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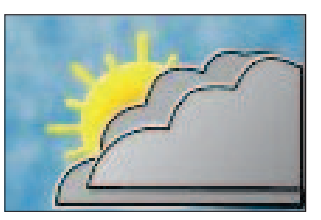
Third time proves a charm for Giants, as they eliminate Cowboys, 21-17.
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BIG SPRING

HERALD

MONDAY
JANUARY 14, 2008



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 38 COPYRIGHT 2008 50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Leadership class at midpoint

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Participants in the annual Leadership Big Spring program have made it to the nine-month program's halfway-point, and according to officials, it's "so far, so good."

Debbie ValVerde, executive director of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, which sponsors and organizes the program, said this year's class is



VALVERDE

working hard toward its May graduation. "It's so far, so good," said ValVerde with a laugh. "We started the program in August, and it's every second Thursday of the month. We've had a really good class so far and things are moving along smoothly."

ValVerde said the course, which teaches leadership skills through a series of courses and tasks, has kept its students busy over the last five months. "The class has evolved over the years," she said. "We've started asking our participants to be a part of the community by going to local government and school board meetings, and we get their input from what they see and what they have gotten out of the meeting. They

go on police rides and through the Boy Scouts COPEs Course, and it really bonds the group. They get to know each other better and become a team." ValVerde said this year's class marks a return to a shorter schedule than in years past. "In the past few years, we've done a year-long course with the summer vacation off," said ValVerde. "However, it was just so hard to get everything moving again after the sum-

mer, we decided to go back to a nine-month schedule, which we used some years back. "In the past, the class would begin in September, but we decided to get started in August to give the students a better chance to get to know one another. We devoted more time to ice breakers and other activities that help them relate with one another and develop into a

See **CLASS**, Page 3A

WETTING A HOOK



From left, Dylan Cox, Destiny Curry and Maddie Curry cast their lines during a youth fishing tournament sponsored by the Big Spring Convention and Visitors Bureau at Comanche Trail Lake Saturday afternoon.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

HEAT DANGER

Fire marshal warns space heaters need to be used carefully

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

With low temperatures expected to dip into the teens this week, many area residents will be looking for some extra warmth, a search local fire officials say can turn deadly if precautions aren't taken.



CONDRA Y

Big Spring Fire Marshal Carl Condray said there are many different types of secondary heating, ranging from portable electric units to wood-burning stoves, but the most common causes of fires involving them are avoidable. "There are a lot of different type space heaters out there," said Condray. "There are portable electric heaters, portable kerosene heaters, stoves, fireplaces and room gas heaters. "There are many common causes of home heating fires. In wood burning appliances, a lack of proper cleaning can lead to excessive build up of creosote in the chimney and connectors. Also, a lack of safety enclosures or poor design accounted

for many fires. For space heaters, the single largest cause was failing to maintain a safe distance from combustibles followed closely by improper fueling practices." Fires involving portable heaters can be avoided by exercising some simple precautions, said Condray, including checking to be sure the unit has been tested. "Space heaters need space," said Condray. "Portable space heaters need a 3-foot clearance from anything that will burn. Keep them far away from drapes and bedding materials, and make sure they have a 'tip-over' safety switch that will shut them down in the event they are upset. "Also, don't stand so close to a space heater that your clothes could come in contact with it. Never leave one burning while you're asleep or away from the room. Also, always make sure your heater is approved by one of the independent labs, such as Underwriter's Laboratories (UL) or Factory Mutual." For heaters requiring a

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Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 7 p.m. weekdays and noon Sunday.

'ICEBOX' FEUD HEATS UP

FRASER, Colo. (AP) — A feud between Fraser and International Falls, Minn., over who owns the trademark "Ice Box of the Nation" is heating up.

Fraser Town Manager Jeff Durbin said the Minnesota town has replied to a lawsuit filed by Fraser with a countersuit.

Fraser officials say the town has used the phrase since 1956; while International Falls officials say the town has used the phrase since 1948. Both suits ask the other town to prove their claim.

An attempt to settle the feud with a duel failed when Fraser wanted it to be a contest on snowshoes and the Minnesota mayor wanted a snowball fight.

SHE'LL STAY PUT

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — Rena Wilkey has plenty of parking around her home. In fact, that's pretty much all she has.

Now that most of 73-year-old woman's neighbors have sold their properties to Memorial Medical Center, Wilkey's one-story house is ringed on three sides by parking lots.

Wilkey said a hospital representative calls every year to politely ask if she's willing to sell.

"I told them I'm not selling," Wilkey said of the home she's lived in for more than 50 years. "I'm comfortable here. And I don't care about the money. Money don't buy happiness."

DRYWALL DISGUISE USED

YORK, Pa. (AP) — Masking his appearance with a coat of drywall compound wasn't enough to protect the identity of a bank robber, authorities said. A NASCAR plate on the getaway car led police right to him.

Robert Coulson Lavery, 56, was convicted in the Nov. 24, 2006, robbery of the New Cumberland Federal Credit Union, which netted \$7,910, police said.

He was charged along with Robert Steven Miller, 53, who drove the getaway car, which bore a Rusty Wallace NASCAR plate. A tip from someone familiar with the car led police to Miller, who confessed to helping Lavery in the robbery, police said.

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Sports

BIG SPRING HERALD

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Jonathan Hull at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

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Monday, January 14, 2008

IN BRIEF

Baseball Booster Club meeting Wednesday at ATC

The Big Spring High School Baseball Booster Club will hold a meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Athletic Training Center.

All parents of high school baseball players are invited to attend and to meet new Head Coach Burt Otto.

For more information, contact Denise Carrillo at 816-1685.

Chicano Golf Association meets 6 p.m. Wednesday

The Big Spring Chicano Golf Association is holding a meeting at 6 p.m. Wednesday at Monte Longo's Paint and Body Shop located at 1307 E. 3rd St., Suite A.

All members are encouraged to attend.

Howard College presenting the Harlem Starz

The Howard College athletic department will present the Harlem Starz at 7:00 p.m. Jan. 28th at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The game is a fundraiser which will benefit the Howard College athletic program.

With names like Zig Zag, Hollywood, K-Money, Air Bama and Werm, fans will know they are not attending an ordinary basketball game. Almost every play will involve fancy dribbling, no look passes, amazing dunks and comedy.

In addition to the game, highlights will include a halftime show, prizes and autographs. The game will provide every fan in attendance with a memorable night of sports, fun and entertainment.

For ticket information, contact Howard College at 264-5040.

KBYG 1400 AM's scheduled airings of NBA basketball

KBYG 1400 AM is airing both San Antonio Spurs and Dallas Mavericks basketball throughout the NBA season.

TODAY
San Antonio vs. Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
THURSDAY
San Antonio vs. Cleveland, 6:30 p.m.

Crossroads high school varsity sports calendar

TUESDAY
Big Spring girls basketball at San Angelo Lake View, 6 p.m.
Big Spring boys basketball at San Angelo Lake View, 7:30 p.m.
Coahoma girls and boys basketball vs. Colorado City, 6:30 p.m.
Forsan girls and boys basketball vs. Roscoe, 6:30 p.m.

Postseason awards piling up for Steers

By JONATHAN HULL

Herald Sports Editor

High school football season seems so like last year. That's probably because it was. However, the post-season awards keep pouring in for the Big Spring Steers.

Junior middle linebacker Cade Hollandsworth has already been honored as a first-team all-district selection in District 4-4A and was also named the league's Defensive Most Valuable Player. A couple weeks later, Hollandsworth is honored as an honorable mention on the Class 4A All-State squad.

As if that's not enough, he

received another honor in the middle of last week. The San Angelo Standard Times announced its All-West Texas awards, placing Hollandsworth as one of three linebackers on the Super Team.

Teammates LaRay Woodard and Pavel Plakhotny joined Hollandsworth on the All-West Texas Class 3A-5A team. Woodard was honored as a safety and Plakhotny was selected as a defensive end, giving the Steers three defensive players on the squad.

For Hollandsworth, all of his awards are coming as a bit of a surprise.

"It's kind of weird. Last year, I got all district, but this year it's just different because I've never gotten all the awards like this,"

Hollandsworth said. "I'm the

only guy on the team that has gotten all of this other than Monte. It's pretty cool, though."

The outstanding junior led the Steers in tackles with 123, including 18 for loss. He added six sacks, two interceptions and a defensive touchdown. He was also a vocal leader on the defense, but Hollandsworth is quick to push off some of the credit to his teammates.

"To me, I feel like I'm the leader, but I don't feel like I'm the most important player on the defense," Hollandsworth said. "But I like the pressure and being the leader of the defense so I can kind of control what's happening on the field."

While Hollandsworth makes a lot of impact plays on the field, it's his work ethic off the field and in the weight room that he

credits for his success this season.

"For a lot of people, they don't like to work out a lot, but I love it," Hollandsworth said. "I've been lifting weights a lot since my freshman year and I just really enjoy it for some reason. That's helped get me to where I am."

However, the all-state middle linebacker isn't satisfied either. With several top Division I college football programs scouting and contacting him, Hollandsworth is still finding areas to improve on.

