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WEDNESDAY EDITION,
NOVEMBER 11, 2020

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The Big Spring Herald will be featuring a Salute to our veterans this weekend. Pick up a copy of the weekend edition to see our local veterans.

Upcoming Events

- Veterans Day**
Nov. 11
City offices to be closed
- Community Prayer**
11 a.m.
KBST



"I'm thankful for my family, work colleagues, and friends who support me and make me feel valued."

April Arms



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www.bigspringherald.com



Big Spring ISD Trustees to convene Thursday evening

By AMANDA DUFORAT
Managing Editor

Big Spring Board of Trustees will be canvassing the November 3, 2020 School Board Election Results and conducting post election procedures for elected officials during Thursday's regular board of trustees meeting.

The School Board had one seat on the ballot, which was a contested race, between Incumbent Tom Olague and Enchantra Solis. Incumbent Tom Olague was the winner of the election with the majority of votes received. Once the reports are canvassed, Olague will be sworn in to serve the next term.

The Board of Trustees will also look at Board Organization and the Elec-

tion of Officers, on Thursday evening.

A public hearing will also take place after special recognitions on Thursday evening. The public hearing will focus on discussion of the Big Spring ISD Financial Accountability Rating (School First) and the Annual Financial Accountability Management Report for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year.

A possible Closed Session is on the agenda to allow the Trustees to discuss and possible approve personnel issues.

The Board of Trustees will look to approve the annual investment report and tax roll. The Force Majeure Agreement with Sinclair Oil and Gas Company, Chugash Exploration, L.P. And Four

See **BSISD**, Page 2

Veteran's Day Honoring our Veterans



Veteran John D. Perez served in the U.S. Army in 1st Air Cavalry National Guard for 23 years.

Big Spring community honors West Texas VA Veterans with parade



HERALD photos/Iris Rangel
Local businesses, community members, and West Texas VA joined together to honor veterans in the CLC and Domiciliary with a special Veteran's Day parade this week. Patriotic themed vehicles drove through the VA parking lot in honor of our veterans Tuesday morning.

West Texas VA new employee orientation ramping back up

By WILLIAM HATTON
Public Affairs Specialist and U.S. Army Veteran

With a warm reception, West Texas VA Health Care System (WTVAHCS) welcomed its largest new employee orientation class of 2020. WTVAHCS welcomed 14 new employees Monday, Oct. 26, 2020 bringing the total of filled positions this year to 99.

"Before COVID-19 hit, we were averaging about 10 new employees every other week," said Silvia Fitzgibbons, Human Resources Officer for WTVAHCS. "We're starting to see a return to normal in terms of hiring, if not more as we work to fill needed positions."

While WTVAHCS has brought aboard 99 new employees so far in 2020, it has only incurred 75 losses over the same time period, netting an overall gain of 24 employees. These efforts in hiring and filling vacant positions, and creating new ones, is one of Director Jason Cave's top three long range goals, and in keeping with his vision for WTVAHCS's continuous growth to meet Veteran health care needs.

"One of my top priorities is to create consistency and stability across our health care system," said Jason Cave, WTVAHCS Director. "And hiring new, well qualified staff is a key step in achieving both consistency for our Veterans and stability for our staff."

See **WTVA**, Page 2

TEA issues report cards; no updates from 2018-2019 Due to Covid-19 pandemic, school ratings not reflective of new programs implemented and advancements

By AMANDA DUFORAT
Managing Editor

The 2018-2019 school report cards have been issued by the Texas Education Agency. Due to the Covid-19 closures across the state and the nation, the grades reflected in the report cards were carried over from the previous academic year. Each of the schools remained at the previous provided grade: Big Spring High School received a D; Coahoma High School received a B; and Forsan High School received a B for the reported period.

"The challenges that Covid closures brought last Spring such as the challenges of virtual learning and high absenteeism due to the "close contact" with a positive person are a huge challenge moving forward," Forsan ISD Superintendent Randy Johnson said. "We are not really sure what the ratings will look like in the future as schools try to get back on track. It's kind of like the economy, it will take

a while to overcome two and a half months of lost schooling last Spring."

While area school districts, along with districts across Texas had implemented measures to improve upon the 2018-2019 TEA report card grade, those improvement plans were not able to truly be measured or even fully implemented with the unexpected turn of events brought upon by the pandemic.

"By law the TEA has to post the report cards and share the ratings, but due to the situation we have been dealing with for the past six months, the report cards only reflect the information that was already reported in December of last year," Johnson said. "Due to Covid, the state did not have a STAAR testing period last Spring so there was no new data and no new ratings able to be obtained for schools."

A D rating – a score between 60-69 – is described as for performance that needs improvement by serving too few students well. Not enough students

made adequate academic progress for eventual success in college, a career or the military. Big Spring High School received an overall score of 68; a 68 for student achievement; a 71 for school progress and a 61 for closing the gaps. According to the TEA report card, the statistics are based on 1,086 students served in 9th through 12th grade.

In addition the TEA Report Card also tracked attendance rate for 2017-2018. According to the report the Big Spring High School Campus had a 94.4% attendance rate and the District had a 94.3% attendance rate.

While the scores that have recently been posted on the TEA website do not allow for improvement to be shown for any of the school districts, it is not evidence that each of the school districts haven't been putting in work. According to McWilliams, Big Spring ISD has put several checkpoints and bench

See **TEA**, Page 3



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Obituaries

Mollie Aline Wyrick

On Thursday, Nov. 5, 2020, Mollie Aline Wyrick, loving wife and mother, passed away at the age of 81. Mollie was born in Falfurrias, Texas, on Nov. 20, 1938, to Frank Bertrum Griffith and Aline Riley (Hill) Griffith. On Feb. 25, 1956 she married the love of her life, Tommy Wyrick. They raised three children, David Wyrick, Kristi (Wyrick) Moeller, and Lori (Wyrick) Crockett.

Family was everything to Mollie. She loved spending time with her children and grandchildren. She was always involved in her children's activities when they were growing up. Their friends loved Mollie and considered her a second mom. Once you were in her life she considered you one of hers forever. Her love for Tommy was absolute. She was devoted to him for sixty four years, which is rare in the world today. After their children grew up and moved out they had many adventures together. She loved traveling with Tommy and was blessed to see so much of the world with him at her side. Mollie had a strong Christian faith and touched many lives throughout the years. She led GA's, Vacation Bible School, Sunday School, and church camps all in an effort to express her faith and share Jesus with others. She was the type of woman that was always willing to lend a hand and a

smile. Her family will remember her love of game shows, the annual Christmas candy table, and her thrill at finding bargains. Her laughter and generous spirit will be missed by many. Mollie's hope, faith, and love for others is her legacy. She instilled this in her children and family.

