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BIG SPRING

# HERALD

**MONDAY**  
 MARCH 17, 2008



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 93

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## Campaign wants to postpone Texas conventions

**By PAUL J. WEBER**  
 Associated Press Writer  
 DALLAS — As final results from the Texas Democratic caucus remain unknown, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton's campaign wants signatures from the March 4 contest verified before party conventions are held around the state later this month.  
 In a letter sent to the state Democratic Party late Friday, the Clinton campaign requests the March 29 count and state

Senate district conventions be postponed until the eligibility of an estimated 1 million caucus-goers are double checked.  
 The Clinton campaign wrote they received more than 2,000 complaints of violations following the historic Texas turnout, which was perhaps the nation's largest caucus ever.  
 With about 41 percent of precinct caucuses reported, rival Barack Obama was ahead with 56 percent to Clinton's 44 percent.  
 "It is the Party's responsibility to ensure the integrity of the precinct convention process by making sure that the Rules were followed," the letter states.  
 The letter came after the Clinton campaign said party officials told them this week it would not verify the eligibility of all caucus-goers before March 29. The county and district caucuses will whittle down the delegates before the state convention in June, when the final delegate count for the Texas caucus will be known.

Texas Democratic Party spokesman Hector Nieto said Saturday the party has not yet had the opportunity to make any decisions on the Clinton campaign's request.  
 "We're not surprised Senator Clinton's campaign has engaged with their attorney, but right now the TDP remains extremely pleased by the record-breaking turnout," Nieto said.  
 In a statement Saturday, Obama spokesman Dan Pfeiffer said, "We don't think that the

record-breaking number of Texans who stood up to be counted on March 4 would appreciate the Clinton campaign's attempt to disenfranchise them and silence their voices just because the outcome wasn't politically beneficial to Senator Clinton."  
 Clinton campaign spokeswoman Adrienne Elrod, when asked if a lawsuit would be filed or considered if state party officials did not postpone their

See **CLINTON**, Page 3



Kady Knox talks about her roping horse, Bluebell, to a group of Kentwood Elementary students Friday afternoon. Students learned about the care and feeding of different types of animals during the day.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

## State park gets ready for big race

**By THOMAS JENKINS**  
 Staff Writer

Runners from all over the state will converge on the Big Spring State Park next month in hopes of taming the monster hills and slopes that make up the facility's annual Master The Mountain Fun Walk and Fun Run.  
 Set to begin at 9 a.m. April 12, Big Spring State Park Manager Ron Alton said sign ups for the annual event are under way.  
 "If you get your entry form in before April 3, the fee is \$17," said Alton, long time coordinator for the event and running enthusiast. "After April 3, the fee is \$19. This includes entry to the park and all participants receive a Fun Run T-shirt."  
 Alton said the event will include a 5K fun walk, as well as 5K and 10K fun run races, which pose a challenge to serious runners that many can't find anywhere else.  
 "You really can't find the kind of hills that we offer with this run anywhere else. I've heard runners refer to one of the hills on the run as Terminator Hill," said Alton with a laugh. "The

step grades really offer a challenge to runners."  
 "The Permian Basin Running Club usually sends a team over, and we get runners from Midland, Merkel and San Angelo, just to name a few. They really look forward to the challenge the terrain here offers."  
 Alton said awards will be given for first, second and third-place finishers in the male and female brackets for the 10K and 5K runs, as well as the 5K walk. Entrants under the age of 18 years must have a parent or guardian sign the entry form and waiver.  
 While the 10K and 5K races seem to draw the serious competitors, Alton said the beauty of the mountain draws just as many people for the walking division.  
 "You don't have to run to be a part of the fun," said Alton. "We get a lot of people that participate in the walk just because of the beauty of the park, and the view from the 200 foot bluff is just unbelievable. Whether you're running hard or just walking along, it's hard to ignore the beauty from there."  
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## S. Texas landowners, judge slow border fence's progress

**By CHRISTOPHER SHERMAN**  
 Associated Press Writer  
 McALLEN — Some resistant South Texas landowners and a deliberate federal judge have come between the government and its goal of nearly 700 miles of Mexican-border fencing by the end of the year.  
 U.S. District Judge Andrew Hanen has ordered the government to negotiate

with owners over the price of access to the land, an extra step that has slowed the project.  
 Most landowners in Arizona, California and Texas have allowed the government on their property, but some have refused, prompting the Department of Justice to sue.  
 Communities along the Rio Grande in South Texas have fought hardest. They fear being cut off from the river and

agricultural lands and bristle at the imposition of a plan hatched in Washington, D.C.  
 Officials want to determine which properties they need and whether they have to buy the land or seize it through eminent domain. They also want to determine whether alternatives, such as lighting, more Border Patrol agents or

See **FENCE**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Joy Ruth Wallace



Joy Ruth Wallace, 75, of Big Spring died on Saturday, March 15, 2008, in a local nursing home. Graveside funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 18, 2008, at Mt. Olive Memorial Park with the Rev. Keith Weaver, pastor of East Fourth Street Baptist Church, officiating.

She was born on April 21, 1932, in Holiday.

