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BIG SPRING
HERALD

FRIDAY
MARCH 14, 2008



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 91

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Daniel and Yolanda Perez study one of the many paintings by western cowboy artist H.W. Caylor on display at the Heritage Museum, 710 Scurry. Caylor's art depicts the history of early Texas and its development during the late 19th and early 20th Centuries. A West Texas rancher as well as an artist, Caylor and his wife lived in Big Spring and are both buried at Mount Olive Cemetery.

HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Lining up their ducks

BSISD trustees move forward, ready if \$34 mil bond passes

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer

If voters approve a \$34 million construction bond in May, Big Spring Independent School District officials want to have the projects up and running as soon as possible.

To that end, BSISD trustees began dealing with preliminary details pertaining to the bond during their monthly meeting Thursday evening.

On May 10, voters will decide whether to authorize slightly more than \$34 million in construction and renovation projects. Centerpieces of the plan are a new elemen-



Downes

tary school and a new roof and science labs at the high school.

With the overall price tag as high as it is, officials are cognizant of the need to save money where feasible. Therefore, they began preliminary discussions on a pair of items related to the bond project — hiring an architect and purchasing the necessary land.

"Instead of waiting to see if the bond issue passes, then finding an architect ... we can go through

See **BSISD**, Page 3A

Senate OKs budget that would torpedo Bush tax cuts; rejects break on earmarks

By ANDREW TAYLOR
 Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Senate rejected calls from both parties' presidential candidates to take an election-year break from pork-barrel spending as a Democratic-run Congress passed budget plans that would torpedo hundreds of billions of dollars in tax cuts won by President Bush.

John McCain, the GOP nominee-to-be, couldn't attract even a majority of Senate Republicans to vote with him Thursday night behind the earmark moratorium touted by

party conservatives as a way to restore the GOP's credibility with voters.

It failed on a 71-29 vote. Only three Democrats joined with Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama in voting for it.

The underlying House and Senate Democratic federal budget plans for 2009, though nonbinding, drew blasts from Republicans for allowing some or all of Bush's tax cuts to die in about three years.

The House passed its \$3

See **BUDGET**, Page 3A

Martin County Library closing, new facility to open March 31

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer

STANTON — The four-year wait for a new county library in Stanton is almost over, as volunteers and county employees get

ready to shuffle books to the new facility Saturday.

"Actually the move has been going on for a matter of weeks with the books that are not checked out as often being moved and shelved in the new facility,"

said spokesman A.L. Bud Lindsey. "Saturday morning volunteers and county employees will commence the task of pulling from the shelves the remaining

See **LIBRARY**, Page 3A



Police and Emergency Medical Service personnel responded to the scene of a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of Lancaster and Martin Luther King. No serious injuries were reported.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

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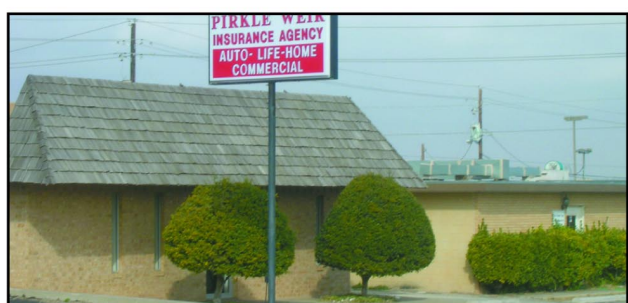
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Sports

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 1B
Friday, March 14, 2008

IN BRIEF

Crossroads high school varsity sports calendar

TODAY - SAT.

Big Spring softball at San Marcos Tournament.

Big Spring baseball at Greenwood Tournament.

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.

MONDAY

Coahoma softball vs. Merkel, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY

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.

Big Spring softball at Hobbs, N.M., TBA

Coahoma baseball vs. Merkel, 7 p.m.

MARCH 21

Big Spring softball at Brownwood, TBA

Forsan baseball at Morton Tournament through March 22.

Forsan Buffaloes baseball team tops McCamey

The Forsan Buffaloes baseball team cruised past McCamey Tuesday, winning by nine runs, 15-6.

Cameron Parker pitched a complete game for the Buffs, striking out 10 in the process.

The Buffs collected 11 hits, including two each for Evan Burton, Ryan Flores and Spencer Briggs.

Big Spring Country Club hosting 3-person scramble

The Big Spring Country Club is hosting a 3-person scramble April 5 and 6 with a 1 p.m. shotgun start on both days.

Entry fee is \$60 per player plus a golf cart, however, private carts are welcome.

Entry includes a barbecue lunch on the course for the first day of the tournament.

The field will be flighted by first-round score and the number of flights will be determined by the number of entries.

An optional cash players pool will be available for both rounds.

Call the Pro Shop at 267-5354 for more information or to enter a team.

Big Spring's Smith headed to state meet

By JONATHAN HULL

Herald Sports Editor

What better way to have a last hurrah as a high school athlete than to make an appearance at a state championship?

Big Spring's John Smith recently qualified for the state power lifting tournament, winning the Region I, Division I 220-pound weight class. The Big Spring High senior lifted a combined weight of 1,430 pounds, squatting 570 pounds, benching 275 and dead lifting 585. His squat and dead lifts were personal bests.



Smith

However, Smith left about 25 pounds on the board he normally gets on the bench. He pressed up 300 pounds, but the lift was ruled illegal because he came up uneven. He then failed to put up 310

pounds, forcing him to stick with 275.

Smith leaves for Austin March 29, competing against 16 other competitors in his weight class. For many seniors, it's hard to compete at a high level this late in their final semester of high school. However, Smith isn't feeling the ill effects of coasting to the finish line.

"I have some days where I don't want to do a lot, but everyone had those days every now and then. For the most part, I don't get like that," Smith said. "I'm just not a lazy person. I keep two jobs. I think I might be

scared that if I quit lifting weights then I'm going to blow up and get too out of shape. That's how I used to be, but the weight fell off after I started playing football."

Going into the state meet, Smith is ranked 13th amongst the 16 lifters. Still, he keeps a lofty goal for himself.

"It's just something to keep me motivated to stay in shape," Smith said. "Now I have state to motivate me as well. I want to place in the top five. If I come home with anything less than

See SMITH, Page 3B

Steers sweep first day of Classic

By JONATHAN HULL

Herald Sports Writer

MIDLAND — Big Spring's Steers have heard one particular thing preached to them over and over again to them by their pitching staff. In baseball, when you get runners into scoring position, you have to score them. Message received.

The Steers showed their opportunistic side Thursday in the West Texas Classic taking place on baseball diamonds throughout Midland. The Steers swept their first day competition, pounding Greenwood, 20-3, and rallying past Anthony, 7-3.

"We've been stranding runners in scoring position a lot," Steers Head Coach Burt Otto said. "We watched some hitting videos and looked at what we were doing wrong. Today, against Greenwood and Anthony, a lot of our hits went for extra bases. Combine that with picking up as many walks as we did and those will kill your opponent."

Against Greenwood, the Steers drew eight walks and picked up nine hits in a dominant victory. Matt Ritchey picked up the win, pitching all four innings.

The Steers broke open a 1-1 tie in the third inning, scoring eight runs and followed it with an 11-run fourth. Ritchey also had two triples as six of the Steers' 10 hits went for extra bases. Kaegan Hunt homered in the contest.

Runs didn't come as easily in Game 2 for Big Spring. The Steers found themselves down early after Lance Gross struggled to find his command on the



Big Spring's Lance Gross pitches in the Steers' 7-3 win over Anthony at Christensen Stadium in Midland Thursday. Gross had seven strikeouts in the win. The Steers defeated Greenwood, 20-3, earlier in the day.

mound in the first inning, allowing three runs on three hits — one a triple and one a double — and two walks.

However, Gross calmed down considerably, striking out the side in the second inning. From there, the Steers' hurler allowed only one runner to get past second base and didn't surrender another run in the victory.

"Some calls didn't go Lance's

way in the first inning," Otto said. "Some pitches he thought were strikes were called balls, but he bounced back. He settled down and pitched a great game."

While Gross held Anthony in check on the mound, the Steers' offense started to rally with some help from their opponent. Anthony's Saul Garcia walked three Big Spring batters in the top of the third inning and hit

another with a pitch, forcing a run home.

With the bases loaded, Cade Hollandsworth knocked in Martin Yanez with a fielder's choice and Hunt scored courtesy of a Ritchey sacrifice fly to right field as the Steers tied the game at 3.

See STEERS, Page 2B

Five BSHS athletes named all-district



Big Spring Lady Steers forward Abbi Lloyd shoots from two in action from earlier this season. Lloyd was among five Big Spring basketball players named all-district recently.

By JONATHAN HULL

Herald Sports Editor

It was a disappointing season for Big Spring High School's girls and boys basketball teams, but some consolation prizes were handed out recently.

Five Big Spring basketball players received all-district honors from the District 4-4A coaches. Two boys were named to the first team — Jason Walker and Terrance Clemons — while two other Steers — Matt Ritchey and Jerrell Williams — were placed on the second team.

The long Lady Steer to represent Big Spring was junior Abbi Lloyd, who picked up second-team recognition.

"When it comes to district play, Abbi had some big minutes and had a lot of points and several rebounds," Lady Steers Head Coach Randal Petty said. "She showed the ability to put the ball on the floor and hit an out-

side shot."

Lloyd had some of the stronger individual performances for the Lady Steers this season. In a game against San Angelo Lake View, she scored 11 points and had 10 rebounds to lead the Lady Steers in a loss. It was the only double-double of Big Spring's season.

She followed that performance up with another solid game against a much bigger and more talented Lubbock Estacado squad, scoring six points and pulling down a game-high eight rebounds.

Petty has high expectations for Lloyd's senior year and expects her to be a central figure in the rebuilding of the program.

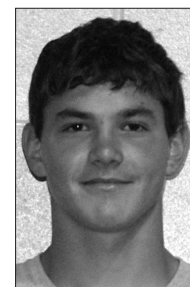
"It was a pretty frustrat-

ing and challenging year, but Abbi played good basketball throughout it," Petty said. "I've talked to her about coming back and doing some good things for us as a senior. She can be a leader for a group of very young girls we have coming up. She's got a good, positive attitude and she soaks up coaching like a sponge. She realizes that she doesn't have to score the most points or get the most rebounds as long as she just hustles when she's on the floor, then she's contributing a lot to the team."

While the boys' team was competitive throughout the district season, they struggled to pick up crucial buckets in the latter point of games, leading them to a fourth-place finish. However, it was hard not to notice the play of Walker, who religiously led the Steers in points and rebounds.

"Jason was our leading scorer and leading rebounder. There was a lot of pressure on him," Steers Head Coach Marcus Morris said, "but he stepped up all year. He deserved to make all-district."

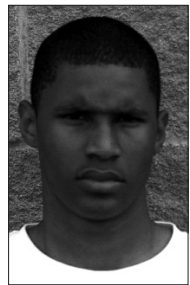
See BSHS, Page 2B



Ritchey



Williams



Walker

Obituaries

Carlynn Harris



Carlynn Harris, 81, of Midland died Thursday, March 13, 2008, in a local hospital. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 15, 2008, at Greenwood Baptist Church with the Rev. Waymon Swopes and the Rev. John Bill Hedricks officiating. Interment will follow at Garden City Cemetery. The family will receive friends Friday, March 14, 2008, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home in Midland.

