣ 9 8 7 3	
<b>WEST</b>		<b>SOUTH</b>	
♠ A 10 7 6		♠ —	
♥ K J 9 4		♥ 7 6	
♦ 7		♦ K Q J 10 9 4 3 2	
♣ K Q J 4		♣ A 10 2	

The nature of the game is such that different players frequently react differently when faced with the same circumstances. For a dramatic illustration, consider this deal from the 1975 world team championship.

At one table, in the France-U.S. match, the French South started the proceedings by bidding five diamonds. West doubled, everybody passed, and West led the king of clubs. Declarer ducked, and West shifted to a trump. East took the ace and could have defeated the contract two tricks by returning a trump. Instead he returned a heart, and the French declarer went down only one for a loss of 100 points.

At the other table in the same

match, the U.S. South opened with four diamonds. West doubled, East bid four spades, and everybody passed. This contract went down one, so the U.S. team gained 150 points on the combined result.

In the Indonesia-Italy match, the Indonesian South opened with three diamonds at the first table. West doubled, and the Italian East jumped to four spades. North doubled, and the contract went down one.

At the second table in that match, the Italian South, Giorgio Belladonna, playing with Benito Garozzo, opened with one diamond. West doubled, and the Indonesian East responded two notrump. When West bid three clubs, East bid three notrump, which North doubled.

South led the king of diamonds, initiating the slaughter that ensued. East took the ace and led the jack of spades. When Belladonna showed out, declarer went up with the ace and led a low heart toward his hand.

Garozzo rose with the ace and returned the eight of diamonds, on which Belladonna played the deuce! This gave Garozzo the opportunity to cash the king of spades — which he did — before leading a club to Belladonna's ace. As a result, declarer went down six — 1,100 points in those days — to give the Italian team a net gain of 1,000 points on the deal.

Tomorrow: Sylvia plays duplicate bridge.

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## Tomorrow's Horoscope

Fire Sign Sun and Moon

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS



It's a fire sign sun and a fire sign moon. Passion is catching on and spreading on the wind. So should you even try to keep your head? Yes. Passion needs to be balanced with logic; this is how we avoid catastrophe. Pause and breathe, and make sure you have an earth sign on your team to bounce ideas off.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** Are you the influencer, or is the other person? Bigger question: Does it matter? You're both influential, so don't even worry about it. Do you and see what happens.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** The rules of acceptable conduct are constantly changing, and you are fantastic at keeping abreast of the situation, testing, observing and tracking what works and what doesn't.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** What once caused you stress is no longer a problem. You've grown, the situation has shrunk -- something like that! A smooth transaction will be the first sign of progress.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** You read people. That's your thing. Except don't get too assumptive in this regard today, because people will surprise you with their idiosyncrasies and pivots.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** Questing can be more of an activity than the solution to a problem. It's pretty fun to go looking for things, more fun than, say, taking care of the

it. If you don't have a target, you rob yourself of the satisfaction you get from hitting it.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** You'll be involved with a task that's a lot like a boomerang. It will keep coming back with more to do. Ready to stop? There's never one last throw without one last catch. When you have it in your hand, set it; don't throw it.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** When people are ready to learn, it happens easily and quickly. Ideally, your student will be ready. But if not, there's a little more work to do. Getting people ready to learn is part of the learning process.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** If you had to, you could get by on your charms. But that's not you. You want to do something useful, make a concrete contribution, feel the tensile strength of your connections. Charm -- that's your cherry on top.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 17).** It's not too late to do the thing you really wanted to do, if you want it badly enough. You'll get your mind and efforts all aligned because this year is about confluence. Your team gains numbers. In fact, it triples by February. Scorpio and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 20, 2, 22, 7 and 13.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** You're not interested in surrounding yourself with yes people, yet to be an effective leader, the team must follow you at least some of the time. Pick your times, and make your requests.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** You're here, and your mind is over there. That's fine for momentary flights of fancy, but it's no way to live -- because your senses, though they may be partly engaged in fantasy and future, are only fully alive where you are.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** As the sign of the archer, it's always better when you have a clear aim. Make some goals just for the fun of

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# SUDOKU

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

### Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate

### Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

ANSWER:

