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2 vehicle accident in Howard County claims the life of Big Spring resident

Herald Staff Report

According to the Texas Department of Public Safety a two vehicle accident Sunday afternoon claimed the life of a 64-year old Big Spring resident, about 1.5 miles north of Big Spring around SH 350 and FM 700.

A 2012 Freightliner tractor trailer driven by Henry Ray Brinsfield-Rodriguez, 40 years old, of Chihuahua, Mexico, was traveling north on SH 350 when the 2017 Toyota Camry driven by Ramamurthy Hariharan, 64-year-old from Big Spring, failed to yield the right of way at the stop intersection. The vehicle driven by Hariharan collided with the tractor trailer driven by Brinsfield-Rodriguez.

Justice of the Peace Kelly Seales pronounced Hariharan

See **DPS**, Page 3



We are thankful for the resources in our community that lend a helping hand when times are tough.



INDEX

- News1 & 3
- Obituaries2
- Sports5 & 10
- Classifieds6-8
- Comics9

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County Commissioners discuss routine matters at Monday meeting

By IRIS RANGEL

Herald Staff Writer

Howard County Commissioners met for a regular meeting yesterday afternoon to discuss routine matters. County Commissioners convened in the 3rd floor County Court Room as elections have ended and are no longer taking place.

Judge Kathryn Wise-man called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. and a moment was taken for Citizen Input. As there was no comment made, Commissioners then moved into discussing personnel considerations and the monthly payroll report with County Treasurer



Sharon Adams. After some light discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Jimmie Long to approve both the personnel considerations and monthly payroll report. Commissioner John Cline seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

County Auditor Jackie Olson then initiated conversation with Commissioner over the approval of invoices, purchase requests, and budget amendments. During the purchase requests portion of the meeting, Olson noted a purchase request for the sheriff's office in order to purchase SWAT shirts and pants. There was also a request for road repair equipment in order to repair edges of some county roads. Olson also presented the September 2020 Monthly Financial Report where discussion was held on a \$476,000 reimbursement request that was made from a COVID

See **COUNTY**, Page 3

District 1's across the board: Big Spring, Coahoma and Forsan bands advance to Area



Courtesy photos
Photo above: The Forsan Band performed at Ratliff Stadium this past weekend, earning a Division 1 rating. Photo left: The CHS band performs at the UIL Region Marching contest held at Ratliff Stadium in Odessa on Saturday. Coahoma earned a Division I rating and advanced to area contest set for Saturday, Nov. 14 in Abilene. Photo above right: Big Spring ISD performed in Abilene and advanced to Area next weekend in Amarillo.

Herald Staff Report

This past weekend, area bands went to their respective UIL marching competitions. Coahoma Big Red Band and Foran Buffalo Band went to their Region competition in Odessa, at Ratliff Stadium. The Big Spring Pride Drive went to their Region competition in Abilene. At the end of the competition, each of the bands received Division 1s advancing them each to the Area Competitions. This coming Saturday, Nov. 14, Forsan ISD Band will be performing in Lubbock; Coahoma ISD Band will perform at 3:20 p.m. in Abilene and the Big Spring ISD Band will be performing in Amarillo at 4:24 p.m. in Bivins Stadium.

The CHS band advanced to area contest after earning a Division I Rating for its 2020 marching show "Blessed is the Nation" at the UIL Region Marching contest held Saturday at Ratliff Stadium.

"I am elated. The band did a great job, and they are so super pumped," said CHS Band Director Michael Cason. "We have one more week to prepare for the UIL Area contest, and we still have a little more to work on. For a year like this where it feels like a lot of things are not normal, this sure makes things feel normal. We are very excited."

Music for the program includes a melody of "Yankee Doodle," "American the Beautiful," and "The Battle

Hymn of the Republic." Mixed into the musical number are the spiritual hymns "Amazing Grace" and "Simple Gifts."

The show features solos by Mason Abernathy on piccolo and Jonah Rayford on mellophone and a trombone/baritone duet by Ethan Cason and Juan Samaniego.

Drum Majors Ashely Mull, Cailey Glover and the rest of the 20 senior members led the 61-member band through an unique year marked by the global pandemic.

"It was hard at times like not being able to go to (away) football games, but we got through the restrictions," Mull

See **BAND**, Page 3

Veteran's Day recognitions, closing in Big Spring

Herald Staff Report

An opportunity to say thank you and recognize the sacrifice given by many. Veteran's Day is a time to honor those who served our nation and purchased the freedom that we are able to enjoy today. This year, several schools and businesses will be observing the holiday:

- Scenic Mountain Medical Center, located at 1601 W. 11th Place, invites all veterans to come and dine in the Yellow Rose Cafe on Monday. Mention that you're a veteran and the meal is on the house. Breakfast will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

- West Texas Health Care System, located at 300 Veterans Blvd, hosted a VA Veteran's Day Parade at 10 a.m. A patriotic parade went around the VA from the employee parking lot off of Ryon Street. Line up began at 9:30 a.m. For more information contact Moses Tijerina, Chief of Voluntary Services, at 432-263-7361 ext. 4824.
- Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home and



KBST 95.7 have teamed up to host a Community Wide Prayer in honor of Veteran's Day. The Community Prayer will go over the airwaves at 11 a.m. on Nov. 11 on KBST. Pastor Sam Segundo of Family Faith Church will be leading a prayer followed by Taps, which will be played by Veteran Mike Tarpley. The closing prayer for the event will be led by Pastor Richard of Nazarene Church. Mayor Shannon Thomason will also be signing a proclamation honoring Nov. 11 at 11 a.m. from this year forward as a time of Community Prayer.

Due to Covid-19 precautions, Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez is not hosting a community event in house this year, but will be honoring the veterans in the facility with a special meal, gifts and moment of recognition.

- Forsan Elementary will be hosting the annual Veteran's Day program, but this year - due to Covid-19 precautions - the program will not be open to the public. The program will be videotaped and made available through the district website.

See **HERO**, Page 3

Obituaries

Charles "Chick" Madry

Charles "Chick" Madry was born in Big Spring, Texas to Nubbin and Margaret Madry on Sept. 20, 1941, and entered into the joy of his salvation on Sunday, Nov. 8, 2020 at the age of 79.

Chick is survived by his loving wife, Carole Madry of Big Spring; Brad and Tabitha Madry of Weatherford; and Danna Hope of Benton, Arkansas. He is also survived by eight grandchildren.

Chick was preceded in death by his parents, his brother, and four sons, Steve Madry, Michael Madry, Ricky Hope, and Ronnie Jo Hope.

Services will be held at Midway Baptist Church on Wednesday, Nov. 11 at 10 a.m. with interment following at Trinity Memorial Park.

Chick was a strong Christian man, a devoted husband and dad, and was known for his heartfelt

hugs. He loved being with his family and friends while roping, hunting, pitching washers, or playing dominoes. He was a Veteran of the Korean War while serving in the army, and worked over 30 years for Cosden Oil and Chemical Company. Chick was a faithful member of Midway Baptist Church serving on various committees through the years. He was faithful in Sunday school and was always smiling and happy to be there.

For those wishing to give memorials, please donate to an organization of your choice.

