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Big Spring Herald

VOLUME 106, NUMBER 247

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MONDAY
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Welcome home, general

Friends pitch in to give Spurgin a red, white and blue return from Iraq

By **AMANDA MORENO**
Staff Writer

Eddy Spurgin received a colorful welcome home over the weekend. Spurgin, a major general in the Texas Army National Guard, arrived back home to Big Spring Sunday evening after a tour of duty in Iraq. In his honor and as a way to say thank you, his fellow church members and friends gathered together to decorate his home Sunday afternoon.

See **SPURGIN**, Page 3



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno
Many friends gathered Sunday afternoon to decorate and show their appreciation for Eddy Spurgin of the Texas National Guard, who returned home Sunday evening. Pictured from left to right: Helen Gladden, Debbie Pirkle, AJ Pirkle, the Rev. Mark Lindsey, Carol Boyd and Will Currie. Not pictured, but also contributing to the decorating are Lisa and Craig Dunnam.

Fair organizers promise full entertainment slate

By **AMANDA MORENO**
Staff Writer

The Howard County Fair is making its way back, refreshed and restored. This year, fairgoers will notice a new coat of paint on the inside of the fair barns and a cooler atmosphere. Refrigerated air conditioning will be added before opening night. The fair will run from Sept. 29 through Oct. 1, with doors opening nightly at 5 p.m. “We are coming back with new attractions and some of the old favorites,” said fair board member John Nichols. Thursday night will be gospel night starting at 7:30 p.m. Friday night’s live entertainment will include Heather Vassar, a local talent who is pursuing her singing career in Nashville, from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. She will fol-

low Crystal River, who will be on stage from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Amber Digby will take over the tent from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday. “The cost of admission will get you access to the entertainment tent where Vassar, Digby and Crystal River will be playing,” Nichols said. Freddy Fusion and his science magic show will make an appearance at this year’s fair. Kids and adults will be able to catch numerous shows throughout the fair. Fusion’s trailer will be set up in front of the show barn. Fusion is an author, inventor, speaker and performer. He has made appearances on television, done shows on Disney Cruise Lines

See **FAIR**, Page 3

GOP-majority states changing voting rules

By **ANN SANNER**
Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — After years of expanding when and how people can vote, state legislatures now under new Republican control are moving to trim early voting days, beef up identification requirements and put new restrictions on how voters are notified about absentee ballots. Democrats claim their GOP counterparts are using mid-term election wins to enforce changes favorable to Republicans ahead of the 2012 presidential election. They criti-

cize such legislation, saying it could lead to longer lines in Democratic-leaning urban areas and discourage people from voting. Supporters say bolstering ID rules helps prevent fraud. And at a time when counties face tough budgets, they contend local elections officials don’t have the money to keep early voting locations staffed and opened. The process of changing voting rules may be nonpartisan on the surface but it is seething with politics just below. See **VOTING**, Page 3

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www.bigspringherald.com

To reach us:
Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. Sunday.



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Diez y seis de Septiembre wasn’t just a one-day celebration, but two. ALSA — a local car and community service club — put on a celebration for the community with live music, bouncing castles, food and arts and crafts vendors during the celebration, which was held at the Heart of the City Park in downtown Big Spring this past weekend.

HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno



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Obituaries

Jan Fields McKaskle



A service to celebrate the 69 years of Jan Fields McKaskle's life was held at 10 a.m. Monday, Sept. 19, 2011, at Lake Ridge Chapel, 6025 82nd St. in Lubbock. It was followed by a graveside service at 2:30 p.m. at Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring, Texas. Mrs. McKaskle died Thursday, Sept. 15, 2011.

Jan was born March 6, 1942, in Big Spring, Texas, to parents Ted Roscoe Fields and Hanese (Coleman) Fields.

She grew up on a cotton farm in Elbow, Texas, with her older brother, Joe, and her younger siblings Walter, Mary and Terry. As the oldest daughter, she often cared for her younger siblings and had many happy memories of those years.

She attended elementary school in Elbow. In high school she played basketball and threw the discus and shot put. She graduated salutatorian from Forsan High School in 1960. She attended Texas Tech University, Howard County Junior College and Midland College.

She met Charlie McKaskle in 1963 and they married March 7, 1964, at Hillcrest Baptist Church in Big Spring. At that time she worked as the typesetter and proofreader for the *Big Spring Herald*. They lived in Martin County while Charlie farmed cotton with his father. In 1965, they moved to White Settlement, Texas, where they both worked for General Dynamics. Their first son, Greg, was born there in 1968. They moved back to Martin County prior to the birth of their other two sons, Tim in 1971 and Mike in 1972.

For the next several decades she and Charlie lived on the farm, raising cotton and their boys. They attended Tarzan Baptist Church. She loved cooking, baking, and being involved in the community. Jan seemed to excel at everything she tried, but had a particular flair for crafts and artistic endeavors. She enjoyed sewing and upholstery work.

After many years of keeping books for the farm, she worked for First Bankers Saving and Trust in Stanton. She went on to work for the branch in Midland and was eventually promoted to branch manager. After the bank closed, she worked for the FDIC for several years. She then worked as office manager for dealerships in Big Spring.

Jan and Charlie moved to Lubbock, Texas, in 2003 to be closer to their son Mike, his wife Daphne and her new-born grandson. In Lubbock, she worked for Beck Steel and Wild West Harley Davidson. She was an active member of Experience Life Church. In retirement, she continued to enjoy traveling extensively and making jewelry. Throughout her life, she enjoyed nothing more than feeding the people she loved.

Survivors include her husband, Charles; three sons, Gregory and wife Emily, Timothy and fiancée Karen and Michael and wife Daphne; four grandchildren, Adeline, Henry, Blaize and Dylan; and siblings, Joe Fields and wife Delores, Terry Fields and wife Anne and Mary Rossomano.

She is preceded in death by her parents; T.R. and Hanese Fields; and her brother, Walter Fields.

Memorial donations may be sent to the American Cancer Society, 3513 10th St., Lubbock, Texas 79415.

A tribute page is available at www.memorialdesigners.net, where you may leave expressions of sympathy for her family. A recording of her service is also available for viewing at her tribute page.

Paid obituary

Benito 'Benny' Rodriguez



Benito "Benny" Rodriguez, 44, of Big Spring died Saturday, Sept. 17, 2011, at Midland Memorial Hospital. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2011, at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Reynaldo Bennett officiating. Burial will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

He was born Sept. 12, 1967, in Big Spring, Texas, to Betty and Patricio Rodriguez. He was a self-employed contractor, plumber and carpenter. He was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and was a member of Light House Restoration Center.

He is survived by one son, Jesse Rodriguez of Big Spring; three daughters, Vicki Viera, Josie Rodriguez and Sabrina Rodriguez, all of Big Spring; father, Patricio Rodriguez of Big Spring; one brother, Pat Richard Rodriguez of Big Spring; four sisters, Frances Morales of Springfield, Mo., Patricia Robles, Norma Shipp and Melissa Ruiz, all of Big Spring; one grandchild; and a number of nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Betty Rodriguez; and one grandson.