She was born Feb. 16, 1927, in Big Spring to Charles and Bertha Rae Cox. She was a longtime member of the Garden City Methodist Church and had been attending the Greenwood Baptist Church for the past six years. She is a former Midland rodeo sponsor and was a rider during the war.

She graduated from high school in Garden City. She attended Texas Tech University where she graduated with a bachelor's degree in biology and Spanish and a master's degree in special education. After graduation, she taught in Seymour, Stanton and Big Lake, where she retired. After retirement, she moved to the family ranch in Glasscock County. She served eight years as Republican co-chairman in Glasscock County and was a member of the Midland County Republican Women. She worked on numerous Republican campaigns. She was a member of Beta Sigma Phi. She loved and cared deeply for her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and ex-husband, Hugh "Buck" Wayland Harris.

Survivors include two sons, Constable Charles "Choc" Harris and wife, Betty, of Midland and Clay Harris and wife, Rena, of Midland; four grandchildren, Diedra Hale and husband, Brad, of Westbrook, Christina Harris of Midland, Michael Miller and wife, Amy, of Big Spring and J.H. Miller of Midland; and one great-grandchild, Kadence Miller of Midland.

The family request memorials be made to the Cal Farley's Boys Ranch, P.O. Box 1890, Amarillo 79174 or to the American Heart Association, 3205 W. Cuthbert A-5, Midland 79701.

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

Paid obituary

Kelby Howard Cox

Kelby Howard Cox, the 2-month-old son of Kevin and Jennifer Cox of Big Spring, died Thursday, March 13, 2008, in a Lubbock hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 15, 2008, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Richard Dickerson officiating.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

He was born Dec. 28, 2007, in Midland.

In addition to his parents, Kelby is survived by his paternal grandparents, Geneva Cox and Tom Morgan of Big Spring; his paternal grandfather, Vernon Cox of Stanton; his maternal grandparents, Bobby and Laura LaRue of Big Spring; his aunts and uncles, Jody and Amber Cox of Big Spring, Sherre Cox of Midland, Cristy and Jimmy Archer of Big Spring and Bailey LaRue of Big Spring.

He was preceded in death by one grandmother, Tina LaRue.

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

Paid obituary

Donna Earhart

Donna Earhart, 73, of Kingsland, formerly of Big Spring, died Thursday, March 13, 2008, in Kingsland. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Kim Moore Barber

Kim Moore Barber, 47, of Big Spring died Thursday, March 13, 2008, at her residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Weather

Tonight...Mostly clear. Windy. Lows in the mid 40s. West winds 25 to 35 mph with gusts to around 55 mph becoming northwest 10 to 15 mph after midnight.

Saturday...Sunny...Cooler. Highs in the mid 70s. North winds around 10 mph shifting to the east in the afternoon.

Saturday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s. Southeast winds 10 to 20 mph increasing to 20 to 25 mph after midnight.

Sunday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s. Southeast winds 20 to 25 mph.

Sunday night...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows 47 to 54.

Monday...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 70s.

Monday night...Partly cloudy. Colder. Lows 40 to 45.

Tuesday...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 60s.

Tuesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows around 40.

Wednesday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s.

Wednesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s.

Crab Grass Preventer Plus Lawn Food
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701 E. 2nd St. 267-6411

Police blotter

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

- **WILLIAM CARTER**, 52, of 706 Andree, was arrested Friday on a charge of driving while intoxicated - second offense.
- **SALENA TAYLOR**, 28, of 3506 Webb, was arrested Friday on a Howard County warrant.
- **UNATTENDED DEATH** was reported in the 600 block of Caylor.
- **TERRORISTIC THREAT** was reported in the 1200 block of Mulberry.
- **DEADLY CONDUCT - DISCHARGE OF A FIREARM** was reported in the 2300 block of Grace.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 3300 block of Highway 80.
- **ASSAULT BY CONTACT** was reported:
 - in the 1500 block of Scurry.
 - in the 700 block of 11th Place.

Sheriff's report

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 43 inmates at the time of this report.
- **ANTHONY ALPHONSO LEWIS**, 36, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
 - **JOHNATHAN ZENO**, 45, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
 - **SHANNON DEVETTE SIMIEN**, 35, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a Louisiana warrant for battery and a charge of violation of parole.
 - **BENITA KAY PADRON SALAZAR**, 34, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of theft by check.
 - **AUSTIN GARRETT MAYNARD**, 19, was arrested Thursday by DPS on charges of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less and no liability insurance.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 600 block of Caylor. Service refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1600 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported near the intersection of Martin Luther King Blvd. and Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported near the intersection of Martin Luther King Blvd. and Lancaster. Service refused.
- **TRAUMA** was reported near the intersection of N. Highway 87 and N. Eighth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported near the intersection of N. Highway 87 and N. Eighth Street. Service refused.
- **GRASS FIRE** was reported in the 5000 block of Snyder Road.

Take Note

• A broadcast of the Refinery Miracle Celebration held earlier this month at the First Baptist Church will air at 8 p.m. today and Sunday on Cable TV channel 17. Everyone is encouraged to view the telecast.

• Big Spring Kiwanis will be holding their annual pancake supper from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. today at the Howard College Student Union Building. Tickets are \$5 for all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage, bacon and drinks.

• American Legion Post 506 will hold a fish fry Saturday at 3202 W. Highway 80. Delivery is from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. by calling 263-2084. Serving will be held from noon until 3 p.m. Plates are \$8 each. Carry-out is available.

• American Red Cross Lifeguarding and CPR classes will be held in two sessions this year, March 31-April 5 and April 14-19. Cost will be \$125. Those interested can sign up with Coach Randall Shaw at rshaw3535@hotmail.com or at the Big Spring YMCA. Times of the class will be given at the time of registration. Spots are limited and fees must be paid at registration. Individuals who register must be present for all classes. After the first day of class, no refunds will be given.

• 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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Bulletin Board

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

TODAY
• Dance at the Senior Center, 1901 Simler, from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY
• Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.

MONDAY
• The Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teacher's Association meets in the Cactus Room at Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.

• 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.
• DAV and Auxiliary Chapter 47 meets at 6:30 p.m. at 610 Abrams St.
• Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

TUESDAY
• Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
• Big Spring Band Boosters meets at 5:30 p.m. in the high school band hall. All band parents are invited to attend.
• Big Spring Art Association meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library. All working artists and those interested in art are invited to attend.
• Order of the Eastern Star No. 67 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 14-17-21-32. Bonus Ball: 7. Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 7-11-14-26-30. Number matching five of five: 1. Prize per winner: \$25,079. Winning tickets sold in: Freeport.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 2-6-8-0. Sum It Up: 16

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 0-7-3. Sum It Up: 10

Support Groups

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.

SATURDAY
• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY
• Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

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.

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Oklahoma State ousts Tech in Big 12 tourney

By BRANDON GEORGE

The Dallas Morning News

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Pat Knight's first season as Texas Tech basketball coach didn't end with a fond memory.

Instead, Knight watched senior guard Charlie Burgess fall down near the free throw line and lose the ball with the game on the line.

No. 9 seed Oklahoma State converted two late free throws after the Burgess turnover to put away eighth-seeded Texas Tech, 76-72, in the first round of the Big 12 tournament Thursday at the Sprint Center.

Oklahoma State point guard Byron Eaton, a former Lincoln standout, missed a free throw with 20.5 seconds left to keep the Cowboys' lead at 74-72. Tech worked the ball to Burgess, who cut toward the basket down the middle of the lane but lost his balance.

Burgess fell down with his back to Tech's basket, and OSU's James Anderson grabbed the

ball with 4.8 seconds left. Anderson, who had a team-high 18 points, was fouled and made both free throw attempts to secure the win for Oklahoma State (17-14), which faces top-seeded Texas at 11:30 a.m. on Friday.

"We work every day with a 15-second shot clock trying to get a good shot, and it was just too much dribbling, and (we) got casual with the ball," Knight said. "Fall down with the ball and don't get a shot off, that just can't happen. That's not what lost the game for us. It was just everything added up to that."

There were 18 lead changes and four ties during the second half, with each team only one possession down most of the way. The largest lead of the second half was five when Tech led, 61-56, with 9:28 left to play.

Senior Martin Zeno, Tech's leading scorer, scored his only points of the second half on a layup with 1:22 left to cut OSU's lead to 71-70. He finished with seven points.

Eaton (12 points) responded with a 17-foot jumper to push OSU's lead back to three with 49 seconds left.

"I challenged (Eaton) at halftime that he had to be the best point guard on the court," OSU coach Sean Sutton said. "He came back and scored 12 points in the second half, made a lot of big plays down the stretch."

After Eaton put OSU ahead, 73-70, Burgess had his 6-footer blocked by Anderson. After the block, Knight slung his arms in the air and protested the call.

"I thought it was goaltending, but what can I do," Knight said.

Now the Red Raiders (16-15) will hope for an NIT bid.

"I hope just because how tough our conference is and the teams we have beaten, the NIT would give us a look," Knight said. "My fate's in the hands of a selection committee. I think this team belongs there with what we've done."

Roby, Colorado dent Baylor's NCAA hopes with 91-84 win

By JOHN MARSHALL

AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Baylor was hoping for at least one more win, a little padding to make sure of its first NCAA tournament berth in 20 years.

Colorado put a big dent in those plans, likely giving the Bears some anxious moments when the NCAA field is announced on Sunday.

Richard Roby and Marcus Hall scored all 17 of Colorado's points in the second overtime and the Buffaloes hurt in Baylor's NCAA tournament hopes with a surprising 91-84 win Thursday in the first round of the Big 12 tournament.

Baylor (21-10) won more than 20 games for just the fourth time in 102 years of basketball, seemingly enough to make the NCAA tournament for the first time since 1988. Still, the Bears wanted to get at least a win or two in the Big 12 tournament to make it easy on the selection committee.

Instead, they made the decision even more difficult.

"We'll have to see what they say now," Baylor coach Scott Drew said. "I know one thing: when you're winning you don't have to worry as much. All year long we haven't had a so-called bad loss, but in a conference tournament a five seed shouldn't lose to a 12."

Colorado (12-19) had a tough first season under coach Jeff Bzdelik, losing numerous close games and winning just three in conference. But the Buffaloes have been gritty all year and somehow

pulled off an unexpected win over a team that needed a victory, becoming the first 12 seed to beat a five seed in the 12-year history of the Big 12 tournament.

Colorado shot 72 percent in the first half to jump out to a big lead, withstood a furious Baylor rally in the second half, then made just enough shots in both overtimes to move into Friday's second round against fourth-seeded Oklahoma.

Roby finished with 32 points and 12 rebounds, and Hall had 25 points and 10 assists despite missing potential game-winners at the end of regulation and the first overtime. Dwight Thorne scored 12 of his 14 points in the first half for Colorado, which beat Oklahoma 72-58 in Boulder on Feb. 9.