Joy was a certified nurse's aid, having been trained by Grace Ferguson at the clinic at the Abilene State Hospital. She worked there for 20 years from 1948 until 1968. She then sat in private homes from 1968 until 1987. She moved into Canterbury Retirement Home in 1987 and resided there for 19 years. Joy received a certificate from the Texas Agricultural Extension Service of the Texas A & M University System for the completion of the adult siter clinic. She had been a member of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) for 17 years and had more than 4,000 hours of volunteer service. She received the President's Call to Service Award in 2004.

She had been a faithful and dedicated member of East Fourth Street Baptist Church since 1984.

Survivors include her church family and numerous friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Memorial donations may be made to the East Fourth Street Baptist Church, Davis Hall Fund, 410 E. Third, Big Spring 79720.

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*

Kim Moore Barber



Kim Moore Barber, 47, of Big Spring died Thursday, March 13, 2008, at her residence. Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 18, 2008, at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Walter McCall, Compass Hospice chaplain, officiating.

She was born March 20, 1960, in Findley, Ohio, to Ina and Joe Moore. She moved to Big Spring from New Orleans in 2005. She was a homemaker.

She is survived by her husband, Bill Barber of Big Spring.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one daughter, Zoe Catherine Rose Barber, in 2005.

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

*Paid obituary*

Eugene 'Dugan' Tuttle



Services for Eugene "Dugan" Tuttle, 76, of Lamesa will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 18, 2008, at the Second Baptist Church of Lamesa with the Rev. Rush Coffman and the Rev. Clifton Igo officiating. Burial will be at Lamesa Memorial Park under the direction of Branon Funeral Home.

Dugan died on March 15, 2008, at his residence.

He was born on Feb. 14, 1932, in Phalba, Texas, to J.C. and Ruby Tuttle.

He and Ann Winford were married on Sept. 22, 1950, by the Rev. Jessie Davis in Roberts Chapel and they were married for 57 years.

Dugan was raised by his mother and step-father, Horace Johnson, after his father died in 1932. He graduated from Union High School in 1949. He had served as a deacon at Second Baptist Church in Lamesa since 1963 where he also taught Sunday School for many years. He owned Eugene Tuttle Drilling Co. and Sam's Laundry.

Survivors include his wife, Ann Tuttle of Lamesa; one son, Gene Tuttle and his wife, Dietra, of Burleson; one brother, Robert Johnson of Ballinger; three grandchildren, Stephanie Ferguson and her husband, Craig, of Coahoma, Scott Eugene Tuttle of Lubbock and Chad Aaron Tuttle of Sonora; and two great-grandchildren, Aaron and Ashley Ferguson of Coahoma.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, J.R. Tuttle; and a sister, Joan Lynskey.

The family suggests memorials to the Second Baptist Church and Home Hospice.

*Paid obituary*

Carmena Farmer



Carmena Farmer, 98, of Big Spring died Friday, March 14, 2008, at her residence. Private services will be held at a later date.

She was born June 29, 1909. She was a resident of Big Spring for more than 60 years. She worked for the Texas and Pacific Railroad until retiring. She then worked at Webb Air Force Base, and then after retirement from Webb, she worked a short while at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. She was an artist and seamstress. She was talented with pottery, painting and golf.

She is survived by a number of nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, J.R. Farmer.

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

Mary Lee Loudamy



Mary Lee Loudamy was born July 9, 1919, in Miles to Fielding Evans and Annie Lee Reeder Combs. She married Leo Murrel Loudamy Feb. 25, 1940, in Miles.

She resided in Miles where she was very active in the community until 1958 when she moved to Big Spring, and then, in 1978, moved to Del Rio.

She was a devout Christian and taught Sunday School for 24 years at the First Baptist Church in Del Rio.

She was a devoted mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great-grandmother, and was always there for anything concerning her children or grandchildren. She was our "Mammy."

She loved gardening, was an avid rock hound and did lovely oil paintings. She and Murrel loved to go camping, fishing, deer hunting and any other outdoor sport. They had traveled extensively in the United States.

She is survived by her husband of 68 years, Murrel Loudamy; one daughter, Pat Low of Big Spring; two granddaughters, Lisa Page of Big Spring and Lee Ann Dorton and husband, John, of Harlingen; two great-granddaughters, Amanda Morrow and husband, Dusty, of Big Spring and Jessica Bomar and husband, Devon, of Midland; three great-great-grandchildren, Melanie and McKayla Morrow and Dexter Bomar.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, March 19, 2008, at Nalley-Pickle and Welch Funeral Home in Big Spring. Interment will follow at the Miles Cemetery.

The family suggests memorials be made to the Alzheimer's Association, Greater West Texas Chapter, 4400 N. Big Spring, Suite C-32 Midland 79705.

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

*Paid obituary*

Hughey C. Warner

Hughey C. Warner, 96, died Monday, March 17, 2008, in a Midland nursing home. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Police blotter