Visitation will be Noon until 9 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Midway Baptist Church with Michael Seay, pastor of Midway Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

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

Paid Obituary

Esther Mezick

Esther Mezick, 87, of Big Spring died Monday, Nov. 9, 2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Evelyn Anderson

Evelyn Anderson, 91, of Big Spring died Monday, Nov. 9, 2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Joyce Lightner

Joyce Lightner, 74, of Big Spring died Monday, Nov. 9, 2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **CAMILLA XAN STRANDE**, 34, of 1900 E. 24th Street, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- **RICHARD DAVID McCUTCHAN**, 52, of 417 Westover Road, was arrested on charges of criminal trespass and warrant – other agency (x2).
- **STEVEN GLEN HILDEABRAND**, 52, of 804 Andree Street, was arrested on charges of public intoxication, resist arrest search or transport, and warrant – other agency.
- **MARTIN ANTHONY RAMIREZ**, 30, of 811 Timothy, was arrested on charges of driving while intoxicated open container, fail to appear, open container in a motor vehicle – driver, warrant – other agency, and unlawful possession of firearm by felon if at trial weapons free zone.
- **SALVADOR GUITEREZ PEREZ**, 49, of 1314 State Park Drive, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 2500 block of Albrook Drive.
- **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 100 block of S. Main Street.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 1500 block of Kentucky Way.
- **MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported in the 1200

block of W. FM 700.

- **CRIMINAL TRESPASS** was reported in the 200 block of W. FM 700.
- **SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY** was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King.
- **ASSAULT** was reported in the 3600 block of W. Highway 80.
- **UNWANTED SUBJECT** was reported in the 1300 block of Ridgeroad Drive.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 200 block of W. FM 700.
- **HARASSMENT** was reported in the 2500 block of Albrook Drive.
- **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 100 block of Carey Street.
- **INTOXICATED DRIVER** was reported in the area of WB on 3rd.
- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 1800 block of Laurie Street.
- **BURGLARY OF HABITATION** was reported in the 2900 block of Stonehaven Drive.
- **STOLEN VEHICLE** was reported in the 2900 block of Stonehaven Drive.
- **UNATTENDED DEATH** was reported in the 1500 block of Kiowa Street.
- **SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY** was reported in the 100 block of Cedar Drive.

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2400 block of Alabama. No transport was required.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 500 block of Abrams. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 300 block of W. 18th Street. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 900 block of Caylor. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2500 block of Lynn. No transport was required.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1900

block of E. 25th Street. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 700 block of Central. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2500 block of Lynn. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the area of Highway 350 and FM 700. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1600 block of Bluebird. No transport was required.

Sheriff

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

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 82 inmates at the time of this report.

• **BILLY WAYNE CHRISTIAN**, 60, was arrested by HCSO on charges of possession of controlled substance penalty group one (less than one gram) and wrong fictitious, altered, obscured insignia.

• **TERRY SCOTT DIAZ**, 38, was arrested by DPS on a charge of burglary of habitation.

• **STEVEN GLEN HILDEABRAND**, 52, was arrested by BSPD on charges of public intoxication, resist arrest search or transport, and parole violation.

• **AUSTIN DERROLD HUNT**, 25, was arrested by DPS on charges of evading arrest detention with vehicle or watercraft, possession of controlled substance penalty group one (less than one gram), and bailman off bond/possession of marijuana (less than two ounces).

• **RICHARD DAVID McCUTCHAN**, 52, was arrested by BSPD on ride, not secured by safety belt, violate promise to appear (Uniform Act) Texas, and criminal trespass.

• **BRANDON ANTHONY MORAN**, 31, was arrested by BSPD on charges of interfere with emergency request for assistance and assault family violence.

• **JOHN ERIC NOLTING**, 57, was arrested by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated 2nd.

• **SALVADOR GUITEREZ PEREZ**, 49, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• **MARTIN ANTHONY RAMIREZ**, 30, was arrested by BSPD on charges of open container in motor vehicle – driver, unlawful possession of firearm by felon if at trial weapon free zone, failure to appear, parole warrant violation evading arrest, and driving while intoxicated/open alcohol container.

• **CAMILLA XAN STRANDE**, 34, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• **TIMOTHY TOMPKINS**, 61, was arrested by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated 2nd.

HERALD

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Amanda Duforat Managing Editor..... Ext. 230

Robert Smith Circulation Manager..... Ext. 252

Angela Lance Sr. Advertising Executive.....Ext. 255

The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association and The Associated Press.

Published afternoons Mon. thru Fri. and Sunday mornings. All materials copyrighted.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.

USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$13.00 monthly; \$135.00 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$15.00 monthly Howard; \$19.00 elsewhere.



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COUNTY

Continued from Page 1

relief fund. According to Olson, \$81,000 of the funds have already been reimbursed, but the county is still awaiting the rest. Commissioner Craig Bailey moved to approve the invoices and budget amendments, and was seconded by Commissioner Long. For the purchase requests, Commissioner Long moved to approve them, while Commissioner Bailey seconded. Regarding the September 2020 Monthly Financial Report, a motion was made by Commissioner Cline to approve the report, which was seconded by Commissioner Long. All motions passed unanimously.

Afterwards, Commissioners began to discuss topics regarding RFQs and road maintenance with Road Engineer Brian Klinksiek. Klinksiek discussed the possible acceptance and allocation of a \$12,450 check from SM Energy with Commissioners where he mentioned the check was made out to the county in regards to CR 36's electrical line. According to Klinksiek, the monies from the check would directly go towards the previously requested equipment for the road repairs on various county roads.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bailey to approve the acceptance and allocation of the check, which was seconded by Commissioner Long. The motion passed in a unanimous vote.

Klinksiek then began to discuss the possible acceptance of a low bidder on RFQ 2021003M Emulsion for FY 2021. According to Klinksiek, the lowest bidder for RFQ 2021003M Emulsion is Ergon Asphalt. The bid discussed was set at \$51,330. Commissioner Long motioned to approve the bid and Commissioner

Cline seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Klinksiek's last agenda item was concerning a few roadway maintenance updates where it was noted that the roadwork on CR 34 is complete and roadwork for CR 35 is set to begin phase one today.

Commissioner Cline then moved into discussion regarding right of way and utility easement - The City of Big Spring. It was noted that this project relates to the roadway to the new landfill, and according to Cline, it is complete and will be kept under the control of the county. A motion was made by Commissioner Cline and was seconded by Commissioner Long. The motion passed in a unanimous vote.

Afterwards, Commissioner Bailey initiated conversation concerning the radio communication system. Cline stated that the county had received a quote back for the 400 ft. southbound third radio tower in the amount of \$219,000. This would include maintaining the external and internal building, generator, and fencing for the tower, according to Commissioner Bailey. Originally, Commissioners had approved a \$175,000 budget, but due to how much the contractor would be maintaining, Commissioner Long decided to motion towards approving the \$50,000 additional quote. Commissioner Bailey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Before adjourning for the evening, County Clerk Brent Zitterkopf discussed the monthly report with Commissioners where he stated that just like information given at previous meetings, the overall monies collected are down due to COVID, but are hopefully looking to rise again.

Iris Rangel is a Staff Writer at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, email reporter@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

BAND

Continued from Page 1

said. The CHS band had to make several changes to the normal routine this year to comply with COVID-19 restrictions.

"The parents and administration have been awesome and very supportive this year," Cason said. "The kids have been fantastic this year. I am proud of the senior class, they have done a great job leading us through what is not a certain time."

State contest for Class 3A is held every other year, and although the band will end its season at Area, Cason said the competition will be a good time for returning band members to see how the band stacks up to the competition for next year.

"This year our band theme is Leave A Legacy, and we want to leave a legacy for next year," Glover said.

The Big Spring Band earned their Division 1 ranking from their performance on Saturday at Abilene Wylie Stadium.

"We received a Division 1 rating which advances us to the Conference 4A Area A competition in Amarillo Saturday Nov. 14th," John Landin, Big Spring ISD Band Director, said. "I am extremely proud of our group this year for facing the challenges that have hit every band and community in this country. I am proud of how they continuously rise up passed any obstacle that comes before them. I am thankful for my staff and community for supporting these kids through their competitive journey this year."

