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BIG SPRING HERALD

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VOLUME 106, NUMBER 308

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THURSDAY

OCTOBER 13, 2011



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Campus plans on agenda

BSISD trustees to hear how schools plan to shed ‘unacceptable’ TEA rating

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Big Spring Independent School District officials apparently will not accept an unacceptable rating for their schools.

Student improvement plans for all campuses which received an “academically unacceptable” rating from the Texas Education Agency will highlight tonight’s meeting of the BSISD Board of Trustees, which begins at 5:15 p.m. in the high school board room.

The school district and all but one campus was tagged with an “unacceptable” rating under TEA’s accountability system in August. Moss Elementary, which was rated “academically acceptable,” was the only campus to avoid the sub-par designation.

In the past several weeks, school officials have announced district-wide steps to improve BSISD’s academic standing, but tonight will zero in on improvement plans at the campus level. Proposals for the high school, junior high, Goliad Intermediate and Bauer, Washington, Marcy and Kentwood elementaries will be considered.

In other business, trustees will:

- Hold a public hearing on the district’s Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) rating.
- Consider a resolution for the taxation of in-transit goods.
- Consider personnel matters.
- Discuss field turf for the football field.
- Hear reports on the high school Bible class, delinquent tax collections and the district’s safety audit.



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Monroe Casey of the Mustang Draw Woodcarvers Club shows off a pair of his creations. The club will hold its 10th annual show and sale beginning Monday at Dora Roberts Community Center.

Carving a niche

Annual Mustang Draw show, sale on tap

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

To you or me, a block of wood is a block of wood — but to one of the Mustang Draw Woodcarver’s Club members, it’s a work of art waiting to happen.

The club will hold its annual Show and Sale beginning Monday at Dora Roberts Community Center. There, you can purchase almost any kind of artwork done in wood. And, if you have the hankering, you can learn a thing or two about the craft yourself.

As part of the annual exhibition, club members will hold classes from Monday to Thursday on various forms of woodcarving, ranging from beginner’s work to more advanced art.

The club will provide all the supplies you’ll need for the classes — “we’ll even supply the Band-Aids if you cut yourself,” member James Fryar said. All you need to provide is the cash and the enthusiasm.

Classes scheduled for this year

are:

- Beginner’s class taught by Fryar. Cost is \$5.
- Lloyd Claxton will instruct a class on hand-carved Christmas tree ornaments. Cost is \$5.
- A class on relief carving, taught by Jim Stewart of Odessa, will cost \$20.

On Friday, the club will hold its annual show, where items submitted by club members will be judged in a variety of

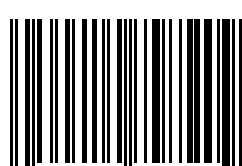
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APS: Protecting elderly everyone’s business

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Officials with the state’s Adult Protective Services (APS) are urging Texas to be vigilant when it comes to financial exploitation scams that target people who are older or have disabilities.

While protecting the state’s elderly and disabled will likely fall to family members, it should be everyone’s business, according to APS Media Specialist Marleigh Meisner.



“APS investigations confirmed 1,544 victims of financial exploitation in Texas last year, although there are likely many more that went unreported,” Meisner said. “That is why each October APS embarks on a community-based campaign that includes financial exploitation conferences, expos and other events to shed light on this serious and under-reported crime. APS officials are also handing out brochures and meeting with banks and local organizations that can help intervene to protect exploitation victims all year long.”

According to Beth Engelking, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services assistant commissioner for Adult Protective Services, exploitation can come from a

myriad of sources.

“Financial exploitation remains a serious threat,” said Engelking. “Victims are sometimes exploited by their own adult children, other relatives, paid caregivers or others who win their confidence. It’s critical that everyone understands that if it’s not your money, it’s financial exploitation and it’s a crime.”

Meisner defines financial exploitation as the illegal or improper use of another person’s money or property for personal profit or gain, with tell-tale signs including:

- Sudden changes in bank accounts or banking practices.
- Unexplained or unexpected withdrawal of large sums of money.
- Adding names to some-

one’s bank signature card.

- Unfamiliar people accompanying bank customers to withdraw large sums.
- Unauthorized withdrawal of funds using ATM cards or sudden transfers of assets.
- Sudden changes in financial documents.
- Unpaid bills despite having enough money.
- Previously uninvolved relatives who suddenly claim rights to a person’s affairs and possessions.
- Abuse of power of attorney.

“APS urges all Texans who know someone with a disability or who is 65 or older to be on the lookout for signs of financial exploitation,” Meisner said. “If you suspect ex-

See **APS**, Page 3



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Obituaries

Walter 'Amos' Jones

On Oct. 5, 2011, with the setting sun a great man left this world to be with God.

Walter ("Amos") Cameron Jones, born on Nov. 10, 1931, was surrounded by his family at the time of his death.

Amos was a retired assistant chief of the Corpus Christi Fire Department, serving as the fire marshal in fire prevention. He faithfully served the fire department for 46 years.

During the Korean conflict, Amos served his country in the U.S. Navy aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Champlain.

He was a graduate of Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, with a bachelor's degree in education.

Amos served on the fire science advisory committee and was an instructor at Del Mar College.

Amos was also known as "Moose" in high school, where he excelled in basketball, football, and track. He was the star quarterback, student body president of the senior class, and vice president of the junior class at Big Spring High School in Big Spring, Texas.

Our lives were indelibly touched by his example, quiet strength, and wonderful sense of humor. He was deeply loved and will be sorely missed. We will carry him in our hearts always and know that we will see him again in the life hereafter.

Preceding him in death were his parents, Walter B. and Beatrice Jones, and brothers and sisters Jacqueline Martin, Gay Hart, Iris Baucum, and Gary Jones.

Amos is survived by his loving wife, Mary, and two adoring grown daughters and their husbands, Marilyn Jones (Ed) Larsen and Cheryl Jones (Mark) Esparza. Amos was a doting grandfather to his four grandchildren and their spouses- Jennifer (Shawn) Kennedy, Andrew (Michelle) Jones, Stephanie Larsen, and Michael Esparza- and to his eight great-grandchildren- John, Matthew, Caden, Kathryn, and Hannah Kennedy; and Tyler Warren, and Ashley and Nicole Jones. Amos is also survived by his two sisters Beverlyn Jones and Norma (Pat) Patterson, and brother Isaac (Peggy) Jones.

A visitation was held from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 9, 2011 at Seaside Funeral Home Chapel. A memorial service was on Oct. 10, 2011 at 10 a.m. at Seaside Funeral Home Chapel with interment to follow.

To view tribute please visit www.seasidefuneral.com

Paid obituary

Ruth Holcombe

Ruth Holcombe, 82, of Mineral Wells, formerly of Stanton, died Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2011, in Mineral Wells. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Oct. 14, 2011, at First Baptist Church in Stanton with the Rev. David Harp, pastor, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 13, 2011, at Gilbreath Funeral Home in Stanton.

She was born Nov. 8, 1928, in Cooper, Texas, and married Kenneth Holcombe on April 8, 1950 in Courtney, Texas. He preceded her in death July 2, 1998.

Ruth worked with her husband in the family business, Holcombe Industrial and Pump Service, for more than 30 years. They retired in November 1997.

She was a member of First Baptist Church in Stanton.

Survivors include one daughter, Pam Butz of Mineral Wells; three grandchildren, Melanie Jackson, Samantha Tucker and Ryan Johnson; three great-grandchildren, Rylea Hippard, Bailey Johnson and Colby Johnson; many special nieces and nephews; and two sisters, Virginia Ringener of Big Spring and Peggy Fitzgerald of Edmond, Okla.

She was also preceded in death by one son, Kerry Holcombe; four brothers, Claude Glaspie, Hollis Glaspie, Jim Glaspie, and Salty Glaspie; and two sisters, Melba Brewer and Imogene George.

Arrangements under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Paid obituary

Hubert 'Charlie' Green



Hubert "Charlie" Green, of Mims "Lake O' Pines," passed away at Longview Regional on Saturday, Oct. 1, 2011.

Charlie was born Jan. 17, 1943, in Corpus Christi, to Hubert and Ruth (Hall) Green.

He was a mechanic most of his life, but also loved to fish and aggravate.

Charlie is survived by his wife, Kay Green, brother, Bob Green, four sons: Brandon, Colt, Jerry, and Darrell; seven grandchildren: Kaylee, Allyson, Ar-eanna, Riley, Ryan, Tyler, and Lindsey; three great-grandchildren: Tinsley, Mckenzie, and Kaden.

Paid obituary

Take Note

• Dell's Cafe is the participating Dine-Out-Days sponsor for United Way, Oct. 10 through Oct. 15. A portion of their proceeds will be donated to the 2012 United Way campaign.

• Singing Women of Texas Permian Basin Chapter is coming to First Baptist Church. The group will be performing at 6 p.m. Oct. 22. Admission is free.

• American Legion Post 506 is selling barbecue plates for \$10 Saturday. Delivery orders will be taken from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and serving will last from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Carry out is also available. American Legion is located at 3202 W. Hwy 80. For more information, call 263-2084.

• Big Spring Junior High is hosting a book fair from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. through Oct. 14 at the

school library. For more information, contact Rob-in Ritchey at 264-4135, ext. 1527.

• First Baptist Church Big Spring will celebrate its 125th Anniversary on Sunday, Nov. 13, 2011. In recognition of this milestone occasion, a special worship service will be held at 10:30 a.m. in the main sanctuary followed by a luncheon in the Family Life Center. For more information, call the church office at 432-267-8223, or go to: <http://www.fbcbigspring.org/>

• 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.

Police blotter

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

- CHRISTOPHER BENNETT WOOTEN, 50, of 301 State St., was arrested Wednesday on a charge of burglary of a vehicle.
- BURGLARY OF HABITATION was reported in the 2500 block of Carol Drive.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 400 block of N. Gregg Street.
- THEFT was reported: In the 1500 block of Wood Street.
- In the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80.
- In the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 1400 block of N. Hwy 87.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 2000 block of S. Monticello Street.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 65 inmates at the time of this report.

- JESSE DEAN CONTRERAS, 25, was arrested Wednesday by HCSO on sentencing/unauthorized use of vehicle.
- MARTIN HERNANDEZ GARCIA, 40, was arrested Wednesday by HCSO on sentencing on manufacture/delivering controlled substance.
- CHRISTOPHER WOOTEN, 50, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by BSPD on a charge of burglary of a vehicle.
- SHAUNA STEVENS HERLEHY, 41, was arrested Wednesday by DPS on a charge of possession of controlled substance.
- KRYSTLE LYNN SALDANA, 29, was arrested Wednesday by HCSO on a charge of forgery financial.
- ASHLEE ANN BINGHAM, 31, was arrested Thursday by HCSO on a charge of parent contributing to non-attendance.
- SAM STEVENSON WALKER, 52, was jailed on a charge of aggravated assault with deadly weapon.