"I've really been trying to work on my speed because I don't think I'm that quick," Hollandsworth said. "I'm also trying to get my grades up a lot."

See **STEERS**, Page 2B

Romo, Phillips remain winless in playoffs

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — Peyton Manning has a championship game to be at next weekend after all. He can go watch baby brother Eli guide the New York Giants.

A few hours after the reigning Super Bowl MVP lost his chance to get back to the big game, the lesser-known, often-criticized member of football's most famous family got the biggest victory of his career. Manning led the Giants past Tony Romo and the Dallas Cowboys 21-17 on Sunday and into the NFC title game.

"I won't get tired of hearing that this week," Manning said. "No one's given us much credit and probably still won't. But that's OK. We like it that way."

Eli, the Manning who doesn't do many commercials, threw two touchdown passes to Amani Toomer and led another scoring drive early in the fourth quarter. While he wasn't great, he was good enough to lead New York to its ninth straight road win and into a 10th road game — at Green Bay, with the winner getting a spot in the Super Bowl. It's the furthest New York has advanced since the 2000 season.

"I was a little nervous," said Eli, who was 12-of-18 for 163 yards. "I know (Peyton) was watching and rooting for me."

Peyton and Romo can

commiserate together at the Pro Bowl next month. That's the next game either will be playing.

The elder Manning lost at home to the San Diego Chargers in the early game Sunday. Then Romo and the Cowboys blew their chance of advancing, a loss that's even more painful than their exit last January because of what a great regular-season they had.

"It hurts," said Romo, 18-of-36 for 201 yards with a touchdown and a sack on each of the final two drives. "It's tough right now."

Just 10 days ago, Eli Manning was 0-2 as a playoff quarterback and finishing a season that's had the kind of love-hate relationship with New York fans that Alex Rodriguez knows all too well. Now he's got two wins, the admiration of his teammates — and an unprecedented amount of public support.

"Everybody goes through their ups and downs and he's on the upswing right now," Toomer said. "We're going to ride him as far as we can go."

The Cowboys were thinking the same about their quarterback. Instead, their season ended with Romo throwing a fourth-down pass into the end zone and cornerback R.W. McQuarters stepping in front of Terry

See **COWBOYS**, Page 2B



AP photo/Donna McWilliam

New York Giants cornerback R.W. McQuarters (25) intercepts a pass intended for Dallas Cowboys wide receiver Terry Glenn (83) in the end zone during the final seconds of the fourth quarter Sunday in Irving. The interception ended the Cowboys' final drive and sealed the Giants' 21-17 win. New York plays Green Bay in the NFC Championship game.

Undermanned Chargers shock defending champs

By BARRY WILNER

AP Football Writer

INDIANAPOLIS — Gone — Peyton Manning, Marvin Harrison, Adam Vinatieri and the rest of the Colts.

By stunning Indianapolis, the San Diego Chargers just knocked off New England's biggest road block to the Super Bowl.

Now San Diego must avoid a repeat of its last performance at New England.

That will be especially difficult without an injured LaDainian Tomlinson, who departed in the first half with a bruised left knee, and starting quarterback Philip Rivers, who went out in the third quarter with a damaged right knee in the Chargers' stunning 28-24 victory Sunday.

With Billy Volek at quarterback and Michael Turner as the main runner, San Diego went 78 yards on eight plays, with Volek sneaking in from the 1 with 4:50 remaining for the lead. The Chargers' big-play defense then held on downs at its 7, and

stopped Indy again in the final moments to preserve their eighth straight win.

To make it nine in a row and advance to their second Super Bowl — the other was a loss to San Francisco after the 1994 season — the Chargers will need all the resourcefulness they showed at Indianapolis. Being undermanned against undefeated New England hardly is an enticing prospect.

Still, with All-Pro cornerback Antonio Cromartie getting an interception and fumble recovery, and linebackers Shawne Merriman and Shaun Phillips plaguing Manning, the Chargers showed they have the ability to throw off any offense. Maybe even the most prolific attack in NFL history.

The Chargers didn't come close against the Patriots in Week 2, falling 38-14. That was the beginning of a slide to 5-5 for San Diego, but the Chargers (13-5) are rolling now.

See **AFC**, Page 2B



AP photo/Darron Cummings

San Diego Chargers wide receiver Vincent Jackson, right, catches a 14-yard touchdown pass over Indianapolis Colts safety Antoine Bethea (41) in the second quarter of the Chargers' 28-24 win Sunday in the divisional round of the NFL playoffs in Indianapolis. San Diego moves on to play undefeated New England in AFC Championship game.

Obituaries

Ricky Craig Furlong

Ricky Craig Furlong, 52, of San Angelo died on Saturday, Jan. 12, 2008, at his residence. Graveside funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2008, at the Coahoma Cemetery in Coahoma with R.F. Ford and Tom Koger officiating.

The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

He was born on Aug. 12, 1955, in Andrews and married Jamie Ann Bramblett on Aug. 3, 2002, in Van Horn.

Ricky grew up and attended schools in Coahoma. He was self employed as a cowboy and loved horses and the outdoors.

He was a member of First Baptist Church in Water Valley.

Survivors include his wife, Jamie Furlong of San Angelo; three sons, Logan Furlong and Robert Furlong, both of San Angelo, and Clay Furlong and wife, Lucy, of Kent; his mother, Pat Furlong of Big Spring; two granddaughters, Mary Fru and Eleanor; one brother, Ken Furlong and wife, Mariann, of Hewett; two sisters, Patsy Ritchey and husband, Bim, of La Vernia and Lisa Coates of San Antonio; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Kenneth Furlong.

The family suggests memorials to Hospice of San Angelo, P.O. Box 471, San Angelo 76902.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com.

Paid obituary

Pilar Resendiz



Pilar Resendiz, 74, of Big Spring died Saturday, Jan. 12, 2007, at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock. Vigil services were held at 7 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Chapel led by Imelda Melendez. A prayer service will be at 5 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Axel Chavez, pastor of Igelisia Bautista La Fe, officiating. Funeral services will be at 7 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Deacon Johnny Arguello officiating. Burial will be at Palmita Cemetery in Palmita, San Luis Potosi, Mexico.

She was born March 22, 1933, in Espiritu Santo, Gto., Mexico, to Anastacia and Taurino Rangel. She married Blaz Resendiz in 1948 in Mexico. He preceded her in death in 1998. She lived most of her life in Kansas and Oklahoma, moving to Big Spring two weeks ago. She was a Catholic and a homemaker.

She is survived by seven sons, Adrian Resendiz, Trinidad Resendiz, Diego Resendiz and Juan Resendiz, all of Meno, Okla., and Domingo Resendiz, Nicolas Resendiz and Luis Resendiz, all of Ringwood, Okla.; three daughters, Susana Diaz of Big Spring, Francis Melendez of Meno, Okla., and Blanca Gallegos of Overland Park, Kan.; two sisters, Laurentina Rangel and Librada Rangel, both of Mexico; 61 grandchildren; 52 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by three sons, Anastacio Resendiz, Santos Resendiz and Cupertino Resendiz.

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

Mary Arnold

Mary Arnold, 90, of Pflugerville, formerly of Big Spring, died Friday, Jan. 11, 2008, in a Pflugerville nursing home. Graveside funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2008, at the Coahoma Cemetery with Brother Cal Westerhof officiating.

She was born Jan. 27, 1917, in McKinney and married W.D. Arnold Feb. 23, 1935 in Tucson, Ariz. He preceded her in death Jan. 7, 1999.

Mrs. Arnold had worked at Gibson's Discount Center for a number of years. She moved to Austin in 1999 after the death of her husband.

She was a member of the Ridgeway Baptist Church in Austin and was a former member of Hillcrest Baptist Church in Big Spring.

Survivors include two daughters, Audrey Rich and husband, John, of Austin and Dorothy Metcalf of Melbourne, Australia.

She was also preceded in death by a daughter, Mary Frances Arnold.

The family suggests memorials to the American Cancer Society Memorial Program, c/o Carolyn Brooks, P.O. Box 2121, Big Spring 79721-2121 or to the Alzheimer's Association, Greater West Texas Chapter, 4400 N. Big Spring, Suite C-32, Midland 79705.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com.

Weather

Today — Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 50s. Light and variable winds.

Tonight — Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s. Light and variable winds.

Tuesday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tuesday night — Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 30s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Wednesday — Mostly cloudy. Colder. Highs in the mid 40s. North winds 10 to 15 mph.

Wednesday night — Mostly cloudy. Colder. Lows in the mid 20s.

Thursday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 40s.

Thursday night — Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 20s.

Friday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 40s.

Friday night — Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 20s.

Saturday — Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 50s.

Saturday night — Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s.

Sunday — Sunny. Highs in the upper 50s.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 9 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today:

- **ANGEL VILLA**, 34, of 912 W. Sixth Street, was arrested Saturday on a Sutton County warrant.

- **MARIO FLORES**, 27, of 200 Carely, was arrested Saturday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- **JUAN CHAVERA**, 28, of Mexico, was arrested Sunday on a charge of resisting arrest.

