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TUESDAY
OCTOBER 18, 2011



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Positive focus lists due

What's great about Howard County?

By **AMANDA MORENO**
 Staff Writer

Howard County residents are asked to focus on the positive, but that's not all. The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce not only wants residents to find positive things around the county, but to put them down on paper and submit them. "There are positive things about Howard County and all those positive things are for the betterment of the communities," Debbye ValVerde, executive director of the chamber, said. The main idea behind the campaign is to get people thinking about the positive things instead of solely focusing on the negatives. If people can come back with positive things when someone approaches them with negative comments, it will help get rid of the negative talk, according to chamber president Terri Johansen. "We have so much positive and it can be contagious,

See **POSITIVE**, Page 3



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan
James Fryar of the Mustang Draw Woodcarvers Club displays two of his creations. The club is holding carving classes all this week in the run-up to its annual show and sale, scheduled for Friday and Saturday at Dora Roberts Community Center. For more information on the classes, contact Fryar at 399-4510 or 270-2510.

Tax bill coming your way

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

Officials with the Howard County Tax Collector's Office say 2011 property tax bills have been mailed out and area residents can expect to receive them in the next few days — if they haven't already. County Tax Collector Kathy Sayles said her office is currently contracting with a company that stuffs the envelopes and mails out the statements for the Tax Collector's Office. "This is something quite different for us," Sayles said. "However, with the number of statements that needed to go out, it just wasn't feasible to have the staff here at the office handle it. That's why the decision was made to bring in a company that specializes in this sort of thing. "The statements began arriving in mailboxes early this week, with mailing likely continuing through Monday. Area property owners should expect to begin receiving their tax statements this week. If, however, they haven't received a statement and they believe they should have, they are welcome

See **TAXES**, Page 3

Parents: Put safety first when dressing your young spooks

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

With just weeks until Halloween, many area parents may find themselves on the prowl for costumes for their pint-sized goblins and ghouls, a decision local officials say buyers should look at closely when it comes to safety. According to Big Spring Fire Marshal Carl Condray, the desire to wow friends and family with a great costume should

Churches, schools, civic groups, others — send your plans for Halloween to editor@bigspringherald.com

always take a back seat to how safe the attire is. "You want it to be a fantastic costume, but you shouldn't forget about

safety," said Condray. "One of the most overlooked issues, especially with homemade costumes, is whether or not the costume is flammable. You need to make sure that the costume will not catch fire if the material comes in contact with a flame, even for a very brief period. "Keep in mind your children

See **SPOOKS**, Page 3

Petticoats on the Prairie

Annual market moving to Mitchell County Fairgrounds

By **NANCY KOGER**
 Special to the Herald

COLORADO CITY — The Rodeo Queens are presenting their "Petticoats on the Prairie" vintage market Friday and Saturday with a new look. The venue has changed to Mitchell County Fairgrounds, where there are

two large indoor spaces to accommodate more than 50 vendors. Parking space will be ample and more accessible.

According to Cat Geiger, photographer and webmistress for the group, "We changed locations to protect our vendors and customers from the weather and to have

a lot of parking." She mentioned this is a juried show, which means they judge the vendors who apply to prevent duplication as well as providing a wide variety of items. The event kicks off with "Brunch at the Barn" and Early Bird Shopping on Friday at 10 a.m. The limited

number at the brunch will be treated to food catered by Bama's House, decorated tote bags and door prizes, and shopping before the doors open to the general public at noon. "From the brunch tickets, we make a substantial

See **MARKET**, Page 3



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Obituaries

Jacob Brown Jr. & Geraldine Brown



R I C H L A N D H I L L S — Jacob Brown Jr. passed away Monday, Sept. 26, 2011. His wife, Geraldine Brown, passed away Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2011.

Jacob Eddie Brown Jr. was born

April 19, 1918, in Big Spring to Jacob Eddie Brown Sr. and Mary Elizabeth O'Daniel Brown. J.E. graduated from Coahoma High School in Coahoma in 1938 and married Geraldine Musgrove on Oct. 25, 1938.

Geraldine Musgrove was born Aug. 10, 1920, to Oscar E. Musgrove and Zuella Caroline Thomason. Geraldine graduated from Coahoma High School in Coahoma in 1938.

This is where the story begins. After being born and raised in West Texas, the young couple headed west to California. J.E. worked for Vultee, which later became LTV. During this pre-World War II era, they had their first child, Lyndia Carol Brown, born in South Gate, Calif., on Nov. 15, 1940.

J.E. was drafted into the Army Air Corps in 1943 and Geraldine and Carol followed him until they returned to Texas in 1946. A year later, the Browns moved to Boise, Idaho, where J.E. joined several Air Force friends who had started an airline, Empire Airlines, which is still in existence in the northwest part of the United States.

In 1948, their second child was born, Phyllis Yvonne Brown. The family stayed in Boise, Idaho, until J.E. decided he wanted to go back to school in Texas at Bell Aircraft, which had just moved to Hurst from New York state.

After finishing school, J.E. then joined Bell Aircraft Experimental Flight. In 1953, their third and final child was born in Fort Worth. Jacob Eddie Brown III was born Aug. 23, 1953, one week after J.E. and Geraldine moved into their home at 6800 Park Place Drive in Richland Hills.

For the next 58 years, J.E. and Geraldine resided at the Park Place home, raising their children and entertaining nine grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. In 1980, J.E. retired from Bell Helicopter and he and Geraldine traveled the United States, Europe and Asia.

On Sept. 26, 2011, this love story ended with the death of J.E. Brown Jr., surrounded by his children. Close by, Geraldine was in ICU and died two days later, Sept. 28, 2011.

Bluebonnet Hills Funeral Home Colleyville, 817-498-5894.

View and sign guestbook at www.star-telegram.com/obituaries

Paid obituary

Clarence Hartfield

Clarence Hartfield, 94, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2011, in a local hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Police blotter

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

- **MANUEL SOSA**, 18, of 1905 Wasson Rd. Apt. 41, was arrested Monday on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- **MELVIN KEITH BROWNFIELD**, 68, of 2107 Morrison Dr., was arrested Monday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **XAVIAN FELIX YOUNG**, 21, of 600 N.W. Eighth St., was arrested Monday on warrants for driving without safety belt secured and failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- **MANUEL SOSA**, 18, of 1905 Wasson Rd. Apt. 41, was arrested Monday on charges of criminal mischief – more than \$50 and less than \$500, assault by threat and resisting arrest, search or transporta-

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tion.

• **ROSEMARY ROACHA ALVAREZ**, 38, of 1500 Lincoln, was arrested Monday on charges of driving while license invalid – DWI related, failure to appear (three counts), failure to maintain financial responsibility – second offense, unlawful; dog or cat tethering and wrong license plate.

• **ASSAULT** was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Blvd.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 1100 block of Lloyd.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 70 inmates at the time of this report.

• **XAVIAN FELIX YOUNG**, 21, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of failure to maintain financial responsibility and no seat belt – driver.

• **DAVID CORNELIOUS WESTBROOK**, 17, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana in a drug free zone – two ounces or less.

• **MELVIN KEITH BROWNFIELD**, 68, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

• **MANUEL SOSA IV**, 18, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of resisting arrest, search or transportation, criminal mischief and assault by threats.

• **BENARDO JACINTO HILARIO**, 23, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while intoxicated – open container.

• **ROSEMARY ALVAREZ**, 38, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of driving while license invalid – DWI related, failure to appear (three counts), failure to maintain financial responsibility – second offense, unlawful; dog or cat tethering and wrong license plate.

• **WILLIAM JOHN SOLOMON**, 47, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while intoxicated – open container.

• **SAMUEL JACK ELLIS**, 35, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on municipal warrants for defective brakes and failure to maintain financial responsibility.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services reported the following activity:

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1600 block of Sunset. Service refused.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2000 block of Nolan. Service refused.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 300 block of N.E. Eighth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 900 block of N.W. Third Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of Highland. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 300 block of W. Fourth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3500 block of E. Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.

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

• **STRUCTURE FIRE** was reported in the 1300 block of Kindle.

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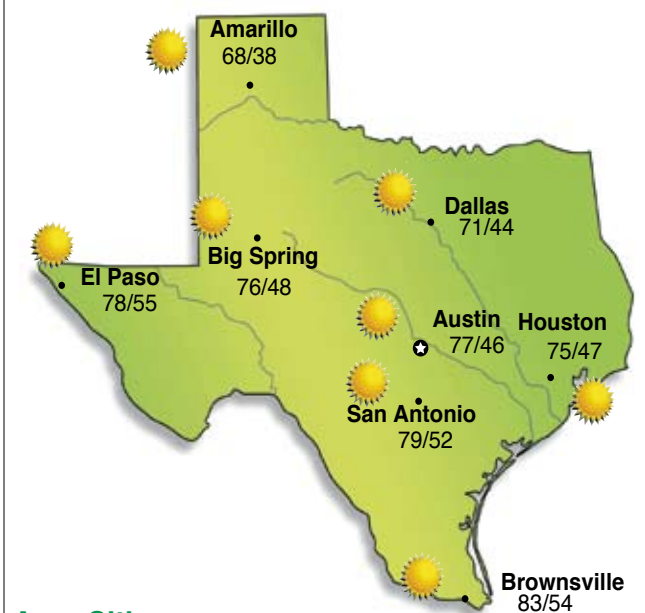
Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 10/19	Thu 10/20	Fri 10/21	Sat 10/22	Sun 10/23
76/48 Sunny skies. High 76F. Winds NW at 5 to 10 mph.	84/52 Sunshine. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the low 50s.	82/57 Sunshine. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the upper 50s.	84/57 Mainly sunny. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the upper 50s.	81/53 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the low 50s.
Sunrise: 7:52 AM Sunset: 7:09 PM	Sunrise: 7:53 AM Sunset: 7:08 PM	Sunrise: 7:54 AM Sunset: 7:07 PM	Sunrise: 7:55 AM Sunset: 7:06 PM	Sunrise: 7:56 AM Sunset: 7:05 PM

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Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Ablene	74	47	sunny	Kingsville	83	51	sunny
Amarillo	68	38	sunny	Livingston	73	39	sunny
Austin	77	46	sunny	Longview	69	40	windy
Beaumont	73	43	sunny	Lubbock	71	41	sunny
Brownsville	83	54	sunny	Lufkin	72	39	sunny
Brownwood	76	46	sunny	Midland	75	52	sunny
Corpus Christi	80	53	sunny	Raymondville	84	52	sunny
Corsicana	71	43	sunny	Rosenberg	76	46	sunny
Dallas	71	44	sunny	San Antonio	79	52	sunny
Del Rio	79	50	sunny	San Marcos	77	46	sunny
El Paso	78	55	sunny	Sulphur Springs	69	41	windy
Fort Stockton	77	53	sunny	Sweetwater	74	48	sunny
Gainesville	69	40	sunny	Tyler	69	40	windy
Greenville	69	39	sunny	Weatherford	70	41	sunny
Houston	75	47	sunny	Wichita Falls	71	42	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	58	41	rain	Minneapolis	48	34	cloudy
Boston	63	60	rain	New York	65	63	rain
Chicago	49	39	rain	Phoenix	92	63	sunny
Dallas	71	44	sunny	San Francisco	67	57	pt sunny
Denver	60	38	sunny	Seattle	64	53	pt sunny
Houston	75	47	sunny	St. Louis	53	40	rain
Los Angeles	79	57	pt sunny	Washington, DC	69	53	rain
Miami	84	65	rain				