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

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 9 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today:

- ASHLEY NICOLE PARNELL, 26, of 1700 S. Johnson, was arrested Saturday on warrants for failure to yield right-of-way at stop intersection and bail jumping – failure to appear.

- FRANLIN JOHN SUAZO, 20, of 1309 Jeffery, was arrested Saturday on a charge of driving under the influence of alcohol by a minor.

- GREGORY TURNBOW, 51, of 4100 block of S. Highway 87 Apt. 91, was arrested Saturday on a charge of public intoxication.

- JOHN MATTHEW MORENO, 19, of 3913 Hamilton, was arrested Saturday on a warrant from another agency and a warrant for criminal mischief – more than \$500 and less than \$1,500.

- JOSHUA CAROL MATHEWS, 26, of 1403 Wood, was arrested Saturday on charges of public intoxication and driving while license invalid – DWI related.

- LOUISA SERRANO, 38, of 801 W. FM 700 Apt. 34, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.

- JAIME CRUZ, 44, of 613 N.E. Piner St., was arrested Sunday on charges of expired driver's license (two counts), failure to appear, disregarding a stop sign and hindering officers discharging official duties.

- LUIS ALEJANDRO RAMOS, 22, of 2911 W. Highway 80 Apt. 141, was arrested Sunday on charges of public intoxication and possession of marijuana in a drug free zone – two ounces or less.

- CARLOS BURROLAS MARQUEZ, 51, of 610 N.W. Eighth St., was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.

- CYNTHIA RODRIGUEZ GARZA, 42, of 610 N.W. Eighth St., was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
- MARK TIMOTHY STANLEY, 49, of 1800 S. Lancaster, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication with three prior convictions.

- ORTENCIA CHAVERA HERNANDEZ, 37, of 606 Linda Lane, was arrested Monday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- MICHAEL SCOTT JACKMAN, 24, of 1703 Jennings, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

- LEONA JEAN RADASA, 29, of 1413 Wood, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

- ASSAULT was reported:
In the 900 block of Runnels.
In the 1400 block of E. Sixth Street.
In the 600 block of Linda Lane.

- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 1400 block of Tucson.

- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported:
In the 2300 block of FM 700.
In the 1000 block of N. Main Street.
Near the intersection of 11th Place and State.

Sheriff

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the

following activity:

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 85 inmates at the time of this report.

- ALESHA PACE, 36, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on Nolan County warrants for theft by check (two counts).

- RICHARD LOPEZ JR., 30, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a parole violation for burglary of a habitation.

- MARTIN LEE BENTANCUR, 44, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for judgment/sentence – driving while intoxicated.

- GREGORY W. WILLMAN, 27, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a parole violation.

- JOANN LOPEZ, 43, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance and municipal warrants for failure to control speed, no driver's license (three counts), failure to appear and driving while license invalid.

- JOSE ANGEL PENA-ALVAREZ, 26, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the Martin County Sheriff's Office on a charge of hindering apprehension or prosecution of a known felon.

- NATHAN HOSEA SIMS, 19, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of disorderly conduct – language.

- SASHA M. TREVINO, 24, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid.

- ANDREA ROBLEDO, 20, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.

- JOSHUA CARROL MATHEWS, 26, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication and a municipal warrant for driving while license invalid.

- FRANKLIN SUAZO, 20, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving under the influence by a minor.

- ASHLEY NICOLE KENNEDY, 26, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for failure to yield at intersection and failure to appear.

- LETICIA GARCIA, 42, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on Gaines County motions to revoke probation for forgery (two counts), prohibited possession of food stamp benefit permits and fraud.

- MITCHELL RAY COVINGTON, 48, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on an attorney general motion to revoke probation.

- JOHN MATTHEW MORENO, 19, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of criminal mischief and a Lubbock County warrant for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

- JAIME CRUZ, 44, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for expired driver's license, violation of a promise to appear and charges of disregarding stop sign, hindering police officers discharging official duties and expired driver's license.

- GREGORY TURNBOW, 51, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- LOUISA MARTINEZ SERRANO, 38, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- JOSE ANTHONY NIETO, 31, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on Howard County warrants for aggravated assault and resisting arrest, search or transportation.

- ELOY ESCOBAR LEAL, 61, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- NICHOLAS LOYA, 32, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a Travis County warrant for assault – family violence and a charge of public intoxication.

- LUIS ALEJANDRO RAMOS, 22, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of public intoxication and possession of marijuana in a drug free zone – two ounces or less.

- CYNTHIA MELISSA GARZA, 42, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

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Take note

• Big Spring High School Student Council would like to invite the community of Big Spring to join us to show Steer spirit during homecoming, as well as throughout the entire school year. We encourage all the businesses to decorate their business fronts/windows for homecoming. The theme of the homecoming and the parade is “Catch The Tide...Lei Out The Ranger.” If any business and/or organization would like to participate in the homecoming parade, they need to call the high school and inform us of their entry. They may contact our advisor, Mrs. Flores, Mrs. Hunt, or talk to the receptionist in the office. We must know by Wednesday, Sept. 21, in order to create a lineup for parade entries.

• Texas Department of State Health Services, located at 501 Birdwell Lane, Suite 28B, will no longer be giving immunizations on a walk-in basis. Call 432-263-9775 and leave a message regarding name, birthdate and call-back telephone number. A nurse will call you within 24 hours with the date and time of your appointment. It is imperative you bring your child's immunization record with you when you come for your appointment.

Immunizations will only be given Tuesdays and Wednesdays by appointment only.

• American Cancer Society will have their board meetings starting noon, Sept. 13 on the second Tuesday of the month

through April. Lunch will be furnished. Meetings will take place at Home Hospice, located at 111 E. Seventh.

• Are you a 1971 BSHS graduate? Come to our 40th reunion Sept. 30-Oct. 1. For information, contact bshs71@yahoo.com or Susan Green McLellan at 432-267-5759.

• Home Hospice is seeking volunteers. Training will be provided and geared to your time frame. Volunteers are needed for in office duties as well as sitters, deliveries and crafts. To find out more information or to volunteer contact Sherry Hodnett at Home Hospice by calling 264-7599.

• Every 10 years, Texas requires that marks and brands be re-registered in the county or counties in which you operate. The next re-registration period begins Aug. 31 and runs through Feb. 29, 2012. At the conclusion date, all marks and brands that have not been re-registered are automatically available for registration by another party. For additional information, contact the Howard County Clerk's Office at 264-2214 or 264-2213.

• Hangar 25 Air Museum needs your help! We are in need of volunteers to fill a variety of positions such as tour guides, front desk, clerical, events, and many others. Set your hours and days of the week you are available. For more information, contact Emma Bogard at 432-267-2963.

VOTING

Continued from Page 1

the surface.

“We’ve had nothing short of a rhetorical firefight for years between the folks who are worried about fraud and folks who are worried about disenfranchisement — a firefight which is pretty much neatly broken down between the two major parties,” said Doug Chapin, an election expert at the University of Minnesota.

While states typically adjust voting rules ahead of presidential elections, this year provides an opportunity for new Republican governors and GOP majorities to legislate on election issues.

Put simply, Chapin said: “What’s happening in 2011 is just as much about what happened in 2010.”

