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BIG SPRING HERALD

MONDAY EDITION,
 DECEMBER 9, 2019

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 Pediatric Clinic & Well Checks
10am - 1pm
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VOLUME 115, NUMBER 61 COPYRIGHT 2019 75 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND EDITION



Big Spring Herald Christmas Parade winners are:

Upcoming Events

Christmas Tree Forest
 Open at
 Heritage Museum
 through Dec. 20

Today
 Howard County
 Commissioners Court
 3:30 p.m.
 Courthouse/ 3rd Floor
 Courtroom

Tuesday
 City Council Meeting
 5:30 p.m.
 City Council Chambers

Festival of Lights
 Open through Dec. 25
 6 p.m. - 10 p.m. nightly

Dec. 10
 SMMC Tree Lighting
 6 p.m.

Red Kettle Challenge has begun. Those wanting to volunteer can sign up at RegisterToRing.com

Submit your holiday festivities photos to be featured in the Big Spring Herald. Email editor@bigspringherald.com.

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Find us online at:
 www.bigspringherald.com



HERALD photos/Anna Gutierrez
 The Guardians of the Children (pictured above) won the categories of Creativity and Lighting; Helena Chemical won the category of Theme; Forsan 5th Grade and Guardians of the Children tied for best Costuming.
 By **AMANDA DUFORAT**
 Managing Editor
 Rudolph and Friends made their way to Big Spring and gathered together for the annual Big Spring Herald Christmas Parade this weekend. This year, there were 66 entries that were judged, and a few extra who came in as a late entry.

See **PARADE**, Page 3

McKinnon named State National Bank EOY

By **TUMBLEWEED SMITH**
 Special to the Herald

The State National Bank is proud to announce this year's employee of the year is Krisann McKinnon. She is a lifelong resident of Big Spring and works in the new accounts department. She had previously worked in bookkeeping, as a switchboard operator and teller, "Being in several departments helps me see how everything works together," says Krisann. "This is such an honor for me. I've been with the bank seven years and have come to realize the bank employees are extremely close. It's like a family." Her real family is small, just she and her husband James. They do have two dogs, Yoda and Lola. "They're inside dogs and very spoiled."



Courtesy photo
 Pictured are Jim Purcell, Krisann McKinnon - State National Employee of the Year, and Richard Steel. McKinnon has been employed at State National for seven years.

See **STATE**, Page 3

Sanctuary City for the Unborn agenda item for Big Spring City Council on Tuesday

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**
 Managing Editor

The Big Spring City Council will meet for a regular meeting, on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. inside the City Council Chambers. Amongst other discussion items - new and old business, the City Council will be addressing the hot topic issue from last month's public comment section, Sanctuary City for the Unborn request. As part of the City Manager's Report there will be updates provided regarding the aquatic center, Ports-to-Plains Segment 2 Meeting, the old landfill west cell available space and Big Sandy Draw landfill, phase 1, package 2. The Council will also hear about board openings on the traffic commission - for an unexpired term 9-2020; board of adjustments and appeals - en-

gineer - for an unexpired term 9-2020, and zoning board of adjustments - alternate - for an unexpired term 9-2022.

The City Council will convene for Executive Session in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 551.071 to consult with the City Attorney about pending or contemplated litigation and in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 551.074 to discuss personnel matters. After the Executive Session has concluded, the council will reconvene in open session and take any necessary action on items discussed and authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documents.

Under new business items, the council will hear first readings on Ordinance Amending Chapter 6 of the code of ordinances en-

titled "Cemetery, Park, and Recreation" Article 7 "Comanche Trail Golf Course" by amending fees and use guidelines. There will also be a first reading of an

See **CITY**, Page 3

Big Spring Herald's Christmas Countdown
Robert says "Only 16 Days 'til Christmas!"
 (Robert Smith, Circulation Manager)
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Obituaries

Daniel Alcalá



Daniel Alcalá, 58, of Big Spring, Texas, formerly of Sweetwater, Texas, passed away Thursday, Dec. 5, 2019, in Sulphur, Louisiana, after a brief illness. A graveside service will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2019, at Sweetwater Cemetery. Interment will follow directed by McCoy Funeral Home. A prayer vigil and rosary will be recited by David Mendez at 6:30 and 7 p.m. Tuesday, at McCoy Chapel of Memories in Sweetwater.

Daniel was born Aug. 8, 1961, in Sweetwater,

Texas, to Brigido and Mary (Vasquez) Alcalá. He attended Sweetwater High School. He was an electrician. He had lived in Big Spring the past 16 years after leaving Sweetwater.

He is survived by two daughters, Christina Menchaca, and Saprina Martinez and husband, Stefan all of Big Spring; three sons, Timothy Alcalá, Adam Contreras, Joseph Contreras and wife, Kendra, all of Big Spring; his mother, Mary Alcalá of Sweetwater, Texas; and several grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his father; and a brother, Joe Alcalá.

Online condolences may be expressed at www.mccoyfh@yahoo.com.

Paid Obituary

Randy Allen Sunday

Randy Allen Sunday, 67, of Sedalia, Missouri, formerly of Big Spring, died Saturday, Dec. 7, 2019, in Warrensburg, Missouri. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory.

Ralph Dennis Kennedy

Ralph Dennis Kennedy, 71, of Big Spring, died Thursday, Dec. 5, 2019, in a Lubbock hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **JED RACHE MAYNARD**, 27, of 1201 Sycamore St., was arrested on a charge of no drivers license.
- **GABRIEL LEE MARTINEZ**, 31, of 1611 S. Owens St., was arrested on an outstanding warrant from another agency.
- **MANUEL REY CHAVARRIA**, 37, of 2535 Gunt-er Circle, was arrested on a charge of credit or debit card abuse, and four outstanding warrants from other agencies.
- **BRANDON THOMAS POWELL**, 22, of 5000 S. Service Rd., was arrested on a warrant for driving with invalid license.
- **ASHLEY MICHELLE PEARSON**, 28, of 7000 S. SR I-20, #A, was arrested on warrants for operating an unregistered motor vehicle, two counts of driving with invalid license, and failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- **TEE JAY ANSTED**, 28, of 200 Lee Morrison Lane, Bryan, Texas, was arrested on an outstanding warrant from another agency.
- **JASON PITTMAN**, 41, of 1306 Hardin St., was arrested on an outstanding warrant from another agency.

- **VIOLA LEE YOUNG**, 45, of 1307 Lincoln Ave., was arrested on an outstanding warrant from another agency.
- **SHERRIE ANN THOMPSON**, of 5112 Dawson, was arrested on an outstanding warrant from another agency.
- **ANDREW JACOB ESTRACA**, 20, of 614 Steakly St., was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- **MICHAEL ROBIN VELINDA ROBERTSON**, 37, of 3407 E. Hwy 350, was arrested on an outstanding warrant from another agency.
- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 1600 block of Eubanks Rd.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 1500 block of E. 17th St.
- **ACCIDENT MINOR** was reported at Grafa and Monticello.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 800 block of W. FM 700.
- **STOLEN VEHICLE** was reported in the 100 block of Colorado Rd.
- **BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE** was reported in the 100 block of Jefferson St.

Take Note

The Potton House will be open, beginning Sunday, Dec. 8, and then on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through the month of December. Hours will be from 1 to 4 p.m. Admission is free, but donations are greatly appreciated. Come see a little bit of Big Spring's history at the historic Potton House.

Anthony Rivas, local musician, is collecting food for Isaiah 58 Food Pantry. If you would like to donate, please contact Rivas at 432-935-0779, and he will arrange a time to drop off the donations at the food pantry. The food will then be distributed to the less fortunate in our area on Tuesday, Nov. 26. Burgers and hot dogs will be provided that day, and a DJ will be on site for entertainment. Thank you Anthony for doing this for our community.