- **ROMONA CERVANTES**, 36, of 2706 N. Birdwell Lane, was arrested Sunday on five local warrants.

- **JIMMY RICHARD DUBOSE**, 45, of 902 E. 12th Street, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.

- **DARLENE SHELDON**, 49, transient, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.

- **UNLAWFULLY CARRYING A WEAPON** was reported in the 1600 block of the Interstate Highway 20 N. Service Road.

- **THEFT** was reported:

- in the 5700 block of Interstate Highway 20.

- in the 200 block of Marcy.

- in the 1200 block of 11th Place.

- in the 2000 block of Gregg.

- **DEADLY CONDUCT - DISCHARGE OF A FIREARM** was reported:

- in the 1800 block of Winston.

- in the 700 block of Lorilla.

- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported:

- in the 2300 block of Goliad.

- in the 2700 block of Wasson.

- in the 1500 block of Stadium.

- **RESISTING ARREST, SEARCH OR TRANSPORTATION** was reported in the 1500 block of Stadium.

- **BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE** was reported in the 1400 block of Apron.

- **ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 3900 block of Parkway.

- **ASSAULT BY CONTACT** was reported:

- in the 500 block of Nolan.

- in the 2600 block of Chanute.

- **BURGLARY OF A BUILDING** was reported in the 200 block of Driver Road.

- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported:

- in the 1400 block of Johnson.

- in the 500 block of Washington.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1100 block of W. Sixth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 3300 block of Fordham. Service refused.

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 900 block of Nolan. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2600 block of Hunter. Service refused.

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3600 block of Connally. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **GAS LEAK** was reported in the 1500 block of E. Fourth Street.

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 900 block of Nolan. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2000 block of Amber. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 700 block of Baylor. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2600 block of Hunter. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 200 block of Robinson. Service refused.

- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1500 block of Stadium. Service refused.

- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 2000 block of Johnson. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the 100 block of Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of Birdwell Lane. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1100 block of W. Sixth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the area of Village Road. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 600 block of Washington. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1300 block of Madison. One person was transported to SMMC.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night: Winning numbers drawn: 6-15-18-24-35-38. Number matching six of six: None. Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: \$14 million.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night: Winning numbers drawn: 2-8-14-33-37. Number matching five of five: None. Next Cash 5 drawing: Tonight.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Saturday night, in order: 3-2-3-4. Sum It Up: 12.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night, in order: 8-9-7. Sum It Up: 24.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Saturday afternoon, in order: 4-6-9-1. Sum It Up: 20.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday afternoon, in order: 3-6-0. Sum It Up: 14.

Bulletin Board

If you have items for the Bulletin board, contact the Herald news room at 263-7331 or email editor@bigspringherald.com

- **MONDAY**
 - Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.

- Big Spring Band Boosters meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Big Spring High School band hall.

- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets in the First Christian Church of Big Spring, 911 Goliad. A different program is offered every week. Enter through the south side door off 10th Street. Call 213-1342 for more information. Weigh-in starts at 5 p.m.; meetings begin at 5:30 p.m.

- Coahoma Lions Club meets at 6 p.m. in the Coahoma Community Center at 306 North Ave.

- The Christian Motorcyclists Association meets at 7 p.m. at TravelCenters of America truck stop.

- The Concerned Citizens Council meets at 7 p.m. at the Dorothy Lamb meeting room in the Howard County Library. For more information, call 264-6116.

- Archeology Society for Howard and Borden counties meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library Community Room in the basement. Call 270-2615 for more information.

Sheriff's report

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 59 inmates at the time of this report.

- **SHAWNA GRAYSON**, 36, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of theft with a previous conviction.

- **VICTOR MANUEL CASTILLO**, 35, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated with a child passenger under 15 years.

- **CONNIE FELAN ARRENDONDO**, 40, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on charges of capias/parent contributing to non-attendance (two counts) and parent contributing to non-attendance.

- **TIMOTHY RAY LUCIO**, 22, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of theft and possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.

- **ANTONIO JOE FLORES**, 27, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a motion to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated.

- **ADELA JUAREZ HERNANDEZ**, 44, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of theft by check.

- **KARA JUAREZ MARTINEZ**, 48, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of possession of a controlled substance and possession of marijuana - more than four ounces less than five pounds.

- **GUSTAVO CHON MARQUEZ**, 47, was arrested Saturday by TABC on a charge of public intoxication.

- **JENNIFER DUGGER**, 32, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of public intoxication.

- **ENRIQUE B. CALDERON**, 30, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- **SCOTTY RAY BLAND**, 29, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of public intoxication.

- **JOSE ALFREDO MELENDEZ**, 24, was arrested Saturday by TABC on a charge of public intoxication.

- **JUSTIN PLAIA**, 24, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- **BARBARA BROCK**, 44, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- **CHRISTOPHER LOUIS BROCKER**, 29, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- **RICHARD DOUGLAS HAFLEY**, 51, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of driving while intoxicated and unlawfully carrying a weapon.

- **CHANCE HAYS HANSON**, 20, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of bail jumping - failure to appear and evading arrest/detention with a vehicle.

- **MARTIN JAMES VILLARREAL**, 25, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of fugitive arrest/possession of cocaine.

- **ANGELA ANN MCGEE**, 25, was arrested Sunday by DPS on charges of speeding, no liability insurance - second offense enhanced and driving while license invalid.

- **KAYLI DANIELLE NEWELL**, 19, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.

- **MIGUEL ENRIQUE JUAREZ**, 19, was arrested Sunday by DPS on charges of no liability insurance and possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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T.O. dejected after playoff loss

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — Terrell Owens' bottom lip was quivering, his voice wavering.

While his teary eyes were hidden behind dark sunglasses, he couldn't hide his disappointment — or his loyalty to quarterback Tony Romo — after the Cowboys' 21-17 playoff loss to the New York Giants on Sunday.

"This is not about Tony. You guys can point the finger at him, you can talk about the vacation, and if you do that, it's really unfair," Owens said, his voice choked with emotion. "It's really unfair. That's my teammate. That's my quarterback. You guys do that, it's not fair. We lost as a team. We lost as a team, man."

A week after Romo's well-documented bye weekend getaway to

Mexico with Jessica Simpson and a couple of teammates, the Cowboys' season is over. After a 13-3 regular season that clinched the NFC's top seed, Dallas instead made it 11 straight seasons without a postseason victory.

As promised, Owens was back on the field for the Cowboys after missing the regular season finale and 2-plus weeks of practice because of an ankle sprain.

Owens dropped the first pass thrown his way, but shuffled his feet to stay in bounds for a 4-yard touchdown.

He finished with four catches for 49 yards, but didn't get a chance to catch a game-winner.

Romo's fourth-and-11 pass — intended for Terry Glenn, not a double-covered Owens — was intercepted by R.W. McQuarters in the end

zone with 9 seconds left. "They kind of doubled T.O. on the outside and Terry had a guy running with him up the middle," Romo said. "I tried to throw to the one guy in one-on-one and hope for something lucky."

Owens pushed his helmet awkwardly on top of his head and walked toward the sideline after the play.

Defeated and deflated, there were no more chances. Instead, T.O. and the Cowboys were left trying to make sense of another devastating post-season finish.

"It's very disappointing, especially after the way last year ended," Owens said. "This year, we felt we were destined to get to the Super Bowl."

But they made plenty of mistakes.

Take Amani Toomer's 52-yard touchdown on the Giants' opening drive,

when he caught the ball in an open gap near the 40, slipped away from two defenders while Pro Bowl safety Roy Williams fell down, then outran another Cowboy to the end zone.

After the Cowboys took a 14-7 lead on Marion Barber's 1-yard plunge with 53 seconds left in the first half, New York went 71 yards in seven plays to tie the game. The Giants got 15 of those yards on a facemask penalty.

There will be no rematch next week at Texas Stadium against Green Bay and Brett Favre, the team and quarterback Romo grew up in Wisconsin rooting for, with a Super Bowl berth on the line.

"Obviously, the regular season don't matter. This is very evident," Owens said. "When the playoffs start, it's any man's game. We came up short."

make up for last season's finish, to prove his sluggish December was no big deal and to quiet everyone who accused him of mixed-up priorities for joining girlfriend Jessica Simpson on the beach in Mexico last weekend.

He couldn't do it, but it wasn't all his fault.

The offense stopped drives with penalties, while the defense kept New York drives alive by drawing more flags. There also was sloppy tackling on defense and special teams, dropped passes and wasted timeouts.

Still, Romo is the marquee man and the most likely to be blamed, though not by Terrell Owens.

Owens, who made good on his vow to return from a high ankle sprain sustained three weeks ago, cried behind dark sunglasses with a quivering bottom lip while declaring, "You can point the finger at him, you can talk about the vacation, and if you do that, it's really unfair. That's my teammate. ... We lost as a team."

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said Thursday he would keep Phillips regardless of what hap-

pened in the playoffs, and said it again in the dreary locker room. There are bound to be changes, though, especially with highly valued assistant coaches Jason Garrett and Tony Sparano interviewing for jobs elsewhere.