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5:PM	Big 2	P. Luche	Broke Girl	CBS 7	Tele	News	Creation	Over	Mama's	American	Burgers	The Intern, Rene Russo (DVS)	Monday Night Countdown	SportsCenter	Texas	Mod Fam	The First 48	Street-Memphis
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Rosa de Guadalupe	Mom	CBS 7	Caso Cerado	News	Families	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy			SportsCenter	C'boys	Mod Fam	The First 48	Street-Memphis
7:PM	The Great Christmas Light Fight	Jesús	The Resident	Neighbor	(:05) La sultana (SS)	The Voice	News	Antiques Roadshow	Griffith	Arrow	Fam. Guy	Movie: Love Actually, Colin Firth (DVS)	(:15) NFL Football: New Orleans Saints at Carolina Panthers.	World/Poker	Perspective	WWE Monday Night RAW	The First 48	Street-Memphis
8:PM	In Memoriam	Amar a muerte	FOX 24 News at 9	Bull	Señora Acero (SS)	America's/Talent	Light of Southwest	Independent Lens	Heroes	Page Six	Fam. Guy			World/Poker	College Basketball			(:01) Street Outlaws
9:PM	Big 2	Impacto	TMZ	CBS 7	Tele	News	News	Amanpour-Co	C. Burnett	Gold	Final Sp.	Movie: Love Actually, Colin Firth (DVS)	SportsCenter W/Van Pelt	World/Poker	C'boys	Mod Fam	(:04) The First 48	
10:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Noticiero	Mom	Late Show-Colbert	Titulares	Tonight Show	American	House	Perry Mason	Seinfeld	Seinfeld			Football	Cowboys	Mod Fam		
11:PM	Nightline	Contacto Deportivo	Funny	James Corden	Señora Acero (SS)	Seth Meyers	Zion	Antiques Roadshow	Twi. Zone	Rules	Brooklyn			NFL Prime-Time	SportsCenter	Mod Fam	(:03) The First 48	Street-Memphis
12:AM	Extra	Cachito de Cielo	Two Men	Simpsons	Access	Señora Acero (SS)	Daily	Creation	Hitchcock	King	Brooklyn			SportsCenter	30 for 30	Mod Fam		Street-Memphis
1:AM	Paid Prg.	En tierras salvajes	Pawn	Paid Prg.	Programa	Programa	Light of Southwest	Inside Ed.	Mannix	Top 30	Brooklyn	Supernatural		SportsC.	TBA	(:04) Date-line		(:01) Street Outlaws

## ANDY CAPP



## AGNES



## ARCHIE



## ONE BIG HAPPY



## NEST HEAD



## MOMMA



# This Date In History

Today is Monday, Dec. 17, the 351st day of 2018. There are 14 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 17, 1903, Wilbur and Orville Wright of Dayton, Ohio, conducted the first successful manned powered-airplane flights near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, using their experimental craft, the Wright Flyer.

On this date:

- In 1777, France recognized American independence.
- In 1865, Franz Schubert's Symphony No. 8, known as the "Unfinished" because only two movements had been completed, was first performed publicly in Vienna 37 years after the composer's death.
- In 1944, the U.S. War Department announced it was ending its policy of excluding people of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast.
- In 1957, the United States successfully test-fired the Atlas intercontinental ballistic missile for the first time.
- In 1967, Australian Prime Minister Harold Holt, 59, disappeared while swimming in the ocean off Cheviot Beach in Victoria state; despite an extensive search, his body was never found (Holt was succeeded as premier by John McEwen).
- In 1969, the U.S. Air Force closed its Project "Blue Book" by concluding there was no evidence of extraterrestrial spacecrafts behind thousands of UFO sightings. An estimated 50 million TV viewers watched singer Tiny Tim marry his fiancée, Miss Vicki, on NBC's "Tonight Show."
- In 1975, Lynette Fromme was sentenced in Sacramento, Calif. to life in prison for her attempt on the life of President Gerald R. Ford. (She was paroled in Aug. 2009.)
- In 1979, Arthur McDuffie, a black insurance executive, was fatally injured after leading police on a chase with his motorcycle in Miami. (Four white police officers accused of beating McDuffie were later acquitted, sparking riots.)
- In 1992, President George H.W. Bush, Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney (muhl-ROO'nee) and Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari (sah-LEE'nuhs deh gohr-TAHR'ee) signed the North American Free Trade Agreement in separate ceremonies. (After approval by the legislative bodies of the leaders' respective countries, the treaty came into force on Jan. 1, 1994.)
- In 1996, Peruvian guerrillas took hundreds of people hostage at the Japanese embassy

in Lima (all but 72 of the hostages were later released by the rebels; the siege ended April 22, 1997, with a commando raid that resulted in the deaths of all the rebels, two commandos and one hostage). Kofi Annan of Ghana was appointed United Nations secretary-general.