Mollie was preceded in death by her parents, Frank and Aline, two brothers Harold Griffith and Roy Griffith, and her son-in-law, Jim Crockett. She is survived by her husband and devoted companion, Tommy, her children and their spouses David and Leslie Wyrick, Kristi and Ricky Moeller, and Lori Crockett. She is also survived by her grandchildren Riley and Michael Willman, Paige and Cody Moore, Isaac Crockett, Lynndy and Chris Cerda, Bandy and Jordan Moeller, Tanna and Gerald Franklin, Ian and Stevie Boyles, and Sunny Kuykendall. She is also survived by her brother and his wife, Frank Griffith, Jr. and Kathy, and numerous great grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

There will be a public graveside service at the Coahoma cemetery on Nov. 21, 2020, at 4 p.m. Due to Covid-19 the family is asking that masks be worn by everyone in attendance and social distancing observed. In lieu of flowers the family asks that memorials be made to Hillcrest Baptist Church.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com

Paid obituary

Jimmy David Jones

Jimmy David Jones, 84, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Rosa Roberts

Rosa Roberts, 73, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Luis Flores

Luis Flores, 97, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Rosa Mesta

Rosa Mesta, 57, of Big Spring died Monday, Nov. 9, 2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Gregory Phillippe

Gregory Phillippe, 71, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Esther Mezick

Esther Mezick, 87, of Big Spring, passed away Monday, Nov. 9, 2020. Services are pending at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Mary Lee Corson

Mary Lee Corson, 73, of Big Spring, Texas passed away on Nov. 8, 2020 in Big Spring. Services are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory. Online condolences may be made at www.npwelch.com.

Frances Jean Jennings

Frances Jean Jennings, 85, of Big Spring, went to be with her Lord and Savior, Monday, Nov. 9, 2020. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory. Online condolences may be made at www.npwelch.com.

WTVA

Continued from Page 1

Following his appointment as the Director for WTVAHCS, Cave release his vision for the health care system, which focuses on three key areas; communication, consistency and aligning resources. "Attracting well qualified employees with a true desire to serve our Nation's Veterans is at the core of creating the consistency our Veterans deserve."

"I believe every Veteran deserves the best care

possible," said Bridgett Holmes, a new employee, transferring from Central Texas, who will be standing up the newly created veteran and staff experience office at WTVAHCS. "I want to be a part of providing that great care

See **WTVA2**, Page 3

BSISD

Continued from Page 1

Sevens Operating Co. Ltd. Relating to a certain Paid-up "No Drill" oil and gas lease dated Dec. 14, 2017 will also be on the table for discussion and possible action.

As part of the Superintendent's Report Jay McWilliams will provide an overview of resignations and retirements if there are any followed by the enrollment report. McWilliams will also provide a Covid-19 update report to the Trustees followed by District updates.

The Board of Trustees will also look at considering accepting various donations.

Other items on the agenda include:

- Prayer and Pledge
- Approval of minutes from October 8, 2020 regular board meeting and October 12, 2020 special board meeting
- Financial reports

Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, e-mail editor@big-springherald.com



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Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **BRANDON MORON, 31**, of 2515 Albrook Drive, was arrested on charges of assault/family violence threat or offensive touch and interfere with emergency request for assistance.
- **EUGINA CANTU, 27**, of 1002 N. Main Street, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- **REBECCA LYNN COMSTOCK, 37**, of 509 S. Johnson Street, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 2500 block of Albrook Drive.
- **FORGERY** was reported in the 3600 block of W. Highway 80.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 100 block of NE 8th Street.
- **MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported in the 800 block of W. 3rd.
- **SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY** was reported in the 500 block of N. Lamesa Highway.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 1800 block of E. FM 700.
- **MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported in the area of 14th and Owens.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 1400 block of E. 6th Street.
- **SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY** was reported in the 1800 block of S. Goliad Street.
- **CREDIT/DEBIT CARD ABUSE** was reported in the 1900 block of Martin Luther King.

Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 83 inmates at the time of this report.

- **EUGENIA ALEXANDRA CANTU, 27**, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- **REBECCA LYNN COMSTOCK, 37**, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- **CHRISTIAN DAVON GORDON, 31**, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of failure to identify fugitive from justice offense.
- **KANIEL MIRAMONTES, 34**, was arrested by DPS on charge of possession of controlled substance penalty group one (greater than or equal to one gram less than four grams) and possession of marijuana (less than two ounces).
- **BRANDON ANTHONY MORAN, 31**, was arrested by BSPD on charges of interfere with emergency request for assistance and assault family violence.
- **ANTONIO SERRANO VEGA, 54**, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of aggravated assault date/family/house with weapon.

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Amanda Duforat Managing Editor..... Ext. 230
Robert Smith Circulation Manager..... Ext. 252
Angela Lance Sr. Advertising Executive.....Ext. 255

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MEMBER 2020

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

TEA

Continued from Page 1

marks to monitor the success of the students throughout the year.

"We have the TEA template that allows the district to figure ratings, growth, etc. based on the data you have. The CCMR scores always run a year behind so if we would have taken the assessment this year (19-20) the CCMR score would have come from the graduating seniors in 2019," McWilliams said. "Even though we had a real good idea what it was going to be and Dr. Thompson did some calculations with our CCMR score from 2019, with the same data from 2018-2019, with no improvement our district score would have been raised to a 76 which is a C. We feel certain our campuses would have all done better based on the checkpoints and benchmarks we had given our students all year long leading up to the assessments."

McWilliams continued, "If we would have shown the improvement we anticipated, we could have been a B district. Of course, the sad reality is we did not have the opportunity to show what improvements we felt we would see and had no chance to improve our 18-19 scores and accountability ratings."

While Big Spring ISD, along with the other school districts across Texas did not have the opportunity to show their improvement this past year, McWilliams said he is anticipating the graduating class of 2020 to perform well and an increase to be reflected in the CCMR scores. With students having left the classroom early in the semester (March 6) and not returning to the classroom until August 19, learning gaps were created and teachers are working hard to close those gaps.

"Our teachers and staff are working extremely hard to provide top quality education to our kids in a year that is without a doubt unprecedented," McWilliams said. "I am very proud of our staff at BSISD and I have no doubt - the facts bear it out - that we would have gone up at least to a C rating in 19-20 and even had the possibility of going higher. The work our folks have done to improve our CCMR is unmatched and our kids are the ones benefitting from this effort."

A B rating - received by Coahoma and Forsan for the respective grading period, 80-89 - is described as for recognized performance by serving many students well and encouraging high academic achievement and/or appropriate academic growth for most students. Coahoma High School received an overall score of 86; a 87 for student achievement; a 76 for school progress and an 84 for closing the gaps. According to the TEA report card, the statistics are based on 265 students served in 9th through 12th grade. The 2017-2018 grade for Coahoma was a C.