Christmas in Coahoma at the Park will take place this year on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 3 to 6:30 p.m. There will be hayrides and caroling, Christmas art projects for kids, free coffee, cocoa, popcorn and cookies. There will also be a special visit from Santa from 3 to 5 p.m. If you would like to enter your house into the Best Decorated House contest, you can pick up an application at City Hall or at the Office of the Justice of the Peace and return by December 11. The winner will be announced at the park and will receive a yard sign and stocking of goodies.

VFW Post 2013 meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. New members are being sought. The Post is located at 500 Driver Rd. Qualified veterans, those who have served in a foreign war, who are interested in joining the VFW are encouraged to attend a meeting to find out more information.

A fund has been set up in order to assist Brent Fowlkes with medical expenses. Brent is the husband of Ashley Martin Fowlkes, CEO of Big Spring Education Employees Federal Credit Union.

If you would like more information or would like to make a donation, please stop by the credit union located at 1110 Benton, or call 432-263-8393. Please see the tellers to make a donation. Thank you to everyone for your kind-

ness and support during this difficult time.

DivorceCare is a biblical support group for those facing divorce or separation. Each DVD session features nationally respected experts, such as Christian Counselors and Pastors. Small group discussions and workbook exercises help participants apply the information to their own situations. We cover pertinent issues like: • Will I survive? • How to get out of debt. • How do you know when you are ready for a new relationship? • How to lessen the impact of divorce on your children. • Is reconciliation possible?

There is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held two times per year on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Visit the DivorceCare Ministry of TBC Facebook page for information. You can also call Donna Burcham at 267-6344 for information on seminar dates and how you can register to attend.

Food2Kids will again be providing sack lunches to children in the Big Spring area who do not receive adequate food over the weekends. Members of the community can be a part by volunteering to sack the food. It takes just a couple of hours of your time, and the work is very rewarding. The next sacking event of this 2019-2020 school year will be Monday, Jan. 6 and Tuesday Jan. 7, and they will continue throughout the year on the first Monday and Tuesday of the month. To volunteer, just show up at Lakeview High School located at 1107 N.W. 7th St., at 5:30 p.m. You can follow their Facebook page for additional information <https://www.facebook.com/food2kids/>.

O'Neal-Kunkle, Chapter #47 of the Disabled American Vets (D.A.V.), meets the third Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at 2204 Runnels Street. For more information, please contact Norman Witcher at 432-413-6663.

Senior and/or mature adults are invited to come to a dance every first and third Friday each month at the Dora Roberts Community Center, located at 100 Whipkey Drive. Come two-step

the evening away, or just mingle with old friends and make new friends. Dances are from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. with live entertainment. No alcohol or smoking permitted. Cost is \$5 per person.

Home Hospice is looking for volunteers (18+) and junior volunteers (9-16 years old). Applications can be picked up at the Home Hospice office, located at 111 E. Seventh Street, Suite A between 8 a.m and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Adult volunteers will need to complete a training and must be able to pass a background check. Volunteer duties will include home visits; junior volunteers will be helping with office work, community events and holiday activities. More information can be obtained by calling 264-7599 or 432-967-0901.

Keep Big Spring Beautiful meets at noon the first Monday of every month. We meet at Howard College in the Cactus Room. Our vision is that every Big Spring citizen will take individual responsibility for making Big Spring the most beautiful city in Texas. Visitors are always welcome. For more information call Tammy at 432-935-0057.

Big Spring and surrounding counties are in need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 432-263-9669.

Victim Services is a non-profit independent community-based program serving victims of all violent crime, including, but not limited to, assault, sexual assault and domestic violence. Victim Services advocates are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to provide crisis intervention or accompaniment to the hospital and law enforcement agencies, as needed. If you can commit to 30-hour training, an interview process and a background check, we need you. For more information, call Linda Calvio at 432-263-3312.

Support Groups

MONDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, As Bill Sees It, 615 Settles, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

TUESDAY

• Big Spring and Snyder Parkinson's Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month. This is a group for all Parkinson's Disease patients, spouses and caregivers. For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-0942.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; newcomers meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• A six-week course in Wellness and Quality of Life with Chronic Pain will be held at Spring Creek Fellowship at the Spring Town Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700. There is no charge for the course, and a workbook will be provided. Contact Steve Purdy at 432-517-4840 for more information.

• Caregivers Support Group, sponsored by the Area Agency on Aging, meets the second Tuesday of every month at 10:30 a.m. The meetings are held at the Senior Citizens Center located at 100 Whipkey Drive. These meetings are open for any caregiver, whether medical professional or family member. For more information, please call Becky Letz at 267-1628.

• Al-anon family group meets at 8 p.m. at 615 Settles.

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There is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held two times per year on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. The next session begins Sept. 3, 2019. Visit the DivorceCare Ministry of TBC Facebook page for information. You can also call Donna Burcham at 267-6344 for information on seminar dates and how you can register to attend.

WEDNESDAY

• RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy) a chronic pain disease, a support and informative group, meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at 432-517-9207 for more information.

• Celebrate Recovery meets at First United Methodist Church Youth Hall, 400 Scurry, from 6-8 p.m. Hurts, habits and hang-ups. Leave message for Joyce Webb at 325-212-860

THURSDAY

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

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

• Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder support group meeting is at 6:30 p.m. at the VA Medical Center Veteran's Healing Center.

• Bring Everyone Into The Zone, or BEITZ Support Group, is a veteran-based peer group. The purpose of the group is to provide peer-to-peer support to service members, veterans and families, especially those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), military sexual trauma (MST) and other traumatic events in their lives. BEITZ meets every Thursday at 6 p.m. at 501 Birdwell Lane. For more information, email francisco.garza@wtcmhmr.org, or call 432-268-3003.

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TPA

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PARADE

Continued from Page 1

"This was the biggest parade we have had so far," Angela Lance, Big Spring Herald Senior Advertising Executive, said.

This year floats were judged on creativity, lighting, costuming and theme. The special community judges this year were Terry Hansen, Mike Ritchey

and Judge Tim Yeats.

The winners for the 2019 Big Spring Annual Herald Christmas Parade were as follows: Guardians of the Children for Creativity and Lighting; Helena was voted best float under Theme and for the Costuming category, Forsan Fifth Grade and Guardians of the Children tied for the title.

Numerous organizations, local businesses and community leaders showed off their creativity. There were classic cars, brand new cars, horses, floats and more traveling down Scurry Street. In

addition to Rudolph and Friends, a special appearance was made by the holly, jolly, Ol' Saint Nick.

On behalf of the Big Spring Herald, thank you to all those who came out to support the parade. From those who were part of the parade to those who came out to watch the festivities and admire the creativity, you made the parade a success.

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

Weather



Today: Showers likely. Cloudy, with a high near 63. West wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%. New precipitation amounts of less than a tenth of an inch possible.

Tonight: Rain. Low around 34. Northeast wind 5 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. New precipitation amounts between a quarter and half of an inch possible.

Tuesday: A slight chance of rain and snow before 9am, then a slight chance of rain. Mostly sunny, with a high near 46. Northeast wind 10 to 15 mph becoming light and variable in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 30. Calm wind becoming southwest around 5 mph.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 55. Light southwest wind becoming south 5 to 10 mph in the morning.

Wednesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 33.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 56.

Thursday Night: Clear, with a low around 35.

(Weather courtesy National Weather Service via forecast.weather.gov)

CITY

Continued from Page 1

ordinance authorizing the issuance of general obligation refunding bonds, series 2020.