"We haven't won as many times as we would have liked throughout the course of the year, but this team has always battled," Bzdelik said. "I've slept well throughout the year, from that standpoint, knowing they would give it their very best."

Baylor needed a win to solidify its NCAA hopes, but certainly didn't play like it in the first half.

The Bears repeatedly got beat on backdoor cuts and were hurt by Colorado's surprising outside shooting to trail by as much as 14. The Buffaloes set a Big 12 tournament record by making 18 of 25 shots in the first half — 12 straight at one point — and were 6-of-10 from 3-point range, taking a 44-31 halftime lead when Cory Higgins

hit a layup at the buzzer.

Baylor rallied by clamping down defensively, but missed key free throws down the stretch, finishing 22-of-31 from the line. Curtis Jerrells and LaceDarius Dunn each had 20 points and Henry Dugat had 19 for Baylor, which was just 8-for-28 from 3-point range.

"It took them to get a good lead on us to actually start playing," said Jerrells, who had six assists. "That's something that we had trouble with early on, but not lately. For some reason, we did it again today."

Colorado seemed to be in control early in the second half, pushing the lead to as many as 15 points, only to let the Bears back in it.

Baylor held the Buffaloes without a field goal for nearly six minutes and went on a 14-1 run, capped by Dugat's two free throws that tied it at 61-61 with just under 3 minutes left in regulation.

Baylor had a chance at the lead with 1:15 left, but Kevin Rogers missed two free throws. Colorado botched its final possession of regulation, waiting too long to get the play started, then settling for a desperation turnaround 3-point attempt by Hall at the buzzer.

The first overtime came down to another final possession for Colorado after Dunn tied it at 74-all on a rebound slam with 15 seconds left. Hall had the ball again and got off a better shot, but his runner caromed high off the glass with 2 seconds left.

See BAYLOR, Page 3B

STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

Big Spring took command of the game in the fourth. Jordan Herrod led off the inning with a triple to center field and scored three batters later, when Hunt hit an RBI infield single. Rance Terry also scored in the inning on a fielder's choice ball hit by Nathan Doport to short.

Big Spring added one run each in the fifth and sixth innings — both scored by Ritchey — to ice the game.

Gross finished with seven strikeouts, allowing three runs — two earned — on nine hits and two walks. He helped his own cause at the plate, going 2-for-4 with a triple and a double, scoring two runs and knocking in another. Hunt was 3-for-4 with a run scored and one RBI.

Big Spring has a guaranteed game at 4 p.m. today against Amarillo Caprock at Citibank Ballpark. However, the outcome of the game doesn't make any difference for the Steers as they have already clinched their spot in the championship bracket of the

tournament.

"It's a great way to start a tournament," Otto said. "The best thing is that we're now guaranteed a spot in the championship bracket. We'll be playing our games at City Bank Park on Saturday. That game against Caprock doesn't really matter, either. It's just a guaranteed game. We want to win Friday, but we're really worried about Saturday."

Big Spring 108 (11)—20 10 1
Greenwood 010 2—3 5 2

W - Matt Ritchey (4-1). L - Colton Wilber.
2B: BSHS - Lance Gross; GHS - Bryce Williams. 3B: BSHS - Ritchey 2, Gross, Cade Hollandsworth. HR: BSHS - Kaegan Hunt.

Big Spring 003 211 0—7 7 2
Anthony 300 000 0—3 9 2

W - Lance Gross. L - Saul Garcia.
2B: BSHS - Gross; AHS - Jeffrey Ramirez 2. 3B: BSHS - Gross; AHS - Michael Gildan.

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EXTRA!

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

some of the preliminary steps now and save the taxpayers some money," BSISD Superintendent Michael Downes said.

The architectural and engineering firm of Parkhill, Smith and Cooper is the leading candidate for the architect's job, if board member comments are any indication.

Downes pointed out that PSC has assisted the district on a variety of projects, including recent renovations at the high school gymnasium, so local officials would definitely be dealing with a known quantity.

"We can stay with PSC ... but if the board desires to look at other firms, we'd have to go through a 'request for qualifications' process, which would take some time," Downes said.

Board member Tony Kennedy voiced support for using PSC, an opinion echoed by Board President Alan Partee.

"We need to start working with them on the preliminary details," Partee said. "The whole purpose of this is not to fall behind if we can avoid it."

Trustees discussed land purchases during a closed meeting, but took no action.

In other business, trustees approved:

- Bids for fleet pickups and athletic uniforms and supplies.
- Updates to local and legal policies.
- A waiver request for student attendance on Feb. 18.
- Teacher employment recommendations for the 2008-2009 school year.
- The following resignations: David Budke, drafting teacher at BSHS; Eloise Wynn, Bauer kindergarten teacher; Debby Averitt, Kentwood music teacher; Janice Whitehead, junior high math teacher; Bruce Wilson, BSHS principal; and Marvin Wynn, junior high math teacher.
- The hiring of Kevin Billings as a technology technician for the district.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

News briefs

Woman sues Six Flags over ride mishap

ARLINGTON (AP) — An Oklahoma woman who was among several people injured when a park ride malfunctioned has sued Six Flags Over Texas and the maker of the mechanical spinner.

Trista Price accused Six Flags of being negligent in its operation and maintenance of the Texas Tornado. The suit filed this week also alleges Chance Rides Manufacturing sold the Arlington theme park a "defective and unreasonably dangerous" ride.

The suit contends operator error contributed to the accident and claims the Texas Tornado "contained unreasonably dangerous design defects and was not reasonably safe as intended to be used."

Six Flags spokeswoman Sharon Parker said the company does not comment on pending litigation.

Several people aboard the Texas Tornado in March 2006 were injured when the bearings that make the ride spin malfunctioned. The ride's operator used the emergency safety switch to stop and lower the riders to the ground, causing some people to bump into others.

Nine people were injured, sustaining bruises and back and neck strains, according to reports from the Texas Department of Insurance.

Price's back injury hasn't kept her from returning to work, said her attorney, D.G. Majors.

"She tried to get (Six Flags) to work with her and she couldn't get any cooperation from them, so she felt this was her last recourse," Majors said.

The suit does not specify an amount for damages.

Gasoline prices climb further into record territory

HOUSTON (AP) — Texas retail gasoline prices continued to climb higher into record territory this week.

Regular self-serve averaged \$3.16 per gallon across the state in the weekly AAA Texas gasoline price survey Friday, 6 cents more than last week. Nationally, the average was \$3.27 per gallon, 8 cents more than last week.

"Every Texas region surveyed set new record highs this week, with Amarillo being the only exception," said auto club spokeswoman Rose Rougeau. "Texarkana is the only area that posted a decrease. However, with record crude oil prices pushing retail gas prices upward, it is unlikely that area will continue to move downward."

San Antonio had the state's lowest average with regular self-serve at \$3.12 per gallon, 5 cents more than last week. Fort Worth surpassed Dallas as the Texas locale with the

most expensive gas averaging \$3.17 per gallon, up 9 cents from last week.

Gag order issued in retrial of man in children's slayings

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — A judge has issued a gag order in the retrial of a man accused of killing and beheading his common-law wife's three children, preventing prosecutors and defense attorneys from speaking publicly about the case.

The defendant, John Allen Rubio, 27, also must undergo a psychological evaluation, according to court documents from this week. However, Judge Arturo Cisneros Nelson denied a motion Wednesday to determine if Rubio is mentally retarded.

Rubio was convicted in 2003 of smothering, stabbing and mutilating his toddler son and infant daughter, along with his wife's 3-year-old.

The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals overturned Rubio's conviction last year because his defense did not get to cross-examine the common-law wife and co-defendant, Angela Camacho, during trial.

The Cameron County District Attorney's Office has subpoenaed interview notes, videos, letters and an unedited interview with Camacho from Weslaco television station KRGV. A reporter from the station interviewed Camacho in October 2007.

Camacho is serving a life sentence for her role in the killing of the three children — Julissa Quesada, 3, John E. Rubio, 14 months, and Mary Jane Rubio, 2 months.

Convicted drug ring leader sentenced to 27 years

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — A man accused of leading a drug trafficking ring that transported marijuana and cocaine from South Texas to other states has been sentenced to 27 years in prison.

Homero Rey Cantu Jr., 36, of Realitos, was also ordered Thursday to forfeit more than \$74,000, the U.S. Attorney's Office said.

A jury found Cantu guilty of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute more than 100 kilograms of marijuana, conspiracy to launder money and providing false statements on a bank loan.

At trial, witnesses testified that Cantu led a group that trafficked drugs from the Rio Grande Valley to locations throughout the country.

BUDGET

Continued from Page 1A

trillion budget plan by a 212-207 vote. It would provide generous increases to domestic programs but bring the government's ledger back into the black, but only by letting all of Bush's tax cuts expire at the end of 2010 as scheduled.

The Senate passed a companion plan by a 51-44 vote. It endorsed extending \$340 billion of Bush's tax cuts but balked at continuing all of them. The competing versions head to talks in which the House is all but certain to accept the Senate's position endorsing tax cuts for the working poor, married couples, people with children and for those inheriting large estates.

All three major presidential candidates inter-

rupted their campaigns for a Senate vote-o-rama that began before noon and included more than 40 roll calls. Maine Republicans Susan Collins and Olympia Snowe crossed over to support the bill; Evan Bayh of Indiana was the sole Democrat to vote no.

Budget plans are non-binding, but they highlight the difficult choices on taxes and spending facing the next president and Congress. Binding votes on the expiring Bush tax cuts will be left to his successor and the Congress that's elected in November.

The practice of inserting "earmarked" spending into legislation is seen by lawmakers in both parties a birthright power of the purse awarded to Congress by the Founding Fathers.

Earmarks have exploded in number and cost in

recent years, accompanied by charges of abuse and public outrage over egregious examples like the proposed "bridge to nowhere" in Alaska, which would have cost more than \$200 million to serve an island with a population of about 50.

McCain, who has battled with members of both parties over them for years, blamed pork barrel spending for the Republicans losing control of Congress in the 2006 elections.

"This may be the last bastion in America where they don't get it," he told reporters after Thursday night's vote. "Americans are sick and tired of the way we do business in Washington. As president, I promise the American people ... the first earmarked, pork-barrel bill that comes across my desk, I'll veto it."

However, on taxes, the

Arizona Republican voted to extend the full roster of Bush's tax cuts, which he opposed seven years ago as being tilted in favor of the wealthy.

Democratic rivals Clinton of New York and Obama of Illinois both voted to extend only some of Bush's tax cuts while allowing cuts in income tax rates and investments expire. They joined other Democrats in a 52-47 vote against extending \$376 billion of them.

Republicans hope to use the votes as fodder for the heated presidential campaign and for congressional races. "Democrats are quietly but very assuredly paving the way for a massive, economy-choking, tax increase," said Rep. Jim McCrery, R-La.

Democrats said the plans would reverse years of deficits that have piled up during Bush's tenure.

They said he squandered trillions of dollars in projected surpluses that he inherited in 2001.