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Take Note

- KC Steakhouse is the participating Dine-Out-Days sponsor for United Way through Saturday. A portion of their proceeds will be donated to the 2012 United Way campaign.
- Forsan High School band will compete in the Regional Marching Contest Saturday at Ratliff Stadium, N. Grandview Avenue and E. Yukon Road in Odessa. Class 2A competition will begin at 11:45 a.m. and Forsan will march at 1:45 p.m.
- Singing Women of Texas Permian Basin Chapter is coming to First Baptist Church. The group will be performing at 6 p.m. Saturday. Admission is free.
- Concerned parents and citizens are invited to a planning meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 24, in the Howard County Library basement. The meeting will be held to develop questions for the Big Spring Independent School District board of trustees meeting Nov. 1 and to develop goals and create a follow-up plan to make sure the goals are achieved. For more information, see Letters to the Editor.
- First Baptist Church Big Spring will celebrate its 125th anniversary Sunday, Nov. 13. In recognition of this 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/>
- American Cancer Society will have their board meetings at noon 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.
- 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 re-registration period began 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 is in need of volunteers to fill a variety of positions such as tour guides, front desk, clerical, events, and others. Set your hours and days of the week you are available. Meet new people and enjoy a rewarding experience. For more information, contact Emma Bogard at 432-267-2963.

POSITIVE

Continued from Page 1

even more so than the negative," Terri Johansen, chamber president, said.

Residents are asked to compile a top 10 list of positive things in regard to Howard County, Big Spring, Coahoma and Forsan. Once the list has been created it can be dropped off at the chamber office. All lists will be entered into a drawing for one of 10 prizes which will be drawn for Oct. 31. The deadline for entries is Oct. 28.

"This is something fun for people to get involved in and it lets us hear from the community," ValVerde said.

Prizes will be awarded from Crispy's Cafe, Displays of Splendor, Higginbotham-Bartlett, Johansen Nursery, Mary Kay, Dene Sheppard Unit, Moss Creek Ranch, My Favorite Place, Sears of Big Spring, T. Blackshear Interiors and The Red Barn Studio.

Once all entries have been received, ValVerde said the chamber hopes to get the results printed on posters which will be displayed in area businesses.

To pick up an entry form, stop by the chamber office at 215 W. Third, Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Entries can be submitted on a regular piece of paper as long as the entrant's name, address and phone number are included.

For more information, call 263-7641.

Contact Staff Writer Amanda Moreno at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at life@bigspringherald.com

TAXES

Continued from Page 1

to call our office so we can check on it."

Sayles said taxpayers have until Jan. 31 to pay their taxes and avoid penalties and interest. After that date, things can get rather costly.

"In February, the penalties will start at 7 percent (6 percent penalty, 1 percent interest), and increases each month," Sayles said.

The tax penalty and interest schedule is as follows: After Jan. 31, 6 percent penalty and 1 percent interest; after Feb. 28, 7 percent penalty and 2 percent interest; after March 31, 8 percent penalty and 3 percent interest; after April 30, 9 percent penalty and 4 percent interest; after May 31, 10 percent penalty and 5 percent interest; and after June 30, 12 percent penalty and 6 percent interest, including an additional 20 percent attorney fee.

For more information, contact the Howard County Tax Collector's Office at 264-2232.

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

SPOOKS

Continued from Page 1

will be going up on porches with pumpkins that have a lit candle. Children can brush against a pumpkin with long, flowing costumes. Using a non-flammable material is really essential."

Ease of movement and visibility should be two major concerns when choosing a costume, according to Condray.

"Make absolutely sure the child can move freely and see well. Remember

children will be climbing steps and walking through yards," said Condray. "Make sure your child can be seen. Select costumes that are bright colored. If that is not possible be sure to decorate the costume with reflective tape or reflective fabric paint.

"Reflective tape can be incorporated into the costume. For instance, if your child wants to be a witch with a black cape, cut stars out of reflective tape and put them all over the cape. Having an authentic-looking costume is nice,

but it's never worth it to sacrifice the safety of our children."

Condray also suggests sewing a name tag into your child's costume, giving their name, address and phone number.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission suggests these guidelines for avoiding problems during the Halloween evening:

- For greater visibility during dusk and darkness, decorate or trim costumes with reflective tape that will glow in the beam of a

car's headlights. Bags or sacks should also be light colored or decorated with reflective tape. Reflective tape is usually available in hardware, bicycle and sporting goods stores.

- To easily see and be seen, children should also carry flashlights.
- Costumes should be short enough to prevent children from tripping and falling.
- Children should wear well-fitting, sturdy shoes. Mother's high heels are not a good idea for safe walking.
- Hats and scarfs

should be tied securely to prevent them from slipping over children's eyes.

- Apply a natural mask of cosmetics rather than have a child wear a loose-fitting mask that might restrict breathing or obscure vision. If a mask is used, however, make sure it fits securely and has eyeholes large enough to allow full vision.
- Swords, knives and similar costume accessories should be of soft and flexible material.

For more from the USCPSC on Hallow-

een safety, visit <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/pubs/100.html>

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

MARKET

Continued from Page 1

donation to Gateway Family Services, something that sets us apart from other shows," said Geiger. The group has made a tradition of giving back to the community, particularly in assisting the Gateway Service group, which

serves five counties in the area of family crisis.

Another new offering at the fall show this year is the "Cowgirl Cuisine" cookbook, which includes short biographical sketches of the Rodeo Queens at the beginning of each section of recipes. Like the other vintage offerings, the cookbook looks to

the past in featuring many family heritage recipes.

In the words of their advance notices, "The Premier Vintage Market in West Texas" will welcome shoppers to view and buy "antiques, vintage finds, clothing, furniture, juniques, jewelry and food" from noon to 6 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sat-

urday.

Mitchell County Fairgrounds is located at 1539 W. Interstate 20 Business in Colorado City.

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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.

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- By e-mail Managing Editor Bill McClellan at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Steve Reagan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
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- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we live for more than material success and include You in our life for our personal success, Lord.

Amen

The street they should occupy

As "Occupy Wall Street" sweeps up attention, a smaller group is running something called Occupy K Street. If the goal is to loosen the financiers' grip over the American economy, the folks protesting on K Street are getting closer to bingo. K Street is Washington's famous boulevard of lobbyist influence, the place where money buys politicians to do money's bidding.

Occupy Wall Street and allied movements have been likened to the tea party populists associated with the right. Both rage at the 2008 Wall Street bailout. Both resent the corporate powers' lobbying Congress to rig the game in their favor — the middle class and taxpayers be damned.

But there's a very big difference between these movements. The Occupy people want a more vigilant government overseeing financial activities. The tea parties do not, oddly favoring a less active government. They have no solutions that, frankly, most Americans, including themselves, would want to live with.

The tea party believes that free markets will punish the wicked. It sees regulation as a weight on the capitalists' animal spirits, off whose trickle we mortals slake our thirst. It's like the tea party doesn't want the cattle trampling the flowers, but at the same time, opposes fences.

The group doesn't get why our financial system must be supervised, because it doesn't know why it nearly collapsed — or even that it did nearly collapse.

Tea party honcho Mike Pence, Republican rep from Indiana, offers a peek into this alternative universe of how things work. He recently said that the House passed the bailout legislation — after having rejected it days earlier — because Congress had "larded up" it up in the interim. In other words, the vote changers were bought.

Millions of American stockholders have a very different recollection of that turbulent time. They remember the news channels' famous split screens. On one, House members cast votes against the bailout. On the other, the Dow Jones Industrial Average plunged with the "nays." It lost nearly 800 points that day.

Facing a public already in near panic, Congress quickly reversed course and voted for the bailout.

True, had there been no bailout, the reckless financiers would have been ruined. But the rest of us would be wearing barrels.

Free markets do work, alas. They worked in 1929, when a decade of speculation, frenzied borrowing and other financial excess ended in the Great Depression.

Politicians who opposed the bailout (on the left as well as right) didn't have to deal with the consequences of letting the financial system collapse because other braver lawmakers did their duty. One can rightly complain about the details — that the bailout left the irresponsible far more whole than they deserved — but insisting that it could have been avoided without catastrophe shows a sad grasp of economics and history.

Where the Occupy Wall Street crowd somewhat misses the bull's-eye is its railing against "greed." Few activities are more

fruitless than trying to shame the financial industry's players for wanting all they can get. Condemning them for "greed" is like condemning a wolf for eating a stray lamb or (to use a more neutral-sounding metaphor) salmon for swimming upstream. Money is how the contestants keep score. Some may be lovable people, who leave their fortunes to good causes, but money is the object of their game.

And regulation is how you keep the game orderly and nice. If one investment house is making a pile doing wild and wooly things, its competitors may feel compelled to do the same, lest their shareholders complain. So regulations also help prudent bankers avoid pressure to make unappetizing investments.

To get those regulations, you have to go to Washington. You have to find that corner where the lobbyists transfer money to politicians in return for weak or no rules of the road. You have to stop practices that destabilize the financial system. You have to prevent the fat wallets from obtaining sweetheart deals that, for example, let hedge fund managers pay taxes at a lower rate than the police who protect their estates.

We're talking about K Street. That's where the spotlight belongs. Who is delivering what checks to which politicians and for what in return? Occupy K Street could not have too many members.

To find out more about Froma Harrop, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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Obama will not be deterred

If it's not narcissism, what explains President Obama's habit of demanding something against the people's will, being rejected, refusing to take no for an answer and berating the public he is pretending to represent?

We saw it over and over with Obamacare. By now, it's part of our national lore that he delivered some 54 speeches to sell the public on his scheme yet never made a dent in the public approval numbers. Truth be told, in the end he gave far more than 54.

But that didn't stop him from pressing forward anyway, and his underhanded methods at cramming his bill through Congress will also be enshrined in our national history.

Correct me if I'm wrong, but hasn't he done the same thing with automobile emission standards and other environmental causes? He couldn't convince the people that he was right, nor could he convince Congress, so he just colluded with his fellow radical autocrats in the Environmental Protection Agency to bypass Congress and impose these regulations unilaterally.

