

The Importance of Spreading Joy during the Holiday Season

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SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

December 22 - 28, 2016

MERRY CHRISTMAS

MALL OF AMERICA FIRST BLACK SANTA, NORTH TEXAS RESIDENT LARRY JEFFERSON COMES BACK TO TOWN DRIVING WITH UBER



UBER Newsroom - You may have heard of him on the nightly news, you may have been his passenger on an Uber trip – no matter how you might have run across Santa Larry, one thing is for sure: his holiday magic is contagious.

After returning home to Irving from his recent stint at the Mall of America, Santa Larry made a visit to the Dallas Greenlight Hub. Santa Larry, the Mall of America's very first black Santa, helped host a merry celebration for local Uber driver-partners. With over 500 visitors, 173 printed Polaroids, and at least 93 ho-ho-hos from one of our favorite Santas, driver-partners and their families were able to meet the infamous Santa Larry while celebrating the season.

When he's not dressed up in a red suit, Santa Larry, known as Larry Jefferson in the off-season, is an esteemed Uber partner with over 2,000 trips and a mind-blowing 4.96 rating. Taking his first trip more than a year ago, Larry Jefferson is a pro on the road and continues to leave a lasting impression on riders throughout DFW. He provides the highest quality service when he's behind the wheel, and his devotion to serving others goes far beyond driving with Uber.

Some of his rider feedback includes: "Thank you so much for being such a gift to my family. You are the best Santa Driver! My daughters had the best time ever. You made the welcome home that much better." "Best and most entertaining Uber

ride I've ever had."

We're thrilled to be able to call Santa Larry one of our driver-partners. We look forward to all of the holiday cheer he continues to spread for all to hear.

Happy holidays to all, and to all a good ride!

Content and Photos courtesy of UBER



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San Diego Trainer Overcomes Hurdles on the Track and in Life

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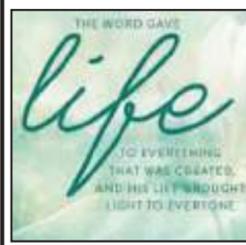
KWANZAA ANNUAL CITYWIDE KWANZAA CALENDAR

Inspiration for the Week



Scripture of the Week

JOHN 1:4



Donald Trump cruises to Electoral College victory despite protests

(AP) - There were many protesters but few faithless electors as Donald Trump won the Electoral College vote Monday —ensuring he will become America's 45th president.

An effort by anti-Trump forces to persuade Republican electors to abandon the president-elect came to practically nothing and the process unfolded largely according to its traditions. Trump's polarizing victory Nov. 8 and the fact Democrat Hillary Clinton had won the national popular vote had stirred an

intense lobbying effort, but to no avail. "We did it!" Trump tweeted Monday evening. "Thank you to all of my great supporters, we just officially won the election (despite all of the distorted and inaccurate media)."

He later issued a statement saying: "With this historic step we can look forward to the bright future ahead. I will work hard to unite our country and be the President of all Americans."

Even one of Trump's fiercest Republican rivals, Ohio Gov. John Kasich,

said it was time to get behind the president-elect.

"We want unity, we want love," Kasich said as Ohio's electors voted to back Trump at a statehouse ceremony. Kasich refused to endorse or even vote for Trump in the election.

With all states voting, Trump finished with 304 votes and Clinton had 227. It takes 270 Electoral College votes to win the presidency. Texas put Trump over the top, despite two Republican electors casting protest votes.



The Dallas Post Tribune wishes YOU a Merry Christmas!



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EDITORIAL PAGE

Spiritually Speaking: Prayer Is My Daily Weapon of Choice

By James Washington
 (The Dallas Weekly/NNPA Member)

Recently, I've had reason to refocus on that sometimes habitual thing that I do known as prayer. Be it morning prayer, evening at church or, on behalf of a friend or seeking guidance in and out of a difficult situation, I have come to realize my prayer life could and should be much better. I am reading an old fashioned good vs. evil novel where the good is actually all about angels and the bad about demons. Their battle is all about controlling us for the victory where their allegiances lay, ultimately God or Satan. The revelation about my prayer life comes with an enlightenment of where our focus should be.

