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BIG SPRING

HERALD

MONDAY
MARCH 10, 2008



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 87

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Council prepares for routine agenda Tuesday

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer
 Routine items top the agenda for the Big Spring City Council Tuesday, as the group gets ready to tackle final reading of a pair of amendments to the local zoning ordinance. The first change is proposed for 100 E. 18th Street from single family-2 to neighborhood services to accommodate an interior decorator business, a project currently being coordi-

nated by Terry Blackshear. Final reading of this item is expected to be considered with a pair of other consent items, including final reading of a resolution approving the city's investment policy and approval of late homestead exemptions for January 2008. The second zone change would effect 1515 E. FM 700 and 1513 E. FM 700, changing them from an office designation to heavy commercial. Final reading of this ordinance is listed as

"other business" on the agenda. Also on Tuesday's agenda, the city is expected to award bids for four beaches and one extend-a-hoe under three-year operating leases. Other agenda items expected to be heard include:
 • Update on the Siemens Energy Conservation Project.
 • Approval of an agreement with Rick E. Boiles as caretaker of Moss Lake.
 • First reading of an ordinance approving a prelimi-

nary/final plat of Gerald Lee Harris Jr. Subdivision, located in the NE/4 of Section 26, Block 33, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey.
 • Approval of a master equipment rental agreement with a purchase option with Warren Cat for four backhoes and one extend-a-hoe.
 • Consideration and acceptance of minutes from the Jan. 23, 2008, meeting of the board of directors for Moore Development. The council is also expected

to adjourn into executive session during the meeting to consult with the city attorney concerning pending litigation related to claims and contract negotiations with Cornell Corrections Inc. The meeting is slated for 5:30 p.m. Tuesday in the City Council Chambers, located at 307 E. Fourth Street.
Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at

TxDOT seeking student essays

Herald Staff Report
 The Texas Department of Transportation is looking for students with innovative ideas about litterbags. TxDOT has upped the ante for college-bound students by introducing a new scholarship award to their existing Don't Mess with Texas Scholarship program. For this new Don't Mess with Texas Scholarship, TxDOT wants students to write an essay about how to get a litterbag in every car. The essay should focus on a creative and sustainable solution that would encourage Texans to use litterbags and get them in their hands. The winner earns a \$1,000 scholarship. TxDOT will also continue its traditional scholarship, which consists of a \$3,000 grand prize scholarship and a \$1,000 second-prize scholarship. To qualify for that scholarship money, students must write an essay identifying a specific litter problem at their own school or in their community and the action they took to address it. As sponsor, Raytheon has provided the funds

HAWKS FALL IN FINAL



Howard College's Corey Allmond lays in two points in Sunday's championship game of the NJCAA Region V Basketball Tournament in Belton. The Hawks suffered an 80-72 loss. See story and photo, Page 6.

Tax Aide

AARP program gets into high gear, helping people meet deadline

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer
 With little more than a month until Uncle Sam slams the tax books shut, volunteers with the AARP Tax Aide program are kicking their efforts into high gear in hopes of helping area residents beat the April 15 deadline. Already in their second month of tax form preparations, AARP spokeswoman and program coordinator Gloria Hopkins said the volunteers are working hard to make the annual program a success. "I just can't say enough about the men and women who volunteer each year," said Hopkins. "This year's volunteers are terrific. At the beginning of the season we were really worried about whether we would have enough volunteers and equipment, but they have come through in fine fashion." The program — which is normally based out of the Spring City Senior Citizens Center but was moved to the library due



to construction schedules — will continue throughout the tax season, according to Hopkins. "We began doing taxes at the library the first part of February, and we'll continue each Monday from 8 a.m. until noon each Monday through the April tax deadline," she said. "For those that are homebound and can't get to the center with their tax information, if they will call us, we'll be happy to pick up the information and get the taxes ready." "People need to be sure to bring all of the pertinent information with them, including a tax booklet if one was received through the mail, W-2 forms and 1099 forms. They also need to bring any forms that show their 2007 earnings and their 2006 tax returns. We also need a social security card for every person named on the return and a photo ID for the person filing." According to Hopkins, the program is aimed to serve area residents without the means to file a tax return. "The AARP program provides free federal tax

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To reach us:
 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.

MARCH MADNESS VASECTOMY?
 SPRINGFIELD, Ore. (AP) — For guys who park in front of the TV during college basketball's March Madness, the Oregon Urology Institute has a suggestion: Why not use that time to recover from a vasectomy? "When March Madness approaches you need an excuse ... to stay at home in front of the big screen," the clinic's radio ad says. "Get your vasectomy at Oregon Urology Institute the day before the tournament starts. It's snip city." Institute Administrator Terry FitzPatrick said men need two to four days to recover from the procedure — but not all take the time. He's reserved a dozen appointment slots for March 19, the day before the first tipoffs of the NCAA Tournament, and another dozen for March 26, before the tourney's second week. He reported filling 15 slots by Thursday afternoon and expects to fill all 24.

SPECIAL EDUCATION MEETING SLATED
 Parents and instructors of special education students will have a chance to give state education officials input on how to best serve special-needs students this week. Officials with the Texas Education Agency will hold a public input and information-gathering meeting from 9 a.m. until noon Tuesday in the MCM Elegante Hotel in Odessa. The meetings will be hosted by Region 18 Education Service Center. The public is invited to attend and give feedback on specific questions relating to special education programs in Texas. It also serves as an opportunity to hear other ideas and perspectives, ask questions, and obtain special education information and resource materials, officials said. Registration will be held from 8:30 a.m. until the start of the meeting at 9 a.m. Childcare will not be provided, officials noted. For more information, contact Sue Watkins at (432) 561-4357 or Anne Whitley at (432) 567-3217.

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Obituaries

Opal A. Whiteside

Opal A. Whiteside, 77, of Big Spring died Monday, March 10, 2008, in a local hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Raymond Catano

Raymond Catano, 58, of Big Spring died Sunday, March 9, 2008, in a Lubbock hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Billy Plew

Billy Plew, 79, of Big Spring died Sunday, March 9, 2008, in Lubbock. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Ruth Rogers

Ruth Rogers, 77, of Big Spring died Friday, March 7, 2008, in Lubbock. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Sheriff's report

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 38 inmates at the time of this report.

- **DEBRA DENISE ELLIS**, 49, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated - second offense.
- **JUDY ANN CASTILLO**, 39, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated - third or more offense.
- **BETTY JEAN MUNIZ**, 42, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of public intoxication.
- **SHANNON BOUDREAUX**, 37, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of public intoxication.
- **LETICIA ANN HERNANDEZ**, 26, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **JUAN ANTONIO CANTU**, 47, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for theft.
- **ENRIQUE B. CALDERON**, 31, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated - second offense.
- **JAMES EVERETTE ROBERTS**, 39, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of forgery of a financial instrument and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.
- **DANIEL LEON HERNANDEZ**, 21, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **KYLE MONROE HIGHFIELD**, 33, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **MICHAEL BRANDON LEE**, 28, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **CURTIS MCCULLOUGH**, 62, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of failure to identify as a fugitive from justice - giving false information and violation of parole - blue warrant.
- **RUBEN RENE DOMINGUEZ**, 19, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.

Take Note

• 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.

• St. Mary's and friends of St. Mary's are holding a lap blanket drive to place approximately 400 lap blankets in the hands of every nursing home patient in Big Spring. Blankets can be taken to the church office, 1001 Goliad, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday through Friday or call Connie Fowler at 267-2713.

A beginning crochet class is being held at 6 p.m. Wednesday in the church's Parish Hall.

• Bring joy and kindness to others by becoming a Compass Hospice volunteer. Help those at the end of life's journey. Make a difference in someone's life. Call 263-5999 to begin your journey.

• New Life Ministries Church of God In Christ is holding a soup kitchen every second and fourth Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 204 N.W. 10th. The meal is free. Call 264-0771 for more information.



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Police blotter

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

- **ALEJANDOR RAMIREZ**, 58, of 131 Ave. I, was arrested Saturday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **THOMAS PECINA**, 30, of 25th Street, was arrested Saturday on a Scurry County warrant.
- **VICTOR T. PRUITT**, 40, of 810 Baylor, was arrested Saturday on a charge of assault Class C - family violence.
- **RUBEN R. DOMINGUEZ**, 19, of 400 W. Eighth Street, was arrested Sunday on charges of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, possession of alcohol by a minor and minor in consumption of an alcoholic beverage.
- **SCOTT R. BROWN**, 27, of 800 Quail Run, was arrested Sunday on a Dawson County warrant.
- **MICHAEL LEE**, 28, of 2906 Wasson Road, was arrested Sunday on charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **ROBERT L. LOPEZ**, 31, of 501 E. 18th Street, was arrested Sunday on four local warrants and a Howard County warrant.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 1200 block of 11th Place.
- **GRAFFITI** was reported in the 3600 block of Calvin.
- **FORGERY** was reported in the 500 block of Lamesa.
- **ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported:
 - in the 800 block of Lorilla.
 - in the 400 block of Valley.
 - in the 800 block of Baylor.
- **UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE** was reported in the 3200 block of 11th Place.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 700 block of Highland.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2700 block of Larry. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2600 block of Hunter. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1000 block of N. Main Street. 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 1200 block of W. Sixth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the 2400 block of E. 11th Place. Two people were transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 7400 block of N. County Road 19. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported near the intersection of Fourth Street and Tulane. Service refused.
- **GRASS FIRE** was reported near the intersection of N.W. Second Street and Trades.
- **STRUCTURE FIRE** was reported near the intersection of First Street and Scurry.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported near the intersection of Second Street and Gregg. Two people were transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 18900 block of FM 1584. Service refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2600 block of Chanute. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the area of Second Street and Gregg. Service refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2200 block of Carl. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of W. 17th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

Weather

Today — Partly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms early in the morning. Highs in the lower 60s. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tonight — Partly cloudy. Lows around 40. East winds 10 to 15 mph shifting to the south after midnight.