Other items on the agenda include:

- Public Comment.
- Public hearings - during this time the Council will take input on items requiring public hearing items prior to any action taken.
- Public hearing regarding zone change Z19-05 from heavy industrial to general residential at 919 Ohio Street, being 0.172 acre in lot 1, block 2 North Park addition.
- Final reading of a resolution authorizing the execution and delivery of property schedule No. 2 to master tax-exempt lease/purchase agreement between U.S. Bank Equipment Finance and City of Big Spring with respect to the lease purchase of certain vehicles and equipment; authorizing the execution and delivery of schedule No. 2 and related documents; appropriating funds for current year lease payments; and resolving other matters relating to the subject.
- Final reading of an ordinance authorizing Z19-03, amending of rezoning lots from light industrial to single family residential; Z19-04 from light industrial to general residential.
- Final reading of an ordinance amending various sections of the zoning ordinance to renumber and organize the ordinance for clarification, update terms and state law references and removing references to appendices B&C.
- Final reading of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an interlocal agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation Regarding the Construction and Maintenance of a Gateway Sign on the TxDOT right of Way of W Business IH-20 entrance.
- Final reading of a resolution authorizing submission of a grant application with the Permain Basin Regional Planning Commission for a Regional Solid Waste Grants Program grant.
- Final reading of an ordinance amending ordi-

nance number 035-2019 which adopted the annual budget for the fiscal year to transfer funds within the Hotel/Motel fund budget for the purpose of purchasing a spring pump.

- First reading of a resolution casting votes to elect directors for the Howard County Appraisal District for 2020 and 2021; directing the City Secretary to submit the official ballot to the Chief Appraiser of the Howard County Appraisal District before Dec. 15, 2019.
- First reading of several ordinances under planning and zoning, including an ordinance allowing residents of Howard County Owning and operating businesses located inside the city limits to fill up to two of the commission positions.
- Approval of investment report for the quarter ending Sept. 30, 2019.
- Consideration and possible action on change order for 20" water line replacement project.
- Consideration and possible action on an agreement for engineering services with Jacob Martin, LLC for sludge removal, for 2020 water and sewer improvements; City Hall and Auditorium parking lot.
- Approval of minutes for Parks and Recreation board; planning and zoning commission, Big Spring Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors.
- Vouchers.
- Award bid for Sanitation containers to roll-offs USA of Drant, Oklahoma and authorizing City Manager or designee to execute any necessary documents.

Due to the holiday this month there will only be one city council meeting. The City offices will also be closed Dec. 24-25 and January 1, 2020.

Those needing an interpreter should contact Lesa Gamble at 432-264-240-1 or lgamble@mybigspring.com and request an interpreter. Requests are encouraged to be made at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

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

STATE

Continued from Page 1

She attended Howard College after graduating from Big Spring High School.

"I sang in the choir in high school and loved it. The only singing I do now is in the shower or in the car."

Krisann loves working with craft items, helping her parents

make wooden wheelbarrows and wishing wells for yard ornaments and planters.

"We've also made Christmas wreaths and wooden crosses." Krisann's parents are Andy and Aminta Lopez.

She says when she was named Employee of the Year she was thrilled, but had trouble being in the limelight.

"I'm sure the people there saw how red my cheeks were because

I'm so shy. I'm just glad I didn't trip on the way to receive the plaque."

Bank President and CEO Richard Steel says Krisann's honor is well deserved.

"She's very professional and does her job well. It's people like Krisann that make SNB a great place to work."

"We're fortunate to have her," added Jim Purcell, Chairman of the Board. "She's an anchor."

Take Note

• The Christensen-Tucker Post-2013 Veterans of Foreign Wars meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. at 500 Driver Road. For more information, contact David Leonard, Post Commander, at 432-816-6004. All combat veterans of foreign wars are invited to come.

• The Big Spring Symphony Board of Directors meets every first Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the symphony office, 808 Scurry Street.

• Order of the Eastern Star Big Spring Chapter 67 meets the third Tuesday of each month at 219 Main

St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Lodge meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact 432-271-2138.

• Staked Plains Masonic Lodge No. 598 meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. (dinner is at 6 p.m.) at 219 1/2 Main St. All Masons are welcome.

• The Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council is in need of volunteers to fill a variety of needs to assist the hospital's patients. Applications to become a volunteer can be picked up at The Chalet, 115 E. Second St., Tuesday through Saturday between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. or at the Big Spring State Hospital Community Relations Department.

Share your photos with us, of community events, by email at editor@bigspringherald.com

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HOLIDAY COLORING CONTEST

Ages 3-6

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Age _____

Phone # _____



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Ages 7-12

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Age _____

Phone # _____



COLORING CONTEST RULES

**Prizes Awarded
To Each Age Group**

1. Contest open to children ages 3-12
2. Limit one contest submission per person
3. Contest entries may be completed using markers, crayons, or colored pencils.
4. Adults may assist in completing entry form information, but NOT in coloring pictures.
5. All entries must be received by the Big Spring Herald by 5 pm on Monday, December 16, 2019. Winners will be published in the Sunday, December 22, 2019 edition.
7. Decision of judges is final.
8. Employees of the Big Spring Herald and contest sponsors are not eligible to win.
9. All submissions become property of the Big Spring Herald and may be published accordingly.

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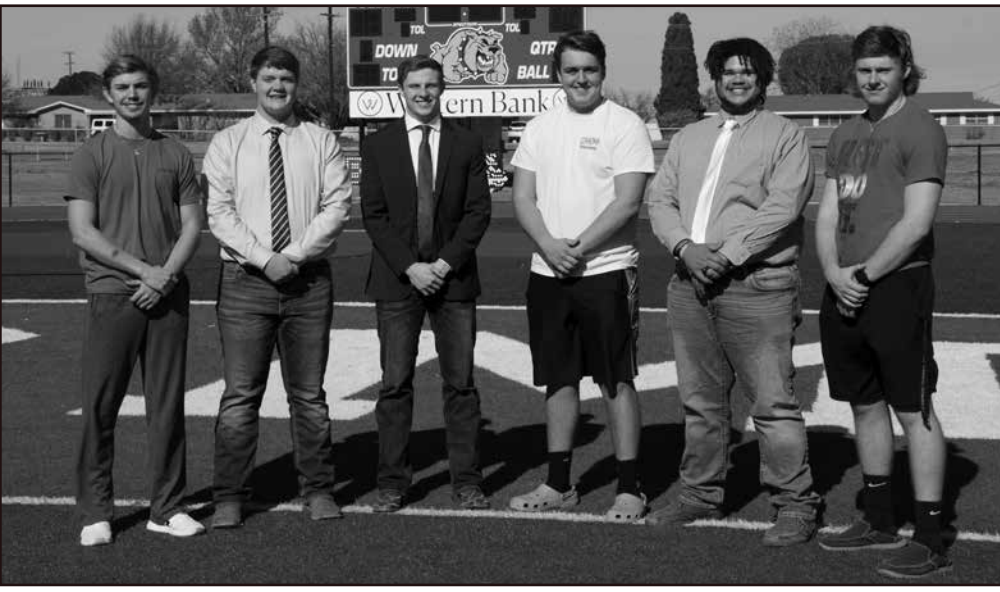
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Six Bulldogs named All-State Academic



Courtesy Photo/Coahoma ISD

Pictured above are the six Coahoma Bulldogs who made the THSCA All-State Academic Football list. They are, from left, Brant Gartman, Garrett Anderson, Gaige Hill, Cutter Atkins, Jonathon Schneider, and Keegan Dobbs.

Special to the Herald

COAHOMA — Six Coahoma Bulldogs have proven they excel not only on the gridiron but also in the classroom after they landed on the THSCA All-State Academic Football list.

Seniors Keegan Dobbs, Cutter Atkins, Brant Gartman, Gaige Hill, Garrett Anderson, and Jonathon Schneider made the list by the Texas High School Coaches Association (THSCA) to honor high school athletes who shine both academically and athletically.