"Coahoma ISD uses a variety of data gathering systems, and we then target specific growth needs and provide intensive instruction based on our district's needs," Brad Cox, Coahoma ISD Superintendent, said. "We (CISD) will continue to serve our students needs during this challenging time; we are uncertain exactly what accountability will look like, but we will always prepare our students for success."

Cox continued, "We are pleased to see progress is being made, but we will

continue to strive for the best instruction we can provide to our students to ensure when they leave Coahoma ISD they are career and college ready."

In addition the TEA Report Card also tracked attendance rate for 2017-2018. According to the report the Coahoma High School Campus had a 94.6% attendance rate and the District had a 95.5% attendance rate.

Forsan High School received an overall score of 87; a 90 for student achievement; a 81 for school progress and an 79 for closing the gaps. According to the TEA report card, the statistics are based on 396 students served in 9th through 12th grade.

In addition the TEA Report Card also tracked attendance rate for 2017-2018. According to the report the Forsan High School Campus had a 96.4% attendance rate and the District had a 96.3% attendance rate

"We are moving over to something called MAPS testing so we can monitor our own students and chart their growth from the first of the year, midyear and end of the year," Johnson said. "That growth is our biggest point of emphasis, and our goal is to see more than one year's growth from each child in each subject area. This is probably our biggest adjustment over last year, of course, outside of all the virtual learning, Covid make-up teaching, etc."

According to the TEA, the school report cards are intended to inform parents and guardians about a campus's individual characteristics and its academic performance. Once the TEA has notified the school district of the availability of the report card, each school district has six weeks to notify families of the report.

For those wanting to view the full report card of their respective or area districts, visit <http://tea.texas.gov/perfreport/src/index.html>.

Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, e-mail editor@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

WTVA

Continued from Page 2

to every West Texas Veteran."

As the new employees go through the onboarding process, called NEO - for new employee orientation, they will

participate in two days of training that is designed to ease them into the new environment of federal employment. The orientation also gives them a general overview of the health care system.

"With so many new employees, our focus is to give them as much information as we can, while allowing them to interact and adjust to their new environment," said Johnny Deleon, Education Specialist for WTVAHCS.

Recent efforts by WTVAHCS to recruit new employees consisted of focused clinical hiring, as well as a virtual career fair where more than 30 positions were advertised, and job seekers could email resumes directly to WTVAHCS human resources for consideration. For many of those positions, WTVAHCS had special hiring authority, allowing them to direct-hire qualified candidates. This week's NEO class reflects that effort.

The West Texas VA Health Care System

(WTVAHCS) catchment area, including San Angelo, Midland/Odessa, Abilene, Fort Stockton and Hobbs, NM are currently looking for new employees to join the team. Visit USA-Jobs.gov to see a complete listing of available positions.

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Charles "Chick" Madry, 79, died Sunday. Visitation will be 12 Noon until 9:00 PM Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 10:00 AM Wednesday at Midway Baptist Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Esther Mezick, 87, died Monday. Visitation will be 9:00 AM until 9:00 PM Thursday with a Prayer Service at 5:00 PM at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service will be at 2:00 PM Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Rosa Mesta, 57, of Big Spring died Monday, November 9,

2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Luis Flores, 97, of Big Spring died Tuesday, November 10, 2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Rosa Roberts, 73, of Big Spring died Tuesday, November 10, 2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Jimmy David Jones, 84, of Big Spring died Tuesday, November 10, 2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Gregory Phillippe, 71, of Big Spring died Tuesday, November 10, 2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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- Loco Flamingos - Sat. & Sun.
- Southern Blush Boutique - Fri. & Sat.
- Merle Norman - Sat. & Sun.
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- Splurge Boutique - Sat. & Sun.
- The Crowned Bird - Sat. & Sun.
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 3. Coahoma
 4. Houston Texans
 5. Greenbay Packers
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 10. Washington Redskins



- Franklin & Son**
1. Big Spring
 2. Forsan
 3. Coahoma
 4. Cleveland Browns
 5. Greenbay Packers
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 7. Arizona Cardinals
 8. Seattle Seahawks
 9. Baltimore Ravens
 10. Washington Redskins



- Gary B's Music**
1. El Paso Riverside
 2. Wall
 3. Canadian
 4. Houston Texans
 5. Jacksonville Jaguars
 6. Denver Broncos
 7. Arizona Cardinals
 8. Seattle Seahawks
 9. Baltimore Ravens
 10. Detroit Lions



- Pizza Inn**
1. Big Spring
 2. Forsan
 3. Coahoma
 4. Houston Texans
 5. Jacksonville Jaguars
 6. Denver Broncos
 7. Buffalo Bills
 8. Seattle Seahawks
 9. Baltimore Ravens
 10. Washington Redskins



- Porter's**
1. Big Spring
 2. Forsan
 3. Canadian
 4. Houston Texans
 5. Greenbay Packers
 6. Las Vegas Raiders
 7. Buffalo Bills
 8. Seattle Seahawks
 9. Baltimore Ravens
 10. Detroit Lions



- Sonic**
1. Big Spring
 2. Forsan
 3. Canadian
 4. Cleveland Browns
 5. Greenbay Packers
 6. Las Vegas Raiders
 7. Buffalo Bills
 8. LA Rams
 9. Baltimore Ravens
 10. Detroit Lions



- Wild West Wingz**
1. Big Spring
 2. Forsan
 3. Coahoma
 4. Cleveland Browns
 5. Greenbay Packers
 6. Las Vegas Raiders
 7. Buffalo Bills
 8. Seattle Seahawks
 9. Baltimore Ravens
 10. Detroit Lions

Official Game Rules:

Find this week's games between the merchant's ads on this page. Choose the teams you think will win, and fill in the official entry form on this page with your team choices. Clip the entry form out of the page and drop it in the Pigskin box at one of the listed merchants.

Do not drop your entry form at the Big Spring Herald office.

- *The entry with the most correct picks will win \$50!
- You must be 18 to enter. *No photo copies accepted.*
- *In the event of a tie, the tie breaker will determine the winner. For the tie breaker, the entry with the correct team will win. If both entries have guessed the same team, the second tie breaker will be the one closest to the total points.
- *Decisions of the judges are final.
- *Employees and family of the Big Spring Herald are ineligible.
- *All entries must be received at one of the participating merchants by 1pm Friday of the week played.
- *Winners will be announced on the next week's Pigskin Contest Page.

Pigskin Picks Entry Form

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
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6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
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TIE BREAKER-
Circle the winner and note total points scored

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Lady Steers win season opener against Garden City, Tuttle notches first win as HC

By SHAWN MORAN
Herald Sports Writer

GARDEN CITY — Tuesday night's season-opening basketball game turned out to be a big 61-38 win for the Big Spring Lady Steers over the Garden City Lady Kats.

It was new coach Eric Tuttle's first game leading the squad and they scored more points on Tuesday night than they had in any game in all of last season. Tuttle got emotional after the game when talking about just how much the win meant and how proud he was of his players.