Let's also not forget his pet project, the sainted high-speed rail, for which he's determined to spend billions and billions of dollars in brazen defiance of the people's disinterest in the project, their objection to further deficit spending, and the marked resistance of the individual states.

Obama demands we embrace his misguided fantasy, even though several state governors have essentially said: "Thanks, but no thanks. We can't afford your federal generosity. We're the ones who'll have to maintain the albatrosses." Congress has also pronounced it dead on arrival.

But Obama won't give up.

He never gives up. Because he knows better than we do. He tells us this technology is the wave of the future, but it's actually closer to an anachronism. As others have written, it's not well-suited for the territorially expansive United States. But that doesn't matter a whit to him, because his real motive is to coerce us out of our automobiles. If he had his way, he'd mandate interstate bike paths.

Need more proof? Look at Solyndra. Have you heard any apologies from this administration about the colossal waste of federal money in pursuit of an environmental goal that Obama — not the public — is demanding? Obama is completely unfazed — so unfazed that he's just allocated billions more to similarly reckless pipe dreams.

He won the election, after all.

We could go on all day with this exercise, but I'll conclude with reference to his so-called jobs bill, which is just as inappropriately named as his "stimulus" package. He's never apologized for the immoral waste of \$868 billion, which was wholly his baby. Even if the buck for every subordinate's misstep doesn't stop on the president's desk, this one has his name permanently affixed to it.

It was a disaster in every respect. Whether you measure it against Obama's promises for it or don't even consider those, it was a miserable failure. He didn't say he was sorry for adding so much more to the debt without creating the guaranteed jobs; he didn't say he'd learned from his mistakes. He mocked us, in effect, for trusting him, with his cavalier, disingenuous claim that there were an unlimited number of shovel-ready jobs.

The man is incapable of putting his tail between his legs. If I hadn't witnessed it, I honestly wouldn't have believed he had come back for more with the jobs bill. He doesn't trifle himself to give us any reason that the bastard son of Stimulus would be any different from its licen-

tious father. He just stands at his podium, with his head raised and his tone haughty, and tells us that spending a half-trillion more Monopoly money is the only solution for getting the economy moving.

Seriously? You have to be kidding me. But he's not.

And when Congress rejected this offensively ill-conceived project, he flinched not, but redoubled his commitment to force it through — piece by piece, benevolent dictator that he is.

Obama attributes opposition to his plan to partisanship, suggesting that Republicans only oppose it because they want to hurt him politically. That's right; neither the nearly \$15 trillion national debt nor the failed track record of Stimulus Sr. could have anything to do with it. And the prominent Democrats opposing it must be driven by partisanship, as well.

Obama is reduced to banging the table like a toddler, demanding he get his way. The only difference in the analogy is that parents correct their toddlers to keep them from hurting themselves; Obama's opponents oppose him to keep him from further destroying the nation.

America's 36th president, Lyndon Baines Johnson, recognizing his failure to steer the United States through the Vietnam War period, gracefully did not seek re-election.

You can't blame me for dreaming.

David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. His latest book, "Crimes Against Liberty," was No. 1 on the New York Times best-seller list for nonfiction for its first two weeks. Follow him on Twitter @davidlimbaugh and his website at www.davidlimbaugh.com. To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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FROMA HARROP



DAVID LIMBAUGH

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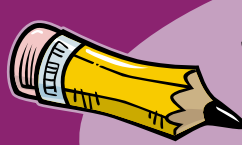


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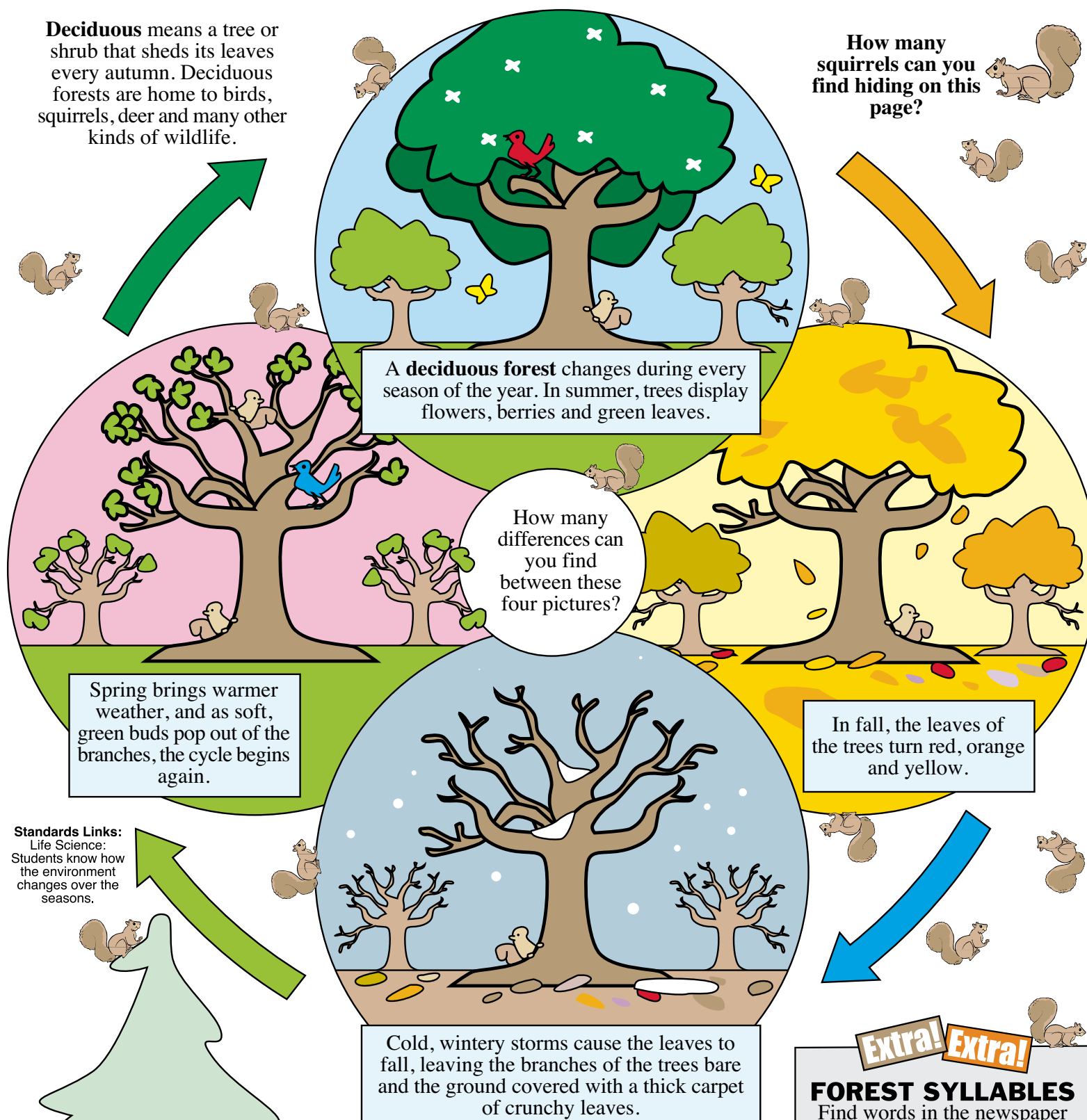
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2011: INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE FOREST

Deciduous Forest: A Forest of Four Seasons

Deciduous means a tree or shrub that sheds its leaves every autumn. Deciduous forests are home to birds, squirrels, deer and many other kinds of wildlife.



A deciduous forest changes during every season of the year. In summer, trees display flowers, berries and green leaves.

How many differences can you find between these four pictures?

How many squirrels can you find hiding on this page?



Spring brings warmer weather, and as soft, green buds pop out of the branches, the cycle begins again.

In fall, the leaves of the trees turn red, orange and yellow.

Cold, wintery storms cause the leaves to fall, leaving the branches of the trees bare and the ground covered with a thick carpet of crunchy leaves.

What do we get from trees?

Look at this list of items. Write the ones that come from trees on the tree at left.

- crayons
- newspapers
- fence posts
- football helmets
- shatterproof glass
- hockey sticks
- baby foods
- golf tees
- rulers
- shoe polish
- sponges
- plywood
- rubber gloves
- shampoo
- syrup
- toothpaste
- grocery bags
- furniture
- musical instruments
- waxes
- baking cups
- fishing boats
- jigsaw puzzles
- crutches

Extra! Extra!

FOREST SYLLABLES

Find words in the newspaper that have the same number of syllables as the fall words below. Write each newspaper word under the word with the matching number of syllables.

- LEAF
- FOREST
- MODERATE
- DECIDUOUS

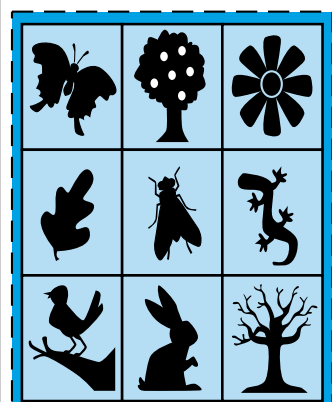
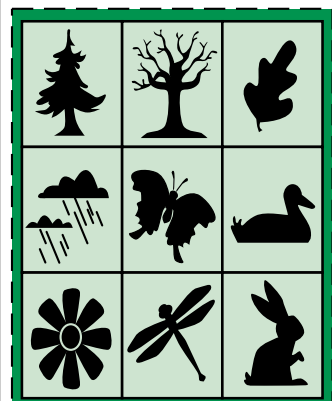
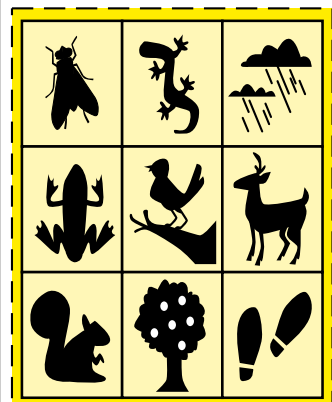
Standards Links: Vocabulary: Use syllables to decode words.

Standards Links: Life Science: Students know how the environment changes over the seasons.

Kid Scoop FIT & FUN

Nature Walk Bingo

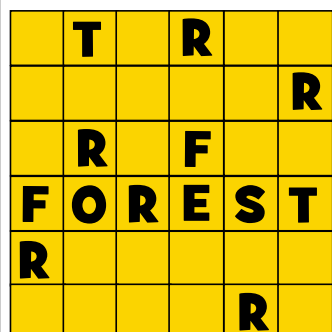
Go for a nature walk with some friends. Each of you select one of the bingo cards below. When you see one of the things shown on the card, cross out that space. The first person to black out their card wins!



Standards Links: Physical Education: Understand the benefits associated with participation in physical activities.

Kid Scoop-doku

Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word FOREST in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you.