Dallas scored 45 and 31 points in winning the first two meetings with New York by loading up on big plays, usually because Romo did a great job avoiding the blitzers who racked up an NFL-best 53 sacks.

This time, the Giants were content to give up short yardage and the Cowboys accepted the invitation, especially with Marion "The Barbarian" Barber joining the starting lineup for the first time.

A Pro Bowler as a backup, Barber racked up 101 yards by halftime but the game was tied at 14, thanks to a last-minute drive aided by a 15-yard facemask penalty and capped with Manning throwing a 4-yard touchdown pass to Toomer.

The pair hooked up for a 52-yard touchdown on the game-opening drive, with Toomer taking a short pass, bouncing off two defenders and

everyone else.

The Cowboys stuck to their slow-go game plan to open the second half, but the mistakes began biting them. A dropped pass in the end zone and false start forced Dallas to kick a field goal after a drive that burned the first 8:07 of the third quarter.

The Giants trailed only 17-14. After not getting anywhere on their next drive, a 25-yard punt return by McQuarters left Manning only 37 yards from the go-ahead touchdown. He needed only six plays to get it on a 1-yard run by Brandon Jacobs, who celebrated by throwing the ball into the play clock.

There was still 13:29 left, the 92nd between these division rivals but the first in the playoffs. While it got more interesting, the caliber of play didn't improve. Dallas made more sloppy mistakes and New York missed chances for clock-killing drives.

It finally came down to this: the Cowboys had 1:50 left to go 48 yards.

A Brett Favre-esque scrambling shovel pass to Jason Witten got the Cowboys to the 22 with 31 seconds left, then

next season, giving the coaches, players and community high expectations for the 2008 season.

"We're excited at the amount of these players that we'll have coming back next season," Big Spring Head Coach Mike Ritchey said. "The outlook is good for us. There's a lot for us to take away from this past year, but now it's up to us to build on it."

Contact Sports Editor Jonathan Hull by calling 263-7331, ext. 237, or by e-mailing him at sports@bigspringherald.com.

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COWBOYS

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Glenn for the interception. It marked Romo's second straight disappointing finish to a playoff game, following his flubbed hold of a short field goal in Seattle a year ago.

This one is huge because "America's Team" seemed pointed toward a ninth trip to the Super Bowl, maybe even a sixth championship.

Dallas tied the most wins in team history with 13, but followed it by tying an NFL record with a sixth straight playoff loss. Romo fell to 0-2 and coach Wade Phillips finished his first year with the Cowboys by falling to 0-4 in his playoff career.

There are other dubious footnotes for Dallas, like being the first No. 1 seed in the NFC to lose in this round since the NFL went to the 12-team playoff format in 1990 and being the seventh team to lose a playoff game against a team they'd beaten twice in the regular season; the '98 Cowboys did it, too. Romo came in looking to

three playoff games, then beat Chicago in the Super Bowl. They couldn't recapture their touch on offense or defense this time, and a defense that allowed the fewest points during the season wore down against the equally physical Chargers.

Still, the Colts went in front 24-21 when Gonzalez slipped past Marlon McCree down the left sideline to complete a 55-yard scoring play with 10:07 to go. Chargers coach Norv Turner challenged that Gonzalez stepped out of bounds at about the 25, but the play stood.

So San Diego's backups then won it, helped by a 27-yard screen pass to rookie Legedu Naanee and a 15-yard facemask penalty against Indianapolis cornerback Marlin Jackson.

Manning did throw for 402 yards, completing 33 of his 48 throws, but both interceptions killed deep scoring threats.

Rivers was 14-of-19 for 264 yards, and Volek went 3-of-4 for 48 yards in his clutch relief role. Vincent Jackson became Rivers' top target with Gates struggling, and had seven catches for 93 yards and a score.

Indianapolis lost only six fumbles all season, but Harrison, who hadn't been hit in almost three months while sidelined by a knee injury, was stripped on his first reception by Cromartie. McCree recovered at the San Diego 22, stymying a lengthy drive begun with Kelvin Hayden's interception.

San Diego capitalized

with a 78-yard march, including three third-down conversions. Jackson beat double-coverage to the corner of the end zone for his 14-yard score on third down, making it 7-7.

The first Indy scoring series was vintage Manning. He picked apart the Chargers with short timing throws to Joseph Addai and Reggie Wayne, who picked up 8 yards on a fourth-and-2 at the San Diego 37. Two plays later, tight end Dallas Clark displayed moves like Wayne, using a double fake on

Clinton Hart for a 25-yard touchdown catch.

Indy went on top 10-7 on Vinatieri's season-best 47-yard field goal, then the Chargers, now minus L.T., got to the Colts 31 behind Turner, who gained 25 yards on the march. But Nate Kaeding's 48-yard field goal try bounced off the right upright.

In the final seconds of the half, Manning's fourth incompleting in 22 throws, a deflection by Wayne on a high pass, was picked off by Cromartie, the league

STEERS

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Plakhotny was named District 4-4A's Defensive Newcomer of the Year. The sophomore also made a big impact on the offensive line, playing both center and left tackle during the season. He was the only Steer named to both the offensive and defensive all-district teams.

Woodard got a late start for the Steers. The junior all-purpose player came back to Big Spring from Mansfield Summit and didn't take the field for the varsity squad until district play started. However, he still finished second on the team with four interceptions in four games.

Woodard also saw time at quarterback and running back during the season.

All three are one of more than 20 athletes with varsity experience returning to the Steers

came more mistakes — another false start, a short pass that forced Dallas to use its final timeout and a pair of poor throws, a ball in the end zone that Patrick Crayton seemed to give up on before futilely speeding up and the final play, caught by McQuarters.

Owens had four catches for 49 yards. Glenn, who missed the first 15 games following two knee surgeries, caught two passes for 30 yards.

The Giants rushed for 90 yards, with Jacobs getting 54. Toomer had four catches for 80 yards.

"I'm so proud of our players," New York coach Tom Coughlin said. "They really rose up."

Notes: New York doesn't have a turnover in two playoff games. ... Dallas' three scoring drives took nine, 20 and 14 plays and took 23:32, with eight straight third-down conversions. ... Giants DB Aaron Ross left with a right shoulder injury. ... Toomer's first TD was his longest since a 77-yarder on Nov. 30, 2003. It also gave him the most postseason receptions in club history, passing Mark Bavaro.

AFC

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"A lot's happened since then," Patriots coach Bill Belichick said. "We'll definitely start all over on the preparations. It's like it's a new team."

It was a gutsy showing by Rivers, who threw for three scores — he banged his right knee on a 56-yard screen pass TD by Darren Sproles to end the third quarter. And Turner, who could be a starter elsewhere but usually sits behind league rushing leader Tomlinson, gave the offense the balance it desperately needed in the late stages of the upset, rushing for 71 yards.

The Chargers' opportunistic defense, which led the league in takeaways (48) and turnover margin (plus-24), grabbed two interceptions — both on tipped balls — and a fumble. While San Diego couldn't stop Manning's offense from steadily marching downfield most of the game, it could make the key plays that get you closer to the Super Bowl.

Still, if Tomlinson is limited or sidelined, how much chance do the Chargers have against the perfect Patriots? Not to mention perhaps missing Rivers or tight end Antonio Gates, who courageously played much of the day on a dislocated toe.

For the Colts (13-4), it was a bitterly quick elimination from the postseason.

A year ago, they won

with a 78-yard march, including three third-down conversions.

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In the final seconds of the half, Manning's fourth incompleting in 22 throws, a deflection by Wayne on a high pass, was picked off by Cromartie, the league

leader in interceptions.

He got several blocks, including one on Manning, in running it back to the end zone, but a block by Eric Weddle was ruled holding, negating the long touchdown.

Norv Turner was livid at the call, berating the officials after what appeared a simple legal push by Weddle, who also

never encountered one. It was only in later analysis that the winning line of play was discovered.

Assume declarer wins the diamond lead with the ace, draws trumps and cashes the king of diamonds, learning that East has two diamond winners.

The outlook may seem hopeless, but let's say our heroic declarer next plays the ace and then the deuce of spades. When West follows low, South finesses the ten! This hurdle surmounted, declarer then leads dummy's king of clubs and, after East plays low, discards the king of spades on it!

All these unusual maneuvers lead to a very satisfying denouement. West can do no better than win the club with the ace, but whatever he returns, the contract is firmly on ice. Dummy wins any return, and declarer disposes of his two diamond losers on the queen of clubs and queen of spades.

The hand demonstrates once again that ingenuity in bridge has no bounds. However, it would be a harsh critic who berated himself for missing the play shown, and, in fact, not one South cut his throat that night.

But the fact remains that in theory, every declarer should have adopted this method of play, since it offered the only chance to make the contract.

South dealer. North-South vulnerable.

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

WEST
 ♠ J 9 5 3
 ♥ J 8 2
 ♦ 3
 ♣ A J 8 6 4

EAST
 ♠ 8 7 4
 ♥ 4
 ♦ Q 10 9 8
 ♣ 10 9 5 3 2

SOUTH
 ♠ A K 2
 ♥ A K Q 10 9 7
 ♦ A K 7 4
 ♣ —

Final contract — six hearts.
Opening lead — three of diamonds.