"I'm so proud of them," he said. "I coach my tail off sometimes and yell and hoot and holler, but those girls played their tails off tonight."

Junior forward Ryen Terrazas led the Lady Steers with 22 points and 13 rebounds on Tuesday night. She was a force down low and had no problem converting on easy layups and second-chance put-back opportunities. Junior guard Tristan Smith led the offense from her point guard position and scored 16 points while also dishing out three assists over the course of the game.

Those two players are the veteran varsity players on the team and will lead the team on the court this season. After such an impressive first game from Terrazas, the new head coach could only think of the future possibilities for his team.

"She's only a junior and she understands the game so well. We're going to continue to try to get the ball well to her and our other bigs because we have some good size," Tuttle said.

The first basket made of the season for the Lady Steers was a nice three-point shot converted by



HERALD Photo/Shawn Moran

Tristan Smith looks to inbound the ball to one of her teammates during Tuesday night's win.

Mya Blanco following a perfect inbounds pass from Smith. That allowed Big Spring to get things going on the court as they slowly and steadily began to build their lead.

Six players recorded a made basket for the Lady Steers in the first quarter, but turnovers were an issue that needed to be corrected. They slowly began to limit those bad possessions and one play in particular seemed to turn the tide for the remainder of the game.

After grabbing a rebound, junior Alex Enriquez was running down the court and looking for her next move. Terrazas was about 10 feet in front of her with a defender trailing close behind. Enriquez then delivered a sweet bounce pass that Terrazas

corralled before going up for the layup. She made the shot, was fouled, and went to the free-throw line where she converted the and-one. That play gave the Lady Steers back the lead (18-17) and they never looked back or trailed again.

Big Spring was 1-for-6 from beyond the arc in the first half, which caused them to play the majority of the second half in the paint. They finished the contest 1-for-9 from the three-point line, but Tuttle was satisfied with his team's shot selection.

"If you get a good look, then I want you to take a shot," Tuttle said. "We have some girls that can put it in the hoop from there but it always starts inside-out. Get in the rhythm of the game, get layups, get it down to our bigs, and then we can make some threes in a little bit."

The Lady Steers will now move on to their next game where they will host Lamesa this Saturday for their home opener of the 2020-21 season.

Tuttle is looking forward to his team taking the court again and knows that Tuesday night was a great foundation setter for the upcoming season.

"I'm so excited," Tuttle said. "They're good kids and they deserve to be successful, they deserve to win, and they deserve to have all of the glory."

JV SCORE: The Lady Steer JV dominated the competition for a 31-8 victory on Tuesday night.

UP NEXT: Big Spring will host Lamesa this Saturday at Steer Gym (12:00).

Shawn Moran is the sports writer at the Big Spring Herald. To contact him, e-mail sports@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

Forsan Lady Buffs win overtime thriller over Robert Lee to open season, new coach Johnson begins HC career with a win

By SHAWN MORAN
Herald Sports Writer

The Forsan Lady Buffs won a 47-44 thriller in overtime over the Robert Lee Lady Steers on Tuesday night in their season opener. It was the first win for new Head Coach Seth Johnson and he was happy with the performance his team put together on the hardwood.

"We brought a lot of effort and energy tonight," Johnson said. "We're trying to do the things that we work on in practice and they stuck with it down the stretch."

Sophomore Kaeli Woodall led Forsan with 21 points and only four players recorded a made basket for the Lady Buffs. Senior Rylee Evans scored 15 points just hours after qualifying for State in cross country. Other than those two players, Aubrie Smith scored nine points from her forward position and Ella Hoff added the only other two points for Forsan.

The game was neck-and-neck for all four quarters and the Lady Buffs played tremendous defense in the fourth to be able to force overtime. In the overtime period, the Lady Buffs outscored their opponent 7-4 and they were able to come away with the hard-fought win.

"They're doing exactly what we're asking of them and they're playing with a

ton of energy and effort," Johnson said. "There's not much more you can ask for as a head coach."

UP NEXT: Forsan will travel to play at Garden City on Saturday evening (6:00).

Shawn Moran is the sports writer at the Big Spring Herald. To contact him, e-mail sports@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

BHS Powderpuff Game brings team spirit last Friday



Courtesy Photo

The Big Spring football players and Powderpuff team pose together last Friday night. The football players were dressed up as cheerleaders while it was the girls chance to take the gridiron. The Junior Class won the Championship game and Senior Cheerleaders won the Spirit Stick. This has been a tradition at BSHS for many years and all of the money raised from the game goes towards paying for prom.

Things to know for Big Spring playoff game in Pecos this week

- 1) Stadium will be open at 5:30 for fans.
- 2) Home fans will park and enter from the West side of the stadium through the ticket booth gate. The parking lot entrance is on Iowa Street between the Softball Field and the Natatorium.
- 3) Visiting fans will park and enter from the East side of the stadium through the ticket booth gate. The parking lot entrance is on Park Street between the High School and the Left Field side of the Baseball Field.
- 4) All fans must have a ticket to enter the stadium.
- 5) All fans and participants must perform a COVID Self Screening to enter the stadium.
- 6) All fans must wear a mask to enter

- 7) Spatial distancing is expected. Bleacher rows are marked so that consecutive rows are not used. Prohibited rows are marked with blue tape.
- 8) Fans are expected to leave the stadium immediately following the game and are not allowed access to the field.
- 9) Radio personnel will also sit on the top of the press box on the same ends as the filers. Please limit these numbers as well.
- 10) Home seating is limited 800 including the band. Visitor seating is limited to 500 including the band.
- 11) Tickets will be pre-sale only at each participating school.