Kid Scoop Puzzler

Circle every other letter to reveal the names of some common deciduous trees. Write the letters in the spaces below.

W M R A T P D L Q E R M N A K G P N T O
M L J I C A M P B E P A H R G O Z A D K
I A B S L H T C W H B E U R Q R F Y R W L
A G L P N C U B T H B J O H X I E S L K D
Y E M R T E K L R M H P N L V U D M X R
D E G D Y B M U S D Z

M A



Learn how to identify trees by studying their leaves, seeds and fruit. Go to: www.kidscoop.com/kids

Double Double Word Search

- DECIDUOUS
- MAGNOLIA
- CRAYONS
- FLOWERS
- BERRIES
- SPRING
- FOREST
- CARPET
- SEASON
- MAPLE
- ELDER
- PLUM
- PEAR
- ASH
- ELM

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

S N O Y A R C S C A
A E S E I R R E B N
I L E L D E R Y G O
L M F U W M S N T P
O S U O U D I C E D
N E L L R R E A P T
G F P H P E R S R E
A N O S A E S H A W
M A P L E O O T C D

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Deciduous Habitat

Write a classified ad for a deciduous forest. Read the Homes for Sale in the Classified Ads section of the newspaper for ideas. Be sure to use abbreviations where possible in your classified ad.

Standards Links: Writing Applications: Use writing to describe places.



What did the beaver say to the tree?

ANSWER: "It's been nice gnawing you!"

Write On!

A Walk in the Forest
Imagine you are taking a walk in the forest. Describe the sights and sounds.



Remembering the rescue of a red-tailed hawk

Heading east on Interstate 20 was a follow-up to a request I had made the previous day. To revisit an area east of Big Spring in 2011 would help refresh my memory of the terrain and location. Some 19 years earlier, on a brisk October morning, what we had thought would be a difficult rescue had been easier than expected.

Approaching Rattlesnake Gap in the distance, we left the trucks and traffic for a two-lane county road. Lined with mesquites that are much taller now, the pavement led us south beside deep gullies eroded by infrequent deluges of West Texas rains.

Scarring the land-

scape, water had exposed the "red clay" associated with the extensive oil field that lay beneath the surface. Bluffs to our west also bore reminders of the past. Flowing down their sides, torrents had caused large, gray boulders to loosen and slide in jumbled masses toward the bottom of the hills.

Three and a half miles from the turn-off, we saw the large vessels. On that morning long ago, they had glistened in the sunlight.

Our response that day had been to a worried voice describing the dilemma of a hawk that could not fly over a fence surrounding several water tanks. Topped with strands of



Courtesy photo

Perching on telephone poles or fence posts, the red-tailed hawk is often seen soaring over open country, mountains, rangeland and desert terrain. Its diet includes rabbits, mice, rats, snakes and carrion. Weighing two and a half to three pounds, the raptor is often heard before being seen because of its distinctive cry of "keeer-rr," "keeer-rr."

barbed wire, the six-foot high, chain link barrier was preventing the raptor from leaving the area.

When the caller said the raptor could fly 20 to 30 feet, but never more than a foot or so above the ground, we were alerted to more than just the height of a fence. The bird's inability to elevate suggested either a hairline

fracture or bruising of a wing.

As we parked on the caliche entrance to large gates, our caller waved as he approached. Then he pointed northward toward an unusual, vertical structure holding high voltage lines. He said he thought the hawk had hit one of those lines and glided down to the ground inside the facility.

If it had landed outside the fence, the bird would have been given a chance to elude capture. Then it would have been challenged by either starvation or an attack from another predator. Fortunately, the raptor had offered us an opportunity to corral and catch it.

On less than an acre of land, the tanks and a building sat atop a man-made pad. Where the caliche stopped, grasses and a downward slope led to the fence.

As we approached one of the tanks, a red-tailed hawk took flight. Landing near the fence, it waited. If we could box it into a corner, we had a good chance of catching it. Before we could get close enough, it flew again.

After several attempts at escape, the raptor landed in a taller growth of weeds near the northwest corner of the fencing. Glancing at Art, and then me, it was frustrated by the human barrier that confronted it.

Turning toward the fence, it started half-walking, half-hopping, until it stopped and looked through one of the woven holes. Momentarily distracted by its inability to find an opening, the red-tail had its back and head pointed away from us.

Taking advantage of this, we captured the hawk. Holding it against the ground, I soon gained control of its legs and feet. While Art brought a carrier, I could feel the tension of its entire body as it flapped its wings in protest.

As the hawk momentarily settled down,

BIRD POOP

By BEBE McCASLAND



Art came from behind with a large towel. Carefully pressing its wings against its body, he helped me place the bird inside our container.

Only after it was safely in our vehicle did I notice the cold wind that had accompanied our endeavor. Adrenaline had masked the early reminder that winter was coming.

One last glance at our vibrant passenger reminded me that it was a healthy bird delayed in its fall migration. Its appearance had reflected nature's finest. Brown upper parts, creamy under parts, streaked belly, and rufous tail were its remarkable, identifying features.

Several days later, a call came from Midge Erskine at Eos Wildlife Sanctuary, Midland. Her veterinarian had confirmed a hairline fracture. The prospects of a full recovery were encouraging.

The high 70s of this October day, some 11 years into a new century, were a stark comparison to the chilly morning we had previously experienced at the water tanks.

About a mile from our destination, and having passed various sizes and vintages of pump jacks, Art commented this area was a very old oil field.

As we approached the electric lines and fenced area, we were shocked by the appearance of tanks now rusty and faded. Once they had been new and spotless. Instead of green, native weeds and grasses not yet touched by frost near the fence, withered growth in shades of beige and brown were everywhere. Even the fence and gate had been victims of time and weather.

One side of the gate stood open, while the other side still held the chain and lock we had seen. Windows in the building had been the target of thoughtless fools and their rocks. Obviously, the place had been abandoned.

Turning around for our drive back to Big Spring, I noticed a tall sunflower growing in a bar ditch. Covered with yellow offerings was another survivor of this place.

As we once again drove past the area of gullies and exposed clay, I was convinced the dirt, with its varying hues of rufous, dark cinnamon and rust was just like the hawk's tail. Not red at all. Both the soil and the bird had been labeled as such. In reality, they both represented a unique spot on a colorful palette only nature could provide.

Bebe McCasland is author of "The Scoop From Bird Poop." She is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.

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Powerful thoughts

Thoughts are powerful. Thoughts become things. Every thought we have is a real thing ... a force. So if we think what we want as an absolute fact then that possibility lies before us. It's all about how we think.

But we must remember our thoughts must be within human capability. Our thoughts determine our desires. If we see it in our mind, then it becomes a possibility to hold it in our hand. Whether we think we can or think we can't, either way we are right.

It has been written, whatever the mind can conceive, it can achieve. Our thoughts and feelings create our life and imagination is everything; it is the preview of life's coming attractions. When we conceive something in our mind, know it is a fact and there can be no question about its manifestation. When we focus on what we want, what we don't want falls away.

Our thoughts and our feelings create our life. It is the combination of thought and love which forms the irresistible force of the law of attraction. As the old saying states, energy goes where attention flows. When we concentrate our thoughts on something, we attract it because we are powerfully focused on it with emotion. Our current thoughts are creating our future life.

The law of attraction is always working, whether we believe it or understand it or not. So, keep in mind, we must not fear; we must not regret. Enjoy life while we can as long as it is physically possible.

When there is an opportunity, get together with old friends; such opportunities will become rare as time goes by. Make it a point, every day, to smile and laugh and treasure each moment with our loved ones.

Treat life with optimism. Remember everyone has to go through life's experiences, birth, aging, sickness and death; there is no exception, that's just part of it. So before we come to the end of our life we should settle all the outstanding issues and we will be able to leave without regret.

Trust the doctors to handle our body, but we must take charge of our own moods. If worries can cure our sickness, then go ahead and worry. If worries can prolong our life, then go ahead and worry. If worries can bring happiness, then go ahead and worry.

Running water does not flow backwards and so is life. Make it happy and remember life ends when we stop dreaming, hope ends when we stop believing and love ends when we stop caring. And we must remember wherever we go we take our whole life along, so in the process may we heal the past, live the present and dream the future.

Darrell Ryan is director of federal programs for the Big Spring Independent School District.

PARENT'S CORNER

By DARRELL RYAN



Texas news in brief

Death of detained Cleburne boy, 14, under review

GRANBURY (AP) — Authorities say a North Texas boy who was in juvenile custody has died after an alleged game of tug of war with another youth at a detention center.

The Texas Juvenile Probation Commission is investigating the death of 14-year-old Jordan Adams of Cleburne.

A coroner on Monday listed the cause of death as asphyxiation due to strangulation.

Granbury police say they are investigating the Oct. 10 incident at Granbury Regional Juvenile Justice Center as a homicide. Adams was transported to a hospital, where he died Sunday.

Capt. Alan Hines says juveniles have been known to put their bedsheets under the cell doors and play tug of war with other detained youths. Adams allegedly had wrapped the sheet around his neck.

Center officials declined comment on why Adams was held.

Country stars raise \$500K for Texas fire victims

AUSTIN (AP) — Dixie Chicks lead singer Natalie Maines told a thunderous crowd Monday night that "there was zero hesitation" when the band was asked to perform with fellow country stars to raise money for victims of recent wildfires in her home state of Texas.

She and her band mates joined Willie Nelson, George Strait and other musicians during a mega-concert in Austin that raised more than \$500,000. A fire that started Sept. 4 in Central Texas' Bastrop County destroyed at least 1,500 homes and killed two people, marking the most devastating of the numerous fires that have scorched about 6,000 square miles in Texas in the last year.

Maines told the crowd she was worried that without homes, "you all might not look lovely." But she told them they all looked fantastic.

"When they called us to do this show, there was zero hesitation," she said. "You can take the girl out of Texas, but you can't take Texas out of the girl."

Nelson was joined onstage by folksy newcomers The Avett Brothers and, backed up by Asleep at the Wheel, they roused the crowd with rowdy versions

of Nelson's classic "On the Road Again" and the gospel "Will the Circle Be Unbroken."

Nelson recently spent time filming a movie in Bastrop and, in an interview before the concert, called the fires "tragic."

He said he has lost homes to fire and knows how devastating it can be.

Dust storm roils through Texas South Plains

LUBBOCK (AP) — Winds gusting at more than 70 mph churned up a dust storm that roiled through the Texas South Plains during the Monday afternoon commute.

Dust kicked up by westerly breezes ahead of a strong cold front restricted visibility in Lubbock to about 5 miles all afternoon, said National Weather Service Lubbock meteorologist Matt Ziebell.

That was nothing compared to the 8,000-foot-high rolling dust cloud that moved through the city just before 6 p.m., dropping visibility to between zero and less than a quarter of a mile, Ziebell said.