"I am very proud of these young men for taking care of business in the classroom and on the field," said Bulldogs head football coach Chris Joslin.

Gartman, Atkins, and Hill were named to the second team and Anderson, Schneider, and Dobbs made honorable mention. The award is based on grade point average, class ranking, and SAT or ACT scores and is made up of athletes from 1A to 6A schools.

The Coahoma Bulldogs ended the 2019 football season 9-3 which included the team's first Bi-District win since 2003.

The team will be looking forward to the offseason and getting back to work on the field in the spring.

Being named to the All-Academic team for football is a great honor. In any sport, student-athletes give up a lot of their free time and dedicate themselves to their team. Making the All-Academic team means these players excelled both on and off the field. It is a hard goal to achieve and the Coahoma community should be very proud of these young men.

Big Spring Steers have 11 players selected to All-District

Special to the Herald

Congratulations to the following young men for their selection to the All-District Football team:

Newcomer of the Year: Gabriel Baeza-QB (Sophomore)
First-Team Running Back: Orlando Sanchez (Junior)
Second-Team Running Back: Isaiah Johnson (Junior)
Second-Team Wide Receiver: Kaegan Mitchell (Sophomore)
Second-Team Offensive Lineman: Andrew Roberts (Senior)
Second-Team Tight End: Gabe Gomez (Senior)
First-Team Linebacker: Abel Clark (Senior)
First-Team Cornerback: Zephaniah Nelson (Senior)
Second-Team Defensive End: Brendan Garcia (Senior)
Second-Team Linebacker: Nick Gomez (Senior)
Utility Special Teams: Timothy Banks (Senior)

Most of these Steers will be returning next year and will look to improve on their already solid football resume.



Herald File Photo

Abel Clark makes a tackle in a game from earlier this season.

Texans fall flat in 38-24 loss to Broncos after beating Pats

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — After a big win over New England last week, the Houston Texans had a chance to pad their lead in the AFC South with a win over the Denver Broncos on Sunday.

Instead they came out flat in a terrible first half and the Broncos rolled to a 38-24 victory. Tennessee (8-5) then beat Oakland later Sunday to leave Houston tied with the Titans for the division lead.

"I don't think there was anything very good," coach Bill O'Brien said. "I take full responsibility for that. Just did not have this team ready to play. I thought I did, but I thought wrong."

Denver's Drew Lock threw for 309 yards and three touchdowns, Kareem Jackson had an interception and returned a fumble 70 yards for a touchdown against his former team as the Broncos built a huge lead and coasted to the victory.

Lock, who made his NFL debut in a win over the Chargers last week, threw for 235 yards with three TDs in the first half.

The Broncos (5-8) scored on their first five possessions to build a 38-3 lead early in the third quarter.

"If you get down 14-0 and then you can't stop them, you can't get things going on offense, you're driving the ball but it bogs down and you can't score, you're going to be in for a long day," O'Brien said. "And that's what happened. I thought our guys came out in the second half and tried to fight, but we gave up too many points in the first half."

Deshaun Watson threw for 292 yards with one TD pass and two interceptions after throwing three touchdown passes and grabbing his first career TD reception in a stellar performance against New England.

"We turned the ball over," Watson said. "We didn't capitalize on fourth down. That was pretty much it. We were moving the ball .. it wasn't anything we didn't do. We just didn't execute."

The Texans (8-5) looked great last week as they jumped out to a big lead early and held on for a 28-22 victory over the Patriots for their first win in the series since 2010.

This week they struggled to do anything right before halftime.

The Broncos took an early lead when Lock threw a 14-yard touchdown pass to Noah Fant with about 7 1/2 minutes left in the first quarter.

Keke Coutee, inactive for the past two games despite being healthy, grabbed

an 8-yard reception on Houston's next drive but fumbled. Jeremiah Attaochu picked up the ball and handed it off to Jackson, who dashed 70 yards for the score against the team where he spent the past nine seasons.

The Texans still have both meetings against the Titans remaining starting with a trip to Nashville next week.

"It's a little bit deflating," safety Justin Reid said. "The best thing we can do is flip the page and learn from it. We've got the Titans next week, basically for the division. That's the best thing that we can look forward to."

Left tackle Laremy Tunsil, whom the Texans traded for in August to upgrade their porous line, had three false starts on Sunday to give him an NFL-leading 12 this season.

He said he's got to fix the problem and that he talked to an official about why he kept getting whistled for it on Sunday.

"He said I was leaving early," Tunsil said. "(I have a) target on my back."

Denver pushed the lead to 21-0 in the second quarter when Lock connected with Jeff Heurman on an 8-yard pass. Lock had completions of 37 and 25 yards on that drive.

The Texans went for it on fourth-and-1 from their 34 with two minutes left in the first half and Watson's pass was tipped at the line and fell incomplete to give the Broncos a short field. They took advantage when Royce Freeman caught a 3-yard touchdown pass to make it 31-3 at halftime. Houston's Lonnie Johnson had two defensive holding penalties on that drive.

Phillip Lindsay pushed Denver's lead to 38-3 with a 1-yard run early in the third quarter.

DeAndre Hopkins gave the Texans their first touchdown on a 43-yard reception on their first drive of the second half.

Tashaun Gipson intercepted Lock near the goal line on Denver's next drive and returned it 26 yards. The Texans made it 38-17 early in the fourth quarter when Watson leaped into the end zone at the end of a 6-yard scramble.

Houston got a stop and Watson converted a fourth-and-19 with a pass to Hopkins on the next drive before his pass on fourth-and-3 was tipped three times and intercepted by Jackson to end any hope of a comeback.

Watson added another touchdown run with 32 seconds left.

Veteran cornerback Johnathan Joseph wasn't sure why the Texans played so poorly on Sunday, but knows they have to move on quickly if they hope to win the division.

"We didn't expect to get beat that way," he said. "Whatever it is, we've got to correct it quickly. We definitely have to watch this and get better from it."

Bjelica scores 30; Kings withstand rally, beat Mavs 110-106

DALLAS (AP) — Nemanja Bjelica could see another game slipping away from the Sacramento Kings with the ball in Luka Doncic's hands.

But Doncic missed a tying attempt in the final seconds as the Kings withstood a furious rally and beat the Mavericks 110-106 on Sunday night.

With the memory of an overtime loss at San Antonio on Friday fresh in his mind, Bjelica matched his career best with 30 points.

Richaun Holmes rebounded Doncic's attempt to tie the game with eight seconds left. Doncic had taken Sacramento's Cory Joseph down the lane for the turnaround shot that clanged off the front of the rim. After the rebound, the Kings called a timeout. Bogdan Bogdanovic in-bounded to Bjelica for a layup that sealed the win.

"We all see how great Luka is," Holmes said, "so you just try to do as much as you can to take him out of his comfort zone."

Sacramento ended a three-game losing streak. Dallas had won five straight and 10 of 11 before the loss.

"It feels good to win," Bjelica said. "After we lost (Friday) against San Antonio, it's a very important win for us."

Buddy Hield scored 26 points, including five 3-pointers, for Sacramento. Former Maverick Harrison Barnes had 13, Holmes added 12 and a game-high nine rebounds. Bogdanovic and Trevor Ariza scored 10 each.

"(Bjelica's) got the skill, the passing ability and shooting ability to really put pressure on the defense," Kings coach Luke Walton said. "We're constantly encouraging him to be more aggressive and tonight he was aggressive."

The Mavericks' high scorer was Tim Hardaway Jr. with 29 points. He kept the Mavs in the game by making a career-high nine of 12 3-pointers.

Doncic finished with 27 points, including 17 in the second half after Sacramento had sprinted to a 66-46 lead.

"We were very disappointed at our defense in the first half, and the second half was certainly way better," Mavericks coach Rick Carlisle said. "But,

gotta play the whole game. A disappointing loss."