"For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the world rulers of this present darkness..." (Ephesians 6:12.) Now this is not a doom and gloom column making a statement about today's politics. It is merely a commentary

about the things I pray about.

I usually don't pray about governments, world leaders, the coming of a new age and so forth. My prayer life tends to be a little more close to home and more about the people I love. To make my point, let me use the term "prayer cover." In the book that I'm reading, the angels are constantly asking each other can they win the next battle and the answer is always not unless they get more prayer cover. They need more people praying in order to achieve victory. And the specifics of the needed prayer revolve around folks calling upon the name of Jesus. You see everything changes, the tide gets turned, and the odds get stacked up for the pro-Christ gang. Now, I know for a fact that many a friend, family member, church acquaintance and others have provided me with plenty of prayer cover. I also know it was and has been my intent to provide cover for those closest to me. You just pray for people you love and all they are going through.

We hear the phrase "our thoughts and prayers go out to..." too many times these days for people caught up in nonsensical violence, terror, war and my favorite, man's inhumanity to man. And it doesn't appear to be slowing down at all. Now back to my prayer point. If I look at prayer as a weapon in the eternal life and death struggle, then I am arming myself and others who are caught up in the eternal challenges of the day. I am providing cover. It's a military term. Scripture says it's not always about flesh and blood, but things some of us don't pay too much attention to. Principalities, local, state, national and world leaders might need some prayer cover. Others just need prayer. The way I'm thinking now is that prayer just might be my daily weapon of choice.

It's kind of a new perspective to think your prayers are ammunition for the work God wants done by you. Prayer makes you stronger and the enemy weaker as a result. The

interesting thing about the book is that it forces you to look at the enemy in a different way. The enemy is doubt, fear, apprehension, crimes against your person, complacency, fear of success, spiritual poverty, and apprehension about the world and its direction. So for me, tomorrow I'm arming myself for the battles of the day and the days after with a good dose of prayer and will happily share a few bullets for you. The victory is ours and Jesus has already won this thing. He provided all the prayer cover we need. All He has ever asked you to do is take that knowledge with you and share it with the world.

May God bless and keep you always.

James Washington is a father, husband, Christian and writer. James is also the owner and publisher of the multimedia company The Dallas Weekly. You can follow James on Twitter at @JAWS_215.

THE DALLAS POST TRIBUNE REQUESTS YOUR HELP TO FIND 9 MISSING PICTURES OF DALLAS HEROES THAT BELONGS ON THE WALL OF FACES IN THE VIETNAM MEMORIAL IN WASHINGTON, DC

Mrs. Janna Hoehn of Maui, Hawaii is leading a campaign with Texas local volunteers attempting to find pictures of all 330 Dallas County men killed in action for the Vietnam Memorial in Washington DC. She contributes her success in locating many of the missing pictures to; David Ripa, Tiffany Ripa, Danny Linn and Peggy Case all residing in Texas which she considers her "boots on the ground".

The Wall of Faces will be a part of an underground gallery near the Vietnam Memorial, sometimes called "The Wall," located on the mall in Washington, DC.

We are encouraging our readers to please review the list of names to see if you recognize anyone on the list.

The following information was sent by Mrs. Janna Hoehn of Maui, Hawaii and due to the vital content in order to locate our Heroes it appears as sent without corrections.

Burrough, Jesse Clarence (Sep 2, 1948-Apr 4, 1968) (Black - Baptist - Never Married) (US Army - Co A, 3rd Bn, 39th Inf, 9ID) Dallas, TX.

Butler, Henry (Dec 16, 1944-Aug 15, 1966) (Black - Baptist - Never Married) (US Army - Co B, 2nd Bn, 5th Cav, 1CD) Dallas, TX

Fisher, James Louis (Oct 15, 1930- Nov 17, 1965) (Black - Protestant - Never Married) (US Army - Co A, 2nd Bn, 7th Cav, 1CD) Dallas, TX.

Morris, Elroy (March 6, 1949-Feb 27, 1969) (Black - Religion Unknown - Single) (US Marine Corps - 1st CAG, Combined Action Program, III MAF) Dallas, TX.

Morris, John Lee (Feb 14, 1950-Mar 23, 1969) (Black - Baptist - Never Married) (US Army - Co C, 3rd Bn, 39th Inf, 9ID) Dallas, TX.