Tuesday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tuesday night — Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Wednesday — Mostly cloudy. Warmer. Highs in the upper 70s. South winds 15 to 25 mph.

Wednesday night — Mostly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s.

Thursday — Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s.

Leonard's Family Of Pharmacies Would Like To Welcome



Kandy Alaman,
Pharmacist

Kandy Alaman

to its family

Kandy graduated from University Of Texas at Austin. Married to David, has one daughter Emma Grace, 6 1/2 months old

Leonard's Clinic Pharmacy

1501 W. 11th Place
267-1611

Bulletin Board

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

- TODAY**
- 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.
 - Big Spring Band Boosters meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Big Spring High School band hall.
 - Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets in the First Christian Church of Big Spring, 911 Goliad. A different program is offered every week. Enter through the south side door off 10th Street. Call 213-1342 for more information. Weigh-in starts at 5 p.m.; meetings begin at 5:30 p.m.
 - Coahoma Lions Club meets at 6 p.m. in the Coahoma Community Center at 306 North Ave.
 - The Christian Motorcyclists Association meets at 7 p.m. at TravelCenters of America truck stop.
 - The Concerned Citizens Council meets at 7 p.m. at the Dorothy Lamb meeting room in the Howard County Library. For more information, call 264-6116.
 - Archeology Society for Howard and Borden counties meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library Community Room in the basement. Call 270-2615 for more information.
 - Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.
 - Big Spring Society of the Order of Beacieants meets at 6:30 p.m. for a meal with meeting that begins at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.
 - Big Spring Commandry meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.
 - The Christian Motorcyclists Association meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Dragon Chinese Restaurant, 1300 Gregg. Call 213-1599 for more information.
- TUESDAY**
- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
 - The American Cancer Society meets at noon at the Home Hospice Office for lunch and its monthly meeting. For more information, call Sherry Hodnett at 264-7599.
 - The Powwow Committee of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church annex, 809 Scurry, or the fellowship hall at 810 Scurry. Call Robert Downing at 263-3255 for information.
- WEDNESDAY**
- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
 - Free blood pressure screenings from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., provided by InHome Care.
 - Senior Circle meets at 10:30 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.
 - Senior Circle meets at 11 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center classroom for Stretch and Tone. Call 268-4721.
 - Dntown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.
 - Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.
 - Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 2-7-23-31-35-46
Number matching six of six: None.
Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: \$8 million.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 3-20-21-30-37
Number matching five of five: None.
Next Cash 5 drawing: Tonight.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Saturday night, in order:
1-3-9-0 Sum It Up: 13

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night, in order:
4-9-2. Sum It Up: 15.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Saturday afternoon, in order:
5-8-3-4. Sum It Up: 20.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday afternoon, in order:
1-3-5. Sum It Up: 9.

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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.

TEXAS NEWS BRIEFS

Latino school enrollment up in cities with immigration laws

FORT WORTH (AP) — North Texas cities debating local laws to deal with illegal immigration are also home to school districts with some of the state's largest increases in Hispanic student enrollment, a Fort Worth Star-Telegram analysis found.

The Irving and Carrollton-Farmers Branch school districts were in the state's top 5 percent for the greatest proportional increases in Hispanic students from 1995-96 to 2005-06. Of the more than 560 districts analyzed by the newspaper, the two school districts also ranked in the top 30 for the greatest percentage-point increases in poor children and students with limited English proficiency, according to data from the Texas Education Agency.

The newspaper did not say whether the data explained if the Hispanic students were immigrants or U.S.-born.

Experts think the rise in Hispanic enrollment may help explain the push for strict immigration-related measures cities such as Farmers Branch and Irving.

"Very rapid change seems to make a lot of people uncomfortable," said Michael Teitelbaum, a demographer at the New York-based Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. "You could portray it as racism or xenophobia or fear of the other. But you could also say that people like stability in their lives, and they're willing to accept gradual change but not rapid change."

Irving police participate in a federal program that lets jailers call a 24-hour number to have an immigration officer verify if a detainee is legally in the country. Since the program's establishment, Latino advocates have accused some police officers of racial profiling and overzealously arresting suspected illegal immigrants.

Farmers Branch approved an ordinance in February that requires prospective tenants to get a city license to rent houses and apartments. Those who can't prove their legal status, could not continue renting in the city. The latest law is a more sweeping anti-illegal immigration measure than two previ-

ously approved, but cannot be enforced until legal challenges are resolved.

While more than a hundred local governments nationwide have drafted laws dealing with illegal immigration, such measures can't extend to school districts. A 1982 U.S. Supreme Court ruling requires public schools to educate all children, regardless of immigration status.

Analysis questions if Obama voters will return without him

DALLAS (AP) — A newspaper analysis found that Barack Obama supporters were more likely to skip other races when voting in the Texas primary, raising questions of whether they'll return in November if he isn't the Democratic presidential nominee.

While 80 percent of voters backing Hillary Rodham Clinton in her strongest Texas counties voted in the U.S. Senate race, 71 percent of Obama voters did the same in his strongholds, according to an analysis published Sunday by The Dallas Morning News.

The Senate race was the biggest statewide contest after the presidential race.

The analysis has limitations because it's impossible to tell which voters skipped the down-ballot contests and it can't take into account decisions by individual voters, which are often driven by many factors.

Still, the numbers suggest a general election without Obama could restrict the flood of new voters who Democrats hope will revive the party in Texas and help sweep it to the White House. Obama and Clinton are locked in a contest that remains remarkably tight.

"We wouldn't get a lot of those young voters that came into the process exclusively for him," said Dallas lawyer Doug Haloftis, a Clinton supporter.

The Obama campaign has attracted new voters, including young people and black voters "who had, by a factor of 10, more information on the presidential race than anything down-ballot," said Democratic strategist and Obama volunteer Glenn Smith.

"To get these people to return to the polls in November, the odds are much better if Barack Obama is the nominee," he said.

Garry Mauro, coordinator of the Clinton campaign in Texas, said he views the bigger drop-off rate among Obama's voters as a measure that they were more "candidate-oriented" than "issue-oriented."

"There are hundreds of people supporting Obama who don't have a clue why, so they can't vote for anybody else who they don't know anything about," Mauro said.

Statewide, nearly a quarter of Democrats cast ballots for president but didn't go on to vote for Senate.

In 1996, the last presidential year that included a competitive Senate primary, the drop-off rate between the presidential and Senate races among Democrats was 3 percent. The drop-off was higher in 2000, but there was no serious Senate contest that year.

This year, state Rep. Rick Noriega of Houston fended off three challengers to win the Democratic nomination.

A review of the Texas vote shows that among the 15 counties Obama won with his biggest margins, the voter falloff between the president and Senate races ranged from 22 percent in Harris County to 38 percent in Jefferson County.

The biggest falloff was in Republican-heavy Collin County, which Obama carried by 55 percent. Four in 10 Democratic voters who cast ballots in the presidential race didn't vote in the Senate race.

War memorial highlights tree restoration project at Texas A&M

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — A tree replanting project at Texas A&M University is helping to restore the school's living memorial to former students who died in World War I.

Twenty-five live oaks will be used to replace older trees that form part of a 55-tree formation at Simpson Drill Field. Each tree represents a former A&M cadet killed during the war, with markers listing the fallen soldier's name, class, site and date of death.

In addition to the trees at the memorial, the restoration project will plant another 105 trees around the campus.

The 160 new trees, including live oaks, cypresses, cedar elms, Texas ashes and Mexican sycamores, are 10 to 12 feet tall and about four years old, said Koby Weatherford, an urban forester for the university.

Most of the new trees should be in the ground by today.

Pollution showdown looms for Houston, chemical industry

HOUSTON (AP) — The city says levels of the carcinogen benzene in the Houston region's air have risen from four months ago when the mayor challenged the chemical industry to reduce toxic emissions.

In November, Mayor Bill White said he welcomed an industry-led plan calling for chemical plant operators to act voluntarily to improve Houston's air quality, but that the city must verify industrial efforts. The mayor said industrial polluters had six months to clean up their act.