Hardaway said there was a message at halftime.

"Do you guys want to get smacked at home or do you want to get the crowd involved and give yourself a chance to win and keep this thing going? Everybody took it to heart and did just that," Hardaway said.

For Dallas, Dorian Finney-Smith and Kristaps Porzingis each had 13 points.

Sacramento didn't trail in the game and led by as many as 24 points.

The lead was 106-90 with 6:34 remaining. A 10-0 run capped by a 3-pointer by Doncic pulled the Mavericks within six points. The Kings' lead dwindled to two points on a fadeaway by Porzingis with 34 seconds left.

Barnes missed a shot in the lane. Finney-Smith grabbed the rebound with 14 seconds left. After a timeout, Doncic got the ball.

"He's in the paint with a small defender on him," Hardaway said. "I'll take my chances with him all day long."

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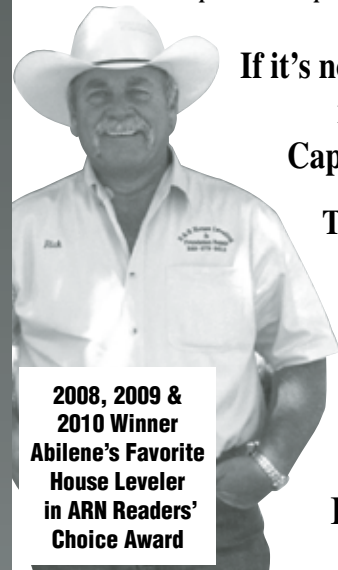
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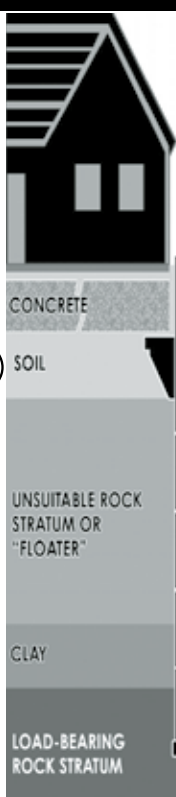
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Mercury Speaks a New Language

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The great poet E.E. Cummings once said, "I'm living so far beyond my income that we may almost be said to be living apart." You'll sort out a money issue and bring it back under the same roof.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Work is sometimes more satisfying to you than anything an inner circle can provide. This is nothing to regret. Sometimes what you were meant to do happens outside the realm of personal relationships.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It is your sturdy belief that not every sickness needs a doctor, not every quarrel needs a lawyer and not every feeling needs an ice cream sundae. You'll easily prove your heartiness.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It will be helpful to ask what things mean and why they are happening and to ponder the consequences. This gives you far more leeway and is much more interesting than any kind of right vs. wrong judgment.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Whatever stage you're in, you're likely to grow out of it. Let this fact give you permission to celebrate to the hilt or to dismiss events as impermanent, whichever way appeals.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You may as well



follow up on your creative urges. They are not going anywhere until you give them legs. After that, they will likely take off. You will give chase, and then you'll both wind up in unexpected places.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You've a long list of things you want to do, and they all take energy. So any measures taken to increase your strength and stamina will serve you over the long haul.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your childlike playfulness will make good things happen if you use them in the right circumstances and with the right people. Test the waters first to see who's game.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There are many emotions that get confused for plans -- anger and hope being chief among them. Achievement depends on actionable steps and measurable results.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The idea that will break someone out of a rut doesn't have to be a good one. In some some situations, any change to disrupt the way things are going is better than doing nothing.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Interactions need a plan. They won't go to script. (How could they when only one person has the script?) But your intentionality will make a positive difference in the way they play out.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Don't accept your fear as a given and permanent fixture of your personality. Fears can be overcome, sometimes instantaneously. To understand, question and manage fear is some of the most important work you'll do.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 9). It is said that those who seek beauty will find it. That's you. Your life will overflow with the gorgeousness of this year, from scenery to smiling children's faces to the unparalleled visual of your hand holding a prize you've been working toward for years. You'll embody a roll of authority and be paid well in a variety of ways. Libra and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 45, 21, 38 and 33.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.

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Annie's Mailbox

standards or mores, habits and customs. It's all in perspective. -- I Learned From an Aussie

Dear Learned From an Aussie: I love your open-minded perspective on traditions and culture. Learning about others makes life so much richer and deeper. A large percentage of people in the world don't use knives and forks at all. Some use chopsticks while others eat with their hands.

Dear Annie: Your readers have great ideas, so I am writing to ask if any of them can help me solve a dilemma.

What can one give someone who needs nothing? I want to remember my friends at Christmas, but they don't need yet another item. I want something a bit more thoughtful than just a Christmas card.

What do you suggest, and what do your readers suggest? -- Gifts for Those Who Have Everything

Dear Gifts: One of the best gifts you can give to the person who has everything is to give to a charity that they

are passionate about. That way, you are giving to those in need while showing your friend that you care about them for the holidays. But I like your idea of asking our readers how they deal with this issue.

Dear Annie: I would like to bring to your attention another possible situation garnered by your solution to the person who wrote to you about the new co-worker who accused another employee of sexual harassment. Your response to the person to leave it up to the human resources department was correct.

But let's imagine that the employee's complaint was, in fact, made up, and it was a cover for poor work performance. If HR wishes to terminate the employee, they might face a retaliation lawsuit from the newer employee because she filed the original complaint. The HR department must tread carefully because terminating this employee will have to be based upon documented poor performance and written warnings, or an untruth on her application or some other issue specific to the employer's business.

The problem here is that while HR is documenting the problems, it will appear to the original employees that they are doing nothing because they cannot legally discuss the personnel problems of the new employee. If this employee has filed similar complaints with previous employers, the current HR department might not be able to document that because of nondisclosure agreements.

Problem employees often create circular legal issues for HR. I know this from experience. I have worked in human resources for 25 years, have a master's degree in HR management, and I am certified as a Senior Professional in HR. -- HR Department

Dear HR Department: I always love hearing from professionals in their field. Your letter gives everyone a sneak peek of what is going on behind the scenes in HR.

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

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You Say Ta-May-Toe; I Say Ta-Mah-Toe

Dear Annie: I used to date a lady from Australia who was taught to hold her fork in the European/continental style. When she came to visit me in Milwaukee, she noticed my American style. She seemed put-off but didn't say anything. We had a pending dinner date with mutual friends, and she thought I would be set straight by seeing how other people hold their forks.

When we gathered together, she was surprised that, "You all eat that way!" We both learned about differences from that point on.

She also was intrigued by my frequent use of wiping my mouth with a napkin. "Australians use it once, at the end of eating." I always saw it as a personal preference. After a while, she confided that she liked my way better. Seems Aussies she knew wiped with sleeves throughout their meals.

Customs and habits can be born by tradition or by physical necessity. There really is no right way or wrong way. Different cultures can have diametrically opposed

Contract Bridge

By Steve Famous Hand

North dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

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

The bidding:
North East South West
1♣ 1♥ 1♠ Pass!
2♣ Pass 3♦ Pass!!
4♥ Pass 4♦ 4NT
Pass 5♦ Dble 6♥
Pass Pass 7♦ Dble

Opening lead — seven of clubs.
This deal occurred in the 1986 world team championship and features Pakistan's Zia Mahmood, whose daring and ingenuity through the years have provided bridge journalists with enough material to fill several volumes.

On this occasion, though, he experienced an unexpected lapse from which mere mortals may take heart. After conducting a typically Zia-esque auction with the West hand to reach a laydown heart slam, he failed to find the best defense against North-South's seven-diamond sacri-

fice. As a result, he allowed the opponents to escape with a much smaller loss than they should have.