Forsan Buffalo Band also performed Saturday at Ratliff Stadium with their performance "Ascension". The band's Saturday performance earned them a Division 1 rating which means they also will advance to Area competition.

"Forsan ISD has a long history of success in marching band competitions, but every year is a new challenge," Forsan Superintendent Randy Johnson said.

This year's COVID-19 interruptions and challenges makes this success even more sweet. Johnson spoke about the determination that the students have shown this year and how they have overcome.

"We are extremely proud of how the Forsan Mighty Buffalo Band performed at the UIL Regional Marching Contest, they had an amazing performance! We have all been working hard preparing for each performance and all of their hard work and dedication is paying off," Veronica Tagle, Forsan Band Director, said.

Mr. Johnson extends his congratulations to allband students, directors and parents.

"Veronica Tagle, Travis Peters and Jim Rhodes have led through these tough times. Well done all!"

The Forsan Band will play at Lowery Field in Lubbock at 11 a.m. on Saturday.

To contact the Big Spring Herald, call 432-263-7331.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Charles "Chick" Madry, 79, died Sunday. Visitation will be 12 Noon until 9:00 PM Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 10:00 AM Wednesday at Midway Baptist Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Esther Mezick, 87, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Evelyn Anderson, 91, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Joyce Lightner, 74, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

DPS

Continued from Page 1

at the scene of the accident; Brinsfield-Rodriguez was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center with non-incapacitating injuries.

Another two-vehicle collision occurred last Thursday 10 miles east of Gail. The early afternoon accident claimed the life of a 22-year-old Hermleigh resident, Coletyn R. King.

According to the DPS report, King was driving a 2016 Dodge Ram 2500 east on US 180, as a 2020 Freightliner driven by Lonny Backus, 63, of Abilene was traveling west on US 180.

King's vehicle crossed the center stripe and entered the westbound lane striking the tractor trailer head on. King was pronounced at the scene by Justice of the Peace Jane Jones. The passenger in King's vehicle was transferred to University Medical Center in Lubbock with non-incapacitating injuries. The driver of the tractor trailer, Lonny Backus, was transported to Medical Arts Hospital in Lamesa with non-incapacitating injuries.

Department will also continue normal operations and can be contacted at 264-2392.

• Howard County will close all offices Wednesday. County Offices will open again for business on Thursday. The Howard County Sheriff's Administrative Offices will be closed, but Law Enforcement Services will operate as normal.

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HERO

Continued from Page 1

Veterans Day closings

Local governmental offices will be closed Monday in honor of the Veterans Day holiday. • Big Spring city offices will be closed in honor of the holiday on Wednesday. Emergency services (Police, Fire, and EMS) will continue normal operations during the holiday. The Emergency Utilities

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Trump faces calls to work with Biden team on transition

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP) — President Donald Trump is facing pressure to cooperate with President-elect Joe Biden's team to ensure a smooth transfer of power when the new administration takes office in January.

The General Services Administration is tasked with formally recognizing Biden as president-elect, which begins the transition. But the agency's Trump-appointed administrator, Emily Murphy, has not started the process and has given no guidance on when she will do so.

That lack of clarity is fueling questions about whether Trump, who has not publicly recognized Biden's victory and has falsely claimed the election was stolen, will impede Democrats as they try to establish a government.

There is little precedent in the modern era of a president erecting such hurdles for his successor. The stakes are especially high this year because Biden will take office amid a raging pandemic, which will require a comprehensive government response.

"America's national security and economic interests depend on the federal government signaling clearly and swiftly that the United States government will respect the will of the American people and engage in a smooth and peaceful transfer of power," Jen Psaki, a Biden transition aide, tweeted Sunday.

The advisory board of the nonpartisan Center for Presidential Transition also urged the Trump administration to "immediately begin the post-election transition process and the Biden team to take full advantage of the resources available under the Presidential Transition Act."

Biden, who was elected the 46th president on Saturday, is taking steps to build a government despite questions about whether Trump will offer the traditional assistance.

He is focusing first on the virus, which has already killed nearly 240,000 people in the United States. Biden on Monday announced details of a task force that will create a blueprint to attempt to bring the pandemic under control that he plans to

begin implementing after assuming the presidency on Jan. 20.

Former Surgeon General, Dr. Vivek Murthy, ex-Food Drug Administration Commissioner Dr. David Kessler and Dr. Marcella Nunez-Smith, a Yale University associated professor and associate dean whose research focuses on promoting health care equality for marginalized populations, are its co-chairs.

"Dealing with the coronavirus pandemic is one of the most important battles our administration will face, and I will be informed by science and by experts," Biden said in a statement. "The advisory board will help shape my approach to managing the surge in reported infections; ensuring vaccines are safe, effective, and distributed efficiently, equitably, and free; and protecting at-risk populations."

There are also 10 members, including two former Trump administration officials: Rick Bright, who said he was ousted as head of the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority after criticizing the federal government's response to the coronavirus, and Luciana Borio, who until last year was a biodefense specialist on the National Security Council.

The remainder of the panel includes experts with expertise in a number of areas, including Eric Goosby, who was then-President Barack Obama's global AIDS coordinator.

Biden was also launching agency review teams, groups of transition staffers that have access to key agencies in the current administration. They will collect and review information such as budgetary and staffing decisions, pending regulations and other work in progress from current Trump administration staff at the departments to help Biden's team prepare to transition.

But that process can't begin in full until the GSA recognizes Biden as president-elect. The definition of what constitutes a clear election winner for the GSA is legally murky, making next steps unclear, especially in the short term.

The GSA's leadership is supposed to act independently and in a nonpartisan manner, and at least

some elements of the federal government already have begun implementing transition plans. Aviation officials, for instance, have restricted the airspace over Biden's lakefront home in Wilmington, Delaware, while the Secret Service has begun using agents from its presidential protective detail for the president-elect and his family.

There were other signs that some leaders were preparing for a new administration.

Biden aides said the president-elect and transition team had been in touch with Republican lawmakers. Israel's prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, one of Trump's closest allies, opened a Cabinet meeting on Sunday by congratulating Biden, a former vice president and longtime senator.

"I have a long and warm personal connection with Joe Biden for nearly 40 years, and I know him as a great friend of the state of Israel," Netanyahu said.

George W. Bush, the only living Republican former president, called Biden "a good man, who has won his opportunity to lead and unify our country."

But other Republicans, including Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, urged Trump to continue pursuing legal challenges related to the election, making a bumpy transition more likely.

Biden started his first full day as president-elect on Sunday by attending church at St. Joseph on the Brandywine near his home in Wilmington, as he does nearly every week. After the service, he visited the church cemetery where several family members have been laid to rest, including his son Beau.

He otherwise spent most of the day inside his home while some of his staff spent hours on a conference call focused on transition planning.

Those plans also may hinge on two Senate races in Georgia that have advanced to a Jan. 5 runoff. If Republicans hold those seats, they'll likely retain the Senate majority and be in a position to slow confirmation of Biden's top Cabinet choices and complicate his legislative goals, including sweeping calls for expanding access to health care and bolstering the post-pandemic economy with green jobs and infrastructure designed to combat climate change.

Pfizer says COVID-19 vaccine is looking 90% effective

Special to the Herald

Pfizer said Monday that an early peek at the data on its coronavirus vaccine suggests the shots may be a surprisingly robust 90% effective at preventing COVID-19, putting the company on track to apply later this month for emergency-use approval from the Food and Drug Administration.