New voting rules recently cleared state legislatures in what have traditionally been presidential battlegrounds, creating partisan rancor.

Plans to reduce the number of days to cast an early ballot cleared the Republican-controlled swing states of Florida, Ohio and Wisconsin. Legislatures in Georgia, Tennessee and West Virginia also lopped off advanced-voting time.

North Carolina has a pending proposal.

And Maine has done away with a policy that allows people to register at

the polls on Election Day before casting ballots.

Each party, when in control, seeks to rewrite the rules to its electoral advantage.

Although the reality may not be so cut and dried, both parties believe a looser voting regimen benefits Democrats because it increases opportunities for Hispanic, black, immigrant and poor people — harder to reach for an Election Day turnout — to vote.

Democratic voters held an edge in early voting during the 2010 elections, despite the unfavorable climate for the party nationally and the eventual Republican gains.

Voters in 32 states and the District of Columbia can cast a ballot in person before Election Day without having to give a reason.

Georgia and Ohio had some of the longest early voting time periods. Georgia had 45 days, while Ohio had 35.

The new laws bring the two states closer to the typical timeframe, which is about two weeks before the election.

The move to shrink the early voting window in some states comes as others have pushed to require voters to show a photo ID at the polls.

Five states — Kansas, Wisconsin, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas — recently passed strict photo ID laws. At the beginning of the year, just two states

— Georgia and Indiana — required that voters must show a photo ID in order to have their vote counted.

Other legislatures are rewriting their state’s election laws in other ways.

Florida rolled back its early voting time to one week from two in an overhaul that also makes it more difficult for groups such as the League of Women Voters and the Boy Scouts of America to conduct voter registration drives.

Ohio’s top elections chief, a Republican, acknowledged that changes to voting rules have invited an overreaction from each party.

“Both sides of the political spectrum have found it advantageous from a fundraising point of view, from a motivating their base point of view, to call into question the confidence in the election system,” Secretary of State Jon Husted said in an interview.

While Ohio’s overhaul bans local boards of elections from mailing unsolicited absentee ballot requests to voters, Husted has agreed to have the state send the requests to voters in all counties in 2012.

Ohio’s law is not yet in effect, and opponents are working to get a proposed repeal question on the fall 2012 ballot.

The legislation ignited debate early this summer on the floors of the state’s GOP-controlled General Assembly.

Fire/EMS

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAUMA was reported in the 1000 block of N. Main Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of N.E. 10th Street. Service refused.

• TRAUMA was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of N. First Street in Coahoma. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAUMA was reported near the intersection of FM 821 and Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of Veteran Blvd. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of Driver Road. One person was transported to SMMC.

FAIR

Continued from Page 1

and traveled throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Ecuador, France, Iceland, Sweden and more.

To find out more, visit

his website at freddyfusion.com.

Children can also enjoy a Kids Tractor Pull. Children age 4 through 12 years old will compete on a pedal tractor. The track will be set up at the cattle barn and the race will start at 1:30 p.m. Saturday. Nichols

said more races could be added, but it will depend on the involvement. Participants will be awarded ribbons and trophies and there is no entry fee.

Those taking part need to be at the track to register 30 minutes prior to the race. To find out

more information, go to kidspedaltractorpulls.com.

Admission to the fair will be \$6 for adults, \$4 for kids age 5-12; children 4 and under get in for free. Gates open Thursday and Friday from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday from 10

a.m. to 10 p.m.

Contact Staff Writer
Amanda Moreno at 263-7331 ext. 234.

SPURGIN

Continued from Page 1

On top of the patriotic decorations at his home, Skip Burcham contributed to the celebration by donating a sign placed on FM 700 welcoming Spurgin home.

“He is such a caring man and truly cares about his troops,” said Helen Gladden, a friend of Spurgin.

“We wanted to wel-

come him home in a big way,” said another friend, Debbie Pirkle. “We wanted to make sure he understands how thankful we are for his service.”

Sunday morning, numerous church members wrote greetings and showed their grati-



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tude on the sign which was placed in Spurgin’s yard.

Contact Staff Writer

Amanda Moreno at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at life@bigspring-herald.com



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News in brief

Obama to propose \$1.5 trillion in new tax revenue as part of long-term deficit package

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama’s proposal to reduce long-term deficits with \$1.5 trillion in new taxes is less an opening bid in a negotiation than it is an opening salvo in a struggle to draw sharp contrasts with congressional Republicans.

Obama’s proposal is aimed predominantly at the wealthy and comes just days after House Speaker John Boehner ruled out tax increases to lower deficits. It also comes amid a clamor in his own Democratic Party for Obama to take a tougher stance against Republicans. And while the plan stands little chance of passing Congress, its populist pitch is one that the White House believes the public can support.

The core of the president’s plan totals just more than \$2 trillion in deficit reduction over 10 years. It combines the new taxes with \$580 billion in cuts to mandatory benefit programs, including \$248 billion from Medicare.

The administration also counts savings of \$1 trillion over 10 years from the withdrawal of troops from Iraq and Afghanistan.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

Brief Explanatory Statements of Proposed
Constitutional Amendments
Special Election November 8, 2011

Proposition Number 1 (SJR 14)

SJR 14 would amend the constitution to authorize the legislature to provide the surviving spouse of a 100 percent or totally disabled veteran with an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the surviving spouse’s residence homestead as long as the surviving spouse has not remarried, the property was the residence homestead of the surviving spouse when the qualifying veteran died, and the property remains the residence homestead of the surviving spouse.

The proposed amendment would appear on the ballot as follows: “The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a 100 percent or totally disabled veteran.”

Proposition Number 2 (SJR 4)

SJR 4 would amend the constitution to authorize the Texas Water Development Board to issue additional general obligation bonds on a continuing basis for one or more accounts of the Texas Water Development Fund II, with the restriction that the total amount of bonds outstanding at any time does not exceed \$6 billion.

The proposed amendment would appear on the ballot as follows: “The constitutional amendment providing for the issuance of additional general obligation bonds by the Texas Water Development Board in an amount not to exceed \$6 billion at any time outstanding.”

Proposition Number 3 (SJR 50)

SJR 50 would amend the constitution to authorize the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board or its successors to issue and sell general obligation bonds on a continuing basis for the purpose of financing educational loans for

students, subject to certain constitutional restrictions, including a restriction as to the maximum principal amount of bonds outstanding at any one time.

The proposed amendment would appear on the ballot as follows: “The constitutional amendment providing for the issuance of general obligation bonds of the State of Texas to finance educational loans to students.”

Proposition Number 4 (HJR 63)

HJR 63 would amend the constitution to authorize the legislature to permit a county to issue bonds or notes to finance the development or redevelopment of an unproductive, underdeveloped, or blighted area within the county, and to pledge increases in ad valorem tax revenues imposed on property in the area by the county for repayment of such bonds or notes. The amendment does not provide independent authority for increasing ad valorem tax rates.

The proposed amendment would appear on the ballot as follows: “The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit a county to issue bonds or notes to finance the development or redevelopment of an unproductive, underdeveloped, or blighted area and to pledge for repayment of the bonds or notes increases in ad valorem taxes imposed by the county on property in the area. The amendment does not provide authority for increasing ad valorem tax rates.”

