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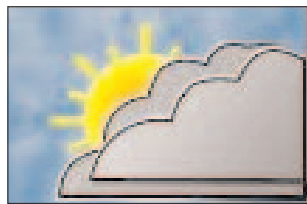
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BIG SPRING

# HERALD

**MONDAY**  
**MARCH 3, 2008**



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 81

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HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Local Vietnam Memorial Committee members and other volunteers begin spreading concrete which will serve as the base for an All-Veterans Monument at the memorial, located adjacent to SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf.

## VMC's preparing for new memorial

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer

The local Vietnam Memorial Committee has begun work on a monument to honor veterans of other conflicts.

Committee members and other volunteers began work Saturday on an All-Veterans Monument, which will become the newest attraction at the Vietnam Memorial.

Construction on the 11-foot-tall monument should be completed in time for dedication ceremonies on Memorial Day, said Jerry Groves of the VMC.

"It will be dedicated to veterans from all eras, including the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan," Groves said.

The idea for the monument was hatched about three years ago when

VMC President Gene Wilson approached Groves with the idea for a tribute to veterans of other conflicts beside the Vietnam War.

"Since then, we've been figuring out what we wanted to do and how to do it," Groves said. "We hope to be through by the first or the middle of May. It will definitely be ready by Memorial Day."

The six-sided monument will feature a bottom section made of black granite and a middle section of white granite with the lighted top section being made from tempered glass, Groves said.

Each side will have a bronze panel commemorating the six military services — Army, Navy, Marine, Air Force, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines.

"We actually don't have a cost for it

See **MEMORIAL**, Page 3

# Giving thanks for a miracle

## Hundreds gather to express gratitude for God's blessing

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer

Hundreds of local residents crowded into First Baptist Church Sunday night to give their thanks for a disaster that turned into a miracle.

For many, the real news of the Feb. 18 explosion at Alon Refinery wasn't that the facility suffered extensive damage, it was that no one was killed and only five people injured.

To give the community a chance to show its collective gratitude, organizers held the "Refinery Miracle Thanksgiving Service" Sunday evening, filling First Baptist's sanctuary with testimonials and songs of praise.

"When I saw that cloud of smoke rising over the refinery after the explosion, my first thought was not if anyone died, but how many died," Big

Spring Mayor Russ McEwen said. "But nobody died and there were no injuries among the first responders. That just doesn't happen in a situation like this, unless you have a community like this where people are praying for each other."

McEwen said those prayers are an everyday fact of life in this community.

"When people ask me what's going on in Big Spring, I say it's a 'God thing,'" he said. "God watches over this community."

Bill Burchett was working at the refinery the morning of the explosion.

"I heard someone on the radio tell us there was a propylene leak ... and I looked out the back door of the lab and saw what looked like steam or a

See **SERVICE**, Page 3



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Hundreds of local residents attended the "Refinery Miracle Thanksgiving Service" Sunday night in First Baptist Church to give thanks that no one was killed or seriously injured in the Feb. 18 explosion at Alon Refinery.

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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.

## Voters to cast primary ballots Tuesday

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

Voters will be expected to make several key decisions in this year's political party primaries Tuesday, with nominations for several county offices hanging in the balance.

According to Howard County Elections Administrator Sandra Bloom, those local contests are driving up vote tallies with more than 25 percent of the county's registered voters expected to cast a ballot.

"We had 1,779 ballots cast during early voting in the Republican Primary and

1,034 ballots in the Democratic contest, so we're going into tomorrow well ahead of totals posted in the 2004 presidential primaries," said Bloom. "I feel like we'll get another 2,500 ballots Tuesday, which should put us somewhere near 5,000 ballots, which represents 28 percent of the registered voters in Howard County."

"I really feel like it's the local races that are pushing this. Even with the race between Obama Barrack and Hillary Clinton so publicized, our numbers for the Democratic primary are down, so I feel like it's the local sheriff and commissioners races that had the

voters coming out during early voting."

Among those races is contest for the Precinct 3 seat on the commissioner's court, with nearly a half-dozen hopefuls on the Republican ballot.

Dick Dubose, who ran for the seat four years ago, is the lone Democratic candidate, automatically earning him a place on the November ballot. However, Steve Gray, Winston Paschal Odom, Jimmie Wayne Long and Fred Green will have to duke it out in hopes of winning the Republican nomination.

Sheriff Dale Walker is running for re-

See **PRIMARIES**, Page 3

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**NEW LISTINGS**

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-------------------	----------------	-------------------------

Kelly Myrick 432-466-1178  
 Donna Love 432-935-3870  
 Leslie Stevens 432-213-0909

## Obituaries

### Hazel Cora Branham Flynt Crawford



Hazel Cora Branham Flynt Crawford, 91, of Big Spring died Saturday, March 1, 2008, at Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez State Veterans Home. Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. Wednesday, March 5, 2008, at Resthaven Cemetery in Midland. The family will receive friends from 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

She was born May 23, 1916, in Hatchell, Texas, to Pearl and Elbert Branham. She grew up in Runnels County. She lived most of her life in Midland and in Big Spring. She was a beauty operator in San Angelo, Midland and Big Spring. She always had her shop in her home. She was a member of Airport Baptist Church.

She is survived by one daughter, Zeba Smith of Forsan; two grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to the American Diabetes Association, Midland Office, 10 Desta Drive, Suite 220E, Midland 79705.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com).

### Juanita Gonzales Valle



Funeral services for Juanita Valle, 80, of Lubbock, formerly of Big Spring, have been set for 10 a.m. Monday, March 3, 2008, at the Stanton Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Ventura Martinez officiating. Interment will be at Mt. Olive Cemetery in Big Spring.

She was born on March 8, 1927, in Pearsall and died on Feb. 29, 2008, in a Lubbock hospital.

She married Amado Valle on July 9, 1945, in Pearsall. She was a housewife.

Survivors include four daughters, Maria Caballero of Lubbock, Soila Cruz and Gilda Castillo, both of Big Spring, and San Juana (Janie) Olivas of Dallas; two sons, Julian Valle and Amado Valle Jr., both of Big Spring; one sister, Olivia Martinez of Winters; two brothers, Ignacio Gonzales and Marcus Gonzales, both of Pearsall; 25 grandchildren; 64 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Stanton Memorial Funeral Home & Chapel.

### Fred Nealy Merworth

Fred Nealy Merworth, 94, of DeLeon died Sunday, March 2, 2008, at his home. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 4, 2008, at the Nowlin Funeral Home Chapel in DeLeon with Kenneth Wilson officiating. Burial will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 5, 2008, at Mt. Olive Cemetery in Big Spring.

Mr. Merworth was born Jan. 6, 1914, in Alba, a son of John H.T. and Rebecca Reeves Merworth. He married Cora Lee Alexander Nov. 3, 1991, in DeLeon.

He had worked in the oil fields, as well as a truck driver and contract mail carrier. He moved from Comanche to DeLeon in 1991. He was a Baptist.

Survivors include his wife, Cora Lee Merworth of DeLeon; two sons, Ellis Neal Merworth of Howe and Timothy Joe Merworth of Midland; one daughter, Sue Merworth Lambert of DeLeon; one stepson, Wiley Chandler; one stepdaughter, Janet Chandler Adams; a half-sister, Jonnie June Williams of Phoenix, Ariz.; seven grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; six step grandchildren; and one step great-grandchild.

Nowlin Funeral Home of DeLeon has charge of arrangements.

## Take Note

• Big Spring High School will be offering the Exit Level TAKS Retest, March 3-7, 2008. Please report to the High School Library at 8 a.m. Bring a picture I.D. Dates are, March 3, Social Studies; March 5, English Language Arts; March 6, Math; March 7, Science.

• A fund has been established to help pay expenses for Sean Bailey, 25, who was injured in an oilfield accident Jan. 28. He and his wife are Tressa are currently in Lubbock, where Sean is hospitalized. Donations can be made at Citizens Federal Credit Union to account 930442 to help with expenses. Please keep them in your prayers.

• Cross stitchers are needed to complete one or more blocks of this year's Howard County Fair quilt. All supplies are provided. Blocks may be picked up from Posey Cotton Office, 601 Scurry, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon. For information, call 263-1267 or 263-4980. This year's quilt theme is "Wildflowers of Texas." All proceeds from the sale of tickets for the quilt are used to defray the expenses of the Fair. The quilt will be awarded the last night of the fair.

• Pediatric flu vaccinations for children ages 6 months to 35 months are now available at the Texas Department of State Health Services clinic in College Park Shopping Center. Cost is \$10, although no one will be turned away for inability to pay. For more information, call 263-9775.

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Pd. Pol. Adv. by Emma Brown, 1508 Oriole, Big Spring, TX 79720  
7534

## Police blotter

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

- **ANTHONY AZUL**, 23, of 1516 Sycamore, was arrested Saturday on a charge of disorderly conduct - fighting.
- **RICKY KINNAMON**, 55, of 1516 Sycamore, was arrested Saturday on a charge of disorderly conduct - fighting.
- **ATHEA DARROW**, 23, of 1900 Alabama, was arrested Saturday on 16 local warrants.
- **RICHARD RODRIGUEZ**, 28, of Midland, was arrested Sunday on a charge of riving while intoxicated - second offense.
- **DIANA WALKER**, 28, of Odessa, was arrested Sunday on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **MANUEL LOZANO**, 35, of 2504 Chanute, was arrested Sunday on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **SANTIAGO MORALES**, 47, of 1003 Rosemont, was arrested Sunday on a charge of riving while intoxicated - second offense.
- **STEVEN ISSAC**, 24, of 689 Sagewood, was arrested Sunday on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **FRANK JACKSON**, 49, transient, was arrested Sunday on a charge of assault by threat.
- **FRANCES OVERTON**, 24, of 1510 Nolan, was arrested Sunday on a charge of criminal mischief.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 100 block of Marcy.
- **ROBBERY** was reported in the 600 block of Interstate Highway 20.
- **POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA - TWO OUNCES OR LESS** was reported in the 4100 block of Highway 80.
- **POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA** was reported in the 4100 block of Highway 80.
- **DEADLY CONDUCT - DISCHARGE OF A FIREARM** was reported in the 700 block of Lorilla.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 1500 block of Nolan.
- **BURGLARY OF A BUILDING** was reported in the 1100 block of Sixth Street.
- **ASSAULT CAUSING BODILY INJURY** was reported in the 800 block of Fourth Street.

## Fire/EMS

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

- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1500 block of Avion. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1100 block of Stanford. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 800 block of Settles. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of Westover Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported near the intersection of Second Street and W. Marcy. Service refused.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported near the intersection of Lamesa Highway and N.W. Sixth Street. Two people were transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 700 block of Wyoming. Service refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of Main Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1200 block of Johnson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 600 block of State. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1600 block of Lark. Service refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. 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 600 block of Tubb Loop Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 100 block of N.W. Fourth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1000 block of Stadium. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **DUMPSTER FIRE** was reported in the 1900 block of Wasson Drive.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 900 block of Caprock. One person was transported to SMMC.

## Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night:  
Winning numbers drawn: 11-17-23-41-47-49  
Number matching six of six: None.  
Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: \$6 million.

•••

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night:  
Winning numbers drawn: 4-13-17-24-27  
Number matching five of five: 1.  
Prize per winner: \$28,680.  
Winning tickets sold in: Dallas.  
Next Cash 5 drawing: Tonight.

•••

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Saturday night, in order: 7-6-5-0. Sum It Up: 18.

•••

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night, in order: 2-4-1. Sum It Up: 7.



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## Sheriff's report

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 46 inmates at the time of this report.

- **JOSE ALFREDO MELENDEZ**, 24, was arrested Friday by DPS on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- **TERI LOUISE NALL**, 50, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension and driving while intoxicated - second offense.
- **SHARON MICHELLE GARRETT**, 37, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- **DENNIS ALFRED GARRETT**, 58, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **BILLY CORENZA MCGEE**, 44, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- **ANDREW GARZA**, 33, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid.
- **JOHN EDWIN SANDERS**, 29, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for driving while license invalid.
- **ORLANDO SAMUEL PAYEN**, 32, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on charges of evading arrest/detention and disorderly conduct - language.
- **TIMOTHY JOSEPH MAJOR JR.**, 34, was arrested Saturday by DPS on charges of driving while intoxicated - second offense, possession of marijuana - two ounces or less and driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- **MARK W. SIZEMORE**, 37, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **MARK ANTHONY MCBETH**, 22, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **KATAVIOUS BOOKER**, 26, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of unlawfully carrying a weapon.
- **EDWARD LOPEZ**, 19, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- **JEREMIAH JAMES ROBERTS**, 29, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of theft with two or more previous convictions and failure to identify - giving false information.
- **DENNIS DWAIN DUMONT**, 25, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **ERIC JACKSON SEBER**, 26, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **TODD JUSTIN SEBER**, 21, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less and a motion to revoke probation for driving while license suspended/invalid.
- **DONALD GENE KOERBER**, 20, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of possession of a controlled substance and unlawfully carrying a weapon.
- **ERNESTO RODRIQUEZ**, 32, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **TEKIA "KOKO" WILLIAMS**, 25, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- **SAUL GONZALES**, 22, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **KERRY RYAN MILLS**, 31, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- **DANIEL SCOTT RAWLS**, 22, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of purchasing/furnishing alcohol to a minor.
- **DIANA WALKER**, 28, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **SANTIAGO MORALES JR.**, 47, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated - second offense.
- **MANUEL ROMERO LOZANO III**, 35, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **RICHARD RODRIGUEZ RODRIGUEZ**, 28, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated - second offense.

## Weather

• Tonight — Partly cloudy. Colder. Lows in the lower 20s. West winds 10 to 15 mph.  
• Tuesday — Sunny. Not as cool. Highs in the mid 60s. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.  
• Tuesday night — Partly cloudy.

**BIG SPRING HERALD**

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

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

USPS 1431-48      USPS 0055-940      ISSN 0746-6811  
BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties; \$13.25 elsewhere.



Courtesy photo

**Big Spring High School Drum Majors Emily Hanes, left, Crystal Ward and Vicki Conner accept an award from Big Spring Salvation Army Capt. Russ Keeney for the school band's recent efforts to collect food for the local charity.**

## Support Groups

### MONDAY

• Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-5239.

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) TX. 21, weight loss support group meets at Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third St. at 5 p.m. TOPS provides members with information, motivation and fellowship in attaining and maintaining their physician-prescribed weight goals. For more information, call 263-6819 or 263-1758. Leave a message.

### TUESDAY

• The Path, faith-based addiction recovery, meets at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St.

• Life Recovery, a non-denominational Christian group of recovering alcoholics and addicts, meets at 7 p.m. at the St. Paul Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. and closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY

• RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at 264-1213 for more information.

### THURSDAY

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

### FRIDAY

• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

## Bulletin Board

If you have items for the Bulletin board, contact the Herald newsroom at 263-7331 or email [newsdesk@bigspringherald.com](mailto:newsdesk@bigspringherald.com)

### TODAY

- Keep Big Spring Beautiful meets at noon in the Cactus Room at Howard College.
- District Committee Lone Star of Big Spring meets at noon at 610 Scurry.
- 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 263-1758 213-3598.
- 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.
- Evening Lions Club meets at 6:45 p.m. at Dragon China Buffett.
- Howard County ARC meets at 806 E. Third in the Bingo Hall. Call 264-0674 for more information.
- The Big Spring Cruisers club meeting at 7 p.m. in the Texas RV Park meeting room.
- Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.
- Big Spring Chapter No. 178 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

### TUESDAY

- Coahoma Senior Citizen luncheon is set for 11 a.m. in the Coahoma Community Center.
- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- VFW Post 2013 meets at 7 p.m. in the VFW Hall, 500 Driver Road.
- Sheriff's Posse meets at 7 p.m. in the clubhouse on the Andrews Highway.
- Alzheimer's Association, the Greater West Texas Chapter meets at 2 p.m. in the Howard County Library conference room, 500 S. Main.
- Gospel Singing in the Kentwood Activity Center at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome.
- The Howard County Sheriff's Posse meets at 7 p.m. at the Sheriff's Posse building on the Andrews Highway. For more information, call Bert Sheppard at 263-4483 or Rose Armstead at 263-2769.
- Order of the Eastern Star No. 67 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

### WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

## SERVICE

Continued from Page 1

cloud," Burchett said. "I ran back inside the lab and told everyone we needed to evacuate.

"As I stepped out the door, the explosion occurred, knocking me and everyone else to the ground," Burchett added.

"At first, I was fearful ... but God spoke to me and told me he loved me ... and we made our way out of there."

Big Spring Police Lt. Terry Chamness said there was a very simple reason no serious injuries were reported in the explosion.

"God smiled on us," he told the crowd. "We have our differences every now

and then ... but when the chips are down, this community comes together and we get the job done."

Staring at the very heart of the explosion on Feb. 18, Howard County Volunteer Fire Department Chief Tommy Sullivan knew "it was time to get right with God.

"I told my guys, 'We may not come out of this

and I've got one question: Do you guys trust me?'" Sullivan said. "They gave me a typical firefighter answer: 'We trust you with our lives, chief.'"

Sullivan also gave thanks for the many prayers uttered that day.

"We felt your prayers," he said. "And God shielded us that day."

Sullivan and volunteer firefighters Josh Sullivan,

Paul Starr, Eric Barber, Ryan Kennedy, Justin Jernigan, Terry Crawford, Kem Hopper, Zach Johnson and Codee Barraza were honored Sunday night by County Judge Mark Barr and the commissioners court, which bestowed a citation of valor for the HCVFD's valor, courage and professionalism in fighting the blaze.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234 or by e-mail at [reporter@bigspringherald.com](mailto:reporter@bigspringherald.com).

### MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Rev. George R. Harrington, 99, died Thursday. Funeral Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Salem Cemetery. The family will receive freinds from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Hazel Crawford, 91, died Saturday. Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. Wednesday at Resthaven Cemetery in Midland. The family will receive friends from 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## PRIMARIES

Continued from Page 1

election on the Republican ticket, facing off against Gary Morgan and Stan Parker in the primaries, with former HCSO deputy Pat Carter the lone candidate on the Democratic ticket.

Edwin O. Ware will be able to quietly cruise through the primaries as the lone Republican candidate seeking the Precinct 1 seat on the commissioners court, while incumbent Emma Brown and challenger Yolanda Mendoza will try

to win the Democratic nomination. Brown defeated Mendoza in her last bid for re-election approximately four years ago.

Also in Howard County contests, County Attorney Mike Thomas is running for re-election with the Democratic Party, drawing his only opponent in local attorney Joshua Hamby, who is running on the Republican ticket, setting up yet another November showdown.

Howard County Constable Bill Holden is running for re-election on the Democratic ticket, and while he failed to

draw an opponent for the primaries, Kneel B. Stallings has filed to challenge on the Republican card, forcing the contest to a November resolution.

Polling places and their corresponding precincts include:

- Northside Fire Station: 11-14, 16, 103-105, 112
- Life Church: 22, 24-26, 205, 208
- Coahoma Community Center: 207, 207C, 408, 409
- First Baptist Church: 33-35, 304
- Dorothy Garrett Coliseum: 42, 44-46, 404-407

For more information on the election, contact

Bloom at 264-2273.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-

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- NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN (R) 7:00 PM
- SEMI-PRO (R) 4:40 PM 7:10 PM
- THE SPIDERWICK CHRONICLES (PG) 4:30 PM
- VANTAGE POINT (PG-13) 4:50 PM 7:20 PM

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## MEMORIAL

Continued from Page 1

yet," Groves noted. "Although it will cost somewhere in the neighborhood of \$10,000 just for the monument alone."

"It's really going to be something to see," he said. "It is going to be awesome."

All the work will be done by committee members and other volunteers.

Much of the construction material has been

made available at a discount, Groves said.

Contact Staff Writer

Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234 or by e-mail at [reporter@bigspringherald.com](mailto:reporter@bigspringherald.com).

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## ELECT STAN PARKER FOR HOWARD COUNTY SHERIFF

According to public records in the Howard County auditors office, when Dale Walker, took office his expenditures were \$1,488,378 at the end of 2007 his expenditures were \$2,934,196, a **97 percent increase**. It is critical to this county that the budget be properly administered and unnecessary spending is stopped immediately.

I have almost 20 years law enforcement experience, seven of those being in an administrative position. I currently operate a successful local business. Being able to combine my law enforcement experience and business experience gives me the unique ability to operate the Sheriff's office with a better perspective of business administration and law enforcement operations. I understand how important it is to keep expenses down but also not compromise the safety and security of employees or citizens we serve.

I have lived in Howard County all of my life. My wife Shelley and I have been married for 22 years; she is an accountant with Alon. We have raised our two kids here in Howard County, Kade 17 and Chelsey 12. Howard County is very important to us it has been our home and will continue to be our home.



**I am asking for your Vote, Please Vote Stan Parker for Howard County Sheriff on**

**Tuesday  
March 4, 2008**

# 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

# Remember to go to polls Tuesday and be counted

For one last time, it seems fitting to remind our readers that Tuesday is primary election day across our state and if you didn't cast your vote early, we encourage you to do so tomorrow.

There are a number of important local, state and national races on the Democratic and Republican parties' ballots.

Of course, the local headlines look to be races for sheriff and two commissioners seats.

Sheriff Dale Walker is running for re-election, but this time he's doing it on the Republican ticket, bringing his eight-year run with the Democratic Party to a close. He faces Gary Morgan and Stan Parker in the GOP primary, while former HCSO deputy Pat Carter is the lone candidate on the Democratic ticket.