NCAA Football Schedule

Tuesday		Home Team	Final Score
Away Team			
Akron (0-1)	@	Ohio (0-1)	24-10, Ohio
Kent State (1-0)	@	Bowling Green (0-1)	62-24, Kent State
Miami (OH) (1-0)	@	Buffalo (1-0)	42-10, Buffalo
Wednesday		Home Team	Time of Game
Away Team			
Eastern Michigan (0-1)	@	Ball State (0-1)	6:00 p.m. (CBSSN)
Toledo (1-0)	@	Western Michigan (1-0)	7:00 p.m. (ESPN)
Central Michigan (1-0)	@	Northern Illinois (0-1)	7:00 p.m. (ESPNU)
Thursday		Home Team	Time of Game
Away Team			
Colorado State (1-1)	@	Boise State (2-1)	7:00 p.m. (FS1)
Friday		Home Team	Time of Game
Away Team			
Florida Atlantic (3-1)	@	Florida International (0-3)	6:00 p.m. (CBSSN)
Iowa (1-2)	@	Minnesota (1-2)	6:00 p.m. (FS1)
East Carolina (1-5)	@	#7 Cincinnati (6-0)	6:30 p.m. (ESPN2)
Saturday		Home Team	Time of Game
Away Team			
#9 Miami (FL) (6-1)	@	Virginia Tech (4-3)	11:00 a.m. (ESPN2)
#12 Indiana (4-0)	@	Michigan State (1-2)	11:00 a.m. (ABC)
#10 Georgia (3-2)	@	Missouri (2-3)	11:00 a.m. (ESPN)
#15 Coastal Carolina (7-0)	@	Troy (4-3)	11:00 a.m. (ESPNU)
Middle Tennessee (2-5)	@	#16 Marshall (6-0)	11:00 a.m. (CBSSN)
Western Carolina (0-0)	@	#22 Liberty (7-0)	11:00 a.m. (ESPN3)
Army (6-1)	@	Tulane (4-4)	11:00 a.m. (ESPN+)
Penn State (0-3)	@	Nebraska (0-2)	11:00 a.m. (FS1)
Illinois (0-3)	@	Rutgers (1-2)	11:00 a.m. (BTN)
Wake Forest (4-2)	@	North Carolina (5-2)	11:00 a.m. (ACCN)
TCU (3-3)	@	West Virginia (4-3)	11:00 a.m. (FOX)
Vanderbilt (0-5)	@	Kentucky (2-4)	11:00 a.m. (SECN)
Gardner-Webb (0-0)	@	Charlotte (2-3)	11:00 a.m. (ESPN3)
South Alabama (3-4)	@	#25 Louisiana (6-1)	1:00 p.m. (ESPN+)
Georgia State (3-3)	@	Appalachian State (5-1)	1:30 p.m. (ESPN+)
Fresno State (2-1)	@	Utah State (0-3)	1:30 p.m. (FS2)
UL Monroe (0-8)	@	Arkansas State (3-5)	2:00 p.m. (ESPN3)
South Florida (1-6)	@	Houston (2-3)	2:00 p.m. (ESPN+)
North Texas (2-3)	@	UAB (4-3)	2:00 p.m.
UTEP (3-3)	@	UTSA (4-4)	2:00 p.m. (ESPN+)
#2 Notre Dame (7-0)	@	Boston College (5-3)	2:30 p.m. (ABC)
#3 Ohio State (3-0)	@	Maryland (2-1)	2:30 p.m. (BTN)
#5 Texas A&M (5-1)	@	Tennessee (2-4)	2:30 p.m. (ESPN)
#20 USC (1-0)	@	Arizona (0-0)	2:30 p.m. (FOX)
Southern Miss (2-5)	@	Western Kentucky (2-6)	2:30 p.m. (CBSSN)
Rice (1-1)	@	Louisiana Tech (4-3)	2:30 p.m. (ESPN3)
Memphis (4-2)	@	Navy (3-4)	2:30 p.m. (ESPNU)
Texas State (1-8)	@	Georgia Southern (5-2)	2:30 p.m. (ESPN3)
Louisville (2-5)	@	Virginia (2-4)	2:30 p.m. (ACCN)
Colorado (1-0)	@	Stanford (0-1)	2:30 p.m. (ESPN2)
Hawai'i (2-1)	@	San Diego State (2-1)	3:00 p.m.
Baylor (1-4)	@	Texas Tech (2-5)	3:00 p.m. (FS1)
#1 Alabama (6-0)	@	LSU (2-3)	5:00 p.m. (CBS)
Nevada (3-0)	@	New Mexico (0-2)	5:30 p.m. (FS2)
Arkansas (3-3)	@	#6 Florida (4-1)	6:00 p.m. (ESPN)
#11 Oregon (1-0)	@	Washington State (1-0)	6:00 p.m. (FOX)
#19 SMU (7-1)	@	Tulsa (3-1)	6:00 p.m. (ESPN2)
Pittsburgh (4-4)	@	Georgia Tech (2-5)	6:00 p.m. (ESPN3)
#13 Wisconsin (1-0)	@	Michigan (1-2)	6:30 p.m. (ABC)
#23 Northwestern (3-0)	@	Purdue (2-0)	6:30 p.m. (BTN)
Temple (1-4)	@	UCF (4-2)	6:30 p.m. (ESPNU)
Florida State (2-5)	@	NC State (4-3)	6:30 p.m. (ACCN)
South Carolina (2-4)	@	Ole Miss (2-4)	6:30 p.m. (SECN)
UNLV (0-3)	@	San Jose State (3-0)	9:30 p.m. (FS2)
California (0-0)	@	Arizona State (0-1)	9:30 p.m. (ESPN2)
Utah (0-0)	@	UCLA (0-1)	9:30 p.m. (FS1)
Oregon State (0-1)	@	Washington (0-0)	10:00 p.m. (FS1)

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By Steve Becker

Double-dummy problem

NORTH AK10 A105 KJ K7642 WEST QJ9843 K Q10983 SOUTH 6 8742 A97653 A5 EAST 752 QJ963 10842 J North A10 J 76 West J98 Q10 South 874 A9

Contract — Five Diamonds by South. Opening lead — queen of spades.

Some double-dummy problems are so hard to solve that even the most ardent problem-solvers sometimes give up in despair.

South is declarer at five diamonds, can see all four hands and must make 11 tricks after West's opening lead of the queen of spades.

The key play occurs at trick two, when declarer, after taking the opening spade lead with dummy's king, next cashes the ace of spades and discards his ace of clubs!

At trick three, declarer ruffs the

ten of spades, then leads a club to dummy's king and ruffs a club. A trump is next led to dummy's king, catching West's queen, and another club is ruffed. South now plays a heart toward dummy and, when West produces the king, lets him win it! This is now the position:

North A10 J 76 West J98 Q10 South 874 A9 East QJ 1084

West's return doesn't matter, so let's say he leads a club, on which East discards a heart. South ruffs with the nine, plays a heart to the ace and ruffs dummy's last club with his last trump, the ace. This is declarer's 10th trick, and he still has the jack of diamonds in dummy to cinch the contract.

Declarer's 11 tricks consist of the A-K of spades, ace of hearts, king of clubs and seven trump tricks comprised of the king, five ruffs in his hand with the A-9-7-6-5 and, finally, the jack. However, all of these plays must be preceded by the discard of the ace of clubs on the ace of spades at trick two.

Tomorrow: An error of omission.

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SUDOKU

9x9 grid for a Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

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.

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

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!

Eleven-Eleven Holidays

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There's so much going right. When you focus on that, it builds. It's easier to do around people who want you to succeed.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). An investment in your health, education and curiosity in the world will pay off now, later and all along the way.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Noting your accomplishments will be important. Even better, celebrate them! It's about keeping track of the data, but the emotional element is key, too.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). To you, compassion is not an emotion but a call to action. You do what you can to alleviate suffering.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Discourse can feel like a game of strategy, and it often is. You'll be well aware of how what you say is a move, and your move not only changes your position, but also it changes theirs and the future.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). When positive experiences aren't naturally happening, you will be able to create them with minimal effort.

neutral and negative experiences that are part and parcel with daily life.