Proposition Number 5 (SJR 26)

SJR 26 would amend the constitution to authorize the legislature to allow cities and counties to enter into interlocal contracts with other cities and counties without having to assess an ad valorem tax and set aside a specified amount of funds for the payment of costs under the interlocal contract.

The proposed amendment would appear on the ballot as follows: “The constitutional amendment

The deficit reduction plan represents an economic bookend to the \$447 billion in tax cuts and new public works spending that Obama has proposed as a short-term measure to stimulate the economy and create jobs.

He’s submitting his deficit fighting plan to a special joint committee of Congress that is charged with recommending deficit reductions of up to \$1.5 trillion over 10 years.

Calm chaos followed deadly Nevada air show disaster as laymen, rescue workers aided 70 wounded

RENO, Nev. (AP) — Amid the horrific aftermath of the nation’s deadliest air racing disaster, a crash that killed nine and sent about 70 people to Reno-area hospitals, a sort of calm pervaded.

Witnesses were spattered with blood and pieces of flesh, yet video of the scene shows paramedics, police and spectators attending to the wounded with a control that seems contradictory to the devastation.

Officials and those in the tightly-knit air racing community credit not only a detailed plan for just such a crash, but the type of people at the event: pilots, veterans and others accustomed to dealing with a high-pressure situation.

Doctors, nurses and military veterans from the crowd volunteered their services to emergency crews, said Reno Fire Battalion Chief Tim Spencer, a 29-year veteran who has worked at the air races for 27 years.

Those without medical skills helped firefighters transport the injured.

“It wasn’t uncommon to see one firefighter and three people in civilian clothes carrying a litter to the proper area” for evacuation, Tim Spencer said. “Everybody pulled together perfectly and worked side by side.”

Rescue workers scramble to reach villages cut off by powerful Himalayan quake that killed 50

GAUHATI, India (AP) — Rescue workers raced Monday to clear roads blocked by mudslides as they scrambled to reach remote villages cut off after a powerful earthquake killed at least 50 people in northeast India, Nepal and Tibet.

Hundreds of paramilitary soldiers and local police working through the night cleared away concrete slabs, bricks and mud to rescue scores of people trapped under the debris of houses that collapsed after a 6.9-magnitude quake struck the mountainous Himalayan region Sunday evening.

At least 25 people died in the northeastern Indian state of Sikkim, where the quake was centered near India’s border with Nepal, police said.

Paramilitary soldiers had pulled out 18 bodies

authorizing the legislature to allow cities or counties to enter into interlocal contracts with other cities or counties without the imposition of a tax or the provision of a sinking fund.”

Proposition Number 6 (HJR 109)

HJR 109 would amend the constitution to increase the amount of principal that is available for withdrawal from the permanent school fund each year and would also clarify certain references to that fund in the constitution. Increased access to the principal of the state public education trust fund would be based upon HJR 109 granting the authority to consider alternative market calculations when determining the amount of principal that is available for distribution to the available school fund. HJR 109 would also provide authority to distribute to the available school fund annual revenue from school fund land or other properties up to \$300 million per year.

The proposed amendment would appear on the ballot as follows: “The constitutional amendment clarifying references to the permanent school fund, allowing the General Land Office to distribute revenue from permanent school fund land or other properties to the available school fund to provide additional funding for public education, and providing for an increase in the market value of the permanent school fund for the purpose of allowing increased distributions from the available school fund.”

Proposition Number 7 (SJR 28)

SJR 28 would amend the constitution by adding El Paso County to the list of counties authorized to create conservation and reclamation districts to develop parks and recreational facilities financed by taxes.

The proposed amendment would appear on the ballot as follows: “The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit conservation and reclamation districts in El Paso County to issue bonds supported by ad valorem taxes to fund the development and maintenance of parks and recreational facilities.”

Proposition Number 8 (SJR 16)

SJR 16 would amend the constitution by requiring the legislature to provide for taxation of open space land devoted to water-wardship purposes on the basis of its productive capacity.

The proposed amendment would appear on the ballot as follows: “The constitutional amendment providing for the appraisal for ad valorem tax purposes of open-space land devoted to water-wardship purposes on the basis of its productive capacity.”

Proposition Number 9 (SJR 9)

SJR 9 would amend the constitution to authorize the governor, on the written recommendation and advice of the Board of Pardons and Paroles, to grant a pardon, reprieve, or commutation of punishment to a person who successfully completes a term of deferred adjudication community supervision.

The proposed amendment would appear on the ballot as follows: “The constitutional amendment authorizing the governor to grant a pardon to a person who successfully completes a term of deferred adjudication community supervision.”

Proposition Number 10 (SJR 37)

SJR 37 would amend the constitution by extending the length of the unexpired term that causes the automatic resignation of certain local elected officeholders if they announce candidacy or become candidates for another office from one year to one year and 30 days.

The proposed amendment would appear on the ballot as follows: “The constitutional amendment to change the length of the unexpired term that causes the automatic resignation of certain elected county or district officeholders if they become candidates for another office.”

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and had located seven others buried under mounds of concrete in Gangtok, Sikkim’s capital, said police Chief Jasbir Singh. At least 50 people, some of them with serious injuries, were hospitalized, he said.

Another 11 people were killed the neighboring Indian states of Bihar and West Bengal. Seven people died in Nepal and China’s official Xinhua news agency reported seven deaths from Tibet.

Emmy broadcast had a winning combination in host Jane Lynch and producer Mark Burnett

(AP) — Even if your favorite nominee got snubbed, Sunday’s Emmycast could have been the most satisfying in memory.

It was funny, bright and skillfully hosted by “Glee” star Jane Lynch.

It moved at a brisk clip, free of the usual stumbles and lulls, and, even better, it flowed almost seamlessly, a next-to-impossible feat for any awards show.

Production values at the Nokia Theatre in Los Angeles were eye-popping, from the setting — an omega-shaped arch through which presenters made their entrance — to a tour-de-force comic musical number spearheaded by Andy Samberg and fellow “Saturday Night Live” performers that might have had some viewers scratching their heads in bewilderment, but had to leave them dazzled nonetheless.

Yes, “Modern Family” cleaned up — winning five Emmys (including best comedy, supporting acting trophies for TV parents Julie Bowen and Ty Burrell, and best writing and direction).

Child abuse rose during recession, suggests study of some counties; infants most at risk

CHICAGO (AP) — An increase in child abuse, mostly in infants, is linked with the recent recession in new research that raises fresh concerns about the impact of the nation’s economic woes.

The results are in a study of 422 abused children from mostly lower-income families, known to face greater risks for being abused, and the research involved just 74 counties in four states. But lead author Dr. Rachel Berger of Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh said the results confirm anecdotal reports from many pediatricians who’ve seen increasing numbers of shaken baby cases and other forms of brain-injuring abuse.

Berger decided to study this type of injury, known as abusive head trauma, after noticing an increase at her own hospital from late 2007 through June 2009. Her hospital averaged 30 cases per year during those recession years versus 17 yearly before 2007.