In 2000, President-elect George W. Bush named Stanford professor Condoleezza Rice his national security adviser and Alberto Gonzales to the White House counsel's job, the same day he was named Time magazine's Person of the Year.

In 2011, North Korean leader Kim Jong Il died after more than a decade of iron rule; he was 69, according to official records, but some reports indicated he was 70.

Ten years ago: President-elect Barack Obama named former Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack as agriculture secretary and Colorado Sen. Ken Salazar of Colorado to head the Interior Department. OPEC agreed to slash 2.2 million barrels from daily production — its single largest cut ever. Pro Football Hall of Famer Sammy Baugh died in Rotan, Texas at age 94.

Five years ago: Germany's Parliament elected Chancellor Angela Merkel (AHN'-geh-lah MEHR'-kuhl) to a third term as the leader of Europe's biggest economic power, nearly three months after an awkward election result forced her to put together a new governing coalition. A suicidal gunman opened fire at a Reno, Nevada, hospital campus, killing one person and critically wounding two others before ending his own life.

One year ago: Facing an investigation of allegations of sexual misconduct and using racist language, Carolina Panthers owner Jerry Richardson announced that he would sell the NFL team after the season. "Star Wars: The Last Jedi" took in \$220 million in its debut weekend in North America, good for the second-best opening ever and behind only its predecessor, "The Force Awakens." French sailor Francois Gabart broke the record for sailing around the world alone, circumnavigating the planet in just 42 days and 16 hours.

Armin Mueller-Stahl is 88. Pope Francis is 82. Singer-actor Tommy Steele is 82. Rock singer-musician Art Neville is 81. Actor Bernard Hill is 74. Actor Ernie Hudson is 73. Political commentator Chris Matthews is 73. Comedian-actor Eugene Levy is 72. Actress Marilyn Hassett is 71. Actor Wes Studi is 71. Pop musician Jim Bonfanti (The Raspberries) is 70. Actor Joel Brooks is 69.

Rock singer Paul Rodgers is 69. Rhythm-and-blues singer Wanda Hutchinson Vaughn (The Emotions) is 67. Actor Bill Pullman is 65. Actor Barry Livingston is 65. Country singer Sharon White is 65. Producer-director-writer Peter Farrelly is 62. Rock musician Mike Mills (R.E.M.) is 60. Pop singer Sarah Dallin (Bananarama) is 57. Country musician Tim Chewning is 56. Country singer

Tracy Byrd is 52. Country musician Duane Propes is 52. Actress Laurie Holden is 49. DJ Homicide (Sugar Ray) is 48. Actor Sean Patrick Thomas is 48. Actress Claire Forlani is 47. Pop-rock musician Eddie Fisher (OneRepublic) is 45. Actress Sarah Paulson is 44. Actress Marissa Ribisi is 44. Actor Giovanni Ribisi is 44. Actress Milla Jovovich (YOVUH'-vich) is 43.

Thought for Today: "The man who has done his level best, and who is conscious that he has done his best, is a success, even though the world may write him down a failure."

B.C. Forbes  
Scottish journalist  
(1880-1954).

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## Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Leans slightly
  - 6 Keep in the overhead bin
  - 10 Sugar amounts: Abbr.
  - 14 Like very much
  - 15 Prefix for chute or medic
  - 16 "Yikes!"
  - 17 Widespread craze
  - 18 Assist in a crime
  - 19 "Star Wars" princess
  - 20 With 53 Across, fairy tale about a young, blonde trespasser
  - 23 \_\_\_ out a living (just get by)
  - 25 Hour after noon
  - 26 Vigorous and robust
  - 27 Hate greatly
  - 30 Vanderbilt of etiquette
  - 31 "Super" video-game brother
  - 32 Retain
  - 34 Bar bill
  - 37 "Someone's been \_\_\_" (repeated line in 20/53 Across)
  - 41 TV commercials, for example
  - 42 Small rugs
  - 43 Seed from a fern
  - 44 Rock-music sound booster
  - 45 Taken without permission
  - 46 "Relax, soldier!"
  - 50 Numbered hwy.
  - 52 Part of TGIF
  - 53 See 20 Across
  - 57 Tiresome person
  - 58 Japanese wrestling
  - 59 Little laugh
  - 62 China's continent