LI-BRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). When you're with people of different moods, sometimes you lead with yours, and sometimes you follow theirs.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It can be frustrating to find that your ability has not yet caught up with your ambition, but don't worry.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Love makes its own channels, and they can be unpredictable indeed. You'll give your love to one person and it will be returned to you through another in an unrelated interaction.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Sometimes, people have a natural appetite for what's good for them, but more often they don't.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It seems that the person who

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS



gets your focus isn't the one you most enjoy, but the one who needs you the most. This is not ideal for your short-term happiness but works wonders for building strong character.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You thought that the barrier was external, but it turns out that you had it up in your head -- a block created with emotion and past experience that can be disassembled without too much hassle.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 11). Victory is in your stars! In the past, you misperceived the possibilities and this led to an unmet goal.

ELEVEN THOUGHTS ABOUT ELEVEN ELEVEN: 1. If you're a person who finds themselves often noticing the clock when it happens to be 11:11, consider assigning a powerful meaning to this lucky noticing.

ELEVEN THOUGHTS ABOUT ELEVEN ELEVEN:

Use this as an opportunity to claim a saying, picture or idea that will encourage you along your way.

2. In a pure and distilled form of numerology, 11/11 is a numerical 4, a number that calls for the use of careful manners and diplomacy.

3. There's a comedy called "Eleven Eleven" that centers around alien abduction.

4. In a longer form of numerology, those born on an 11/11 day are thought to have wisdom far beyond their years and lifetimes stretching in both directions.

5. Famous people born on 11/11 include Leonardo DiCaprio, Stanley Tucci and Calista Flockhart.

6. A (not-so) secret Corduroy Club has claimed 11/11 as their special day and symbol because of the similarities to the ridges represented in the number to the fabric they adore.

7. Christopher Columbus discovered Saba on 11/11/1493.

8. There is a trend of increasing belief in the auspiciousness of 11/11 resulting in many 11/11 marriage ceremonies.

9. Across the globe, babies born on 11/11 often receive special media attention.

10. Many spiritualists believe the dead are more available for communication at 11:11.

11. Wishing you felicity this 11/11 and beyond!

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.

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Annie's Mailbox

Communication Is Needed ASAP

Dear Annie: My boyfriend is 48, and I am 39, and we have been together since May 2015. We haven't made too many public appearances since being together.

When we met, he was six months out of a two-year relationship, and I was eight months out of a 12-year marriage. We met on a dating site. Neither of us was looking for a relationship at the time.

the same time. I love action, comedy and dramas, and he likes zombie movies and action.

His daughter's mom and I have had an altercation. The cause of the disagreement was that she wanted to ruin our relationship, and he did nothing about it.

My concern is that we are not talking about marriage or even an engagement. More than a year after buying a home and we're still playing house, without moving forward.

the one."

I have mentioned marriage at least five times, and now I'm ready to give up on this relationship. He always wants me to tell people that we have three children, but he's not changing the status legally.

I think it has a lot to do with his money; maybe he thinks I'm after it or something. That isn't the case. The proof is that I would have stayed with my ex-husband.

Dear Tired: Divorce can be traumatic. It sounds like your boyfriend might need time before he is ready to tie the knot. His comment about marrying "the one" is hurtful.

Therapy is doubly important because the lives of three children are at stake. His ex-wife living across the street is something that a professional should be able to help you and your boyfriend sort out.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

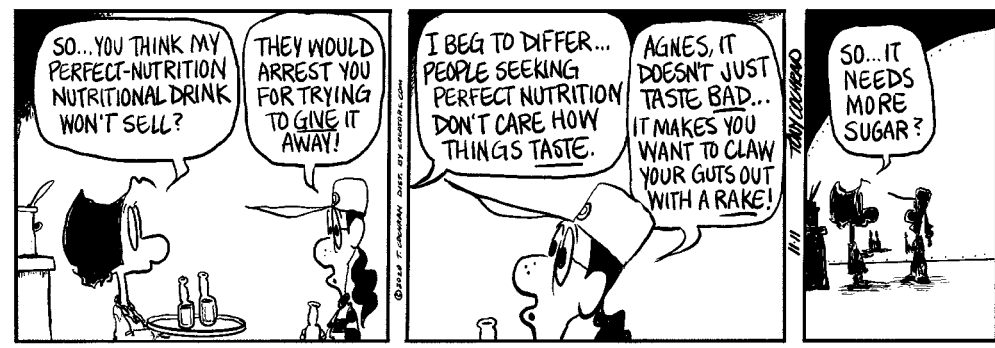
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	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery
5:PM	Big 2 ABC	Noticiero	FamFeud	CBS 7	Tele Noticias	News	For Such	Wild Kratt	Flintstone	Burgers	Fam. Guy	izer, Chloë Grace Moretz (DVS)	SportsCenter	Daily Wager	United Focused	NCIS (DVS)	Bourne Supremacy, Brian Cox	Expedition Unknown
6:PM	News	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang	CBS 7	El domo del dinero (SS)	News	Cowgirl	Xavier	MeTV	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Remember the M'A'S'H Finale	Mock	Preview	C'boys	NCIS (DVS)		Expedition Unknown
7:PM	The 54th Annual CMA Awards	Te doy la vida	The Masked Singer	The Amazing Race		Chicago Med	Israel	Molly	Hero	Devis	Big Bang	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite	College Football: Toledo at Western Michigan.	Documentaries	Texas High School Football Classics	WWE NXT	Movie: The Bourne Ultimatum, Joan Allen	Josh Gates Tonight Expedition X
8:PM		Amor eterno	I Can See Your	S.W.A.T.		Chicago Fire	Truth	Arthur	Light of Southwest	Coroner	Big Bang		College Football: Toledo at Western Michigan.	Documentaries	Wednesday at the Masters			
9:PM		Como tú no hay dos	FOX 24 News at 9			Chicago P.D.	Falsa identidad (SS)	Light of Southwest	Cyber	Heroes	Seinfeld	Big Bang	Movie: The Town, Jon Hamm (DVS)	Spotlight Player	Chrisley		To Be Announced	Lost Relics of
10:PM	Big 2	Noticiero	TMZ	CBS 7	Tele	News	News	Pink	C. Burnett	Creek	Conan		SportsCenter	NFL Live	Sports	Chrisley		Expedition Unknown
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live!	Contacto	Mod Fam	Late Show-Colbert	Noticias Titulares	Words of Dr. Wil	Sesame						SportsCenter	Boxing	World Poker	Mod Fam	(:03) Movie: The Bourne Ultimatum, Joan Allen	Josh Gates Tonight Expedition X
12:AM	Nightline	Innocente de ti	Two Men	Simpsons	Drew Barrymore	Caso	Late-Lilly	Jesus IS	Nature	Wild Kratt	Mannix		SportsCenter	Around Pardon	Strongman	NCIS: Los Angeles	To Be An-	Lost Relics of
1:AM	Marie Fil	Papá a toda madre	Pawn	Dr. Carras	Programa	Inside Ed.	Programa	Light of Southwest	Wild Kratt				SportsCenter	NBA: The Jump	Strongman	NCIS: Los Angeles	To Be An-	Lost Relics of