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

- **CHERYL WILLIAMS**, 48, of 3608 Gail Highway, was arrested Saturday on two local citations and a charge of driving while intoxicated - second offense.
- **ABEL VIGIL**, 22, of 1505 Sycamore, was arrested Saturday on two local capias warrants and two local citations.
- **PRINCE C. VANDERBILT**, 21, of 1502 Lincoln, was arrested Sunday on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **TIMOTHY R. LUCIO**, 23, of 1001 Bluebonnet, was arrested Sunday on four local citations.
- **JOE D. GUERRERO**, 30, of 702 E. 17th Street, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **THEFT** was reported: in the 600 block of 15th Street and in the 1700 block of FM 700.
- **BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE** was reported:
  - in the 700 block of Highland.
  - in the 100 block of Coachman
  - in the 900 block of Highland.
- **ASSAULT CAUSING BODILY INJURY** was reported in the 100 block of Third Street.
- **ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported:
  - in the 1900 block of Wasson.
  - in the 500 block of Westover Road.
  - in the 1100 block of Grafa.
- **ASSAULT BY CONTACT** was reported in the 200 block of FM 700.
- **POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA - TWO OUNCES OR LESS** was reported in the 600 block of 15th Street.
- **POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA** was reported in the 900 block of 13th Street.
- **FAILURE TO IDENTIFY - GIVING FALSE INFORMATION** was reported in the 1600 block of Kentucky.
- **DEADLY CONDUCT - DISCHARGE OF A FIREARM** was reported in the 300 block of 10th Street.

Weather

Tonight — Mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Cooler. Lows in the mid 40s. North winds 15 to 25 mph.

Tuesday — Mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers. Cooler. Highs in the lower 60s. North winds 15 to 20 mph.

Tuesday night — Partly cloudy. Colder. Lows in the mid 30s. West winds 10 to 20 mph.

Wednesday — Sunny. Highs in the lower 70s. Light and variable winds becoming south 10 to 15 mph in the afternoon.

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

Thursday — Sunny. Highs in the mid 70s.

Thursday night — Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 40s.

Friday — Sunny. Highs in the upper 70s.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1100 block of E. 12th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 400 block of Dallas. Service refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1900 block of Alabama. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRASH FIRE** was reported in the 4200 block of Highway 80.
- **RUBBISH FIRE** was reported in the 1400 block of Sue Drive.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 700 block of Baylor. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1000 block of Sgt. Paredez. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of 17th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 800 block of Lorilla. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 3600 block of Dixon. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1200 block of Johnson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 400 block of Dallas. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the area of Interstate Highway 20. Service refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 8000 block of E. County Road 42. Service refused.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

Sheriff's report

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 42 inmates at the time of this report.

- **TONY MARTINEZ JR.**, 18, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.
- **BRIAN ANTHONY HECKLER**, 32, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of filing a false report with a police officer or law enforcement employee.
- **WILLIAM HORACE CARTER**, 52, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated - second offense.
- **TIMOTHY NEIL ACUFF**, 25, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of public intoxication.
- **WILLIAM RYAN LOCKE**, 33, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **JOE KEITH RUBARTS III**, 29, was arrested Sunday by DPS on charges of driving while intoxicated - second offense and driving while license invalid with a previous conviction.
- **PRINCE CORPEL VANDERBILT**, 21, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **CHERYL ANN WILLIAMS**, 48, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated - second offense.
- **REBECCA RENEAW COWLES**, 42, was arrested Sunday by DPS on charges of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less and possession of drug paraphernalia.
- **OLLIE RAY MCCALLUM**, 22, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of speeding - 80 MPH in a 70 MPH zone.
- **ROBERT RICHARD PEARSON JR.**, 20, was arrested Sunday by DPS on charges of burglary of a building (three counts) and a motion to revoke probation for possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **VICTORIA ALDRIDGE**, 21, was arrested Saturday by DPS on charges of no driver's license and no liability insurance.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night: Winning numbers drawn: 23-25-26-31-32-35. Number matching six of six: None. Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: \$10 million.

•••

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night: Winning numbers drawn: 3-10-14-24-27. Number matching five of five: None. Next Cash 5 drawing: Tonight.

•••

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Saturday night, in order: 9-0-9-9. Sum It Up: 27.

•••

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night, in order: 5-2-2. Sum It Up: 9.

•••

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Saturday afternoon, in order: 5-5-7-5. Sum It Up: 22.

**BIG SPRING HERALD**

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**WORLD BRIEFLY**

**Stocks tumble after JPMorgan agrees to buy Bear Stearns**

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Asian stocks plunged and the dollar sank Monday after JPMorgan Chase said it would buy troubled U.S. investment bank Bear Stearns, signaling to investors the depths of the credit crisis.

Oil prices hit a record in Asian trading and U.S. stock index futures were down sharply, suggesting Wall Street would open lower Monday after sinking Friday.

JPMorgan said Sunday it would acquire Bear Stearns for \$236.2 million — or \$2 a share — in a deal that represents a stunning collapse for one of the world's largest and most venerable investment banks.

The buyout was aimed at averting a bankruptcy and a spreading crisis of confidence in the global financial system sparked by defaults in the U.S. subprime mortgage market.

**JPMorgan says it will buy ailing Bear Stearns**

NEW YORK (AP) — With a deal finally struck, JPMorgan Chase & Co. will embark on the tough task of absorbing Bear Stearns Cos., once among its biggest rivals on Wall Street.

As the assimilation proceeds, the financial industry wants to know exactly

how badly Bear Stearns bet on mortgage-backed investments. Unwinding the nation's fifth-biggest investment houses should provide some insight into what other financial institutions might have on their books.

JPMorgan's acquisition of Bear Stearns for the shockingly low price of \$2 per share, or \$236.2 million, occurred Sunday night, in a deal that was fast-tracked by the federal government to avoid a bankruptcy. A complete collapse of Bear Stearns might have completely crushed the already-dwindling confidence in the global financial system, which has frozen up after last year's collapse of the subprime mortgage market.