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

West dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♦ K J 8 7 6 5
♥ 10 3
♦ K J 3 2
♣ A

WEST
♦ 10 3
♥ K 8 6
♦ 10 9 8 4
♣ 7 5 4 2

SOUTH
♠ A Q 9
♥ A J 4
♦ A Q 6 5
♣ Q 10 8

The bidding:
West 1 ♦
Pass 4 ♦
Pass 4 NT
Pass 5 NT
Pass 7 ♦
Opening lead — ten of diamonds.

East Pass
Pass 4 ♥
Pass 5 ♠
Pass 6 ♣

South 3 ♦
4 ♥
5 ♠
6 ♣

Tomorrow: The fine art of card-rending.

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tions. There are times when an eight-card suit, divided 4-4, serves as a better trump suit than a nine-card suit. This deal from the 1966 U.S. Team Trials provides an example.

If the hand is played at spades or notrump, declarer makes 12 tricks, period. At one table, North-South got to seven spades, down one, and at six other tables, the final contract was either six spades or six notrump.

At only two tables was the excellent contract of seven diamonds reached. With diamonds as trump, the grand slam was foolproof. All South had to do was to ruff a club in dummy to produce a 13th trick. This extra trick was not available in any contract but diamonds.

The advantage of playing the 4-4 fit rather than the 6-3 fit is that declarer makes an extra trump trick. With diamonds as the trump suit, he scores five diamonds and six spades, but with spades as trump, he scores only four diamonds and six spades. The eight-card suit thus serves more effectively than the nine-card suit.

Note that North never rebid his spades, despite holding six of them, and that South never supported spades with the A-Q-9. Both players realized that the more evenly divided diamond suit would produce an extra trick or two that would not be scored if spades were trump.

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Lady Steers split weekend games at home

By ROBERT GRIFFIN

Sports Editor

The Lady Steers held their ground in the standings this weekend, earning a split in their two games at Steer Gym. After falling to Andrews in four matches, 25-19, 20-25, 23-25 and 24-26, Big Spring bounced back for a decisive victory over Midland Trinity with scores of 25-12, 25-18 and 25-11.

With their district schedule starting Friday against Sweetwater, Coach Osborne's girls are fine-tuning their game in anticipation.

In the Lady Steers' loss against Andrews, Cerbi Ritchey led the team with 22 assists. Ritchey also added 14 kills, 13 digs and two blocks in the game.

Taylor Seaton had a team-leading 16 kills in the game, with five digs, one ace and one block. Carson Reibe's 17 digs led the Lady Steers on defense. Reibe also recorded a kill and

an ace.

Morgan Seaton had 16 assists, seven kills, six digs, an ace and a block for Big Spring, while Diamond Mayes added four kills, five blocks and a dig.

Clara Benavides had 10 digs, three kills, two blocks and an ace, while Julianna Rodriguez recorded 11 digs along with her ace and kill.

In the win against Midland Trinity, setters Morgan Seaton and Ritchey combined for 30 assists, 20 kills, eight digs, four aces and a block.

Taylor Seaton and Clara Benavides joined together on offense, providing 14 kills, 11 digs, three aces and three blocks, while on defense, Logan Yarbar had five digs and an ace. Reibe and Rodriguez also added 14 digs and three aces between them.

The Lady Steers currently hold a season record of 23-9 going into Tuesday night's match-up with Levelland at Steer Gym.



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Clara Benavides spikes the ball in Big Spring's weekend win over Midland Trinity.

Briefs

Quarterback Club meeting Monday

Big Spring Quarterback Club meetings to be held Mondays at the ATC. The meetings will start at 6 p.m. All parents of football players in grades 7-12 are encouraged to attend.

For more information, call Denise Carrillo at 432-816-1685.

Lady Steers booster meeting

The Lady Steers' Booster Club will hold its monthly meeting Thursday, Sept. 22 at 6 p.m. in the high school library. Parents of girls in volleyball, basketball, cross country, cheerleading, or track and also coaches of those sports are invited and encouraged to attend. Junior High parents are also welcome. For more information, contact Cheri Reibe at 432-268-9587.

Cowboys defeat San Francisco in overtime

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Tony Romo felt sick to his stomach. It hurt to breathe, let alone bark out the cadence in a hostile road stadium. Playing with the throbbing pain from a fractured rib, Romo rallied America's Team just as he promised he would.

In a week when Romo vowed to play his best game, he delivered a gutsy comeback that looked so unlikely when he briefly came out from halftime and then returned to the locker

room.

Moments after the Cowboys (1-1) announced the quarterback was done for the day, there came No. 9 ready to take charge of the huddle once again.

Romo hit Jesse Holley on a 77-yard completion on the Cowboys' first play of overtime that set up Dan Bailey's winning 19-yard field goal 2:53 into the overtime, and Dallas pulled off an improbable 27-24 victory over the San Francisco 49ers on Sunday.

In one frantic span, Romo emphatically left his mark on the storied Cowboys-49ers rivalry that dates back decades to all those epic matchups in the NFC title game that regularly set up Super Bowl victories by the winner.

"It's got to be one of those things that will follow him through his career. I know what it was here in the locker room at halftime. I know what he had to do to get back on the field," Cowboys owner Jerry Jones

said.

"I know what he had to do before (painkillers) took hold to relieve him from his pain. But, boy, did he come back. That was inspirational."

Romo emerged from the locker room after the second-half kickoff and walked briefly into the huddle as Jon Kitna returned to the sideline, then Romo immediately came off under doctor's orders and headed back to the locker room.

Back on the sideline late in the third quar-

ter, Romo tapped Jason Garrett on the shoulder and told the coach to put him back in the game.

"Eventually, what was convincing was, 'At some point I'm going to play with this thing, so why not now?'" Garrett said, quoting Romo. "It's about a quarterback but it's really about a football player and a competitor. And Tony is that. One of the best competitors I've ever been around."

This was an exact reverse of what hap-

pened a week earlier: a 27-24 road loss to the Jets after Dallas blew a late 14-point lead and watched New York kick the winning field goal. Romo's late interception contributed to that Week 1 collapse. Going on a few hours of sleep, he was back to work early Monday morning preparing for the 49ers.

Bailey kicked a tying 48-yard field goal Sunday as time expired in regulation after

See DALLAS, Page 10



Courtesy photo

Coahoma's Tanner Ruiz returns the opening kickoff 90 yards for a touchdown in Friday night's game.

Rangers win again

SEATTLE (AP) — Ultimately, keeping a comfortable lead in the AL West race with just nine games left was of foremost importance to Adrian Beltre.

But getting the better of friend and former teammate Felix Hernandez wasn't far behind.

"It was nice because he's always talking smack to me. We talk smack and forth and he got my number," Beltre said. "I told him all I wanted to do was take him deep and I did it so I was yapping back to him."

Beltre got to Hernandez on Sunday, hitting a two-strike pitch for a two-run homer in the fourth inning and propelling the Texas Rangers to a 3-0 win over the Seattle Mariners.

Beltre lined his 27th homer of the season into the left field bullpen, then playfully jawed with Hernandez (14-13) as he approached home plate. It was just Beltre's second hit of the three-game series, both home runs.

And it was just his second career hit off the Mariners ace. Beltre had one single in eight previous at-bats and four strikeouts.