Data collected by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and analyzed by the city show that 13 monitors that track benzene saw increases in the amount of time that benzene concentrations exceeded healthy levels.

"It's not looking good," Elena Marks, the mayor's health policy director, said in Sunday editions of the Houston Chronicle.

It appears the chemical industry and the city are headed for a showdown. Industry officials dispute claims that benzene levels are rising. They rely on different data that includes measurements from 2004 to 2006.

Russ Roberts, a spokesman for the East Harris County Manufacturer's Association, said data just released by the federal Environmental Protection Agency showed a 12 percent decline in Harris County benzene emissions from 2004 to 2006.

TxDOT

Continued from Page 1

for this year's scholarship program.

The scholarships are intended for high-school seniors planning to pursue a two- or four-year degree at a Texas university or college. Essays must be 300 to 350 words. Along with their essay(s), students are required to submit a completed application and two letters of recommendation. Students may apply for both the traditional scholarship and the litterbag scholarship, but must complete two separate essays.

To download an application and for complete rules, visit www.DontMessWithTexas.org.

A completed application, letters and essays must be addressed as follows and postmarked by April 4: Don't Mess with Texas Scholarship Program, c/o EnviroMedia Social Marketing, 1717 West 6th Street, Suite 400, Austin, TX 78703.

The Texas Department of Transportation established the Don't Mess with Texas Scholarship program in 2003 to reward high-school seniors who have worked to improve litter problems in their communities.

Research shows Texans ages 16 to 24 are the most likely to litter, and the scholarship is designed to help motivate and raise awareness among this peer group.

Don't Mess with Texas has been educating Texans about litter prevention since 1986. TxDOT's litter prevention program includes Adopt-A-Highway and a grass-roots partnership with Keep Texas Beautiful. TxDOT's goals are to reduce congestion, enhance safety, expand economic opportunity, improve air quality and increase the value of transportation assets. For more information, visit www.dot.gov.

TAXES

Continued from Page 1

preparation assistance to people who cannot afford professional tax help, such as seniors, people with disabilities, those that don't speak English and people with low-to-moderate income," she said. "AARP volunteers explain many special tax credits and deductions and how people may claim them on their tax returns. These volunteers help people complete

their returns, right down to any refunds that may be due them."

For more information on the program and volunteering, contact

Hopkins at 267-6733. Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com.

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Ruth Rogers, 77, died Friday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Billy Plew, 79, died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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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
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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Public School Week chance to be involved

Texas Public School Week begins at schools in Big Spring today, not only giving youngsters a chance to get excited about their education, but more importantly, encouraging parents to get involved in the process.

Activities began day today at elementary schools throughout the Big Spring Independent School District and will continue throughout the week in keeping with this year's theme, "Lift Off to Learning." Those activities include:

- Bauer Magnet — Every grade will be spotlighted during the week, with kindergartners highlighted today, first graders on Tuesday and progressing upward from there. Parents are invited to share lunch with their children during the week. In addition, Bauer will hold a Kindergarten Rodeo Friday.

- Kentwood — Reading, math, social studies, science and civics are being highlighted during this week's activities.

- Marcy and Washington elementaries are conducting similar programs to Bauer, with each class getting its spotlighted day. Also, parents are invited to share lunch with their children.

- Moss Elementary and Goliad Intermediate students are having special dress days throughout the week.

- Big Spring Junior High School is conducting history trivia contests, reading promotions and special dress-up days.

While Big Spring High School has no formal activities scheduled in observance of the week, officials stressed that parents and other citizens are welcome to visit the campus.

In other words, the celebrations remaining run the gamut from open houses to special dress days and opportunities for parents to eat meals with their children on campus.

The Herald wants to take this opportunity to salute the public schools in our community, expressing our support for the important task teachers and administrators at area schools undertake each day.

Furthermore, we encourage parents in the community to do whatever it takes to get involved in this week's activities at their children's schools and to use this opportunity to take an active role in the educational process on a daily basis.

After all, the children of our community are our future. They are collectively our greatest asset — one that is much too valuable to waste.

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 relax with You, Lord.

Amen

We still have to change what we do

When I was a little boy my mother once told me it's better to keep your mouth shut and let people wonder if you're stupid than to open it and remove all doubt.

While my mom was full of these little tidbits of wisdom — I'm still trying to figure out the "wish in one hand" deal — I can't help but think Weather Channel founder John Coleman didn't have the same high-quality input.



THOMAS JENKINS

Coleman, while addressing the 2008 International Conference on Climate Change, suggested a lawsuit be filed against former vice president Al Gore "to finally put some light on the fraud of global warming."

Gore, who has written several books on the subject of global warming and saw some success with the film "An Inconvenient Truth," was recently awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts, but according to Coleman, the former presidential hopeful is full of hot air.

"I have a feeling this is the opening," said Coleman. "If the lawyers will take the case and sue the people who sell carbon credits. That includes Al Gore. That lawsuit would get so much publicity, so much media attention. And as the experts went to the witness stand to testify, I feel like that could become the vehicle to finally put some light on the fraud of global warming."

Carbon credits?

Carbon credits are a key component of national and international emissions trading schemes that

have been implemented to mitigate global warming. They provide a way to reduce greenhouse effect emissions on an industrial scale by capping total annual emissions and letting the market assign a monetary value to any shortfall through trading.

Credits can be exchanged between businesses or bought and sold in international markets at the prevailing market price. Credits can be used to finance carbon reduction schemes between trading partners and around the world.

Coleman isn't just taking aim at Gore, however, as he recently blasted The Weather Channel — which he started in 1982 — for sharing in the alleged fraud of global warming.

"The Weather Channel had great promise, and that's all gone now because they've made every mistake in the book on what they've done and how they've done it, and it's very sad," said Coleman.

OK, Mr. Coleman, you have my attention. However, the idea of suing Gore and the rest of the anti-global warming establishment into submission has several very serious flaws.

First, using the country's court system to debate an issue that we may never even see concrete evidence of in our lifetime is just stupid. You're asking the justice machine to take time from handling cases that matter — cases where our very freedoms hang in the balance — in hopes of turning the entire affair into a media circus.

In a time when tort reform seems to be king — especially here in Texas, where we're more than happy to give up our civil liberties in hopes of lowering insurance and pharmaceutical

costs — the idea of taking Gore and other global warming proponents to court seems downright frivolous.

Sadly enough, I'm sure there are a team of lawyers already assembling to answer Coleman's call, chasing the smell of greenbacks with absolutely no concern for the environment.

Bear in mind, I'm simply undecided when it comes to the "global warming versus cyclical warming trends" argument. Between God and Mother Nature, I'm not sure what's happening, but snow in March in West Texas is a pretty compelling sight, even for me.

Regardless of whether or not global warming is to blame for the greenhouse gasses, it doesn't take a scientist to see the continued pumping of exhaust and other gases into our atmosphere is definitely screwing up the planet. In some cities, the smog is so bad you can't draw a breath without gagging.

So, in the end, how can you see limiting the amount of trash we pour into our atmosphere — the very air we breath — as a bad thing? It's insane.

Maybe global warming is destroying our planet and it's fragile balance. Maybe Coleman is right, and the warming we're seeing is simply cyclical and will reverse on its own. However, if Coleman gets his way, we may not be able to breathe the air when the trend finally turns around, possibly hundreds or thousands of years from now.

Maybe global warming isn't real. Maybe. But what we're doing to our environment is real and it needs to stop.

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

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Workers of America, unite

Labor turmoil,
Let's avert;
No more treating,
Folks like dirt.

The handwriting on the wall remains a bit faint, but mean-spirited employers now have an ever-harder time ignoring it. These days quieting news stories regularly report that the decades-long erosion of labor unions has finally stopped. They're growing again.

It's enough to spur Xanax sales on Wall Street.

And even though the new administration won't take office for a year yet, the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) has already become a tad more even-handed. No, workers seeking to organize still aren't getting a fair shake, but a few more cases have been going their way.

Immigration crackdowns have been helping workers too. America's highest-profile dispute is surely the giant Smithfield meatpacking plant in Tar Heel, N.C., a hotbed of abuse for undocumented foreigners. Ever since the packers moved their plants out of Chicago and broke the unions, slaughterhouses have reverted to their pay and conditions of a century ago. But the raids on Smithfield chased many of those abused immigrants away and forced the company to raise wages to attract local employees.



WILLIAM A. COLLINS

Halleluiah! A union may be next!

But a packing plant at least falls within the American tradition of organized industrial work. A different battle rages on less traditional fronts. How about hospitals, nursing homes, cleaning crews, blackjack dealers, lettuce pickers, hotel maids and other parts of our new "service" economy? Many of its employers seem directly descended from Ebenezer Scrooge. Further, both the NLRB and state labor departments have long been happy to turn a blind eye.

Mostly they still are, but the permafrost is melting. Recently the dealers at Connecticut's Pequot Foxwoods casino, largest in the nation, were granted the right to unionize. Again, card dealing ain't meatpacking, but worthy precedents were established. The example of a very large union victory, even against the reasonably humane Indian bosses, sets an important tone to begin undermining the clout of the packers, nursing home chains, agribusiness and similar less responsible employers.