Support Groups

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

• Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program, is held at Cornerstone Covenant Church, 706 E. 12th St. at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call at 264-0015 or visit www.cccbigspring.org

SATURDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish supper at 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 7 p.m. until 8 p.m.

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Juarez tries selling its bright side

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico (AP) — The city notorious as the most dangerous in the hemisphere is throwing a party to tell the world that life here is getting better.

Borrowing an idea from Tijuana, another violence-plagued border city, Ciudad Juarez on Thursday was opening a 16-day festival of concerts, ballet and speeches by figures such as former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani and former Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev.

Organizers want to catch the world's eye at a moment when the fear-some local crime rate is plunging, down about 50 percent over the last six months.

"We want to show the world it's not true what people say, that this is a hamlet of terror ... that this is a 'Mad Max'

place," said spokesman Sergio Armendariz, spokesman for the event known as Juarez Competitiva — "Competitive Juarez."

Organizers also hope the event will help attract as many as 45 investment projects totaling as much as \$10 billion, said the president of Juarez Competitiva, Carlos Chavira during a visit to Washington, D.C. to promote the event.

"It may seem like a lot, but it's doable in a city with 200,000 industry-related jobs," Chavira added.

City officials know it will take time to convince outsiders that Juarez is safe. In a recent press conference, officials announced that none of the big-name guests would have to stay in Juarez after dark; they can drive back across the border

and sleep in El Paso, Texas, one of the safest cities in the U.S.

Even the guest list of visiting CEOs is being kept secret because of "the distrust our country engenders, the fear that Ciudad Juarez provokes," said Jose Luis Armendariz, president of the area's association of assembly-for-export plants and no relation to the spokesman.

But he said the mere fact they are visiting at all is a step in the right direction.

"Let's open the door, show the house and from there I think we will gain their trust," he said. Getting rid of the stigma associated with the city "is the purpose of the event."

Drug gangs brought that stigma by using the city of 1.3 million as a stage for their battle to control a major route for contraband across the border. Nearly 8,900 people have been killed in drug violence in the city since 2008, when the battle heated up between the Sinaloa and Juarez cartels.

a writer and human rights activist, said any attempt to show the peaceful side of the city is doomed from the moment guests refuse to sleep here. He also criticized plans to draw more investment in assembly plants that he said offer "low-paying jobs but no careers or a future to the youth."

Juarez Competitiva is an almost play-by-play copy of Tijuana Innovadora, a festival in that border city to celebrate a similar decrease in violence in 2010.

"If what they did yielded results, we take it and try to improve it. This is inspired by Tijuana," said Jose Luis Armendariz.

But Juarez lacks some of Tijuana's advantages.

Tijuana Innovadora was held at a modern cultural center surrounded by upscale restaurants and shops in the tree-lined Rio Zone. That city has long had a vibrant arts scene and boasts several chefs who have gained celebrity for Mediterranean-infused Mexican cuisine. A new strip of trendy clubs is flourishing downtown.

While Tijuana spreads across balmy hills along the Pacific Ocean, Juarez is a desert city that fronts on a concrete-lined strip of the Rio Grande. Tijuana became famous for drawing Hollywood stars to drink, gamble and get divorced in the 1920s and 1930s. The grittier Juarez attracted less glamorous types to its clubs and cantinas.

APS

Continued from Page 1

exploitation, call 1-800-252-5400 and file a report so APS and law enforcement can investigate. Or you can report online at [TxAbuseHotline.org](#)."

Texas has more than 2.5 million residents 65 or older, with another two million younger adults having a disability, according to APS officials. The agency confirmed that 56,056 Texans living at home and 1,568 Texans living in institutions were victims of abuse, neglect or

exploitation last year.

According to Meisner, about half of abuse, neglect and exploitation victims were 65 or older and about half were younger adults with disabilities. APS investigations found that 1,445 adults living at home and 99 adults living in institutions were victims of financial exploitation last year, alone.

For more information on the APS campaign, visit [EveryonesBusiness.org](#)

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

CARVE

Continued from Page 1

categories, ranging from caricatures to religious items. The top two awards will be Best in Show and People's Choice.

The last award will be voted on by the public attending the final day sale.

Fryar and fellow club member Monroe Casey said the sale will be an excellent time for people to buy unique gifts. In addition, there will be drawings for a hand-carved Noah's Ark and a Christmas tree replete with hand-carved ornaments.

There is no admission charge to the sale.

This is the club's only fundraiser of the year.

Proceeds will pay for both the show and other club expenses during the year, Fryar said.

There is no admission charge to the sale.

This is the club's only fundraiser of the year. Proceeds will pay for both the show and other club expenses during the year, Fryar said.

The club, which had as few as 20 members in recent years, now has more than 50 enthusiasts attending the club meetings, which are held the third Monday of every month at the Sibley Center in Midland.

The reason member-

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ship has blossomed, Casey said, is simple — the craft appeals to everybody.

"We've got a retired college professor and we've got some guys who never finished school," Casey said. "We've got welders, housewives, men, women, children,

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you name it."

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Fryar said.

For more information on this year's event, contact Fryar at 399-4510 or 270-2510

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

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AN ENCOURAGING WORD



By Eddy Pitchford

The stock market acts like a roller coaster. It is up one day and down the next. People get excited today about their investments only to become dismayed at their loss tomorrow. Accumulating riches in an uncertain science with a lot of mountains and valleys.

Many people consider faith in a similar fashion. They gladly trust today but willfully disobey tomorrow. They turn faith building into an uncertain science with highs and lows that offer little stability. Indeed, they lose the richness of a growing faith and fall prey to discouragement and disobedience.

In reality, obtaining and strengthening faith is more certain than we think. "Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God." (Romans 10:17) If you want faith to grow, be in God's word and allow God's word to be in you.

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EDITORIAL

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

-FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

Bill McClellan Managing Editor	Ron Midkiff Publisher	Steve Reagan Staff Writer
Amanda Moreno Staff Writer	Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer	

What has been done with Ron Paul?

Campaigns face
A lot of stress;
When ignored
By all the press.

You may have heard of Ron Paul. He's a popular Republican candidate for president who just won the Values Voter Summit's straw poll. He's done well in other polling too, generally holding onto third place as the frontrunners come and go. And he raised an impressive \$8 million in the third quarter of this year.

On the other hand, you may not have heard of Ron Paul. That's because the mainstream corporate media mostly blacks him out. No matter how well he might perform in the polls or at fundraising, he's largely a non-person in the press.

This media blackout is apparently not due to any bizarre social policy beliefs that separate him from the other GOP candidates. Like the rest of them, the Texas Republican supports legislation that would demean women, African Americans, Latinos, and the poor. He'd also like to slash new holes in our already frayed social safety net.

The problem seems to lie in his being a libertarian. This branch of the GOP generally opposes wars and big banks and questions the whole theory of the Drug War. So do millions of other Republicans. These, however, are not the Republicans who control the media.

The press makes big bucks from wars and banks and generates countless juicy crime articles from drug arrests, so it's not likely to dote on a candidate like Paul, or give his views any ink or air time.

Democrats face the same bias when it's their turn. Remember in 2003 and 2004, when former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean looked like the Democratic Party's frontrunner, having taken the press by surprise? Nasty media coverage ultimately sank his candidacy. Rep. Dennis Kucinich was ignored by the media right from the start during his 2004 and 2008 presidential bids. Treating the Ohio Democrat like a non-contender made it easier to forget about discussing those nasty wars, the need to prosecute unethical banks, or any other fundamental issues.

This same modus operandi applies to the coverage of public protests. Aside from the Occupy Wall Street movement, which recently began to grab headlines, the only ones deemed worthy of regular coverage are those that support low taxes, low spending, and other corporate dogma.

Of course the White House itself is no help in getting us information on public actions. In April, after the San Francisco Chronicle posted a video of a rally in support of alleged WikiLeaks source Bradley Manning outside an Obama fundraiser, the administration threatened the paper with banishment from the presidential press pool. The move conveyed a chilling "no protest coverage, please" message.

Such self-censorship dominates U.S. media today. Meanwhile, ironically, we are living at a moment of great democratic opportunity, bravely presented to us by WikiLeaks. Those caches of secret cables provide chapter and verse of American foreign policy treachery. In other lands one would expect them to stimulate great public unrest.

But in this country, the press either won't touch them or treats the cables like toxic waste. Just as happens when candidates like Ron Paul, Howard Dean, and Dennis Kucinich run for president, our media supports the elite corporate status quo. No boat-rocking allowed. Bradley Manning and Julian Assange may well spend the rest of their lives in jail just for blowing that whistle, but don't expect to hear much about that in the mainstream media.

OtherWords columnist William A. Collins is a former state representative and a former mayor of Norwalk, Connecticut. <http://otherwords.org>

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we get our priorities straight, Lord,
and invite You into our life for our life.
Amen

Scary; Starting to agree with my pessimist friend

My friend Richard is a little crazy and very smart. He spends his days filling the Internet with screeds and rants on his favorite subject — the continuing collapse of our society. I'd tell you his last name, but if you wrote him, you'd get his scary emails too.

Here's an excerpt from a recent effort after the stock market had a bad-hair day.

"As I've said all along, it's Depression II. The stock market is catching on. Dow is down 4.5 percent today. Has a long way to go (down) to get to a reasonable value considering the fundamentals...Corrupt and disintegrating governmental systems here and in England. Gridlock. Incompetence everywhere..."

Did I mention that he is an angry old man? He seems to have caught the zeitgeist, however: that vague feeling of terror caused by being at the mercy of mysterious forces we can't control.

To scroll through a good newspaper (there are still a few) is to



DONALD KAUL

be confronted with one horror story after another.

If the "Arab Spring" isn't threatening to go sour on us, the Israelis and Palestinians are making rude Italian gestures at each other in the United Nations. Every time the Greek government blows its nose, financial markets throughout the Western world get pneumonia. Pakistan's military is preparing its country for war, quite possibly with us — even though we supply them with weapons and money. Every other month or so Congress goes to the brink of shutting down the government and with it the economy, which is already dead in the water and sinking, slowly. In 18th-century London people used to go to Bedlam, the city's mental institution, to amuse themselves by gawking at the insane, sometimes paying a penny for a special peek. Today we watch Republican presidential debates.

So far we have heard cheers for both executions and America's shortage of health insurance. There have been boos for a soldier who served in Iraq because he was gay. During each of those appalling moments, no candidate raised his or her voice in protest.

We have seen Mitt Romney

and Rick Perry back away from their most noble achievements as governors simply to appease the unappeasable.

We have witnessed Michele Bachmann make a fool of herself time after time with no one, apparently, noticing.

What an awful bunch. It's like an early round of "American Idol." I suppose Romney is the least worst of them. If elected, he's likely to abandon his current positions as readily as he did most of his previous positions.

Barack Obama has been no great prize either. He holds his great achievements — the health care bill and the rescue of the auto industry — at arm's length, as though he doesn't want them to stain his suit.