The bidding went as shown, with Zia lying low at his first two turns before showing his true colors. In the interim, the opponents' spade bids told him that his partner had at most one spade. When Zia eventually bid the slam, South, who had seen the Pakistani in action before, believed him and took the diamond save.

The defense seemed obvious: ace of spades, spade ruff, a heart to the king, spade ruff and the ace of diamonds for down five. This would come to 900 points (1,100 in today's scoring) — only 80 less than the score for making six hearts.

To everyone's astonishment, Zia led a club, reasoning that on the bidding, his partner's ace was likely to be in clubs. In that case, the defense would go: club ace, club ruff, spade ace, spade ruff, heart king and spade ruff for down six and 1,100 points.

However, South won the first club and led a trump to the jack and ace. East then returned a club, never expecting that his partner would lead a singleton club holding only one trump. When West couldn't ruff, declarer discarded his losing heart on a third round of clubs, drew trump and then led a spade. Zia had to grab the ace or he would have lost it, so South finished down only two for a loss of 300 points.

Perhaps there is hope for the rest of us after all.

Tomorrow: The percentage play.
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SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

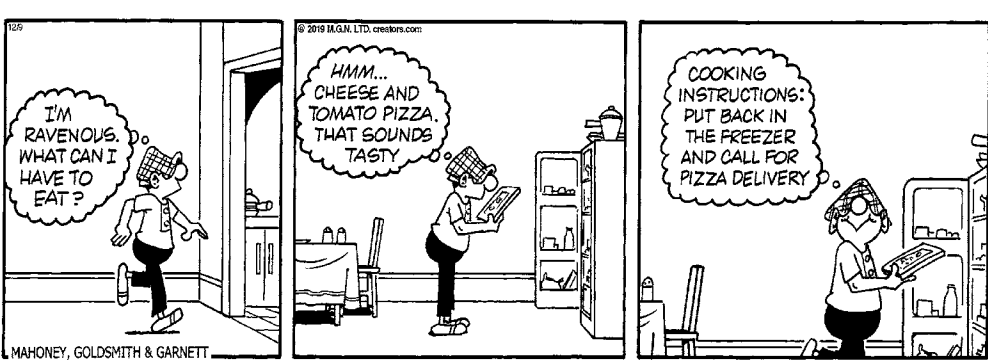
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

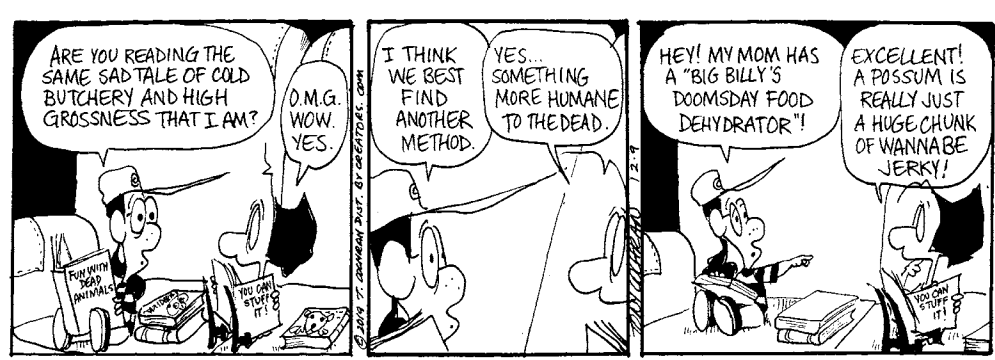
ANSWER:

	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery	
5 :PM	Big 2	Noticiero	Broke Girl	CBS 7	Tele	News	Christ	Over	Flintstone	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Movie: Central Intelligence (DVS)	Monday Night Countdown	SportsCenter	Texans	(4:58) Chicago P.D.	Live PD	Diesel Brothers	
6 :PM	News	Amor eterno	Big Bang	CBS 7	Noticias	News	Cost	Business	Flintstone	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Movie: San Andreas, Alexandra Daddario (DVS)	NFL Football: New York Giants at Philadelphia Eagles.	SportsCenter	Texans	(5:59) Chicago P.D.	Live PD	Diesel Brothers	
7 :PM	The Great Christmas Light Fight	Ringo	Beat Shazam	Neighbor Bob Heart	El suñán (SS)	The Voice	News	Antiques Roadshow	Andy G.	Antiques Roadshow	Fam. Guy	Movie: Geostorm (DVS)	Countdown	College Basketball	WWE Monday Night RAW	Live PD	Live Rescue	Diesel Brothers	
8 :PM	The Good Doctor	El dragón	FOX 24 News at 9	Bull	El Señor de los	(:01) Making It	Light of Southwest	Independent Lens	Heroes	Seinfeld	American	Movie: UFC 245 Countdown	Baseball	Cowboys	Mod Fam	Court	(:02) Twin Turbos		
9 :PM	Big 2	Noticiero	TMZ	CBS 7	Tele	News	News	Words of House	Amanpour-Co	black-ish	Conan	Movie: NFL Rewind	SportsCenter	W/Van Pelt	UFC 245 Countdown	Mod Fam	Court	(:03) Diesel Brothers	
10 :PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live!	Contacto	Mod Fam	Late Show-Colbert	Titulares	Tonight Show	Words of House	Seth Meyers	Zion	Antiques Roadshow	Tw. Zone	Gold	Movie: Shooter, Danny Glover (DVS)	NFL Rewind	SportsCenter	C'boys	Mod Fam	Live PD	Diesel Brothers
11 :PM	Nightline	Deportivo	Funny	James Corden	El Señor de los	Late-Lilly	Creation	Independent Lens	Hitchcock	Live PD	Misery	College Basketball	Now/Neve.	CFB 150	College Basketball: Florida at Butler.	NCIS: Los Angeles	(:02) Twin Turbos		
12 :AM	Extra	Destilando amor	Two Men	Simpsons	Holly	Programa	News	Light of Southwest	Mannix	Cops	Jokers	Jokers							
1 :AM	Paid Prg.	Y mañana será	Pawn	ET	Pawn	Paid Prg.	Programa	Inside Ed.											

ANDY CAPP



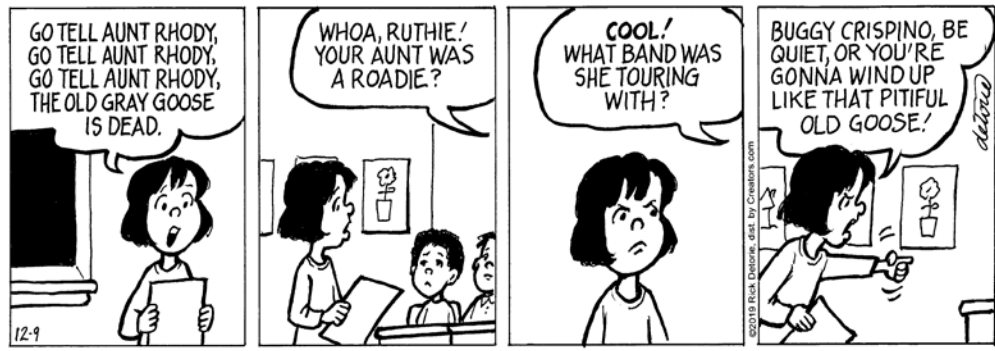
AGNES



ARCHIE



ONE BIG HAPPY



NEST HEAD



MOMMA



This Date In History

Today is Monday, Dec. 9, the 343rd day of 2019. There are 22 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 9, 1990, Solidarity founder Lech Walesa (lek vah-WEN'-sah) won Poland's presidential runoff by a landslide.

On this date:

In 1608, English poet John Milton was born in London.

In 1911, an explosion inside the Cross Mountain coal mine near Briceville, Tennessee, killed 84 workers. (Five were rescued.)