Part of our difficulty as a society in grasping the severity of this labor crisis is that we don't much work in factories anymore. Long ago, when we joined most of our neighbors each morning going off to work with a lunch pail, it was easier to spot colleagues and to plan action. Now instead we tend to wear white or pink collars, live in scattered locations and look upon ourselves as being above unions.

Worse, janitors, health aides, landscapers and the like both live

and work outside our normal view. They often suffer from limited English and/or education, and commonly aren't white. Who cares about them? Well, some people do, especially unions, but it's a hard population to organize. Most of us scarcely even notice the Fed Ex guy who comes to our door, the cleaning staff that shows up as we're leaving for the day, or the workers at auntie's nursing home.

And as free trade has pushed the United States to become less of a manufacturing bastion and more of a service sector economy, those workers have multiplied but come up grievously short in their pay envelopes. Income disparity between rich and poor is still growing and even the union movement has split apart over how to deal with it.

Not so the public. It hardly cares at all. Political campaigns no longer even mention workers' rights. Polls don't turn up much interest, and Congress seems disinclined to take on such sticky issues, save a long overdue increase in the minimum wage. Aside from some Internet campaigns, Americans nowadays seem a bit too absorbed in their own affairs to worry about what impact the shabby treatment of poor workers may be having on our own society. Ironically, the recession could help us figure all that out.

Columnist William A. Collins is a former state representative and a former mayor of Norwalk, Conn.
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Thyroid disorders: Hyperthyroidism and hypothyroidism

The thyroid gland is located in the neck just below the larynx (voice box) and it generally goes unnoticed. When it functions properly the gland produces the hormone thyroxine, which regulates your heart beat, metabolism, calcium retention, protein production, internal temperature and energy levels.



MELENCIO JUAN

Thyroid conditions affect millions of Americans and typically result from an over active or under active thyroid gland. The body requires a very specific amount of thyroxine and abnormal levels can lead to serious complications throughout the body.

The overproduction of thyroxine is called hyperthyroidism. A person experiencing the symptoms of an overactive thyroid may notice some of the following:

- Sudden weight loss;
- A rapid heartbeat;
- Excessive sweating;
- Hand and finger tremors;
- Nervousness or anxiety;
- Irritability;
- Fatigue; and/or
- An enlarged thyroid gland that may appear swollen.

Often a physician can diagnose and treat hyperthyroidism, but may not be able to pinpoint a cause. Possible causes may include an autoimmune disorder called Graves' disease, benign lumps causing an enlargement of the thyroid, or inflammation of the gland. While it may be difficult for a physician to determine the cause of an overactive thyroid, it is treatable.

Your physician will decide the best course of treatment based on the severity of your symptoms, your age and overall health. Some options for treatment may include:

- Radioactive iodine — Usually administered as a pill or liquid, it is absorbed by the thyroid causing it to shrink, slowing the gland's activities.
- Anti-thyroid medications — Certain drugs can prevent the thyroid from producing too much thyroxine.
- Beta blockers — Typically used in the treatment of high blood pressure, beta blockers may help manage symptoms, such as a rapid heart rate.
- Surgery — In some cases a thyroidectomy (the removal of part or all of the thyroid gland) is necessary to correct hyperthyroidism.

If the thyroid gland produces too little thyroxine,

it is called hypothyroidism. The symptoms of hypothyroidism may include:

- Sudden weight gain;
- Muscle weakness;
- Sensitivity to cold;
- Dry, pale skin;
- Hair loss;
- Joint pain and swelling;
- Depression; and/or
- An elevated blood cholesterol.

Hypothyroidism can result from prolonged inflammation of the thyroid gland, which damages the cells that produce thyroxine. The most common cause is an autoimmune disease called Hashimoto's thyroiditis, in which the body's immune system triggers inflammation of the thyroid.

Hypothyroidism can also be caused by some medical treatments used to correct hyperthyroidism, which can result in an excessive amount of damage to thyroid cells and

the inability to produce enough thyroxine. Less often, the condition may be caused by a congenital disease, pregnancy or iodine deficiency. The most common treatment of hypothyroidism is hormone therapy with a synthetic version of thyroxine. This corrects thyroid hormone levels, eliminating most symptoms.

Thyroid conditions are often easy to diagnose and, with early detection of the disorders, a physician can treat the symptoms and their causes. However, if the disorders

progress without proper treatment, serious and potentially fatal complications such as heart arrhythmias and heart failure can result. Consult a physician if you experience the symptoms of hyperthyroidism or hypothyroidism.

Dr. Melencio Juan is a board-certified family medicine physician. Fluent in both English and Spanish, he is currently accepting new patients at the Family Medical Center, (432) 267-5531.

Poached sole swimming with flavor

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, sole is a member of a family of flat fish called Soleidae.

Poaching the sole — cooking it in hot liquid — allows the delicate flavor of the fish to shine through.

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.

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)

In medium sauté pan, heat oil. Add onions and garlic, cook for 3 minutes. Add the spinach and cook an additional 2 minutes. Remove from pan and place the bed of spinach on a serving dish.

In same pan, add wine (or substitute mixture of apple juice with a splash of apple cider vinegar or white grape juice with the same), lemon juice and sole fillets. 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.

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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

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Inside Big Spring Pack and Ship

ALON ENERGY REFINERY EXPLOSION

INFORMAL PUBLIC MEETING

The Pinkerton Law Firm, PLLC is *hosting* an informal public meeting for individuals wanting to learn more about their rights regarding the explosion that occurred at the ALON Energy Refinery. If you were injured in any way, you need to be at this meeting. Injuries may range from physical trauma to mental anguish to property damage.

Mr. Pinkerton will speak briefly and answer any questions or concerns you may have about this incident. This will be followed by an opportunity for guests to meet one-on-one with an attorney.

IMPORTANT MEETING DETAILS

Dates: *Saturday, March 8th from 1:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.*
Friday, March 14th from 1:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 15th from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

Where: *Dora Roberts Community Center*
310 Nolan Street
Big Spring, Texas 79720

Notes: *Come any time during the scheduled sessions*
Appointments are not necessary
Open to the public
Meet one-on-one with an attorney
Brief question and answer sessions at 1 & 5 daily

The purpose of this meeting is to provide the public a chance to gain educational insight into their legal rights regarding this incident. There is no obligation from you—it is simply an opportunity to learn about your legal rights.

The Pinkerton Law Firm, PLLC would like to take this time to *welcome* you in advance and we look forward to meeting you very soon.

CALL TODAY @ 1-866-764-0412

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Sports

BIG SPRING HERALD

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

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Monday, March 10, 2008

IN BRIEF

Crossroads high school varsity sports calendar TUESDAY

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.

THURS. - SAT.

Big Spring softball at San Marcos Tournament.

Big Spring baseball at Greenwood Tournament.

Forsan softball at Sonora, 6 p.m.

Coahoma baseball at Haskell, 4:30 p.m.

Coahoma softball at Haskell, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY

Forsan baseball at Colorado City, 6:30 p.m.

Forsan softball at Winters, 5 p.m.

Coahoma softball vs. Hawley, 7 p.m.

Coahoma baseball vs. Hawley, 7 p.m.

MARCH 17

Coahoma softball vs. Merkel, 7 p.m.

MARCH 18

Big Spring softball vs. Fort Stockton, Noon.

Coahoma baseball at Stamford, 4:30 p.m.

Coahoma softball at Stamford, 7 p.m.

MARCH 20

Big Spring baseball vs. Chickasha, Okla. 1 p.m.

Coahoma baseball vs. Merkel, 7 p.m.

Big Spring High tennis results from Seminole tourney

Big Spring High School's tennis team traveled to Seminole for a tournament held Friday and Saturday against 16 other teams.

The Steers' top finishers were Mikael Gonzales and Kristina Chase, who teamed for second place in mixed doubles.

Ainhan Nghiem and Jonathan Ray placed third in boys doubles and the team of Jonathan Womack and Jeremy Langford was fourth.

Alyssa Byrd and Leslie Cash advanced to the finals in the girls doubles' consolation bracket, falling to a team from Midland Trinity.

Keely Parnell defeated Kari Lord of Greenwood in girls singles and Brittany Farmer bested Brownwood's Sasha Seright.

In boys singles, Jeremy Landin had wins over a player from Hobbs and Josh Aguas of Midland Trinity. Karl Brode defeated Mavarick Ramirez of Greenwood and C.J. Burlson bested Josh Mclemore of Greenwood.

The Steers return to action in the Spring District Tennis Tournament March 31 and April 1.

Hawks lose in finals to Texans

By JONATHAN HULL

Herald Sports Editor

BELTON — Through the first two rounds of the Region V Tournament, Howard College's Hawks had fought through adversity to advance to the finals against South Plains.