Back in 1933, the Franklin Bridge Club of Philadelphia staged its annual team-of-four club championship. It was no world-shaking event; the winners, even if their names could be recalled, would stir no excitement. But one hand played was of a remarkable nature.

The bidding by the North-South pairs varied a great deal at the different tables, but nearly all of them arrived at six hearts, certainly a reasonable undertaking. And wherever West led his singleton diamond, declarer invariably went down one.

The South hand progressed from table to table searching for a declarer who would make the slam, but it

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TEXAS NEWS BRIEFS

Priest accused of abusing boy removed from ministry

HOUSTON (AP) — A priest accused of sexually abusing a boy between 1989 and 1993 was removed from ministry after investigators determined the allegations had merit, Cardinal Daniel DiNardo announced Sunday. The victim, who is now an adult, told church officials in November that the Rev. Stephen R. Horn abused him while he was pastor of Christ the King Catholic Church, DiNardo said.

A special panel from the Archdiocesan Review Board investigated the allegations and concluded there was sufficient evidence to suggest that the abuse had occurred, he said.

Horn, 63, has been on leave from his current post as pastor of St. Luke the Evangelist Church since the allegations were made, DiNardo said. He had served as pastor of that church since 1994.

Odessa church gives \$145,000 to 'underpaid' police officers

ODESSA (AP) — A local church has given \$145,000 to the Odessa Police Department for the money to be distributed among "underpaid" officers, a church leader said.

The Rev. Don Caywood of Odessa Christian Faith Center handed the money over to police Chief Chris Pipes at a Sunday service. The department will distribute \$1,000 checks to 145 employees.

"It became obvious our men and women in blue are underpaid," Caywood told the congregation during the service.

Caywood said the church, which has a weekly attendance of about 1,600, raised most of the money since late October. Caywood said he was inspired after hearing of officers battling for better pay and benefits.

The donation also reflected the community's respect for police in the aftermath of the September deaths of three officers who were gunned down in the line of duty.

Pipes said he was amazed by the gift.

Study finds \$50 lottery game most popular in middle-income areas

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Lottery sells the most tickets for its \$50 scratch-off game in middle-income neighborhoods and not in the affluent areas originally touted as the game's target, according to a newspaper analysis.

The study by the San Antonio Express-News and the Houston Chronicle found the \$50 game, called the \$130 Million Spectacular, to be most popular in areas with incomes of just more than \$30,000 and in those with earnings in the \$50,000 and \$60,000 range.

The lottery sold fewer \$50 tickets in the state's richest and poorest areas, although per-capita sales were stronger in neighbor-

hoods with median incomes of \$20,000 or less than in neighborhoods with incomes of \$90,000 or more.

When the \$50 game debuted last May as the nation's most expensive lottery ticket, lottery officials said they wanted to attract customers who didn't typically play scratch-off games.

But critics say the \$50 tickets were intended to generate more money from sales to the poor.

Some counties await funding for border security operations

AUSTIN (AP) — Some border counties have cut back on border security operations while they wait for the release of millions of dollars in state funding for local law enforcement agencies, officials said.

The Texas Legislature dedicated \$110 million last year to expand border security efforts, including \$57 million tabbed for grants to local agencies and the Texas National Guard.

But some local officials said their border operations are on hold while they wait for the newly created Texas Border Security Council to fulfill its legislative charge of recommending how the state money should be spent and tracked.

"Everything is at a standstill right now," said Cmdr. Claudio "Tony" Morales, who is in charge of border security operations in the El Paso County Sheriff's Office. "We're not being funded currently."

Cameron County Judge Carlos Cascos, chairman of the 11-member council, said the report should be completed by late spring. The council held hearings along the border last year and wants to ensure limited dollars for border security are spent wisely, he said.

Former editor Terri Burke named executive director of ACLU in Texas

ABILENE (AP) — Terri Burke, former editor of the Abilene Reporter-News, has been named executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Texas.

Burke, 56, will begin work at the ACLU of Texas on Tuesday. Her duties will include lobbying, fundraising, administering the organization and communicating with the public.

Burke said her new job seems like a continuation of her work in the newspaper business.

"I wanted to be a journalist because I thought journalism was a way to further the democratic process," Burke said. "At its heart, journalism is about the First Amendment. All my life, I've been interested in those kinds of issues."

Paul Asofsky, board president of the ACLU of Texas, said Burke was selected because of her ability to communicate with the public and politicians, and her experience managing newsrooms.

Burke was editor of the Abilene Reporter-

News from 1999 to March 2007. She has also filled senior newsroom management positions at The Hartford Courant in Connecticut, The Dallas Morning News, The Albuquerque Tribune and the Austin American-Statesman.

Deputy constable killed on way to escort funeral procession

HOUSTON (AP) — An off-duty Harris County deputy constable on his way to escort a funeral procession was killed after his motorcycle hit a car that made a sudden turn in front of him, authorities said.

Deputy Constable David Joubert was driving in the left northbound lane on Saturday when the driver of a car in the right lane tried to make a U-turn, said Houston police Sgt. N.A. Perry.

Joubert's motorcycle struck the driver's side door of the car, throwing him from the bike. He was then dragged by the car before it stopped, Harris County Precinct 7 spokeswoman DeAnn Collins said.

Joubert, 60, was pronounced dead at a hospital.

Joubert was a retired police officer who worked at Precinct 7 for three years, Collins said.

No charges had been filed in the case.

Woman, four children killed in mobile home fire in Laredo

LAREDO (AP) — A woman and four children died in a fire that destroyed the mobile home where two families had been living for two weeks, authorities said.

Three adults, an infant and two children under age 4 escaped the Saturday morning blaze, said Eloy Vega, a spokesman for the Laredo Fire Department.

Griselda Ruiz, three of her children and one other child died in the fire, said Dr. Corinne Stern, Webb County Medical Examiner.

The last names and exact ages of Ruiz's children were not immediately available. Stern said the victims were a 5- or 6-year-old boy named Rodolfo, a 4- or 5-year-old girl named Ashley and a 2-year-old named Alexandra.

The fifth victim was identified as 4-year-old Joanne Garcia. Her relationship to Ruiz was not known.

The bodies of Ruiz, 26, and her children were recovered from a bedroom near the back of the home. Garcia's body was found in another bedroom in the front of the home, according to Stern and witness accounts.

The victims' bodies were badly burned, but they likely died from smoke inhalation and carbon monoxide poisoning, Stern said.

Flames and screaming awoke neighbors, who tried to help those still trapped inside the burning home. But the heat of the fire kept them at bay.

The fire appeared to have begun near the middle of the mobile home.

Judge accused of harassment breaks silence

HOUSTON (AP) — A federal judge who served a four-month suspension and has been reassigned from Galveston to Houston while the Justice Department investigates a sexual harassment complaint told a newspaper he struggled with alcohol abuse after his first wife's death.

U.S. District Judge Samuel Kent broke nearly a four-month public silence in a seven-page written response to questions submitted by the Houston Chronicle. However, he did not address specifics of the misconduct allegations against him, citing federal laws that make judicial investigations secret.

"As with every human controversy, there are absolutely two sides to this one, and I will vigorously present mine at the appropriate time," Kent told the newspaper. "It has been extremely frustrating for me, my family and my staff not to be able to speak in my defense."

Kent, 58, returned to the bench last week in Houston and was met by protesters supporting Cathy McBroom, who has accused Kent of repeatedly harassing her over four years. McBroom has declined to comment, but people close to her have told the newspaper that the harassment culminated in March.

HEATERS

Continued from Page 1A

fuel, Condray said it's vital to follow the manufacturer's instruction when it comes time for a refill.

"Liquid and gas fired heaters should only be refueled in a well venti-

lated area and should be completely cool," said Condray.

"Be absolutely sure you're using the proper fuel for the device. If gas fired, you must use the approved type fuel line. Always be sure to follow the manufacturer's directions for proper start-up and shut down of the unit."

Condray said a common misconception is it's harmless to use a stove or oven for extra warmth, an idea that can turn deadly in a heartbeat.

"Never use cooking appliances to heat your home or a room," said Condray. "Modern cook stoves are designed to operate under certain conditions. Ovens need to

have their door closed to vent properly and open flames from burners are as dangerous as any other form of open flame.

"Wood burning fireplaces and stoves need their flues and chimneys inspected and cleaned annually by qualified personnel. Make sure you have a sturdy screen or enclosure to keep sparks

from entering the room."

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

CLASS

Continued from Page 1A

team."

Area residents interested in participating in the program will have to cool their jets, according to

ValVerde, and wait for the next sign-up period.

"Applications for the next class will go out the end of June or the early part of July," said ValVerde. "Anyone interested in participating will have to wait until then."

For more information on Leadership Big Spring, contact the Chamber office at 263-7641.

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

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EDITORIAL

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

—FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Don't forget we like your letters to us

It's the so-called "dead of winter," and, although nobody's going to be snowed in very often in these parts, there's not much of anything better to do on a really cold day that sit down and enjoy a good book or read the day's newspaper.