The world has begun the fourth year of a financial crisis with no end in sight. Our leaders not only don't have the answers; they don't seem to know the questions.

I don't agree with everything my friend Richard says, but I'm beginning to share his rising sense of panic.

OtherWords columnist Donald Kaul lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan. <http://otherwords.org>



Finding positive things in that which surrounds us

With the recent rainfall and my somewhat turn of good luck, I figured despite the doom and gloom of this year, there are some positives taking place.

I'm not normally one to stop someone in their negative tracks, but hey ... people can change.

I have been having a hard time thinking of worthy topics and I figured it was time to take on a challenge.

It is time to find the positive things surrounding me, stop and take them all in.

As for a positive in the community, I have come to see just how generous people can be.

With the recent food drive conducted by the Herald and United Way of Big Spring and Howard County, the generosity of the community came shining through.

The willingness to help that came from Wal-Mart and H-E-B was amazing, but what really struck me was the amount of food the drive brought in.

Originally, I had figured it would be okay to pick up donations once a week, but the first day proved me wrong. Within

the first 24-hours the donation boxes were needing to be emptied and that trend continued through the entire two-week drive.

The willingness to help out continues to be seen as the United Way campaign gets underway.

At the county fair, the United Way had a presence and through contributions of fair attendees was able to raise more than \$1,000 to support the campaign.

I know these are only two area organizations who receive help from the community, but that is just another positive and encouraging thing about Big Spring — the presence and total number of organizations trying to lend a helping hand.

Within the past few months, there have been several organizations starting up different fundraisers ... food drives, coke tab drives and numerous benefits have been set up in hopes of supporting firefighters, fire victims and other individuals in need.

The amazing part isn't just the amount of fundraisers being held, but the support received by each one. It doesn't matter how much each person is struggling or how many fundraisers pop up, the community finds a way to support the cause.

One thing is certain, Big Spring residents will do what they can when it comes down to

it.

Another positive thing I've recently been drawn to is the rich history the area provides.

Big Spring may be a small town, but that doesn't mean the history it holds fades away.

It seems there is an important piece of history located on each side of town ranging from the Hangar 25 Air Museum and its roots from Webb Air Base to the Heritage Museum, which holds history from almost every corner of Howard County.

The history extends throughout the Comanche Trail Park and let's it shine through in the historic buildings placed throughout town.

As someone who was born and raised in this small West Texas town, there is a lot I have noticed which hasn't changed, but there is also a lot that has.

The history contained here is starting to shine through with all the help of concerned and caring citizens.

Of course, there are always improvements to be made and with a little time and the dedication which seems to be instilled in the community, I have no doubt the positives will only shine through even more.

Contact Staff Writer Amanda Moreno by email at life@big-springherald.com or call the office at 263-7331 ext. 234.

News in brief

8 killed, 1 wounded in shooting at hair salon in sedate Southern California beach community

SEAL BEACH, Calif. (AP) — Every hair-dressing station was full at Salon Meritage when a gunman burst through the door and began shooting, sending terrified customers diving for cover in the upscale salon tucked just blocks from the beach in this quaint seaside town. The shooter then stepped outside, shot a man sitting in a truck in the parking lot and sped off.

By the time it was all over Wednesday, eight people were dead and another in critical condition in one of the deadliest shooting rampages in Orange County and the most violent crime in memory in Seal Beach, a town so calm the police spokesman couldn't even recall when the last homicide occurred when asked.

"There was like a 'pop pop' ... and my receptionist screamed out, 'He just shot that man' and we all went into the bathroom and called 911," said Kimberly Criswell, who owns a salon two doors away and knew many hairstylists at Salon Meritage. "I'm sure I've lost some friends today."

Police arrested 42-year-old Scott Dekraai about a half-mile from the scene but did not release a motive or any other details.

In all, one man and five women died at the salon, one man and one woman died after being transported to a nearby hospital, and one woman remained in critical condition. Their names have not been released.

Warren Buffett brings his fight to raise taxes on rich to Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — Warren Buffett is bringing his fight to raise taxes on the super-wealthy to Congress' deficit-reduction supercommittee.

In an exchange of letters between the billionaire investor and a Republican congressman that Buffett sent the committee this week, Buffett is offering to release his federal tax returns — with a condition.

"If you could get other ultra rich Americans to publish their returns along with mine, that would be very useful to the tax dialogue and intelligent reform," Buffett wrote.

The letters, obtained Wednesday by The Associated Press, were among several sent in recent days to the special bipartisan panel created this summer to find ways to reduce the mushrooming national debt by at least \$1.2 trillion over the coming decade.

The same law that produced the supercommittee gave Congress' regular committees until Friday to submit their own suggestions for erasing red ink. Some of those that have trickled in so far indicate that rather than offering dramatic new ideas for savings, many lawmakers are championing long-time favorite proposals and urging the panel to avoid cutting certain programs.

Train hits passenger train in Oakland station, 16 injured

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — An Amtrak train crashed into another train unloading passengers in an Oakland station, leaving 16 people with mainly minor injuries, authorities say.

The crash occurred about 10 p.m. Wednesday as the passenger train, traveling an estimated 15 to 20 mph, struck the stationary Amtrak train, said Oakland Fire Department battalion chief Emon Usher.

Usher said the company told him that train went through a red light.

"According to the Amtrak representative, the train traveling should have never continued past the red signal," Usher told The Associated Press.

"It's an equivalent to a red light," he said.

RealtyTrac says mortgage defaults rose in the 3rd quarter

LOS ANGELES (AP) — More U.S. homes are entering the foreclosure process, but they're taking ever longer to get sold or repossessed by lenders.

The number of U.S. homes that received a first-time default notice during the July to September quarter increased 14 percent compared to the sec-

ond quarter, RealtyTrac Inc. said Thursday.

That increase signals banks are moving more aggressively now against borrowers who have fallen behind on their mortgage payments than they have since industrywide foreclosure processing problems emerged last fall. Those problems resulted in a sharp drop in foreclosure activity this year.

The surge in default notices means homeowners who haven't kept up their mortgage payments could now end up on the foreclosure path sooner. Initial default notices are first step in the process that can eventually lead to a home being taken back by a lender.

A pickup in foreclosure activity also means a potentially faster turnaround for the U.S. housing market. Experts say a revival isn't likely to occur as long as there remains a glut of potential foreclosures hovering over the market.

Congress passes free trade agreements with South Korea, Colombia and Panama

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress approved free trade agreements Wednesday with South Korea, Colombia and Panama, ending a four-year drought in the forming of new trade partnerships and giving the White House and Capitol Hill the opportunity to show they can work together to stimulate the economy and put people back to work.

In rapid succession, the House and Senate voted on the three trade pacts, which the administration says could boost exports by \$13 billion and support tens of thousands of American jobs. None of the votes were close, despite opposition from labor groups and other critics of free trade agreements who say they result in job losses and ignore labor rights problems in the partner countries.

"We don't do much around here that's bipartisan these days," said Sen. Rob Portman, R-Ohio, who was U.S. Trade Representative during the George W. Bush administration. "This is an example of where we can come together as Republicans and Democrats realizing that with 14 million Americans out of work, we need to do things to move our economy forward."

President Barack Obama said passage of the agreements was "a major win for American workers and businesses."

U.S. missile kills Haqqani 'coordinator' in Pakistann

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP) — An American missile strike killed a ranking member of the militant Haqqani network on Thursday in northwestern Pakistan, striking a group that Washington claims is the No. 1 threat in Afghanistan and is supported by Pakistani security forces, local intelligence officials said.

The strike came as U.S. special envoy to Afghanistan and Pakistan Marc Grossman arrived in Pakistan to improve ties between Washington and Islamabad that have been severely strained by stepped-up American claims of Pakistan assistance to the Haqqanis.

Two other militants were killed in the attack close in the Haqqani stronghold of North Waziristan, the group's main sanctuary along the Afghan border, said the Pakistani officials in the region. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

They identified the Haqqani member as Jalil and said he was a "coordinator" for the group. The men were walking down a street when the drone-fired missile hit, the officials said. One said Jalil was related to Sirajuddin Haqqani, the leader of the network.

BlackBerry says services across Europe have improved

LONDON (AP) — Research in Motion says BlackBerry services across Europe, the Middle East and Africa have improved after its biggest outage in years.

The company posted a statement Thursday that says services are better. BlackBerry users around the world have faced huge problems over the past few days getting and receiving emails and messages, as well as launching Internet services.

The company says it will monitor the situation around the clock to make sure there's no repeat.

Research In Motion Ltd., the Canadian company that makes the phones, says a crucial link in its European infrastructure failed Monday, and that its backup also failed. Although the underlying issues have been repaired, the system had built up a backlog of emails and messages that needed to be wound down.

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Winners will be notified and empty containers may be picked up the day after judging of the contest.

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REMAINING FOOD PORTIONS WILL NOT BE RETURNED.

News in brief

Signatures offered against Confederate flag plate

AUSTIN (AP) — More than 22,000 people have signed petitions against a proposed Confederate flag license plate for Texas.

The Austin American-Statesman reports the petitions were offered Wednesday in Austin.

The governing board of the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles could decide on the plate in November. Board members had no comment Wednesday.

The specialty plate has been proposed by the Sons of Confederate Veterans, which is an ancestral history group. Supporters have also raised free speech issues.

Critics include Gary Bledsoe with the NAACP, who says the Confederate flag is as offensive as a swastika and creates fear and intimidation. Another official with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Yannis Banks, says the flag represents slavery and hate.

Ex-Willacy County jailer gets prison in drug case

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — A former guard at a South Texas jail has been sentenced to four years in prison for trying to smuggle what he thought was cocaine into the lockup.

Prosecutors in Brownsville say 30-year-old Christopher Gonzalez of Rio Hondo remains free on bond until a date is set for him to report to federal prison.

The ex-guard at the Willacy County Detention Center in March pleaded guilty to attempting to possess with intent to distribute what he believed was cocaine. Gonzalez was sentenced Tuesday.

Officers in the 2010 undercover investigation provided Gonzalez, who was paid \$2,000, with a vehicle containing what turned out to be simulated cocaine. He was later stopped by a Texas trooper.

Fort Bliss soldier guilty in child porn case

EL PASO (AP) — A Fort Bliss soldier faces up to 20 years in federal prison in an investigation into online child pornography.

Prosecutors in El Paso say 22-year-old Vincent Lawrence Gregory pleaded guilty Wednesday to one count of receipt of child pornography, one count of distribution of child pornography and two counts of possession of child pornography.

Federal agents in June searched a barracks and confiscated two laptop computers. Investigators say one computer had dozens of images of sexual exploitation of minors. Investigators believe Gregory, since late 2008, downloaded images and video of

child pornography.

Sentencing has been set for Jan. 4. Gregory remains in federal custody.

Police say woman called ex 1,000 times in 3 months

HOUSTON (AP) — A Houston woman has been charged with felony stalking after being accused by police of calling her ex-boyfriend more than 1,000 times and sending him more than 700 emails within a three month period.