The announcement, less than a week after an election that was seen as a referendum on President Donald Trump's handling of the crisis, was a rare and major piece of encouraging news lately in the battle against the scourge that has killed more than 1.2 million people worldwide, including almost a quarter-million in the United States alone. Confirmed cases in the U.S. were expected to eclipse 10 million on Monday, the highest in the world.

"We're in a position potentially to be able to offer some hope," Dr. Bill Gruber, Pfizer's senior vice president of clinical development, told The Associated Press. "We're very encouraged."

Dr. Anthony Fauci, the government's top-infectious disease expert, said the results suggesting 90% effectiveness are "just extraordinary," adding: "Not very many people expected it would be as high as that."

"It's going to have a major impact on everything we do with respect to COVID," Fauci said.

Pharmaceutical companies and various countries are in a global race to develop a vaccine against the virus. Fauci said that the Pfizer vaccine and virtually all others in testing target the spike protein the coronavirus uses to infect cells, so the results validate that approach.

Monday's announcement doesn't mean for certain that a vaccine is imminent: This interim analysis, from an independent data monitoring board, looked at 94 infections recorded so far in a study that has enrolled nearly 44,000 people in the U.S. and five other countries. Some participants got the vaccine, while others got dummy shots.

Pfizer Inc. did not provide any more details about those infections and cautioned that the initial protection rate might change by the time the study ends. Even revealing such early data is highly unusual.

"We need to see the data, but this is extremely promising," said Dr. Jesse Goodman of Georgetown University, former chief of the FDA's vaccine division. He ticked off many questions still to be answered, including how long the vaccine's effects last and whether it protects older people as well as younger ones.

Whenever any vaccine arrives, initial supplies will be scarce and rationed, with priority likely to be given to health care workers and others on the front lines. Pfizer has estimated that 50 million doses of its vaccine could be available globally by the end of 2020, which could cover 25 million people, since it is given in two doses.

Global markets, already buoyed by the victory of President-elect Joe Biden, exploded on the news from Pfizer. Major markets in Europe, where infections have soared, were up 5%. In the U.S., the S&P 500 surged 3.7% after the opening bell, and the Dow Jones Industrial Average was up more than 1,300 points.

Trump, who had suggested during the presidential campaign that a vaccine could be ready by Election Day, tweeted on Monday: "STOCK MARKET UP

BIG, VACCINE COMING SOON. REPORT 90% EFFECTIVE. SUCH GREAT NEWS!"

The timing is likely to feed unsubstantiated suspicions from Trump supporters that the pharmaceutical industry was withholding the news until after the election. Donald Trump Jr. tweeted: "The timing of this is pretty amazing. Nothing nefarious about the timing of this at all right?"

Pfizer Chairman and CEO Albert Bourla said on CNBC that the election was always an artificial deadline and that the data was going to be ready when it was ready. The independent data monitors met on Sunday, analyzing the COVID-19 test results so far and notifying Pfizer.

"I am very happy," Bourla said, "but at the same time, sometimes I have tears in my eyes when I realize that this is the end of nine months, day-and-night work of so many people and how many people, billions, invested hopes on this."

He added: "I never thought it would be 90%."

Earlier this year, Fauci said he would be happy with a COVID-19 vaccine that was 60% effective. Scientists have warned for months that any COVID-19 shot may be only as good as flu vaccines, which are about 50% effective and require yearly shots.

Pfizer opted not to join the Trump administration's Operation Warp Speed, which helped a half-dozen drugmakers accelerate their vaccine testing and helped fund the work. Instead, Pfizer funded all its testing and manufacturing costs itself. The company said it has invested billions of dollars.

The coronavirus shots, made by Pfizer and its German partner BioNTech, are among 10 possible vaccine candidates in late-stage testing around the world — four of them so far in huge studies in the U.S. Another U.S. company, Moderna Inc., also has said it hopes to be able to file an application with the FDA later this month.

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Coahoma's Brysen Kerby making name for himself during dominant junior season

By SHAWN MORAN
Herald Sports Writer

Coahoma Brysen Kerby just finished up his extremely impressive 2020 regular season with 1,345 rushing yards, 182 receiving yards, and 22 total touchdowns. He is a hard-nosed runner that keeps his legs moving through the whistle, does not shy away from contact, and runs north and south to always get the most yardage possible.

When speaking to Kerby, he comes off as a humble and intelligent high school student. He usually defers any personal praise to how well the entire team has been playing, and the first words that Head Coach Chris Joslin uttered about him to this reporter seemed to be spot on.

"He definitely is a great player, but he is an even better young man," Joslin said.

While Kerby may not be one to toot his own horn, the humble playmaker has undoubtedly proven himself to be one of the best running backs in all of West Texas during the course of this season. Of course, he cannot produce those types of numbers all by himself, and Kerby would be the first one to tell you that. The entire Coahoma team has played with a chip on their shoulders all season-long, and it shows with the way they play on Friday night's.

"The main thing that excites me and makes me overall happy is the fact that so many people said that we wouldn't do very well this year since we lost so many people last spring. All of the guys that we have all stepped up and they're doing their jobs. They're all doing it to the best of their ability and that leads to the success of any individual person on the team," Kerby said.

As a sophomore, the 5-foot-9, 180-pound running back carried the ball 114 times for 778 yards (6.8 avg) and scored 17 total touchdowns. Head Coach Chris Joslin knew before this season started that getting the ball into his Kerby's hands would be a vital part to their offensive game-plan in 2020.

In a few games this season with the Bulldogs trailing or leading a close game, Kerby and his offensive line have found a way to either lead a comeback or close out the close game. In a 59-34 win over Eldorado earlier this season, Kerby carried the ball 17 times for 254 yards and five touchdowns.

In another game where they needed Kerby most in a grind-it-out,



HERALD File Photo
Brysen Kerby (22) makes a cut and runs his way through the Stanton defense earlier this season.

down-to-the-wire contest against Stanton, the star running back answered the call. He had 37 rushing attempts for 273 yards and three touchdowns while helping the Bulldogs going on to win the game 20-16. Whenever the Bulldogs need a big play, Kerby is the player that Joslin most often calls upon.

What does it mean to Kerby to have the confidence of his Head Coach and his teammates every time they take the gridiron together?

"It means a lot to me knowing that some guys on the team look up to me and they always have my back. They know that I have theirs, too," Kerby said. "It's hard to explain the feeling that you get whenever you're able to be a leader towards the people that you've been around and the people that you work with every single day. I'm just trying to go out every week and play the best that I can but it means a lot to have people behind me."

After racking up over 1,500 total yards (1,527) on offense, Kerby has led his strong Bulldog team to the postseason. Joslin and the rest of the offense will surely be relying on Kerby this Thursday night when they begin the postseason with their Bi-District playoff game against Canadian.

"Every single week we go out there and try to get a win. No matter who we play, no matter how good they are, or what their record is, we're going to go out there and give it our all," Kerby said.

Spoken like a true captain.

Shawn Moran is the sports writer at the Big Spring Herald. To contact him, e-mail sports@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

From season-altering to bizarre, injuries hit NFL yet again

By SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Pro Football Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — From the season-altering to the bizarre, injuries are playing their traditionally significant role in the NFL.

Dak Prescott's Dallas Cowboys are on the verge of a lost year when they hoped to contend after a broken ankle ended the quarterback's season. One of their NFC East rivals, the New York Giants, barely saw their offense fully stocked, with running back Saquon Barkley tearing an ACL in Week 2.

Tyrod Taylor lost his starting job with the Los Angeles Chargers after a team doctor accidentally punctured a tendon giving the quarterback an injection. Rookie QB Justin Herbert has exceeded expectations since replacing Taylor and kept the job.