"The Democratic budget continues to move our nation in a new direction and to clean up the fiscal train wreck caused by failed Republican economic policies over the last seven years," said House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-Md.

Democrats argued that when the time comes, they'll renew tax cuts aimed at the middle class by closing billions of dollars worth of corporate and other tax loopholes. They also say billions more can be raised by cracking down on tax cheats.

In the House, Democrats defeated a GOP plan that would have extended Bush's reductions. The Republican plan also would have eliminated the alternative minimum

tax, which was originally designed years ago to make sure rich people pay at least some tax but now threatens more than 20 million additional taxpayers with increases averaging \$2,000.

Some 38 mostly moderate Republicans voted against their party's plan, which would have made cuts in popular programs like Medicare, housing, community development and the Medicaid health care program.

Congress' annual budget debate involves a non-binding resolution that sets the stage for later bills affecting taxes, benefit programs such as Medicare and the annual appropriations bills. Unless such follow-up legislation is passed, however, the budget debate has little real effect and is mostly about making statements about party priorities.

LIBRARY

Continued from Page 1A

titles from the old library and transporting them to the new building."

Lindsey said patrons of the new Martin County Library will find the facility much more spacious than the old location.

"The new and much larger library is located near the post office, Methodist church and the Ford dealership in downtown Stanton," said Lindsey. "The new library is about four times the size of the current one and will have space for more computers, as well as more elbow and meeting room."

With a formal grand opening slated for Sunday, April 6 from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m., Lindsey said area res-

idents have plenty to be proud of.

"The citizens of Martin County and the surrounding areas are invited to attend the formal opening. The library will re-open for business March 31. We figure it will take that long to get all of the books in and the computers ready to go."

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232.

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Aggies defeat Iowa State

By **CHIP BROWN**

The Dallas Morning News

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Texas A&M's DeAndre Jordan was on the bench in the first half of Thursday night's first-round 60-47 victory against Iowa State shivering under a towel with his warm-ups on and drinking Gatorade to combat the flu.

On the court, A&M big

man after big man got into foul trouble. First, Chinemelu Elonu picked up his fourth with 11:50 left to play, then Bryan Davis was whistled for his second and third fouls five seconds apart at the 11:08 and 11:03 marks.

A&M coach Mark Turgeon stomped and grimaced a little more when forward Joe Jones picked up his fourth with 10:24

left. Fortunately for Texas A&M, Iowa State is the worst shooting team in the Big 12 and couldn't take advantage. The Cyclones hit just 17 of 61 shots (27.9 percent).

Iowa State pulled within 48-40 with 2:36 to play and put Texas A&M on the free throw line. That

See **AGGIES**, Page 4B

SMITH

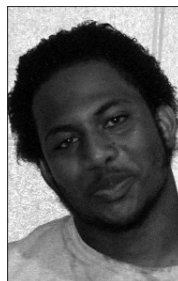
Continued from Page 1B

that, it'll be a disappointment."

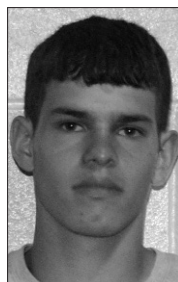
Smith claims to be a self-motivator, using the knowledge that he used to have a body composition he doesn't want to return to as the chief driving force to working out.

"I probably push myself more than anything," Smith said. "I've always worked out by myself. The discipline has been hard for me, but not in lifting weights. I have a tough time keeping my weight. I had to diet before regionals to make sure I stayed under 220 pounds. I wasn't very pleasant to deal during that time."

This will be Smith's last athletic competition as a high school athlete. It's his second-to-last performance of his career, though, as he'll partici-



White



Merworth

pate in a Fellowship of Christian Athlete's all-star football game in June. Smith says goodbye to athletic competition due to his desire to focus on earning a business degree in college.

However, he did have his options to play football at the next level, but made a difficult decision to decline the opportunity.

"That was a tough decision for me," Smith said. "I had an offer to play at Howard Payne University and at Southern Nazarene University. But I decided I don't want to play college ball. I want to focus on getting my business degree and I feel like playing football will distract me from accomplishing that."

"I'm excited about state and about the FCA all-star game," he continued.

"I got goose bumps when I won region. I went from ninth to first in a year's time. As for the all-star game, I can't wait. I want to be on the football field again badly. It'll be surreal to walk off of it for the final time, though."

Also placing at regionals was Jake Hernandez, Antwone White and Ben Merworth. Hernandez finished third in his weight class, making him an alternate for the state tournament. That means should one of the top two performers go down to injury or be able to participate in the state meet, then Hernandez will take their place in the competition.

Merworth and White each represented Big Spring with sixth-place finishes.

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

BSHS

Continued from Page 1B

trict."

Walker is more concerned with the building of the program than he is personal accolades for his senior season.

"Hopefully, they can learn from this year," Walker said. "I think this is a good building block for next year's team. I'm perfectly fine with being a part of that, but making the playoffs would've been nice. I'm glad the others made the team, too."

"I would've liked to have gone to the playoffs as a senior," he continued, "but it's nice to make all-district and receive the recognition that goes along with it."

Walker's biggest compliment this season was Clemons, who consistently scored points for the Steers in the post despite being undersized at the position.

"Terrance really came on at the end of district season," Morris said. "He was tough to stop in the last few games."

Both players are seniors, but Morris notes that their impact, along with the other departing athletes, will pay dividends for the future.

"All of our seniors meant a lot to this team," commented Morris. "They gave us a lot of leadership. It was my first year so they had to adjust to a new coach and new ideas. They did a good job and didn't complain. There wasn't one district game we weren't competitive in. Those guys were fun to coach and did what they were supposed to."

The future might very well be built around Williams and Ritchey, who each made the second team as sophomores. Ritchey started the season with a knee injury and didn't play until district started. However, his impact off the bench made an impression on the district's other coaches.

"Matt had some injuries to start the year, but he came on strong as he got healthy and more mobile," raved Morris. "There were times when I'd look out on the floor wondering who was moving so quickly and it was Matt."

Williams was the Steers' starting point guard and led the team in assists. Morris feels the sophomore ball handler plays at a more mature level than his grade and age suggest.

"Jerrell played pretty much all game, every game," Morris said. "It's hard to believe he's just a sophomore. He's got a lot of upside."

Williams understands

district foes will know more about him next season and will concentrate on getting the ball out of his hands. However, making the all-district team was his goal this season and it just gives him a desire to achieve higher goals as a junior.

"It means a lot to me to make second team," Williams said. "That was my goal this year. I'm just going to work harder this summer and try to get better."

Morris sees the possibility of a bright future for the Steers' program, despite the disappointing year. However, he notes that it will require another level of dedication from the returning players.

"It was a disappointing district season, but we were in every game," he said. "It's a consolation, but you'd rather win district and then you get

even more guys named to the team. Still, it's an honor to get four on there and I was real proud of those guys."

"For us to be successful next year, Matt and Jerrell can't be second teamers. They have to continue to improve," Morris continued. "I'm very excited about what we have coming back next year. We have a good group of kids with varsity experience along with Matt and Jerrell and our junior varsity put together a strong season at 15-7. As long as the kids get in the gym and don't wait until November to pick up a basketball again, the future looks pretty bright for the Steers."

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

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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.

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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

We salute:

Each week, the Herald salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments.

We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play

This week we salute:

- The AARP Tax Aide program, which has helped many people in the Crossroads area file their tax returns with the Internal Revenue Service. Remember, the program continues through April 14 each Monday from 8 a.m. until noon at the Howard County Library.

- Howard College's basketball teams, which made a strong showing in the Region V Tournament in Belton. Though falling a few points short of winning berths to the respective NJCAA National Tournaments, they represented their college and Big Spring well. Congratulations on a fine season, Hawks!

- Everyone who decided to take the opportunity to file as a candidate for city council or school district trustee in the Crossroads area. We wish you success in the May 10 elections.

- The news that building permits filed with the city are on the rise. With one motel under construction and two more planned, plus at least one restaurant planning an opening soon and Tractor Supply Co. acquiring land along Interstate 20, we've got to feel positive about Big Spring's future. Add to it the goings-on downtown and rebuilding of the Big Spring Refinery, and we're very pleased with what we see.

Is there an individual or organization in our community that you feel should be saluted? If so, please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.

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 deal with the basics and our future through You, Lord.

Amen

Reflections of an eye witness

What's the most unbelievable thing you know for a fact that you have actually seen? Was it the Marfa Lights or something spooky? Did you have a run in with Big Foot, or maybe your friend's nephew was born with a full set of teeth?

While I have not seen any of those things, except for the Marfa Lights, like any good Texan, I have seen some doosies. In the past 10 years, I have had the privilege of visiting around 20 nations throughout the world; I've preached in at least 50 different prisons here in Texas and some of those, many times. My missionary journeys have taken me from the trash dumps of Matamoros, Mexico, to the temple mount in Jerusalem.

God has always called people out of their normal environments to do His work and our life's journey is full of incredible scenery. When you get out there, and if you stay out there long enough, you are going to see some things that will blow your mind.

I actually saw the King sitting on his throne in Uganda. I saw two men fight to the death with machetes in Havana. I saw a bare-footed baby boy take his first steps in a horrible trash dump in Mexico while his mother cried for joy and applauded.

I saw elephants crossing the road in front of me near Rwanda. I saw a piece of a train on my front porch after a tornado came by my house in Johnson County.



TROY
BREWER

I have been inside real castles in Scotland, grass huts in India and cardboard boxes under the I-45 bridge in Dallas. I have seen the top floor of the Hilton in Dallas and the morgue of Harris Hospital.

These are first hand accounts of things I have actually seen with my own two eyes. I could begin to tell you about miracles I have seen and changed lives I have encountered. I even wrote a book that tells of some of those events and what the Lord taught me through them.

If you didn't believe me, I would mostly be OK with that. I might have my feelings a little bit hurt because you thought my character so low that I would print a lie, but nonetheless, I would get over it.

Now consider this — 2,000 years ago a couple hundred people, including the 11 disciples, said they personally saw Jesus after he had been dead — first hand. Not that a friend had seen Him, but they themselves actually saw Him in the flesh. They didn't say they saw a fleeting glimpse, but rather they walked with Him, ate with Him, touched Him and talked with Him for more than a month after his resurrection.

All of these men went to their graves standing strong with the same original story. Have you ever considered what kind of grave this story took them to?

James was beheaded by Herod in Jerusalem because of his eyewitness account. Peter went to Asia Minor and tradition says he was crucified, upside down, in Rome. Andrew, Peter's brother, went to Greece and southern Russia where he was crucified. Philip was stoned, drawn and quartered and then his remains were hung up in

Hierapolis.

Bartholomew went to Armenia and was skinned alive. Thomas went to Persia and to India; He was killed with a spear while telling people he had actually seen Jesus resurrected. Matthew went to Ethiopia and was killed by sword while visiting Egypt. James the Lesser, preached right there in Palestine and later went to Egypt where he was crucified by the Romans.

Mark was dragged by horses through the streets of Alexandria. Luke was hanged in Greece. James the Just was thrown off of the pentacle of the temple. Mathias, the apostle that took the place of Judas, was stoned and then beheaded in Jerusalem. Paul was tortured and then beheaded by Nero in Rome.