## ONCE UPON A TIME by Sandy Fein

Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

- 9 Nighttime security-guard guys
- 10 City in Oklahoma
- 11 Shave, as sheep
- 12 Tip of a pencil
- 13 Sun-shielded, as by trees
- 21 Female deer
- 22 Lock opener
- 23 Stately trees
- 24 Australian bearlike beast
- 28 Makes a knot in
- 29 Move like a kangaroo
- 30 Hertz competitor
- 32 Break sharply
- 33 Actor's representative: Abbr.
- 34 Keyboarding mistake
- 35 Makes illegal
- 36 French cap
- 38 Plunged into water
- 39 Rockies winter clock setting zone: Abbr.
- 40 Family rooms
- 44 Campfire residue
- 45 Catch a glimpse of
- 46 Facing the pitcher
- 47 The things over there
- 48 Spooky
- 49 Main sports squad
- 50 Send payment
- 51 Type of steak
- 54 Money in France
- 55 At the summit of
- 56 Nevada casino city
- 60 Point opposite WSW
- 61 Magazine executives: Abbr.



# Maybe the key word in NFL stretch drive is balance

Football purists are smiling. For one week, the video game nature of the NFL hit pause.

Only one quarterback on Saturday or Sunday threw for 300 yards, let alone 400. No pinball shootouts.

Ten players rushed for at least 100 yards, and Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson went for 95.

There were two shutouts!

Quite the reality check to learn that strong defense, an efficient ground game, and control of the clock still can win. Yes, some nasty weather in Baltimore and the New Jersey Meadowlands contributed to the lower number of points. We figure to see more of that over the final two weeks of the schedule; it is December, after all.

These developments, if they aren't an aberration, could bode well for such teams as Baltimore, Chicago,

Seattle — which actually was upset at San Francisco — and Dallas, which also lost, blanked at Indianapolis. They could be bad news for the high-scoring machines whose defenses are leaky, including previously considered powerhouses in Kansas City, New England and Pittsburgh.

"You've got to stay on the field on offense," Ravens coach John Harbaugh said Sunday after a wet 20-12 victory against Tampa Bay. "If you do that, you have a chance to generate some points."

And yards. Baltimore rushed for 242 of them on 49 attempts. Unheralded rookie Gus Edwards finished with 104. Jackson averaged 5.3 yards per rush and the Ravens are 4-1 since he replaced injured Joe Flacco as starter.

"He makes you play 11-on-11 football instead of 11 on 10," Bucs coach Dirk Koetter said of Jackson, the 32nd

overall pick in April's draft. "We had him wrapped up a couple of times and he squirted out of there and was able to extend plays."

Ah yes, 11-on-11 football. Not the flag football, 44-40 variety that excites fantasy fanatics, but the balanced game in which solid tackling, crunching blocks and a variety of strategies are paramount.

As the playoffs approach, the super-sonic offenses could sputter. Teams primarily relying on them should know they might need to win man against man in the trenches, rule in a slugfest rather than in a points spree.

Of the division leaders, the Saints and possibly the Rams own that balance, though neither is as physical as, say, the Cowboys, Bears or Seahawks.

But the clubs unlikely to light up scoreboards also know if they can establish the tempo with their ground

games and their stingy defenses — and an attitude that no opponent will intimidate them — they can be valid contenders in January.

Two of those clubs took a step backward on Sunday. Still, the Cowboys figure to win the NFC East and the Seahawks aren't likely to blow a wildcard spot. Rather than panic after their defeats — Seattle's loss against the lowly 49ers being the more problematic — they'll go back to what they do best.

Because they have confidence in what they do best, which helped them turn around 2018 after slow starts.

"We didn't give ourselves a chance," Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott said. "We weren't scoring and so it wasn't a complementary game of football. That's what we've been playing these last five weeks and we didn't do that tonight."

