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JURY

Continued from Page 1

unauthorized use of a motor vehicle (3rd degree felony, enhanced).

- Michael Murphy Moore, 58, of 1001 S. County Road 1060, Midland, theft of service, more than \$2,500 but less than \$30,000 (state jail felony).
- Andrea Sheniece Roberts, 21, of 2911 W. Highway 80, theft, more than \$1,500 but less than \$20,000 (state jail felony).
- Monica Rodriguez, 38, of 213 S. 5th St., Coahoma, securing execution of a document by deception (state jail felony).
- Melissa Ann Rose, 37, of 4117 Muir, Big Spring, possession of a controlled substance (state jail felony).
- Israel Saiz, 19, of 2625 Ent, Big Spring, two counts of burglary of a habitation (2nd degree felony).
- Preston Cody Walker, 30, of 300 S. Jacobs, Big Spring, burglary of a building (state jail felony).
- Franciso Emanuel Cantu, 35, of 1502 Cherokee, Big Spring, cruelty to non-live-stock animals (state jail felony).
- Fabian Allen Carpenter, 29, currently residing in the Howard County Jail, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon (2nd degree felony).
- Orlando Castelan Jr., 34, of 204 E. 11th Place, Big Spring, theft, more than \$1,500 but less than \$20,000 (state jail felony), forgery (state jail felony).
- Brenda Luna Gonzales, 42, 2402 E. Marcy Drive, theft, less than \$20,000 (enhanced to 3rd degree felony).
- Victor Manuel Castillo Jr., 20, of 1905 Wasson Rd. Apt. 54, Big Spring, evading arrest with previous conviction (state jail felony).
- Howard Foster, 40, of 1002 N. Main. No. 40, Big Spring, possession of a controlled substance (enhanced to 2nd degree felony).
- Brian Michael Garza, 34, currently residing in the Howard County Jail, possession of a controlled substance, less than 1 gram (enhanced to 3rd degree felony) and delivery of a controlled substance, (2nd degree felony).
- Amber Michelle Guterrez, 41, of 509 S. Bell, Big Spring, two counts of forgery of a financial instrument (enhanced to 3rd degree felony) and possession of a controlled substance (enhanced to 3rd degree felony).

Irma Lozano



Irma Lozano, 64, of Big Spring died Thursday, Sept. 29, 2016, in Lubbock. The family will receive friends from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2:00 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

She was born July 25, 1952, to Aurora Perez Garza and Victor Garza, Sr., in Stanton. She married Joe Lozano, Jr. on August 3 1973, in Big Spring. She was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and was a member of Life Church.

She is survived by one son: Johnny Lozano of Dallas; three daughters: Lisa Lozano of Dallas, Victoria Warren

POLICE

Continued from Page 2

invalid license and three counts of failure to appear.

- DIANE JANE DOW, 55, of 538 Westover Road was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- MARCUS EMORY STURGILL, 27, of 1008 N Gregg Street was arrested on a charge of criminal trespassing.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 4100 block of Dixon Street and the 1900 block of Martin Luther King.
- BURGLARY OF BUILDING was reported in the 3200 block of E FM 700 and the 4100 block of E FM 700.
- STOLEN VEHICLE was reported in the 3200 block of Cornell.
- THEFT was reported in the 1300 block of Mobile and the 1200 block of Mulberry.
- BURGLARY OF HABITATION was reported in the 5800 block of E Midway Road.
- DISTURBANCE was reported in the 1300 block of Tucson Street.
- DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 1100 block of S Nolan Street.

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

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

- COLT BLAZE BRADSTREET, 21, was booked by the DPS on a warrant for possession of marijuana (less than two ounces).

Obituaries

and her husband Chad of Midland, and Anastacia Lozano of Big Spring; ten brothers: Armando Garza and his wife Adella of Cleburne, Robert Garza of Temple, Fernando Garza and his wife Lupita of Cleburne, Raul Garza and his wife Tina of Ft. Worth, Oscar Garza and his wife Martha of Big Spring, Marcos Garza and his wife Joelda of Big Spring, Joe Garza of Dallas, David Garza and his wife Lucy of Big Spring, Lupe Garza and his wife Rachel of Big Spring and Albert Garza and his wife Patsy of Big Spring; four sisters: Olga Galan and her husband Abel of Kerrville, Ellie Hilario and her husband Robert of Big Spring, Gloria Garza of Big Spring and Esperanza Garza of Midland; and eleven grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by two brothers: Victor Garza, Jr. and Ricky Garza.

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

- DAVID LYNN DOW, 33, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of criminal trespassing.
- DIANE JANE DOW, 55, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- MICHAEL JAMES GUTIERREZ, 32, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for driving with invalid license and three counts of failure to appear.
- RANDY LEE PAIGE JR, 23, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- JAMES LEE RIZZUTO, 46, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana (less than four ounces).
- MONICA RODRIGUEZ, 38, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for securing execution of a document by deceit.
- VANESSA RODRIQUEZ, 33, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for harassment, no driver's license when unlicensed, and failure to appear.
- CALESTON NASIER SANDERS, 34, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for possession of a controlled substance (less than four grams).
- ANDRES NIETO SOLIZ, 21, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for bail jumping and failure to appear, theft, and failure to appear.
- MARCUS EMORY STURGILL, 27, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of criminal trespassing.

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 1600 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

News in brief

Pro-government forces press attack on Aleppo

BEIRUT (AP) — Syrian rebels say pro-government forces are pressing their assault on the eastern, rebel-held neighborhoods of Aleppo, this time attacking the city from the south in a bid to penetrate opposition-controlled areas.

The Islamic Front rebel coalition said on Twitter on Tuesday that its factions repelled an advance on the Sheikh Saeed neighborhood.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights says the government offensive is accompanied by airstrikes on the contested neighborhoods.

The monitoring group says more than 400 civilians have been killed in and around Aleppo since the collapse of a U.S. and Russian-brokered cease-fire two weeks ago.

Peace efforts plunge as US suspends talks

WASHINGTON (AP) — International efforts to end the fighting in Syria have been dealt a serious blow, with the United States suspending direct

contacts with Russia on halting the war, and chilly relations are turning even frostier after Russia put a hold on a plutonium disposal deal with Washington.

The two decisions, announced in their respective capitals just hours apart Monday, were ostensibly unrelated but underscored deep mistrust and rising tensions between the former Cold War foes, who are increasingly at odds on a number of issues, particularly Syria and Ukraine.

The moves further reduce areas of Washington-Moscow cooperation, yet their most immediate impact may be the potential death blow delivered to halting attempts to revive a moribund ceasefire in Syria, get desperately needed humanitarian aid to besieged communities and begin negotiations on political transition that could mean the ouster of President Bashar Assad.

The Obama administration said it decided to cut off discussions on Syria because Russia had not lived up to the terms of last month's agreement to restore a tattered cease-fire and ensure sustained deliveries of humanitarian aid to besieged cities.

HAITI

Continued from Page 1

slamming the beaches and washing over the coastal road.

"The winds are making so many bad noises. We're just doing our best to stay calm," said Jenniflore Desrosiers early Tuesday as she huddled with her family in her fragile cinder-block home, which had sprung numerous leaks from pelting rain.

Haiti's civil protection office said a number of south coast towns partially flooded overnight. Landslides and downed trees on roadways were preventing movement in numerous areas. The few places that were on the electrical grid had apparently lost power and cell phone service was spotty.

Haitian officials spent Monday trying to persuade shantytown residents to take advantage of shelters being set up. Some people took up the offers, but many refused, saying they feared their meager possessions might be stolen.

"If we lose our things we are not going to get them back!" said Tousseint Laine, an unemployed man who lives with his family in a shack in Tabarre, a suburb of Port-au-Prince,

the capital.

Authorities also went door to door in the south coast cities of Les Cayes and Jeremie to make sure people were aware of the storm's threats. At least 1,200 people were moved to shelters in churches and schools.