ANDY CAPP



AGNES



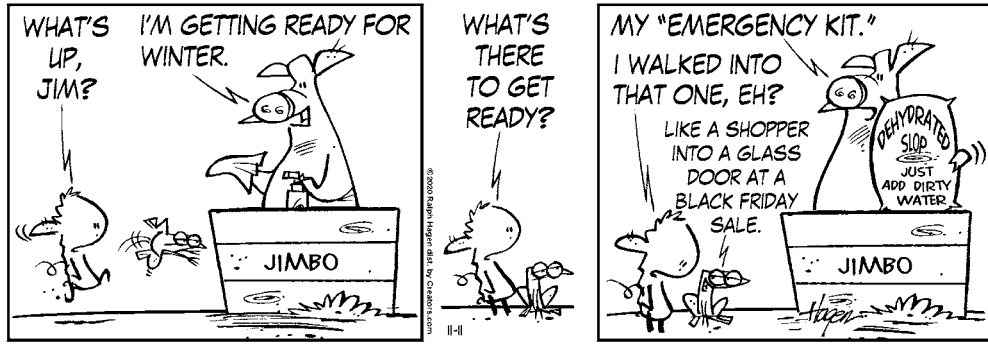
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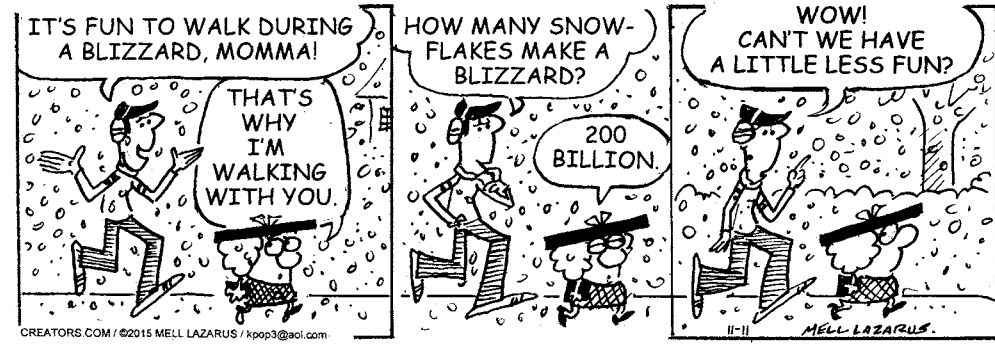
ONE BIG HAPPY



THE BARN



MOMMA



This Date In History

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, Nov. 11, the 316th day of 2020. There are 50 days left in the year. Today is Veterans Day. Today's Highlight in History: On Nov. 11, 1918, fighting in World War I ended as the Allies and Germany signed an armistice in the Forest of Compiègne (kohm-PY-EHN'-yeh). On this date: In 1620, 41 Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower, anchored off Massachusetts, signed a compact calling for a "body politick." In 1831, former slave Nat Turner, who'd led a slave uprising, was executed in Jerusalem, Virginia. In 1889, Washington became the 42nd state. In 1921, the remains of an unidentified American service member were interred in a Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery in a ceremony presided over by President Warren G. Harding. In 1929, the Ambassador Bridge spanning the Detroit River between Michigan and Windsor, Ontario, Canada, was dedicated. In 1942, during World War II, Germany completed its occupation of France. In 1965, Rhodesia proclaimed its independence from Britain. In 1966, Gemini 12 blasted off on a four-day mission with astronauts James A. Lovell and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin Jr. aboard; it was the tenth and final flight of NASA's Gemini program. In 1972, the U.S. Army turned over its base at Long Binh to the South Vietnamese, symbolizing the end of direct U.S. military involvement in the Vietnam War. In 1987, following the failure of two Supreme Court nominations, President Ronald Reagan announced his choice of Judge Anthony M. Kennedy, who went on to win confirmation. In 1992, the Church of England voted to ordain women as priests. In 1998, President Clinton ordered warships, planes

and troops to the Persian Gulf as he laid out his case for a possible attack on Iraq. Iraq, meanwhile, showed no sign of backing down from its refusal to deal with U.N. weapons inspectors. Ten years ago: A disabled Carnival Splendor cruise liner inched into San Diego Bay after three nightmarish days adrift on the Pacific, bringing cheers from passengers who described trying to pass the time with limited food, backed-up toilets and dark cabins. A dispute between the U.S. and China over currency values overshadowed a meeting of Group of 20 nations in Seoul, South Korea. Marie Osborne Yeats, a silent film child star who was known as Baby Marie Osborne, died in San Clemente, California, six days after turning 99. Five years ago: The world's two biggest beer makers, AB InBev and SABMiller, announced they would join forces in a \$107 billion merger to create a company that would produce almost a third of the world's beer. Phil Taylor, 61, a former drummer with the heavy metal band Motorhead nicknamed "Philthy Animal," died in London. One year ago: A day after stepping down amid election fraud allegations, former Bolivian President Evo Morales said he was headed for Mexico; his supporters and foes clashed on the streets of the Bolivian capital following his resignation. (Morales would settle in Argentina; he said after his party's victory in October elections that he planned to return to Bolivia.) SpaceX launched 60 mini satellites from a Falcon rocket; they joined 60 others that had been launched in May. Australia's most populous state, New South Wales, declared a state of emergency because of unprecedented

wildfire danger. Today's Birthdays: Country singer Narvel Felts is 82. Former Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., is 80. Americana roots singer/songwriter Chris Smither is 76. Rock singer-musician Vince Martell (Vanilla Fudge) is 75. The president of Nicaragua, Daniel Ortega, is 75. Rock

singer Jim Peterik (PEE'-ter-ihk) (Ides of March, Survivor) is 70. Golfer Fuzzy Zoeller is 69. Pop singer-musician Paul Cowsill (The Cowsills) is 69. Rock singer-musician Andy Partridge (XTC) is 67. Singer Marshall Crenshaw is 67. Rock singer Dave Alvin is 65. Rock musician Ian Craig Marsh (Hu-

man League; Heaven 17) is 64. Actor Stanley Tucci is 60. Actor Demi Moore is 58. Actor Calista Flockhart is 56. Actor Frank John Hughes is 53. TV personality Carson Kressley is 51. Actor David DeLuise is 49. Actor Adam Beach is 48. Actor Tyler Christopher is 48. Actor Leonardo DiCaprio

is 46. Actor Scoot McNairy is 43. Rock musician Jonathan Pretus (formerly with Cowboy Mouth) is 39. Actor Frankie Shaw is 39. Musician Jon Batiste is 34. Actor Christa B. Allen is 29. Actor Tye Sheridan is 24. Actor Ian Patrick is 18.