North winds gusting as high as 74 mph had begun forming the dust cloud about 100 miles north of Lubbock around 4:30 p.m., he said.

"It went from light to dark, just like that," said Lubbock convenience store clerk Alma Williams. "I've never seen anything like it. It really scared me."

She said customers who went outside to watch the dirt cloud said they hadn't seen anything like it, either.

Lubbock city spokesman Jeff McKitto said he was driving home from work when the dust hit. "It was pretty spectacular. Everything just turned black," he said.

He said cars pulled over and stopped, "but you don't want to get out of the car in this situation," he said.

FAA controllers at Lubbock International Airport had to evacuate the tower and direct air traffic from a backup center on the tower's ground floor, McKitto said. Trees toppled, roofs lost shingles and a small cargo plane at the airport was overturned, he said.

No injuries were reported from the dust cloud reminiscent of those shown in Dust Bowl photos from the late 1930s.

Alert: Parents of a Child with CLEFT PALATE/LIP

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Date: Tuesday, Oct 18, 2011

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There will be volunteers from the Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Aviation Exploring, Fire Service Exploring, and Venturing present to answer any questions. **Don't miss the last signup night of the year!**

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Lady Steers take down Sweetwater in four games

No. 8 Big Spring is 4-2 in district

By **ROBERT GRIFFIN**

Sports Editor

The Big Spring lady Steers upped their district record to 4-2 Friday when they defeated Sweetwater in four games. Sweetwater would rally to take the third game, but the rest of the night belonged to the Lady Steers as they downed their district rival 25-15, 25-16, 22-25 and 25-14.

Cerbi Ritchey led Big Spring with a game-high 21 assists, which were complimented by her 15 kills, six blocks, six digs and four aces. Meanwhile, Taylor Seaton led the Lady Steers with 16 kills. Like Ritchey, Seaton also recorded

six blocks in the game, as the two girls led the team in that category as well. In addition, Seaton added four digs and an ace.

Morgan Seaton recorded 14 assists, 17 digs, six kills, three blocks and two aces in Big Spring's winning effort, while Haley Dimidjian added five kills, four digs and two blocks.

Defensively, the Lady Steers were led by Careson Riebe with 21 digs, three aces and a kill, as well as Clara Benavides, who had 13 assists, three kills and two aces.

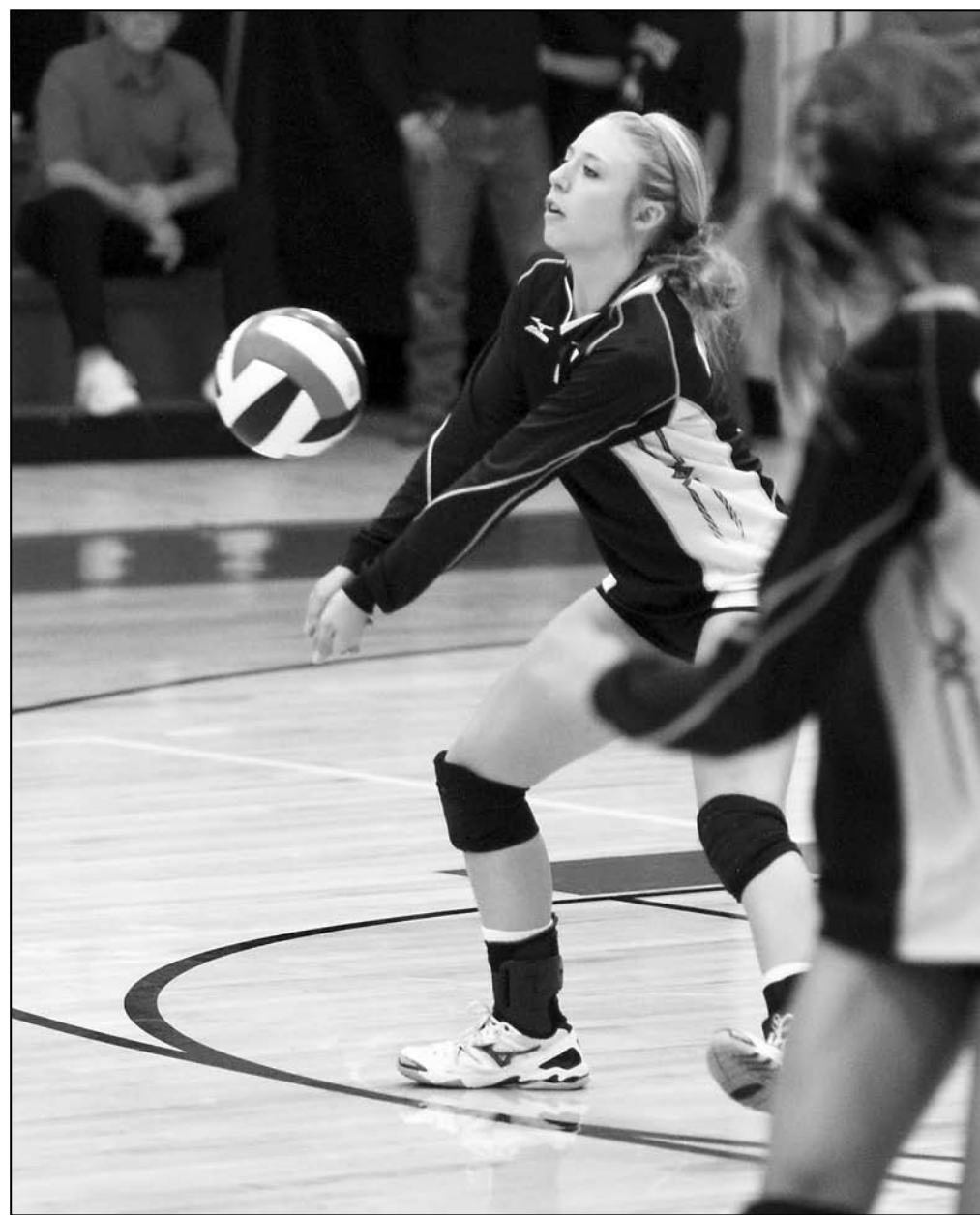
In addition to the team leaders, Big Spring got added support from Ju-

liana Rodriguez, Ebony Zavala and Logan Yarbar. The three girls combined for 18 digs in the game. Additionally, Rodriguez recorded two kills and two blocks.

The 28-11 Lady Steers play host to Greenwood tonight in a non-district match. The game starts at 6:30 p.m. With the freshman and JV teams playing at 5 p.m.

The JV squad took the opportunity in Sweetwater to grab a win, defeating the hometown's JV team 25-21 and 25-22. Meanwhile, the freshman team fell in three matches after winning the first game.

The close scores were 25-16, 21-25 and 21-25.



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Lady Steer Logan Yarbar controls a serve, passing the ball to a teammate, in recent action.

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.

The Quarterback Club is selling yard signs for all Steers' activities. Parents can pick up a registration form at the ATC or call Denise Carrillo for more information.

Lady Steers Booster Club monthly meeting

The Lady Steers' Booster Club will be holding a monthly meeting Thursday 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.

6-6-6 tournament 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 Saturday and Sunday.

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.

Steers senior night Friday night

The Big Spring Steers will celebrate senior night Friday. The event will start at 6:15 p.m. at Memorial Stadium. All senior football players, cheerleaders and band members will be introduced. For more information, call Denise Carrillo at 816-1685.

CGSA Board meeting

The Coahoma Girls' Softball Association will hold a board meeting Wednesday, Oct 26 at 7 p.m. at the Coahoma Community Center.

Rangers, Cards match-up

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Here is a position-by-position look at the Texas Rangers and St. Louis Cardinals going into the World Series, starting Wednesday night at Busch Stadium:

First Base: Rangers: Michael Young. The team's primary designated hitter, Young is likely to start at first base over slumping Mitch Moreland in St. Louis, where National League rules eliminate the DH. The longest-tenured Rangers player and a steady leader in the locker room, the versatile Young batted a career-high .338 this season at age 34. Texas has moved him all over the infield and he requested a trade last winter before accepting his new role and compiling his sixth 200-hit season. Young bats cleanup in a power-packed lineup, but he struggled in the playoffs before breaking loose for five RBIs in the ALCS finale.

Cardinals: Albert Pujols. The three-time NL MVP can become a free agent after the World Series and it's difficult to imagine him in a different uniform. His contract situation has hardly fazed him, though. Perhaps the most feared slugger in baseball, Pujols was on his game in the playoffs, batting .419 with two homers, seven doubles, 10 RBIs and six walks.

Second Base: Rangers: Ian Kinsler. Thanks to his impressive combination of power and speed, Kinsler put up a 30-30 season this year (32 HRs, 30 SBs). He also scored 121 runs and drew 89 walks, developing a patient eye in the leadoff spot. Kinsler is a dangerous pull hitter who will feast on mistakes if opposing pitchers aren't careful.

Cardinals: Ryan Theriot or Nick Punto or Skip Schumaker. St. Louis has used several scrappy players at this posi-

tion, none with much power at the plate. Texas features three left-handers in the rotation, so Theriot figures to see plenty of playing time. Schumaker, who can also play the outfield, went 6 for 10 with three RBIs in the first round against Philadelphia, then missed the NLCS because of a strained muscle on his right side. He said he expects to be available for the World Series.

Shortstop: Rangers: Elvis Andrus. Still only 23, Andrus brings speed, energy and a genuine joy for the game. He doesn't hit many homers, but he can do a lot of things in the No. 2 hole — bunt, steal, hit-and-run. He's one of baseball's most talented defenders, though he made 25 errors this season. Despite his age, Andrus has appeared perfectly comfort-

See **SERIES**, Page 14

Jets step over Dolphins Monday

EAST RUTHERFORD (AP) — Mark Sanchez was all smiles in front of his locker for the first time in weeks, knowing exactly what this win meant for the New York Jets.

"We're back on track," the relieved quarterback declared.

Crisis averted. Season saved.

With their locker room beginning to unravel because of mounting losses and infighting, Rex Ryan and his feuding Jets ended a three-game skid with a 24-6 victory over the winless Miami Dolphins on Monday night.

"Hey, we needed a win in the worst way," Ryan said. "I'm just happy that we found a way to get one."

This victory was far from pretty or convincing. But it didn't need to be. Only needed to not be another loss. After all, the Jets (3-3) came in as a team in turmoil, and a fourth straight loss — especially against the lowly Dolphins — could be catastrophic.

"The guys came together and we knew coming into this week," wide receiver

Santonio Holmes said, "that we couldn't allow an 0-4 team to come in here and get a victory."

Darrelle Revis turned the momentum in the Jets' favor when he ran back the first of his two interceptions 100 yards for a touchdown late in the opening quarter and helped New York do just enough to avoid its first four-game skid under Ryan. Sanchez threw a 38-yard touchdown pass to Holmes and ran for another score as the Jets — who called this a "must-win" game — capped a rough week by sending the Dolphins to their fifth straight loss.