In their tournament opener, the Hawks held off a big second-half rally by Temple College for a 73-71 win. Howard was then outrebounded 34-17 in its semifinals matchup against Odessa College, but shot lights out for a 63-57 victory.

So when the Hawks trailed South Plains College by 10 with 2:57 remaining in the championship game, it seemed to the players, coaches and fans that Howard could overcome.

Unfortunately for the Hawks, South Plains had other ideas.

Howard pulled within four points of the Texans three times in the final 40 seconds of the game, but South Plains hit eight of 10 free throws, icing the game and winning the Region V championship, 80-72.

"South Plains was the hottest team in the tournament and they're playing their best and peaking at the right time," Howard Head Coach Mark Adams said. "We were hoping that after their tough game with Midland they wouldn't be as good today, but they were. They made shots and made their free throws. That's a very experienced team which

was in the finals here last year and they were going to do all they could to win."

South Plains jumped out to a fast start opening the game on an 11-1 run. Howard didn't score its first field goal until close to five minutes had elapsed, when Corey Allmod pulled up along the baseline for two points.

Howard ended the first half on a 14-6 run, cutting the Texans' lead to 29-26 at intermission.

The Hawks took their first and only lead at the 16:12 mark in the second half, 36-35. However, South Plains responded with a 16-5 run, putting the Hawks down 51-41 with 10:35 left to play.

Still, the Texans couldn't get comfortable with the lead as the Hawks embarked on a 9-3 run to trim the deficit to four, 54-50. Unfortunately, Howard's Achilles' heel throughout the tournament reared its head again as the Texans pulled down pivotal offensive rebounds when they needed them most.

"They exploited us on the boards," Adams said. "It's been a problem all year. It's in every game. We don't have good size. We needed a little bit of luck to fall our way and it just didn't happen."

After a Corteze Isaac three cut the Texans' lead to 4 with 38.3 seconds left, the Hawks sent South Plains' leading scorer Nick Okorie to the free throw line. Surprisingly,

See **HAWKS**, Page 12



HERALD photo/Mitch Green
Howard College Hawks forward Sean Watson goes to the hoop as South Plains' Nick Okorie (23) challenges his shot in the championship game of the NJCAA's Region V Tournament on the campus of Mary Hardin-Baylor Sunday. The Hawks lost 80-72.

South Plains ousts HC women in semis



HERALD photo/Mitch Green
Howard College Hawks forward Monica Jones shoots over a South Plains Lady Texans defender in Howard's 69-62 loss in the semifinals of the Region V Tournament in Belton Saturday.

By JONATHAN HULL

Herald Sports Editor

BELTON — After pulling off a thrilling come from behind victory in the first round of the Region V Tournament, Howard's women's basketball team appeared poised to delivering a repeat performance Saturday against Western Junior College Athletic Conference foe South Plains College.

The Hawks trailed by as many as six points in the final five minutes of the game, but tied the score twice and led once in the final 2:30. However, South Plains drilled two crucial shots from behind the arch, deflating Howard's spirits and advancing to the finals with a 69-62 victory.

"We needed to create some breaks for ourselves, but South Plains hit the big shots," Howard Head Coach Earl Diddle said. "That's what good teams do. They've shown how good they are by winning the conference title and they could place well in the national tournament if they were to get there."

South Plains received a huge game from post Brittany Blackmon, who finished with 31 points, 12 rebounds and five steals. Even when Howard could answer Blackmon's dominance with a scoring threat, the Lady Texans' outside shooters responded with timely 3-pointers.

The Hawks led at intermission, 31-24, after ending the first half on a 5-0 run. However, that lead quickly evaporated as South Plains opened the second half with a 12-3 run and took the lead for the first time since the Lady Texans scored the first basket of the game at the 14:51 mark with a 36-34 advantage.

The Hawks' deficit ballooned to six points before they responded and Kandace Griffin gave Howard the lead, 58-57, with a 3-pointer at the 2:39 mark. That's when South Plains' Haruka Nagado started a theme for the

final two minutes of the game, responding with a trey of her own and allowing the Lady Texans to regain a 2-point advantage.

Howard tied the score again at 62 when Candace Lambert benefited from an assist by point guard Jotosha McDonald with 1:15 to play. Yet again, South Plains had a quick response.

Ashley Frazier scored her only three points of the game with 54 seconds left on the clock, igniting a 7-0 South Plains run and leading the Lady Texans into the finals of the tournament.

Howard had opportunities to narrow the gap in the last 30 seconds, but turned the ball over on each of its last two possessions.

Howard was led by Jones, who had 16 points, six rebounds and four steals. DeAndra Thomas added 10 points before fouling out of the game. Lambert scored 12.

"It's always been the same thing with South Plains this season," Diddle said. "They get too many post touches and we couldn't block them out. The story line was the same today. Although, we did play better. I'm very proud of the team and the way we fought back. Blackmon was a little too much for us today, though."

Howard loses five sophomores — Lambert, Jones, Griffin, Aqueelah Watkins and Veronica Wilson. Diddle commended the commitment of these players to a program that was at an incredibly low point when they signed on.

"I hate to lose these girls," he said. "This is a good group. They came here when we were really down and only won 13 games last year. We were on the edge of winning, though. We lost several games by less than 10 points. I'm really proud of this team for going over the top this season. I'm very proud of their character, academics and the way they

See **HOWARD**, Page 12

Kyle Busch wins first race with new team

By **PAUL NEWBERRY**
AP Sports Writer

HAMPTON, Ga. — Just a few laps from victory and comfortably out front, Kyle Busch had no thoughts of taking his foot off the accelerator. The team that fired him was back there somewhere, lurking in the rearview mirror, as was the guy who replaced him.

Even when he got hemmed in behind the lapped car of Dale Jarrett, a former champion soon to be retired, Busch refused to back off. He pulled right up on gray-ing driver's rear bumper, leaving about enough room to slide a sheet of notebook paper, and surely would have given him a blast of the horn if only stock cars came with one.

The message was clear: The old guard would have to move aside. The future of NASCAR was coming through.

"He was slowing me down a tremendous amount," Busch said, a tinge of disdain in his voice. "I was either going to move him out of the way or he was going to get out of the way."

Once Jarrett was out of the way, Busch finished off a dominating romp around Atlanta Motor Speedway for the first win with his new team — and he brought along Toyota for the ride.

The Japanese automaker became the first foreign winner in stock car racing's top series since Jaguar in 1954, when NASCAR was still just a regional attraction not too

far removed from its moonshining roots. Tony Stewart crossed the line second in another Camry to give the foreigners a 1-2 finish in the most red, white and blue of American sports.

Konichiwa, Victory Lane!

"To have Kyle come in and take this one and Tony finish second, wow!" said Jim Aust, president of Toyota Racing Development. "Finishing one-two for our first Cup win — I don't know how you improve on that."

While it was a day of triumph for one company, another of NASCAR's myriad business partners found itself getting blasted from all sides. There was more talk about Goodyear's tires than Toyota's landmark win in the Kobalt Tools 500, and no one was more ticked off than the runner-up.

Feeling like he had just driven 500 miles on a sheet of ice, Stewart would like to say sayonara to Sprint Cup's exclusive tire provider.

"That was the most pathetic racing tire I've ever been on in my professional career," he said. "Goodyear can't build a tire that is worth a crap."

Others were a bit more diplomatic, but Stewart's view was hardly in minority. Busch and third-place finisher Dale Earnhardt Jr. also griped about their rubber. Pole winner Jeff Gordon managed to finish fifth but fretted that every lap might be his lap because of those slip-slidin' tires.

"I'm exhausted right now," Gordon said. "I feel like I've run a thousand miles. That's the hardest day I've ever had at Atlanta, especially for a top-five finish."

The Atlanta debut of NASCAR's bigger, bulkier Car of Tomorrow, which is harder to tame than the old car, didn't help matters.

"You're always on the edge out there," Busch said. "It's the worst I've ever felt in a race car, and I won the race."

He handled the trying conditions better than anyone, which isn't too surprising. No one drives their car so close to the edge, or cares less about what others might think. Busch's brazen, impetuous nature led some to wonder if the 22-year-old would ever realize his full potential.

Despite his obvious talent, Busch was fired by Hendrick Motorsports when the powerful team had a chance to sign Earnhardt last year. The deposed driver landed at Joe Gibbs Racing, which may end up getting the best end of that deal even though Junior moves a lot more merchandise at the souvenir stands.

There was Busch on Sunday, getting to Victory Lane with his new team before Earnhardt got there with his.

"Everybody's always said that I've been the aggressive driver, used to cause wrecks, used to be out of control, this and

See **NASCAR**, Page 12

Coahoma's Dunn throws no-hitter in second day of Pirate Classic

Herald Staff Report

EULA — It was a rocky start to the softball season for Coahoma's Bulldogettes. Blame a prolonged girls' basketball season or the early season jitters, but whatever the issue was, it appears to have been resolved.

The Bulldogettes wrapped up the Pirate Classic in Eula with a 4-1 record as Heather Newton hit her stride in the pitcher's circle, allowing just two runs in three games — none of which were earned.