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Irma Lozano, 64, died Thursday. The family will receive friends from 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral services will be at 2:00 PM Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

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DIVIDED AMERICA:

Minorities hopeful, whites sour on future



AP photos

At left, Adrienne Bockhorst stands with her 4-year-old daughter, Isla, in the backyard of their home in Whitefish Bay, Wis., on Aug. 2, 2016. Bockhorst, a Democrat who lives in the upscale Milwaukee suburb of Whitefish Bay, is worried — shaken by the scars of the recession, which tossed her family into bankruptcy, and by the vitriol of the presidential campaign. Bockhorst tries not to even think of the country's economic future. "I just ignore it because it scares me so much because of the collapse and what it did to us, our dreams." At right, Christine Ricks talks about the volunteer work she does to help inner city kids in Milwaukee on Aug. 2, 2016. Ricks, who says she grew up next to "the biggest dope house in the entire city," works as a substitute teacher and has almost no money. But she's still optimistic that her life will improve, and that Clinton will be elected.



EDITOR'S NOTE — This story is part of *Divided America*, AP's ongoing exploration of the economic, social and political divisions in American society.

By **PAUL WISEMAN**

AP Economics Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Consider two women in their 70s, both residents of the Kansas City area. One is white and affluent; the other is black and working class.

Guess which one is more optimistic about the country's future and that of their grandchildren?

More than likely, you guessed wrong.

This year's presidential campaign has underscored an economic paradox: Financially, black Americans and Hispanics are far worse off than whites, yet polls show minorities are more likely than whites to believe in the American Dream. And they are less anxious about the outcome of the election.

At 71, Carole Ramsey knows she has long been fortunate. She married a man who became a successful lawyer, raised their children in Kansas City's affluent western suburbs and now enjoys a comfortable retirement full of international travel.

"We've lived a very good life," Ramsey, who is white, said at an upscale shopping center in Leawood,

Kansas. Even so, she says she'll vote for Donald Trump because she fears economic stagnation and global terrorism. "Our kids will not be able to live the way we did, that's for sure."

Ethel Tuggle, 72, backs Hillary Clinton, and a big reason is that her grandchildren's circumstances show how life has improved for her family. "They're starting jobs at \$15, \$20 an hour; I've never seen that sort of money," said Tuggle, who is black and worked construction for Kansas City government until injuries forced her to retire early.

Tuggle says she's amazed at the progress she's witnessed since her childhood in rural Missouri, when she was barred from entering shoe stores and had to trace her foot on a sheet of paper so a salesman inside could fit her for shoes. Her grandchildren live under the nation's first black president.

One factor in the surprising gap between black optimism and white pessimism is simply partisan politics: Blacks and Hispanics are overwhelmingly Democrats and more likely to feel positive about the future when one of their own is in the White House.

"When Bush was in office, Republicans thought the country was headed in the right direction," while Democrats did not, said Neil Newhouse, a Republican pollster. "Once Demo-

crats took over, that flipped."

Still, there's evidence that the divide goes beyond party and Obama's presidency. In great measure, it has to do with the past, not the future: Minorities who have seen great improvements in their lives are more confident, while whites who have seen disintegration in their lives are more pessimistic.

The NORC at the University of Chicago has for decades asked Americans whether they think their standard of living will improve. Since 2002 — well before Obama's 2008 election — NORC surveys have found that whites across all parties and income levels have been steadily less likely to think their standard of living would improve. Blacks and Hispanics, meanwhile, have increasingly believed their living standards would rise.

"This is a racial and ethnic thing — not something that's based on education, income or party," said Jennifer Benz of NORC. "It's whites' huge decline in optimism that makes the gap between whites and minorities the biggest it's been in a long time."

In a poll conducted for the Atlantic and Aspen Institute last year, minorities were more likely than whites to agree with the statement, "The American Dream is alive and well."

A Pew Foundation survey found that Hispanics were the least likely ethnic or racial group to be anxious about the outcome of the current presidential race — even though a centerpiece of Trump's platform is to deport millions of immigrants living in the country illegally and restrict overall immigration.

In a June AP-NORC poll, 62 percent of blacks said they thought America's best days were ahead. Only 40 percent of whites thought so. Fifty-three percent of blacks and 48 percent of Hispanics called the economy "good." Just 37 percent of whites did.

The level of optimism among minorities might seem to defy economic realities. Whites have a median household income of \$71,300 compared with blacks' median of \$43,300. A Pew foundation report found that

white households' typical net worth was 13 times that of black households. A separate report from the Institute for Policy Studies has calculated that, at their current rate, it would take blacks 228 years to catch up with the wealth of whites.

Still, minorities have seen progress, while whites have stalled.

According to Census data, white men have increased their income by only 3 percent since 1973, while black men have improved theirs by 12 percent. (Incomes for all women have risen sharply since they entered and rose through the workforce since the early 1970s.)

Many Hispanics have enjoyed solid income gains. The Institute for Policy Studies found that Hispanics' household wealth has risen 69 percent over the past 30 years, albeit to a still-low \$98,000 relative to whites' \$656,000.

"If you're at the bottom moving up, you feel much better about your prospects than if you're at the top moving down," Democratic pollster Mark Mellman said.

There is one area where blacks, especially, register as more pessimistic than whites: Race relations and policing. Blacks particularly have polled as more negative about race relations recently, following a series of high-profile police killings of African-Americans. There is frustration, especially among younger blacks, that the incidents have continued under the nation's first African-American president.

Yet even the usually peaceful demonstrations against those killings since 2014 could be seen as evidence of optimism, said Andra Gillespie, a political scientist at Atlanta's Emory University.

"You wouldn't see people taking to the streets and demanding justice if they didn't think they had a greater chance of being able to change things," Gillespie said.

Brandon Dixon's father was asphyxiated by Kansas City police in 2009 during a psychotic episode. The incident shocked Dixon, who gave

See **DIVIDED**, Page 5



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DIVIDED

Continued from Page 4

up his work in construction and decided to plow his family's life's savings into opening a restaurant in the impoverished neighborhood where he grew up.

Four years after he bought a former beauty salon to convert into an eatery, Dixon has been unable to open the restaurant because of environmental contamination from a neighboring gas station. He's struggling financially but hopes his business will finally open in a few weeks, and that it will help turn around his life and his community.

"We've always seen adversity," Dixon said. "You have to not stand still, not be stagnating, keep moving forward."

Andrew Cherlin, a sociologist at Johns Hopkins University, noted that people tend to evaluate their own prospects based on their parents' experiences.

"When whites look backwards, they compare themselves to a generation that was doing better," Cherlin said. "Blacks and Hispanics," who face less overt discrimination today, "compare themselves to a generation that was doing worse."

As incomes have stagnated for working class whites, their rates of suicide, drug addiction and mortality have surged. Two economists in December 2015 reported that death rates have been rising since 1999 for whites between ages 45 and 54, with the sharpest increase among the least educated.

By contrast, the suicide rate for black men has dropped since 1999. And the gap between black and white life expectancy is now the lowest in more than a century: 3.4 years. More whites have died than were born since 2011, and the Census Bureau projects that whites will be in the minority by 2060.

Doug Haag lives in Milwaukee. One of the city's dwindling number of working-class white residents, he feels that the social contract between employers and employees has broken down.

Haag, 59, doesn't see much job security anymore. He works for the state of Wisconsin, where a recent civil service overhaul makes it easier to fire public employees. Even though he's had a steady job the past 18 years he considers himself "lower-middle class," unable to afford vacations or nights out with friends. He worries

about whether he'll be able to retire.

"There's no middle class any more — the true middle class," Haag said. "There's no loyalty from companies any more or from the employees."

A Trump supporter, Haag said he's hopeful that the reality show star can restore the country's position of strength in the world and in the economy.

"He's going to be able to do that as a businessman," Haag said.

Adrienne Bockhorst lives in a tonier spot than Haag — in the upscale Milwaukee suburb of Whitefish Bay. She's a Democrat who plans to vote for Hillary Clinton. But she, too, is worried — shaken by the scars of the recession, which tossed her family into bankruptcy, and by the vitriol of the presidential campaign.

Bockhorst, who is white, tries not to even think of the country's economic future. "I just ignore it because it scares me so much because of the collapse and what it did to us, our dreams," she said. "I'm in total denial that something bad could happen again. We don't have a retirement plan, we don't have a safety net."