## EAGLES

Continued from Page 4

The Eagles still trail NFC East leader Dallas (8-6) and sit even with Washington (7-7), so they will need help to get back into the postseason, most likely from Carolina and Minnesota stumbling down the stretch. But they'll get an enormous boost from becoming the first team to beat the Rams twice under McVay.

"It's very satisfying," Pederson said. "Our backs have been against the wall for the last few weeks.

Hopefully this gives us momentum for the rest of the season. Our goals are still in front of us."

The Eagles scored 17 consecutive points in the third quarter and then survived the Rams' late rally. After Philadelphia's Jake Elliott missed a field goal with 1:08 left, Jared Goff got the Rams to the Philadelphia 18 with 4 seconds to play — but he couldn't connect with Josh Reynolds on a pass to the goal line as time expired.

Goff passed for 339 yards with two interceptions in the Rams' first

loss at the Coliseum in seven games this season.

Todd Gurley rushed for two touchdowns — giving him an NFL-best 21 TDs this season — while catching 10 passes for 76 yards. But the superstar running back also accepted the blame for failing to get out of bounds on a catch inside the final 20 seconds, depriving the Rams of likely two additional shots at the end zone.

## COWBOYS

Continued from Page 4

Luck cashed in on a defensive holding call against Anthony Brown on third down to set up Adam Vinatieri for a 43-yard field goal to make it 10-0 at the half.

Mack opened the second half with a 6-yard scoring run and Vinatieri sealed it with two more field goals.

Defensively, the Colts made big play after big play, too.

Elliott lost 2 yards and the ball on fourth-and-1 from the Colts 3, Dallas was knocked out of field-goal range on Tyquan Lewis' sack on the Cowboys' final chance in the first half, Pierre Desir and Darius Leonard each ended drives by breaking up passes in the second half and George Odum capped it with a late interception.

Mack took care of the rest.

"He ran well, he does all the little things really, really well," Luck said.

### STAT PACK

Cowboys: Dallas lost its first game in the series since 2002 and finished with no sacks and only three quarterback hits. ... The Cowboys finished with 292 yards, their lowest total since acquiring Cooper in a trade.

Colts: Luck was 16 of 27 for 192 yards while T.Y. Hilton caught five passes for 85 yards despite not practicing all week because of an ankle injury.

... Lewis had two of the Colts three sacks.

### INJURY REPORT

Cowboys: Right guard Zack Martin missed the first game of his career with an injured left knee. Dallas improvised by moving left guard Connor Williams to right guard and inserting Xavier Su'a-Filo at right guard. But Su'a-Filo left early in the second quarter with an eye injury and did not return.

Colts: Veteran backup Joe Haeg replaced right guard Mark Glowinski (ankle) in the starting lineup and defensive tackle Al Woods left in the third quarter with an injured leg and did not return.

### THEY SAID IT

Cowboys: "The field goal just before halftime seemed to demoralize our team," team owner Jerry Jones said.

Colts: "Zeke doesn't get stopped too much in that situation," Reich said of the goal-line stand. "I don't know what the numbers are but it was a huge play."

### UP NEXT

Cowboys: Get a second chance to clinch the division title next Sunday when they host Tampa Bay.

Colts: Close out their home schedule next weekend when Eli Manning and the New York Giants return to Lucas Oil Stadium for the first time since winning the Super Bowl after the 2011 season.

## TEXANS

Continued from Page 4

It was the most yards he's thrown for since finishing with 375 yards passing in a win over Dallas on Oct. 7.

His performance on Saturday made him the first player in NFL history to have at least 5,000 yards passing (5,291), 40 TD passes (43) and 700 yards (705) rushing in

his first 21 games.

On a day the Texans had trouble running the ball, Watson reveled in being able to lead the team to the comeback win.

"I just like the ball in my hands," he said. "Like they say, just give me an opportunity to make a play. I think I can make it. Be smart, try not take any unnecessary hits and protect myself. I feel like with the ball in my hands, I can give the

team a lot of energy and this offense can go."

Despite their impressive turnaround to reach double-digit wins so beginning the season 0-3, the Texans know they'll have to maintain focus.

"That's awesome, but our goals are still ahead of us," Hopkins said. "We can't sit here and celebrate 10 wins. We expect to win like this with the guys we have in this locker room."

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