Las Vegas Raiders right tackle Trent Brown ended up in a hospital, pushed air into his bloodstream.

Brown also recently went back on the COVID-19 list, a newcomer among potential ailments with the NFL playing during a pandemic. Some players opted out before the season started because of the coronavirus.

Star pass rusher Von Miller was poised for a big year in Denver before injuring his left ankle days before the opener and eventually needing surgery. The outside linebacker is hoping to beat the odds and return in December.

Few teams have had the volume of injuries that have hit defending NFC champion San Francisco. Quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo and running back Raheem Mostert have sprained ankles, and tight end George Kittle broke a foot.

Defensive end Nick Bosa (knee) and cornerback Richard Sherman (calf) are on injured reserve as the 49ers try to keep pace in the difficult NFC West with only eight players who have started every

game.

San Francisco is the only team in the league with a losing record, at times playing without its top three cornerbacks, both starting safeties, three of the four best defensive ends, the top two receivers, three of the top four running backs and the top two tight ends, not to mention Garoppolo.

No team has a winning record in the NFC East, which is why the Cowboys and Giants aren't completely out of the race while tied for last at 2-7.

In addition to Prescott's gruesome ankle injury in a Week 5 win over the Giants, the Cowboys lost tight end Blake Jarwin (knee) and both starting tackles — Tyron Smith (neck) and La'el Collins (hip) — to season-ending injuries. The offensive line has been in flux all season because of a variety of injuries.

"I've just never been around one of these situations where every week is different than the week before," first-year Dallas coach Mike McCarthy said. "Whether it's your lineup on the offensive line, who your quarterback is. We've played, what, four quarterbacks in the last five weeks? It's just a different year."

Philadelphia (3-4-1) leads the NFC East despite nine of the 11 starters missing at least two games apiece with injuries. The exceptions are quarterback Carson Wentz and center Jason Kelce.

The safety of playing surfaces has been a topic for players, with union president JC Tretter, Cleveland's center, calling for all stadiums to install grass fields. Of the 30 stadiums, 13 have synthetic surfaces.

Two of the game's best receivers are out for the season with torn knee ligaments in Denver's Courtland Sutton, who was injured making a tackle on an interception in Week 2, and Cleveland's Odell Beckham Jr.

See **INJURY**, Page 10

NCAA Football AP Top 25 (Week 11)

Ranking	Team	Overall	Points	Prev
1	Alabama (59)	6-0	1,547	2
2	Notre Dame (2)	7-0	1,464	4
3	Ohio State (1)	3-0	1,449	3
4	Clemson	7-1	1,355	1
5	Texas A&M	5-1	1,223	7
6	Florida	4-1	1,213	8
7	Cincinnati	6-0	1,208	6
8	BYU	8-0	1,101	9
9	Miami (FL)	6-1	958	11
10	Indiana	3-0	956	13
11	Oregon	1-0	948	12
12	Georgia	4-2	861	5
13	Wisconsin	1-0	852	10
14	Oklahoma State	5-1	762	14
15	Coastal Carolina	7-0	551	15
16	Marshall	6-0	534	16
17	Iowa State	5-2	491	17
18	Oklahoma	5-2	467	19
19	SMU	7-1	456	18
20	USC	1-0	395	20
21	Texas	5-2	265	22
22	Liberty	7-0	260	25
23	Northwestern	3-0	250	NR
24	Auburn	4-2	184	24
25	Louisiana	6-1	118	NR

RECEIVING VOTES:

North Carolina (85), Army (54), Tulsa (47), Utah (33), Washington (21), Arizona State (11), Purdue (8), Wake Forest (6), Boise State (5), Appalachian State (5), Maryland (3), California (3), Nevada (1)

NCAA Basketball Preseason AP Top 25

Ranking	Team	Overall	Points	Prev
1	Gonzaga (28)	0-0	1,541	-
2	Baylor (24)	0-0	1,540	-
3	Villanova (11)	0-0	1,501	-
4	Virginia (1)	0-0	1,364	-
5	Iowa	0-0	1,273	-
6	Kansas	0-0	1,221	-
7	Wisconsin	0-0	1,150	-
8	Illinois	0-0	1,105	-
9	Duke	0-0	1,073	-
10	Kentucky	0-0	1,038	-
11	Creighton	0-0	922	-
12	Tennessee	0-0	919	-
13	Michigan State	0-0	820	-
14	Texas Tech	0-0	790	-
15	West Virginia	0-0	651	-
16	North Carolina	0-0	465	-
17	Houston	0-0	438	-
18	Arizona State	0-0	402	-
19	Texas	0-0	380	-
20	Oregon	0-0	375	-
21	Florida State	0-0	351	-
22	UCLA	0-0	336	-
23	Ohio State	0-0	270	-
24	Rutgers	0-0	190	-
25	Michigan	0-0	160	-

RECEIVING VOTES:

LSU (146), Memphis (69), Florida (69), Alabama (50), Indiana (48), Louisville (41), Richmond (40), Stanford (14), Providence (9), Saint Louis (8), Auburn (8), San Diego State (6), UConn (6), BYU (4), Loyola of Chicago (3), Seton Hall (2),

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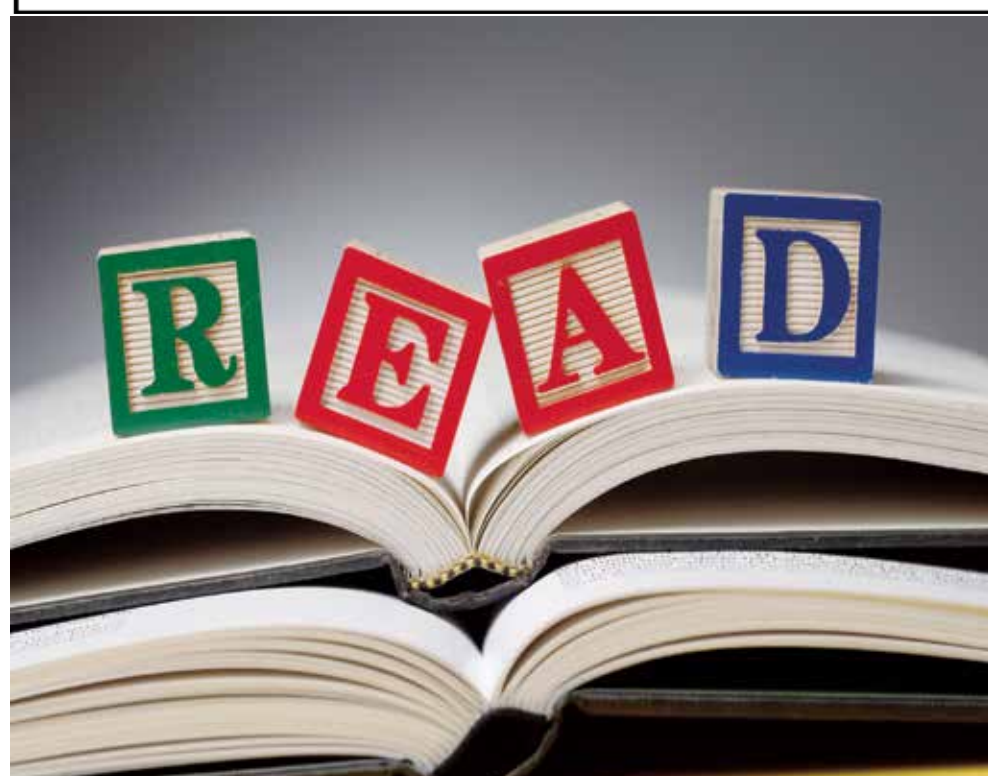
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Double-dummy problem

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♠ A K 10
♥ A 10 5
♦ K J
♣ K 7 6 4 2

WEST

♠ Q J 9 8 4 3
♥ K
♦ Q
♣ Q 10 9 8 3

EAST

♠ 7 5 2
♥ Q J 9 6 3
♦ 10 8 4 2
♣ J

SOUTH

♠ 6
♥ 8 7 4 2
♦ A 9 7 6 5 3
♣ A 5

ten of spades, then leads a club to
dummy's king and ruffs a club. A
trump is next led to dummy's king,
catching West's queen, and another
club is ruffed. South now plays a
heart toward dummy and, when West
produces the king, lets him win it!
This is now the position:

North

♥ A 10
♦ J
♣ 7 6

West

♠ J 9 8
♣ Q 10

East

♥ Q J
♦ 10 8 4

South

♥ 8 7 4
♦ A 9

Contract — Five Diamonds by South.
Opening lead — queen of spades.