Bockhorst lives worlds away from the Milwaukee streets which erupted in riots last month in the wake of the shooting of a 23-year-old black man by police after a traffic stop. Milwaukee has the fifth-worst poverty rate in the nation, based on the most recent Census data. But even there you'll find optimism among minorities.

"We used to have slaves, you know?" said Christine Ricks, whose northside neighborhood was at the center of August's riots. "There have been improvements. My grandfather and your grandfather used to not be able to drink out of the same fountain."

Ricks grew up next to what Ricks calls "the biggest dope house in the entire city"; she works as a substitute teacher and has almost no money. But she's still optimistic that her life will improve, and that Clinton will be elected.

"I think it's going to be all right; I just don't know how," Ricks said. "I would describe it as complete faith in God. Literally. From moment to moment."

Jose Estrada, 71, emigrated from Mexico to California in the 1960s. He moved to Milwaukee in 1967, became a citizen 11 years later, and retired in 2003 after working a variety of manufacturing jobs. Estrada describes himself as middle class.

"I worked very, very hard to get my-



AP photos

At top, Brandon Dixon stands outside the restaurant he is trying to open in Kansas City, Mo., on Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2016. He gave up his work in construction and decided to plow his family's life's savings into opening a restaurant in the impoverished neighborhood where he grew up. "We've always seen adversity," Dixon says. "You have to not stand still, not be stagnating, keep moving forward." At bottom, the Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2013 photo shows the Capitol building reflected in the Capitol Reflecting Pool at sunrise in Washington. The 2016 presidential campaign has underscored an economic paradox: Financially, black Americans and Hispanics are far worse off than whites, yet polls show minorities are more likely than whites to believe in the American Dream. And they are less anxious about the outcome of the election.

self to this point," he said.

While he supports Clinton and fears Trump would damage the country, Estrada is optimistic about America's future regardless.

"We will be happy with anyone who gets into that position, and I will respect it," Estrada said. "Whoever it is, I am living in this country, it is a beautiful country and I love it. I've got more here than I ever had in Mexico."

Obama tries to recreate SXSW at White House



AP photo

Sculptures made entirely of Lego bricks, created by contemporary artist Nathan Sawaya, are seen at the White House in Washington, Monday, Oct. 3, 2016, part of South by South Lawn.

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama liked his March trip to Austin's South by South-

west festival of technology and music so much that he decided to try to re-create the SXSW vibe from Texas on the South Lawn.

On Monday, he rolled out "South by South Lawn," or SXSL, bringing together artists, innovators, musicians and entrepreneurs for the equivalent of a giant White House block party for tech nerds.

The president made a midday visit to the South Lawn to check out booths and vendors promoting everything from virtual reality technology to fake tattoos. He planned to speak to the crowd about climate change later in the day in a joint appearance with actor Leonardo DiCaprio and climate scientist Dr. Katharine Hayhoe. In an email promoting the event, Obama wrote that SXSL was "at its heart, a call to action. The folks out on the lawn today are artists, creators, entrepreneurs, and innovators who will share how they've used their unique skills to engage their

communities in making the change they want to see — whether it's curing cancer, fighting poverty, empowering women, and so much more."

DiCaprio's documentary film on climate change, "Before the Flood," was to get its domestic premier on the lawn later in the day. Tech blogger and entrepreneur Anil Dash said the South Lawn event was a way to connect the dots between SXSW, with its ideas for changing the world, and the people who are "doing the actual work" to use technology to improve worker rights, civil rights and more.

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Cowboys have Romo-Dak question looming soon if wins keep coming

By SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — Dak Prescott never gets tricked by the question, no matter how someone asks what happens when Tony Romo returns from his latest back injury.

The answer will only get more complicated for the Cowboys if the rookie keeps playing this well in his record-setting debut.

With a victory at home against Cincinnati on Sunday, Dallas (3-1) will be guaranteed a winning record for the widely projected Romo return date of Oct. 30.

Then again, maybe it's not complicated if you listen to tight end Jason Witten, Romo's favorite target, close friend and teammate for all of their 14 seasons since they came into the NFL together with the Cowboys in 2003.

"I think it's really simple," Witten said Monday at an appearance with U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch at a Dallas high school to announce a funding initiative for police departments around the country.

"I said how I feel about Tony, and I think there's only a few people that are on this planet that can do the things at that position what he's done in his career. He'll continue to come back and play at a high level."

And Witten isn't trying to downgrade the performance of Prescott, who has an NFL rookie record of 131 pass attempts without an interception to start in his career.

He has essentially shared the mark with Philadelphia's Carson Wentz all season. Wentz, who is at 102, had last weekend off.



Marcio Jose Sanchez/Associated Press

San Francisco 49ers safety Eric Reid (35) hugs Dallas Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott (4) after an NFL football game in Santa Clara, Calif., Sunday, Oct. 2, 2016.

"To come in the situation and to play as well as he has, it's been remarkable to be a part of and to watch," said Witten, who played a big role while Prescott ran the two-minute offense on a tying touchdown drive in the final two minutes of the first half in Sunday's 24-17 win over San Francisco. "He's got a bright future ahead of him."

Prescott has led the Cowboys to three straight wins after a loss in the opener dropped them to 1-14 without Romo since the 2013 finale.

Dallas beat Washington with a fourth-quarter rally after giving up a 10-0 lead, took a big lead over Chicago in a comfortable win and came back from a 14-0 deficit in the second quarter against the 49ers.

The 23-year-old is a victory away from the franchise rookie record for victories in a season, and he's the first Dallas rookie with consecutive games of a 100-plus passer rating.

Every week, the questions for Jerry Jones get more direct over whether the owner and general manager

is willing to let Prescott ride when Romo is ready.

"We know that we dream of having that kind of dilemma," Jones told reporters after the game in San Francisco.

"That is a good place to be as you look at the next 12 games in the NFL and playoffs is to be really sound at that position. I think we aren't over our skis a little bit to think that way."

Yes, Jones said playoffs — a year after the Cowboys slid from first to worst in the NFC East at 4-12 because they couldn't win without Romo and star receiver Dez Bryant, Romo has a hairline fracture in his right knee.

Dallas beat the 49ers without both , and without Pro Bowl left tackle Tyrion Smith, starting guard La'el Collins and stabilizing cornerback Orlando Scandrick.

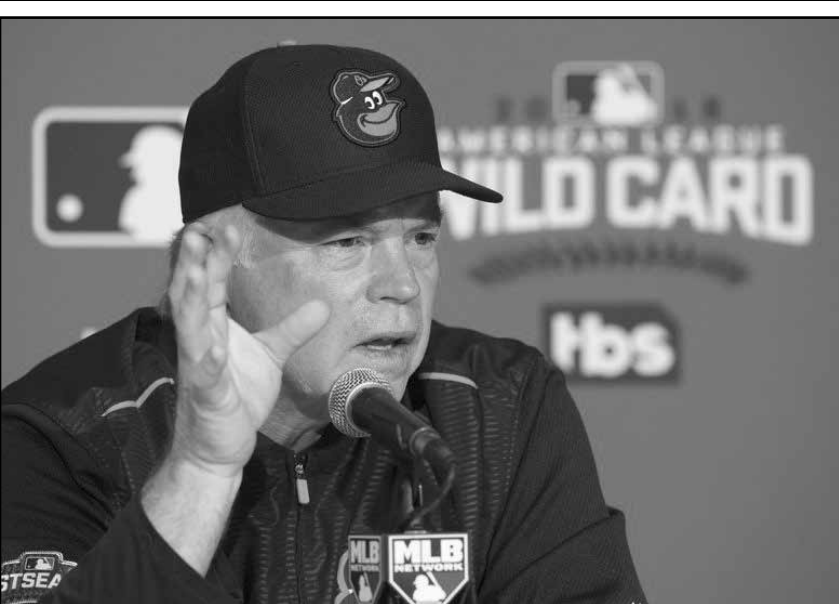
Never mind the three suspended defensive players in pass rushers DeMarcus Lawrence and Randy Gregory and linebacker Rolando McClain.

Lawrence returns this week after a four-game suspension for a violation of the NFL's substance-abuse policy.