Commissioner Bill Crooker's decision to end his 40-year tenure on the commissioners court to a close has drawn plenty of hopefuls seeking to replace him in Precinct 3 seat. In the Republican Primary four candidates — Steve Gray, Winston Paschal Odom, Jimmie Wayne Long and Fred Green — will vie for the right to face Dick Dubose, the lone Democrat in the race, come November.

In Precinct 1, the contested race is in the Democratic Primary, where incumbent Emma Brown is again being challenged by Yolanda Mendoza. The winner will face Edwin O. Ware, who is unopposed in the GOP Primary, in December.

The primaries will also be a chance for local voters to weigh in on this year's presidential race — particularly on the Democratic side where Sen. Hillary Clinton and Sen. Barack Obama are in a pitched battle that could very well be determined in Texas.

While Sen. John McCain seems to have the GOP nomination all but in hand, it will be interesting to see what kind of support former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee can muster here in the Lone Star State.

So, it's clear that voters have quite a bit to decide. Obviously, many are decisions that will impact almost all our lives for some time to come.

It seems that we are saying this on an almost yearly basis these days, but once again, we are collectively saddened by the negativity created by those seeking our vote.

Yes, a great deal is at stake tomorrow and we're not about to downplay that importance. And as we have of late, we're simply not willing to tell you how we think you should vote. We just want to encourage all registered voters to take the time cast their ballots.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. throughout Howard County. That's plenty of time to work in a trip to ballot box and make your voice to heard.

Please, go vote!

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

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

*May we let others run with the ball, while we trust in You, Lord.*

Amen

# Health care: A free market too far

President Bush and others (mostly rich) often refer to the United States glowingly as a "market democracy." Capitalism and competition have made our nation great. Other nations are less great in proportion to how much their governments subvert this God-given natural system of free enterprise.



WILLIAM A. COLLINS

So far America's main exemptions from this corporate competitive model are the Post Office, schools, fire, police and the military. But even these traditional public services are now losing ground to UPS, Fed Ex, private academies and Halliburton. We presently have more contractors in Iraq than we do soldiers.

Against this backdrop of rampant capitalism, what chance do mere citizens have of bringing our turbulent health insurance system under regulated government control? Not much. The fact that all other industrial nations place government in charge of assuring medical access seems of little account. Nor does our current blatantly wasteful arrangement of relying on hundreds of competing, conflicting, and conniving insurance companies to deliver care seem to place much pressure on Congress for change.

So deeply ingrained in us is this health system from Hell that can-

didates for president who propose fundamental reform are generally even denied press coverage. The Medical-Industrial Complex is just too big a media sponsor. Outlets can't risk offending it by reporting on proposals to turn their advertisers' whole industry over to Medicare. Too many billions are at stake.

The obvious cure for these ills is to treat health care as we do Social Security: workers would contribute a percentage of their pay, while employers would contribute a percentage of their payroll. As happened with Medicare, waste would be slashed and we would save countless billions every year. Likewise those countless doctors and nurses now working for our parasitic insurance companies and HMOs would be freed up to actually minister to patients. No wonder reform is such a dreaded nightmare.

In support of this reform some cheeky nurses' organizations have suggested that what Americans really need is Cheneycare. The reference is to the vice-president's latest bout with irregular heartbeat. Many without his ready access to unparalleled attention die each year. The nurses are not yet suggesting that reduced care might be a good idea for him, but rather that everyone else ought to get a decent shot at survival too.

Here in Connecticut, "capitalism's heartland," such inequity gushes like a river. Stamford Hospital is seeking to open a clinic in Norwalk to siphon off some

of Norwalk Hospital's well-heeled patients. Simultaneously, Norwalk Hospital is seeking permission to get into the angioplasty business to siphon off heart patients from St. Vincent's in Bridgeport where they specialize in such things. Competition among hospitals for insured patients is fierce, as is the competition to avoid serving the uninsured. This bitter conflict mirrors the battle underway among insurance companies, and the somewhat more genteel struggle among doctors to serve the rich and to stiff the poor.

In a way you can't fault such self-serving behavior. Everybody has to eat.

It's our pernicious funding system that forces each player to act in this dog-eat-dog manner.

People who are otherwise nice and Godly end up playing roles that would not score well with a celestial judgment panel.

And praises be to the ones who don't play the game that way at all.

The bottom line is that many tens of millions of Americans suffer needless pain and death for want of an easily created decent insurance system. And yes, government-run plans in other countries, despite industry propaganda, really do work better and cheaper than ours.

Columnist William A. Collins is a former state representative and a former mayor of Norwalk, Conn.

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# Obama makes a better commander

Near the end of the 19th debate, Hillary Rodham Clinton scanned her years with the 42nd U.S. president and admitted a personal truth that for once didn't serve the righteous cause of returning the couple to the White House for a third term.



LES PAYNE

"Well, I think everybody here knows I've lived through some crises and some challenging moments in my life," she said in apparent reference to indiscretions of the sort that led to her husband's impeachment. Freed from a state of denial, this nagging truth was taken as self-evident by the Democratic audience at the University of Texas. Normally when Sen. Clinton speaks publicly of her life with Bill it is of an apprenticeship qualifying her to be the next president from "day one."

Voters have not gotten in step with her ambitions, and Sen. Barack Obama has been most uncooperative. Clinton's attempts to bring these holdouts to heel during the debate had her berating voters to "get real." Obama countered her tactics as implication "that the people who've been voting for me or involved in my campaign are somehow delusional ... (that) the 20 million people who've been paying attention to 19 debates and the editorial boards all across the country at newspapers who have given me endorse-

ments, including every major newspaper here in the state of Texas, (her) thinking is that somehow, they're being duped."

The counterpunch landed squarely on the china chin of Clinton's campaign presumption that she is somehow entitled to the nomination. She has indeed been vetted, as claimed, but voters find her wanting.

Clinton's unfavorable poll ratings are so high that even white women younger than 60, if Wisconsin serves as representative, are crossing over to Obama. Surely this is not purely because she is a woman. It appears more that, despite her gender, the senator simply has not won voters over on the merits. Her firepower is spent leafleting position papers, mouthing off about her 35-year resume, and battering Obama as unworthy.

This Clinton tactic was on display at the Texas debate when she was slamming Obama as lacking the experience to be commander in chief. "I've (represented) our country in more than 80 countries to negotiate ... opening borders for refugees during the war in Kosovo, to stand up for women's rights ... around the world," she said. "I've served on the Senate Armed Services Committee, and I have worked as one of the leaders in the Congress on behalf of Homeland Security."

While this experience, if accurate, might qualify one as a senator or an ambassador, it is not exactly the job skills of a commander in chief. In the wake of the Bush calamity, the nation deserves a wise commander in

chief steeped in world history, courageous and keen of judgment. While steering this lone superpower, this helmsman should be mindful of the limits of military force in the unstable age of international terror.

Nothing short of wise collective leadership, not even military experience, per se, can guarantee success. Sen. John McCain, with all his heroic service and horrific suffering for his country, would likely be a disaster of a commander in chief. The 30,000 troop "surge," for example, the former POW takes as a sign that the United States is winning the Iraq war and must be prepared to remain there for 100 years. While praising the troops' efforts, Obama cited the reduction in slaughter for what it is: "a tactical victory imposed upon a huge strategic blunder."

This is not to decorate Obama as an model commander in chief, but rather to measure him against Clinton, who supported the war, and McCain, who should know better.

In a desperate grasp for power, 71-year-old McCain has thrown himself on the mercy of the Bush White House. He now supports every jot and tittle of current Bush policy, including tax cuts and the war in Iraq.

Voters wish not to prolong these crippling mistakes. Among Obama's other gifts, he seems blessed so far with opponents frightfully out of step with the Democratic process.

Les Payne is a columnist for *Newsday*.

Distributed by McClatchy-Tribune Information Services.

# Dealing with aftershocks of a traumatic event

By VALERIE AVERY

Special to the Herald

Feelings of guilt, intense anger and anxiety are natural reactions to traumatic events, including the Feb. 18 fire at the Alon Refinery.

"There are a number of people in the community who may not have been directly involved in the explosion but who may have felt the aftershock or seen the smoke," said Kathy Salazar, Big Spring State Hospital social work services director.

"Sometimes the emotional aftershocks or stress reactions appear immediately or a few hours or even days later.

"In some cases, it may be weeks or months before they appear."

Some of the responses to critical incidents are physical signs, such as headaches, elevated blood pressure, chills, vomiting and grinding of teeth. The cognitive signs are confusion, poor problem solving, nightmares or difficulty identifying objects or people. Emotional signs are panic, denial, emotional shock and apprehension. Behavioral signs are change in speech patterns, loss or increase of appetite, inability to rest or change in usual communications.

The most important thing to

remember is these feelings are normal, said Janet Payne, West Texas Centers for MHMR director of mental health services.

Recognizing the signs of stress reactions to critical incidents, accepting them and learning how to resolve them are instrumental in regaining a healthy lifestyle, she said.

"You may have been taking a shower that morning and your house shook and now you're afraid to go in your home," Payne said. "That is a normal response to what happened last week. But eventually, you will need to go back in your home."

Some people suggest journaling, reaching out to people,

keeping busy, eating regular and well-balanced meals and avoid making any big life changes.

"Exercise is a great stress reducer and also helps in improving one's mood," Payne said. "Walking, jogging or even playing recreational sports are all effective in overall emotional health."

"People need to understand that these are normal reactions to an abnormal event," Salazar said. "Your body is coping and you just need to go with it and not fight it. Don't think that you're weak because you have these feelings."

Friends and family members

of those experiencing stress-related reactions should spend time with the traumatized person and offer assistance if needed. One of the worst things a person can tell you is that you are "lucky it wasn't worse," Salazar said.

"A traumatized person is not consoled by those statements. Instead, tell them that you are sorry such an event has occurred and you want to understand and assist them."

For anyone experiencing any of these feelings for more than a month, it may be a good idea to seek assistance from a clergy member, a local mental health agency or a private counselor.

# Poached sole swimming with flavor, goodness

Looking for a meat-and-potatoes alternative? Try this week's light yet flavorful sole. Combined with spinach, a touch of garlic, Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese and nutmeg, this dish makes a healthful and delectable meal any night of the week.

Highly prized for its mild, slightly sweet flavor, flakey sole is a member of a family of flat fish called Soleidae. The name itself comes from its resemblance to a sandal, which is derived from the Latin solea.

Poaching the sole — cooking it in hot liquid — allows the delicate flavor of the fish to shine through. In addition, using white wine as a poaching liquid creates a decadent sauce to top the dish. For those who don't want to cook with alcohol, an equally flavorful sauce can be prepared by substituting apple or white

grape juice for the wine.