Some double-dummy problems
are so hard to solve that even the
most ardent problem-solvers some-
times give up in despair. Perhaps this
problem is not that difficult, but the
solution is certainly unique.

South is declarer at five diamonds,
can see all four hands and must make
11 tricks after West's opening lead of
the queen of spades.

The key play occurs at trick two,
when declarer, after taking the open-
ing spade lead with dummy's king,
next cashes the ace of spades and
discards his ace of clubs! This
extraordinary play paves the way for
South to ruff five of dummy's losers
in his hand and so make the contract.

At trick three, declarer ruffs the

West's return doesn't matter, so
let's say he leads a club, on which
East discards a heart. South ruffs
with the nine, plays a heart to the ace
and ruffs dummy's last club with his
last trump, the ace. This is declarer's
10th trick, and he still has the jack of
diamonds in dummy to cinch the
contract.

Declarer's 11 tricks consist of the
A-K of spades, ace of hearts, king of
clubs and seven trump tricks com-
prised of the king, five ruffs in his
hand with the A-9-7-6-5 and, finally,
the jack. However, all of these plays
must be preceded by the discard of
the ace of clubs on the ace of spades
at trick two.

Tomorrow: An error of omission.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

By HOLIDAY MATHIS



and the future.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). When positive experiences aren't naturally happening, you will be able to create them with minimal effort. Try to make at least four to offset the neutral and negative experiences that are part and parcel with daily life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). When you're

with people of different moods, sometimes you lead with yours, and sometimes you follow theirs. So, whose mood prevails today? The answer will be interesting and compelling.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It can be frustrating to find that your ability has not yet caught up with your ambition, but don't worry. Just because you are

unable to satisfy a desire today doesn't mean you won't get there tomorrow or next week.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Love makes its own channels, and they can be unpredictable indeed. You'll give your love to one person and it will be returned to you through another in an unrelated interaction.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Sometimes, people have a natural appetite for what's good for them, but more often they don't. Perhaps they don't know enough about it yet. You'll work on an appetizing presentation.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It seems that the person who gets your focus isn't the one you most enjoy, but the one who needs you the most. This is not ideal for your short-term happiness but works wonders for building strong character.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You thought that the barrier was external, but it turns out that you had it up in your head -- a block created with emotion and past experience that can be disassembled without too much hassle.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 11). Victory is in your stars! In the past, you misperceived the possibilities and this led to an unmet goal. But you never forgot or stopped trying. This year, you will finally get your due. A financial boost brings in 2021. Something you come into possession of will make a remarkable difference in how you live and work. Aries and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 4, 44, 18 and 39.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.
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Eleven-Eleven Holidays

Many believe the numerologically nifty eleven-eleven to be a harbinger of angelic visitors bearing gifts of love, protection and clarity. This auspicious omen is also the date of Veteran's Day in the United States and Remembrance Day in Canada -- opportunities to honor those who have served in the military. A harmonious Libra moon adds to the beautiful balance.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There's so much going right. When you focus on that, it builds. It's easier to do around people who want you to succeed. Notice who supports you and wants to hear about what's good in your world.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). An investment in your health, education and curiosity in the world will pay off now, later and

all along the way. You really can't go wrong with this, and you'll wonder why you didn't do it sooner.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Noting your accomplishments will be important. Even better, celebrate them! It's about keeping track of the data, but the emotional element is key, too, because it provides the fuel to aim for future success.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). To you, compassion is not an emotion but a call to action. You do what you can to alleviate suffering. Sometimes, all you can do is offer some warmth, and you do that so well.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Discourse can feel like a game of strategy, and it often is. You'll be well aware of how what you say is a move, and your move not only changes your position, but also it changes theirs

Guess Who?

I am an actor born in New York on October 21, 1983. As a youth, I was active in sports, playing golf, soccer and basketball. I also enjoyed theater and majored in musical theater. I have played many roles on Broadway, and starred as Danny Zuko on TV.

Answer: Aaron Tveit

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

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!

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!

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

ANSWER:

Annie's Mailbox

Communication Is Needed ASAP

Dear Annie:

My boyfriend is 48, and I am 39, and we have been together since May 2015. We haven't made too many public appearances since being together. I have two children, a 12-year-old boy and a 15-year-old girl. They love him dearly. He has one child, a 14-year-old girl, who barely communicates with my children and me.

When we met, he was six months out of a two-year relationship, and I was eight months out of a 12-year marriage. We met on a dating site. Neither of us was looking for a relationship at the time. My children met him in June 2015, and I met his daughter the next month. My kids and I are adventurous and like the outdoors. He and his daughter, not so much. He works in engineering, and I'm a nurse. We are similar and opposite at the same time. I love action, comedy and dramas, and he likes zombie movies and action.

His daughter's mom and I have had an altercation. The cause of the disagreement was that she wanted to ruin our relationship, and he did nothing about it. I then had to step in after being frustrated. We bumped heads quite a bit, due to his daughter's mom. She ended up

living across the street from us after we moved in together.

My concern is that we are not talking about marriage or even an engagement. More than a year after buying a home and we're still playing house, without moving forward. I have brought this to his attention because I want to know what's next. Each time I bring it up, I feel as if he blows me off and does not want to talk about it. He always says, "When I marry someone, I want to make sure they're the one."

I have mentioned marriage at least five times, and now I'm ready to give up on this relationship. He always wants me to tell people that we have three children, but he's not changing the status legally. I don't think that I should wait on him to make up his mind to decide our future, as it's been over five years.

I think it has a lot to do with his money; maybe he thinks I'm after it or something. That isn't the case. The proof is that I would have stayed with my ex-husband. I feel as if I'm wasting my time and living a lie. The lie is that he'll probably never marry me and eventually I'll move on. I have asked him to see a therapist with me over and over, but it hasn't happened yet. I was going to pick a therapist, but he said that he

would, but again, nothing. -- Tired of Waiting

Dear Tired:

Divorce can be traumatic. It sounds like your boyfriend might need time before he is ready to tie the knot. His comment about marrying "the one" is hurtful. You might be correct that it's time to move on. However, before making a decision, you need to tell him all that you're feeling. People are not mind readers, and so much of a healthy relationship is communication. Rather than waiting for him to decide what he wants, decide what you want and then tell him exactly what that is.

Therapy is doubly important because the lives of three children are at stake. His ex-wife living across the street is something that a professional should be able to help you and your boyfriend sort out.

"Ask Me Anything: A Year of Advice From Dear Annie" is out now! Annie Lane's debut book -- featuring favorite columns on love, friendship, family and etiquette -- is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit <http://www.creatorspublishing.com> for more information.