"I didn't expect it," Jones said. "They are not looking back. They are lining up with literally who we have at game time. I like that attitude. We learned a lot last year."

Prescott has repeatedly said the Cowboys are still Romo's team, and he didn't skip a beat when asked in a slightly different way after Sunday's game if it was becoming his team.

Either way, Witten says his relationship with Romo won't make his role as a leader more difficult.



Frank Gunn/The Canadian Press via AP

Baltimore Orioles manager Buck Showalter answers questions in Toronto on Monday, Oct. 3, 2016. The Orioles will face the Toronto Blue Jays in Tuesday's wild-card game.

Tillman to face Stroman in MLB playoffs opener

Toronto, Baltimore begin postseason, winner gets Texas

By IAN HARRISON

Associated Press

TORONTO — Whenever his Toronto Blue Jays face the Baltimore Orioles, manager John Gibbons has a pretty good idea what kind of game it's going to be.

"They're normally slug-fests," Gibbons said Monday as the Blue Jays prepared to host Baltimore in the American League wild-card game.

The Orioles led the major leagues with 253 home runs

this season, hitting 28 in their 19 games against Toronto. The Blue Jays were fourth in baseball with 221 homers and had 29 against Baltimore.

"We're really very similar teams if you break it down," Gibbons said. "We know everything about them, they know everything about us. When you're playing a team from your division, there's really no secrets."

Still, with a berth in the

best-of-five Division Series against Texas on the line, long balls might be a little harder to come by in Tuesday night's winner-take-all affair between these AL East foes.

The challenge of controlling two powerful lineups will fall on the starting pitchers. Marcus Stroman (9-10, 4.37 ERA) gets the nod for Toronto, with fellow right-

See **MLB**, Page 12

Entering 5th year, wild-card games have favored visitors

By The Associated Press

Fervent fans and last at-bats haven't done the home teams much good in the first eight wild-card games.

As baseball enters its fifth season with its one-game, winner-take-all format prior to the Division Series, victorious visitors have become an unlikely trend. The road team is 6-2 in wild-card games — a good omen for the Orioles and Giants this year.

Baltimore, Toronto, the New York Mets and San Francisco are also trying to become the second team to go from wild-card winner to World Series champion — the Giants were the first, beating the wild-card winning Royals from the AL in the 2014 Fall Classic.

A look back at the first four years of wild-card games in preparation for Baltimore-Toronto on Tuesday and San Francisco-New York Mets on Wednesday:

SHUTOUTS APLENTY

Four of the eight wild-card games have been shutouts. The Pittsburgh Pirates have been the victims twice.

In 2013, Tampa Bay's Alex Cobb, who had missed part of the regular season after taking a line drive off his head, pitched seven innings before the Rays' bullpen finished a 4-0 win at Cleveland.

In 2014, the Giants' Madison Bumgarner (who'll start against the Mets on Wednesday) struck out 10 and needed only 109 pitches in a four-hit, 8-0 shutout at Pittsburgh.

In 2015, Chicago's Jake Arrieta gave up four hits in a 4-0 road win over the Pirates, the Cubs' first postseason victory in 12 years.

Also in 2015, Dallas Keuchel faced the Yankees on three days' rest and allowed three hits over six innings, and three relievers finished up in a 3-0 victory.

FITTING BEGINNING

The wild-card games got off to an appropriately wild start. The first NL game in 2012 was Chipper Jones' last contest before retirement, and it included a 19-minute delay while beer cups, popcorn holders and other debris were cleaned off

Turner Field following a disputed infield fly call.

Umpire Sam Holbrook made the ruling in the eighth inning when St. Louis shortstop Pete Kozma called for a popup in left field, but then Kozma veered away at the last moment and the ball dropped. The Braves thought they had the bases loaded with one out before realizing Holbrook's decision, and fans responded by littering the field with whatever they could find.

Atlanta lost the game 6-3 and the Cardinals advanced to the NL Championship Series before losing to the Giants in Game 7.

MOST FANTASTIC FINISH

The 2014 AL wild-card game is an easy winner. Kansas City trailed Oakland 7-3 in the eighth inning and 8-7 in the 12th before Salvador Perez's single down the left-field line produced a 9-8 walk-off victory in the Royals' first postseason game since 1985.

BIGGEST BAT

San Francisco's Brandon

See **WILD**, Page 12



AP Photo/Ron Jenkins

Texas Rangers relief pitcher Tony Barnette throws against the Milwaukee Brewers during the sixth inning of a baseball game Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2016, in Texas.

Old rookies Bush, Barnette took unique paths to AL playoffs

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas — Matt Bush and Tony Barnette took drastically different and quite unconventional paths to becoming 30-something rookie relievers and locker mates with the AL West champion Texas Rangers.

When the Rangers were in the playoffs last Octo-

ber, former No. 1 overall pick Bush was in the final month of a 3 1/2-year stint in prison for a drunken driving accident that nearly killed a man.

The 32-year-old Barnette was finishing a record-setting season as a closer who helped the Tokyo Yakult Swallows reach the Japan Series.

See **TEXAS**, Page 12

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6	3	4	1	7	2	9	8	5
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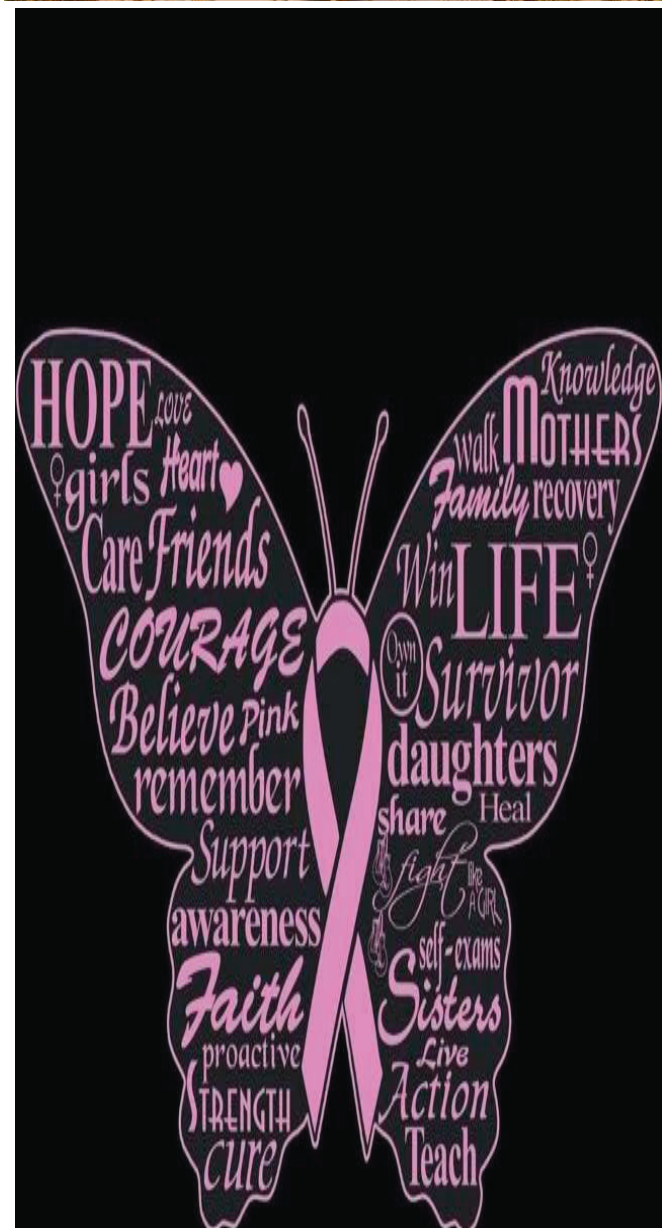
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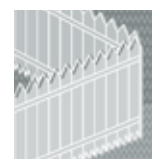
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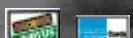
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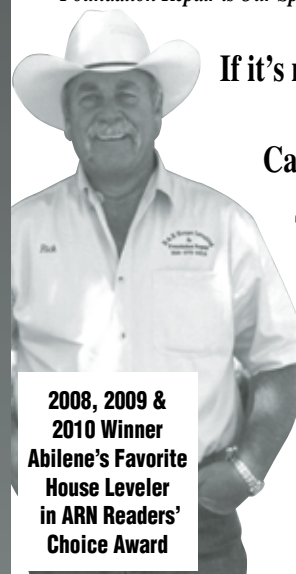
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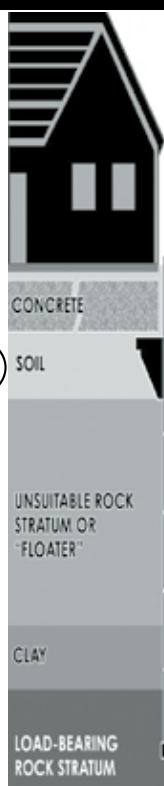
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HOLIDAY MATHIS

Memory-Making Moon

If you go by the standard formula, you will have success in the standard way, which is mighty fine indeed. Certainly this will count toward your general well-being. And if you go off track, your results will have less of a chance at being counted as a success unless you qualify success in terms of memorability (and many do under the Scorpio moon).