However, Newton isn't the only volatile pitching threat on Coahoma's roster. Katie Dunn showed

she was capable of dominating a lineup as well, throwing a no-hitter against District 5-2A foe Anson in an 18-1 victory for the Bulldogettes Saturday. Anson's only run stemmed from a Coahoma error in the top of the third inning.

The game was called after that inning, though, because of a tournament run rule. Dunn finished with five strikeouts and gave up three walks.

She had a ton of help from the Bulldogettes lineup as Coahoma showed both patience and prowess at the plate, drawing 11 walks and tabulating 10 hits. However,

only one of Coahoma's hits went for extra bases — a 2-RBI double by Aricka Hart. Anson helped the Bulldogettes as much as possible, committing four errors.

Coahoma scored 10 runs in the first inning and another eight in the second. Janice Gonzales led the offensive onslaught, going 2-for-3 with three RBIs and two runs scored. Four other Coahoma players — Krista Kerby, Newton, Laci Sterling and Alex Moore — crossed the plate at least twice. All but one Coahoma batter in the lineup scored a

See **CHS**, Page 12

Howard County Awarded Federal Funds Through FEMA

HOWARD COUNTY HAS BEEN AWARDED FEDERAL FUNDS UNDER THE EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER NATIONAL BOARD PROGRAM. Howard County has been chosen to receive \$14,533.00 to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the county.

The selection was made by a National Board that is chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and consists of representatives from The Salvation Army; American Red Cross, United Jewish Communities; Catholic Charities, USA; National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA; and, United Way of America. The Local Board was charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high-need areas around the country.

A local Board, made up of the County, City, United Way and other local charitable organizations will determine how the funds awarded to Howard County are to be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by local service organizations in the area. The Local Board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these funds and any additional funds under this phase of the program.

Under the terms of the grant from the National Board, local organizations chosen to receive funds **must:** 1) be private voluntary nonprofits or units of government 2) have an accounting system, 3) practice nondiscrimination, 4) have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and / or shelter programs, and 5) if they are a private voluntary organization, they must have a voluntary board. Qualifying organizations are urged to apply.

Howard County has distributed Emergency Food and Shelter funds previously with The Salvation Army, Isaiah 58, Northside Community Center and St. Vincent DePaul Society participating. These agencies were responsible for providing over 8,000 meals, 8,000 pounds of food and over 300 nights of lodging.

Public or private voluntary organizations interested in applying for Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds must contact **Jan Hansen at the United Way of Big Spring at (432) 267-5201 or come by 215 W. 3rd Street for an application. The deadline for the submission of applications is March 20, 2008.**

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

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

As the day begins with moon in Aries, we're like busy gardeners with seed ideas, restless to plant our impulses into the dirt. Yet when the moon enters Taurus, as much, if not more, satisfaction comes from mundane efforts -- tilling the field and working the land. Ah, give yourself the joy of basking in your labors. The fruits will come.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your recent accomplishment gets noticed. The spotlight focuses on you and you're ready. Modesty is unnecessary. Shrinking won't make others feel taller.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're the one putting pressure on yourself. Imagine yourself doing something similar to what you're doing now, only without the stress. It's possible and only a few things have to change to make it so.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). A partner expresses a view that's different from yours. Nobody said collaboration was easy, but you chose this one for a reason. Focus on creating a mutually beneficial outcome.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're astute, tuned in, acutely sensitive. Turn your intuitive powers toward those having a hard time expressing themselves. You can help them be heard and, more importantly, understood.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your fear is that you're not living up to your potential, but then again, who is? Forgive yourself, and lighten up. As long as you're taking steps in the right direction, all is well.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll encounter situations that make you nervous. Good! It's a sign that your living large, pushing yourself to grow. And the extra energy of butterflies in your stomach can be channeled toward giving you an extra edge.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). When things go wrong, it's lucky to over-respond. Instead of returning a distressed phone call, send a bouquet. Instead of mopping the spilt milk, hire a cleaning service to spiff up your whole pad.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Social exchanges might lack luster or even seem slightly draining. Maybe you'd rather stay in and re-evaluate your life. Go with your mood, even if you can't explain it. There's wisdom in not trying to.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). With Jupiter on your side, you're just plain lucky. But part of the reason the stars favor you good fortune is because you know better than to hoard it. You share with anyone in need.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It's safe to tell your innermost feelings, but it's even better to listen to someone else tell

his or hers. People open up and connect with you. You're empowered by what you learn.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your autopilot gets interrupted. The shake up is lucky, as it makes you work, love and live more consciously. This is a breakthrough that leads to more money, freedom and confidence.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You are wealthy in love, and that's the only kind of wealth that really counts at the end of the day. You'll feel even richer tonight when you get something off your chest that has been emotionally bogging you down.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "Someone told me that actor Heath Ledger was experiencing a Saturn return at the time of his death. That is significant to me because I know of a lot of people who did not survive this return, and when I was 27, I developed kidney disease (I am OK now). What can I do now to offset any problems that could occur when I am 58 to 60, my next Saturn return?"

I was deeply saddened by Heath's tragic passing. Yes, Heath was experiencing a Saturn return, by no means indicating death or illness, but a potent stage of life. What can you do to prepare for the planet that astrologers endearingly call the Taskmaster? Don't fear it. Live in integrity. Take care of your health. If were Heath's astrologer, I would've talked to him about the patient, responsibility-loving, wise-elder nature of this planet. I would've advised him that limitations might appear to block him, but with diligence and faith, this too will pass. Saturn's return only indicated Heath was being asked to grow in new ways, as no one planet holds sway over death. There are too many other factors at work. (For more on Saturn return, read my book "Rock Your Stars: Your Astrological Guide to Getting it All.")

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Voted world's sexiest vegetarian by PETA in 2007, Pisces Carrie Underwood inspires millions with her music but has said that she'd rather give up her music career than give up her animal friends. That's a sacrificial Pisces for you! In reality, this sign truly lives by the adage: You can't take it (anything) with you. Carrie's star continues to rise this year, and she's asked to give up none of it.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, 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.

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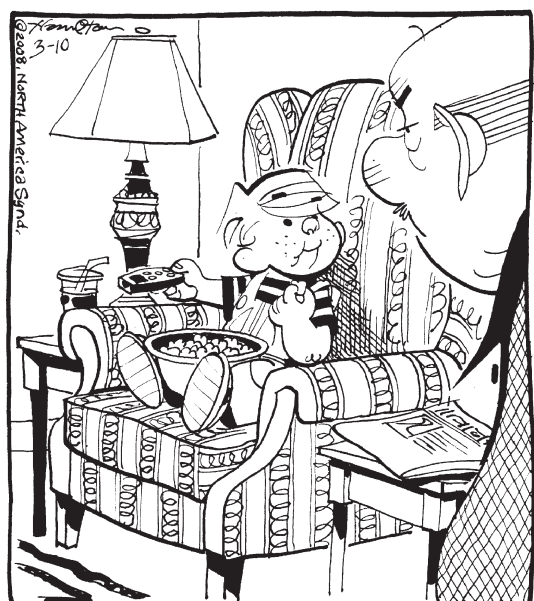
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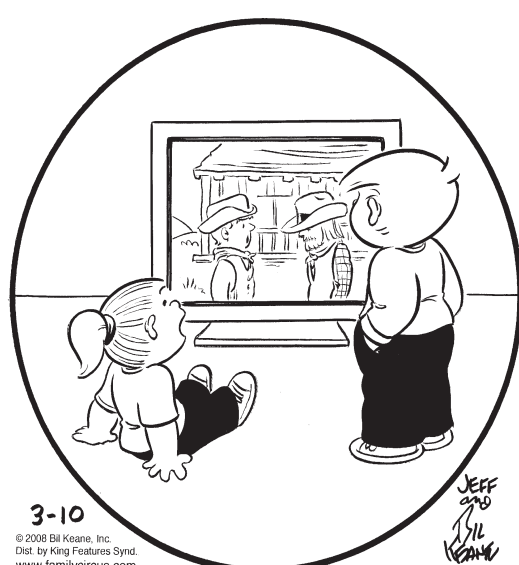
Table with 15 columns (WFAA, KMID, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, SCIFI) and 7 rows (6:30 PM to 12:30 AM) listing various TV programs and their channels.