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

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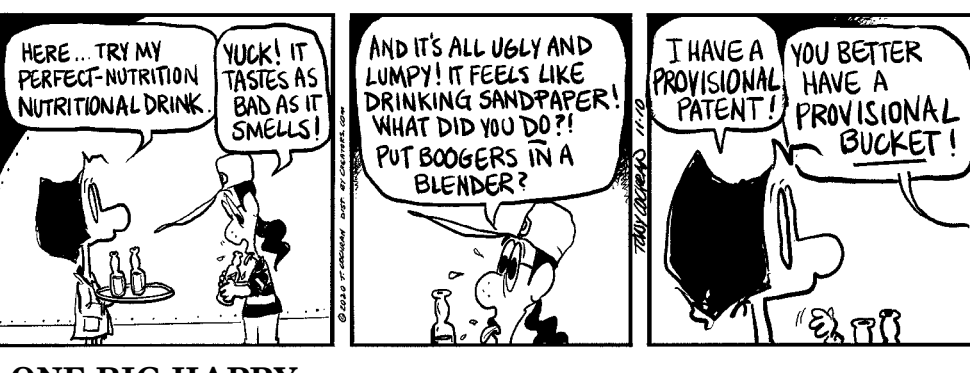


Table with 21 columns (channel names) and 24 rows (time slots from 5:00 PM to 1:00 AM) listing various TV programs like News, Sports, and Movies.

ANDY CAPP



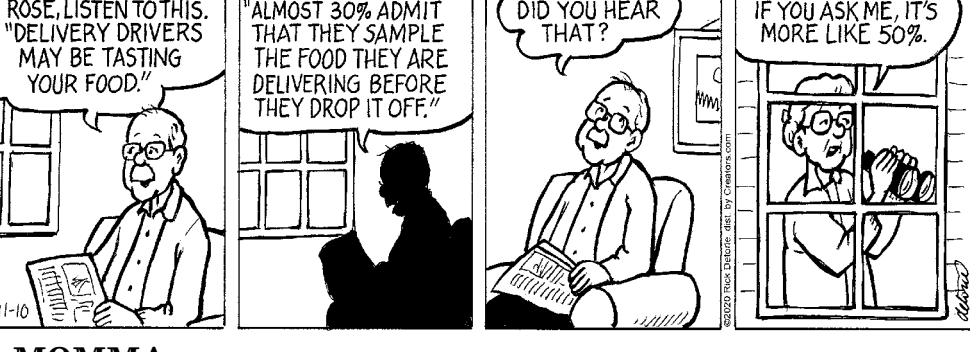
AGNES



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ONE BIG HAPPY



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This Date In History

Today in History: Today is Monday, Nov. 9, the 314th day of 2020. There are 52 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Nov. 9, 1989, communist East Germany threw open its borders...

Penn State's head football coach and a record 409 victories, Joe Paterno was fired along with the university president, Graham Spanier, over their handling of child sex abuse allegations against former assistant coach Jerry Sandusky.

newcomer Ringo Starr as the Beatles recorded their debut single "Love Me Do," died in Caldwell, New Jersey. One year ago: Germany marked the 30th anniversary of the opening of the Berlin Wall...

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS 1 Worker's supervisor 5 Small, pesky fly 9 Fragment of paper 14 "Make up your mind, yes ___?" 15 Row of a poem 16 Actor Sir Michael ___ 17 Low in fat, as meat 18 Insects in colonies 19 Make things right 20 "Drat!" 22 Person evaluating something 23 Banquet hosts: Abbr. 24 Abror Brooks 25 Golf bag carrier 29 30-minute viewings of sitcoms 34 Underway, to Sherlock 35 Plow-pulling beasts 36 Weight increase 37 Doorbell sound 38 Old maxim 39 Remove, as a necktie 40 Instrument played with sticks 41 Physicians, for short 42 Taxi fare calculator 43 Keep for a special purpose 45 The Sahara, for one 46 "Tiny" Christmas Carol kid 47 Ship's distress signal 48 Storage area right under a roof

PET PAIRS by Sally R. Stein

Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com. Includes a 13x13 crossword grid with 56 numbered clues for pet-related terms.

Answer to previous puzzle BARES CALF DRAB LLAMA OHIO VEER GOLDEN GEMS DARE BOARD GAMES PLOW WRITER DILL DAMS LLOATH HEAP DEEM SYRIA ABBOT SEE SEEPS VALOR AMEN REST EYELID STAR TOES RECAP SOFA TEASYCHAIRS ARAB PLEA INDIA SELL EVER REEDS HOLE NERD ESSES

McCarthy's 1st season in Dallas all but lost at 9-game mark

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Mike McCarthy's first season as coach of the Dallas Cowboys is all but lost, in large part because star quarterback Dak Prescott's season-ending ankle injury triggered a sequence of four different starters in a span of five weeks.

A defense that took too long to adjust to a new scheme shares the blame.

The Cowboys had their best showing since the gruesome scene of Prescott's broken right ankle in Week 5 against the New York Giants, a game they rallied to win when Andy Dalton led a pair of drives to field goals in the fourth quarter.

But the 24-19 loss to undefeated Pittsburgh on Sunday was the fourth straight defeat without Prescott, and left Dallas (2-7) tied for last in the NFC East with the New York Giants. Philadelphia (3-4-1) leads the division with a losing record.

"I think we are making some good steps forward," running back Ezekiel Elliott said. "You said we were in last place in the division? Is that what you said? I mean, we still got seven games left. So I think there is still a shot."

Dalton should be ready for the visit to Minnesota on Nov. 22 after going from the concussion protocol to the COVID-19 list.

Rookie Ben DiNucci was over-matched in his only start after Dalton's concussion, and the COVID-19 development led to Garrett Gilbert making his first career start against the Steelers six years after he was drafted.

Gilbert brought enough life to the offense to give Dallas some degree of encouragement about the most important position for the remaining games. And McCarthy doesn't sound ready to concede going into the open week.

"We'll spend time self-scouting it all, both individually for the players and all three phases," McCarthy said. "We've got to get going. Everyone knows what our record is, so we need to get going and we need to start stacking wins."

The Dallas defense gave up the most

points in franchise history through five weeks and is still on pace to set a club record. But at least the pace is no longer more than 500 points (it's about 460).

With the pandemic eliminating any in-person offseason work to try to get familiar with the multiple looks and disguises in defensive coordinator Mike Nolan's scheme, the Cowboys blew assignments week after week before looking more sound the past two games.

"I do feel like we've raised a bar and we are getting better," defensive end DeMarcus Lawrence said.

WHAT'S WORKING

Even with all the issues at quarterback, there are signs the receiving corps can be as strong as Dallas hoped after CeeDee Lamb unexpectedly fell to them at No. 17 in the draft.

While Amari Cooper hasn't been spectacular after signing a \$100 million, five-year contract in the offseason, he's been steady. Lamb was the first rookie since at least 1950 with five or more catches in each of his first six games, and Michael Gallup has shown he can be a threat.