A note to cooks: Even though the liquid is quickly brought to a boil, when poaching, keep the liquid from boiling for any prolonged period or the tender sole can quickly toughen.

Beyond the fish's inherent nutritional value, this dish also features nutrient-rich spinach. A member of the beet family, spinach originally came from Persia where it was known as aspanakh. Spinach provides iron, folic acid and vitamins A, C and K. In addition, it is a rich source of lutein — a phytochemical that scientists believe may offer protection from some types of cancer.

### Poached Spinach Sole

- 2 tsp. olive oil
- 1 clove crushed garlic
- 3/4 cup chopped onions
- 6 oz. fresh spinach
- 1/3 cup white wine (or equal amount apple or white



- grape juice)
- 1 Tbsp. lemon juice
- 4 sole filets, 4 oz. each
- 1 1/2 tsp. canola oil
- 1 Tbsp. all purpose flour
- 1/3 cup 1% milk
- Pinch ground nutmeg
- 2 Tbsp. grated Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- Lemon zest (for garnish)

of apple cider vinegar or white grape juice with the same), lemon juice and sole filets. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat, cover and simmer until fish is opaque — about 3 to 5 minutes. Remove fish using a slotted spoon and place over bed of spinach on the serving dish — reserve the liquid from the pan.

Meanwhile, heat oil in small sauté pan. Add flour and cook for 1 minute, stirring constantly. Stir in milk, nutmeg

and the reserved liquid from the poached fish. Simmer, stirring constantly until thickened. Stir in half of the cheese.

Pour the prepared sauce over fish. Top with the remaining cheese. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Garnish with lemon zest.

Makes 4 servings.  
Per serving: 210 calories, 7 g total fat (1.5 g saturated fat), 9 g carbohydrates, 25 g protein, 3 g dietary fiber, 380 mg sodium.

## NUTRITIONWISE: Eating at night

**Q: Does food eaten at night turn to fat more easily?**

A: If eating in the evening causes weight gain, then it's hard to explain the low incidence of obesity in European countries where dinner is



KAREN COLLINS  
MS, RD, CDN

rarely eaten before eight or nine o'clock. Even though you may be less active at night, you are still burning calories. Your lungs, heart, brain and other vital organs still require energy — even while you sleep. Weight control is not dependent on the time of day you consume your calories, but rather on

how the total number of calories you eat throughout the day compares to the total number you burn. Studies have shown that as long as there is a balance between calories taken in and expended, people who eat later in the evening do not gain weight.

The trouble comes when evening eating is not related to hunger, but is used to relieve boredom or stress. Late

night munching in front of the television, for example, can easily offset your daily energy balance and lead to weight gain. In addition, many people choose high-calorie "junk foods" in the evening rather than making more sensible, nutritious choices like fruit. But these situations pose trouble at any time of day. The problem is inappropriate eating behavior, not the time at which it occurs.

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**Monday March 3, 5:30 - 7:30pm**  
**Tuesday March 4, 5:30 - 7:30pm**  
**Wednesday March 5, 5:30 - 7:30pm**  
**Thursday March 6, 5:30 - 7:30pm**  
**Friday March 7, 5:30 - 7:30pm**  
**Saturday, March 8, 10am - 5pm**




**CHILDREN 5-16** Who live within Big Spring Little League Boundaries are eligible to enroll. Registration required even if child played previously, at least one parent or legal guardian must be present and an original or state-certified copy of child's birth certificate is required.

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If you were injured by this blast, our system of law has but one remedy—money damages. That is how our system works and it has worked for hundreds of years. It is your absolute, sovereign right to bring a lawsuit to protect your interests if you were injured in this explosion. You may have been injured by the direct impact of the blast or flames. You may have been emotionally traumatized by the events of that tragic day. You may have been injured escaping from the disaster area in an attempt to save your life. You may have been injured trying to rescue others. For any of these injuries, and many others, you may have a claim for money damages. I contend that it is your duty to yourself, your family and your community to bring your claim into our justice system—and allow the system to work for you, your family, and your community. I would respectfully suggest to you that it is in your best interest to contact an attorney who has the experience, know-how, and wherewithal to handle a claim like this. I believe that person is me. But, even if you do not contact me, contact someone. As always, I remain,

Very truly yours,  
Chad Pinkerton

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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

Page 6  
Monday, March 3, 2008

## IN BRIEF

### Crossroads high school varsity sports calendar

#### TODAY

Forsan baseball vs. Lakeview, 4 p.m.  
Forsan softball at Kermit, 4 p.m.  
Coahoma baseball vs. Colorado City, 7 p.m.  
Coahoma softball vs. Colorado City, 7 p.m.

#### TUESDAY

Big Spring softball at Lubbock High, 4:30 p.m.  
Big Spring baseball at Midland High, 4 p.m.

#### THURS. - SAT.

Big Spring baseball at Snyder Tournament.  
Coahoma baseball at Llano Tournament.  
Coahoma softball at Clyde-Eula Tournament.

#### FRIDAY

Big Spring softball at Andrews, 5 p.m.  
Big Spring boys golf at San Anelo.  
Big Spring girls golf at Andrews.  
Big Spring girls track at Snyder for Tiger Relays.  
Big Spring boys track at Midland for Tall City Relays.  
Big Spring tennis at Seminole tournament.

#### MARCH 11

Big Spring softball at Greenwood, TBA.  
Big Spring baseball at Fort Stockton, 6 p.m.  
Forsan baseball at McCamey, 5 p.m.  
Forsan softball at Sonora, 6 p.m.  
Coahoma baseball at Haskell, 4:30 p.m.  
Coahoma softball at Haskell, 7 p.m.

#### MARCH 13-15

Big Spring softball at San Marcos Tournament.  
Big Spring baseball at Greenwood Tournament.

### Howard College athletic updates and calendar

Hawks baseball (16-2) opened WJCAC play with a doubleheader sweep of New Mexico Junior College, 3-0 and 6-4 on Friday. The Hawks fell to New Mexico Junior College in a doubleheader Saturday, losing 4-0 and 12-4. The Hawks are ranked 22nd in the latest Baseball America JUCO poll, while NMJC is No. 6.  
Women's basketball (24-6, third in WJCAC 10-4) travel to Belton to play in the Region V Tournament Friday. Opponent and game time is TBA.  
Men's Basketball (23-7, third in WJCAC 12-4) play at the Region V Tournament in Belton Thursday. Game time and opponent is yet to be determined.

Softball (15-6, 5-1 in WJCAC) swept El Paso Community College Friday in WJCAC action for their 10th straight victory and

See **BRIEFS**, Page 7

## Baseball and softball tourney roundup

### Steers falter in consolation final Bulldogs win Wooden Bat Classic

#### Herald Staff Report

MONAHANS — Big Spring's Steers put together a strong overall showing in the Sandhills Tournament over the weekend, advancing to the finals in the consolation bracket.

The Steers had a rematch on the baseball diamond Saturday with the Pecos Eagles, whom Big Spring defeated in the opening game of the tourney, 5-4, courtesy of a last-inning 2-run rally.

Unfortunately for the Steers, a second come-from-behind victory couldn't be mustered and Big Spring fell to the Eagles, 4-2. However, Steers Head Coach Burt Otto wasn't discouraged about the way Big Spring performed.

"We only struck out five times against a very good left-handed pitcher. We made good contact with a lot of his pitches, but none of them fell in," Otto said. "It's a loss, but I'm very happy with the way we played."

Martin Yanez scored both of Big Spring's runs. In the top of the third, Yanez sent the ball over the fence, connecting for a solo home run and tying the game at 1.

However, Pecos scored three runs over the next two innings and led 3-1 before Yanez was the benefactor of a double steal and crossed the plate in the top of the fifth.

Regardless of the outcome of

See **BSHS**, Page 7

#### Herald Staff Report

SWEETWATER — For the first time in his five-year tenure, Coahoma Bulldogs Head Baseball Coach Brad Harman witnessed his team accomplish something it was yet to do — win a pre-district tournament.

The Bulldogs swept through the Wooden Bat Classic in Sweetwater over the weekend, saving their best performance for last. Coahoma dominate Fort Stockton in the Classic's final, shutting the Panthers out, 6-0.

"This is by far the best game we've played this season," Harman said. "Everything was clicking. We hit well, Donnie (Garcia) was great on the mound and our fielding was the best it

been this season."

Garcia pitched a complete game, throwing a mere 67 pitches in seven innings. He had eight strikeouts, no walks and allowed just five hits.

"Donnie is probably going to be our ace," Harman said. "He has the most experience of anyone on the mound."

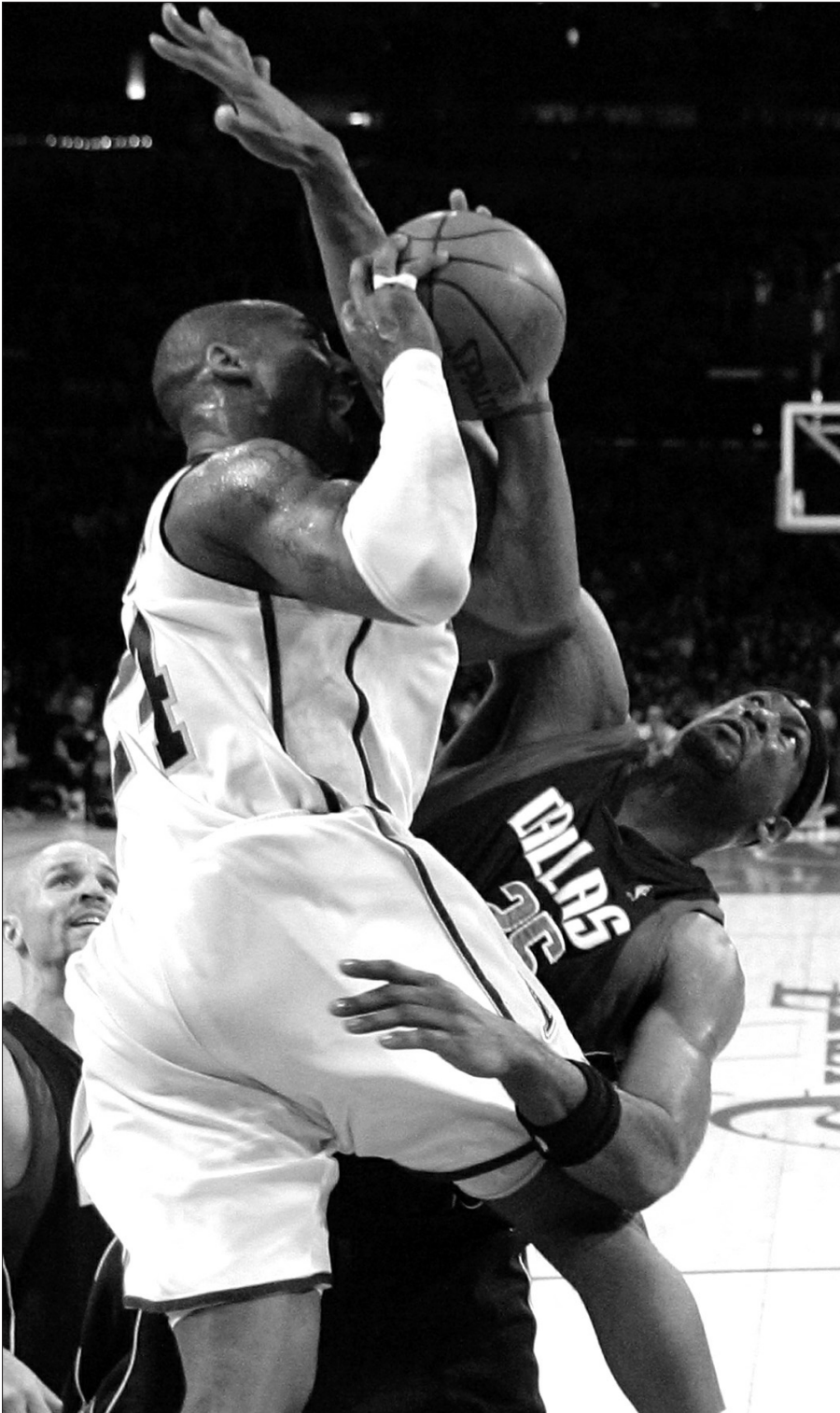
Garcia supported his own cause with his play at the plate, going 1-for-3 with two RBIs. Ray Gutierrez was a perfect 4-for-4 with two stolen bases and P.J. Daylong also had two steals on a 3-for-4 hitting performance.