Bear Stearns was the most exposed to risky bets on the loans; it is now the first major bank to be undone by that market's collapse.

The Federal Reserve and the U.S. government swiftly approved the all-stock buyout to complete the deal before world markets opened.

**Explosions rock Iraq's capital as McCain, Cheney visit**

BAGHDAD (AP) — Sen. John McCain stressed the importance of a U.S. commitment to Iraq during talks with Iraq's prime minister Monday, and explosions struck Baghdad during twin visits by the presumptive Republican presidential

nominee and Vice President Dick Cheney. Helicopter gunships circled over central Baghdad and the heavily fortified Green Zone, but no details were immediately available on the cause of the explosions.

McCain, who has linked his political future to U.S. military success in Iraq, met Monday with Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki shortly before the Iraqi leader began separate talks with Cheney.

Al-Maliki said he and the vice president discussed ongoing negotiations over a long-term security agreement between the two countries that would replace the U.N. mandate for foreign troops set to expire at the end of the year.

"This visit is very important. It is about the nature of the relations between the two countries, the future of those relations and the agreement in this respect," the prime minister told reporters. "We also discussed the security in Iraq, the development of the economy and reconstruction and terrorism."

**Tibet governor promises leniency, says death toll is 16**

BEIJING (AP) — Tibet's governor promised leniency to anti-Chinese protesters who turned themselves in before the end of Monday — and harsh consequences for those who don't — while troops fanned out to quell sympathy protests that have spread to three neighboring provinces. Champa Phuntsok said

last week's violent demonstrations in the regional capital of Lhasa left 16 dead and dozens injured. Unconfirmed reports from Tibetan exile groups put the death toll at 80, a claim he denied.

The uprising, the fiercest against Chinese rule in the region in almost two decades, has embarrassed China's communist government and undermined its efforts to have an unblemished run-up to the Beijing Olympics.

The ensuing crackdown, meanwhile, led the Dalai Lama, Tibetans' exiled spiritual leader, to decry what he called "cultural genocide" in his homeland and call for an international investigation.

**Brother of man says he was sickened by poisonous ricin**

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A man who has been hospitalized since Valentine's Day with respiratory ailments and failing kidneys told his brother he believes he was contaminated by the deadly ricin poison found in his Las Vegas motel room.

Roger Bergendorff regained consciousness on Wednesday but remains in critical condition at a Las Vegas medical center.

His younger brother, Erich Bergendorff, told The Associated Press that they spoke briefly on the telephone Sunday for the first time since the ricin was found, and said Roger claimed he had never had any intention of endangering anyone with the toxin.

"He did mention that he would have never done anything to anybody," said Erich Bergendorff. "He himself is under the impression he was contaminated by it — he did mention the ricin and seemed to say something like, 'Gee, it sure worked on me.'"

**Pakistan's new parliament holds first session**

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — Pakistan on Monday inaugurated a new parliament dominated by opponents of President Pervez Musharraf who have vowed to crimp his powers and review his U.S.-backed policies against Islamic militants.

At stake is the future course and political stability of this nuclear-armed nation of 160 million people, which is struggling with economic problems as well as militants linked to the Taliban and al-Qaida.

Just Saturday, a bomb exploded at an Islamabad restaurant popular with foreigners, killing a Turkish woman and wounding 12 people, including four FBI personnel. And on Sunday, a missile attack targeting suspected militants in Pakistan's tribal regions was said to have killed about 20 people.

In a brief ceremony in the National Assembly, more than 300 of the newly elected lawmakers stood and repeated the oath of office at the prompting of the lower house's outgoing speaker. Musharraf stayed away

from the session, which marked the end of his eight-year domination of Pakistani politics.

**Gates says Russians must show they are not pursuing 'game'**

MOSCOW (AP) — It is up to the Russians to show they are not pursuing a "sham game" to thwart U.S. efforts to establish missile defense sites in Europe, Defense Secretary Robert Gates said, while Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice suggested the two sides are closer to agreement for cooperation on the planned shield.

Speaking to reporters en route to the Russian capital from Washington, Gates said he and Rice saw some prospect of progress on long-stalled negotiations over U.S. proposals to establish missile defense sites in central Europe. But he did not sound particularly optimistic.

"I wouldn't get too enthusiastic at this point," he said.

Setting a tough tone even before arriving, Gates questioned the sincerity of the Russian government's objections to missile defense.

**MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL**

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Elna Dawun "Donna" Earhart, 73, died Thursday. The family will receive friends at Myers & Smith Funeral Home from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Monday. Funeral Services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Kim Moore Barber, 47, died Thursday. Memorial Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Patricia Ann Joplin, 82, died Tuesday. Private family services will be held at a later date.

Carmena F. Farmer, 98, died Friday. Private services will be held at a later date.

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**FENCE**

Continued from Page 1

technology would work better in some areas.

Most of the nearly 500 property owners in the fence's path gave voluntary access to their land and more than 30 miles of fencing has already been built.

Barry Morrissey, a U.S. Customs and Border Protection spokesman in Washington, D.C., said last week: "We remain

optimistic that we can stay on schedule."

Not with the help of Hanen. He has repeatedly denied government motions for immediate access in Texas, and instead held hearings for property owners to voice their concerns before ultimately siding with the government.

One landowner has held up dozens of other cases for more than a month. The outcome could mean further delays for 38 more cases scheduled for hearings this week.