Perry Jr., R.C. (Mar 17, 1936-Feb 13, 1967) (Black - Baptist - Married) (US Army - Co C, 2nd Bn, 22nd Inf, 4ID) Dallas, TX

Price, Charles Allen (Sep 18, 1948-Jan 19, 1969) (Black - Methodist - Never Married) (US Army - HHB, 41st Arty Group, I Field Force) Dallas, TX.

Williams, Rayfield (Apr 6, 1947-Feb 6, 1968) (Black - Religion Unknown - Married) (US Army - HHC, 1st Bn, 14th Inf, 4ID) Dallas, TX.

Williams, Vance George (Nov 21 1946- Apr 2, 1967) (Black - Baptist - Married) (US Army - Co D, 2nd Bn, 8th Cav, 1CD) Dallas, TX

If you have information regarding the missing Dallas heroes, please contact Janna Hoehn via email: neverforgotten2014@gmail.com.

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BE KIND! Never speak harsh words. Be kind and gentle with your tongue. For it has been said that the tongue can be like a sword. Think long before you criticize your neighbor. Your tongue can be nasty. Living is one of the most beautiful things in the world. But the tongue can kill!

Articles throughout The Dallas Post Tribune reflect the views of their authors, and not necessarily those of this publication.



Rev. Johnny C. Smith
 Editorial Columnist

From this grand book, Jesus Christ is the principal person, being linked to two noble characters of the Old Testament, David and Abraham. In this book, Matthew will present Christ as the Messiah, the King of the Jews. He will trace the long ancestry of Jesus, indicating that He (Jesus) is a legal heir to the throne of David through Joseph, his legal father, not birth father. Jesus Christ will come through forty-two generations as the rightful heir to the throne of David.

Having proven that Jesus is the legitimate heir to the throne of David, in verse 16, we are introduced to the fact that Mary and Joseph were married. In those days, and according to Jewish custom, marriages were planned and sealed by parents. The couple was considered married, but didn't live together; that is, the woman remained with her parents and the man obviously lived with his parents for a period of one year. The one year betrothal period proved the faithfulness

of the couple. During this most crucial year, the bride especially had to remain faithful to her spouse. If her faithfulness to her spouse was violated, the marriage would be considered annulled. However, if the bride had remained true to the marital pledge of fidelity during the one year period of betrothal, then the marriage would be consummated, and the couple would then begin to live together.

At the outset of our text, Mary and Joseph were in that one year period called the "betrothal period," and Mary was found with child (v.16, v.18). Mary and Joseph had not come together to engage in a sexual relationship, yet she was found with a child. Joseph, being an honorable man, did not want to embarrass Mary publicly, so he decided to "Put her away privily" (v.19). In essence, Joseph was contemplating divorcing the one to whom he loved. He certainly loved Mary, but he did not want to publicly embarrass her. On a serious note, Joseph could

have had her stoned to death for violation of the pledge of fidelity (Deut. 22:23-30).

While Joseph was deeply considering this situation, and in a dream, an angel informed him that her state was due, not through human mean, but through a Divine agent (the Holy Spirit) (v.20). This child that Mary was carrying would be called Jesus, and He will be Saviour for His people (v.21). These words from the angelic being must have been a great source of joy to the heart of Joseph. This verse (v.21) informs us that Christ's central reason for coming into this world was not to gain popularity, but to "save His people from their sins." In verse 21, the context denotes that Jesus came to save the Jews from their sins. Moreover, not only has He come to save the Jews, but He has come to save the Gentiles, as well. Our Saviour has come to save all men from their sins.

If mortal man would only believe in Christ's finished work on the cross, and His burial and resurrection, he can be saved,

for Romans 10:9 says, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." The same Saviour who offers salvation to His people also offers salvation to all men, for John 5:24 says, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on Him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life. Through trust in Christ, every man born spiritually lost can be saved eternally, and that man will spend eternity with God. The only Saviour qualified to die for you and I, had to be virgin-born. Thank God that He used a God-fearing and chaste woman as Mary to bring a Saviour into the world. Our Saviour is God and He became man with the express purpose of paying the full penalty of death imposed upon us. Thank God for sending His Son to die for us. It is truly amazing!