DENNIS THE MENACE



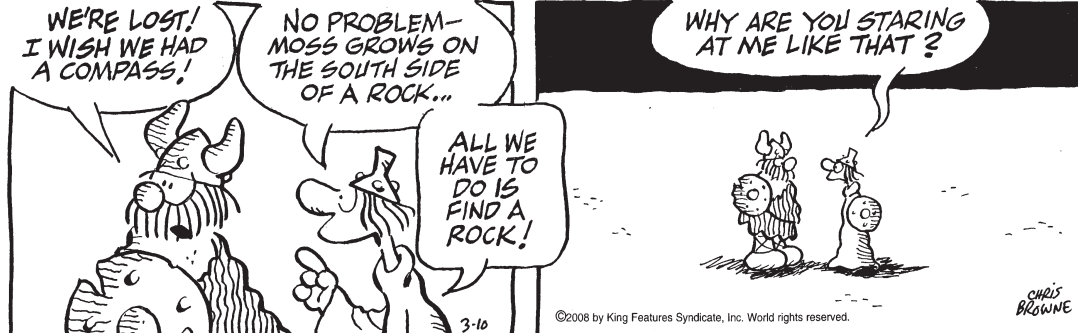
"I SUPPOSE IT'S A LITTLE LATE TO SAY 'MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME.'"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

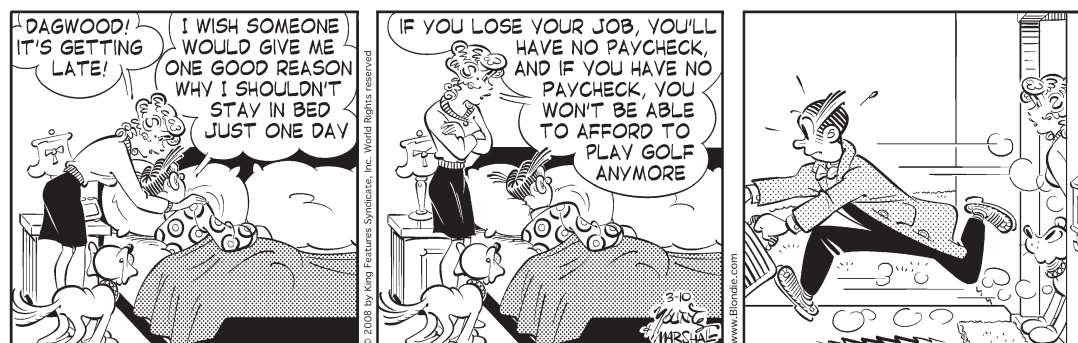


"This movie's REALLY old! It was made back in the nineties."

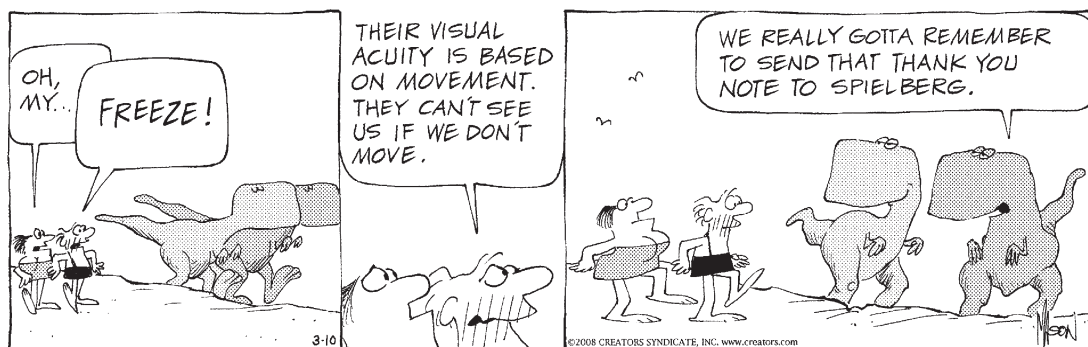
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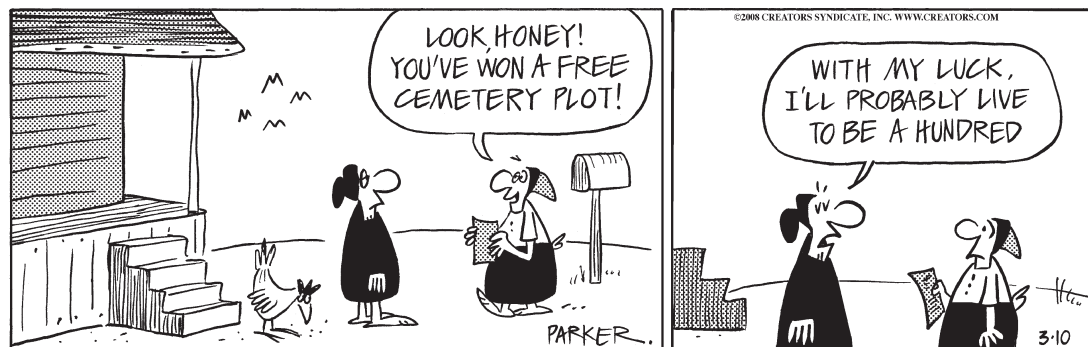
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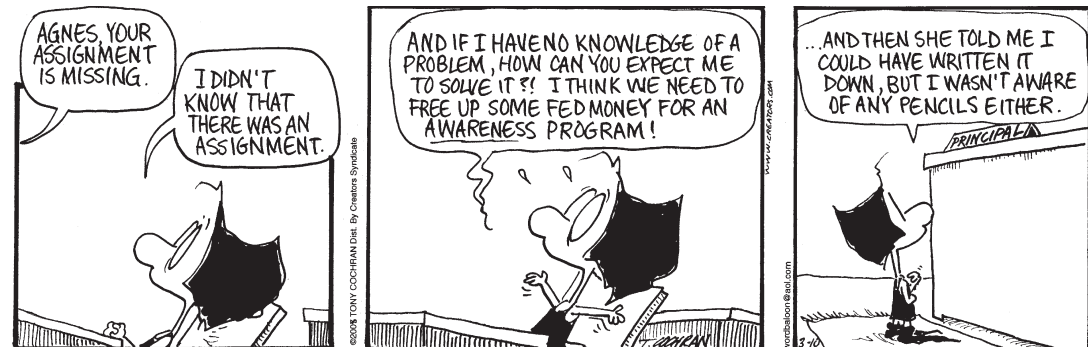
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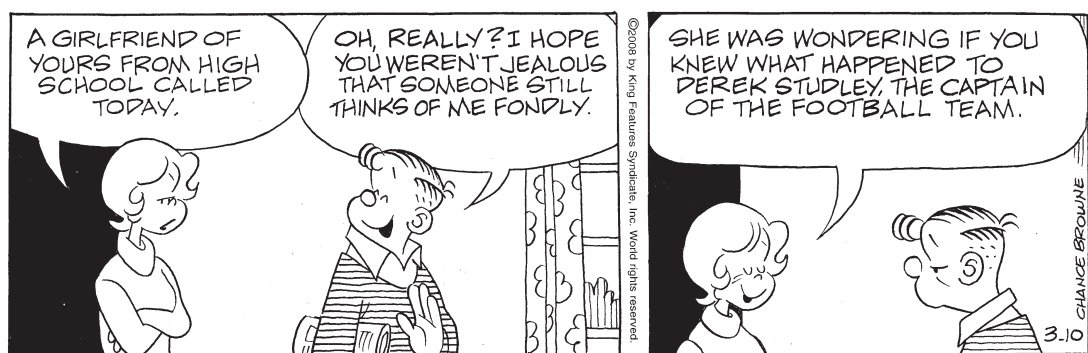
WIZARD OF ID