WHAT NEEDS HELP

The offense has to start finding the end zone if the Cowboys are going to have any hope of catching the Eagles in the second half. Dallas has one meaningful touchdown in four full games without Prescott: Gilbert's second-quarter connection with Lamb

NFL Standings (Through Week Nine)

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE (AFC)										
EAST			W	L	T	PCT	HOME	AWAY	DIV	CONF PF PA
Buffalo Bills			7	2	0	.778	4-1	3-1	4-0	5-2 242 233
Miami Dolphins			5	3	0	.625	2-2	3-1	1-2	2-2 222 161
New England Patriots			3	5	0	.375	2-2	1-3	2-1	3-3 166 194
New York Jets			0	9	0	.000	0-5	0-4	0-4	0-7 121 268

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE (AFC)										
NORTH			W	L	T	PCT	HOME	AWAY	DIV	CONF PF PA
Pittsburgh Steelers			8	0	0	1.000	4-0	4-0	2-0	5-0 235 161
Baltimore Ravens			6	2	0	.750	2-2	4-0	2-1	4-2 227 142
Cleveland Browns			5	3	0	.625	3-1	2-2	2-2	3-3 206 237
Cincinnati Bengals			2	5	1	.313	2-2	0-3-1	0-3	2-5 194 214

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE (AFC)										
SOUTH			W	L	T	PCT	HOME	AWAY	DIV	CONF PF PA
Tennessee Titans			6	2	0	.750	4-1	2-1	2-0	4-2 232 201
Indianapolis Colts			5	3	0	.625	3-1	2-2	0-1	2-3 208 160
Houston Texans			2	6	0	.250	1-3	1-3	2-1	2-4 193 242
Jacksonville Jaguars			1	7	0	.125	1-3	0-4	1-3	1-6 179 247

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE (AFC)										
WEST			W	L	T	PCT	HOME	AWAY	DIV	CONF PF PA
Kansas City Chiefs			8	1	0	.889	4-1	4-0	2-1	7-1 286 183
Las Vegas Raiders			5	3	0	.625	1-2	4-1	2-0	3-2 218 229
Denver Broncos			3	5	0	.375	1-3	2-2	1-1	3-3 174 217
Los Angeles Chargers			2	6	0	.250	1-3	1-3	0-3	2-3 205 216

NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE (NFC)										
EAST			W	L	T	PCT	HOME	AWAY	DIV	CONF PF PA
Philadelphia Eagles			3	4	1	.438	2-2-1	1-2	2-1	3-2 186 205
Washington Football			2	6	0	.250	2-3	0-3	2-2	2-4 153 188
Dallas Cowboys			2	7	0	.222	2-3	0-4	1-2	2-5 204 290
New York Giants			2	7	0	.222	1-3	1-4	2-2	2-6 168 219

NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE (NFC)										
NORTH			W	L	T	PCT	HOME	AWAY	DIV	CONF PF PA
Green Bay Packers			6	2	0	.750	2-1	4-1	2-1	5-2 253 204
Chicago Bears			5	4	0	.556	2-2	3-2	1-0	5-2 178 190
Minnesota Vikings			3	5	0	.375	1-3	2-2	2-1	2-3 217 234
Detroit Lions			3	5	0	.375	0-3	3-2	0-3	2-4 197 240

NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE (NFC)										
SOUTH			W	L	T	PCT	HOME	AWAY	DIV	CONF PF PA
New Orleans Saints			6	2	0	.750	3-1	3-1	3-0	5-1 244 200
Tampa Bay Buccaneers			6	3	0	.667	3-1	3-2	1-2	3-3 250 203
Atlanta Falcons			3	6	0	.333	1-4	2-2	1-1	2-6 243 251
Carolina Panthers			3	6	0	.333	1-3	2-3	1-3	2-4 210 226

NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE (NFC)										
WEST			W	L	T	PCT	HOME	AWAY	DIV	CONF PF PA
Seattle Seahawks			6	2	0	.750	4-0	2-2	1-1	4-1 274 243
Arizona Cardinals			5	3	0	.625	2-2	3-1	2-0	4-2 234 180
Los Angeles Rams			5	3	0	.625	3-0	2-3	0-1	5-1 193 152
San Francisco 49ers			4	5	0	.444	1-4	3-1	1-2	2-4 225 207

had a tumultuous season in part because of ankle and hamstring injuries. The 2019 Offensive Player of the Year was also suspended for a game, so he sat for seven weeks after the opener.

Quarterback Drew Brees saw upside in the NFC South-leading Saints learning to cope without Thomas. They lost the first two without him before winning four straight.

In Thomas' return Sunday, New Orleans extended its winning streak to five games with a 38-3 rout of Tom Brady and Tampa Bay. Thomas had five catches for 51 yards, and was one of 12 players to catch at least one pass.

"You always hope that you wouldn't be without him, but obviously I think that that time comes for everybody where you've got to find ways to win without a certain guy or maybe a few guys," Brees said.

Arizona lost All-Pro linebacker Chandler Jones to a season-ending biceps injury five games into the season, just as Tennessee did with left tackle Taylor Lewan, who tore his ACL in an overtime win against Houston.

"We're going to miss Taylor all the way around," quarterback Ryan Tannehill said. "He always has something funny to say, whether it's in a walk-through or practice. His antics in the huddle, in games, definitely just going to miss him."

It's a familiar refrain every season in the NFL.

against the Steelers. The only TD in two Dalton starts was late in a blow-out loss to Arizona.

STOCK UP

Rookie cornerback Trevon Diggs had his first two interceptions in the Week 8 loss to the Eagles. He seems to be the best hope for the Cowboys to stabilize the NFL's worst turnover margin (minus-13). After four take-aways against Philadelphia, Dallas was back to zero against the Steelers. Diggs came out of that game with a foot injury; there's no word yet on the severity.

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INJURY

Continued from Page 5

New England's Julian Edelman had knee surgery, and his season is in doubt.

Carolina All-Pro running back Christian McCaffrey returned this past weekend against Kansas City after missing six games with a high ankle sprain and had 28 touches for 151 yards — 18 carries for 69 yards and 10 catches for 82 yards.

"He can't come back soon enough," first-year coach Matt Rhule said before the 33-31 loss to the defending Super Bowl champion Chiefs. The Panthers are also without four defensive starters.

New York Jets quarterback Sam Darnold missed his third game of the season Monday night with a sprained right shoulder in a 30-27 loss to New England that dropped the NFL's only winless team to 0-9.

Jets receivers have taken turns on the sidelines, from Jamison Crowder (hamstring and groin) to Breshad Perriman (ankle and concussion), Chris Hogan (ankle) and rookie Denzel Mims, a second-round draft pick who didn't make his debut until Week 7 because of injuries to both hamstrings in training camp.

That might help explain why New York is last in the league in points, total yards and passing yards.

New Orleans' star receiver, Michael Thomas, has

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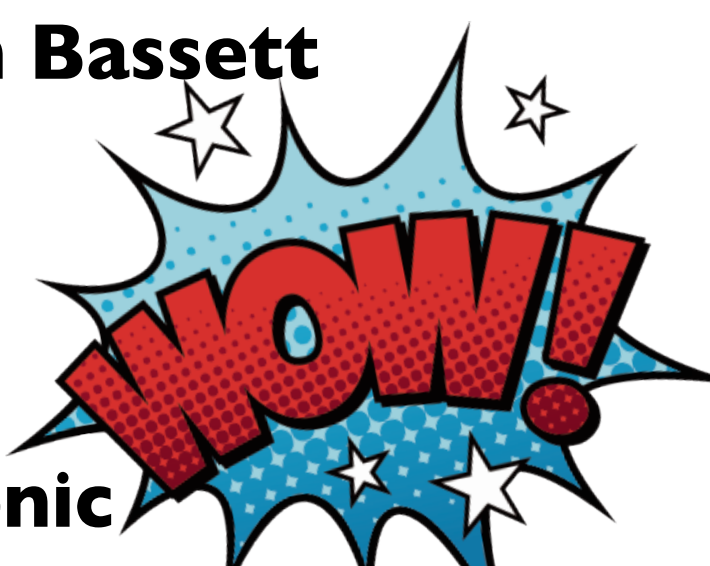
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