"You can't miss. The thing about Felix, playing with him, playing behind him, he's nasty," Beltre said. "He don't leave many pitches over the heart of the plate and his ball moves all

See RANGERS, Page 10

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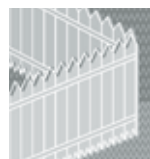
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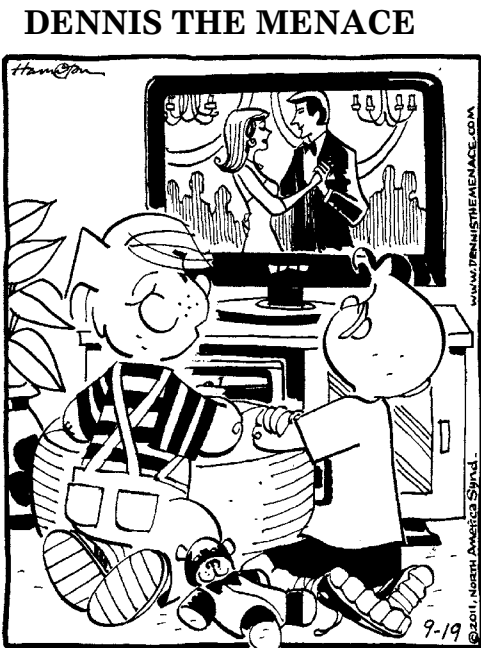
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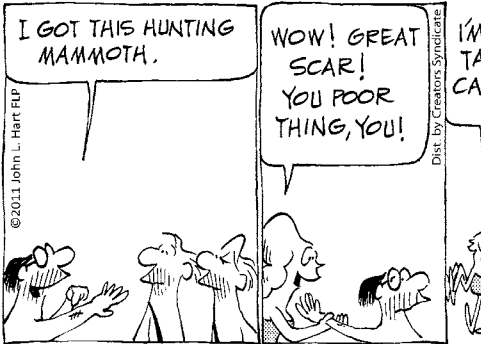


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5 :PM	News ABC	Alma	Big Bang News	News	Noticias	News	King	Schwarz	News	'Til Death King	Cash Cab	Marcel Lures	Ways Die	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Shake It Good	NFL 32	SportsCenter
6 :PM	Jeopardy! Wheel	Quando Me	Two Men	News	Caso Cer-rado	News	Seinfeld	Van Impe	Business	Seinfeld	American Chopper		Ways Die	Law & Order		Shake It Up!	SportsCenter	Monday Night Count-down
7 :PM	Dancing With the Stars	Teresa (SS)	Hell's Kitchen	How I Met How I Met	Mi Corazón Insiste	The Sing-Off	Fam. Guy	Upd	Antiques Roadshow	H&R	American Chopper		Ways Die	The Closer	Movie: B.A.P.S	Random	WNBA Basketball: First Round, Game 3	NFL Football: St. Louis Rams at New York Giants.
8 :PM		Fuerza-Des-tino		Two Men Broke Girl	Flor Salvaje (SS)		Fam. Guy	Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	Ringer	American Chopper		Ways Die	Law & Order		Movie: Lemonade Mouth		
9 :PM	(:01) Castle	Don Francisco	Simpsons How I Met	Hawaii Five-0	La Casa de al Lado	The Playboy Club	Fam. Guy		The Storm That Swept Mexico	Cops	Brothers	Movie: No Country for Old Men, Josh Brolin	Ways Die	Law & Order	Movie: Hair Show, Gina Torres	Shake It Up!	WNBA Basketball: First Round, Game 3	
10 :PM	News Nightline	Impacto	How I Met Raymond	News Letterman	Noticias El Cartel II (SS)	News Jay Leno	Conan	House		King South Pk	American Chopper		Ways Die	CSI: NY		Random		SportsCenter
11 :PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Para Volver a Amar	Law & Order: SVU	Late	Decisiones (SS)	Late Night	Office	Andrew Gabriel Roth	World	South Pk	Brothers		Ways Die	CSI: NY		Wizards	Baseball Tonight	
12 :AM	Extra Paid	Destilando Amor	Raymond Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	News	Office	Upd		Roseanne	Brothers		Ways Die	CSI: NY		Wizards		
1 :AM	Paid	Mujer American			Pagado	Poker After Dark	Conan	Dr. Denis		Roseanne TBA	American Chopper	Movie: The Cowboy Way	Ways Die	CSI: NY	Movie: Hair Show, Gina Torres	Hannah	NFL Films	NFL Prime-Time
	Paid	Mujer			Pagado			Light of the Southwest		Days of Harvest	Overhaul'n		MAN	Rizzoli & Isles		Deck	NASCAR Now	SportsCenter



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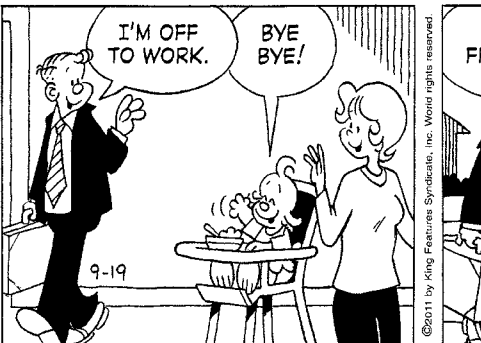
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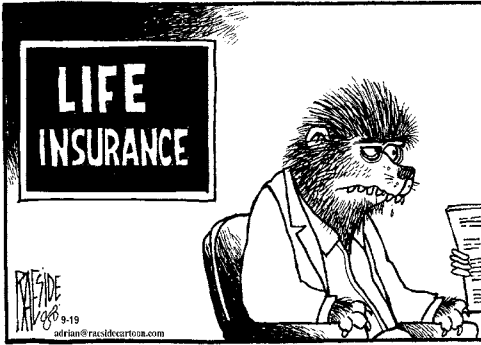
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THE OTHER COAST



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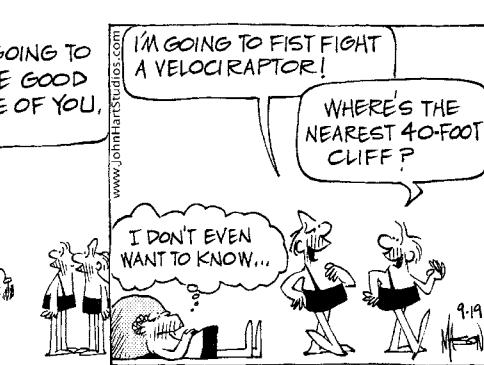