Police say Toni Jo Silvey also used a tire iron and later a sword to shatter several of the windows of her ex-boyfriend's Houston home.

The Houston Chronicle reports she is accused of egging his house several times and posting pictures of herself bragging about it on her Facebook page.

Police say the 49-year-old woman also created an Internet persona called "woundedpoeticsoul" and started a blog detailing the end of her relationship with her ex-boyfriend.

Court records show Silvey remained jailed late Wednesday after being arrested on Tuesday.

Silvey's attorney declined comment.

Friend: Ambassador plot suspect had lots of cash

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — A longtime friend of a former Texas used car dealer charged in a plot to assassinate Saudi Arabia's ambassador in the United States said Wednesday that his friend told him in August that he was making a lot of money for not very much work.

Manssor Arbabsiar, known as "Jack" to his friends, brushed away his friend's questions about the source of his good fortune when he stayed at Tom Hosseini's apartment with another college friend in the Iranian provincial capital of Sarandaj around Aug. 18-19. Hosseini said Arbabsiar had "\$20,000 to \$30,000 cash always in his pocket."

"I said, 'What kind of business? Maybe I learn too.' He said 'No, next year, a couple years down the road, then I'm going to make you a millionaire too,'" Hosseini said.

Arbabsiar, 56, was being held without bail in New York for his role in the alleged plot to kill Saudi diplomat Adel Al-Jubeir. The U.S. Justice Department contends Arbabsiar and another man working for the Iranian government tried to hire a purported member of a Mexican drug cartel to carry out the attack with a bomb while Al-Jubeir was at a restaurant. Arbabsiar is a U.S. citizen who also holds an Iranian passport.

According to a criminal complaint filed in federal court in New York, the plot was revealed by an informant

inside the world of the Mexican drug trade.

Around Corpus Christi, where Arbabsiar had lived for more than a decade, friends expressed shock that the man they knew as a jokester who liked to make money and have a good time was somehow wrapped up in the plot.

"This guy doesn't have a brain to say no to something," Hosseini said. "Maybe somebody offered good money. ... He didn't know what was going to happen."

Police arrest 3 after finding meth lab in hotel

BEAUMONT (AP) — Beaumont police have arrested two men and a woman after alleging they were running a meth lab in a hotel.

The Beaumont Enterprise reports a Crime Stoppers tip led police Wednesday to the suspected lab at a room in a Howard Johnson Inn.

Authorities say a hotel employee told them that the strong odor of chemicals could be detected from outside the room.

After following a man who left the hotel room and got into a truck, police stopped the vehicle and arrested him along with a woman. Police found \$3,400 in the vehicle.

Another man in the hotel room was also arrested.

Charges against all three individuals are pending. Their names were not immediately released.

Teen gets prison for house burglary during funeral

FORT WORTH (AP) — A Texas teen has been sentenced to 18 years in prison for burglarizing a dead student's home while his family was at his funeral.

Gilbert Rodriguez faced a maximum 20-year penalty when he was sentenced Wednesday. He pleaded guilty in August to burglary of a habitation.

Tarrant County prosecutors say the 18-year-old targeted the Fort Worth home because he knew the family would be at the funeral. A high school baseball player, Eric Trevino, was killed in a car accident late last year.

Authorities say Trevino's trophies, some televisions and more than \$800 raised for funeral expenses were stolen.

Rodriguez must serve at least six years in prison before he's eligible for parole.

A 16-year-old arrested in the burglary case was not charged and another suspect was not indicted.

Woman gets prison time in beating death case

STEPHENVILLE (AP) — The former girlfriend of a teen who fatally

bludgeoned his mother with a baseball bat has been sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Nila Sue Nicole Sechrist pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit murder, tampering with evidence and a drug possession charge.

As part of the plea deal Tuesday in Stephenville, prosecutors dropped murder and aggravated robbery charges.

Sechrist, now 20, was 15 when her boyfriend's mother, Jana Sue Roberson, was beaten to death in 2007.

Sechrist told authorities she was there but denied participating in the beating.

Cody Roberson pleaded guilty to murder and was sentenced to 50 years in prison. The Stephenville Empire-Tribune reports he later implicated his girlfriend in the murder and agreed to testify against her. But he died in prison in April.

Mexico: Gulf Cartel's accountant found dead

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexican marines in the violent border state of Tamaulipas found the body of the alleged top accountant for the Gulf Cartel drug trafficking network, who had apparently been shot to death, the navy said Wednesday.

A statement said the marines found the body of Cesar Davila Garcia in a house Tuesday after they received a tip from a citizen. A pistol was also found near him and the marines were sending his body for investigation.

Davila had been the accountant for leading cartel figure Antonio Ezequiel Cardenas Guillen, also known as "Tony Tormenta," who was killed by federal forces last November, the navy said. Garcia was then tapped to be a local leader of the cartel and later was made the primary accountant for the organization, it said.

Tamaulipas, which borders Texas from Laredo to Brownsville, has been the scene of intense violence since the Gulf Cartel started fighting for control with its one-time allies, the Zetas drug gang.

Marines have mounted a campaign against the Gulf Cartel recently. Earlier this week the navy announced that marines had killed 11 cartel members, arrested 36 and seized 4 tons of marijuana in a series of raids.

Elsewhere in the region along the border with Texas, the Defense Department said soldiers arrested the Zetas leader for the border states of Tamaulipas, Nuevo Leon and Coahuila on Wednesday.

The man, described as a close associate of top Zetas leader Heriberto Lazcano Lazcano, was caught in the northern city of Saltillo, capital of Coahuila state, the department said. It said gunmen fired on soldiers trying to rescue him but failed.

Bilingual ballots ordered in 25 states

WASHINGTON (AP) — In the run-up to the 2012 elections, the federal government is ordering that 248 counties and other political juris-

dictions provide bilingual ballots to Hispanics and other minorities who speak little or no English.

That number is down from a decade ago following the 2000 census, which covered 296 counties in 30 states. In all, more than 1 in 18 jurisdictions must now provide foreign-language assistance in pre-election publicity, voter registration, early voting

and absentee applications as well as Election Day balloting.

The latest requirements, mandated under the Voting Rights Act, partly reflect second and third generations of racial and ethnic minorities who are now reporting higher levels of proficiency in English than their parents. Still, analysts cite a greater potential for resistance from localities that face tighter budgets, new laws requiring voter IDs at polls and increased anti-immigration sentiment.

Effective this week,

Hispanics who don't speak English proficiently will be entitled to Spanish-language election material in urban areas of political battleground states including Pennsylvania, Virginia, Wisconsin and Utah, as well as the entire states of California, Florida and Texas.

For the first time, people from India will get election material in their native language, in voting precincts in Los Angeles, Chicago and New York.

More American Indian tribal languages will be made available

in many parts of Alaska, Arizona and Mississippi, while Vietnamese and Taiwanese will get their own voting assistance in several new areas, including parts of Washington state, Texas, Massachusetts and California. Asian Bangladeshi must be provided for the first time in Hamtramck, Mich.

"We would like to be in a society where everyone has equal opportunities to vote, but that's not the reality we're living in today," said James Thomas Tucker, a former Justice Department attorney.

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Deja Cruz: Rangers win in 11th inning

DETROIT (AP) — Nelson Cruz made the throw. Mike Napoli endured the collision.

Then this Texas tag team put the game away with their bats.

Cruz made a rocket throw to Napoli at the plate to keep the score tied, then hit a crushing three-run homer in the 11th inning off Jose Valverde that helped send the Rangers over the Detroit Tigers 7-3 Wednesday night for a 3-1 lead in the AL cham-

pionship series.

Napoli put Texas ahead with an RBI single earlier in the 11th, and Cruz — whose grand slam in the 11th inning won Game 2 — once again starred for the Rangers in a game delayed at the start for more than two hours by rain.

With Detroit runners at the corners in the eighth and the score 3-all, Cruz caught Delmon Young's flyball to right field and made a strong peg to Napoli

to nail Miguel Cabrera. The Detroit slugger bowled over Napoli, but the catcher held on to the ball and Cabrera never touched the plate.

Texas tries for its second consecutive AL pennant on Thursday, sending C.J. Wilson to the mound to face Detroit ace Justin Verlander.

"It's been a great series. If you don't like baseball, you probably like it now watching these games," Napoli said. "We expected a

tough series, and we've been able to come out on top. And it's been fun."

Napoli blooped a go-ahead single in the 11th and Cruz soon added his fourth home run of the ALCS. Cruz became the first player in major league history to hit a pair of extra-inning homers in the same postseason series.

Brandon Inge hit a solo home run in the Detroit seventh that tied it. The Tigers wasted a terrific chance an inning later

following some risky Texas strategy.

With one out and nobody on, the Rangers intentionally walked Cabrera, practically daring the rest of the struggling Detroit lineup to beat them. The AL batting champion had hit a two-run double earlier in the game.

"First time, shame on you, next time, shame on me," Washington said.

Victor Martinez, who hurt his ribcage on

a home run swing in Game 3, followed with a single to right and Cabrera lumbered around to third.

Young, another Tigers starter who has been banged up lately, managed to lift the ball to medium right. Cruz caught it and made a perfect, one-hop throw to the plate that beat Cabrera by several feet.

"We throw to the

See **CRUZ**, Page 9



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring quarterback Garrett Stuteville 6) hands the ball off to Michael Vanderbilt in recent action.

Steers need win

By **ROBERT GRIFFIN**

Sports Editor

Playoff hopes are still alive in Big Spring, — and still very possible, with the district the way it is — but one thing is certain: The Steers need a win.

Theoretically, two wins get the Black and Gold into the post season, with the easiest — make that the most likely — scenarios being defeating Sweetwater and Wylie.

A loss Friday night in Sweetwater does not mathematically eliminate the Steers, but it makes their road a difficult one which relies on beating Snyder at home, along with several other factors along the way.

No, the best route starts with defeating the Mustangs, who are coming off of a 20-15 defeat at the hands of Wylie, in their own back yard.

Steers Head Coach Phillip Ritchey has said it more than once and it warrants repeating. The Steers need a complete ball game. If they can combine another one of their impressive first halves with a second half like they showed against Greenwood, the headline would read: "Steers win!"

As it stands, the Steers sit at the bottom of District 5-3A with an 0-7 record, but most sports fans know they are — for all practical purposes — tied at 0-1 with Sweetwater, only one game behind Brownwood and Wylie (both 1-0 in district) and half a game behind Snyder, who took last week off.

The bottom line is pretty simple; The Steers' season has not been washed away just yet, but clouds are forming on the horizon. A win Friday night in Sweetwater would make for a nice umbrella going into next week's home finale game against Wylie.

The Mustangs of Sweetwater have a strong defense and will look to corral Michael Vanderbilt, Michael Olivia and Lukas Falcon. But if the offensive line can buy Garrett Stuteville a little time in the backfield, passes to Toby Rodgers and Gunnar Kennedy just might be enough to loosen up the defensive front of Sweetwater enough to allow a good running game.