In 1940, British troops opened their first major offensive in North Africa during World War II.

In 1958, the anti-communist John Birch Society was formed in Indianapolis.

In 1960, the Domino's Pizza chain had its beginnings as brothers Tom and James Monaghan started operating a pizzeria in Ypsilanti, Mich.

In 1962, the Petrified Forest in Arizona was designated a national park.

In 1975, President Gerald R. Ford signed a \$2.3 billion seasonal loan-authorization that officials of New York City and State said would prevent a city default.

In 1984, the five-day-old hijacking of a Kuwaiti jetliner that claimed the lives of two Americans ended as Iranian security men seized control of the plane, which was parked at Tehran airport.

In 1987, the first Palestinian intefadeh, or uprising, began as riots broke out in Gaza and spread to the West Bank, triggering a strong Israeli response.

In 1992, Britain's Prince Charles and Princess Diana announced their separation. (The couple's divorce became final in Aug. 1996.)

In 2000, the U-S Supreme Court ordered a temporary halt in the Florida vote count on which Al Gore pinned his best hopes of winning the White House.

In 2013, scientists revealed that NASA's Curiosity rover had uncovered signs of an ancient freshwater lake on Mars.

Ten years ago: Five young American Muslims were arrested in Pakistan over possible links to terrorism. Iran claimed that a newly-built U.N. station to detect nuclear explosions was built near its

border to give the West a post to spy on the country. Former Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo Odio, 82, died in San Juan. Actor Gene Barry, 90, died in Woodland Hills, California.

Five years ago: U.S. Senate investigators concluded the United States had brutalized scores of terror suspects with interrogation tactics that turned secret CIA prisons into chambers of suffering and did nothing to make Americans safer after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

Britain's Prince William and his wife, Kate, paid a solemn, rain-drenched visit to the National Sept. 11 Memorial and Museum as they wrapped up their first visit to New York. Mary Ann Mobley Collins, 77, a former Miss America and actress, died in Beverly Hills, California.

One year ago: A massive storm brought snow, sleet and freezing rain across a wide swath of the South, cutting power to hundreds of thousands. Melvin Dummar, the former Utah gas station owner who claimed that billionaire Howard Hughes had left him \$156 million for rescuing him on a desert road, died in Nevada at the age of 74; courts had determined that he lied, and that the will in which he was named as a beneficiary was a fake.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Kirk Douglas is 103. Actor-writer Buck Henry is 89. Actress Dame Judi Dench is 85. Actor Beau Bridges is 78. Football Hall of Famer Dick Butkus is 77. Comedian-songwriter Neil Innes is 75. Actor Michael Nouri is 74. Former Sen. Thomas Daschle, D-S.D., is 72. World Golf Hall of Famer Tom Kite is 70. Singer Joan Armatrading is 69. Actor Michael Dorn is 67. Actor John Malkovich is 66. Country singer Sylvia is 63. Singer Donny Osmond is 62. Rock musician Nick Seymour (Crowded House) is 61. Comedian Mario Cantone is 60. Actor David Anthony Higgins is 58. Actor Joe Lando is 58. Actress Felicity Huffman is 57. Empress

Masako of Japan is 56. Country musician Jerry Hughes (Yankee Grey) is 54. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., is 53. Rock singer-musician Thomas Flowers (Oleander) is 52. Rock musician Brian Bell (Weezer) is 51. Rock singer-musician Jakob Dylan (Wallflowers) is 50. TV personality-businessperson Lori Greiner (TV: "Shark Tank")

is 50. Country musician Brian Hayes (Cole Deggs and the Lonesome) is 50. Actress Allison Smith is 50. Songwriter and former "American Idol" judge Kara DioGuardi (dee-oh-GWAHR'-dee) is 49. Country singer David Kersh is 49. Actress Reiko (RAY'-koh) Aylesworth is 47. Rock musician Tre Cool (Green Day) is 47. Rapper Canibus is

45. Actor Kevin Daniels is 43. Actor-writer-director Mark Duplass is 43. Rock musician Eric Zamora (Save Ferris) is 43. Rock singer Imogen Heap is 42. Actor Jesse Metcalfe is 41. Actor Simon Helberg is 39. Actress Jolene Purdy is 36. Actor Joshua Sasse is 32. Actress Ashleigh Brewer is 29. Olympic gold and silver medal gymnast McKayla

Maroney is 24.

Thought for Today: "The real question is not whether machines think but whether men do. The mystery which surrounds a thinking machine already surrounds a thinking man." — B.F. Skinner, American behaviorist (1904-1990).

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Newsday Crossword

CAKE TOPPERS by Brad Wilber
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- High-society newcomer, for short
- Gentle pulls
- Ginger ale or root beer
- River's flood barrier
- Scary fairy-tale character
- Monumental tale
- Paying close attention
- "Am I ___ to see you!"
- Jones or Smith
- Cake toppers that are blown out
- ___ Highness (title for a princess)
- Compass point opposite WSW
- Beaver-built structure
- "Baby back" barbecue servings
- Lambs' mothers
- "You didn't defeat me!"
- Bread package
- The South, informally
- White, spreadable cake topping
- Boxing match locale
- Flow slowly
- Fake coin
- Coloring solutions
- Flower stalk
- Double-curve letter
- UFO pilots: Abbr.
- Liquor from Jamaica
- "Well done" message that tops cakes

DOWN

- Neighborhood food shop
- "... lived happily ___ after"
- "Upper" or "lower" train bed
- Julius Caesar garment
- "The ___ Duckling" (fairy tale)
- Pre-meal prayer
- Car longer than a coupe
- Mail away
- Milky gemstone
- Thinnest coin
- High cards in poker
- Chemist's workroom
- Old-time anesthetic
- Hole-boring tool
- Requires
- Temperamental soprano
- Oscar or Grammy
- Dollars or cents
- "Constrictor" snakes
- Bank vaults
- Smart, funny people
- Banish
- Nasal congestion locale
- On cloud ___ (elated)
- Worry (about)
- Omelet main ingredients
- High-tech beam
- Performance with sopranos
- Turned off, as TV audio
- Prohibited thing
- Rise from a chair
- Sources of coal
- Serene
- Woodwind instrument
- Baby bird's home
- Giddy happiness
- Took off the shelf
- Smaller in quantity
- Norway's capital
- Pecans and cashews
- The Caribbean, for instance

Answer to previous puzzle

ESPAÑA	PSP	BECK
AERIAL	END	AURA
TRADE	INCAR	COMON
RAY	TEAK	CHAOS
APTNO	ENERO	RNA
WHOOPI	BUS	KEN
WESTMINSTER		
PINNATED	TWEET	
SENATE	SEATS	
REP	TIN	YELPED
EMS	ATSEA	DAILY
NIQAB	PEDS	RAN
OPUS	CENSUS	DATA
WRAP	DAS	CHUTES
NODS	SKY	HONEST

Texas returning to Alamo Bowl to face Utah

By Greg Luca

The Texas Longhorns are returning to the Valero Alamo Bowl for the first time since 2013, set to clash with the Utah Utes at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 31 in the Alamodome.

The Alamo Bowl held the No. 1 selection of teams from the Big 12 and Pac-12 after the New Year's Six bowl participants were announced Sunday afternoon.

Media projections for the Alamo Bowl's Big 12 selection varied widely.

Oklahoma earned the No. 4 spot in the College Football Playoff by taking down Baylor 30-23 in overtime at Saturday's Big 12 championship game in Arlington. The loss kept Baylor at No. 7 in the CFP rankings, earning the Big 12's berth in the Sugar Bowl to face Georgia.

That left the Alamo Bowl to choose between four teams with 5-4 league records sitting on the fringe of the national top 25: Kansas State, Oklahoma State, Texas and Iowa State.