What's more, there's still quite a bit going on these days in our community and we here at the *Herald* want to take this opportunity to remind our readers that we welcome your letters to the editor and want to publish them in the paper.

On an almost daily basis, you can find our policies concerning letters to the editor located on our "Opinion" page, but here is a reminder:

While it is not an absolute requirement, we ask that letters be limited to no more than 300 words.

Yes, we have printed quite a few letters in the past year that were considerably longer than 300 words. However, letters are printed on an "as space is available basis," and longer letters are more difficult to find space for publication.

Letters must be signed and include a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address, for verification purposes. Anonymous or unsigned letters, or those that do not include a telephone number or street address, will not be considered for publication.

Letters determined to be libelous or slanderous will also not be printed.

We do reserve the right to edit letters for style and clarity and we also reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period for each author.

Unfortunately, the limited size of our staff makes it impossible for us to acknowledge the receipt of letters.

And, as one might expect, letters submitted from those living in our readership area will receive priority.

There are a number of ways to submit letters. They can be mailed to: Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring 79721. Or they can be hand delivered to our offices at 710 Scurry St. during normal business hours Monday through Friday. In addition, you can go to our Website at www.bigspringherald.com and click on the Letters to the Editor icon and be provided with a form that will guarantee it arrives in the editor's office.

We also encourage readers to submit letters via e-mail at editor@bigspringherald.com.

The thing to remember is that the *Big Spring Herald* is your community newspaper and we want to provide you with a forum to express your views. So, please let us hear from you.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions. In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

- The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.
- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
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- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

*We can remain level and clear, Lord, when we have You.
Amen*

Conservatism's identity crisis

Liberals have every reason to be pleased with the three remaining Democratic presidential candidates and what they portend for the vitality of political liberalism in the Democratic Party. The same cannot be said for conservatives concerning the Republican candidates and the vitality of conservatism.



DAVID LIMBAUGH

There isn't a dime's worth of ideological difference between Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama and John Edwards. They just present their respective brands of statism in different ways. In the Democratic Party, big-government liberalism is alive, well, robust and vibrant.

Hillary might resume "Third Way" Clintonian politics if she wins the nomination, but for now, she's bragging that her health-care plan is more Marxist than Barack's.

But for Republicans, there's a fierce intramural debate not just over how conservative the party should be but also over the very definition of conservatism.

This debate wouldn't be as significant if it were limited to the candidates alone, but a growing number of conservative intellectuals have also surrendered to the oxymoronic notion that conservatism must adapt to survive as a powerful political force in this nation.

Former George W. Bush speechwriter David Frum is an example. In his new book, "Comeback, Conservatism That Can Win Again," he argues that Republicans need a new approach because they can no longer win elections on the conservative ideas that catapulted them to power in the 1980s.

Apart from Frum's book, which I've yet to read, conservatism faces serious challenges, owing to these (and other) factors:

- President George W. Bush, through his "compassionate conservatism" — including its faith based initiatives, its greater federal role in education, its immigra-

tion policy and its excessive spending — has diluted and muddled conservatism.

- Presidential candidate Mike Huckabee appears prepared to expand on Bush's compassionate conservatism to a degree even more objectionable to Reagan conservatives.

- There is a strong element of isolationism within the conservative tent, typified, variously, by Pat Buchanan and Ron Paul. A strain of protectionism, contrasted with Ronald Reagan's affinity for Milton Friedman-style free trade, is also present.

- There exists a purist neoconservative faction within the conservative movement. The difficulties this presents are compounded by antiwar liberals who portray this faction as much larger than it is.

- On one level, the War on Terror unites and strengthens conservatives and their cause. But the war is so important that many conservatives are willing to abandon social conservatism to ensure we have a strong enough commander in chief to lead us in the war. This abandonment, if it occurs, could be the last straw for some evangelicals.

- Among the current slate of GOP presidential candidates, those closest to Reagan conservatism have recent liberal records and/or difficulty gaining electoral traction.

Before the explosion of Mike Huckabee's campaign, President Bush's "compassionate conservatism" seemed decidedly on the outs among conservatives. Indeed, many believe Republicans lost the 2006 congressional elections, not because of Iraq but because of Bush's betrayal of domestic conservative principles — other than his tax policy.

But Huckabee has resurrected compassionate conservatism, apparently reading the Gospel as mandating a greater, more intrusive and more "compassionate" role for the government. Huckabee objects to criticisms of his conservative bona fides, but his rhetoric and sometimes his record on health care, education, foreign policy, federal smoking bans, terrorists, criminals and economic pro-

ducers gives this conservative pause. I hope I'm way off base, especially if he wins the nomination.

The Buchanan/Paul antiwar isolationism, I believe, is neither good for conservatism nor the national interest. That said, this strain gains some strength from arguable excesses of the foreign policy preferences of true neoconservatives.

The true neoconservative — as opposed to the loose definition of that term supplied by antiwar liberals — is a former Democrat who is a) not that uncomfortable with-favors a more energetic role for government in domestic policy and b) also more proactive approach to foreign policy — . He possibly even having an appetite for invading nations that don't represent a discernible threat to our national interest, because they he believes in the transformative, contagious power of democracy.

I couldn't have greater appreciation for the role of neoconservatives in the war, but I think the conservative movement would have more credibility and be less threatening to impressionable moderates if we clarified that we are not nation builders and would only attack (and thereafter help to rebuild) nations we believe represent threats to our national interest, like — yes — Iraq. And we do believe in republican government (and hope democracy spreads) but don't regard it as a panacea for all the world's problems.

Considering the extreme liberalism of all the Democratic candidates and the nation's still mostly conservative majority, Republicans would be well-positioned for the general 2008 elections, especially with the turnaround in Iraq. But unless conservatives work through their present identity crisis and regain a clearer sense of who they are, Democrats will have the advantage.

*David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. To find out more about him, visit his Web site at www.davidlimbaugh.com.
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I buy things, therefore I am

Did you see that the price of oil got up over \$100-a-barrel the other day, before falling back a few cents? If you didn't, don't worry about it; you'll get another chance. Soon.

While experts are predicting a near-term retreat from \$100 oil — because we seem to be teetering on the edge of a recession — they also predict a surge to \$120 or so in the summer when the driving season kicks in.

That's a lot, \$120-a-barrel. It represents an all-time high and will translate into \$3.75 at the pump.

There are those who will say, "Why doesn't the President do something?"

And I will say back: "He did do something. He gave us \$100-a-barrel oil."

As recently as 2003 the price of a barrel was as low as \$25. That was before George Bush's energy (haha) program kicked in. The good old days.

If, in 2001, you had laid out a plan to make oil cost \$100-a-barrel by 2008, it would have been pretty much the plan that George Bush and his oil-field cronies executed.

First you fight all efforts — international and domestic — at energy conservation as though they were terrorist plots conceived in the mind of Osama bin Laden.

Then you go to war in the Middle East not once but twice to destabilize the world's top oil-pro-

ducing region and send oil prices shooting up. It has been said that as much as 30 percent of the price we're paying for oil is due to the risk of that instability.

You also make sure to propose a series of half-hearted, too-little-too-late measures to develop alternative fuels, just so you can say you've done something.

And, of course, you keep trying to go where Man has not gone before. And drill for oil.

Wilderness preserves are especially good. It is a pathetic response to the kind of shortfall we have in oil production, but it would make a few billion bucks for your oil industry buddies (the ones writing the big checks for speeches when your time in office is done).

Anyway, it's worked. Congratulations George. And congratulations too to the American people, nearly half of whom voted Mr. Bush into office — twice. (If this is democracy I'm not so sure it's a good idea to spread it to the rest of the world.)

The sorry fact is that advocating real energy conservation is a form of political suicide. People embrace conservation in the abstract, but when you get down to details, where it becomes painful and expensive, they act as though you're trying to take away their birthright. And, in a sense, you are.

To the average American, conservation of energy is un-American. Our economy is based on consumption. Less is not more, less is less and bigger is better.

Consider the television set. It arrived in the world with the

promise of being the greatest educational tool since the book. And instead we made it the greatest sales tool in the history of the world.

Think on that. A machine that can bring the entire world into your living room and instead we turn it over to lying hucksters selling junk.

The American public has swallowed the absurd notion that they are defined by the things they buy and consume. Happiness consists of owning the right combination of cars, hair products, clothes and soap.

They've bought the lie that they are consumers before they are workers. That's why the labor movement is dying. Unions make things cost more. They protect jobs too, but we don't think about that until it's too late.

So to ask a society like ours to conserve, to do with less, not to buy, is ridiculous. I buy, therefore I am.

That's why ideas like the \$2-a-gallon gas tax will never fly. People don't want to use less gasoline. They want to use more.

Which means, whether they know it or not, they want \$120-a-barrel oil.

And they're going to get it; good and hard.

Donald Kaul is a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning Washington correspondent who, by his own account, is right more than he's wrong. E-mail him at dkaul1@verizon.net.

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Prevent your migraine at the dentist office

Did you know that the most effective FDA approved therapy to prevent the agony of migraine headaches is available only from specially trained dentists? Hard to believe isn't it?