That would be the key for a win for Big Spring. Without it, the Steers might be in for another long night.

Forsan vs. Coahoma

Turn 'em loose and let 'em run

By **ROBERT GRIFFIN**

Sports Editor

Coahoma beats Forsan 56-0. The only thing needed to see these numbers on the scoreboard this week is to get the Delorean up to 88 mph and go back in time a year. Things should be a lot different when the Bulldogs travel to face the Buffaloes Friday night.

The 5-1 (2-0 in district) Forsan Buffaloes are riding a four-game win streak into this week's district match-up, while the Bulldogs, 4-3 (3-0), are riding a three-game streak of their own.

Overall, the two teams match up a lot closer than they did last season, both averaging around 30 points per game.

Both rosters are loaded with small, quick players with explosive tendencies.

Coahoma will be relying on junior quarterback Tanner Ruiz in

Friday's game at Forsan, along with Cage Miller, Justin Coker and Aaron Acevedo. The four Bulldogs are having an outstanding season.

Waiting to counter these four horses are the Forsan Triplets in the form of Ty Johnson, Brendan Roman and Foster Burchett.

The staggering stats for these seven athletes are remarkable, as are their teams' collective records, streaks and overall attitude toward the game.

But all stats take a back seat to one undeniable fact: It's Coahoma at Forsan. Throw the records out the window for this one. This should prove to be a fast-paced, living-up-to-the-hype classic. Give the cheerleaders plenty of Gatorade and put some marathon runners on the chains.

Prediction: 42-38

Flip a coin to see who ends upon top.

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.

Forsan Booster Spook-tacular 4-man scramble

The Forsan Buffaloes Booster Club presents a Spook-tacular buffs and goblins 4-man scramble golf tournament at Big Spring Country Club Oct. 15.

The tournament will begin with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. and will feature prizes for longest drive, closest to the pin, the winning team and the best costume.

To reserve your spot in the tournament, call the country club at 267-5354.

For further information, call Wendy Roman

at 213-1071 or Angie Williams at 270-0606.

6-6-6 golf tournament country club Oct. 22-23

Big Spring Country Club is hosting a six-hole scramble golf tournament, featuring six low ball holes and six modified, alternate shot holes Oct. 22-23.

Entry fee is \$60, plus cart fee, with private carts being allowed.

The tournament will kick off to a 1 p.m. shotgun start on both days, with barbecue being served on the course Saturday. The field will be flighted according to first round scores, with the number of flights being determined by the number of entrants.

For more information, call the pro shop at 432-267-5354.

Western Sportsman Club free site in day

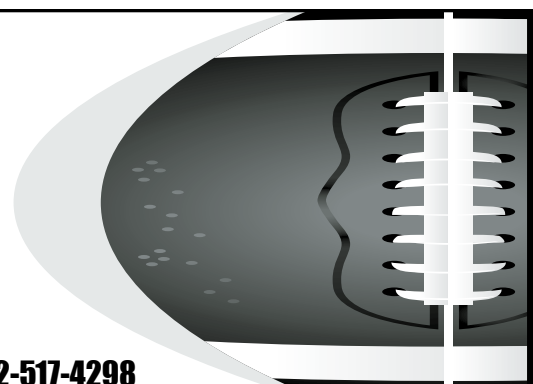
Western Sportsman Club will be hosting their free site-in day Saturday, Oct. 15. Call Elaine Dehlinger at 267-1816 for more information.

EL MESQUITE FOOTBALL GAME NIGHT SPECIALS

Hamburger Deal
Burger & Fries
\$2.95/tax

OPEN:
5-11 pm on
Game Night

Hot Dog Deal
2 Hot Dogs
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Pigskin Picks Football Contest

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Blum's Jewelers

1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Stanton
4. Colorado City
5. Cowboys
6. Vikings
7. Oklahoma State
8. 49ers
9. Redskins
10. TX Tech



Bargain Mart Discount Store

1. Sweetwater
2. Coahoma
3. Stanton
4. Colorado City
5. Patriots
6. Bears
7. Oklahoma State
8. Lions
9. Redskins
10. TX Tech



Papa Chon's

1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Stanton
4. Colorado City
5. Cowboys
6. Vikings
7. TX Longhorns
8. Lions
9. Redskins
10. TX Tech



Walmart

1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Stanton
4. Colorado City
5. Patriots
6. Bears
7. TX Longhorns
8. Lions
9. Redskins
10. TX Tech



87 AUTO SALES

1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Stanton
4. Colorado City
5. Patriots
6. Vikings
7. TX Longhorns
8. Lions
9. Redskins
10. TX Tech



Hog Heaven

1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Stanton
4. Colorado City
5. Cowboys
6. Vikings
7. Oklahoma State
8. Lions
9. Eagles
10. Kansas State



Sonic Drive In

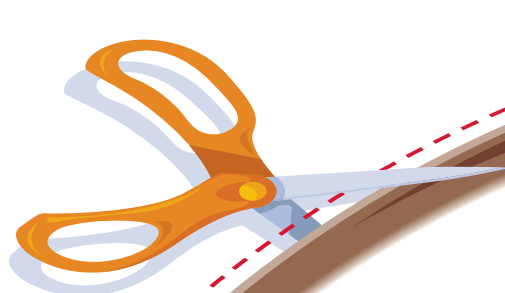
1. Big Spring
2. Forsan
3. Hawley
4. Colorado City
5. Cowboys
6. Vikings
7. Oklahoma State
8. Lions
9. Redskins
10. Kansas State

Enter To Win \$50 At These Participating Merchants

Rules: Find this week's games in the merchants' ads on this page. Choose the teams you think will win. Clip and fill in the official entry blank on this page with your team choices. The entry with the most correct picks will win \$50 and a \$20 Gift Certificate to Hog Heaven. You must be 18 to enter. **No Photo Copies Accepted.** In the event of a tie, the tie breaker will determine the winner. For the tie breaker, Guess the winner and the combined scores for the total points. Decisions of the judges are final. Employees of The *Big Spring Herald* are ineligible. All entries must be received at one of the participating merchants by 1 p.m. Friday of the week played. Winners will be announced in the *Big Spring Herald* the Wednesday following the games.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING ENTRY FORM TO THE BIG SPRING HERALD'S OFFICE.

Enter To Win \$50 & A \$20 Gift Certificate to Hog Heaven BBQ!



Pigskin Picks Entry Form

Team

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Tie Breaker - Circle the winner and note total points scored

Raiders vs. Browns

Total Points _____

1972 87 AUTO SALES 2011

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2. Coahoma vs. Forsan
3. Stanton vs. Hawley

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5. Cowboys vs. Patriots
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7. TX Longhorns vs. Oklahoma State
8. 49ers vs. Lions
9. Eagles vs. Redskins
10. TX Tech vs. Kansas State

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Friday night's
area games

Sands vs. O'Donnell
7:30 p.m. Friday at O'Donnell

Coming off of a 50-33 rebound win against Klondike last week, the 6-1 Sands Mustangs will be back on the road, as they travel to O'Donnell to take on the 4-3 Eagles. O'Donnell is coming off of a 72-36 trouncing of Grady.

Grady Wildcats — Bye week

Garden City Bearkats –
Bye Week

Stanton vs. Hawley
7:30 p.m. Friday at Hawley

The 2-4 Stanton Buffaloes took advantage of a bye week to recuperate from the 45-7 loss at Idalou Sept. 30. This week, they will travel to Hawley and face the 5-2 Bearcats. The Bearcats themselves felt the wrath of Idalou last week, falling 52-0.

Stanton and Hawley both have two district losses.

Cards take 2-1 lead in NLCS

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Chris Carpenter matched a franchise record set by Bob Gibson with a most un-Gibson-like outing.

Far from his best, the Cardinals ace lasted just five innings in a 4-3 victory over the Milwaukee Brewers on Wednesday night that gave St. Louis a 2-1 edge in the NL championship series.

The bullpen that got no work in Carpenter's division-series clinching win over Roy Halladay and the Philadelphia Phillies came up aces with four relievers retiring the last 12 Milwaukee batters in order.

"My stuff was OK but these guys worked me hard," Carpenter said after winning his seventh postseason game to match Gibson's team mark. "All night long it was a battle. Our bullpen did a phenomenal job to finish it out and we win, and that's what's important."

Albert Pujols had one of three RBI doubles during a four-run first inning against Yovani Gallardo for the wild-card Cardinals, who suddenly are front-runners — and against the team that put them away early en route to the NL Central title.

All thanks to unsung Fernando Salas, Lance Lynn, Marc Rzepczynski and Jason Motte, who struck out three of the four batters he faced for the save.

"They've been great, we wouldn't be here without them," Lance Berkman said. "Over the course of the regular season they got a lot of blame when things went wrong."

"Now, they need to get a lot of credit."

The Brewers set a franchise record with 96 victories and

took the Central lead for good on July 27. Now, they've got to come from behind.

Yuniesky Betancourt's infield single with one out in the fourth was the last of the Brewers' six hits. The rest of the way they had only two baserunners.

"I still feel good with our club," manager Ron Roenicke said. "This is a good club we're playing and, you know, when you make mistakes like we did the first inning, they were going to get their hits."

The Brewers have lost eight in a row on the road in the postseason, a stretch that extends to Game 1 of the 1982 World Series in St. Louis on a shutout by Mike Caldwell. It's the longest current streak in the majors.

The matchup of star pitchers fizzled, with both starters done after five innings. Gallardo tied an NLCS record with three wild pitches, while Carpenter surrendered all but one run of a four-run cushion.

The game was played in a steady drizzle with no squirrel sightings — at least not on the field. In the previous play-off game at Busch Stadium, a squirrel scampered across home plate while the Cardinals were batting against the Phillies' Roy Oswalt.

The careening critter quickly became a favorite in St. Louis as the Rally Squirrel. The Cardinals' marketing department capitalized, too, giving away 40,000 rally towels with a squirrel theme, telling fans to "Go Nuts" on the

video board and dressing up someone in a squirrel costume to entertain the fans between innings.

Kyle Lohse, pitching on 12 days' rest, starts Game 4 Thursday for Cardinals against Randy Wolf.

"Hope we don't lose two in a row just to put our backs up against the wall," manager Tony La Russa said. "We're really not going to stop and think about it, because there's so much yet to do."

Motte had two saves lasting more than an inning in September and another in Game 2 of the division series against the Phillies. Salas worked the sixth, Lynn also got four outs and Rzepczynski struck out Fielder in the eighth.

"You know, when that phone rings we get ourselves ready," Motte said.

The starters' ineffectiveness was surprising considering their track records. Carpenter has been clutch throughout his career in the postseason, going 7-2 with a 3.14 ERA in 12 games. Gallardo allowed only two runs in 21 innings, a minuscule 0.86 ERA, before Game 3.