May God Bless!



Colleen White, Ed.D.
 Editorial Columnist

A Little Bit of Faith: Christmas is Coming: A Poem

*Christmas is coming soon my friend.
 A heart full of warmth and joy for a friend.*

*Give a gift to someone you know
 Share the love with all you know
 Christmas is such a holy night
 It's a gift that was born in a manger
 Peace, Love, and Joy forever
 The angels sing and clap their hands
 Christmas was given to us that night*

*Mary's little son was such a delight
 The animals sat so quiet you see
 They too wanted to see the mystery
 Jesus is the name that was given
 He's the reason we celebrate Christmas
 The earth has changed because of Him
 We worship, praise, and pray to Him
 Christmas is a holy time—
 Share His love to all mankind.*

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Friday
8 p.m.

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4 p.m.



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Rev. Dr. C.J.R. Phillips, Jr.

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stphillipsmbc@att.net

Schedule of Activities

Sunday

Early Morning Worship- 8AM
Church School- 9AM
Morning Worship- 10AM

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Evening Worship 5:30 PM

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Greater New Zion Baptist Church
2210 Pine Street, Dallas, TX 75215
P. 214-421-4119 Email: gnz2210@sbcglobal.net



Rev. Joe S. Patterson, Pastor

Services

Bible Study
Tuesdays @ 11:00 a.m.
Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m.

Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Carver Heights Baptist Church

2510 E. Ledbetter, Dallas, Texas 75216
P. 214-371-2024



Pastor, Daryl R. Carter

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Rev. J.L. Eades, Jr., Pastor

Schedule of Services

Sunday School - 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Brotherhood (1st & 3rd Wed.) - 8:00 p.m.
Senior Mission (1st & 3rd Wed.) - 8:00 p.m.
Adult & Youth Bible Study (Fri.) - 7:00 p.m.

Salem Institutional Baptist Church

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Dallas, TX 75215
P. 214-428-3797
Website: www.sibcdallas.com



Rev. Todd M. Atkins, Pastor

Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study - 7:00 p.m.

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The Lord's Supper
1st Sunday's 9:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY
Music Ministry 6:15 P.M.
Awards Club 7:00 P.M.
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ISAIAH 9:6

"For unto us a child
is born, unto us a
son is given: and
the government
shall be upon his
shoulder: and his
name shall be
called Wonderful,
Counsellor, The
mighty God, The
everlasting Father,
The Prince of
Peace."

King James Version
(KJV)

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8:00 a.m.
Bible Class
9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship
10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship
6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.
Bible Class - 7:30 p.m.
THURSDAY
Bible Class - 11:00 a.m.

Dallas West Church of Christ

3510 N. Hampton Rd.
Dallas, Texas 75212
P. 214-631-5448
Website: www.dwcoc.com



Sammie Berry
Minister

Calendar of Events

Sunday Bible School
8:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship
10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday Song Practice
7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Class
9:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.
Sunday Radio Broadcast
7:30 a.m. on 970 AM

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Sunday Bible Study
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9:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship
5:00 p.m.
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Worship Service
10:00 a.m.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory, forever. Amen.

--- Matthew 6:9-13

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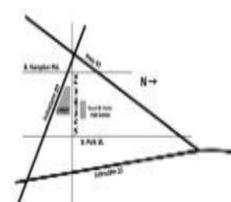
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If you have love ones who are no longer in need of prayer, please call 214.946.7678 to notify us of the necessary removal.

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SPORTS PAGE

7 Day Weather Forecast for DFW

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Thursday, December 22 | Friday, December 23 | Saturday, December 24 | Sunday, December 25 | Monday, December 26 | Tuesday, December 27 | Wednesday, December 28 |
| H-51° L-38° | H-53° L-49° | H-66° L-63° | H-72° L-51° | H-62° L-41° | H-52° L-43° | H-61° L-46° |

MillerCoors to once again provide free DART rides New Year's Eve

Continued from last week...

Sun. Jan. 1

- DART - Buses and light rail will operate on a Sunday schedule
- TRE - No service
- Paratransit Services for customers with disabilities will operate on a Sunday

schedule. The Paratransit Scheduling Center will also be closed. Regular subscription trips are canceled on Jan. 1. Customers needing service for Monday, Jan. 2, are encouraged to begin calling Thursday, Dec. 29. Next day scheduling is also available using X-Press Booking, web booking and the

semi-automated voice mail system.