All of these men died alone, separated from the others in different parts of the world, and yet, not a single one said this was all a hoax or a sham. Every single one of these men went to their deaths praising God and declaring to their murderers, "He's alive! We saw Him, we ate with Him, He preached to us! Jesus Christ is resurrected from the dead!"

The Brewer believes the eyewitness accounts of those world changing people. As your kids are out looking for colorful eggs from an imaginary rabbit this Easter, make sure you all have a peek at the very real empty tomb in Jerusalem. I have looked in there myself. Jesus is not there. He is risen!

The Rev. Troy Brewer welcomes your comments. Contact him by visiting him online at www.FreshFromTheBrewer.com.

ADDRESSES

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

• **GEORGE W. BUSH**
President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

• **KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON**
U.S. Senator
703 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: 202-224-5922

• **JOHN CORNYN**
U.S. Senator
517 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: 202-224-2934

• **RANDY NEUGEBAUER**
U.S. Representative
19th Cong. District
1510 Scurry
Big Spring
Phone: (432) 264-0722



It's time for the blame game again

If it weren't for the fact the game is siphoning what little money I have in my wallet away from me, the claims flying back and forth between the American government and OPEC might be a source of endless entertainment. However, as gas prices go well over \$3 at the pumps, I'm not laughing.

OPEC is accusing the American government of economic mismanagement, which it claims is pushing the price of gasoline and oil to record highs, and denying President George W. Bush's recent requests to boost output.

The 13-country organization of petroleum producers says it will maintain its current production because crude oil supplies are plentiful and demand is expected to weaken in the second quarter.

"If the prices are high, it's certainly not due to a lack of crude (oil)," OPEC officials said in a recent statement. "They are due to what's happening in the U.S. There is a sufficient supply. There is plenty of oil there."

Bear in mind, OPEC supplies roughly 40 percent of the world's crude oil.

In the meantime, our dear President Dubbya said he's disappointed OPEC didn't do more to reign in gas prices, which some claim are driving — isn't that just a wonderful pun — the nation into a recession.

He points a finger that way and the other guy points right back at him. I suppose adult life really is just tall grade school.

In the meantime, the real culprits are sitting quietly on the sidelines, hoping no one notices them shoveling barrels of cash into every crevice they can find in their little corporate worlds.

Exxon Mobil has set new records for U.S. quarterly and annual corporate profits in 2007, earning a whopping \$40.6 billion last year. Here's an even better way to look at it. Exxon's profits from 2007 come to approximately \$4.6 million an hour.

How would you like to take home that paycheck?

Chevron reported its profits rose 29 percent, and profit margins for the five largest international oil companies have tripled since 2002.

Here's the punchline. Exxon officials say the earnings reflect "a long-term, disciplined approach" and investments made a decade ago when oil prices were lower.

Wow, and I thought the increase in profit could be attributed to the continued price gouging of the American public.

Silly me.

New York Sen. Charles Schumer isn't buying it either. In a recent statement he said, "Congratulations to Exxon Mobil and Chevron — for reminding Americans why they cringe every time they pull into a gas station and for reminding Washington why it needs to act swiftly to break our dependence on foreign oil and roll back unnecessary tax incentives for oil companies."

OK, so the senator got a little more political toward the end of his statement than I care for, but at least he's willing to stand up and say, "Shame on you!" That's more than I can say for Bush and his cronies, who would rather blame OPEC.

And so, as the finger pointing continues with no end — but most certainly a recession — in sight, we the American people are quietly left to fend for ourselves. It's just like a friend of mine told me years ago, "The suits screw it up, and it's guys like you and me that have to pay the price."

And pay it we shall, as the sale of Goliath SUVs — Yukons, Suburbans and everything just shy of a Sherman tank — continues to thrive in the Lone Star State.

I gave up my Jeep Wrangler more than a year ago, going from its 12 miles per gallon to my new automobile's 36 mpg on the highway. But to ask Texans to give up their land yachts, well that's just un-American.

The next time I need to fill up and the cash flow is a little thin — and it certainly seems like those days are coming hard and fast — maybe I'll call Exxon's CEO and see if he'll spot me a loan.

Something tells me, however, I'll have some trouble getting through. Spending all that money has to be tiresome.

Poor fellow.

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

AGGIES

Continued from Page 3B

worked. A&M, the worst free-throw shooting team in the Big 12, made just 15-of-24 free throws (62.5 percent). But the Cyclones, the worst 3-point shooting team in the Big 12 missed 1-of-5 from beyond the arc, in the final 2:05 and missed a couple layups.

Tonight's game against Kansas State (20-10) could be a completely different matter. Wildcats' scoring machine Michael Beasley (26.5 points per game) and sidekick Bill Walker

(16.0 ppg) have already tasted a 21-point win over the Aggies in Manhattan, Kan., (75-54) on Jan. 19.

"Hopefully we'll be a better team tomorrow than we were tonight," Texas A&M coach Mark Turgeon said. "We were disappointed with the way we finished in the league, and we're trying to make up for that in this tournament."

Donald Sloan and Dominique Kirk led the Aggies with 12 points each. Sloan also had nine rebounds and nine assists in an inspired performance, considering his mother, Sandra, of Grand Prairie died Thursday morning.

Sloan had gone back home to see his mother Wednesday and flew back to Kansas City early Thursday.

"What a tough kid," Turgeon said. "His mother wanted to see him one last time, and he flew back today with blood shot eyes and almost had a triple-double."

Sloan was so focused on helping his team that after the game all he wanted to talk about was a rematch with K-State.

"I'm really looking forward to that game," Sloan said.

Turgeon said he wasn't sure Jordan would be available for K-State, adding that Jordan went to the hospital to see if he was suffering from appendicitis.

Kirk was asked if the Aggies are feeling pressure to win every game to impress the NCAA Tournament selection committee.

"We're definitely trying to win the whole tournament," Kirk said. "We tried to not let the pressure get to us, but it did get to us a little in the beginning."

Nebraska 61, Missouri 56

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Missouri coach Mike Anderson stood near midcourt, his hands on his hips. He looked up and then to the court where his

Missouri Tigers' season had just ended with a 61-56 loss to Nebraska in the first round of the Big 12 tournament.

"I was very disappointed in our performance today," Anderson said. "Coming over I thought we'd be amped up and ready to play, but for some unforeseen reason what you saw today has kind of been a synapse in our season. But one thing our guys did is they went down fighting."

Winning in the first round of the conference tournament at Sprint Center was Missouri's last hope of making major post-season play.

BAYLOR

Continued from Page 1B

Colorado tried to run away with it at the start of the second overtime, scoring the first seven points, but Jerrells followed with a three-point play.

Baylor got within 83-81, but Rogers missed two more free throws and Hall scored on a runner with 25 seconds left.

Hall hit two free throws, then Roby hit two more to extend his career at least one more game.

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720 COLGATE: Sat. 8:30-? Furniture, curtains & bed skirt to match, lamps, VCR, throw pillows, men's clothes, chairs & rockers, lots of household items, microwave and more.

CARPOR SALE at 4200 Parkway, Saturday only. Women's clothes and shoes, kitchen items, one wedding ring, and many other items.

ESTATE/ 3 Family Garage Sale: 204 E. Robinson Rd., Saturday Only 8-? Furniture, clothes, baby & toddler toys, Christmas decor., TV's, Mary Kay items, musical equipment, craft items, tools and lots of misc.

ESTATE/GARAGE SALE: 3910 Hamilton, Thurs., Fri. & Sat. 8:00-? Too much to list.

GARAGE SALE 408 NORTH East 11th, Saturday 9am-4pm.

GARAGE SALE 4300 Ratliff. Take 87 South, left at Fina, left at 4 way stop, last house on left. Housewares, sport shirts XL, fishing gear, tools. Friday 8am-5pm, Saturday 8am-2pm.

GARAGE SALE: 807 Ohio, Saturday & Sunday 8:00-12:00. Furniture, kitchen items, dining set, collectibles, linens, pillows, adult clothing, rot iron items and more.

HUGE SALE, 708 Johansen Rd: Fri. 8-?, Sat. 8-? Metal/Tile Kitchen table and wine rack, house decor., light fixtures, mirrors, black desk, metal/wicker bar stools, motorcycle parts, collectables, clothes, vacuum, large black wool rug, ottoman, books, metal/canvas screen, and much more.

Garage Sales

INSIDE ESTATE/ Multi-family Garage Sale: 1611 Johnson, Saturday 7:30am-5:30pm. Some furniture, ladies clothing, SAS shoes size 7, collectibles, housewares, dishes, cookware, linens, lots of Christmas items and lots more! Dealers welcome! You don't want to miss this one!

INSIDE SALE: 811 West 5th, Saturday 8am-3pm. Electric wheel chair, DVD player, clothing, water dispenser, dishes (8 piece setting), and lots more. Baked goods.

LARGE MOVING Sale, 1809 Thorpe Street, Fri. 4pm-? & Sat. 7am-? Dog/cat furniture and accessories, yard and garage equipment, Gas Bar-B-Que, plumbing, electrical, building supplies, kitchen and bathroom items, chrome truck rails, sport stuff, girl's bike, DVD's, CD's, VHS, clothes and too much to list! Call 432-264-6352.

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HOLIDAY MATHIS

Minds turn toward quiet contemplation and simple revelations. Maybe we can accomplish more by listening to the still, quiet voice within.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're getting a fortuitous blessing from

Real Estate for Sale

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

Tomorrow's Horoscope

the heavens for sure. But don't credit all your good luck to the stars. Your attitude is what determines who you are and what you attract as a result.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There's no express elevator to your current goal. You must climb the ladder, doing the work it takes to get up, rung by rung. You're capable — you've never felt so strong.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). As the sign of communication, it's easier for you to reach out than it is for you not to reach out. So when the person sitting next to you seems intriguing, speak up and say hello. New friends are around every corner.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You are wildly, unfairly attractive these days. You have more power in relationships than you know what to do with. Be merciful with your influence. Compassion boosts your karma.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). In your fantasy life, you employ a secretary, a stylist and a driver. In your real life, you do a pretty good job of taking care of yourself and getting where you need to be. Give yourself props — tips even.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your feelings are prophetic. If you walk into a room and don't feel that things are right, turn around and walk right back out. Don't worry about offending anyone. Following your instincts will be best for all.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Be careful what you wish for. Things that are temporarily exciting

require much follow through and hard work. Give your wishes a trial run. Project yourself into the future with your sense of creative vision.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). When blame is being passed, you take it and set it in the garbage where it belongs so you can focus on solutions. Your life grows in interesting ways because of this responsible attitude.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll want to mull over ideas, jotting, plotting and dreaming about when it will be the right time to make your move. Forget all of that — just act now, or you'll be kicking yourself next week.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Today brings opportunities a plenty, most of them not worth investing your time into. Be merciless in your assessment of what will be good for you. People who are too slick and cool are suspect.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your complete acceptance of others "as is" becomes all the more remarkable when you consider how hard you are pushing to improve yourself these days. Everyone is going at his or her own best pace.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Everyone says you have to work hard to get what you want, but maybe you don't this time. Simply having the desire in the front of your mind may be enough to make something wonderful occur.

WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST: ARIES: Make headway in love by examining a partner's boundaries and then

building supports around them. **TAURUS:** The cooperative spirit of a loved one keeps you from over-committing energy to something you're uncertain about.

GEMINI: You mark life events and experience the passage of time within one very special relationship. **CANCER:** Reflect on how you're feeling. Your intuition informs your heart which informs your partner.

LEO: A loved one supports your ambitions, which has the effect of bringing you closer together. **VIRGO:** Happiness isn't a vague feeling. If you're feeling uncertain about a person's affections, examine the one emotion inhibiting you from happiness.

LIBRA: You can't make someone change for you, but you can inspire them to do it for themselves. **SCORPIO:** Give if you enjoy the satisfaction of giving and you grow stronger for it.

SAGITTARIUS: Uncertainty is eased by putting effort into areas of love you might be taking for granted. **CAPRICORN:** Don't worry about how a decision looks to someone else.

AQUARIUS: Shake off old love disappointments. Use the grace you've earned in the process to round a new corner. **PISCES:** You give yourself the one thing you want someone to give you most.

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.

Annie's Mailbox ®

Dear Annie: I am the father of five children, four of whom are adults. My two oldest sons, "Jason" and "Jared," are married, but their wives hate each other and refuse to attend family functions where the other may be present.

My wife and I have refused to involve ourselves in the fight between our daughters-in-law. We invite both to family functions and they decide whether they will attend.

Recently, however, Jason's wife told us that she and my son will not speak to us or visit if we have any contact with Jared and his wife. She says it is disrespectful to her when we speak to Jared or his wife. This is especially difficult now because Jason and his wife are expecting our first grandchild.

My wife and I have refused to give in to our daughter-in-law's blackmail, but we don't want to give up contact with Jason or our future grandchild. Any advice? — Squeezed in Kentucky

Dear Squeezed: For shame. The only disrespectful person here is your daughter-in-law, who is behaving like a spoiled brat. For her to punish you because she can't deal with her sister-in-law is a sign of immaturity and selfishness. The fact that your son won't speak up indicates he lacks backbone and independent thought. She also may be an abuser who is trying to isolate her husband from his family. Talk to your son and tell him you are so sorry his wife feels she has the right to dictate your relationships with others. Explain that if she doesn't wish to see



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

you or the rest of the family, that is her choice, but you hope he will have the decency to keep in touch on his own. A supportive wife would insist on it.

Dear Annie: For some time now, I've felt that one of my friends is avoiding me. "Kenny" never answers when I call, and he doesn't return my messages. Also, if I go over to his apartment (when I know he's supposed to be home), his roommate tells me he's not there.

Is he avoiding me, am I paranoid, or am I just being a nuisance? — Feeling Neglected

Dear Neglected: Well, you're not paranoid. Stop calling and dropping by Kenny's apartment. It makes you seem desperate. If Kenny wants to talk, he knows how to reach you. We recommend you spend your time with people who appreciate your company.

Dear Annie: I am writing to urge you to call your readers' attention to a health condition that is frequently ignored but affects more than one in four American families. It silently erodes the sufferer's quality of life, undermines family

relationships and fuels depression. I'm talking about hearing loss. It affects more than 31.5 million Americans, and surprisingly, most are below retirement age.

Many of today's baby boomers suffer hearing loss from listening to loud music or living in noisy environments. It can cause irritability, anger, fatigue, tension, stress and depression, and can lead to social withdrawal, rejection and loneliness.

A recent study found that Americans with hearing loss make significantly less money than people with normal hearing — but that use of a hearing aid on the job reduces income loss by 50 percent. Unfortunately, too many people wait years before getting treatment, becoming more and more disconnected.

With modern advances in technology, more than 90 percent of people with hearing loss can be helped with hearing aids. Modern hearing aids are sleek and often cannot be easily seen.

If your readers find themselves asking people to repeat themselves, think others are mumbling, have trouble hearing children and women or have ringing in their ears, I encourage them to have their hearing checked by a professional. — Sergei Kochkin, Ph.D., Executive Director, Better Hearing Institute

Dear Dr. Kochkin: Thank you for the excellent information. Readers can get a copy of "Your Guide to Better Hearing" by calling 1-800-EAR-WELL (1-800-327-9355) or visiting the Better Hearing Institute at betterhearing.org.

Club News

The Big Spring Art Association

The Big Spring Art Association will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 18, in the basement of the Howard County Library.

Monthly meetings include guest speakers and a competition of artworks to be displayed throughout town. Anyone interested in art is invited to join.

West Texas Art Guild

West Texas Art Guild held its regularly scheduled meeting Feb. 23 at Studio Twenty Art Gallery in Colorado City at

10 a.m. Nita Mahan, vice president, presided over the meeting and recognized Debby Guelker of Colorado City as a new member of the art guild. Mrs. Guelker is known around the West Texas area for her handmade glass jewelry and also enjoys painting.

Club members discussed a tentative art show to be held in Colorado City at the Heart of West Texas Heritage Museum to recognize artists in the newly formed West Texas Art Guild. Tentative dates for the show will be May 17 or 24. Members also discussed the

possibility of displaying works of art in area businesses.

Members will be conducting short demonstrations during the monthly meeting. Leada Wood will be presenting the first demonstration in watercolor March 29 at 10 a.m. and Carolyn Walker will do her presentation April 26 on acrylics or oil. These meetings are open to the public and anyone interested in art is welcome to join in.

The West Texas Art Guild has artists that are gifted painters, photographers, potters, metal artists and jewelry design-

ers. We are looking for more artists in the area to come and join in and be a part of a growing and developing movement of art and culture in the West Texas area. You do not have to be an artist to become a member, just a love and appreciation for art and want to see it. Membership dues are only \$20 annually.

The next meeting of the art guild is scheduled for March 29 at 10 a. m. in Studio Twenty Art Gallery in Colorado City on Interstate 20, next to Wood's Boots.



Courtesy photo
Sandy Griffin, left, Howard-Glasscock Relay For Life treasurer, reports on the group's progress in March during its Thursday night meeting.

RFL gives helping hand to Alon

By **NANCY KOGER**

Special to the Herald

Wishing to acknowledge the large part that Alon has played in the Howard Glasscock Relay for Life, members of the Relay Committee prepared a meal for the Alon Big Spring Refinery employees Thursday evening.

The menu consisted of stuffed burgers (a secret family recipe of Judy Park, mother of co-chair Jenny Sayles), chips, cookie and a mint. Many local organizations have answered the call of the chamber of commerce and Howard College to join in to help get the refinery rebuilt.

"They were asking for help, and we know how much they have always helped us. We wanted to show them our appreciation," said Angela Kennedy, co-chair. The cost of the meal did not come from funds raised for cancer causes; members of the committee donated their money and time.

The 2008 Howard-Glasscock Relay for Life event doesn't take place

"They were asking for help, and we know how much they have always helped us. We wanted to show them our appreciation,"

— Angela Kennedy

until May 16-17, but the work that brings the national spotlight to Big Spring has already begun. The current chairwomen, Jenny Sayles and Angela Kennedy, greeted the 60 plus members of the planning committee to the monthly meeting March 11 at Trinity Baptist Church annex to hear reports about underwriters, team recruitment, cancer survivors, luminaria sales and new ideas for events and fund-raising.

A new part of this year's Relay will be the "Fight Back" ceremony. As in previous years, the words of emphasis have been "Celebrate," marked by the Survivor's Walk, and "Remember," emphasized with

the moving Luminaria ceremony. Additionally this year, there will be a ceremony with flags and a guest speaker to show that relayers are there because they are fighting back against cancer.

Barbi Jones, American Cancer Society High Plains Region director, spoke about the uses of the money raised at Relay. Thirty-six percent of the money goes to research — 29 percent of which comes back to Texas for cancer research. She mentioned that most people associate the American Cancer Society with research, but she asked Relay workers to help spread the word that ACS funds also do other important work: 27 percent of funds go to prevention, early detection, and treatment; 18 percent funds training and education; 17 percent goes to patient support; and a mere 2 percent is used for administration.

ACS also acts as an advocate for cancer sufferers and survivors with state and national government entities to help get legislation for government funding.

14 students advance to state science fair

Herald Staff Report

Fourteen Big Spring Independent School District students qualified for state science competition after sterling performances at the regional science fair held at the University of Texas-Permian Basin in Odessa.

The students, from grades 6 through 12, earned a trip to the state competition by earning one of the top three spots in their respective divisions at the regional fair, said sponsor Darrell Ryan. Elementary students also entered projects, although they were not eligible to qualify for state competition.

The state science fair will be held April 10 in San Antonio.

Following are results for BSISD students at the regional science fair:

Senior Division Big Spring High School

- Environmental Management — Hannah Weber, first place (won \$50 savings bond, plus two \$500 special prize awards).

Intermediate Division Big Spring Junior High School

- Medicine and Health — Candice Drinkard, second place.
- Chemistry — Brady Weber, first place; Lacy McMurtrey, third place.
- Behavior/Social Science — Sydney Winters, third place.
- Team Entry — Anna Scott and Seth Yarbar, second place.

Goliad Intermediate (sixth grade)

- Mathematical Science — Ryane Colette, first place.
- Chemistry — Tucker

Durham, third place.

- Chemistry — Tucker Durham, third place.

- Cellular and Molecular Biology — Kelsie Gwinn, second place.

- Earth Science — Tyler Stromberg, second place; Trace Telchik, third place.

- Electrical Engineering — Garrett Wheeler, second place; Amy Winters, third place.

Junior Division Goliad Intermediate (fifth grade)

- Environmental Science — Teodora Arguello, third place.

- Mathematics — Brycen Kiker, second place.

- Behavioral Science — Tayisiya Movchan, second place; Rikki Salgado, third place.

- Mathematical Science — Stevi Ward, first place.

Bauer Elementary
Behaviorah Science — Issac Timmerman, first place; Ethan Morelion, third place.

Marcy Elementary
• Chemistry — Darice Chavarria, special award.

Moss Elementary
• Mathematical Physics — Hannah Jensen, first place.

- Team Entry — Charisma Fierro and Dylan Watson, second place (won special award).

Washington Elementary

- Mathematics — Michael Klaus, special award.

- Chemistry — Denika Nieto, special award.

- Environmental Science — Devynn Smith, second place.

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Church News

East Fourth Street Baptist Church

"Thanks" from the youth. Their first two burrito sales for the year were successful. Be watching for future sales.

Heart Call, women sharing God's Heart with other women, is Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the fellowship hall. The cost is \$20 and includes lunch.

Church directory pictures will be taken March 16, March 30 and April 6, from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Sign-up sheets are available in the church foyer on Sundays; call the church office during the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 267-2291, Monday through Thursday.

East Musical is presented by East Fourth Church choir this Sunday at 11 a.m. Come share with us in service of song and celebration for our risen Lord.