Earlier in the day, the Bulldogs defeated the hosting Sweetwater Mustangs for the second time in

See **CHS**, Page 7

## Mavs can't stop Lakers in OT

### Rockets beat Denver, claim 15th straight win



AP photo/Mark J. Terrill  
Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant, center, goes up for a shot as Dallas Mavericks center Erick Dampier, right, guards and Mavericks' Jason Kidd, left, looks on during the second half of their NBA basketball game, Sunday in Los Angeles. The Lakers won, 108-104, in overtime.

#### The Associated Press

Without their biggest star, the Rockets keep on winning. The Lakers are doing it too, thanks to their own superstar.

Houston stretched its winning streak to 15 games, the last three without injured center Yao Ming, in a 103-89 victory over Denver on Sunday. Tracy McGrady scored 22 points and Shane Battier added 20 as the Rockets tied a franchise record for consecutive wins.

"We know how good we are and we're showing it," McGrady said. "We're a focused group, a group that understands how to win ballgames."

As do the Lakers — give the ball to Kobe Bryant.

Kobe Bryant scored 30 of his 52 points in the fourth quarter and overtime to lead Los Angeles to a 108-104 victory over the Dallas Mavericks. Bryant hit the 50-point mark for the 22nd time in his career and first time this season. He went 15-of-27 from the floor and, constantly driving and drawing fouls, was 20-of-27 from the line.

"We gave him a single look, then we double-teamed him, then we gave him a triple-team and he split the triple-team and scored," Mavericks coach Avery Johnson said. "We tried to zone him, we tried to funnel him in the trap for a zone and he went the other way. He didn't cooperate on any of our defenses."

"Obviously he milked the free throw line on us and he just had it all going. He's a great player. He has these (games). Lots of these."

Elsewhere Sunday, it was

Cleveland 95, Chicago 86; Boston 98, Atlanta 88; Washington 101, New Orleans 84; San Antonio 93, New Jersey 83; Golden State 110, Portland 104; Charlotte 110, Toronto 98; Indiana 128, Milwaukee 106; Seattle 111, Minnesota 108 in OT; and Sacramento 120, Miami 109.

#### Rockets 103, Nuggets 89

The winning streak is the longest in the NBA this season and matches the longest in Rockets franchise history, reached twice, the last time in their championship season of 1993-94. Houston is 3-0 since losing All-Star center Yao for the season with a stress fracture in his foot. The Rockets have won their last six games by 10 points or more, extending a franchise record.

"It's been fun ... but it's a run that we're not satisfied by," Battier said. "We feel like we still have a lot of improvement and that's the exciting part. I don't think we're playing our best."

Denver's Allen Iverson had a tough night, going 7-for-22 and finishing with a 17 points after scoring 38 on Friday.

#### Lakers 108, Mavericks 104, OT

Bryant also had 11 rebounds and four assists. Pau Gasol added 17 points and 14 rebounds for the Lakers, who are 12-2 since he played his first game for them on Feb. 5.

See **NBA**, Page 12

## Edwards wins second consecutive race

#### By JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

LAS VEGAS — The celebration of Carl Edwards' second consecutive victory was short-lived: His winning Ford Fusion failed a post-race inspection at Las Vegas Motor Speedway that could lead to severe penalties for his team.

NASCAR officials discovered the lid was not on the oil tank box of his race-winning car and the parts are going back to North Carolina for further inspection.

Just last month, five Nationwide Series crew chiefs were suspended for six races, fined \$15,000 each and their drivers were docked 25 points apiece because their lids were simply loose.

Bob Osborne, crew chief for the No. 99 Ford, declined comment on NASCAR's discovery. But the infraction could spoil what's been a stellar start to the season for Edwards and that team.

Edwards won for the second time in six days — he also won the rain-postponed event at California on Monday — and moved to the top of the points standings for the first time in his career. He has a 21-point lead over Kyle Busch.

"We do this to win. Winning these races is the greatest," Edwards said. "Winning a championship would be the ultimate. What we're trying to do is win the championship this year. That's our No. 1 goal."

To win in Vegas, Edwards had to overcome an early pit road penalty, escape NASCAR punishment on a second pit road mishap, then hold off a rusty Dale Earnhardt Jr. on a pair of late restarts Sunday.

For Edwards, it seemed like a return to his 2005 form, when he finished third in the series standings.

"I think we are close to the form we were in 2005 when it

seemed like a Roush Fenway car would win every week," Edwards said.

It was the sixth victory for team owner Jack Roush in 11 races at Las Vegas, and it ended Jimmie Johnson's string of three straight wins in the desert.

Edwards was penalized early in the race when one of his tires rolled away from the team during a pit stop. He then caught a break when it happened a second time, escaping a penalty because NASCAR determined the tire broke free because a television cameraman shooting from inside the box interfered with the crew members.

"When you think you didn't actually break a rule, you have to keep a level head," said Osborne, who immediately climbed off the pit box to make a case against being penalized.

"I wanted to go ballistic and yell and scream and kick and punch and do whatever I had to

do to get my way. But I kept a level head and NASCAR reviewed it."

With the decision to not penalize the team, Edwards remained in contention to run for the win. But two late restarts gave the competition a chance to run down his No. 99 Ford.

Kurt Busch's wreck with 11 laps to go brought out the caution, and Edwards was in front of Earnhardt on the restart with five to go. But Earnhardt appeared to spin his tires at the start, and Matt Kenseth and Jeff Gordon had to split his car to avoid running into him.

"I've been out of the game so long," joked Earnhardt, who hasn't consistently run up front for several years. "I ain't had a whole lot of practice out there. I looked like a tool out there."

Once past Earnhardt, Gordon and Kenseth raced side-by-side

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CHS

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less than a week, 11-3. Casey Kilpatrick picked up the win, striking out six over five innings. Kilpatrick allowed three runs — one earned — on five hits and three walks.

This game served as a sign that the Bulldogs had made an adjustment to the biggest stipulation for entering the tournament — using wooden bats instead of aluminum.

"I like to enter this tournament because it's the only time we use wooden bats during the season and it puts more focus on managing the basepaths and playing good defense," Harman said. "Usually, in the first couple games, we don't hit that well, but, as we get used to the batting change, we start to hit with more power."

Friday, Coahoma defeated Clyde, 7-5, staving off a last-inning rally.

Clyde scored four in the top of the fifth, but it wasn't enough to overtake the Bulldogs before the time limit allotted for games in the tournament expired.

Gutierrez won his sec-

ond game of the season, lasting 4 and 2/3 innings and striking out seven batters. He surrendered five runs — two earned — on six hits and two walks. Daylong picked up his second save, recording one out in the top of the fifth.

The Bulldogs start district play at 7 p.m. tonight, pending inclement weather conditions, against Colorado City.

Harman says Colorado City always seems to give the Bulldogs trouble throughout district play.

"We usually beat the Wolves handily in the first game of the season, but they always come back and beat us the second time around," he said. "They always give us fits. They're always a top challenge in district. Merkel and Hawley should give us a run this season as well."

Clyde 100 04—5 6 1 Coahoma 103 21—7 8 1

W - Gutierrez (2-0). L - Tanner Parker. S - Daylong (2).

2B: Clyde - Jacob Gonzales. RBI: Coa - Hart 2, Griffith, Roberts, Kilpatrick, Garcia.

BSHS

Continued from Page 6

Saturday's game, Otto remained positive about the Steers (5-3) early season success, but understands that the competition level is about to greatly increase.

"I'm very pleased with this tournament experience," he said. "We still need to get better hitting, but once we figure out the fundamentals at the plate then more balls will fall in play. Our pitching is solid and, except for the Presidio game, our defense is right on track. We need to learn from this and get our confidence up."

The Steers face Midland High Tuesday and follow that with another tournament in Snyder beginning Thursday.

Big Spring opens its tournament play against the hosting Snyder Tigers.

"We're going to have a tough game Tuesday," Otto said. "The competition is about to get a lot stiffer. The Snyder Tournament will definitely give us more of a test. I just hope we earned a lot of confidence in this tournament and realize what we're capable of."

"Hopefully, we'll find a

way to score against the tougher teams," he continued. "I believe if we're solid on the mound, then our hitting will score for us."

Big Spring 001 010—2 4 1 Pecos 101 200—4 5 2

W - Palomino. L - Raymon Rodriguez (0-1).

HR: BSBS - Yanez. RBI: BSBS - Yanez.

Lady Steers go 1-7 against tough competition in Killeen

KILLEEN — Big Spring's Lady Steers are definitely getting a look at quality opponents before the start of district play March 25.

The Lady Steers faced several playoff and state-ranked teams at the Big Bell Classic softball tournament in Killeen over the weekend and came out with a 1-7 showing.

Big Spring started pool play against a Forney ball club that averages eight runs a game. The Lady Steers gave up 13 to Forney, losing 13-0. They found their lone win of the tournament in their next pool game, beating Pflugerville Connally, 8-4.

However, Big Spring didn't score a run in their next three contests. Gatesville defeated the Lady Steers, 10-0, as did ninth-ranked Cedar Park Vista Ridge. Austin Westlake topped the Lady Steers, 8-0, to end play

2B : Roberts.; SHS - Vouse. RBI: Garcia, Kilpatrick, Roberts

Coahoma 021 020 1—6 11 1 Ft Stockton 000 000 0—0 5 2

W - Garcia (2-1). L - Martinez. 2B: CHS - Amaro; FSHS - Olivias. RBI: CHS - Garcia 2, Gutierrez, Kilpatrick, Roberts, Paniagua.