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Respect is about honoring personal boundaries -- hard to do when you don't know where they are. Everyone is different in this regard, so avoid making assumptions. When in doubt, ask.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). An important part of the

creative process is in feeling foolish, silly, idiotic and/or out of control. If you never touch on those feelings, you're not taking the risks necessary to achieve compelling results.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). This task before you is rather like a video game, complete with cheats and codes to unlock certain compartments. Mastering the game itself will bring satisfaction beyond whatever prize is at stake.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Some people crave relationships, and others have alternative priorities. There is nothing wrong with either agenda; it's just a matter of how well it matches up with your own priorities and expectations.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Instead of saying, "You misunderstood," you say, "I didn't make myself clear." These kinds of small ways of taking responsibility and making others a little more comfortable are what will, in the end, earn you enormous loyalty.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Sept. 22). There are some who are more excited by studying life than by living it. What's wrong with that? Nothing at all, which is hard for the more actively inclined to comprehend. Developing an intellectual playground is a worthy pursuit.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). What's worth fighting for? You're the only one who can answer that question in your own life. Today you'll be resting, gathering up your energy for the next round, and reminding yourself of your motivation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your curiosity will be aroused and you'll pay attention because you have to know what happens next. With a skillful enough teaser, this could go on forever, one cliffhanger after another.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Lines are everywhere -- where the sidewalk meets the street, the door meets the hall, the ceiling meets the wall. There are lines in your mind, too, with different rules that apply depending on which side of them

you are on.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Technology can help your plight but in the end you'll build according to the governing laws: physical, emotional, spiritual. Gravity trumps theories. Love trumps logic. Right is might.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The feeling of being overwhelmed is paralyzing and unhelpful, especially if you let it take over for too long. Snap out of it. Change your scenery. You have plenty of time to figure it all out. Now, what's next?

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). A fresh situation makes it much easier to change habits. If moving to a new city, school, job or relationship is out of the question, try a massive routine shift or lifestyle shake-up to support the habit you want to establish.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 4). Your excitement makes events even better. Because of your contagious enthusiasm, people start to organize themselves around your dreams.

The next 12 weeks will bring hard work, but it's so worthwhile to you, even more so with your March payout. Love sends you to emotional highs in 2017. Cancer and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 44, 35, 10 and 19.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTION: "I am a Virgo born on Sept. 10, 1970, and he is an Aquarius born on Feb. 5, 1970. We have been lovers since the early '90s. We have a son together, and we are still very attracted to each other. Sometimes I feel I have it all, and sometimes I feel I am wasting my time with him. Do we really have a special connection? Or is it just lust?"

Your merging was like a lightning strike; your chemistry is a force of nature whereby the interaction of two very different elements forms the basis for an electric mutual attraction. Your charge carries exciting and abrasive friction. No wonder you're questioning the practicality of this arrangement. Virgo has the intelligence of

the earth and Aquarius has the intelligence of the sky. In this way, you co-exist, detached from the other. Sure, your powerfully enigmatic chemistry is the highlight here, but there's something else worth valuing. In a nutshell: friendship. Aquarius is someone you confide in. After you've mapped out his unpredictability (which is predictable), ultimately he is someone you can rely on. It's safe for you to finally relax into this.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: On his Facebook page, hip-hop mogul Russell Simmons suggests, "Every day set the simple goal of being more awake and less distracted." A proponent of meditation, Simmons has written a book about success through stillness. His natal Aquarius moon is the sign of a busy and highly creative mind. Mercury in Virgo is a grounding influence for the intellectual air sign.

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

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Should Opposites Attract?

Dear Annie: I am a soon-to-be divorced man who has suffered a great deal of pain after the collapse of my lengthy marriage. After enduring the dissolution of multiple post-separation relationships, I found what in many ways is the perfect woman. As we have gotten to know each other, however, we have found huge ideological gulfs between us.

My significant

other does not vote. She does not believe in vaccination. Her disapproval of the gay lifestyle extends to having animosity toward gay individuals. She believes they flaunt a deviance that they have chosen. She believes in conspiracy theories, putting stock in the theory that the Pentagon was damaged by a missile in 2001, that there was no plane that flew into it. Her positions rankle me.

Do you believe that a relationship between individuals who

are opposites in many respects can survive and thrive? -- Night and Day

Dear Night: There are the sorts of pairs that are complementary "opposites," who together find balance and more meaning through each other, e.g., yin and yang, night and day, peanut butter and jelly. But your pairing sounds more like Pop Rocks and soda -- explosive and causing much belching.

My question for you is: Why the rush into dating? I suggest you put that on hold until your divorce is finalized. Once you've turned the last page in that painful chapter of your life, you can attempt to start fresh. You are used to being in a relationship and may compulsively be seeking a woman to

fill that role. Don't be in such a rush to partner up that you settle for someone and find yourself wanting to excuse away major issues.

Dear Annie: I'm a 14-year-old boy from New Jersey. I just started high school and am involved in clubs and on the junior varsity football team. I'm not a straight-A student, but I make pretty good grades, mostly B's and some A's.

My parents got divorced when I was really little; I barely remember it. Both of them have since remarried. I live with my mom and stepdad most of the time (spending some weekends with my dad).

I have an elder brother, who is 17, and a little brother, who is 4. My elder

brother has had all sorts of problems since he was about 12 or 13. He has anger issues and shows our parents no respect, even cursing them out sometimes. He has slacked off in school and done things like faking signatures on failing tests he was supposed to take home to show our mom. I know there have been plenty of other incidents that my family has tried to keep secret from me to protect me.

Last year, they sent him to a program on a ranch for three months. It was kind of like a school/camp/rehab for troubled teens. He was responsible for taking care of animals there, and it seemed to help him a lot. But less than a month after he got back, he started going back to his old bad ways again.

My parents are always so busy dealing with my brother's issues that I feel as if they barely even notice me. I sometimes feel as if I'm being punished for being the good kid. What can I do to make them take more notice of me? -- Middle Child

Dear Middle: It's not easy being golden. You're a great blessing in your parents' lives, and there's no doubt in my mind that they know it, but they're focusing their attention on the ongoing crises with your elder brother. Tell them how you feel. It might not exactly be fair that you have to remind them you need attention, too, but it's fortunate for your family to have someone as mature and patient as you on the team.

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

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Reducing the luck element

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH		EAST	
♠ K 8 3		♠ Q 7 6 4	
♥ A 2		♥ Q 4	
♦ K J 7 6 4 3		♦ Q 9 8 5	
♣ Q 6		♣ K 10 8	

WEST		SOUTH	
♠ J 10 9 2		♠ A 5	
♥ K 6 3		♥ J 10 9 8 7 5	
♦ 10 2		♦ A	
♣ J 9 5 4		♣ A 7 3 2	

The bidding:
South 1♥
West Pass
North 2♦
East Pass

Opening lead — jack of spades.

Counting potential losers might sometimes seem a tedious chore for declarer, but it is absolutely necessary. Those who take the task lightly are sure to suffer many defeats that could easily have been avoided.