- DART On-Call - Will not operate.

Mon., Jan. 2

- DART administrative offices are closed.
- DART and TRE - Saturday schedule.

Paratransit - Regular subscription trips will be canceled. Customers needing service for Monday, Jan. 2, are encouraged to begin calling Friday, Dec. 30. The Paratransit Scheduling Center will also be closed. However, next day scheduling will be accepted using our voicemail booking

system and DART's automated booking feature, X-Press Booking as well as web booking. To speak with a staff person, customers may begin calling Friday, Dec. 30, to schedule service through Tuesday, Jan. 3. Customers should call 214-515-7272 and choose Option 3 to schedule their trip.

- DART On Call - Will not operate.

DART's Customer Information Center will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Customers needing schedule information can call 214-979-1111.

San Diego Trainer Overcomes Hurdles on the Track and in Life

By Edward Henderson (San Diego Voice & Viewpoint/NNPA Member)

Ra'Shan Guillory remembers the hunger pangs the most. Several months pregnant with her daughter Journey and kicked out of her parents' house, Guillory's new address was anywhere she could park her car. Doing her best to stay warm in the chill of San Diego nights, Guillory often had to choose between saving her money for a hotel and satisfying her cravings for food. These are only a few of the low moments for an athlete who used to soar over hurdles on the track at record speeds.

Guillory began running track at the age of 10 and quickly realized that she had talent that was beyond her peers. She traveled the country running for the Junior Olympics and went on to set records in the 100-meter hurdles at Lincoln and Kearney High Schools that still stand today.

"When you're at your peak shape you feel like you can fly," said Guillory. "You don't get tired and everything is passing you by. You feel like a super human. It's a cool feeling, because not everyone can do what you do."

The young track star was in peak condition and setting her goals toward a run at the Olympics when the first major hurdles away from the track appeared in her path. She became pregnant, her abusive father kicked her out of the house, and she stepped away from track for a year. Accompanied by the father of her child, Guillory recalls taking baths in parks and worrying for the safety of her unborn daughter living on the street.

"It was scary and embarrassing. Life was happening to me, I was mad at God, but I had to rely on faith," said Guillory. "I just asked the Lord to guide me in the right direction."

Over time, the two secured jobs and were able to save up enough money to secure an apartment. Friends donated furniture to the young couple and their daughter Journey was delivered safely. The hurdles kept coming, however, as her marriage to the father of her child ended, sending her back into the abusive environment of her father's home.

"His abuse came from anger. It wasn't a safe place. I forgive him, but he's not worthy enough to have a relationship with me," said Guillory.

Now a single mother, Guillory was back to living in her car to avoid her father's abuse and would stay with friends while she had her daughter. Seeing the cycle repeat itself, she made the decision to take control of her life and pursue her athletic dreams fueled by the most important part of her life: her daughter Journey.

"My baby kept me going. I wanted her to be proud of me," said Guillory. "There's so much joy in what I've been through because it made me

stronger."

Guillory rejoined her long time track coach Bradrick Cooper and their team to get back in shape for competition again. However, it would take time to get anywhere close to the shape she was in before her pregnancy.

"I was going through post-partum depression. I used to come to practice and cry when I was running, because I felt like the fat girl on the track when I used to be the fastest girl on the team," the young mother said.

To accelerate her training, Guillory began working out other athletes for extra money and discovered a new passion. She started her personal training business she called "Hurdles and Hair," inspired by comments spectators would make on her big hair when she ran track as a child.

"I would consider myself a faith-based trainer. I like to bring the aspect of spirituality and having a centered mind while you're improving yourself and your body," she said. "Your mind has to be right for your body to work."

She currently trains athletes, community members, and corporate groups between San Diego and Los Angeles, catching the attention of some high profile clientele.

She was recently invited to mansion party as an athlete and met a mentee of Don-A-Matrix, the personal trainer for Kanye West. Guillory received an invitation to meet the famous trainer at a concert and got to do a workout with him. Matrix was impressed and has provided an inside track toward securing celebrity clientele like Mr. West himself and the Kardashians.