The Cardinals scored in the first inning for the fifth straight game, and batted around

See CARDS, Page 14

CRUZ

Continued from Page 7

bases every day," Cruz said. "We take flyballs every day, make sure we know the ballpark, we know any situation we can be involved in during the game. When you prepare, everything comes more easy."

Austin Jackson was hit by a pitch with one out in the 10th, but Napoli threw him out trying to steal second, and reliever Scott Feldman made it through the inning without further trouble. The out on the bases may have cost Cabrera a chance to bat with a runner on. He was on deck when the inning ended.

"I'm glad I can do it on the defensive side," said Napoli, who was traded from the Los Angeles Angels to Toronto and then to Texas in the offseason. "I kind of got labeled as not too good behind the plate, and I'm glad I can show it and be myself behind the plate and just help us win."

Feldman got the win and Texas closer Neftali Feliz worked the 11th.

Cruz tried to contribute with his legs, too. He was on first base with two outs in the ninth and tried to steal second while Tigers reliever Joaquin Benoit was holding the ball. The pitcher stepped and threw to second to retire Cruz.

Valverde had already pitched a perfect 10th, but he couldn't hold off Texas for another inning. Cruz was mobbed by teammates at the Texas dugout after his homer, and Detroit fans began heading for the exits. Some of those that remained began applauding Valverde, who hasn't blown a save all year but was unable to keep this game going for

another inning.

"We were down two games to one. You have to give it your best shot," Detroit manager Jim Leyland said. "He and Benoit are both running on fumes and heart right now, to be honest with you."

The teams waited through a rain delay of 2 hours, 13 minutes before the first pitch. The game was supposed to begin at 4:19 p.m. EDT, but the rain didn't let up until around 5:30.

Fans then began filling the seats closest to the field and, about 20 minutes later, the grounds crew came out to remove the tarp.

A misty rain began falling again around the end of the second inning, and umbrellas started popping up all over the ballpark. Water would kick up as the ball hopped along the grass, but the rain wasn't a factor in the late innings.

Cabrera hit his two-run double in the third, but Texas scored three times in the sixth.

Inge tied it with a stunning homer off Alexi Ogando in the seventh. The Detroit third baseman hit .170 against right-handers during the regular season with no homers in 171 at-bats, but he lifted a high drive to left field that seemed to stay in the air forever before clearing the fence to make it 3-all.

Rangers relievers allowed only one run in 15 innings through the first three games of the ALCS — and they allowed only one in Game 4.

Detroit's Rick Porcello allowed three runs — two earned — and eight hits in 6 2-3 innings. He struck out six with no walks.

Matt Harrison allowed two runs and three hits in five innings for Texas.

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Sign Up Night**



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Arrive Between: 6:00—8:00 PM

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610 Scurry Street
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Join us for an evening of
information about the variety of
programs that the Boy Scouts of
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Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Aviation
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Garage Sales

5 FAMILY Garage Sale: Friday
and Saturday 8:30am-1:30pm.
508 Todd Rd. (3rd house on
right). Jewelry, sterling silver,
fashion, turquoise, 40 pair
shoes (size 9, 9-1/2 and 10),
A&B-Bruno Magli & 9 West,
clothes size 8 and up, house-
hold items, salt-n-pepper col-
lections, fabric & patterns, 2
antique sewing machines.

BACKYARD SALE: 1726
Purdue, Saturday 9-? (2) 19'
Analog TV's, entertainment
center, end table, lamps, coffee
pot, microwave, drawer
cabinet, rotisserie, Coke-Cola
cards, and lots of misc.

CARPORT SALE: 1307
Barnes, Friday & Saturday
7:30-12:00. Dishes, tools,
windows, furniture, clothes,
books.

CARPORT SALE: Thursday,
Friday & Saturday 8am-5pm.
6716 East Robinson Road
(Sand Springs). Fishing gear,
trolling motor, electric guitar,
wheelchair, golf clubs, hats,
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reo, magazines, books and
movies galore and more.

GARAGE SALE: To Benefit
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.
1702 Harvard Ave., Friday &
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Birds. New Avon Products, lug-
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clothing and much more.

GARAGE SALE: 202 East
Robinson Road, Saturday 7-?
Baby items, misc. household,
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Everything must go.

GARAGE SALE: 3302 Cornell,
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GARAGE SALE: Saturday 8-?
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be in general good health and
vision must be correctable to
20/30 (SNELLEN) in one eye.
The ability to distinguish basic
colors is required. Emotional
and mental stability is required.

Other Requirements: Must be
able to pass State and Federal
Backgrounds and Credit
Checks.

Experience Requirements:
One year (2040) hours of expe-
rience in the armed forces or
coast guard which involved
significant performance of
guard duty of detainees or
prisoners; or the equivalent
experience in a federal, state,
or local government, or private
organization which involved
protecting/police duties, or col-
lege level training in courses
such as corrections or police
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Apply at Workforce Center (in
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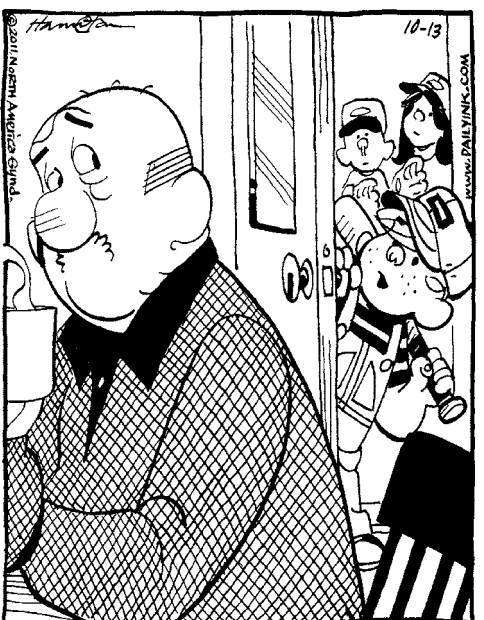
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5:PM	News ABC	Alma Notic.		News	Noticias	News	Fam. Guy	Israel	News	'Til Death King	Two Weeks in Hell	Others, Al-akina Mann	Jail Jail	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Shake It Good	NASCAR Racing	SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy! Wheel	Cuando Me	Two Men Two Men	News Ent	Caso Cer-rado	News	Fam. Guy	Bill Cloud	Business	Seinfeld Seinfeld	American Chopper		Jail Jail	Bones		ANT Farm Phineas	NASCAR Racing	Audibles
7:PM	Charlie's Angels	Familia-Suerte	The X Factor	Big Bang Gentle	Mi Corazón Insiste	Commun Parks	MLB	Upd Sala	Growing Hope	The Vampire Diaries	Sons of Guns	Movie: Christine, Alexandra Paul	King King	Bones	Re.- Lines	Random		Coll. Football Live
8:PM	Grey's Anatomy	Fuerza-Destino		Person of Interest	Flor Salvaje (SS)	Office	Whitney	League Championship Series, Game 4: Teams TBA.	Thank Daytrip	The Secret Circle	American Chopper		IMPACT Wrestling	Bones	Re.- Lines Game Together	Movie: Aladdin	NASCAR	College Football. USC at California.
9:PM	(:02) Private Practice	Protagonistas (SS)	Simpsons How I Met	The Mentalist	La Casa de al Lado	Prime Suspect			Independent Lens	Cops	Auction	Movie: Carrie, William Katt		Bones	Movie: The Longshots, Tasha Smith	Fish Phineas	NFL Live	
10:PM	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	How I Met Raymond	News Letterman	Noticias Titulares	News Jay Leno	MLB	Cortes	Charlie Rose	King South Pk	American Chopper		MAN	CSI: NY		SportsCtr		
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Para Volver a Amar	Law Order: CI	Late	Sin Senos Decisiones (SS)	Late Night	Conan	Scrivner Sala	World T. Smiley (Off Air)	Roseanne	Auction	(:15) Movie: Silver Bullet, Megan Follows	MAN	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Wizards	NFL Live	SportsCenter
12:AM	Extra Paid	Destilando Amor	Raymond Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	News	Office	Office Moving for Christ		Roseanne ACTIVE	Sons of Guns		MAN	CSI: NY	Movie: Sunset Park, Carol Kane	Wizards Good	Baseball SportsNation	SportsCenter
1:AM	Paid Paid	La Jaula Par Ases	American TMZ	Paid	Pagado	In Wine	Conan	Light of the Southwest		Influence God	American Chopper	(:15) Movie: Carrie, William Katt	MAN Entourage	Southland		Random ANT Farm	E:60 NASCAR	SportsCenter

DENNIS THE MENACE



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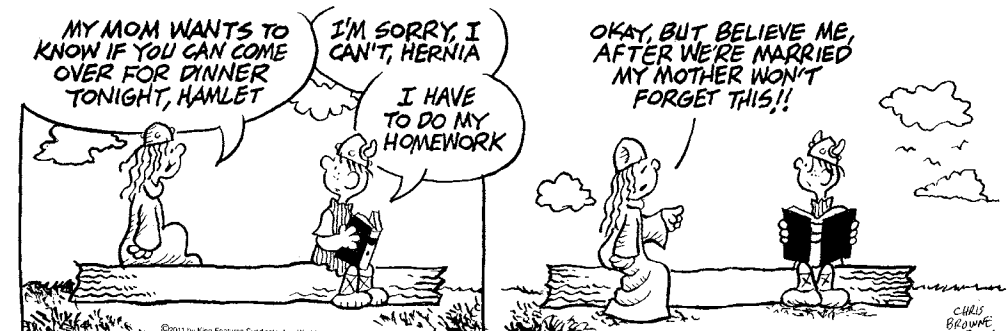
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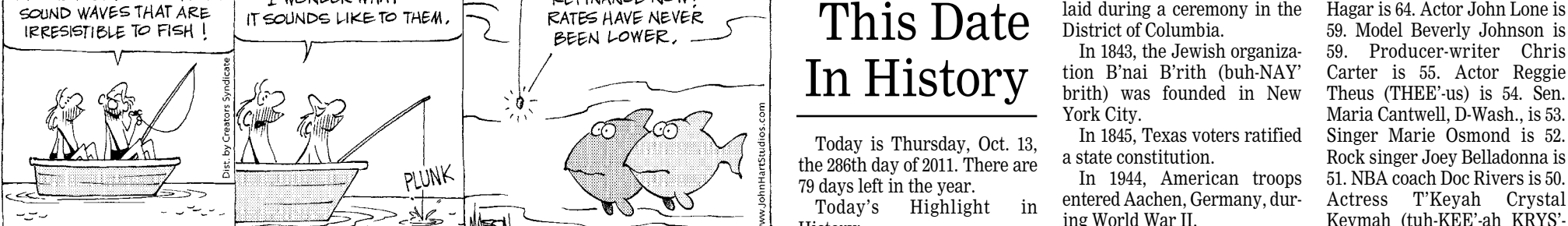
"I think I fell asleep when the Mama Bear says, 'Who's been sitting in my chair?' What happens next?"