Should you be a long- or short-time resident of Big Spring, a worker who is here helping rebuild the Alon Refinery or just passing through, we welcome you to East Fourth Street Baptist Church, 410 E. Fourth St.

Sunday activities begin at 9:45 a.m. with Sunday school for all ages followed by worship service at 11 a.m. Evening Mission classes begin at 5 p.m., followed by worship service at 6 p.m.

On Wednesday, adult prayer meeting, youth and children's Bible study/music are all held at 7 p.m.

Men's Bible study meets at 7 a.m. Saturday.

Chapel of Faith

You are invited to come celebrate the season of the death on the cross and the resurrection of Christ. The Chapel of Faith Church, located at 14th and Goliad, will have services Palm Sunday and a Service of Holy Communion on Easter Sunday as we honor the meaning of the cross. Christ died and arose into Heaven so that our sins would be forgiven if we repent. Because of this we are promised everlasting

life in Heaven.

The Rev. Joel Miller, pastor, presents a message of hope taken from scripture each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Chapel of Faith is an interdenominational church with an informal atmosphere filled with the love of Christ. All are welcome.

Work days on Saturday are continuing with obvious results in the appearance and comfort of the church. More and more, God is working through the people of Big Spring to see that we have items for the sanctuary, nursery/playroom and kitchen. We have now been given a refrigerator, cook stove and an organ.

A friend of the church fashioned a large cross of wood for the front of the sanctuary. With the continued support from our members and the community, the church will continue to grow to be able to reach more people with the message of God's love.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Everyone is invited to attend worship services at St. Mary's this Palm Sunday.

Holy Communion will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. Sunday school for all ages begins at 9:30 a.m.

St. Mary's will have morning prayer at 7:30 a.m. Monday and continue through Wednesday.

Maundy Thursday will be observed at 6 p.m. Thursday. Good Friday services are at 12:05 p.m. and 6 p.m. Friday. Please join us for all our Holy Week services.

For more information about St. Mary's Episcopal Church, call 267-8201 or visit our Web site at www.stmarysbst.org. St. Mary's is located at 1001

South Goliad.

First Christian Church

Starting this Sunday, Easter week at First Christian will focus on letting go of the old and embracing the promise and hope of resurrection. You are invited to join us for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday worship, a prayer vigil on Good Friday, an Easter Egg hunt Saturday and a special Easter celebration the next day.

In addition to the traditional Palm Sunday processional with palms, this year's processional will take place over coats laid down in the aisle and along the steps leading to the communion table. Attendees are invited to bring a coat or a jacket not worn any longer for use in the service. The coats will then be gathered and donated to Isaiah 58 for distribution in the community. The message of our pastor, the Rev. Ken McIntosh, titled "Bent Knees, Then What?" is based on Phillipians 2:5-11.

On Thursday, starting at 7 p.m., First Christian will hold a somber Maundy Thursday worship service to commemorate the Last Supper, betrayal and arrest of Jesus. Communion will be by intinction.

On Good Friday, First Christian is sponsoring a 12-hour prayer vigil. This year's prayers will focus on God's compassion, strength and hope being made available to people suffering illness and faced with health challenges, those who are discouraged, those who are lonely, those who are depressed and those who are grieving. The prayer vigil starts at 9 a.m. Friday. Members of the

community are welcome to join us for the special day of prayer.

On Saturday, March 22, starting at noon, our church will be sponsoring an Easter Egg hunt and hot dog picnic for children of Big Spring. If the weather is bad, the hunt will be moved indoors.

Finally, plan now to join us Easter Sunday for an inspiring day of worship and witness. Worship will include a special liturgical dance featuring women and girls of the church dancing to two selections choreographed by Eulaine McIntosh. Our pastor's Easter message titled "After the Chocolate Bunnies are Eaten" will be straightforward affirmation that Easter is not about us; Easter is all about God. A special offering will be taken to support our church's witness throughout the world.

Each week, Sunday school starts at 9:30 a.m. with coffee fellowship and donuts; worship begins promptly at 10:50 a.m. We are also delighted to announce that we have added a children's sermon near the beginning of the worship hour to include the growing number of little ones coming to First Christian.

Birdwell Lane Baptist Church

Greetings! If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to visit us at 1512 Birdwell Lane. Sunday services are at 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Children's church is during the morning worship for ages four through nine. Midweek services are at 7 p.m. Wednesday. For a ride to services or other information, call

264-9924 or 267-7157. A nursery is provided.

Saturday in our fellowship hall, Mrs. Stella Lee will celebrate her 99th birthday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

She invites all friends and church family to help her celebrate.

The youth are planning a lock-in Friday, March 21. They will play games and enjoy a great time.

First Presbyterian Church of Coahoma

The lectionary for Palm Sunday is Matthew 21:1-11; Psalm 31:9-16; Isaiah 50:4-9; Matthew 27:11-54.

During Holy Week, First Presbyterian in Big Spring invites the Coahoma congregation to a Maundy Thursday service in the Chapel March 20 and a Good Friday service March 21. Both of these services will be led by the Rev. Bill Henning, former pastor at Big Spring.

The men of FPC Coahoma will prepare breakfast Saturday, March 22 and invite everyone to join them about 8 a.m. The Presbyterians of Coahoma invite the com-

See **CHURCH**, Page 8A

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© 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

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

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Inside Big Spring Pack and Ship

CHURCH

Continued from Page 7A

munity to join them in a sunrise service Easter morning. Sunday worship service will be at 11 a.m. as usual.

The next church Frolic, a celebration of shared talents, will be Saturday, March 29, at 7 p.m. in the church social hall.

First Baptist Church

Did you know you have a "joy" gene? That's what "they" are saying. We hope your are filled with the joy of knowing Jesus. After all, He is the giver of true joy. We invite you to come to First Baptist Church and worship Him every time we meet. Call us at 267-8223 and we'll give you information concerning our church.

First United Methodist Church

As is the tradition at First Methodist Big Spring, this Sunday we will have the procession around the church buildings just prior to the late worship service. All the children and any adults who want to join them will meet in front of the sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. There will be a donkey and a rider representing Jesus to lead the procession.

Upon entering the sanctuary, children will place their palm branches on the altar and will remain in that area for the completion of the children's sermon.

Each weekday during Holy Week there will be a special service preceded by a meal to be served in

Garrett Hall. Monday's speaker will be Scott Van Pelt. Tuesday, Debbie Van Pelt will lead the service. Wednesday, our speaker is scheduled to be Murray Murphy, followed Thursday by Kathryn Wiseman. Friday's speaker will be JoAnn Knox. Sunday school classes and noon cooks will be providing each day's meals.

Maundy Thursday there will also be an evening Tenebrae worship service beginning at 7 p.m. Dr. Jim Smith will lead this service of darkness. Soloists for the evening will be Nathan Menges, Jackie Henry and Richard Moren. Special scripture readings will be done by Lee Emerson and JoAnne Forrest.

As we prepare for Easter, we well remember the touching and heartfelt sermon delivered in our sanctuary last fall, "It's Friday, but Sunday mornings comin'", And now, it's nearly here.

You are cordially invited to attend any and all these services and activities. Our church buildings are located in the heart of downtown Big Spring at Fourth and Scurry streets.

St. Paul

Lutheran Church

This coming week is Holy Week! We will begin celebrating Maundy Thursday March 20, at 7 p.m. Good Friday services are on the 21st at 7 p.m. Easter Sunrise services in the courtyard are at 7:30 a.m. on the 23rd. A pancake breakfast sponsored by the youth group follows at 8:15 a.m.

Regular worship services will be at 9:30 a.m.

for this Sunday only.

There will be an Easter egg hunt at 10 a.m. March 22 in the Education Wing at 811 Scurry St. with face painting, games, prizes, cookie decorating and Easter craft. Come one and all to this fun traditional Easter time event!

Bible studies continue during the week at their regular times. Don't forget the choir led by Angela Newton and the Sunday school led by Bruce Schooler. Adult teachers are Pastor Wayne Frost and David Carlisle.

March On-Going Support items are black or white tube socks, Gold Bond foot powder, Sweet Tarts, Starbursts and Lifesavers. AT&T phone cards are most welcome.

Never forget the reason for the season! Christ died for my sins and yours and rose again that we will be saved and we will be with God in Heaven. God bless and keep you!

Holy Trinity Catholic Parish

A vigil mass will be celebrated at the St. Joseph's location in Coahoma for the patron saint's feast day. This will be held at 6 p.m. tonight.

Next week, Lent will be coming to an end. In the Catholic tradition, Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday. The last day of Lent is Wednesday and the Triduum begins Thursday with the evening mass of the Lord's Supper at 7 p.m. at the Sacred Heart location. This will be followed by Adoration.

At 3 p.m. Good Friday, Stations of the Cross will be held at the Sacred

Heart location. At 6 p.m., a street procession will precede the 7 p.m. service (Adoration of the Cross) at Sacred Heart. Gather at the church to start the procession.

The Holy Saturday Easter Vigil will be held at 8 p.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary. At the Easter Vigil, we celebrate the entrance of some of our adults into full membership of the church. Since last fall, these adults have been prayerfully involved in their preparation for initiation into the Catholic community.

Easter Sunday's masses will be held at Immaculate Heart of Mary at 9:30 a.m. and Sacred Heart at 11:30 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church of Big Spring

The Working Women's Bible study group met Thursday, March 13, with Helen Glass leading the lesson.

Weekly Bible study was at 5:17 p.m., youth group at 6 p.m. and choir practice at 7 p.m. as usual Wednesday.

Congratulations to members of our youth, Roger Kauss and Cameron Hughey, who have qualified for state competition in debate and swimming, respectively.

The Session will have its regular monthly meeting Monday at 6 p.m. Members of the Mission Study committee are asked to attend.

Our preacher for Palm Sunday will be Dr. Jim Matthews, president of PanAmerican School in Kingsville. The congregation will join the choir in the processional, bringing


palm branches to arrange around the cross. Anthems for the morning are "His the Scepter," words by Joel Nagy, music by Russell Nagy; and "Draw Nigh unto Jerusalem" by David Williams.

Lectionary for Sunday is Matthew 21:1-11; Psalm 118 and 31:9-16; Isaiah 50:4-9; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 27:11-54.

The Rev. Bill Henning,

former pastor of FPC Big Spring, will be joining us for Holy Week. Maundy Thursday Communion service will be in the chapel at 7 p.m. The Tenebrae service on Good Friday will be at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. Henning will preach Easter Sunday.

We will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing offering Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday.



Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Test Your Play

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Three Notrump, and North leads the six of spades. When you play the king from dummy, it wins the trick. South following with the four. How would you play the hand?

West	East
♦ Q 5 2	♦ K 7
♥ A K 8	♥ Q 6 3
♦ A Q J 4	♦ 10 9 8
♣ J 10 9	♣ A K 8 6 3
2. You are declarer with the same hand at Three Notrump, but this time, when you play dummy's king of spades, South wins with the ace and returns the ten. How would you play the hand?