Bulldogettes go 4-2 in Prairie Dog Classic

LUBBOCK — Coahoma's Bulldogettes started the Prairie Dog Classic softball tournament with a loss to Lubbock Coronado Thursday, but rebounded to go 4-1 through the rest of the weekend.

Heather Newton ended up going 2-2 and Katie Dunn went 2-0.

Newton pitched Coahoma to its first win of the tournament, recording eight strikeouts and surrendering just one earned run on one hit in a 15-1 victory over Amarillo Tascosa.

Breanna Conner was 3-for-3 with four RBIs and Krista Kerby went 2-for-4 with three RBIs.

Dunn picked up the wins in Coahoma's next two games — 13-3 over Plainview and 12-1 over Hereford — striking out a combined nine batters. Newton was in the batting lineup, hitting for

Dunn, and knocked in four runs against Plainview on 2-for-3 hitting, including a home run.

Left fielder Joanna Gonzales stepped to the forefront offensively for Coahoma against Hereford, recording a double on 2-for-3 hitting, recording four RBIs.

Newton went back into the pitching circle in the Bulldogettes next game against Lubbock Monterey and took a loss, despite not giving up any earned runs. Two Coahoma fielding errors allowed four Monterey runners to score and the Bulldogettes lost, 4-2.

Newton surrendered eight hits and recorded nine strikeouts. However, the Bulldogettes' lineup managed just three hits. Newton didn't surrender any earned runs in the Coahoma's final game of the tournament, either — a 6-2 win over Lubbock High.

She supported her own cause, hitting a triple and going 3-for-4 at the plate with two RBIs. Christie Rich has had two RBIs on 2-for-3 hitting.

The Bulldogettes had five extra-base hits with Conner, Kerby, Gonzales

and Rich hitting doubles to compliment Newton's triple.

The Bulldogettes play district-rival Colorado City at 7 p.m. tonight, pending possible inclement weather.

Tascosa 000 100 0—1 1 1 Coahoma 225 600 x—15 13 1

W - Heather Newton (4-4). L - Lafuente. 2B: CHS - Krista Kerby, Heather Newton, Christie Rich. RBI: THS - Smvil; CHS - Breanna Conner 4, Kerby 3, Newton 2, Joanna Gonzales 2, Rich.

Plainview 101 100 0—3 8 5 Coahoma 029 020 x—13 7 1

W - K. Dunn (1-0). L - Sims. 2B: PHS - Bardon; CHS - Rich. HR: PHS - Bardon; CHS - Newton. RBI: PHS - Bardon; CHS - Newton 4, Kerby 2, Rich 2, Gonzales.

Coahoma 020 0(10) 0—12 15 3 Hereford 010 000 0—1 2 3

W - Dunn (2-0). L - Martinez. 2B: CHS - Gonzales; HHS - Avo. 3B: CHS - Kerby. RBI: CHS - Gonzales 4, Kerby, Newton, Laci Sterling, Janice Gonzales, Berkeley Iden.

Monterey 200 200 0—4 8 1 Coahoma 000 002 0—2 3 2

W - Luck. L - Newton (4-5). 2B: MHS - Meyerkorth, Coronado. 3B: CHS - Newton. RBI: MHS - Mims 2, Luck; CHS - Newton, Sterling.

Lubbock 002 000 0—2 5 2 Coahoma 030 120 x—6 13 2

W - Newton (5-5). L - DeLeon. 2B: LHS - Flores; CHS - Conner, Kerby, Jo. Gonzales, Rich. 3B: CHS - Newton. RBI: CHS - Newton 2, Rich 2, Kerby.

BRIEFS

Continued from Page 6

host Ranger College today, beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Big Spring Little League signups being held all week

Big Spring Little League baseball signups for the 2008 season are being held until Saturday at the Big Spring Mall.

Registration times are Monday through Friday from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and then on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Big Spring High Tennis Boosters meeting today

The Big Spring High School Tennis Boosters are holding a meeting at 6 p.m. Monday at the Athletic Training Center.

All parents of junior high or high school tennis players are encouraged to attend.

players in different positions. Someone has to step up. All we can do is get better. We have to

learn from this experience and learn from the quality of teams we just faced."

Friday.

Saturday wasn't a much brighter experience for Big Spring, although, the Lady Steers were more competitive. After falling to Liberty Hill, 8-1, in the day's opener, the Lady Steers narrowly lost a pitchers' duel with Connally, 2-1.

Big Spring gave full effort to pick up one more win in its final game against Central, but came up short, losing 8-7 in eight innings.

"We're going to have to regroup," Big Spring Assistant Coach John Sparks said. "I think we'll have to look at different

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker Famous Hand

su | do | ku © Puzzles by Pappocom. Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

Contract Bridge Famous Hand. West dealer. North-South vulnerable. NORTH: A 8, 7 6 5, A K 10 4 2, 9 8 3. WEST: J 9 4, K Q J 9 2, 8 6, J 4 2. EAST: 10 6 5 2, 8 3, Q 5 3, Q 10 7 5. SOUTH: K Q 7 3, A 10 4, J 9 7, A K 6. The bidding: West 2♥, North Pass, East Pass, South 2NT. Opening lead — king of hearts.

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The Big Spring Herald will be publishing the 2008 Profile Edition "Look At Us At The Crossroads Of West Texas" This Section featuring stories about your friends, neighbors, and Business Associates Publish Date Is Sunday, March 30 Don't Be Left Out Of This Informative Section CALL IN TODAY TO PLACE YOUR AD • (432) 263-7331

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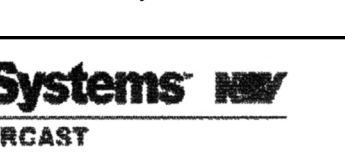
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It's an unusually quiet day. The Capricorn moon, making no aspects to other planets, gets a day off — but on a Monday, you ask? Well, it is "Moon-day," so named for the day of the week we can best take care of moon business by being self-reflective or pondering the past.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The world is aflame with optimism. Perhaps some of it is unwarranted, but isn't that the thing about optimism? Believe that good things will happen even when they are not likely to.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There's no time better than now for doing what you've put off. Truly, you'll find that the energy expelled in procrastinating is greater than the energy it takes to do the job. Put a call in to your muse and dial up a little inspiration.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Believe what you

want to believe — it's not wishful thinking on a day like today. Instead, if you keep your focus on what your gut is telling you is true, it will be just that. Those who don't understand should be gracefully tuned out.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Life becomes quite simple. Exceptional deeds produce exceptional results. This evening, you make adjustments that will help you get where you're going with grace and style.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). A previously cold relationship gets an interesting heating up now. Is this anger? Attraction? Passion? Whatever it is, it ends quickly, but now before invigorating every aspect of your life.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Get noticed, then get paid. If you don't advertise what you do, who will? Tonight's dreams may be mad. Your subconscious's way of working out this day's weird influence.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The gap between what happens and your reaction to it is longer than usual. You need time to process feelings — and also time to ignore them in favor of dealing

with a task that is demanding attention.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Too bad you can't learn other people's lessons for them! Alas, running interference for someone else only delays his or her mastery of life skills for dealing with adversity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Get back the magic, the dreams and the big ideas about what you're going to be when you "grow up." Brainstorming every chance you get about the changes you are about to make.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You leap forward financially by doing exactly what you like. So you may as well go for that fanciful, foolish, utterly immature and totally-worth-doing endeavor!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There may be nothing you can do to change someone's mind about you. This works to your advantage when the person in question loves you madly. Tonight, go where you're completely comfortable.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There's a mission you absolutely must follow through with. When you're not progressing

that mission, you feel irritable — like something is missing! Your mission needs you — and never is that more clear than right now.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm a Gemini, born June 8, 1968, and I finally feel like I am in the relationship I have always wanted. He is respectful, kind and sensual and has all the qualities I've looked for in a man. Though through all his actions he acts like I am the one for him, he says 'He is not quite there yet.' Why do I feel hearing him tell me 'I love you' is that important when it's obvious in his actions? I feel that words won't change a thing."

As a Gemini, you need verbal reassurances of love. While it's true, actions do speak louder than words, words rule your heart. There's nothing wrong with needing to be spoken to lovingly — sweet utterances make you feel cherished and responsive. For a Sagittarius, love is in the doing. He might be thinking, "I'm here right now, isn't that proof enough?" and that's his truth. It seems that if you ask someone to say "I

love you" before he's ready, he will feel pressured. Real problems arise when one person can't reciprocate what the other is feeling. You already have his heart. The words will follow.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: If it seems Pisceans reclusively avoid the spotlight and simultaneously live for it, you've noticed the paradox of the fishes. Daniel Craig has said he doesn't like self-promotion, but he's an actor! This isn't an inner contradiction; it only mirrors the cross-impulses between two fishes, each swimming counter to the other. By basking in the public spotlight of his talent, he's freed from being owned by it.

Holiday Mathis is the author of "Rock Your Stars." If you would like to write to her, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com. © 2008 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need

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2002 FORD F250 Lariat, superduty. Powerstroke, V-8 diesel, 7.3 Liter. Leather sprayed line-x bed. Like new, one owner. \$17,000 K, \$24,000.00 Firm Call 432-267-9629.

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Legals

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AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS, REPEALING ORDINANCE NUMBER 18099, 17-02, 19-02, 20-02, 21-02, AND 22-02; AND REPEALING CHAPTER TWENTY OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING AND REPLACING IT IN ITS ENTIRETY WITH A NEW CHAPTER TWENTY ADOPTING THE 2006 EDITIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL, INC. BUILDING CODES, AND THE 2005 NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE ALONG WITH CERTAIN DELETIONS AND AMENDMENTS THERETO; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION. TAMI DAVIS ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY #5702 March 3 & 4, 2008

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ANSWERS

Grid of numbers: 7 5 9 4 8 1 3 6 2, 8 1 6 2 9 3 5 7 4, 4 3 2 6 7 5 8 9 1, 1 4 7 5 3 6 9 2 8, 5 2 3 9 4 8 7 1 6, 6 9 8 1 2 7 4 3 5, 3 7 5 8 1 2 6 4 9, 9 6 1 3 5 4 2 8 7, 2 8 4 7 6 9 1 5 3

Dear Annie: My girlfriend and I have been together for three years. When we first started dating, "Mary" unexpectedly became pregnant and we now have a beautiful child who is our life's joy.

I would like to ask Mary to become my wife. Here's the problem: Money is pretty tight with a toddler, so buying an expensive engagement ring will be difficult. Is cubic zirconium worth looking into? I thought I'd get a nice-looking CZ ring and, when things settle down, maybe replace it with a real diamond.