HAGAR



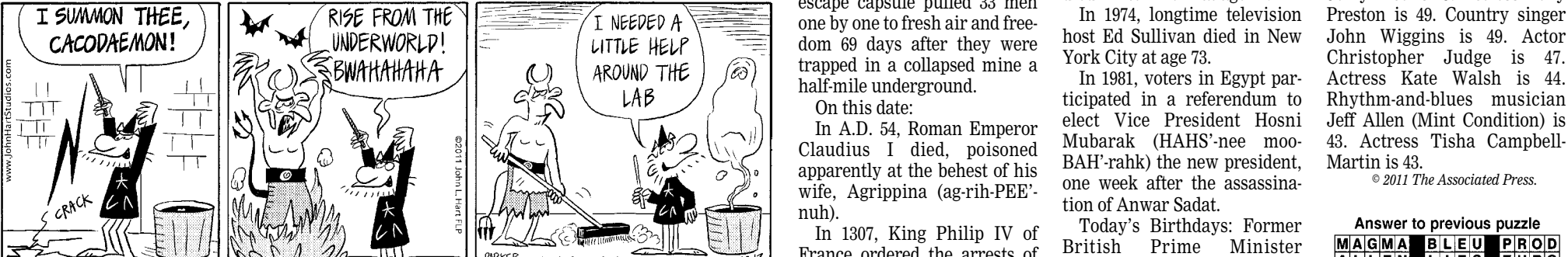
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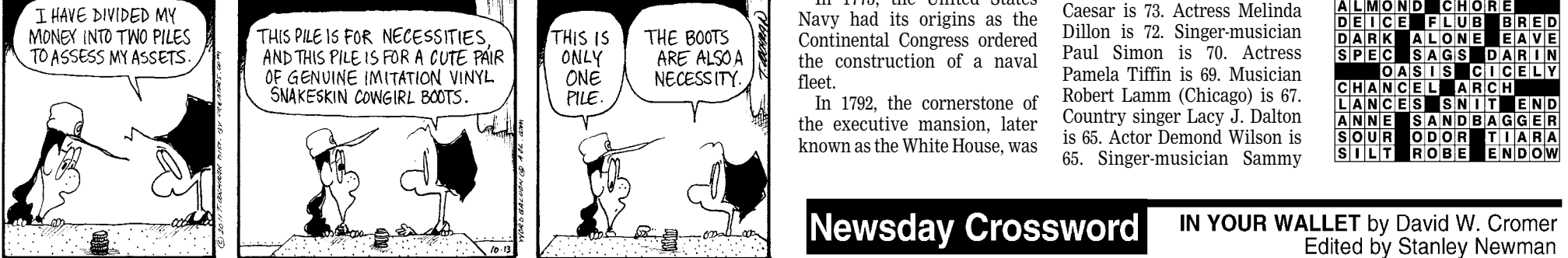
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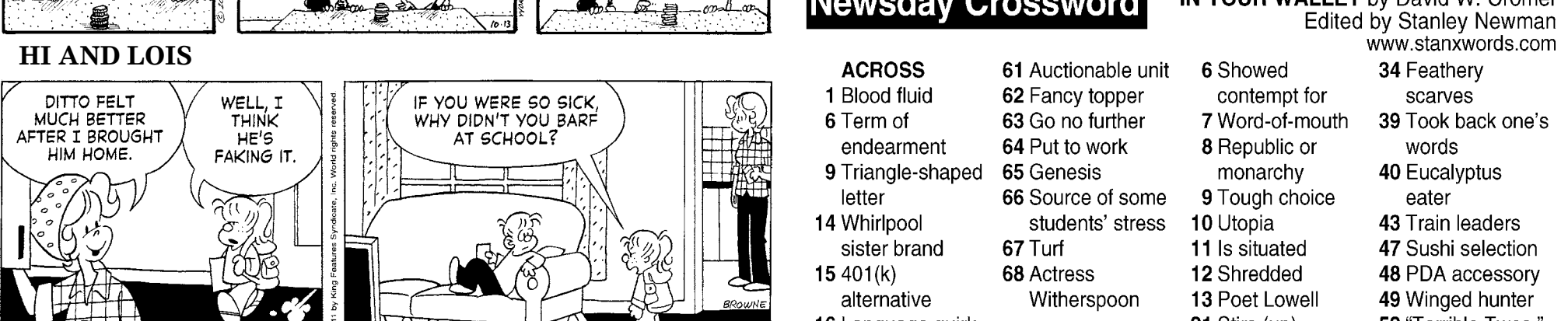
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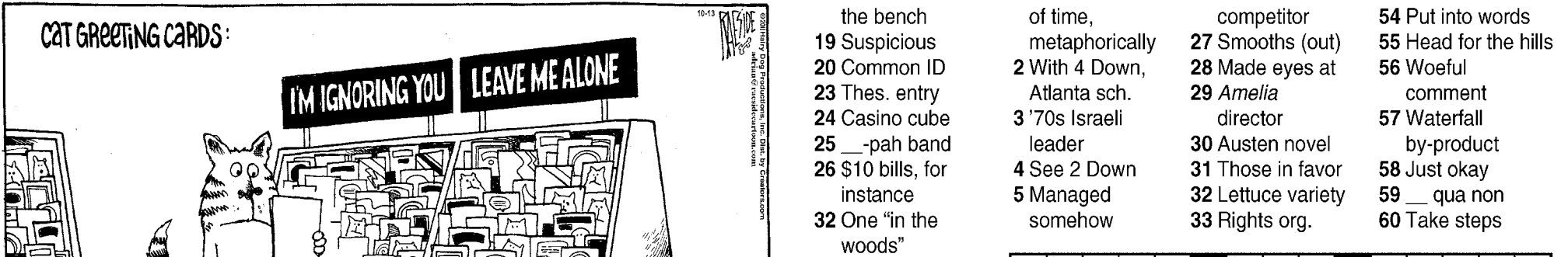
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HI AND LOIS



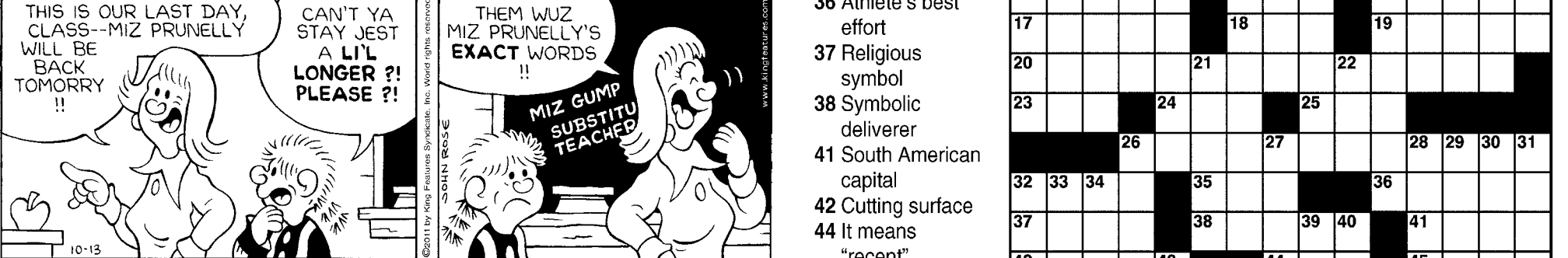
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THE OTHER COAST



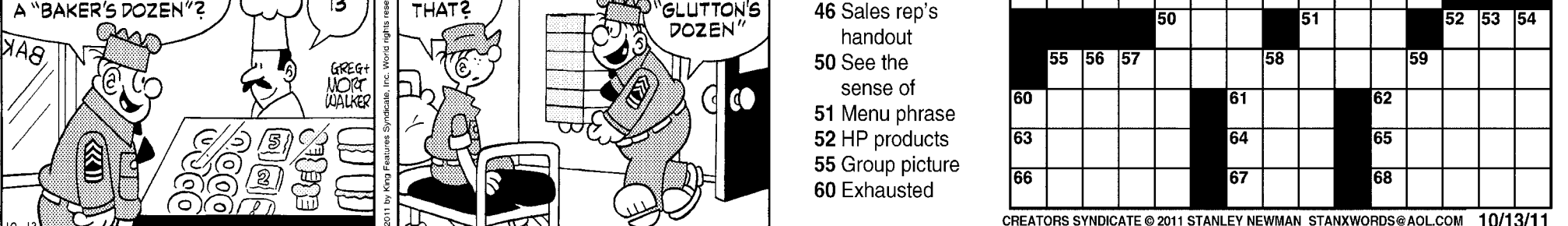
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SNUFFY SMITH



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BEETLE BAILEY



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This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Oct. 13, the 286th day of 2011. There are 79 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 13, 2010, rescuers in Chile using a missile-like escape capsule pulled 33 men one by one to fresh air and freedom 69 days after they were trapped in a collapsed mine a half-mile underground.

On this date:

In A.D. 54, Roman Emperor Claudius I died, poisoned apparently at the behest of his wife, Agrippina (ag-rih-PEE'-nuh).

In 1307, King Philip IV of France ordered the arrests of Knights Templar on charges of heresy.

In 1775, the United States Navy had its origins as the Continental Congress ordered the construction of a naval fleet.

In 1792, the cornerstone of the executive mansion, later known as the White House, was laid during a ceremony in the District of Columbia.

In 1843, the Jewish organization B'nai B'rith (buh-NAY' brith) was founded in New York City.

In 1845, Texas voters ratified a state constitution.

In 1944, American troops entered Aachen, Germany, during World War II.

In 1961, influential avant-garde filmmaker Maya Deren died in New York at age 44.

In 1974, longtime television host Ed Sullivan died in New York City at age 73.

In 1981, voters in Egypt participated in a referendum to elect Vice President Hosni Mubarak (HAHS'-nee moo-BAH'-rahk) the new president, one week after the assassination of Anwar Sadat.

Today's Birthdays: Former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is 86. Playwright Frank D. Gilroy is 86. Gospel singer Shirley Caesar is 73. Actress Melinda Dillon is 72. Singer-musician Paul Simon is 70. Actress Pamela Tiffin is 69. Musician Robert Lamm (Chicago) is 67. Country singer Lacy J. Dalton is 65. Actor Demond Wilson is 65. Singer-musician Sammy Hagar is 64. Actor John Lone is 59. Model Beverly Johnson is 59. Producer-writer Chris Carter is 55. Actor Reggie Theus (THEE'-us) is 54. Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., is 53. Singer Marie Osmond is 52. Rock singer Joey Belladonna is 51. NBA coach Doc Rivers is 50. Actress T'Keyah Crystal Keymah (tuh-KEE'-ah KRYIS'-tal kee-MAH') is 49. College and Pro Football Hall of Famer Jerry Rice is 49. Actress Kelly Preston is 49. Country singer John Wiggins is 49. Actor Christopher Judge is 47. Actress Kate Walsh is 44. Rhythm-and-blues musician Jeff Allen (Mint Condition) is 43. Actress Tisha Campbell-Martin is 43.