Consider this case where South got to four hearts and West led a spade. Declarer took the jack with the ace, cashed the ace of diamonds and then led the jack of hearts and let it ride, losing to East's queen.

South won the spade return with dummy's king and played the heart ace, hoping the king would fall. Next he cashed the diamond king, eliminating the risk factor.

Tomorrow: Discarding the risk factor.

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sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

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

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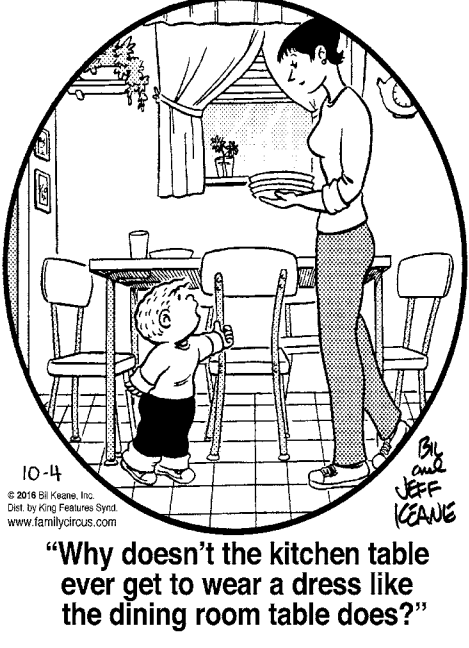
	KMID ③ Midland	UNI ④ Spanish	KPEJ ⑤ Odessa	KOSA ⑦ Odessa	KTLE ⑧ Telemundo	KWES ⑨ Midland	KMLM ⑫ Odessa	KPBT ⑬ Odessa	KWWT ⑭ Odessa	KWES2 ⑮ Midland	WTBS ③③ Atlanta	TNT ③④ Atlanta	ESPN ③⑤ Sports	ESPN2 ③⑥ Sports	FSN ③⑧ Sports	USA ⑤⑤ New York	A&E ⑤⑧ New York	DISC ⑥① Discovery
	Local 2 ABC	Hotel Notic.	The List Mod Fam	News CBS	Tele Noticiero	News News	Justice Called	Focus Business	Mama's Mama's	American American	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Arrow	SportsCenter	Around Pardon	Football Sportsday	Law & Order: SVU	The First 48	Dungeon Cove
5 :PM	Jeopardy!	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang	News	Caso Cer- rado	News	J. McGee	PBS News- Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	Arrow	E:60	WNBA Basketball	Stars In.	Law & Order: SVU	Married- Sight	Dungeon Cove
6 :30	Wheel	Big Bang	ET															
7 :30	Dancing With Stars	Despertar Contigo	Brooklyn New Girl	NCIS (DVS)	Silvana Sin Lana	The Voice	Upd M:25	Contenders -- 16	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Pre-Game	Arrow (DVS)	NBA Preseason Basketball:	WNBA Basketball	UFC Re- loaded	WWE SmackDown!	Married (:45) Married at First Sight	Dungeon Cove
8 :30	Vice Presidential Debate	Tres Veces Ana	Vice Presidential Debate	Vice Presidential Debate	Sin Senos Si	Vice Presidential Debate	Light of the Southwest	Vice Presidential Debate	Griffith	The Flash	MLB Baseball: American League Wild Card Game: Teams TBA.	Arrow (DVS)	NBA Preseason Basketball: Knicks at Rockets	WNBA Basketball				
9 :30		El color de la pasión	News		Señora Aceró 3				Hap.Days	Gilligan	Heroes	Arrow (DVS)	NBA			Chrisley Chrisley	(:01) Born This Way	Taking Fire
10 :30	Local 2 ABC	Impacto	Mod Fam	News	Tele	News	With Schol- ars	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett	King		Arrow	Preseason Basketball: Clippers at Warriors	Baseball Tonight	UFC Count- down	Mod Fam	Married- Sight	Dungeon Cove
11 :30	Jimmy Kim- mel Live	Noticiero	Two Men	Late Show- Colbert	Titulares	Tonight Show	Ministerios Vida	Newsline	King	King	MLB	Arrow	Rules	SportsCenter	Best of WEC	Mod Fam	Married- Sight	Taking Fire
12 :30	Nightline	Contacto	Deportivo	James Corden	Juegos Olimpicos	Seth Meyers	Upd Nocturna.	Chevalme	T. Smiley	Rules	Conan	Law & Order	SportsCenter	Baseball Jalen	OU Review	Chrisley	Married- Sight	Dungeon Cove
1 :AM	Extra	Corazón indomable	How I Met	Insider	Insider	News	Light of the Southwest	Kojak	Alfred Hitch- cock Hr.	Raising Cheaters	Broke Girl	Law & Order	NBA Basket- ball	SportsCenter		Law Order: CI	(:04) Born This Way	Dungeon Cove
2 :AM	Paid	Como Dice el Dicho	Law Order: CI	ET	Paid	(:08) Today												
3 :AM	Paid																	

DENNIS THE MENACE



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

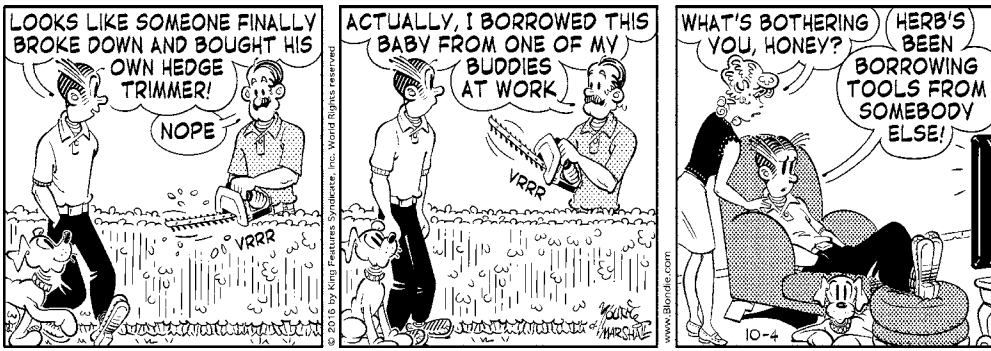
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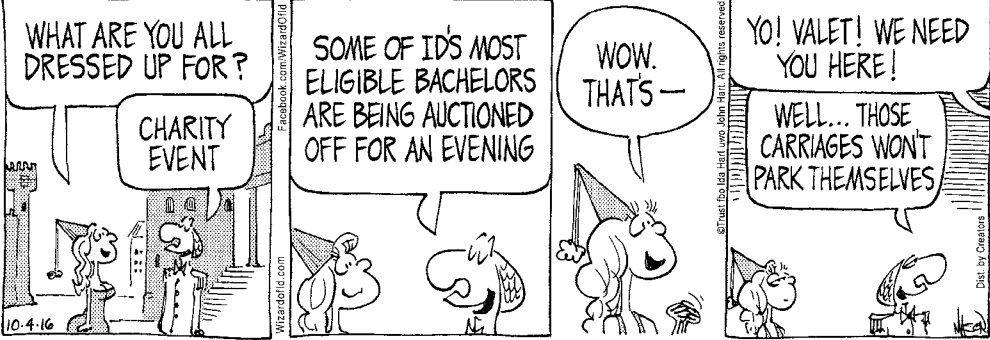
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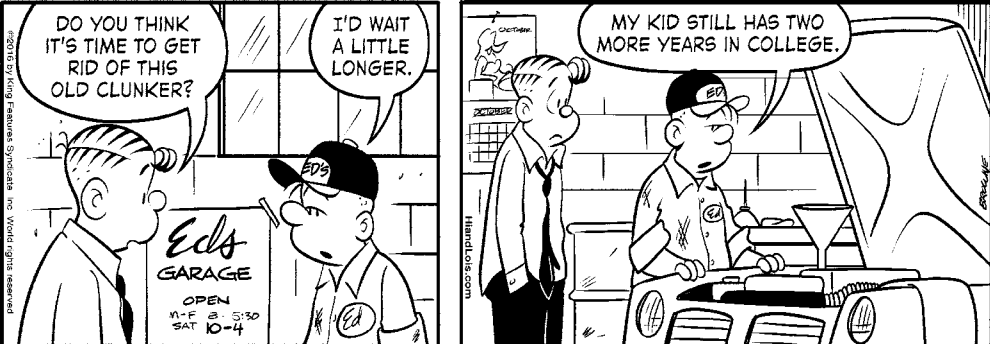
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AGNES