My initial thought is to be upfront with Mary and tell her. Do you think that's a good idea? We have a joint checking account, so she'll know all about my purchases. Is there a good way to mask how much the ring costs? — Perplexed in the Midwest

Dear Perplexed: Don't lie to Mary about the value of the ring. Women can be very understanding about not getting a diamond, but they don't like being fooled. And if you are serious about replacing the ring later, it doesn't matter what the original is made from. As for hiding the cost, you can put aside small amounts of cash until you have enough to purchase the ring and Mary will never know what you paid for it. P.S.: Best wishes on your upcoming engagement.

Dear Annie: I am writing on behalf of my elderly mother. For over 50 years, Mom put up with a husband who smoked, even though she doesn't smoke and never did. My father died six years ago, but my sister and brother continue to smoke in her house.

My siblings visit Mom on a daily basis and they feel it's quite OK to light up one cigarette after another. I know my mother doesn't care for the smoke or the stink it leaves long after my brother and sister leave, but she doesn't want to say anything for fear they will stop visiting. My mother is very lonely and

won't take the chance of losing their company. What can I do? — Lost in the Smoke

Dear Lost: You might tell your siblings that Mom's health is compromised by the secondhand smoke and it would be considerate of them to smoke

outside when they visit. However, we suspect if they ask Mom directly, she will say it doesn't bother her. If that's the case, there's not much you can do. Buy her a fan, an air purifier, some smokeless ashtrays and a room deodorizer.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Craving Intimacy in Indiana," whose husband isn't interested in sex. I also read the responses. I am a 39-year-old male and have gone five years without intimate contact with my wife. Every time I bring up the subject, I get the same old excuses of being too tired, too sick or too exhausted. She blames her lack of interest on her job and the kids.

I don't try to force her or shame her into sex because it wouldn't be any fun if she went along when she was not really interested. I can understand her being tired, but five years is way beyond normal. It makes me feel unneeded and undesired.

I still find my wife attractive and sexy and tell her so, but it falls on deaf ears. I crave to be loved by my wife and to return my love to her. I should probably try counseling, but I just can't seem to bring myself to do that; plus, my wife would not agree to go. "Craving's" letter let me know there are others sharing the same boat. — Craving Intimacy in Pennsylvania

Dear Craving: Show this letter to your wife and tell her you wrote it. Maybe if she sees it in black and white, she will



KATHY MITCHELL MARCY SUGAR

consider speaking to her doctor or going with you for counseling. She needs to understand how much this is hurting you.

Dear Annie: About 18 months ago, I discovered my wife of 22 years was having multiple affairs. When I found out about the first one, she told me several lies in an effort to cover it up and minimize the severity of the situation. When I became suspicious and did more checking, I discovered more affairs, current and past. When everything was out in the open, she repeatedly told me she was no longer in contact with these men. Another lie.

Up until then, I thought our relationship was solid and I could trust her. I thought we were best friends. I don't understand why she would gamble with our relationship like this, not to mention our children's security. Now things will never be the same. Since I found out, I haven't had a good night's sleep, my ambition is gone, and I think my career is in jeopardy. And I always have the unpleasant feeling that people know about our situation. I used to think about how we would spend our time when we retired. I don't have those thoughts anymore.

What makes intelligent people do stupid things? How can I ever trust her again? How can I ever be sure she won't have another affair? Please don't tell me to see a counselor. I know what the problem is and what we have to do to make it work. It's just that my heart isn't in it. Should I stay or should I go? — My Clash

Dear Clash: There is no way to predict whether your wife will cheat again, but the degree of

her deceit and betrayal indicates she has some unresolved issues about fidelity and emotional needs.

Without counseling, we doubt she will get to the root of her problem, and without that understanding, she is unlikely to be able to control her future behavior. Saving this marriage will take a great deal of work, and right now, you are too psychologically exhausted to care. Please talk to someone — if not a counselor, then a clergy member or a friend. You might even consider venting your hurt and anger in a chat room. Then maybe you will be able to think clearly enough to make a decision.

Dear Annie: A relative died recently and left various letters to be distributed after her death. We know she had mental problems and suspect some of these letters might contain hurtful information to a few of the recipients. Should we honor her wishes, or do we pick and choose who gets the letters? — Worried Family

Dear Family: Distribute the letters as they are, but add a disclaimer about your relative's mental health. This can be done verbally or with a short note explaining the reason behind your concerns. The recipients can then decide if the letters are worth opening and taking seriously.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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MONDAY

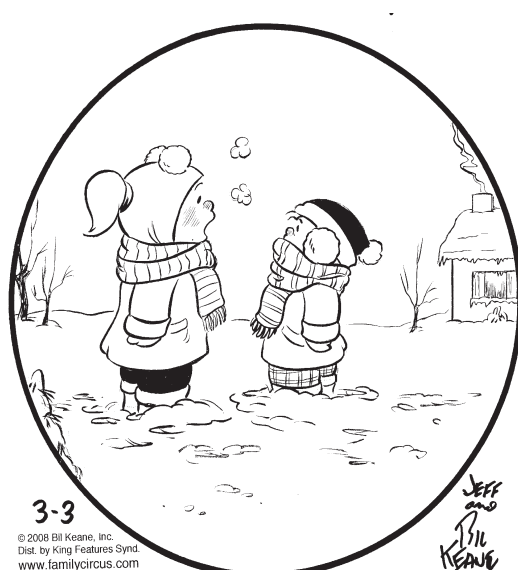
Table with columns for station call letters and numbers (WFAA 2, KMID 3, etc.) and rows for time slots (6:30 PM, 7:30 PM, etc.) listing various news and entertainment programs.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"MY MOM SAYS SHE'S AT THE AGE SHE'S GONNA BE FROM NOW ON."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I think it's about time Old Man Winter took a summer vacation."

HAGAR



BLONDIE



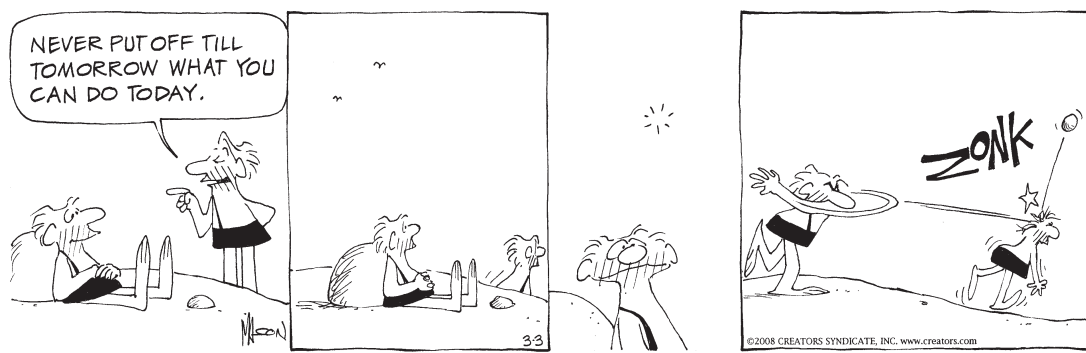
This Date In History

Today is Monday, March 3, the 63rd day of 2008. There are 303 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On March 3, 1931, President Hoover signed a measure making "The Star-Spangled Banner" the national anthem of the United States.

Hungary, Bulgaria, the Ottoman Empire and Russia signed the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, which ended Russian participation in World War I. (The treaty was rendered moot by the November 1918 armistice.)

Winston is 63. Singer Jennifer Warnes is 61. Actor-director Tim Kazurinsky is 58. Singer-musician Robyn Hitchcock is 55. Rock musician John Lilley is 54. Actress Miranda Richardson is 50. Actress Mary Page Keller is 47. Olympic track and field gold medalist Jackie Joyner-Kersey is 46. Football player Herschel Walker is 46. Rapper-actor Tone-Loc is 42. Rock musician John Bigham is 39. Actress Julie Bowen is 38. Country singer Brett Warren (The Warren Brothers) is 37. Actor David Faustino is 34. Singer Ronan Keating (Boyzone) is 31. Rapper Lil' Flip is 27. Actress Jessica Biel is 26.

BC



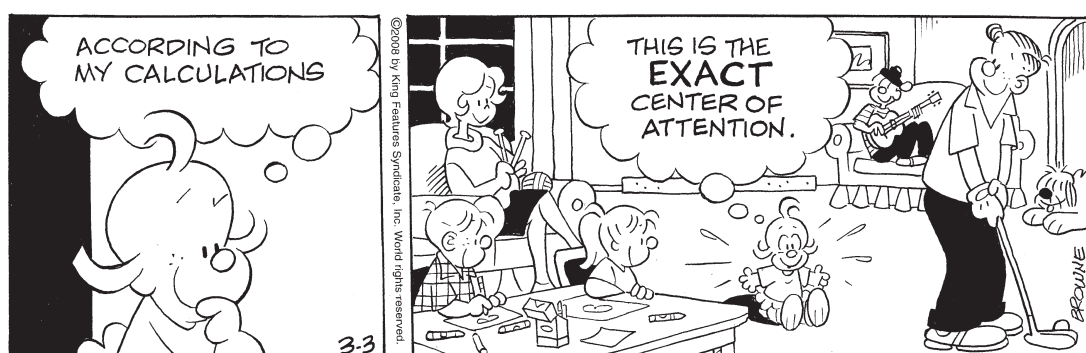
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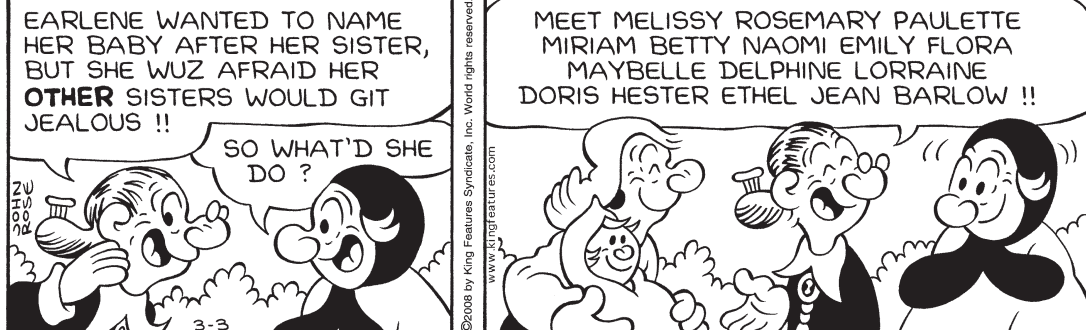
HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY

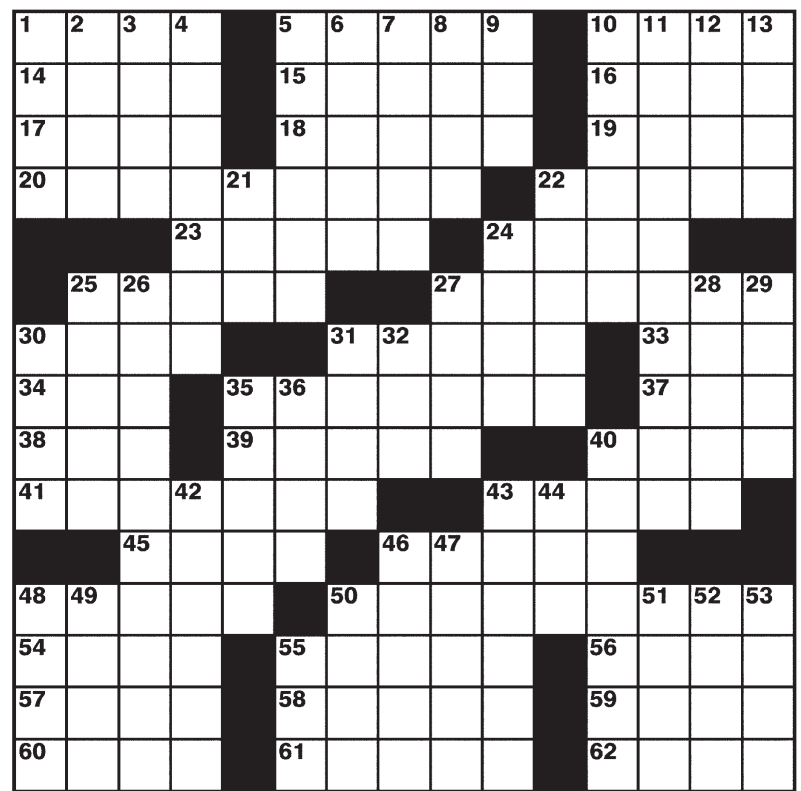


Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS 1 Dance move 5 Metric weights 10 Omelet 14 Use a dish towel 15 Lace again 16 Boy or man 17 Congregation's response 18 Airplane walkway 19 Sign of the future 20 Sharp, as a knife 22 High-spirited horse 23 Sports complex 24 Gnaw 25 Used to have 27 Real-estate sign 30 Barbecue rod 31 Dwelling 33 Dusting cloth 34 For each 35 Affixed a brand-name tag to 37 Genetic letters 38 Rock that's mined 39 Fixed, as a squeak 40 Homeowner's document 41 Future frog 43 Knee-ankle connectors 45 Cluttered condition 46 Birches and beeches 48 Selected 50 Produced for immediate use

RARING TO GO by Gail Grabowski Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- 7 Taking a cruise 8 Not at all spicy 9 Get a look at the stage 10 Overacts, on the stage 11 Wildlife manager 12 Happy feeling 13 Drop in a mailbox 21 Before, to Shakespeare 22 Make confetti out of 24 Secret writing 25 Musical drama 26 Sent cash electronically 27 Make pleats 28 Highway divisions 29 Old-style exclamation 30 Washday woe 31 Competent 32 Spelling competition 35 Off the leash 36 Feels poorly 40 Send away, as a class 42 Basil sauces 43 Family cars 44 "You, over there!" 46 Taut 47 Boca \_\_, FL 48 Karate stroke 49 Luau dance 50 Steak preference 51 Carpet calculation 52 Stags' mates 53 Brings to a halt 55 Took a chair



NBA

Continued from Page 1B

Bryant credited the defense as much as anything for the big win.

"All in all, we didn't give them any good looks, and I think eventually that wears a team down," Bryant said. "We really got it done on the defensive end."

"It was a physical game. It was back and forth. We didn't play extremely well, but it felt good to get this one done."

Dirk Nowitzki had 30 points for Dallas, including a 3-pointer with 2 seconds remaining in regulation to tie it at 93. He had nine points in the extra period, but missed a 3-point try that would have tied it again with 7 seconds remaining.

Cavaliers 95, Bulls 86

At Cleveland, LeBron James scored 37 points and took over down the stretch as the Cavaliers ended the game on a 12-3 run.

Cleveland, Chicago and Seattle were involved in an 11-

player deal on Feb. 21. Larry Hughes, Drew Gooden, Cedric Simmons and Shannon Brown were sent to the from the Cavaliers to the Bulls, who dealt center Ben Wallace and forward Joe Smith to Cleveland.

Hughes led the Bulls with 23 points, shooting 8-of-20 shots from the field. Gooden scored 11 points with 10 rebounds.

Celtics 98, Hawks 88

At Boston, Paul Pierce scored 30 points, 17 in the pivotal third quarter, and Kevin Garnett had 20 points and 16 rebounds to lead the Celtics to their fifth consecutive win.

Ray Allen scored 17, and Kendrick Perkins had 11 points and a season-high 12 rebounds to go with a career-high six assists.

Josh Smith scored 20 points and added nine rebounds, and Al Horford had 14 and 11 for the Hawks, who missed a chance to move into a tie for the eighth playoff spot in the East.

Wizards 101, Hornets 84

At Washington, Antawn

Jamison had 28 points and nine rebounds, and Washington beat New Orleans for its fourth win in five games and second over the Hornets in a week.

Leading 80-79, the Wizards blew the game apart with a 19-0 run. Jamison started it with two free throws and a 3-pointer, then his block of Peja Stojakovic's layup led to a 3-pointer by DeShawn Stevenson. The Hornets didn't score again until a 3-pointer by Rasual Butler in the final minute.

Stojakovic scored 17 points and Chris Paul had 16 to lead the Hornets.

Spurs 93, Nets 83

Tony Parker had 25 points, eight rebounds and seven assists, and San Antonio won a season-high ninth straight.

Tim Duncan added 13 points and 14 rebounds, and Manu Ginobili had 17 points as the visiting Spurs beat the Nets for the 10th straight time.

New Jersey has not beaten San Antonio since November 2002.

Devin Harris and Vince Carter scored 21 points apiece for the Nets.

Warriors 110, Trail Blazers 104

Stephen Jackson hit six 3-pointers while scoring 29 points, Monta Ellis added 22 points and Golden State beat Portland for its seventh win in nine games.

Baron Davis had 18 points for the Warriors, who beat Portland for the first time in three tries this season.

Brandon Roy scored 26 points and Travis Outlaw added 17 for the Blazers, who have lost nine of 12.

Bobcats 110, Raptors 98

At Charlotte, Jason Richardson scored 30 points and the Bobcats took advantage of Chris Bosh's absence.

Richardson, taking over the brunt of the scoring with Gerald Wallace out indefinitely following a severe concussion, hit 10 of 24 shots and all seven free throws.

Rookie Jared Dudley added a career-high 17 points and 10 rebounds for Charlotte, which snapped a five-game losing streak in its second win in 14 games.

Anthony Parker scored 24

points for the Raptors.

Pacers 128, Bucks 106

At Indianapolis, Mike Dunleavy tied his career high of 36 points for the second straight game.

Danny Granger had 27 points and nine rebounds as he returned to the starting lineup after being suspended a game for striking Chicago's Andres Nocioni in the face on Wednesday.

Michael Redd led Milwaukee with 28 points. Milwaukee forward Yi Jianlian left with a sprained left ankle with 10:44 to play and did not return.

SuperSonics 111, Timberwolves 108, OT

At Minneapolis, Kevin Durant scored 25 points, Chris Wilcox added 18 points and 15 rebounds, and Seattle snapped its four-game losing streak.

Earl Watson had 15 points and Nick Collison 14 for Seattle.

Al Jefferson led Minnesota with 30 points and 12 rebounds, while Rashad McCants had 18 points.

NASCAR

Continued from Page 6

and Edwards pulled away. Then Gordon drifted into the side of Kenseth's car, starting a spin that led to Gordon slamming into the inside wall. His Chevrolet broke into parts and pieces, and NASCAR had to red-flag the race to clean the debris.

"It's uncharacteristic of Jeff to overdrive or make a mistake like that," said Greg Biffle, who had to avoid the wreckage.

That accident set up a two-lap sprint to the finish, but the wait time cooled Earnhardt's tires and he was unable to mount a charge on

Edwards on the restart. Earnhardt's losing streak stretched to 64 races.

"The red flag just really killed us," said Earnhardt, who settled for second. "We were terrible on cold tires. It's real frustrating."

Biffle was third and was followed by the Richard Childress Racing cars of Kevin Harvick and Jeff Burton. Kasey Kahne was sixth, followed by David Ragan, Travis Kvapil, Denny Hamlin and Mark Martin.

Kyle Busch, who was trying to become the first driver to win from the pole at Las Vegas, struggled with adjustments to his Toyota the entire race and had to settle for 11th on his hometown track.

Johnson, the two-time

defending series champion, was looking for a fourth straight win in the desert. But his team struggled the entire weekend, he fell two laps down in the race and finished 29th.

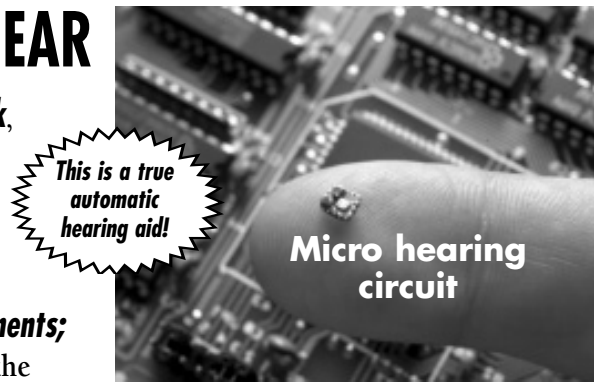
Two-time series champion Tony Stewart bruised his foot 108 laps into the race when his right front tire failed and he hit the wall for the second-straight day.

"I was kind of worried, my legs, my entire legs from my hips down were just tingling," Stewart said. "And I had pain in my lower back and that kind of scared me a little bit. I've not had my legs tingle like that before."

"I was kind of worried about, 'What's going on here?'"

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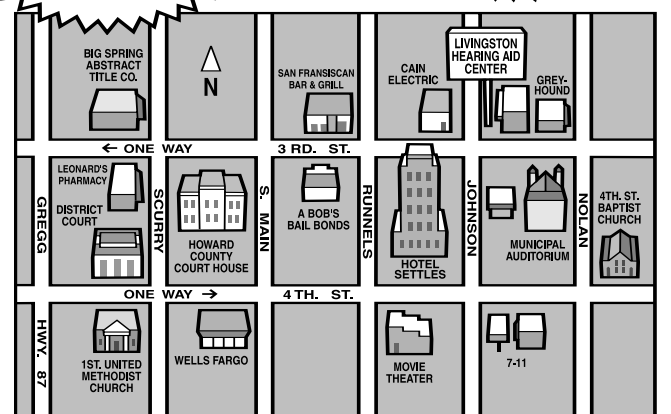


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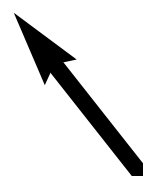
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