"My life changed right then and there," said Guillory. "Now all of this cool stuff is happening."

Guillory has also gained a lot of attention from her daily Facebook Live morning routines. Each day she hits the mat to lead her audience through Olympic warm-ups and training routines. She's often accompanied by her daughter Journey. A beautiful testament to everything she's been through to get to where she is today.

In the future, Guillory plans to try out for the 2020 Olympic track team for hurdles and continue to grow her personal training business.

"I want to bring the word of God to fitness. I want to give people hope and another aspect of the Christian experience," said Guillory. "You can be beautiful, sexy, fun, edgy and a Christian woman at the same time."

To schedule a workout with Ra'Shan, visit www.hurdlesandhair.com.

The San Diego Voice & Viewpoint is a member publication of the National Newspaper Publishers Association. Learn more about becoming a member at www.nnpa.org.

Red-letter day: Elliott, Cowboys bounce back, top Bucs 26-20

(AP) — Ezekiel Elliott ran faster after he crossed the goal line than he did looking for a hole to get in the end zone from the 2-yard line.

Dallas' rookie sensation and NFL rushing leader had his eyes on an oversized Salvation Army red kettle in front of the stands. He jumped in, then disappeared when he crouched down.

Elliott rushed for a career-high 159 yards and that short score and the Cowboys closed in on home-field advantage throughout the NFC playoffs with a 26-20 victory over the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on Sunday night.

The Cowboys (12-2) bounced back after their franchise-record 11-game winning streak ended, hanging on after what

looked to be a festive night following Elliott's antics turned tense when Jameis Winston rallied the Bucs from a 17-3 deficit to a 20-17 lead.

"One of the words we talked about right from the outset this week was 'response,'" Cowboys coach Jason Garrett said. "We did a good job early in the ballgame to get a lead and they started throwing the ball a lot early in the second half and they went ahead."

"And again, that word 'response' came back to the forefront."

Making his debut in the Sunday night spotlight, Winston threw for 247 yards and two touchdowns but had four turnovers, including an interception that



led to Dan Bailey's 38-yard field goal that gave Dallas a 23-20 lead early in the fourth quarter.

Tampa Bay (8-6) had its five-game winning streak snapped and fell a game behind Atlanta in the NFC South.

Monday, December 26th

@ 7:30 PM on ESPN

AT&T Stadium, Arlington

Currently the Dallas Cowboys

are 12-2, 1st in NFC East



VS



DART is your choice for transportation to Heart of Dallas Bowl

Take Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) to the seventh annual Zaxby's Heart of Dallas Bowl featuring the University of North Texas and the United States Military Academy Tuesday, Dec. 27, 11 a.m., at historic Cotton Bowl Stadium. See the Mean Green of UNT face Army's Black Knights in a rematch of a game UNT won on Oct. 22 at West Point.

The Heart of Dallas Bowl, the first bowl game in the country honoring First Responders, can be reached easily by riding DART to either of two Green Line stations:

- Fair Park, located on Parry Avenue at the entrance to the fairgrounds,
- and MLK, Jr., located south of R.B. Cullum Blvd. and convenient to both the MLK fairground entrance (Gate 6) and the Cotton Bowl Stadium.

Transferring to the Green Line from the Red, Orange and Blue lines is easy at any of the four downtown rail stations: West End, Akard, St. Paul or Pearl/Arts District.

Those riding the Denton County Transportation Authority's (DCTA) A-train to DART's Trinity Mills Station can switch to a Green Line train and head straight to Fair Park or MLK stations. Additional details about DART service are available at DART.org or by calling Customer Information at 214-979-1111. DCTA schedules can be found at dcta.net.

A Local Day Pass for use on DART Rail and buses is \$5 and can be purchased by cash or credit card at ticket vending machines located at all DART stations. Purchase a day pass in advance by using the new GoPassSM mobile ticketing application available for Android and Apple smartphones available through Google Play or the App Store.



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Luke 2: 11 "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."
 Luke 2:14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."