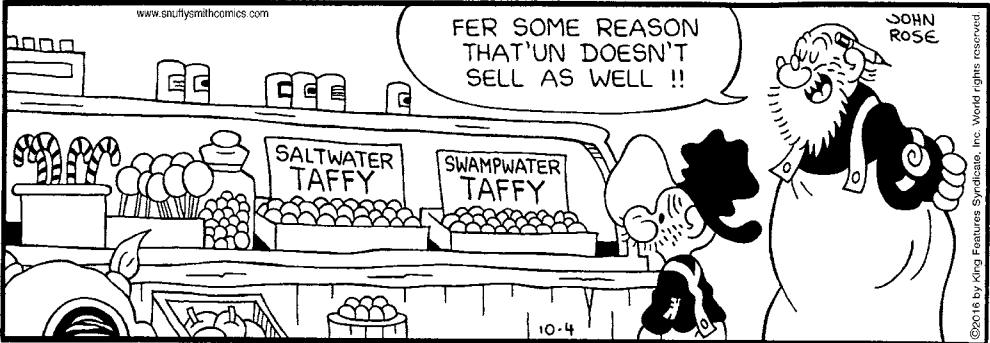
HI AND LOIS



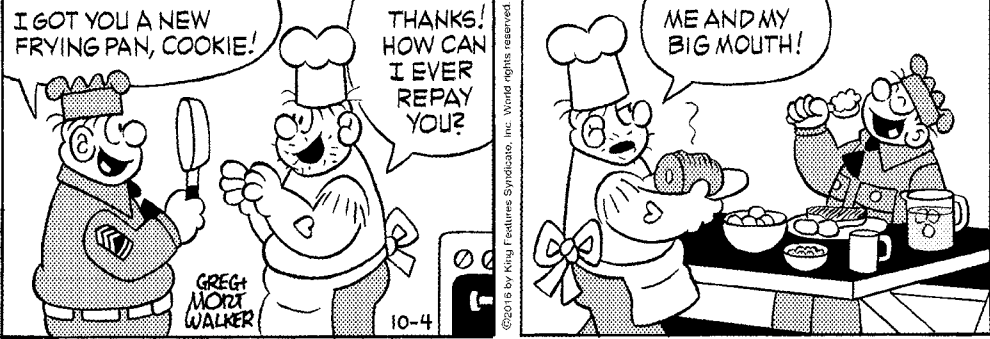
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Oct. 4, the 278th day of 2016. There are 88 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Oct. 4, 1976, Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz resigned in the wake of a controversy over an obscene joke he'd made that was derogatory to blacks.

On this date:

In 1777, Gen. George Washington's troops launched an assault on the British at Germantown, Pennsylvania, resulting in heavy American casualties.

In 1822, the 19th president of the United States, Rutherford B. Hayes, was born in Delaware, Ohio.

In 1931, the comic strip "Dick Tracy," created by Chester Gould, made its debut.

In 1940, Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini conferred at Brenner Pass in the Alps.

In 1957, the Soviet Union launched Sputnik 1, the first artificial satellite, into orbit. The television series "Leave It to Beaver" premiered on CBS.

In 1959, the Soviet Union launched Luna 3, a space probe which transmitted images of the far side of the moon.

In 1960, an Eastern Air Lines Lockheed L-188A Electra

crashed on takeoff from Boston's Logan International Airport, killing all but 10 of the 72 people on board.

In 1966, the African kingdom of Lesotho (leh-SOO'-too) gained its independence from Britain.

In 1970, rock singer Janis Joplin, 27, was found dead in her Hollywood hotel room.

In 1985, Islamic Jihad issued a statement saying it had killed American hostage William Buckley. (Fellow hostage David Jacobsen later said he believed Buckley had died of torture injuries four months earlier.)

In 1990, for the first time in nearly six decades, German lawmakers met in the Reichstag for the first meeting of reunified Germany's parliament.

In 1991, 26 nations, including the United States, signed the Madrid Protocol, which imposed a 50-year ban on oil exploration and mining in Antarctica.

Ten years ago: The domain name wikileaks.org was registered (the website began publishing leaked classified information in Dec. 2006). Ousted Hewlett-Packard Chairwoman Patricia Dunn, a company officer and three investigators were charged with violating California privacy laws in a corporate spying scandal. (The charges were later dropped, with a judge calling their conduct a "betrayal of trust and

honor" that nonetheless did not rise to the level of criminal activity.) American Roger D. Kornberg won the Nobel Prize in chemistry. New York Times correspondent R.W. Apple Jr. died in Washington at age 71.

Five years ago: Three U.S.-born scientists, Saul Perlmutter, Brian Schmidt and Adam Riess, won the Nobel Prize in physics for discovering that the universe is expanding at an accelerating pace. One year ago: President Barack Obama paid tribute to firefighters who had died in the line of duty and cited the sacrifices they'd made in service to a grateful nation during an annual memorial service at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Thought for Today: "He who confers a favor should at once forget it, if he is not to show a sordid, ungenerous spirit." — Demosthenes, Greek statesman (384 B.C.-322 B.C.).

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Answer to previous puzzle

SHRUB	ACME	BOO
LOUSY	GRAY	HARK
ASSET	ROPE	ANNA
TEE	WEEPS	FORJOY
	VOTE	UNPOTS
GALOSH	HULA	
ARED	APOP	ISSUE
WEEKEND	WARRIORS	
KARAT	ALTO	LIST
	HIS	DALLAS
AFRAID	DEFY	
WEED	CONTROL	DIP
AWED	TIRE	OPERA
REFS	ONES	ARMOR
DRS	OAKS	TOONS

Newsday Crossword

PIZZA PARTNERS by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 Tablet downloads
- 5 Felines
- 9 Overexcited, informally
- 14 Holier-than--
- 15 Do damage to
- 16 Small and glittering, as eyes
- 17 Wines and dines
- 18 Brainstorm
- 19 Nickname for an NCO
- 20 Fishy pizza topping
- 22 Playful aquatic mammal
- 23 Bring back on staff
- 24 Parsley or thyme
- 26 Sports cable channel
- 29 Ancient calculating tool
- 33 Infield covers
- 37 Granola grains
- 39 Folk wisdom
- 40 Woodwind instrument
- 41 Opinion piece
- 42 Women's links org.
- 43 Gas station machine
- 44 Outlet meat
- 45 So far
- 46 Paper fastener
- 48 Piece of lettuce
- 50 Hearing organs
- 52 Showy flower
- 57 Fictional wizard
- 60 Fungal pizza topping
- 63 Truism

DOWN

- 1 Engaged in battle
- 2 Call up
- 3 Doggie
- 4 Japanese fish dish
- 5 Sour cream and __ dip
- 6 German auto
- 7 Genealogy chart
- 8 Hidden supply
- 9 Soak up
- 10 Beefy pizza topping
- 11 Acting role
- 12 Slight advantage
- 13 Salon colorist
- 21 Metal-bearing rocks
- 25 Not at all difficult
- 27 Sit for a photo
- 28 Twangy-sounding
- 30 Exact duplicate
- 31 Craving
- 32 Chair or sofa
- 33 Outperforms
- 34 Border on Italy's capital, in Italy
- 35 Italy's capital, in Italy
- 36 Spicy pizza topping

- 38 "Tall" story
- 41 At any time
- 45 In the distance
- 47 Nonprofessional person
- 49 Cling (to)
- 51 Shatter to bits
- 53 Offer to a hitchhiker
- 54 Off the leash
- 55 "None for me, thanks"
- 56 Fireplace residue
- 57 Sounds of laughter
- 58 Lumberjacks' tools
- 59 Skating surface
- 61 Golden Rule word
- 62 Break sharply

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
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43					44					45				
46					47		48		49					
				50		51			52		53	54	55	56
57	58	59				60	61	62						
63						64					65			
66						67					68			
69						70					71			

MLB

Continued from Page 6

hander Chris Tillman (16-6, 3.77) going for the Orioles. “I think Stro is the perfect guy,” Gibbons said. “Big game, we’ve seen him do it before. He did that a couple of times for us last year. You know he’s going to come out throwing strikes. We’re glad he’s available.”