1. In notrump, you usually try to develop tricks in your longest suit (in the present case, clubs), but that doesn't make it the right play in all cases. In this instance, the correct suit to play is diamonds, not clubs. At trick two, you should lead the ten of diamonds and let it ride if South follows low. Even if the ten loses to the king, you are assured of nine tricks consisting of one spade, three hearts, three diamonds and two clubs. North can't profitably return a spade, and you are home free whatever else he leads.
- Of course, if South has the king of diamonds, you will make at least 10 tricks by repeating the finesse.

2. The situation changes completely if South wins the first trick with the ace and returns the ten. Instead of South being the player you're afraid to have on lead, North becomes the player you fear most. He presumably has the spade length (most likely five of them) and can therefore set you if he gains the lead after they become established. Accordingly, you should duck the ten-of-spades return and win the next spade with the queen. Now you can safely lead the jack of clubs and finesse. You don't mind losing the trick to South because his fangs have already been drawn. If South wins the jack of clubs with the queen and returns a diamond, you rise with the ace and run like a bunny with nine tricks. There is no need to get greedy by taking the diamond finesse. You might wake up in the hospital if partner is the excitable type. If South should happen to have a spade to return after taking the queen of clubs, you needn't be concerned. In that case, the opposing spades were originally divided 4-4, and the defenders can't score more than four tricks.

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The Pinkerton Law Firm, PLLC recently resolved over 150 personal injury claims related to the BP explosion that occurred in Texas City, Texas, with clients recovering extraordinary monetary awards and/or settlements. The Pinkerton Law Firm, PLLC has the experience and track record to prosecute your claim to the maximum extent possible under the law.

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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,
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Passion For FASHION

by Jessica Martinez



I can't begin to tell you how much I love clothes but then I guess any girl who likes feeling good about herself enjoys fashion as much as I do. Well, I am here to tell you that looking great everyday is not hard nor expensive. You just have to know how to budget yourself and accessorize. Oh my, accessorize !! Please do so. I can't begin to tell you how important it is to add a nice jewelry piece to your outfit. It brings it up so many notches.

Well, I love bringing color into an outfit by matching a wonderful necklace or bangle bracelets with some great peep toe shoes.

For example take a look at this ensemble.....

This was a cute halter top with an empire waist line and with a nice elaborate sequence on top. May I add that the empire waist line is great for those of us that have a less than perfectly flat tummy. I just think it's great that you can dress up a pair of jeans so easily. I choose to use low rise dark wash jeans. I decided to bring color into this outfit by adding yellow bangle bracelets and adding my personal favorite, yellow basket weave peep toe shoes. In this particular outfit I decided not to add a necklace due, to the fact that the top is a halter. In my personal opinion, that would be a bit to busy for my style.



Always remember a hint of color through accessorizing can make an outfit both fun and edgy.

Every day is worth looking your best!!!

To Comment or read more blogs from the Big Spring Herald Check out www.bigspringherald.com

FRIDAY

Table with 16 columns representing different TV channels (WFAA, KMID, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, SCIFI) and 12 rows representing different time slots (6:30 PM to 12:30 AM) with program listings.

DENNIS THE MENACE



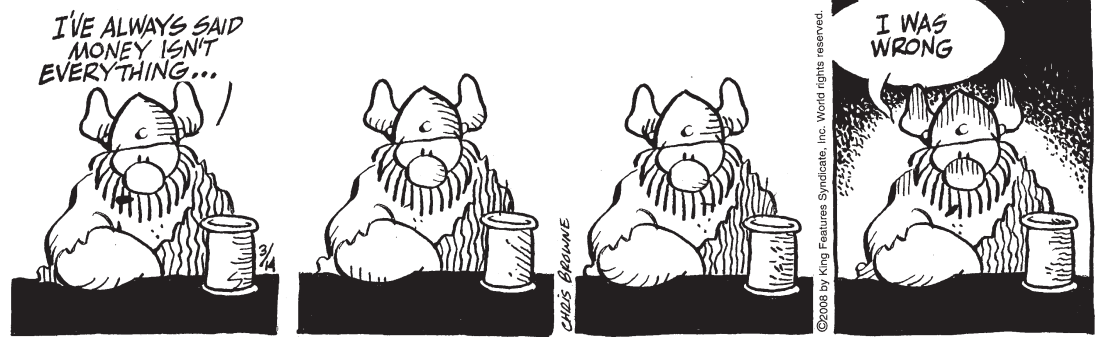
"NO NEED TO HIRE A CLOWN FOR DENNIS' PARTY. IT'S A CIRCUS BY ITSELF."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Did Kitty Fisher buy a lost and found ad in the paper?"

HAGAR



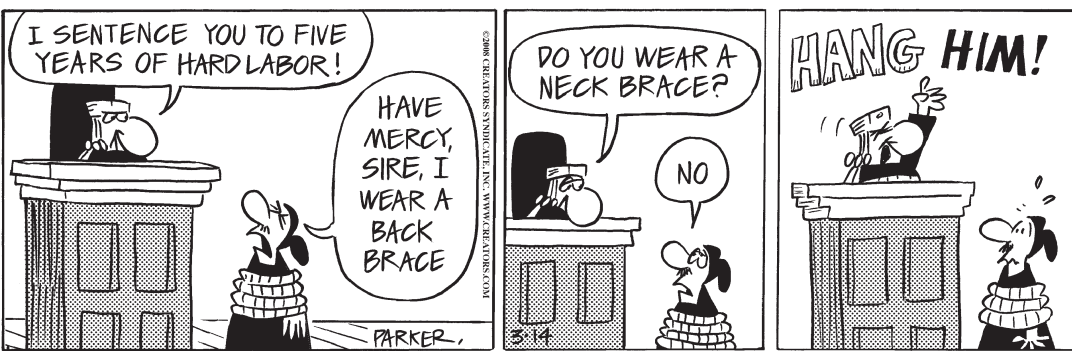
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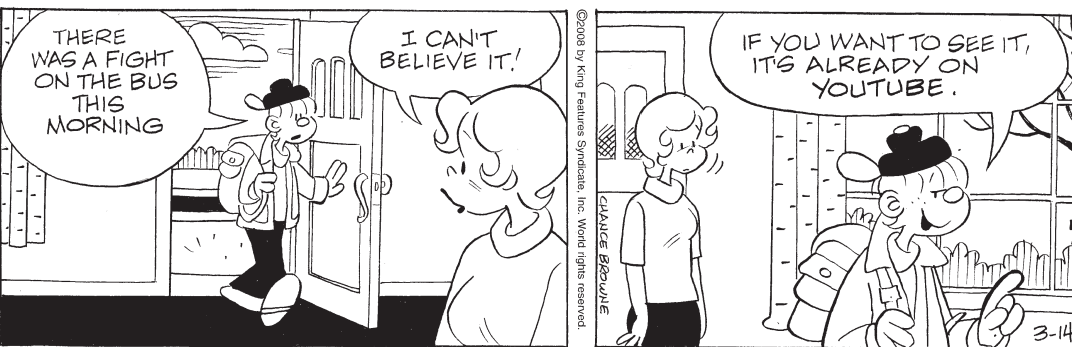
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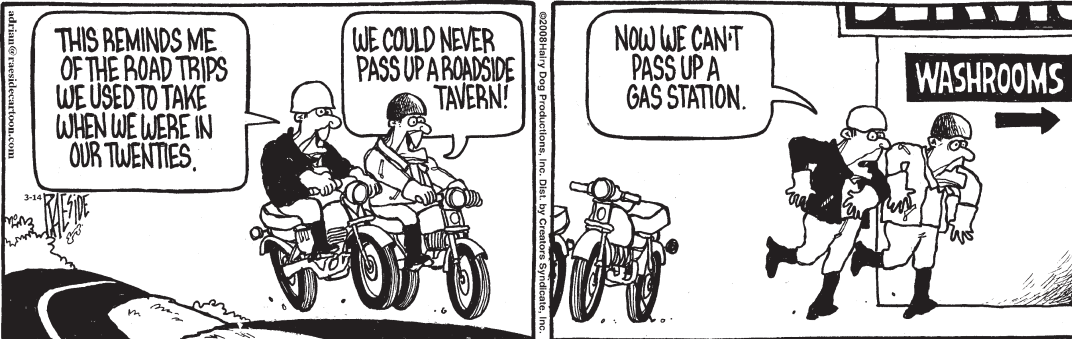
AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Friday, March 14, the 74th day of 2008. Today's Highlight in History: On March 14, 1794, Eli Whitney received a patent for his cotton gin...

Slovakia. In 1951, during the Korean War, United Nations forces recaptured Seoul. In 1964, a jury in Dallas found Jack Ruby guilty of murdering Lee Harvey Oswald...

69. Movie director Wolfgang Petersen is 67. Country singer Michael Martin Murphey is 63. Rock musician Walt Parazaider (Chicago) is 63. Actor Steve Kanaly is 62. Comedian Billy Crystal is 60. Country singer Jann Browne is 54. Actor Adrian Zmed is 54. Prince Albert II, the ruler of Monaco, is 50. Actress Tamara Tunie is 49. Actress Penny Johnson Jerald is 47. Producer-director-writer Kevin Williamson is 43. Actor Gary Anthony Williams is 42. Actress Megan Follows is 40. Rock musician Michael Bland is 39. Country singer

Answer to previous puzzle: DODOS BIDS SKID IRANI ASAP WIDE SEWED CLIO ANON CONDESCENDINGLY ASIA TEN ACHY TRAY AEGIS TRE DUAL ARMADA SURREPTITIOUSLY EDDIES CHEW PEI AESOP PEEL ASST EAR BLOG UNCONDITIONALLY HALS OMAR ISSUE OVAL REND OSAKA HYPO ERGS NITES

Newsday Crossword

FIELD DAY by Richard Silvestri Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS 1 Lewis Carroll's field 5 Auto suspension part 10 Billie Holiday portrayer 14 Out of port 15 Three-Oscar director 16 Analogy words 17 Film rater's unit 18 Had leftovers, maybe 19 Smart 20 Dogfish kin 23 Become contrite about 24 Part of a Maugham title 25 Calls false 29 Sunshine State city 34 "Terrible" guy 35 Tuckered out 36 Beaver work 37 Panel 41 Tony winner Hagen 42 Mace, for one 43 Con 44 Make less serious 46 Let go 48 Hill resident 49 Very small 50 Forced union 59 Lip-puckering 60 Take off 61 Influence 62 If another choice is needed 63 Some fellers 64 Thermometer type 65 Inferior 66 Look into space 67 Absurdist art movement 71 Workplace monitor 72 Commotion 73 Weathervane alternative 21 Palindrome middle 22 Loose talk? 25 Fastened 26 1980 Tony winner 27 Twangy 28 Business letters 29 Duffer's woe 30 Shampoo ingredient 31 Scent, on the Trent 32 Hose color 33 Like rock music 35 _ were 38 Appropriating 39 Icers' aids 40 Dietary stat. 45 Second of two 46 Composed 47 According to 49 Be inconsistent 50 Short distance 51 Divine light 52 Maybe more, maybe less 53 Coming right up 54 Rose, of Gypsy 55 Nano, for one 56 Pervasive quality 57 Ticked 58 _ Enchanted (2004 film)

Crossword grid with numbers 1-67 indicating starting positions for words.