Please note that I did not say treating a migraine. Your physician can offer you several versions of swallowed or injected drugs to help stop that pain once it is already making your head explode and possibly your stomach wretch. Wouldn't it be nice to prevent the headache from starting?

The dental treatment is FDA approved for preventing migraine headaches with great success. How much? In the FDA study, Dr. James Boyd, the developer, proved that 82 percent of the migraine patients had improvement. How much? An average of 77 percent fewer migraines. Imagine that, 77 percent fewer migraines!

The treatment is NTI-



DR. DAVID WARD

tss occlusal splint therapy, called NTI. The full name is Nociceptive Trigeminal Inhibition Tension Suppression System. The NTI splint is a small device about the size of a popped piece of popcorn that is worn on the front teeth while sleeping.

How does it work? It works by preventing the extreme clenching that most migraine sufferers do while sleeping. If you wake up with a migraine or if they come on soon thereafter, the clenching is often a direct cause. In other people, the clenching often just predisposes them to headaches later

in the day.

Studies have shown that the clenching forces generated in migraine patients are significantly higher than in average people, and their temporalis muscles, the main clenchers, are larger in size than average due to this vicious cycle.

People can clench voluntarily with less than 500 pounds of force when awake, but when asleep many generate almost 1,000 pounds of force. It's hard to imagine how long periods of such intense clenching wouldn't cause a headache. In fact, another study showed that just clenching at 30

percent of maximum off and on for 30 minutes while awake would produce a migraine in the majority of migraine sufferers. And this is nowhere near the intensity or duration that they do at night.

There's more good news. The NTI is also very effective in helping many tension headache sufferers. Also, temporomandibular dysfunction (TMD or TMJ) that does not respond to other treatments is often helped by NTI therapy.

NTI therapy is one my favorite aspects of my practice because it is life changing for many of my

patients. While no treatment is 100 percent successful, this simple technique produces major improvement over 80 percent of the time.

Imagine waking up and feeling fabulous! For more information stop by my office or visit NTI's Web site at www.HeadachePrevention.com.

Dr. David Ward is a general dentist in Big Spring who provides family, sedation, laser and orthodontic care to his patients. See his Web site at www.DavidWard-DDS.com.

NUTRITION WISE: Americans confused about cancer

The public perception about cancer risk is grim.

According to recent survey findings, nearly half of American adults think that "almost everything" causes cancer. That same percentage of the public believes that preventing cancer is either "impossible" or "highly unlikely." Yet these views are in stark contrast to the optimistic findings detailed in a major international report on cancer risk. In fact, experts estimate that about one-third of today's cancers could be prevented with weight control, regular physical activity and a healthy balance of foods.



KAREN COLLINS MS, RD, CDN

Despite research to the contrary, Americans continue to have fatalistic views about cancer. As previously stated, a recent survey conducted by the American Institute for Cancer Research (AICR) polled more than 1,000 adults and found that 49 percent of participants thought that cancer prevention was unrealistic. And that statistic could be a sign that this attitude is growing. A similar survey, published by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) in 2003, found that just 27 percent of respondents felt "there's not much people can do to lower their chances of getting cancer."

But, according to AICR's report, Food, Nutrition, Physical Activity and the Prevention of Cancer: a Global Perspective, there is a lot the public can do to decrease cancer risk. The most comprehensive scientific analysis of the causes and prevention of cancer ever undertaken, the report concludes that most of the cancer we face is preventable. Accordingly, the report notes that there is increased evidence that diet can — and does — protect against cancer, "not only before the process starts, but also afterwards."

This disconnect between the public's per-

ceptions and the research is of particular concern because of the link between beliefs and behaviors identified in the NCI study. According to survey responses, people who believed that their cancer risk was unmodifiable were much less likely to exercise weekly, avoid smoking and eat at least five vegetables and fruits daily — three long-recommended behaviors to lower cancer risk.

Another problem identified by the NCI study: more than 70 percent of those surveyed reported feeling so confused by the multitude of cancer prevention recommendations that they weren't sure which to follow. The many — and frequently contradictory — news reports on cancer leave the public confused, according to study authors, and unable to put the information in context.

These news reports are further confounded by the static created from Internet rumors and sales pitches for books, supplements and more. In a study published in the journal Cancer, among 957 adults surveyed, close to 15 percent thought that products such as shampoos and deodorants could cause cancer.

This echoes AICR's recent survey findings, which reported that more than half of participants believed that cancer is caused by food additives, pesticides and meat hormones. Once again, these beliefs are in sharp contrast to what the research says. In fact, after reviewing all available evidence on these exposures and cancer risk, AICR's comprehensive report concluded that there is too little data on which to base any conclusion.

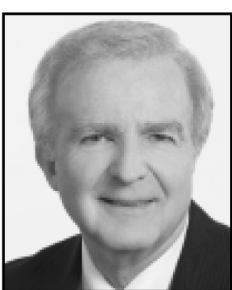
To help quell the confusion, AICR has identified 10 recommendations as the top priorities for cancer prevention. For most people, the essential messages can be further simplified into three key points: Aim to be a healthy weight throughout life; be physically active everyday — in any way — for 30 minutes or more; choose mostly plant foods, limit red meat and avoid processed meat.

AICR's Nutrition Hotline is a free service

that allows you to ask a registered dietitian questions about diet, nutrition

and cancer. Access it online at www.aicr.org/hotline or

by phone (1-800-843-8114) 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET Monday-Friday.

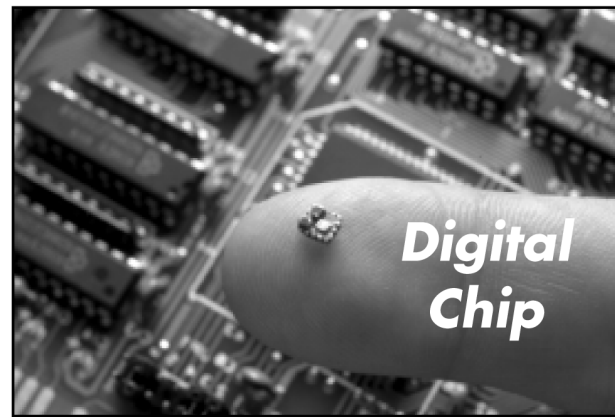


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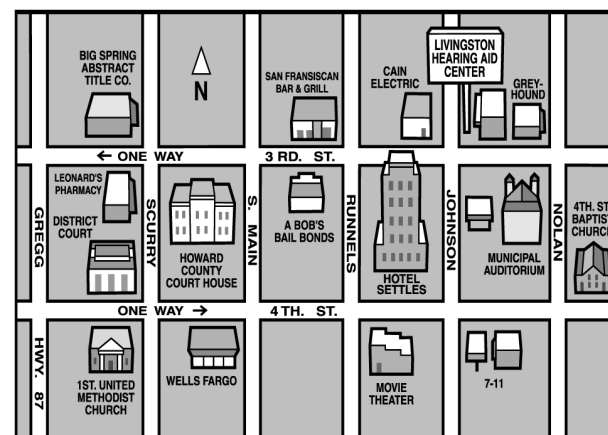
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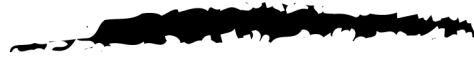


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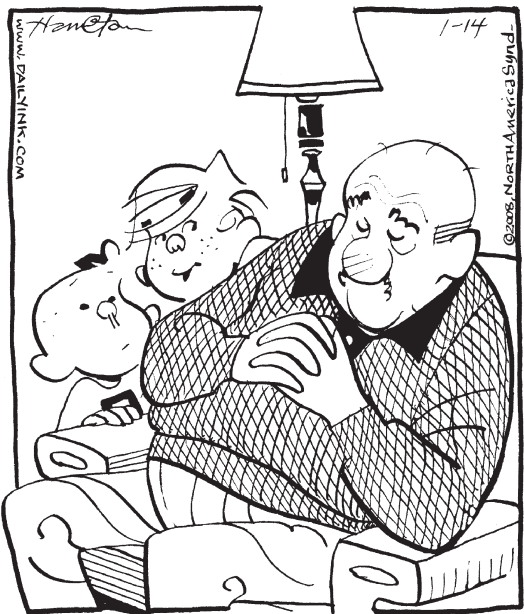
Appointments are limited. Call today!



MONDAY

Table with 24 columns representing different TV stations and their programming schedules for Monday. Columns include WFDA, KMYD, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, and SCIFI.