Of the four, Texas (7-5) had gone the longest since

its most recent Alamo Bowl appearance, making the trip in December 2013. Iowa State played in last year's game, Oklahoma State visited in December 2016, and Kansas State played in January 2015.

Texas' selection comes a week after coach Tom Herman announced the Longhorns would be searching for new coordinators on offense and defense.

UT quarterback Sam Ehlinger ranks as the Big 12's second-leading passer, averaging 288.5 yards per game with 29 touchdowns and nine interceptions. Devin Duvernay is the conference's leading receiver, hauling in 103 grabs for 1,294 yards and eight touchdowns.

The Alamo Bowl's Pac-12 selection was a bit more straightforward. Oregon defeated Utah 37-15 on Friday in the Pac-12 championship game, allowing the Ducks to claim the league's spot in the Rose Bowl. Utah dropped from No. 5 to No. 11 in the final CFP rankings and was passed over for an at-large selection to the Cotton Bowl in favor of No. 10 Penn State, which will face Memphis.

That left the Alamo Bowl with the choice of Utah (11-2, 8-1 Pac-12) or USC (8-4, 7-2 Pac-12) — two of the three Pac-12 teams to never play in the Alamo Bowl. The Trojans beat the Utes 30-23 when the teams met Sept. 20 in Los Angeles.

Utah boasts the Pac-12's best defense and rushing attack, holding opponents to 241.6 yards per game while gaining an average 214.6 on the ground. Running back Zack Moss leads the conference with 1,246 rushing yards and 15 touchdowns, while defensive end Bradlee Anae ranks second in the league with 12½ sacks.

USC is known more for its passing attack, which ranks second in the conference at 335.9 yards per game. Quarterback Kedon Slovis has thrown for 3,242 yards with 28 touchdowns and nine interceptions, while Michael Pittman has a conference-best 1,222 receiving yards with 11 touchdowns.

The Alamo Bowl, which will air on ESPN, was last played on New Year's Eve during the game's first two years of existence, in 1993 and 1994.

Texas tops Texas A&M 60-50 in rivals' 1st meeting since 2015

By SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Sports Writer

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Texas guard Jase Febres might get one more chance to play Texas A&M before his college career is over. This was it for Aggies forward Josh Nebo.

Both agree it would be good for the longtime rivals to play every year.

Febres scored a season-high 17 points and the Longhorns beat the Aggies 60-50 on Sunday in their first meeting in four years and the second since Texas A&M left the Big 12 for the Southeastern Conference.

"It's definitely good for both schools," said Nebo, a senior who led the Aggies with 16 points. "Good for the state. Just a good college basketball game."

The Longhorns (8-1) won for the sixth time in the past seven meetings after Texas A&M ended a five-game losing streak in the series with a victory at a tournament in the Bahamas in 2015.

It was the first meeting on Texas soil since Texas A&M joined the SEC in 2012, and the second game at the new Dickies Arena two days after TCU played the first one in the venue not far from its Fort Worth campus.

The next question is whether the schools pursue more neutral sites or go back on campus. There's probably another consensus on that: home-and-home.

"I know they were talking about trying to reschedule one for Houston next year so like these neutral site games, I love it," said Febres, a junior from Houston. "But I wouldn't mind going to A&M, I wouldn't mind being at home. I know that it's going to be a crazy game to come out to."

Before their split, the Longhorns and Aggies had been in the same conference since 1917, starting with the Southwest Conference before the switch to the Big 12 in 1995.

Emanuel Miller grabbed a game-high 14 rebounds and scored eight points for Texas A&M (3-5), in its first season with Texas native Buzz Williams as coach. Williams was an assistant with the Aggies when they were still in the Big 12.

"It would be different if we were playing at home or at their place," Williams said. "I thought it was great. I thought the arena was great. I think playing them is great. I felt like it was a rivalry."

Texas' Andrew Jones was the game's other double-figure scorer with 12. Courtney Ramey had seven assists to go with seven points.

Febres was 4 of 11 from 3-point range as Texas took more shots from outside the arc than inside. The Longhorns were 9 of 29 from 3 while finishing at 42% overall (23 of 55).

The Aggies had just 17 points at halftime, trailing 27-17, while shooting 48% for the game. After Miller pulled Texas A&M within six with a bucket in the second half, Febres hit a 3 to start a 10-2 run that pushed the Texas lead to 14.

BIG PICTURE

Texas A&M: The Aggies simply don't have much firepower, coming in with a leading scorer at 10.7 points per game (Savion Flagg, who scored eight). They'll have to compete with defense while Williams tries to rebuild the program.

Texas: The heavy emphasis on 3s was a bit of an aberration for the Longhorns, who came in attempting about twice as many shots from the inside the arc. The numbers were significantly tilted toward the 3 before balancing out late.

BARGAINING CHIP

The renewal of the rivalry had already been worked out before Williams was hired. He'll want a say in any return to what will also be the primary venue for the Fort Worth rodeo.

"I'm disappointed, if we ever play here again, they said George Strait was in concert to open the arena. They didn't give me tickets," Williams joked. "We're not signing a contract to play at Dickies if I don't get tickets to see George."

LANDMARK HOMECOMING

Jones played in a game close to home for the first time since returning from treatment for leukemia. His high school is in Irving, between Dallas and Fort Worth.

"This was a game I knew I had a lot of family that was going to come out and support me," Jones said. "They come to a lot of the home games too but this one was special because it's not too often that I can come home and play and be in front of a home-based crowd."

UP NEXT

Texas A&M: Texas A&M-Corpus Christi next Sunday.

Texas: Central Michigan at home Saturday.

No. 8 Baylor, No. 5 Georgia seek to recover in Sugar Bowl

By STEVE MEGARGEE

AP Sports Writer

No. 8 Baylor and No. 5 Georgia will attempt to bounce back from losses in their respective conference championship games when they meet in the Sugar Bowl on New Year's Day in New Orleans.

Both teams watched their hopes for reaching the College Football Playoff end Saturday. Baylor (11-2) fell 30-23 in overtime to Oklahoma in the Big 12 championship game, while Georgia (11-2) lost the Southeastern Conference championship game 37-10 to LSU.

Georgia is trying to avoid a repeat of last year when the disappointment of missing the playoffs created a hangover effect that carried into bowl season. Georgia followed up its 35-28 SEC championship game loss to Alabama last year by falling 28-21 to 12 ½-point underdog Texas in the Sugar Bowl.

"I know that we've got a lot of players that I got to meet with today who want to get the bad taste out of their mouth from last year with the loss," Georgia coach Kirby Smart said.

Smart said Georgia's coaches and support staffers took notes after last year's Sugar Bowl to get some insight on how they can better prepare for bowl games in non-playoff situations.

"The bottom line is it's your job to go play in a football game, and you get a great opportunity," Smart said. "There's a lot of teams across the country that would be dying to play in a game like this. We're going to sell it that way, that it's a great opportunity to be Sugar Bowl champs."

None of the players on our team have ever been Sugar Bowl champs. They're going to get an opportunity to do that."

Baylor's Sugar Bowl berth continues this program's remark-

able resurgence under second-year coach Matt Rhule. Baylor went 1-11 the year before Rhule's arrival and is the first Power Five team to win 11 games within two seasons of losing 11 games.

Rhule called the opportunity to coach in the Sugar Bowl a "bucket-list" item. Rhule, a former Penn State linebacker, grew up rooting for the Nittany Lions and remembers watching his future alma mater clinch the 1982 national championship by beating a Herschel Walker-led Georgia team in the Sugar Bowl.

"Watching Gregg Garrity catch a diving touchdown down the left sideline from Todd Blackledge, just having that be one of my earliest memories of football, of what the bowl games mean, when families and friends come together to root their teams on, whether it's in person or (from) far, far away," Rhule said.

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