"Losing was tough," Revis said. "It was hard coming to work. We wanted to get this win. We came in with a great game plan and guys stuck together."

There were some serious doubts whether that would be the case, though.

With frustration quickly spreading throughout the locker room, New York traded wide receiver Derrick Mason to Houston for what the team said was a lack of production. Then, the Jets

had to deal with some infighting as Holmes called out the offensive line for not giving Sanchez enough time to throw deep. Right guard Brandon Moore fired back, saying those comments could have a "fragmenting effect" and were not what a captain, which Holmes is, should do.

Ryan, who insisted his team's Super Bowl hopes would not be undone by locker room disharmony, even sent Holmes and Moore out as the captains for the pre-game coin toss.

"It was good," Holmes said. "We both looked each other in the eye and said, 'Let's go. It's time to play some football.'"

Turns out, this game against the Dolphins (0-5) came at just the right time. Next up for New York: the San Diego Chargers (4-1) on Sunday, with a chance to head into the off week on a high note.

"In every locker room, things like this happen," Ryan said. "Trust me, we're past that thing. It's

See **MONDAY**, Page 13

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The effects of an upcoming square of Venus and Mars can already be detected. The tension between men and women will grow as the week progresses. When you encounter the small seeds of discord, make sure they don't take root. Prevent problems in the future by keeping everything out in the open. Do not bury resentment, or it will grow.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Frustration is an energy zapper. But you can avoid the feeling by simply refusing to believe that life should be happening at a different pace. Affirm to yourself: I have all the time in the world.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It's time you had an imaginary conversation with that wise version of yourself who sits inside the tiny cave of your heart. It will feel good to be completely candid about your feelings.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll enjoy what you do, mostly because you resolve to enjoy it. Your attitude is stellar. You'll receive invitations and other nifty perks as people respond to your smile.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). A terrific daydream helps you glimpse your future. You envision yourself having a great time achieving one of your life's ambitions. See it over and over. You were meant for this.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You have developed solid relationships, and you continue to put in the work to maintain the connection. An out-of-town friend may want to come for a visit. Plans will come together over the next three weeks.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You feel lucky. Having that feeling and holding on to it automatically makes you luckier. The best part is that you attract good fortune that is extremely useful to others, as well as yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're about to grow your intellect and skill set. There is a strong social aspect to your learning style. You'll find out more about your area of interest when you join clubs, groups, meet-ups and social networks.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You prefer to think the best of people. Sometimes they

misbehave, and you give them a "free pass" anyway, assuming they didn't mean it or didn't know any better. You'd rather move on.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You speak words of kindness. You don't want anything, it's just that you genuinely notice what's nice and see what's remarkable about the people you meet.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You may realize that you've been psychically leaning on someone because you didn't feel complete in some regard. Now you notice the void and start to fill it with enjoyable activities and entertainments.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The answers you think you need may be lost in the mail, dropped in the middle of the call or floating in cyber space. However, you will eventually get to the bottom of it. You and your can-do attitude will prevail.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). If you're wondering why you keep making people laugh, it's because you say things that are true, and others feel compelled to agree in ways that go beyond

mere words.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 18). You know at a deep level that you can handle whatever comes your way, and this knowledge inspires you to take more exciting risks this year. A new income source shows up in November. December brings social fun. Family makes you proud in February. New work comes in March. A long-term goal will be met in July. Scorpio and Leo people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 1, 22, 48 and 50.

THE MAJOR ARCANA OF THE TAROT — THE SUN XIX: On this tarot card, The Sun appears behind a wall lined with giant sunflowers. Those flowers know it's their birthright to grow toward the sun, and they'll turn their round faces to it whichever way it goes. Now why is that wall breaking up the picture so? It definitely has bad feng shui, blocking the observer from the beautiful sun-kissed vista that might be on the other side. It's not an impossible-looking wall, either. One would imagine that it could be scaled if the desire to do so was strong enough, or

perhaps even broken through. The wall suggests that, indeed, a breakthrough must occur to get the full benefit of this bright day.

Some decks depict a bare child riding an animal and carrying a flag in front of the wall. In other decks, there is a nude couple. It's as though the sun has invited these folks to ditch the tired duds — another barrier to the sun's love — and soak up some rays.

Here comes the sun, and like The Beatles' song suggests, when you draw this card, "it's all right." Whatever your question, you will have a guiding light on the matter - and not just any light, but radiant, vibrant, life-giving light. All you have to do is turn toward it.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Bristol Palin

was only 20 years old when she released her first memoir. The daughter of the former governor of Alaska, "Dancing with the Stars" finalist and public speaker is now involved in a new reality show, and the controversy has already begun. With four natal luminaries in diplomatic Libra, Bristol is an affable team player who would be a natural fit for a political career.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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HOLIDAY MATHIS

Legals

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE/ BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Abilene
Contract 0295-02-026 for SEAL COAT in BORDEN County, etc will be opened on November 01, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
NPO: 38065

State Office

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200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540
Dist/Div Office(s)

Abilene District
District Engineer
4250 N. Clack
Abilene, Texas 79604-0150
Phone: 325-676-6800

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.
#7144 October 11 & 18, 2011

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.

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

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

A Reward for Good Behavior

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

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

WEST
♠ 10 8 7 4
♥ 7 3
♦ 10 9 8 2
♣ K J 3

EAST
♠ A Q 9 5
♥ 10 5
♦ J 5 4
♣ 9 8 7 6

SOUTH
♠ J 2
♥ A K Q 6 4
♦ K 6 3
♣ A Q 4

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 2♥ Pass
4♥

Opening lead — ten of diamonds.

Luck plays a substantial role in the outcome of many deals, but some of the poor results attributed to bad luck could be more accurately ascribed to bad management.

Take this deal where West leads a diamond against four hearts, taken by dummy's queen. South cashes the K-A of trumps and A-K of diamonds, then leads a low spade to the king. East wins with the ace and returns the nine of clubs, won by West with the jack. Back comes a spade to East's queen, and when East returns another club, South finesses again and goes down one.

Of course, declarer is unlucky to find the ace of spades and K-J of clubs all badly placed. Furthermore, it would not have helped him to attack clubs first. He would have run into the same dead end and gone down one against best defense.

While there is no way to assure the contract against every possible lie of the cards, South can increase his chances considerably by playing the spades differently. After drawing trumps and cashing the top diamonds, he should lead a low spade from dummy toward his J-2.

This approach pays handsome dividends. East goes up with the queen of spades and returns a club. South plays low and is now certain of the contract. West takes his jack of clubs but cannot return a club or a diamond without handing declarer a trick. And if he leads a spade, East takes the ace, but dummy's king then provides a parking place for the queen of clubs.

The advantage of the low spade lead from dummy is that it guarantees the contract if East has the queen. Even if West has the queen, South still gets home safely if West has the ace of spades or East the king of clubs. The recommended play thus gives declarer an extra chance to make the contract by making use of the potential positional value of the jack of spades instead of treating it as a worthless card.

Tomorrow: A one-act play.
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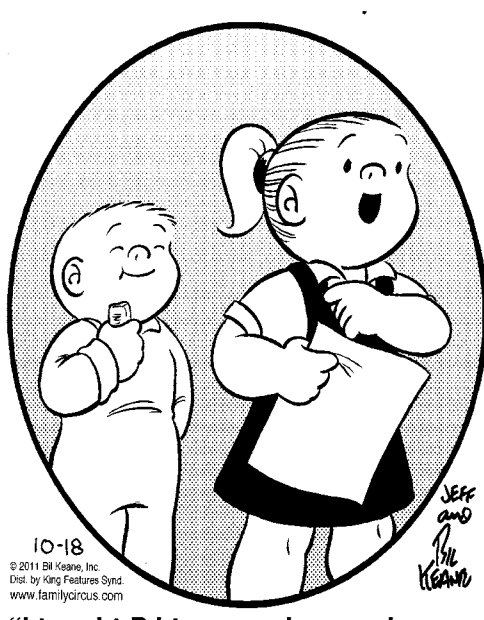
	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM :30	News ABC	Alma Notic.	Big Bang	News CBS	Noticias	News	King	Scrivner	News	Til Death	Cash Cab	Movie: Survival of the Dead	Auction		106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Shake It Good	NFL32	SportsCenter
6:PM :30	Jeopardy!	Cuando Me	Two Men	News	Caso Cer-rado	News	King	Uri Harel	Business	Cash Cab	Cash Cab	Movie: Diary of the Dead	Auction	Bones		Random Good	Baseball Tonight	E:60
7:PM :30	Last Man Man Up!	Familia-Suerte	The X Factor	NCIS (DVS)	Mi Corazón Insiste	The Biggest Loser	King	Cortes	Seinfeld	90210	Auction	Movie: Diary of the Dead	Auction	Bones	Movie: John-son Family Vacation	Wizards Good	College Foot-ball: Florida International at Arkansas State.	Charismatic
8:PM :30	Dancing With Stars	Fuerza-Des-tino	New Girl	NCIS: Los Angeles	Flor Salvaje (SS)		King	Light of the Southwest	Big Bang	Ringer	Auction	Movie: Diary of the Dead	Auction	Bones	Movie: John-son Family Vacation	Hallow-eeen II: Revenge		World, Poker
9:PM :30	(01) Body of Proof	Protagon.	Simpsons	Unforgettable	La Casa de al Lado	Parenthood	King	Women, War	Big Bang	Cops	American Guns	(15) Movie: Scream 3, Courtney Cox Arquette	Auction	Bones	Re.- Lines	Random Shake It		World, Poker
10:PM :30	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	Charlie Rose	King	South PK	Auction	Auction	CSI: NY	Re.- Lines	Wizards	Depth Chart	SportsCenter	
11:PM :30	Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Para Volver a Amar	Law Order: CI	Late	Decisions (SS)	Late Night	Conan	Office	Ministerios Vida	World	American Guns	Movie: The Exorcism of Emily Rose	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Wizards	NFL Live		
12:AM :30	Extra Paid	Destilando Amor	Raymond Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	News	Conan	Office	Upd	Roseanne	Auction	Movie: The Exorcism of Emily Rose	CSI: NY	Movie: Sunset Park, Carol Kane	Good	World, Poker	SportsCenter	
1:AM :30	Paid	La Jaula Par Ases	TMZ	Paid	Pelicula: In Wine	In Wine	Seinfeld	Light of the Southwest	Seinfeld	Homecoming	Dirty Jobs		Scream 2011	Southland	Random ANT Farm	World, Poker	SportsCenter	

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I THINK YOU RUN OUT OF FREE TIME ONCE YOU LEARN HOW TO TELL TIME, JOEY."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

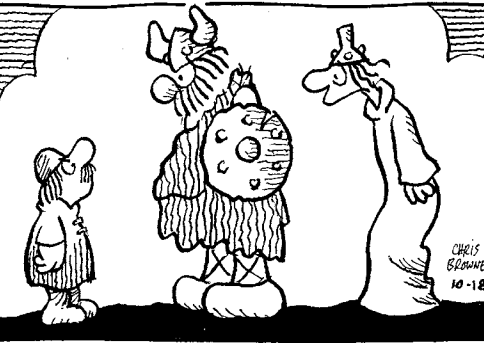


"I taught PJ to erase in case he ever makes a mistake."