DENNIS THE MENACE



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THE FAMILY CIRCUS

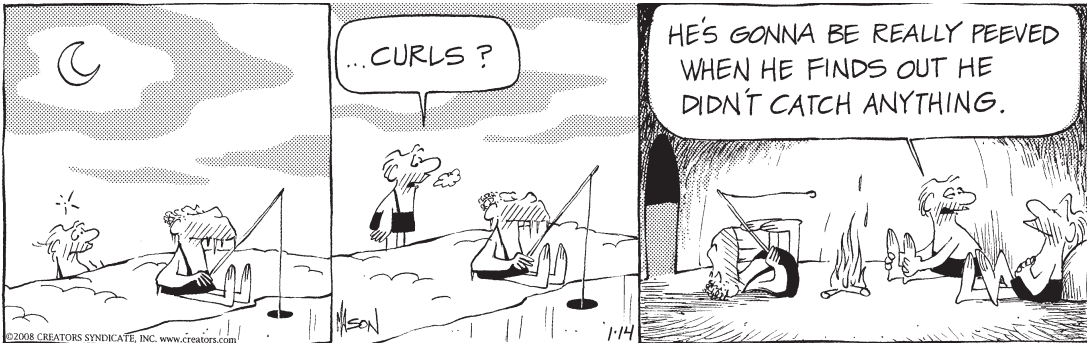


"Who would give us less homework - the Republicans or the Democrats?"

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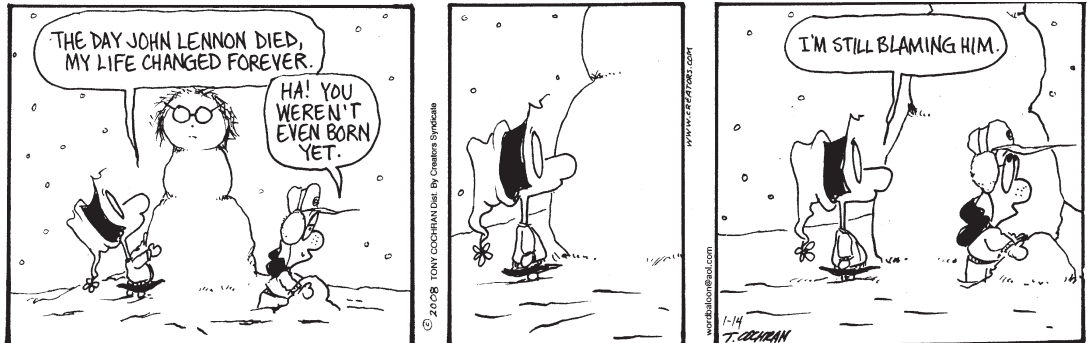
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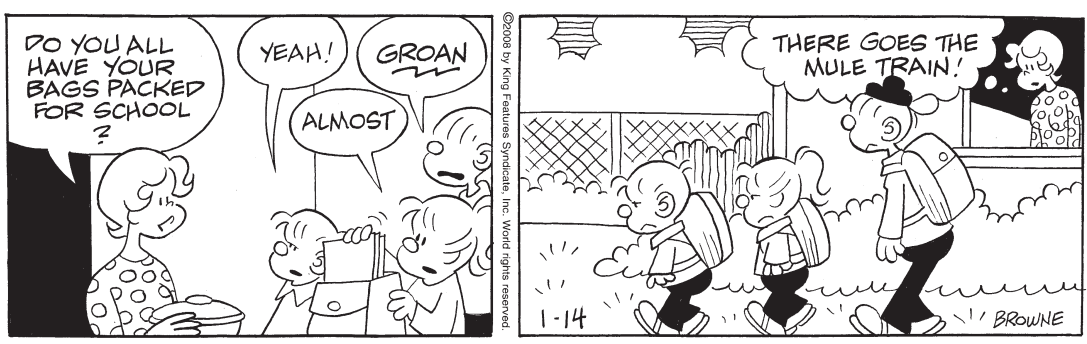
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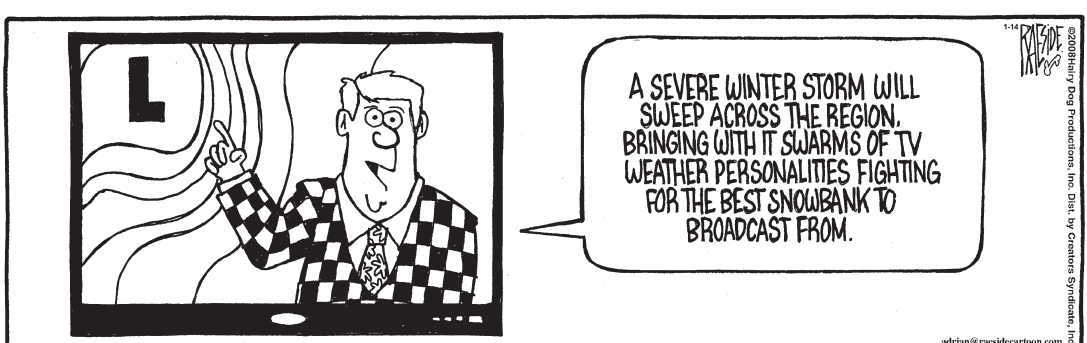
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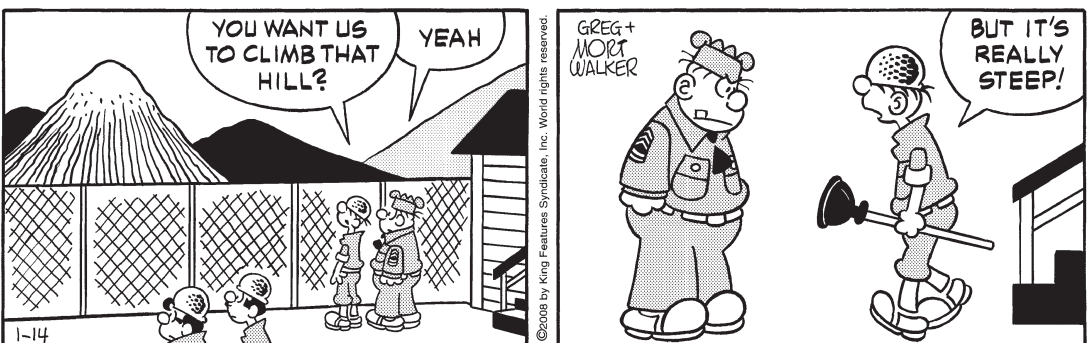
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Monday, Jan. 14, the 14th day of 2008. There are 352 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 14, 1784, the United States ratified a peace treaty with England, ending the Revolutionary War.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill and French General Charles de Gaulle opened a wartime conference in Casablanca. In 1953, Josip Broz Tito was elected president of Yugoslavia by the country's Parliament.

is 89. Blues singer Clarence Carter is 72. Country singer Billie Jo Spears is 71. Singer Jack Jones is 70. Singer-songwriter Allen Toussaint is 70. NAACP Chairman Julian Bond is 68. Actress Faye Dunaway is 67. Actress Holland Taylor is 65. Actor Carl Weathers is 60. Singer-producer T-Bone Burnett is 60. Movie writer-director Lawrence Kasdan is 59. Rock singer Geoff Tate (Queensryche) is 49.

Answer to previous puzzle crossword grid with words like ALIBIS, SHADIEST, RESENT, TOMORROW, AMOEBA, EMINENCE, POLTERGEIST, EIN, ANA, DRAPES, LSAT, HAT, PER, HOTLY, ODE, EYED, MAO, EDUCED, NORMAL, ROW, TICK, LOT, EMAIL, WAN, TIE, LAGS, MOTTOS, ITA, ORE, TOOTH, PASTES, PINNACLE, ALLURE, ENCIPHER, LOUDER, SOYBEANS, SNEERS.

Newsday Crossword

WHAT'S UP? by Sally R. Stein Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS 1 Serious stage work 6 Root beer, for instance 10 Business bigwig 14 Devoured 15 Currier's partner 16 Wedding auto 17 Incorrect 18 Short snoozes 19 Agenda line 20 Slangy agreement 21 Very happy 24 Arctic ice sheet 25 Air pollution 26 Dairy product 28 Competed 29 Rotten 32 "Little Jack Horner" is one Take a crack (try) 35 "En ___" (sword-fight starter) 37 Convenient, as stores in a mall 40 Capital of Egypt 41 Fully confident 42 Alphabetize 43 Superlative suffix 44 Young children 46 Providence, ___ Island 48 Senior citizens' org. 49 All tied 50 Moonshine 54 "That's what you think!" 57 Toward sunrise 58 Plumbing stop-up 59 Milan's land 61 "... of ___ I sing" 62 Be very fond of 63 Paid attention to 64 Lather 65 Schedule stats. 66 Swan relatives DOWN 1 Moist, as a morning lawn 2 Extremely uncommon 3 On the summit of 4 Fellow 5 African nation 6 From that time 7 Roundish shape 8 Bank customer 9 Take for granted 10 Stick (to) 11 Tubular pasta 12 Prayer's last word 13 Capital of 59 Across 22 Wanderer 23 Avoid responsibility for 24 Thighbone 26 Fast-food beverages 27 Ignited again 28 Computer malady 29 Group of nestlings 30 Be very fond of 31 Highly skilled 32 Walking speed 34 New-plane flier 36 Fire-setting crime 38 ___ home (out) 39 Audacity 45 Fortune teller 47 Chopping down 48 Poker payments 49 Rims 50 Big Apple baseball team 51 Honolulu's island 52 Pre-owned 53 Bright star 54 Despise 55 Pub drinks 56 Jekyll's alter ego 60 ___ the line (obey)

Newsday Crossword grid with numbered squares for words.