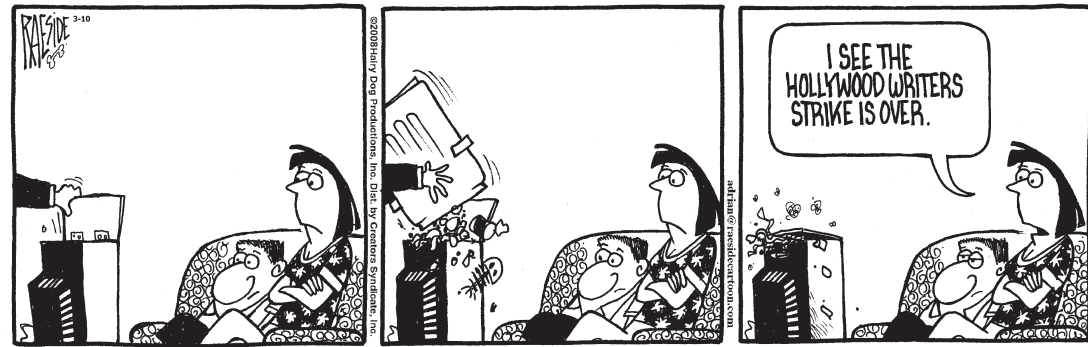
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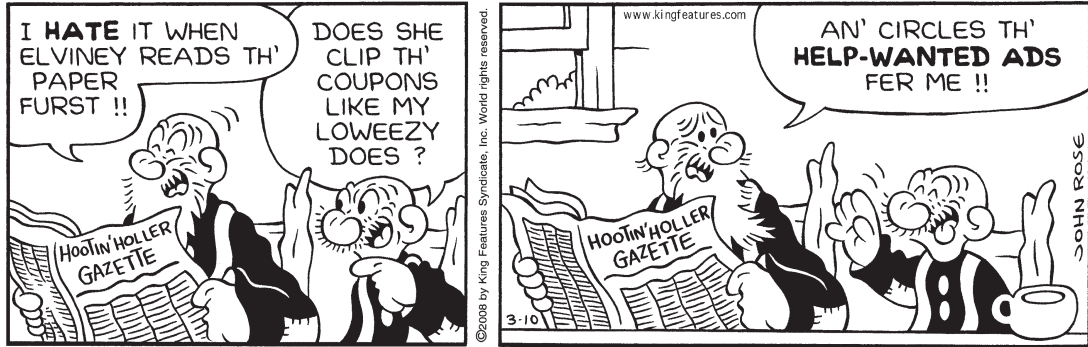
HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Monday, March 10, the 70th day of 2008. There are 296 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On March 10, 1876, the first successful voice transmission over Alexander Graham Bell's telephone took place in Boston as his assistant heard Bell say, "Mr. Watson, - come here, - I want to see you." (The words were recounted by Bell in his lab notebook.) On this date: In 1629, England's King Charles I dissolved Parliament; he did not call it back for 11 years. In 1785, Thomas Jefferson was appointed minister to France, succeeding Benjamin Franklin. In 1848, the Senate ratified the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, ending the war with Mexico. In 1880, the Salvation Army arrived in the United States from England. In 1948, the body of the anti-communist foreign minister of Czechoslovakia, Jan Masaryk, was found in the garden of Czernin Palace in Prague. Authorities said that his death was a suicide, but others continue to claim that he was murdered. In 1949, Nazi wartime broadcaster Mildred E. Gillars, also known as "Axis Sally," was convicted in Washington, D.C., of treason. (She served 12 years in prison.) In 1980, "Scarsdale Diet" author Dr. Herman Tarnower was shot to death in Purchase, N.Y. (Tarnower's former lover, Jean Harris, was convicted of murder; she served nearly 12 years in prison before being released in January 1993.) In 1985, Konstantin U. Chernenko, who was the Soviet Union's leader for just 13 months, died at age 73. In 1988, prior to the 50th anniversary of the Anschluss, Austrian President Kurt Waldheim apologized on his country's behalf for atrocities committed by Austrian Nazis. In 1988, pop singer Andy Gibb died in Oxford, England, at age 30 of heart inflammation. Today's Birthdays: Talk show host Ralph Emery is 75. Bluegrass/country singer-musician Norman Blake is 70. Actor Chuck Norris is 68. Playwright David Rabe is 68. Singer Dean Torrence (Jan and Dean) is 68. Actress Katharine Houghton is 63. Rock musician Tom Scholz (Boston) is 61. Producer-director-writer Paul Haggis is 55. Actress Shannon Tweed is 51. Actress Sharon Stone is 50.

Answer to previous puzzle crossword grid with words like DOPPLER, CARIBOU, ITERATE, ONAROLL, CHOICES, UNHANDY, TEPEE, TONI, NUTS, ILLS, SAUTES, SIS, OLE, MERRY, THEME, NOSWEAT, PAUSES, ANTS, ALIT, WRISTS, PURSERS, HATHA, STEMS, REM, IDA, LOWERS, LULU, FILE, HALT, LADED, FAIRWAY, UNITING, ETAGERE, ROSETTE, DENOTED, EMPRESS.

Newsday Crossword

USE YOUR HANDS by Gail Grabowski Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS: 1 Bottled soft drink, 5 Butterfly relative, 9 Glossy fabric, 14 Vietnam neighbor, 15 Fencing weapon, 16 Two times, 17 ___ time (never), 18 Dinner or brunch, 19 Church official, 20 Stormy weather sound, 23 Use a plus sign, 24 Back of a boat, 25 Fry cook's need, 27 And so on: Abbr., 29 Respond, 32 Point at the target, 35 Lathered, 38 Volcanic flow, 39 Journeys, 41 Scrap of cloth, 42 Lucky number, to some, 43 Marathon unit, 44 Swimming-pool sound, 46 New Hampshire hrs., 47 Do figure-eights, 49 Cut calories, 51 Continuous, 54 Coward's lack, 57 Fireplace residue, 59 Most important skill, 62 Minimum amount, 64 Citrus drinks, 65 Racetrack postings, 66 Tea variety, 67 Butcher-shop buy, 68 Chick's chirp, 69 Pay out, 70 Choir voice, 71 Lays down a lawn, 9 Trample, 10 Hole-punching tool, 11 Powerful ocean surge, 12 Chilled, as champagne, 13 Geek, 21 Girl's garment, 22 Just slightly, 26 Land surrounded by water, 28 Complain, 30 Nights before holidays, 31 ___ and rave, 32 Cash dispenser, for short, 33 Part of the eye, 34 Malted's relative, 36 Good friend, 37 "Goodness gracious!" 40 ___ moss (gardener's material), 42 Woolly mammal, 44 Usher's offering, 45 Woos with music, 48 Tried out, 50 Girl Scout units, 52 Serious play, 53 Song sung on 57 Down, 55 The "V" of VCR, 56 Finished, 57 Swiss peaks, 58 Ooze slowly, 60 Well-groomed, 61 Sugar amounts: Abbr., 63 Dad's boy

Newsday Crossword grid with numbers 1-71 indicating starting positions for the clues.

NASCAR

Continued from Page 7

that," Busch said. "I don't feel I'm driving any different than I used to."

Stewart, a teammate of Busch's, marveled at the way he handles a race car for someone so young. He looks as though he could wreck at any moment, but that just means he's pushing a little harder than everyone else.

Even Earnhardt had to

give props to his predecessor at Hendrick.

It was quite a weekend for Busch, who won the Craftsman Truck Series race Friday night and was dominating the Nationwide event on Saturday before a blown tire sent him careening into the wall. In fact, it's been quite a season for the young driver.

Busch finished fourth in the season-opening Daytona 500 after teaming with Stewart to dominate much of the race. He fol-

lowed with another fourth-place showing at California, then claimed the pole in his hometown of Las Vegas (though problems with adjustments left him 11th at the end).

At the 1.54-mile Atlanta oval, Busch finally finished the deal. He led more than half the race — 173 of the 325 laps — for his first win in nearly a year and fifth of his career. His last victory had come on March 25, 2007, at Bristol.

HOWARD

Continued from Page 6

responded to coaching."

Still, the future doesn't look bleak, according to Diddle.

"We've got a good core

of kids coming back," he said. "We'll build around that, add some players and, hopefully, be back at the region tournament again next year."

Howard finishes the season 25-7, by far its largest win total under Diddle's four-year tenure.

South Plains went on to lose to Midland College in the championship game, 73-50. Midland defeated all three of its opponents at Region V by an average of more than 20 points a game and held each team to less than 31 percent shooting from the field.

CHS

Continued from Page 7

run.

The Bulldogettes might have had a win for their final game of the tournament, courtesy of a forfeit by Hawley, but they tasted defeat the last time they took the field, falling to Clyde in a rematch from Friday, 2-0.

In another pitcher's duel, Newton surrendered

two runs — both unearned — on four hits and a walk while striking out five. Both of Clyde's scores came in the top of the fourth inning.

Meanwhile, the Bulldogettes struggled to make contact at the plate, mustering just two singles by Kerby and Christie Rich off of Clyde pitcher Cristi Jackson. Coahoma struck out 13 times in the contest.

The Bulldogettes return to action Tuesday, travel-

ing along with the baseball team to Haskell for a district game. First pitch is scheduled for 7 p.m.

Anson 001-1 0 4 Coahoma (10)8x-18 10 2 W - Katie Dunn (3-0). L - Woodard. 2B: CHS - Aricka Hart. RBI: CHS - Janice Gonzales 3, Laci Sterling 2, Hart 2, Christie Rich, JoAnna Gonzales.

Clyde 000 200-2 4 0 Coahoma 000 000-0 2 1 W - Cristi Jackson. L - Heather Newton (8-6). 2B: Clyde - Loper, Hack. RBI: Clyde - Hack 2.

HAWKS

Continued from Page 6

Okorie missed both free throws, but Jonathan Hall rebounded the second miss, giving South Plains another possession that turned into two points.

"It's a shame we didn't have one of our better games," Adams said. "We had a really tough run of teams to go through in this tournament, playing the home team in Temple and then facing a very physical group in Odessa. I wish we could've saved our best game for last, but we didn't. We fought hard and were in the game, but South Plains was just better than we were today."

Okorie finished with 10 points for South Plains with all of his baskets coming in the second half. Luciano de Souza led the Texans with 19 and Hall had 16.

Sean Watson led Howard with 18 points, nine rebounds and four assists. Markeys Deans

had six rebounds along with 13 points. Allmond was good for 16 and Isaac finished with 17.

Isaac, Watson and Allmond each played their final game as a Hawk.

"I can't say enough about those three," Adams said. "Sean and Corey carried us for most of the season and I thought Corteze has been a big factor for us down the stretch. We're going to miss those three guys."

However, with only three players departing, the potential for next season appears promising.

"We've got a lot to build on," Adams said. "It was great for these guys to get the experience of getting to the finals. South Plains got to the finals last year and didn't win and you saw how that benefited them this season. You can't say enough about experience and we gained a lot of it to build on next year."

Contact Sports Editor

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