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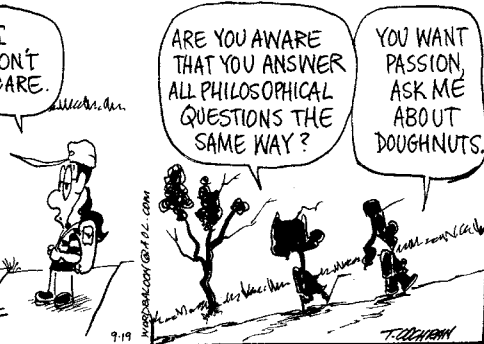
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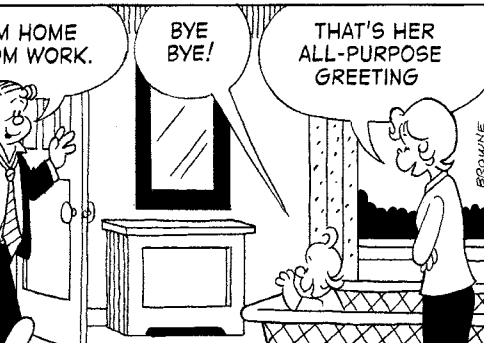
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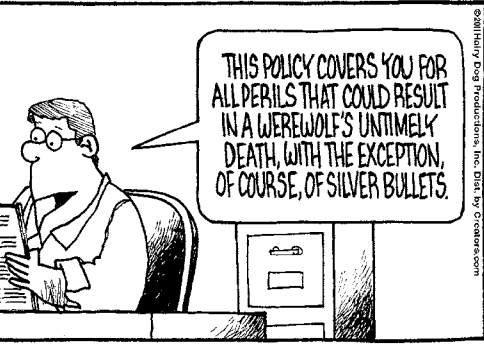
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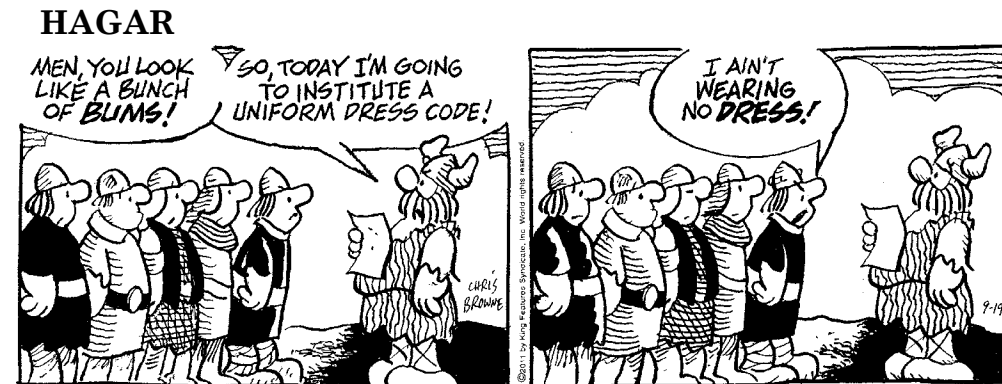
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BEETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



This Date In History

Today is Monday, Sept. 19, the 262nd day of 2011. There are 103 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 19, 1777, the first Battle of Saratoga was fought during the Revolutionary War; although the British forces succeeded in driving out the American troops, the Americans prevailed in a second battle the following month.

On this date: In 1796, President George Washington's farewell address was published.

In 1881, the 20th president of the United States, James A. Garfield, died 2—months after being shot by Charles Guiteau; Chester Alan Arthur became president.

In 1911, British author Sir William Golding ("Lord of the Flies") was born in Cornwall.

In 1945, Nazi radio propagandist William Joyce, known as "Lord Haw-Haw," was convicted of treason and sentenced to death by a British court.

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- Shower alternative
- Flower stalk
- Cruise-line stops
- Lip balm additive
- Lima's country
- Musical drama
- Mix together
- What's ___ for me?"
- With a flat surface
- Golfer's dream shot
- Close-up area on a map
- Football official
- Biol. or chem.
- Occupies, as a table
- Stops from talking
- Ensnarers
- Bad habit
- Wise advisor
- Greek pocket bread
- Took a risk
- Haul
- "Be with you in ___!"
- Preowned
- Taco topping
- Give an ultimatum to
- Old Faithful, for one
- Weep
- Garden tool
- Church steeple
- Stern enforcement
- Pie nut
- Volcanic output
- One of the Great Lakes
- The States, informally

- Above
- Ship's pole
- Forbidden things
- Minor fender damage
- Bullring cheers

DOWN

- Elaborate party
- Female choir voice
- Work hard
- Roll-call response
- Small piano
- Nearing the hour
- 26 Down homeland
- TV remote button
- Law enforcement group

- Baseball season beginner
- Races, as an engine
- Elm or oak
- Pretzel topping
- Some nest eggs: Abbr.
- Winter vehicle
- March 17 honoree, for short
- March 17 parading group
- "Baked" side dish, slangily
- Launching-pad vehicle
- Squad-car wailer
- Chilled, as tea
- Hair ringlets
- Wipe away, as chalk

- Coffee sweetener
- Bouquet holder
- Required task
- Search for complexes
- Kid's racing vehicle
- Place of safety
- "Baked" side dish, slangily
- Mexican money
- Computer-screen image
- Clumsy one
- Four-star review
- Floor-model car
- Face-to-face exam
- All-knowing
- Tennis-court dividers

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DALLAS

Continued from Page 5

missing an early 21-yard attempt. That delighted the large contingent — close to one-third — of Cowboys fans in Candlestick Park.

Romo completed five of six passes on the tying drive, connecting on consecutive throws to Holley before finding him again in OT.

“Ribs are tough,” Romo said. “It’s just hard to breathe, and talk really. You have to talk loud, especially on the road.”

Romo wasn’t the only one playing hurt, either. Running back Felix Jones separated his shoulder early in the game, Jerry Jones said.

Miles Austin made three touchdown receptions among his nine catches for 143 yards, leaping over a defender and diving into the end zone to pull Dallas within 24-21 with 6:55 to play. Austin later hurt his hamstring.

Jones won’t need to defend Romo after this one. He grimaced and limped. He needed help from a lineman to stand up as the vicious hits kept coming.

Romo completed 20 of 33 passes for 345 yards and Kitna found Austin for a 5-yard TD, but also threw two interceptions during his brief appearance. As Romo’s teammates celebrated, cheered and hugged, he slowly made his way to midfield for postgame handshakes.

Romo returned for the last series of the third quarter, the final 15 minutes and OT. He didn’t give Garrett much chance to say no.

“I just told him I was good to go. I think he asked some of the guys,” Romo said. “I didn’t give him too much of a chance. I just ran on the field.”

The 49ers (1-1) were trying to move to 2-0 under new coach Jim Harbaugh after a 33-17 victory over defending NFC West champion Seattle last week.

Alex Smith threw for 179 yards and two touchdowns, including a 29-yard strike to Delanie Walker in the third quarter. Smith found himself in the

familiar predicament of getting hit. He was sacked six times as San Francisco’s offensive line often failed to protect him or give him ample time in the pocket to be effective.

Frank Gore ran for a 1-yard score and Kyle Williams had a 12-yard touchdown catch as San Francisco went ahead 14-0.

Dallas had a final chance in regulation, getting the ball back with 4:03 to play starting from its own 26.

Romo, in the shotgun as he’d been most of the day, delivered on third-and-6 from the 43 with a 7-yard completion to Austin. They connected on another 7-yard gain the next play.

After Jones this week called Romo’s performance against the Jets “outstanding,” Romo made all the right calls in crunch time.

He played through multiple hits in the first half, when he threw a late 53-yard touchdown pass to Austin to bring Dallas within 14-7. The QB came up slowly after being clobbered on a blindside cornerback blitz by Carlos Rogers as he was throwing in the second quarter.

Romo looked to be headed for another tough day.