On March 7, Hanen gave the government two weeks to prove it had made a bona fide effort to negotiate a price for temporary access to Cameron County landowner Eloisa Tamez's property.

"I don't consider ... that they've negotiated with me when all they've done is contact me to sign a waiver," said Tamez.

On Tuesday, the government offered \$100 for six months of access to Tamez's one acre, a remaining piece of a Spanish land grant to her

family in El Calaboz, according to her attorney, Peter Schey.

But Schey said they will not agree upon a price until the government defines access. Will it be intrusive surveying, or will a house on the property have to be torn down or moved?

Schey, president of the Los Angeles-based Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law, wants the government to negotiate with property owners who voluntarily signed waivers because

they did not know they could negotiate.

Schey filed a counter-suit on behalf of Tamez and is seeking class-action status for all affected property owners.

"In order for this wall not to be built on a foundation of illegality and lawlessness," property owners must have a chance to take back their waivers, Schey said. "They've been hoodwinked."

**RUN**

Continued from Page 1

Alton said the Fun Run doubles as a fund raiser for the State Park and helps show the state just how important the park's role is in the community.

"The state really looks at events like these when

it comes to the state parks and the funds each one is allocated. So this run is really important — not just to the health of the runners and walkers in and around the community, but to the longevity of the park itself."

Alton said he hopes people take a very special reminder about exercising away from the annual

event.

"I started running about seven years ago and it's had a tremendous impact on my health," said Alton. "You can't believe the amount of energy that it creates. It sounds funny, but exercise breeds energy. At the end of the run you're so tired you can barely stand up, but the next day you have

even more energy."

For more information on the "Master the Mountain" Fun Run and Walk, contact Alton at (432) 263-4931.

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

**CLINTON**

Continued from Page 1

conventions, said Saturday that, "We believe that we can work with the party to find a resolution that protects the wishes of every Texas voter and ensures that no one was disenfranchised."

In the letter, the Clinton campaign lists 10 instances in which party rules were violated during precinct caucusing. They include caucuses starting before precinct polling closed, and results being taken from head or hand counts instead of a written roll.

So far, precinct caucuses report electing 23,918 delegates for Obama and 18,620 for Clinton. In the Texas primary also held March 4, Clinton won the popular vote with 51 percent to Obama's 47 percent. That earned her 65 delegates to his 61.

The turnout for the Texas caucuses was more

than four times the estimated 220,000 who attended Iowa's first-in-the-nation presidential contest.

The turnout stymied a

state Democratic party that has had a shadow of its once mighty influence since a Republican takeover of state politics in the 1990s.

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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

# Keep voting if you really want change

**C**hange. That's what presidential candidates and voters alike have said they want this year — change in politics and change in the way that our federal government operates. Voters young and old went to the polls in record-shattering numbers for Texas' primaries — a sure sign that they are fired up and ready to make change happen.

Here's a challenge for every one of them: If you really mean it, keep voting. Don't stop now.

To say you have done your part for change by voting in this election would be like Billy Ray Cyrus patting himself on the back for singing Achy Breaky Heart. One-hit wonders don't count (and Billy Ray has gone on to better things, thank goodness).

Stay involved in presidential politics and vote again in the Nov. 4 general election.

Just as important — and maybe with even more direct impact on your daily life, your home and your family — vote in the local city council and school board elections that will be held May 10 in many jurisdictions.

The Texas secretary of state's office reported that more than 4.2 million people cast ballots in the Republican and Democratic primaries — a turnout of 33.2 percent of the state's registered voters. The previous record was set in the 1988 presidential primary: 2.7 million voters and a 22.7 percent turnout.

In Tarrant County, the count was 301,957 voters in the two party primaries — a 33.6 percent turnout.

In contrast, city council and school board candidates typically struggle and beg to get people to the polls. Last year's election for Arlington mayor drew less than 7 percent of eligible voters; the hottest race on the council ballot drew less than 11 percent. It was the same story in Fort Worth. In Keller, the bitterly contested race for mayor saw an almost unheard-of 15.2 percent voter turnout — and on the same day, a turnout of less than 9 percent filled three seats on the Keller school board.

Please don't make this year's thrilling Texas presidential primary the Achy Breaky Heart of elections.

There are rock stars among the candidates for city council and school board. Once elected, they make momentous decisions and command huge forces of people who fight wars against ignorance, poverty, potholes, out-of-control taxes and, yes, people who would destroy our property and do us great harm. Among them are women and men who have devoted years of their lives to helping others — blacks and whites and people from various ethnic groups, even war heroes and people who can give inspiring speeches.

But you have to pay attention, and you have to vote for the ones you believe will do the best job. You might even have to become one of them yourself and run for office.

If the people who voted in the March 4 election do that — if they care enough to continue in large numbers what they started in the presidential primaries — it can't help but bring real change.

If that many people participate, it will be change that we can believe in.

THE STAR-TELEGRAM  
FORT WORTH

## 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

What is hazy clears up with You, Lord.

Amen

# Continued battle a disadvantage

**A**lleged political experts calling for either Hillary Clinton or Barack Obama to cede the Democratic nomination for president in the interest of "party unity" are making a foolish mistake. By fighting to the finish, the two candidates dominate the media for months, getting a chance to get their messages out while their already-nominated general election opponent struggles for attention.