Baltimore manager Buck Showalter said choosing Tillman was a “good, tough” decision.

“We had probably three options, and Chris is one of those good options,” Showalter said.

The Orioles went 4-0 in Tillman’s four starts against the Blue Jays this season. Last year, he was 0-4 in six starts

against Toronto, posting an ugly 11.32 ERA.

“I don’t think I’ve gone out of my way to do anything different with these guys,” Tillman said. “It’s just the way the cookie crumbles sometimes. Last year didn’t go so well, this year has been a little better.”

Tillman took a no-decision against the Blue Jays in his final start of the regular season, allowing two runs, one earned, and six hits in 5 2/3 innings last Wednesday. In 13 career starts at Rogers Centre, he is 2-6 with a 7.01 ERA.

If the Orioles have a late lead, they’ll like their chances of locking it down; closer Zach Britton was perfect in 47 save opportunities this season.

Given the stakes, Showalter said he’d consider using

Britton for an extended outing.

“You don’t worry about tomorrow or the next day,” the manager explained. “Everything is about that nine innings. There are some times during the course of the game that it may happen earlier than usual that you may attack it differently.”

Stroman lost to Baltimore in his final regular-season outing, yielding four runs and nine hits in seven innings last Thursday. He is 1-2 with a 7.04 ERA in four starts against Baltimore this season.

“It’s an unbelievable lineup,” Stroman said. “One through nine, there are no easy outs. There are no pitches you can take off. You make a mistake, and they make you pay.”

Orioles slugger Mark

Trumbo led the majors with 47 home runs, part of the reason Gibbons considers Baltimore “probably the top quick-strike offense in baseball.”

“There are so many power threats in their lineup,” Gibbons said.

Power was in short supply for the Blue Jays during the final weeks of the season. Toronto averaged 3.69 runs in September and October, their worst month of the year.

A pair of one-run wins at Boston in the final two games of the season gave the Blue Jays home-field advantage against Baltimore and got them ready for the postseason, Gibbons said.

“There’s got to be something said for experiencing those kind of games,” he explained. “You play enough of them, you get used to them.”

WILD

Continued from Page 6

Crawford became the first shortstop to hit a postseason grand slam, going deep against the Pirates’ Edinson Volquez in the fourth inning of what was a scoreless game in 2014.

WHO’D A THUNK?

Anything can happen in a one-game playoff, of course, but the Orioles’ 5-1 win at Texas in 2012 might have been the biggest surprise in the short history of the wild-card games.

Joe Saunders, acquired in a late-season trade, was matched against Yu Darvish and allowed one hit over 5 2/3 innings as the Orioles won their first playoff game in 15 years and knocked out the two-time defending AL champion Rangers.

TEXAS

Continued from Page 6

“It’s almost like fate,” the 30-year-old Bush said. “Here we both are, finally getting our chance, being around the same age, and get to share our experiences and our rookie years together.”

The right-handers are key setup men for the Rangers, who play the AL Division Series opener at home Thursday against the winner of the American League wild-card game (Baltimore or Toronto).

Bush, now a reliever whose fastball touches 100 mph, was initially drafted in 2004 out of high school by his hometown San Diego Padres as a shortstop — just ahead of 2011 AL MVP and Cy Young winner Justin Verlander, also a six-time All-Star.

Within weeks after receiving a \$3.15 mil-

lion signing bonus and before even playing his first pro game, Bush was suspended by the organization following his arrest in a bar fight. That was only the first of several alcohol-related incidents before the nearly fatal accident while in spring training with the Tampa Bay Rays in March 2012.

Sober since that time, the final nine months of Bush’s prison sentence in Florida last year included living in a half-way house while in a work-release program with a job as a baker at a Golden Corral in Florida.

It was in the parking lot of that restaurant that Rangers officials watched Bush throw in the mid-90s. After his release Oct. 30, Bush went to Texas with his father to work out for the team for which Josh Hamilton, another former No. 1 overall pick, went from alcohol and drug issues to being a

five-time All-Star and the 2010 AL MVP.

“Everybody in every clubhouse for the most part has a story. Some stand out a little bit more than others, like Matt’s. He’s handled it tremendously. He shows up, works hard and throws 100 mph. It’s fun to watch,” Barnette said. “Isn’t baseball great? It gives guys like us chances.”

Barnette was a 10th-round draft pick by the Diamondbacks in 2006 from Arizona State, then started 96 games in four minor league seasons before going to Japan in 2010, a year before making the transition from starter to reliever. The Alaskan-born pitcher set a team record with 41 saves and a 1.29 ERA in 59 games for the Swallows last season before signing a two-year contract with Texas.

Jonathan Lucroy, the catcher Texas acquired Aug. 1, said Bush and

Barnette don’t seem like MLB rookies, both having matured and learned from unique situations.

While Barnette has spent the entire season with the Rangers, Bush went from spring training to Double-A Frisco after not playing any regular-season games since 2011.

“I really wouldn’t have thought it’d work out the way it is, especially with such a good team, a winning team, going to the playoffs now and being the setup guy. It’s a dream come true really,” Bush said. “My true hopes were to finish the year without getting into any trouble, to stay sober, and to go into next year with a chance of getting placed on the 40-man roster.”

But things happened much faster than that, getting called up by the Rangers in mid-May after 12 relief appearances at Double-A, and converting all five save

chances at the highest level he had pitched to that point. He has made 58 appearances for Texas (7-2, 2.48 ERA), and hasn’t allowed a run in his last 10 appearances (11 1-3 innings).

“It’s been fun, it’s been everything that I ever thought of, and being 30, I’ve been able to handle myself, being more mature,” Bush said. “I definitely wasn’t ready back then when I was a lot younger.”

Barnette (7-3, 2.09), who missed three weeks in September with a tight left oblique muscle, has recorded more than three outs in 19 of

his last 27 appearances since mid-June, with a 0.79 ERA in that span.

“We know our roles and we know what’s expected of us, and I think it helps being older, and the fact that we’re comfortable with who we are now,” Barnette said. “And we’re not worried about stepping on anybody’s toes around us, because we’re older than everybody.”

On a team with 28-year-old shortstop Elvis Andrus being the longest-tenured position player in his eighth season, Bush and Barnette are certainly the old rookies.

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TWIN SET	\$397
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KING SET	\$697

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KING SET	\$747

Extra Plush Pillowtop

TWIN SET	\$497
FULL SET	\$647
QUEEN SET	\$697
KING SET	\$897

**ALLAN'S GALLERY**

Plush <table><tr><td>TWIN SET</td><td>\$177</td></tr><tr><td>FULL SET</td><td>\$247</td></tr><tr><td>QUEEN SET</td><td>\$277</td></tr></table> Pillowtop <table><tr><td>TWIN SET</td><td>\$247</td></tr><tr><td>FULL SET</td><td>\$297</td></tr><tr><td>QUEEN SET</td><td>\$347</td></tr><tr><td>KING SET</td><td>\$497</td></tr></table>	TWIN SET	\$177	FULL SET	\$247	QUEEN SET	\$277	TWIN SET	\$247	FULL SET	\$297	QUEEN SET	\$347	KING SET	\$497	CORSICANA
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Memory Foam <table><tr><td>QUEEN SET Starting at</td><td>\$447</td></tr></table> Memory Foam Cool Gel Infusion <table><tr><td>QUEEN SET Starting at</td><td>\$697</td></tr></table>	QUEEN SET Starting at	\$447	QUEEN SET Starting at	\$697	MLILY THE LEGEND OF COMFORT  <table><tr><td>LARGE SELECTION of Memory Foam! Top End Quality - Compares to BEST in the marketplace!</td><td>High Density Luxury Models Available at Affordable Prices!</td></tr></table>	LARGE SELECTION of Memory Foam! Top End Quality - Compares to BEST in the marketplace!	High Density Luxury Models Available at Affordable Prices!								
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