Newsday Crossword

TODAY'S SLANT by Fred Piscop Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- Insertion mark
- Far from crisp, as lettuce
- Golden Fleece ship
- Zinc __ ointment
- Cleveland's lake
- Try to find
- Make a change to
- Group of street toughs
- Studio's sound stages
- Sandwich meat that might cost extra
- Hooting flyer
- Withdraw, with "out"
- Producer of PC pop-ups
- Healthful resorts
- Start of Canada's alphabet
- When shadows are shortest
- Prefix meaning "coil"
- Place for cows to graze
- Fight imaginary foes
- North Pole assistant
- Repetitive shout
- "Old King" of rhyme
- Color-changing substance
- Barnyard cacklers
- Distorted, as data
- Where the buoys are
- "Now I get it!"
- Strikers' presentation to management
- Image to click on
- Sporting sword
- Well-informed

DOWN

- Swooped
- Interstate access
- First Soviet Union leader
- Meal in a slow cooker
- Venetian blind piece
- Take up, as a plan
- Sheet to hang tools on
- Thing of value
- Underwater coral structure
- Understand
- Gives approval for
- Be indebted
- __ salts (bathwater additive)
- Paid to play poker
- Lacy ornamental mat
- Tom who wrote *The Right Stuff*
- Tiny tunneler
- Wheel of Fortune turns
- Quart fraction
- Give approval for
- Charming woman
- In a protective container
- Large waterbird
- Dull discomforts
- Where plays are staged
- It might keep wine cool
- "Steady as __ goes"
- California senator Harris
- Muscle-bone connector
- Highly capable
- Affectionate letter ender
- Cameo stone
- Disaster relief org.
- Left amazed
- "Tiny" prefix for second
- Faucet flaw
- Transported
- Proofs of who you are, for short
- Foldaway bed

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
14 15 16
17 18 19
20 21 22
23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33
34 35 36
37 38 39 40
41 42 43
44 45 46 47
48 49
50 51 52 53 54 55 56
57 58 59 60
61 62 63
64 65 66

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Answer to previous puzzle
BOSS GNAT SCRAP
ORNO LINE CAINE
LEAN ANTS ATONE
DOGGONEIT RATER
MCS MEL
CADDIE EPISODES
AFOOT OXEN GAIN
RING ADAGE UNDO
DRUM DOCS METER
SETAPART DESERT
TIM SOS
ATTIC CATCHCOLD
CRACK AMOK AHOY
TOTAL RIPE RISE
STALE PSST TOTS

It's done: The NBA comes back on Dec. 22, a 72-game season

By **TIM REYNOLDS**

AP Basketball Writer

It's official: The NBA is coming back Dec. 22.

The NBA's board of governors unanimously approved Tuesday the financial terms and other parameters that were negotiated between the league and its players. Those talks were completed late Monday night, when the league and National Basketball Players Association announced they are in agreement on a revised collective bargaining agreement for this coming season — setting the stage for a frenzied few weeks before games resume.

Teams will play a 72-game schedule, which will be revealed in the coming weeks. The league said a new system will be used to ensure that the split of basketball-related income continues, one of the biggest deals that had to be worked out with the union because the current agreement between the sides had a great deal of language that needed reworking because of the coronavirus pandemic.

"December 22nd can't come soon enough," two-time reigning NBA MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo of the Milwaukee Bucks tweeted Tuesday.

Negotiations with free agents will be allowed to begin at 6 p.m. on Nov. 20, with signings permitted starting at 12:01 p.m. on Nov. 22 — an extraordinarily fast window for the NBA, which typically has about a week spanning the start of talks and the beginning of signings. But with training camps this year beginning Dec. 1, both sides evidently feel there isn't a need to draw out the process any longer than necessary.

Many rosters could be considerably reshaped by then, with trades likely to be permissible again in the coming days — the exact details there still being worked out — and the NBA draft set to take place Nov. 18. Player and team options likely will be settled around that same time. Free agency starts two days after the draft, with around 100 players set for unrestricted status.

The salary cap and tax level will remain unchanged. The cap was \$109.14 million this past season, with the tax level at \$132,627,000. The real numbers will be affected by the shortened schedule — last year's numbers were based on the standard 82-game season, a threshold that won't be reached this year.

The salary cap for 2021-22 is guaranteed to rise somewhere between 3% and 10%, the league said, which means it'll be somewhere between \$112.4 million and \$120.1 million.

Meyers Leonard, a free-agent-to-be who spent this past season with the Miami Heat and served as the team's player rep to the NBPA, said he had some concerns about getting all the logistical matters completed in time for a Dec. 22 opening night. He resumed his offseason workouts Monday after he and his wife took a 4,000-mile tour-bus trip arranged by Coors Light from Miami to Los Angeles with many stops along the way.

"Without knowing all the ins and outs, Dec. 22nd, from a money standpoint, you play more games, you play your Christmas games, it probably makes sense," Leonard said. "But there's a lot of logistical things that I know cannot be easy. And the discussions that are being had are very dynamic and very difficult conversations."

There are countless other issues to work out, such as all the health and safety protocols now that games won't be played in the safety of a bubble and teams will be traveling to various cities once again. And those talks are continuing, the league said.

Players were tested daily in the bubble, and nobody tested positive because of the very strict protocols. It'll be much tougher to avoid a COVID-related issue with the league back to some sort of normalcy

this season.

"There's going to be people testing positive," Leonard said. "I don't know about left and right, but it's going to happen. And then what happens? It's a tough time we're all dealing with. The disease is very strange. It's going to be interesting to see how the league rolls with the punches, so to speak."

One of those punches arrived Tuesday night, when the New York Knicks closed their training facility after three employees tested positive for COVID-19. The team said it was shutting down for cleaning purposes and that the employees are in quarantine.

So with that, an offseason that just started for some teams already seems over.

For the NBA champion Los Angeles Lakers and Eastern Conference champion Heat, it will be the shortest offseason in NBA history — with seven weeks separating the end of the NBA Finals and the planned Dec. 1 start of training camp.

But for the eight teams that didn't make the restart bubble at Walt Disney World in Lake Buena Vista, Florida this summer, it has been a marathon off-season, with none of those teams — Atlanta, Chicago, Cleveland, Charlotte, Golden State, Minnesota, New York and Detroit — having played since the second week of March. The NBA shut down because of the coronavirus pandemic on March 11, then took 22 of its 30 teams to Disney to resume the season in July.

The Knicks' Bobby Portis hasn't played in a game since the night the pandemic forced the shutdown.

"Ready to hoop again," he tweeted Tuesday.



African American Research Honors All who served

Clarence Hartfield, Jr.
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