DANIEL  
KLINE

Allowing the two to attack each other for a few more months will not, as some argue, weaken the eventual winner in November. Obama and Clinton share the same basic views and differ only in execution and personal style.

It's not like Obama is going to suddenly wound Clinton by revealing that she's pro-life or that Clinton will release a video of Obama dressed in drag lip-synching Kelly Clarkson songs. Basically, Clinton gets to say that Obama lacks experience, and Obama gets to say that he stands for change while his opponent represents the establishment.

Does anyone think that if Clinton had not called into question Obama's readiness to handle a "3 a.m." emergency, the Republicans wouldn't do the same

thing in November? If you're a grizzled veteran like John McCain running against a relative newcomer like Obama, you do not need a degree in political science to know you need to make that argument.

Similarly, one can also imagine that Republican strategists might pit their candidate's carefully crafted "maverick" image against Clinton's reputation as the ultimate insider, were she to be the opponent. Continued primary battles won't hurt the eventual nominee for the Democrats because there's no basis on which to attack either one, beyond their stands on the issues, which generally are not well-guarded secrets.

Until the Democrats anoint his opponent, Republican nominee McCain has nobody left to fight. That means the remaining Republican primaries are meaningless and the news of his victory in them receives little more than a perfunctory mention in print or on television.

His opponents, however, are in a highly competitive struggle that produces endless soundbites. If Obama has the hiccups or Clinton buys a new brightly colored, unflattering pantsuit, the story goes on the front page of every major paper, then gets discussed endlessly by hundreds of talking heads across dozens of channels.

The best moment, however, comes for the Democrats if they head into their August convention

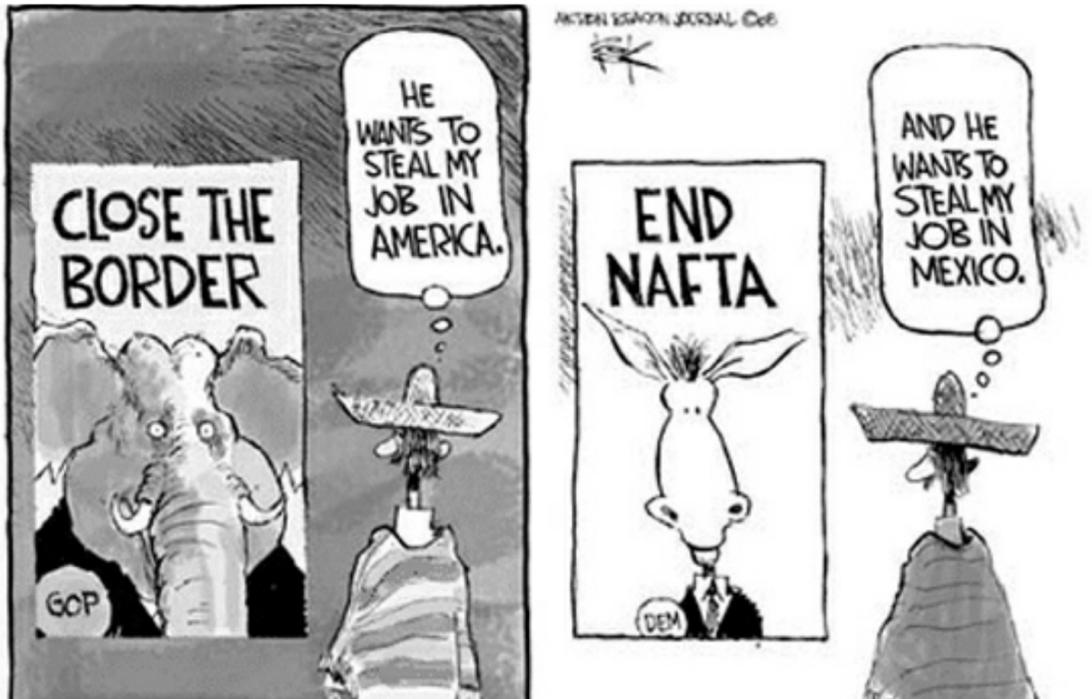
with no clear nominee. If that happens, then instead of being a TV footnote that only gets major coverage for the nominee's acceptance speech and the inevitable shower of balloons that follow it, the entire thing becomes riveting television.

A contested convention that actually includes multiple floor votes may not outdraw the Super Bowl, but it will most certainly bring a huge audience to their television sets. People watch TV because they don't know how shows end or what happens in advance, and a floor fight for the nomination is essentially the ultimate in reality programming.

A pitched battle for delegates would allow the Democrats to bring their message to a crowd that would not normally tune in. That could have an enormous impact on who ultimately wins the White House.

If the Democrats keep fighting, McCain only controls the news cycle for one day "the day he announces his pick for president" between now and the end of the primaries. Giving that advantage up for something as vague as party unity would be a move that only a group of politicians, pundits and political insiders consider a good idea.

Daniel B. Kline's work appears in more than 100 papers weekly. He can be reached by e-mail at dan@notastep.com.



# What would 'universal' be like?

**I**live in New Mexico, where every other person is running for political office, thanks to the fruit-basket-like turnover created by the retirement of Republican Senator Pete Domenici, who's been aging in place on Capitol Hill since 1973. The debate between Republican aspirants for the Senate — both current members of the U.S. House — is already heating up. In their first encounter, they predictably tried to "outconservative" each other. Heather Wilson, representing urban Albuquerque, labeled herself a "commonsense" conservative. She attacked Steve Pearce, a downstater with more rural constituents, for his vote against expanding children's health insurance. Pearce countered that he is the "true" conservative, and said giving poor kids insurance would be "Hillary Care Lite . . . the beginning of socialized medicine."