HAGAR



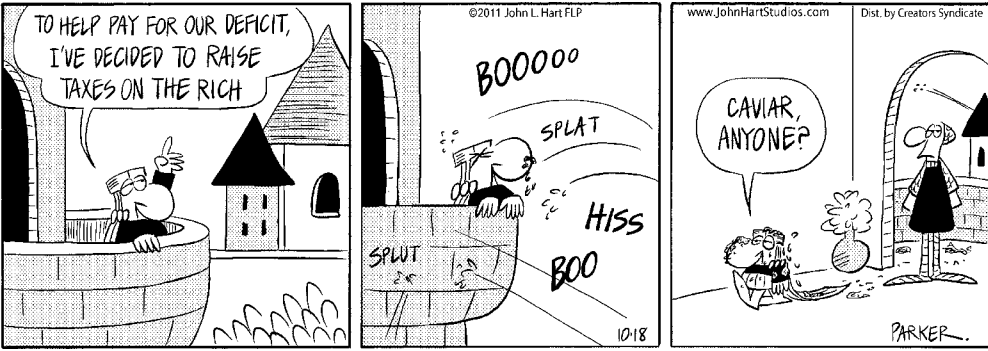
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BC



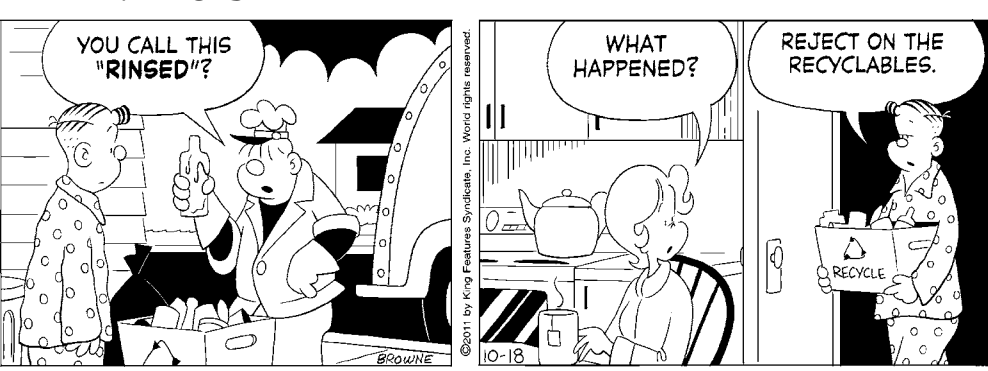
WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



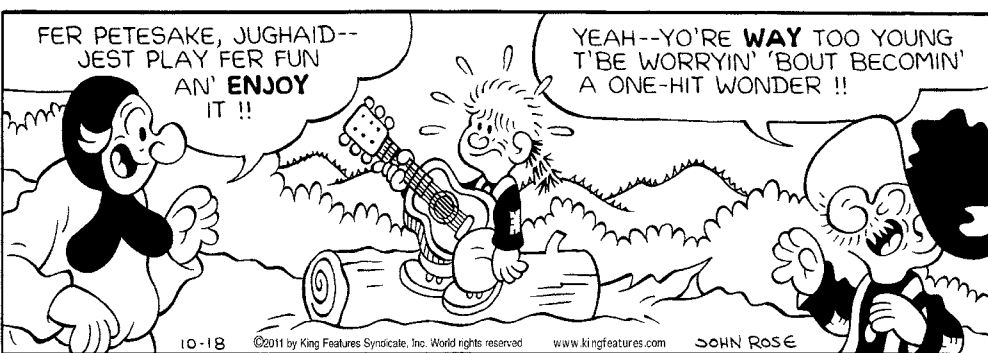
HI AND LOIS



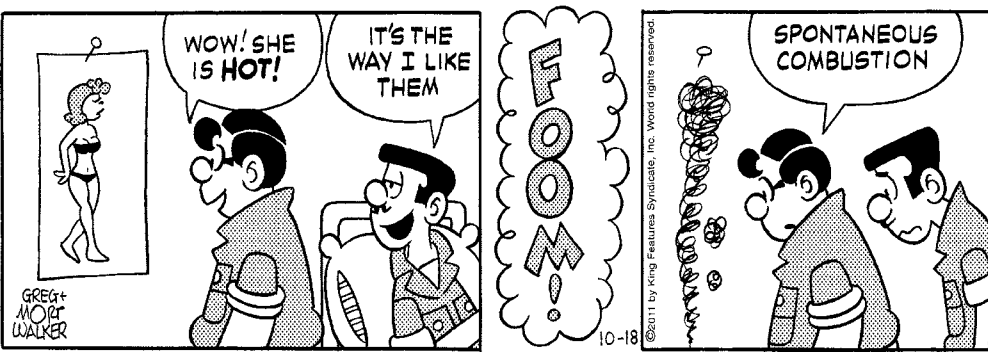
THE OTHER COAST



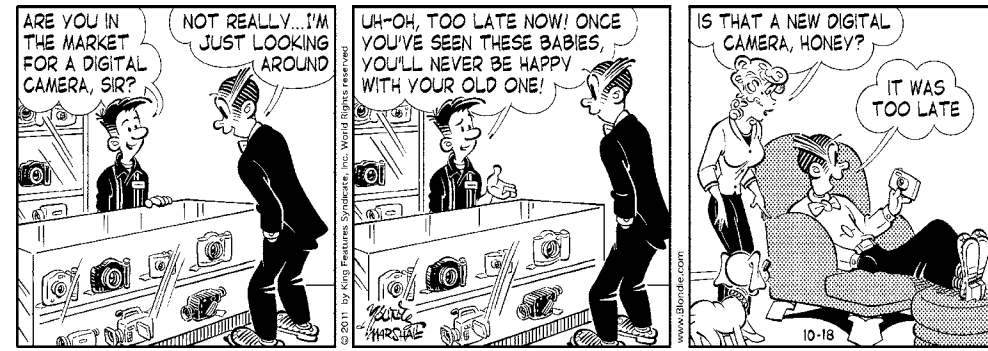
SNUFFY SMITH



BEEETLE BAILY



BLONDIE



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Oct. 18, the 291st day of 2011. There are 74 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 18, 1961, the movie musical "West Side Story," starring Natalie Wood and Richard Beymer, premiered in New York, the film's setting.

On this date:

In 1685, King Louis XIV signed the Edict of Fontainebleau, revoking the Edict of Nantes that had established legal toleration of France's Protestant population, the Huguenots.

In 1867, the United States took formal possession of Alaska from Russia.

In 1892, the first long-distance telephone line between New York and Chicago was officially opened (it could only handle one call at a time).

In 1931, inventor Thomas Alva Edison died in West Orange, N.J., at age 84.

In 1944, Soviet troops invad-

ed Czechoslovakia during World War II.

In 1962, James D. Watson, Francis Crick and Maurice Wilkins were honored with the Nobel Prize for Medicine and Physiology for determining the double-helix molecular structure of DNA.

In 1969, the federal government banned artificial sweeteners known as cyclamates (SY'-kluh-maytz) because of evidence they caused cancer in laboratory rats.

In 1971, the Knapp Commission began public hearings into allegations of corruption in the New York City police department (the witnesses included Frank Serpico).

In 1977, West German commandos stormed a hijacked Lufthansa jetliner on the ground in Mogadishu, Somalia, freeing all 86 hostages and killing three of the four hijackers.

In 1982, former first lady Bess Truman died at her home in Independence, Mo., at age 97.

Today's Birthdays: Rock-and-roll performer Chuck Berry is 85. Sportscaster Keith Jackson is 83. Actress Dawn Wells is 73. College and Pro Football Hall-of-Famer Mike Ditka is 72. Actor Joe Morton is 64. Actress

Pam Dawber is 61. Author Terry McMillan is 60. Writer-producer Chuck Lorre is 59. Gospel singer Vickie Winans is 58. International Tennis Hall of Famer Martina Navratilova is 55. Boxer Thomas Hearns is 53. Actor Jean-Claude Van Damme is 51. Jazz musician Wynton Marsalis is 50. Actor Vincent Spano is 49. Rock musician Tim Cross is 45. Tennis player Michael Stich (shteek) is 43. Singer Nonchalant is 38. Rock musician Peter Svenson (The Cardigans) is 37. Actor Wesley Jonathan is 33. Rhythm-and-blues singer-actor Ne-Yo is 32. Country singer Josh Gracin is 31. Country musician Jesse Littleton (Marshall Dyllon) is 30.

Answer to previous puzzle

ASSET	SOME	BATH
ROUTE	PAIR	OKRA
MURAL	OHNO	WRITE
SPELL	BOUND	LOBE
MAN	EVENED	
BATTER	FADED	
AREA	BRAT	TOTAL
RINK	SAVOR	VICE
SATED	ROPE	EDEN
NEVER	LAREDO	
CABANA	SIS	
ARAB	SPEECHLESS	
BOCA	SAVE	COVET
BMOC	APED	ARENA
YANK	LASS	NERDY

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Macaroni or ziti
 - 6 Wet dirt
 - 9 Basics
 - 13 Clarinet cousins
 - 14 "Sorry to intrude . . ."
 - 16 Take a break
 - 17 Cover girl, for one
 - 18 "Filet" fish
 - 19 Bullfighter's cloth
 - 20 Person who embodies a cause
 - 23 Doze
 - 24 Tee- (giggle sound)
 - 25 Stretches too much
 - 27 "Don't argue!"
 - 32 Place to build
 - 33 Sheep's sound
 - 34 Slippery ___ eel
 - 36 Hot coal
 - 39 Admiral's org.
 - 40 Not crafty
 - 42 "___ you serious?"
 - 43 Base before home
 - 45 A few
 - 46 Recycling container
 - 47 Tie fabric
 - 49 "Maybe later"
 - 52 Blend together
 - 55 Ripen
 - 56 French friend
 - 57 Legendary Old West outlaw
 - 63 Prohibits
 - 65 Cappuccino froth
 - 66 Stage whisper
- DOWN
- 1 Ceremonial splendor
 - 2 Peek- (tot's game)
 - 3 Installs, as a lawn
 - 4 Acquire molars
 - 5 In dreamland
 - 6 Not fem. or neut.
 - 7 "This doesn't look good"
 - 8 Sandwich shops
 - 9 Circle segment
 - 10 Hot toy of the '90s
 - 11 Congressional TV channel
 - 12 Dance moves
 - 15 Thaws
 - 21 Repair, as a road
 - 22 Towels off
 - 26 24-hr. cash dispenser
 - 27 Share a border with
 - 28 Money
 - 29 "Smaller dog" constellation
 - 30 Suffix meaning "adherents"
 - 31 Hawk's claw
 - 35 Verne captain
 - 37 Cleveland's lake
 - 38 Payment for a landlord
 - 40 Speak without a script
 - 41 Lay into
 - 44 Bit of barbecue
 - 48 Steak cutter
 - 50 Appalled
 - 51 Park ride for two
 - 52 Log house
 - 53 Nebraska city
 - 54 Marry on the run
 - 58 Animal's den
 - 59 Gym site, briefly
 - 60 Windy-day toy
 - 61 Notion
 - 62 Office furniture
 - 64 Secret agent

SMALL FRY by Billie Truitt

Edited by Stanley Newman

www.stanxwords.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13					14		15		16			
17					18				19			
20					21			22		23		
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52	53				54			55				
56				57		58	59			60	61	62
63			64		65				66			
67					68				69			
70						71			72			

MONDAY

Continued from Page 8

unfortunate that it happened. We're chasing a much bigger thing than that. We're moving forward."