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By Dr. J. Ester Davis
 Editorial Columnist

My Day: Butt Injections

I often say in my speaking engagements that the news is a major diversion to the public. It is designed to move your attention to something else . . . away from the elephant-in-the-room, the situations-at-home. Our motto to our audiences is 'battles that matter'. Butt injections are a battle that matter. Butt injections are a real profitable, in demand popular procedure in our society today. The cost range from \$500 to \$9,499. And believe it or not, African American women are direct contributor.

This article gained momentum over several weeks as I attended a round of events, parties and dinners in and out of the city. In addition, I attend my grandson's high school football games, one in Katy, Texas and the other in

Arlington. As an astute seasoned student of the "high fashion" world, I noticed some "irregulars" watching the fashion shows at these gatherings. I am familiar with couture, ready-to-wear, and casual chic in both men and women. At one event, I sat with a dear friend. "Jimmie" and I caught up on world events and then I mentioned the extended 'bodies' on the rear of some younger women. She was quite amused at my naïve-ness about today's fashions, spandex and silicone. Butt injections or some form of plastic surgery are on the Christmas list of many women.

The Brazilian Buttock Lift started this rage supposedly to install confidence in women. "If you feel your bottom is not full and shapely, you can do something about it", advertised one surgeon. It graduated to the 'famous tummy tuck', exclusively for \$9,499. The

demands grew to the facelift, Botox, the mini-facelift. These procedures were using your own fat cells, in a doctor's office with health and safety as the primary premise. Then we entered into the world of implants with everything. Breasts implants, eyelid implants, chin and cheeks implants. Oh, I forgot the nose jobs.

So, where are we now? Glad you asked. This crazy phenomenon has moved onto the black market, a very dark place of shady services starting at \$500-to-\$800 in a hotel room called "pumping parties".

Kimberly Smedley, African American, known as the "Queen of the Butt Injections" has written a book entitled "The Backside of the Story". She cites a very sad, regrettable statement as to why she wrote the book. In the story is this statement . . . in a club of 100

women "you want an edge?"

This battle matters because the percentage of black women is now rising using the illegal methods. The illegal solutions are mixed with ingredients (super glue in some reports) that are harmful and causing serious medical conditions, death in many cases.

In the New Year, set and master your goals with all natural ole fashion deliberate determination. You can do it and you are worth it. Recognize and delete the artificial adjectives. Get high on education, while redesigning your talents to meet these new challenges.

Happy New Year.

Ester Davis is a celebrated writer, speaker, television and internet host. She can be reached @ www.esterday.com



By Fairy Street Mama
 Editorial Columnist

"Rapping with the Fairy"

Why is school so important to you?

School for kids is of course, is a part of everyday life. For the most part, their fundamental growth depends largely on the educators put in place for their continued education, care and development. We as parents, want our children to enjoy school and make the most of their day while there. In traveling through Dallas this weekend, I came across a young man who despite his age, has his own ideas of how important school is!



Davionne Gee,
 10 yrs old - 4th grade

Davionne: "I think school is important because it is where you learn! I have a lot of subjects at school but I mainly like social studies, math and science. Math and science are especially fun. I like math because I like to come up with the answers myself! It feels rewarding when I get the answers correct. I like to study science because I learn about the world, how it was made and what it is made of. I think learning about the world is very important because the world changes! I like to study about soil. I like the way soil feels when it runs through your fingers and hands and it can be used for so many things including buildings and planting. I usually make A's in school. That's because I don't really mind studying my homework. Doing homework is necessary I like all

my teachers but my favorite teachers are Ms. Moore, Ms. Sprgian and Ms. Abrom. I like them because they make our homework fun. Even though I learn a lot at school, I also learn a lot at home. My mother reminds me to study hard and she encourages me to make good grades and always tells me to be respectful of others! Both my home and school is important! I want to graduate and I want a good future in life!

Fairy: Davionne I'm so happy that you truly understand the importance of school. I'm also proud of you for your acknowledgment of your teachers who play a big part of your life and you are a mature young man to recognize that your mother is the leading force of your understanding and wellbeing in life! I'm sure that most of you kids know and understand the importance of school as well! Keep up the good work kids! Do your best & enjoy your childhood. You will definitely become a great adult and enjoy a wonderful life! I'll just say ...Congratulations!... NOW!

If you know a child that deserves to be featured in this article, please contact Fairy at (214) 962-4369.



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