MARTHA  
BURK

W-a-a-i-t a minute. Socialized medicine? With that remark, Pearce shows he's clueless about medical care and so are lot of other candidates. Not to mention conservative Rush Limbaugh clones who are out of control in the blogosphere, raving about the government controlling your private medical decisions. Maybe they need a little lesson on what "socialized medicine" is — and is not. And maybe they'd be surprised to learn that the United States already has one form of socialized medicine. But I'm jumping ahead.

Many people, including Pearce, evidently equate "universal cover-

age," which Hillary Clinton does advocate, with the dreaded "socialized medicine." Universal coverage means just that — everyone would have health insurance. Some would have it through employers, some through privately purchased plans, and some through government-subsidized programs if they're too poor to foot the full bill. Universal coverage does not mean the government would provide health care as a "welfare" or "entitlement" benefit to everyone, regardless of income or employment status.

Though having insurance would be mandatory, type of coverage would be up to the individual. Choice of doctors and hospitals under universal coverage would remain much as it is now — controlled by the type of plan the individual is covered under — and in no small part dictated by insurance companies. In some scenarios, insurance companies would be required to cover pre-existing conditions, stopping the practice of "cherry-picking" only the healthiest patients for inclusion in their plans.

Another term we hear a lot about is "single payer." Single payer means a system of health care that provides universal and comprehensive coverage, with the government as the insurer issuing the payments. Everyone's health care would be paid for out of one publicly administered trust fund (paid for by taxes on both individuals and businesses) which would replace our current multi-payer insurance company system and its premiums. In single payer, the government would not be the primary provider of health care. It would just be the primary payer. There would still be freedom to choose doctors and other health

care professionals, facilities and services.

Doctors would remain in private practice and be paid on a fee-for-service basis from government funds, just as they're paid now by insurance companies. The government would not own or manage medical practices or hospitals. Single payer is what we have now with traditional Medicare. Insurance companies are eliminated — no more hassles with gatekeepers, denied coverage and trying to find doctors "in network." As any senior who has been liberated from HMO hell and you'll see how easy and popular single payer would be if everyone had it.

If "socialized medicine" is none of these — just what the heck is it? Simple. It's a system of health care in which all health facilities are owned by the government. Doctors and other health care personnel work for the government and draw their salaries from the government. This is the model used in the U.S. Veterans Administration and the armed services, where the government owns the hospitals, and medical professionals are government employees. It works pretty well for vets, but red-hot rhetoric notwithstanding, none of the candidates — nor either political party — advocates socializing the entire medical system of the United States.

So the next time you hear a candidate hurling "socialized medicine" around like a flame-thrower, ask them if they have any idea what they're talking about.

Martha Burk is author of "Your Money and Your Life: What's at stake for women in 2008 and beyond."

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## NUTRITIONWISE

**Q:** I've heard a lot of praise for the Mediterranean diet. Is it as healthy as everyone says? **A:** First and foremost, the Mediterranean diet is a plant-based diet. It is particularly rich in vegetables, features fish at least two or three times a week, beans a few times a week (if not daily) and limits portions of meat, fish and poultry. Olive oil — a source of heart-healthy monounsaturated fat — is promoted as an optimal choice of fat in the Mediterranean cultures. Unlike saturated fats like butter, olive oil does not raise blood cholesterol.



**KAREN COLLINS**  
MS, RD, CDN

Additionally, some studies suggest that natural compounds in olive oil may even be protective against cancer. The antioxidant compounds found in garlic, onions and herbs, all featured in Mediterranean cooking, add additional disease-fighting capabilities.

It is important to remember, however, that people in Mediterranean countries historically lived physically active lifestyles and did not need to limit portions as carefully as we do today in order to control calories. To get the full benefit of a Mediterranean lifestyle, aim for a minimum of 30 minutes of physical activity daily.

**Q:** I just got a pedometer to help me boost my walking. But what is a reasonable goal?

**A:** Pedometers are small devices worn at the waist that measure how many steps you take throughout the day. A target of 10,000 steps daily (equivalent to about 5 miles) has been linked with a number of health benefits. New research suggests that adults age 50 and younger may need to reach 11,000 to 12,000 steps a day for weight control; children ages 6 to 12 may need to increase their target even more.

But most Americans walk far less than even the 10,000 step goal.

To gauge your baseline, start by recording your step count on a pedometer for several days without including any extra walking effort. If you're considerably below 10,000 steps, it may be physically and psychologically easier to start with adding 1,000 steps a day to your initial starting point to create a new daily goal.

After a week or so, increase your target again. Studies show that we can add quite a bit of walking to our daily lives with simple lifestyle changes like taking stairs instead of elevators or parking farther away.

Still, for many of us, reaching a 10,000-step target will require specific "walking" initiatives such as an after dinner stroll or taking the dog for a brisk walk.