The Cowboys came up short on a 76-yard drive over the opening 7½ minutes after Bailey missed wide right on his 21-yard field goal attempt. Then, it was three straight three-and-outs.

When it mattered, Romo came through.

“He understands that all eyes are on him,” said safety Donte Whitner, beat on the deep throw in OT.

“They expect him to lead them to the playoffs and ultimately a championship. For a guy like that, after the things that happened last week, you expected him to come back into the football game.”

Notes: It was the first overtime game of the season. ... The 49ers were out-gained in total yards 472-206. ... Dallas’ DeMarcus Ware and Jason Hatcher each had two sacks.

San Francisco’s Braylon Edwards limped off with a right knee injury after making a 21-yard catch in the first quarter. Harbaugh had no update afterward.

Texans start out season 2-0 again

MIAMI (AP) — The Houston Texans discovered last year what a 2-0 start means: not much.

So they’ll curb their enthusiasm for now about the possibility of reaching the playoffs for the first time, although the subject will be tough to avoid if they beat the Saints this week.

Houston at New Orleans suddenly shapes up as a showdown.

The Texans stayed unbeaten Sunday by defeating the Miami Dolphins 23-13.

The Texans improved to 2-0 for the second year in a row. Last season they faded to 6-10.

“We’ve been there before, so we’ve got to make it different,” coach Gary Kubiak said.

For the second consecutive week, Houston won with balanced offense and a stingy, swarming defense led by Mario Williams. He had a hand in the game’s first touchdown, while Matt Schaub was efficient, Andre Johnson came up with big catches and Ben Tate filled in ably for Arian Foster.

The Dolphins fell to 0-2 for the fifth time in the past six years, and perhaps it’s just as well they’re on the road for most of the next two

months.

They’re 1-11 at home since late 2009.

“This stinks,” receiver Brandon Marshall said. “We’re trying to get things going in our stadium and our community, and you have to win at home to do that. It’s frustrating. It’s embarrassing.”

Houston improved to 6-0 against Miami, in part because the Dolphins’ sieve-like pass defense was no match for Schaub and Johnson.

Schaub went 21 for 29 for 230 yards and had a quarterback rating of 118.5. Houston avoided any turnovers while the Dolphins committed two, had a 22-yard field-goal attempt blocked and missed a 34-yarder.

With fan support for the Dolphins flagging, the stadium was half empty even though Miami native Johnson bought 170 tickets for family and friends. He uncharacteristically dropped a deep pass in the third quarter but more than made amends, finishing with seven catches for 93 yards.

“Andre made some great plays all day long,” Schaub said.

The biggest came after a Miami field goal cut Houston’s lead to 16-13. The Texans responded

with a 63-yard drive capped by Johnson’s 23-yard scoring catch.

Tate topped 100 yards rushing for the second time in two career games, netting 103 yards in 23 carries. Reigning NFL rushing champion Foster, who missed the opener because of a sore left hamstring, carried only 10 times for 33 yards and sat out the second half when his leg tightened.

The Texans led for the final 55 minutes, and Williams forced a turnover to help increase the cushion.

With Chad Henne throwing from his goal line, Williams hit Henne as he released a pass, which fluttered to cornerback Johnathan Joseph.

Two plays later, Schaub threw a 4-yard touchdown pass to Owen Daniels for a 13-3 lead.

Houston pressured Henne enough to limit him to 170 yards after he threw for 416 in the season opener.

The Texans’ defense, revamped after they ranked 30th in yards allowed last season, has allowed two touchdowns in two games.

“We only gave up 13 points,” Kubiak said, “and you’re going to win a lot of games doing that.”

RANGERS

Continued from Page 5

over the place so it’s not

easy to square him up.”

While Beltre’s homer was the key offensive blow, Texas starter Matt Harrison was even

more impressive. Harrison (13-9) won his third straight start, striking out a career-high nine in 6 2-3 shutout innings.

It was an important victory for Texas, remaining 4½ games ahead of the Los Angeles Angels in the AL West after the Angels beat Baltimore earlier Sunday. After an off day Monday, the Rangers open a three-game series in Oakland.

The goal is simple for the Rangers: make sure the division race is sealed by the time they get to Anaheim to close the regular season with a three-game series.

“We haven’t blinked. There is baseball to be played and we’re going

to play our game,” Michael Young said. “So far, so good. We just want to keep it up.”

With Harrison winning his 13th game, the Rangers became the first AL team since 1977 to have five pitchers with at least 13 victories. In the last 30 years only three teams have accomplished that feat, all in the National League.

Harrison allowed six hits and walked a pair, and took advantage of the strikeout-prone Mariners. Seattle batters have struck out at least nine times in nine of the past 10 games. Over those 10 games, Seattle has struck out 120 times.

“Going up against that guy you know it’s always tough,” Harrison said of facing Hernandez. “You just try and keep the game close and make your pitches and try and stay in the game as long as possible.”

Only once did Seattle advance a runner to third base against Harrison and that came in the seventh inning. Harrison left with two outs after Ichiro Suzuki’s in-

field hit glanced off Harrison’s glove. Suzuki’s 173rd hit of the season loaded the bases for Luis Gonzalez, who had doubled off Harrison in his previous at-bat.

Instead of risking it, Rangers manager Ron Washington went to Koji Uehara. The move worked as Uehara struck out Luis Rodriguez to end Seattle’s best scoring chance.

Josh Hamilton robbed Mike Carp of a homer with a leaping catch at the wall in left to end the eighth inning and Nef-tali Feliz picked up his 28th save in 34 chances, pitching the ninth.

Beltre was one of Hernandez’s closest friends when Hernandez first made the jump to the majors and Beltre was with the Mariners. Instead of pitching conservatively, Hernandez went right at Beltre with the 0-2, two-out fastball, and Beltre got him.

“(It’s) always, always going to be like that,” Hernandez said of the smack talk with his friend. “He got me with his bat today and we’ll get another one in Tex-

as.”

Hernandez, the reigning AL Cy Young winner gave up nine hits and struck out five but lost his second straight decision. It was also his third loss this season against Texas.

Texas nearly had another homer in the third inning when Ian Kinsler hit a shot down the left-field line. Third base umpire Brian Gorman initially ruled it a two-run homer, but the call was overturned on video review.

Texas added an insurance run in the sixth when Kinsler led off with a single and scored on Elvis Andrus’ double down the left-field line. Andrus had three hits and extended his season-high hitting streak to 12 games.

Notes: Texas is 12-4 vs. Seattle this season with three games left in Texas next weekend. ... Seattle 3B Chone Figgins will not play again this season with a hip flexor injury, manager Eric Wedge said. ... Seattle will make a detour to Cleveland for a makeup game on Monday. The game was one of two makeups after the Indians and Mariners were rained out on May 14 and 15. Seattle then opens a three-game series in Minnesota on Tuesday.

LHP Charlie Furbush will start for Seattle against the Indians. He is just 2-6 in eight starts since coming over in late July in a trade with Detroit. ... Sunday was the first time since July 31 most of a Mariners game has been played with the Safeco Field roof closed. It was closed in the top of the first inning on Sunday after closing in the eighth inning of Saturday’s game.

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