Meanwhile, the Dolphins are 0-5 to start a season for the second time in five years, and things are looking an awful lot like 2007 — when Miami went 1-15. The heat on Dolphins coach Tony Sparano could intensify now.

"It's tough right now," said wide receiver Brandon Marshall, who had six catches for 109 yards. "When you lose, everything looks bad. It's a nasty feeling in the building and a nasty feeling every day. The only thing we can do is fight to get a win."

Marshall didn't even live up to his promise late last week that he would get ejected sometime in the second quarter.

He also said he might even start a fight with Jets linebacker Bart Scott or cornerback Antonio Cromartie.

It was all talk.

But that's what many fans and media were thinking the struggling Jets were, too. And New York did little to convince them otherwise while the Dolphins got on the scoreboard first on Dan Carpenter's 23-yard field goal midway through the opening quarter.

The night appeared to be taking an awful turn for the Jets when they

lost the ensuing kickoff when it bounced off blocker Garrett McIntyre — standing in front of returner Joe McKnight — and was recovered by Austin Spitzer.

But three plays later, Matt Moore threw at Marshall in the end zone and Revis stepped in front of the pass and returned it untouched 100 yards to make it 7-3.

"That's exactly what we needed on defense, to set the tone early," Cromartie said.

The return tied for the longest in franchise history, first set by Aaron Glenn in 1996, also against Miami. It was also the longest interception runback in the league this season.

Moore, starting for the injured Chad Henne, was 16 of 34 for 204 yards and two interceptions.

"It's rough, kind of the same old story, trying to find answers and make plays down there in the red zone and we seem to hit a wall," Moore said. "Just got to keep going."

The Jets opened with four straight three-and-outs for the second consecutive game before getting things going late in the first half. On third-and-9 from the Jets 20, Jeremy Kerley caught a 14-yard pass for New York's initial first down of the game, with 6:17 left in the half.

Then, the offense started clicking with a few long drives. Holmes' 38-yard grab early in the fourth quarter sealed it after Sanchez bought some time with his feet

and found the receiver, who easily outran linebacker Cameron Wake and made a few nice moves on his way into the end zone to put New York up 24-6.

"What happened last week was last week," Holmes said. "We're looking forward and ahead."

Sanchez finished 14 of 25 for 201 yards and the touchdown pass to Holmes, and Shonn Greene ran for 74 yards on 21 carries.

"To think that guys were upset or had it out for each other, that's crazy," Sanchez said. "Not here, not with Rex. I knew it was something that would pass."

76ers sold

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The Philadelphia 76ers are under new management.

The deal to sell the Sixers to a group led by New York-based leveraged buyout specialist Joshua Harris has been completed. The Sixers will hold a press conference Tuesday to introduce the owners. The sale ends Comcast-Spectacor's 15-year run of ownership.

The group also includes David Blitzer,

Art Wrubel, and Jason Levien. Levien is a former NBA player agent and Sacramento Kings executive.

NBA Commissioner David Stern says Harris and Blitzer bring vast business experience that will greatly benefit the team as it continues to grow both on and off the court.

Harris is one of three founders of Apollo Global Management, a publicly listed alternative investment manager. Comcast-Spectacor,

led by chairman Ed Snider, purchased the Sixers from Harold Katz on April 24, 1996. Comcast-Spectacor also owns the NHL's Philadelphia Flyers.

"Over the last 15 years, a number of different individuals or entities have inquired about purchasing the Sixers, and to be honest, I was not looking to sell the team," Snider said. "But it became clear that this was an offer that made sense."



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SERIES

Continued from Page 8

able under postseason pressure the past two years.

Cardinals: Rafael Furcal. Limited by injuries three of the last four seasons, Furcal was acquired by general manager John Mozeliak from the Dodgers at the July 31 trade deadline to shore up a trouble spot in St. Louis.

Third Base: Rangers: Adrian Beltre. Brought in as a free agent, Beltre certainly provided the power and defense Texas was looking for when it signed him to an \$80 million, five-year contract in the offseason.

Cardinals: David Freese. The kid who grew up a Cardinals fan in the St. Louis suburbs made a national name for himself during the

NL championship series, batting .545 (12 for 22) with three HRs, three doubles, nine RBIs and seven runs to take home MVP honors.

Catcher: Rangers: Mike Napoli. Traded twice in five days last January, Napoli found a home in Texas and had a huge second half. One of the game's most underrated hitters, he finished with a .320 average, 30 HRs and 75 RBIs in only 369 at-bats. **Cardinals:** Yadier Molina. Maybe the game's best defensive catcher, Molina showed new pop with the stick this season, hitting .305 with 14 HRs and 65 RBIs — all career highs.

Left Field: Rangers: David Murphy. Often overlooked near the bottom of the lineup, Murphy is a professional hitter who gives a tough at-bat and knows how to drive in runs. He batted

.275 with 11 HRs and 46 RBIs this season, then quietly hit .391 during the AL playoffs. His bat plays well off the bench, too.

Cardinals: Matt Holliday. The five-time All-Star was limited to 124 games by injuries and illness this season. He missed time early in the playoffs while recovering from an inflamed tendon on his right ring finger, then got rolling in the NLCS against Milwaukee with a .435 average and five RBIs. His defense can be shaky, but Holliday's tremendous strength makes him a home run threat to all fields.

Center Field: Rangers: Josh Hamilton. One of the game's great natural talents, Hamilton was the AL MVP and ALCS MVP last season. Now, he'd like a World Series ring to

cap his incredible comeback story from drug and alcohol addiction. Hamilton played mostly left field this year and missed six weeks early on with a non-displaced fracture at the top of his right arm after trying to score on a foul popup at Detroit. He batted .298 with 25 HRs and 94 RBIs in 121 games. He does not have a homer yet this postseason, but is hitting .293 with five doubles and seven RBIs.

Cardinals: Jon Jay. After trading Colby Rasmus in late July, the Cardinals needed someone who could cover ground in center between Holliday and Lance Berkman. They turned to Jay, a 26-year-old left-handed hitter who batted .297 with 10 HRs and 37 RBIs.

Right Field: Rangers: Nelson Cruz. Anyone who watched the ALCS knows what Cruz is capable of. He was a one-man show against Detroit, putting on an unprecedented power display and cutting down a runner at the plate with a rifle throw in a crucial situation. Cruz had six homers and 13 RBIs — both major league records for a postseason series — and finished 8 for 22 (.364) with two doubles. He went 4 for 20 (.200) with a HR and three RBIs in the 2010 World Series.

Cardinals: Lance Berkman. After signing an \$8 million, one-year contract to join St. Louis last offseason, a rejuvenated Berkman provided quite an offensive boost.

The switch-hitter batted .301 with 31 home

runs, 94 RBIs and a .412 on-base percentage to win the NL comeback player of the year award. His 35-year-old legs limit his range in the outfield, but Berkman is a gamer.

Designated Hitter: Rangers: Michael Young or Mike Napoli or David Murphy. Rangers manager Ron Washington has several options when the series shifts to Texas for Game 3. He could put Young in his customary DH spot and start Moreland at first base, or move Hamilton to left and upgrade the outfield defense with Craig Gentry or Endy Chavez in center. Or, Yorvit Torrealba could start behind the plate, with Napoli shifting to DH or first base.

Cardinals: Lance Berkman or Allen Craig. American League rules give manager Tony La Russa a chance to keep Berkman's bat in the lineup while replacing him on defense with a more athletic outfielder.

One would think he'll take advantage of it. Craig could start in right, especially against the lefties. A right-handed bat with pop, he hit .315 with 11 HRs and 40 RBIs in only 200 at-bats this season.

Starting Pitchers: Rangers: After losing ace lefty Cliff Lee to Philadelphia in free agency last fall, the Rangers compensated with a group effort from their solid — if not spectacular — starters. C.J. Wilson, Derek Holland, Colby Lewis and Matt Harrison were all durable, with each making at least 30 starts

and throwing more than 185 innings. Alex Ogando made the All-Star squad as a starter but has moved back to the bullpen in the postseason, giving Washington quite a weapon. Wilson stepped up and performed like a legitimate No. 1 starter all season, going 16-7 with a 2.94 ERA and 206 strikeouts in a career-high 223 1-3 innings. But he really struggled during the playoffs, posting an 0-2 mark with an 8.04 ERA in three outings. A potential free agent after the World Series, perhaps he's feeling the pressure. Regardless, he figures to get the ball again in Game 1.

Cardinals: St. Louis also lost an ace before the season began. Adam Wainwright, who won 39 games the past two years, had major elbow surgery in February and missed the entire campaign. But the Cardinals showed their depth, getting solid seasons from Jaime Garcia and Kyle Lohse to complement Chris Carpenter, the 2005 NL Cy Young Award winner. The rotation received a boost with the addition of right-hander Edwin Jackson in late July, just before the trade deadline. He went 5-2 with a 3.58 ERA for the Cardinals. A proven postseason ace, Carpenter is the key. He won 10 of his last 12 regular-season decisions following a 1-7 start and was 2-0 with a 3.71 ERA in three playoff starts. The 36-year-old right-hander threw a three-hitter for a 1-0 win at Philadelphia in Game 5 of the division series, outpitching old pal Roy Halladay to finish off the heavily favored Phillies. Carpenter also tossed an eight-inning gem in his only previous World Series appearance against Detroit in 2006. Some of the St. Louis starters look tired, but La Russa has had a quick hook and the bullpen has delivered.

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