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Newsday Crossword

IN YOUR WALLET by David W. Cromer
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

61 Auctionable unit

62 Fancy topper

63 Go no further

64 Put to work

65 Genesis

66 Source of some students' stress

67 Turf

68 Actress Witherspoon

DOWN

1 Moments of time, metaphorically

2 With 4 Down, Atlanta sch.

3 '70s Israeli leader

4 See 2 Down

5 Managed somehow

6 Showed contempt for

7 Word-of-mouth

8 Republic or monarchy

9 Tough choice

10 Utopia

11 Is situated

12 Shredded

13 Poet Lowell

21 Stirs (up)

22 Minor part

26 Prada competitor

27 Smooths (out)

28 Made eyes at

29 Amelia director

30 Austen novel

31 Those in favor

32 Lettuce variety

33 Rights org.

34 Feathery scarves

39 Took back one's words

40 Eucalyptus eater

43 Train leaders

47 Sushi selection

48 PDA accessory

49 Winged hunter

52 "Terrible Twos," for one

53 Central sections

54 Put into words

55 Head for the hills

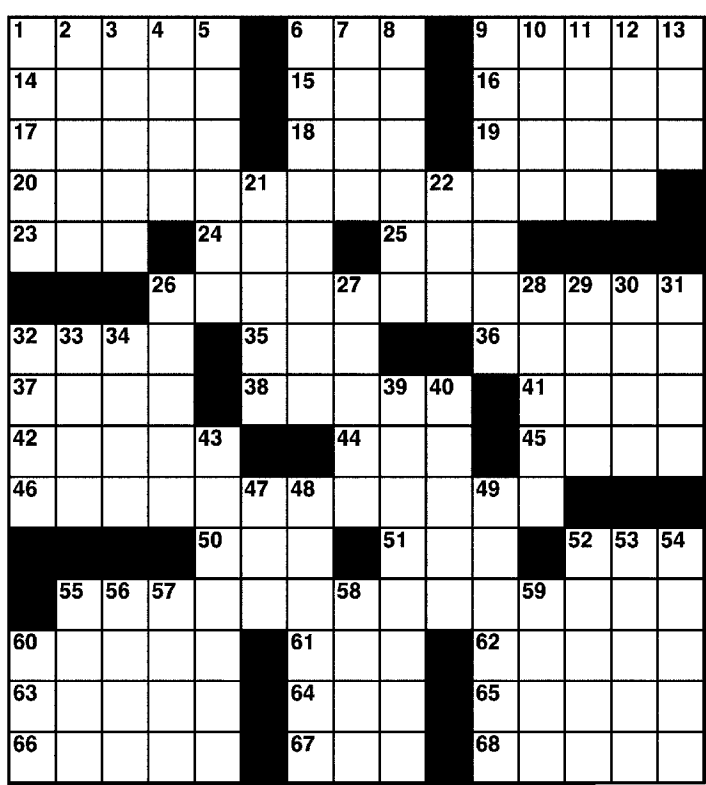
56 Woeful comment

57 Waterfall by-product

58 Just okay

59 __ qua non

60 Take steps



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Salary cap biggest issue

Could spell doom for NBA season

NEW YORK (AP) — NBA owners apparently weren't bluffing when they said they wanted competitive balance just as much as a chance to profit.

Though Commissioner David Stern and Deputy Commissioner Adam Silver have insisted throughout the lock-out they needed the potential for both in a new collective bargaining agreement, there was often a belief — even from players — that money mattered most.

Yet it was the salary cap system, not the division of revenues, that emerged as the biggest obstacle to a new labor deal in time to save the start of the regular season.

"The numbers are close enough that that wasn't going to doom the season. The hard salary cap is what's going to doom the season right now," players' attorney Jeffrey Kessler said Monday. "That's the sticking point, because the numbers are close enough that if there was a fair system, the parties would find a way to get there."

That's not what union

president Derek Fisher had predicted less than a month earlier.

Talks had broken down after a meeting in September in which players were prepared to make a new economic proposal, but the league said players conditioned it on owners conceding on the salary cap.

It was clear the union believed management was prioritizing the financial picture when Fisher said afterward that "if we can address these economics, we're not going to lose the season over the system. So that's something that's been clear from the beginning and will remain from our perspective."

The split was never settled, but both sides say they see where compromise could be reached. Players had proposed lowering their guarantee of basketball revenues from 57 percent down to 53, which they said would transfer more than \$1 billion to owners over six years. But in doing so, they expected something in return.

"I think where our paths separate is that they believe to the ex-

tent they're willing to make economic concessions that we should be willing to leave the current system largely intact, and our view is that the current system is broken in that 30 teams are not in a position to compete for championships," Silver said Monday after the league canceled the first two weeks of the regular season.

Next week, the sides will use the same federal mediator who tried to resolve the NFL's labor dispute months before it eventually ended.

George Cohen, director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, announced Wednesday that he will oversee negotiations starting next Tuesday in New York.

Cohen was also a mediator for the NFL lock-out this year and a lawyer for the Major League Baseball players union during the 1994 strike.

Cohen said he already has been in contact with representatives of both sides "for a number of months."

"I have participated in separate, informal, off-the-record discussions with the principals representing the NBA and the NBPA concerning the status of their collective bargaining negotiations," Cohen said in a statement issued by the Washington-based FMCS.

"It is evident that the ongoing dispute will result in a serious impact, not only upon the parties directly involved, but also, of major concern, on interstate commerce — i.e., the employers and working men and women who provide services related to the basketball games, and, more generally, on the economy of every city in which those games are scheduled to be played."

The league's view is that teams willing to keep spending above the luxury tax level have an advantage over teams with payroll constraints. And indeed, teams such as the Lakers and Mavericks, who won the last three NBA titles, are annually among the top spenders.

So owners want a system under which teams with means can't keep blowing off the cap. Their initial proposal was for a hard salary cap like the NFL has, removing the exceptions that NBA teams possess to spend above the cap.

Players rejected that and the league has since focused on strengthening the luxury tax to deter spenders. But players believe it would

CARDS

Continued from page 9

against Gallardo. Pujols delivered an RBI double after starring in a Game 2 win with a home run and three doubles, and then singled in the second to give him six hits in seven at-bats.

St. Louis had its chances to break away later, but hit into three double plays and stranded nine runners. The Cardinals broke their own National League record for double plays this season.

Mark Kotsay started ahead of slumping Nyjer Morgan and homered for the Brewers. Betancourt had two singles and an RBI and Gallardo, a .221 hitter with a homer and four RBIs, had a sacrifice fly in the second.

Jon Jay and David Freese added RBI doubles in the first for St.

Louis, which was 3 for 4 with runners in scoring position to start the game but 0 for 7 the rest of the way.

Gallardo, who's 1-7 with a 5.66 career mark against the Cardinals, trailed 2-0 after his first 12 pitches and barely made it out of the first trailing 4-0. The right-hander walked three, one of them intentional, and the Brewers had Chris Narveson up in the bullpen before Yadier Molina grounded into a double play, scoring the fourth run, for his first outs.

Gallardo trudged to the dugout after his 33-pitch ordeal, hoping for another chance in the series.

"Yeah, I mean, of course," Gallardo said. "I look forward to it. I can't wait and hopefully we'll get another shot at it."

become so restrictive, saying in some cases the current \$1 for every \$1 over the threshold penalty would become \$6 or higher, that it would act as a hard cap. And the sides are also clashing over the Bird exception, which allows teams to exceed the cap to re-sign their own free agents.

"And we just said 'Wait a minute, you're creating a hard system. You're creating a hard-cap system and we've said to you that's the one thing we don't want,'" union executive director Billy Hunter said.

Players fear that a hard cap would eliminate guaranteed contracts for all but the top players. And they disagree that making teams spend equally would determine how well they compete.

"As athletes we don't believe that competitive balance is completely decided by an economic system or how much

payroll exists on one team or another," Fisher said. "We believe that there are tons of other variables that impact success on the court, so we cannot just address competitive balance through the control or reduction or lower percentage of player salary or a hard tax system that essentially prevents most if not all teams into going into the tax. Those things don't create basketball wins by themselves."

The system emerged as such a difficult issue that the sides spent all of their last two meetings discussing it, never getting back to the split before Stern's deadline for canceling games. Soon after came word the unexpected reason for their failure.

The sides have discussed a 50-50 revenue split, so perhaps settlement on the finances is there. But that won't be good enough.

Washington, NFL to discuss player drug testing

WASHINGTON (AP) — The NFL and players union will meet Friday with leaders of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee to discuss testing for human growth hormone.

The two sides agreed to begin blood testing for HGH as part of their

new collective bargaining agreement, but only if the union agreed to the methods. The union is asking for more scientific data to prove the testing is reliable.

A committee spokesman says the chairman, California GOP Rep. Darrell Issa, and the top Democrat, Rep. Elijah Cummings of Maryland, will meet with NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, Baltimore Ravens cornerback Domonique Foxworth, his team's player representative, and Travis Tygart, who heads the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency.

The lawmakers have said they want to protect the health of young athletes.

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Careful Play Foils the Defense

North dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ A 7 4
♥ K Q 8 7
♦ K 6 3
♣ A 5 2

WEST

♠ 10 6 2
♥ A 10 9 4
♦ 5 2
♣ 10 9 8 6

EAST

♠ Q J 9 5
♥ J 6 3 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ J 3

SOUTH

♠ K 8 3
♥ 5
♦ A Q J 10 9
♣ K Q 7 4

The bidding:

North

East

South

West

1 NT

Pass

3 ♦

Pass

4 ♦

Pass

4 NT

Pass

5 ♥

Pass

6 ♦

Opening lead — ten of clubs.

Let's say you're in six diamonds and West leads the ten of clubs. How would you proceed? If you fail to treat the hand with the respect it deserves, you'll finish down one — assuming best defense.

For example, if you win the club, draw trumps and lead a heart toward

dummy, West follows low, and sooner or later you lose a spade and a club.

The best approach, after winning the club lead with the king, is to play a heart immediately. If West takes the ace, you have 12 tricks, so let's assume he lets you win with dummy's queen.

Now you cash the Q-J of trumps, leaving one trump at large, then play the ace and another club toward your queen, hoping to find the suit divided 3-3. East produces the jack on the ace, then goes into a brown study trying to decide whether or not to ruff the five.

Actually, it doesn't matter what he does. Let's suppose he trumps the club. In that case, you follow low from your hand, retaining the queen of clubs. With all the adverse trumps now out of circulation, you can later discard a spade from dummy on the club queen and make the slam by ruffing a spade in dummy.

If East does not ruff the third round of clubs, you are on equally firm ground. After winning with the queen, you ruff the seven of clubs with the king of trumps to produce your 12th trick.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.

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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.

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

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sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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