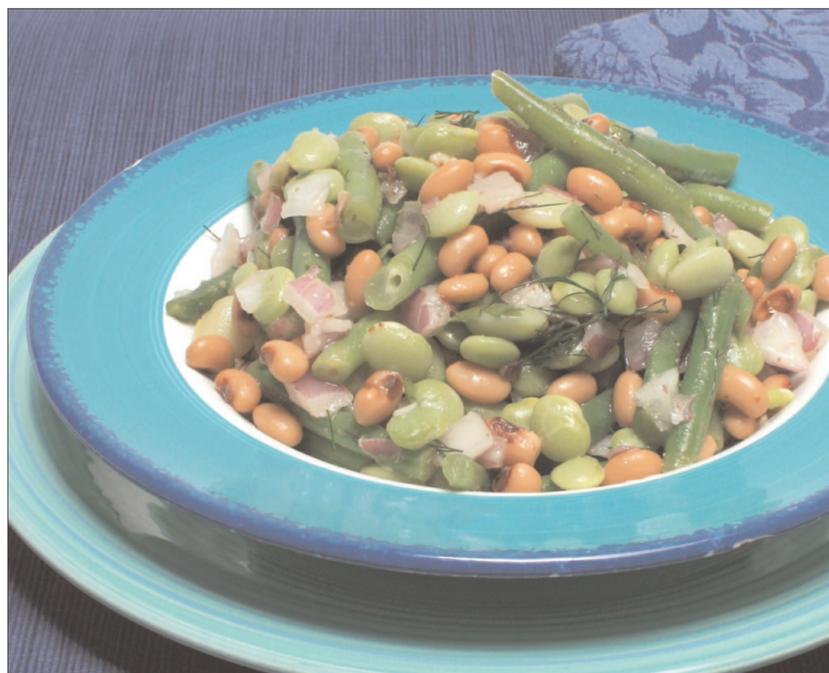
# Salad trio offers three times the taste, nutrition

Long before it's possible to pick lettuce and other fixings from your home garden or purchase them at the local farmers' market, you can welcome the beginning of spring with a delicious salad alternative. This week's tangy three-bean salad is simple to prepare and offers a nutrient-packed dish with flavors that meld and mature the longer it sits.

Combining a variety of beans into a single dish is an opportunity to enjoy the diverse nutritional benefits of a range of legumes. In addition to dietary fiber, this medley of black-eyed peas, lima beans and green beans provides folate, iron, potassium, selenium and a range of antioxidants. Beans also offer an animal-free protein source for those days when you crave a meatless meal.

This trio of beans has a long history. Lima beans, for example, were cultivated as far back as 6,000 B.C. The name itself originated from the discovery of the bean by European explorers in Lima, Peru. Black-eyed peas, which are thought to have originated in Northern Africa, were introduced to India over 3,000 years ago and eventually found their way to the New World with Spanish explorers. Green beans, native to Central America, are the youngest of the trio, bred just over 200 years ago.

The combination of mustard, honey, dill and parsley lend this recipe intense flavor. The cider vinegar, a bit tart, can be



adjusted according to taste.

Prepare the bean salad ahead of time to let the flavors develop. Serve at room temperature or chilled, straight from the refrigerator.

### Tangy Three-Bean Salad

1 (10 oz.) package of frozen baby lima beans  
1 lb. green beans, trimmed and diagonally cut into 1-inch pieces  
1/3 cup apple cider vinegar  
1 tsp. canola oil  
1 Tbsp. grainy mustard  
1-2 Tbsp. honey  
Salt and freshly ground pepper, to taste

1 medium sized red onion, diced  
1 (15 oz.) can black-eyed peas, rinsed  
2 Tbsp. fresh parsley, chopped (or 1 tsp. dried)  
1 Tbsp. fresh dill, chopped (or 1/2 tsp. dried)  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

Fill a large saucepan with lightly salted water and bring to a boil. Meanwhile fill a large bowl about half full with cold water. Cook lima beans and green beans in boiling water until tender, about 5 minutes. Remove beans with a slotted spoon and transfer to bowl of cold water. Set

aside. Whisk vinegar, oil, mustard, honey, salt and pepper in a large mixing bowl until blended. Add onion and black-eyed peas and toss until fully coated.

Drain beans and pat dry. Add to the prepared mixture. Toss to coat and add parsley. Season salad to taste with salt and pepper. Serve cold or at room temperature.

Makes 6 servings.  
Per serving: 170 calories, 1.5 g total fat (0 g saturated fat), 33 g carbohydrates, 8 g protein, 8 g dietary fiber, 310 mg sodium

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

Very truly yours,  
Chad Pinkerton

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# Sports

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Page 7  
Monday, March 17, 2008

## IN BRIEF

### Crossroads high school varsity sports calendar

#### TODAY

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.

#### THURSDAY

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

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

Coahoma baseball vs. Merkel, 7 p.m.

#### FRIDAY

Big Spring softball at Brownwood, TBA

Forsan baseball at Morton Tournament through Saturday.

### Ex-Steer Franks signs contract with New York Jets

Former Big Spring Steer Bubba Franks, a three-time Pro Bowl selection whose last few seasons were disrupted by injuries, has agreed to a free-agent contract with the Jets. He was cut by the Packers last month.

Franks caught at least 30 passes in each of his first five years with the Packers, in which he played in every game. Last year, though, he played in only eight games because of a knee injury and caught 18 passes for 132 yards and three touchdowns.

### Hawks sweep doubleheader from MCC Saturday

The Howard College Hawks baseball team (24-2, 2-2) swept M c L e n n a n Community College 6-3 and 8-5 Saturday in Waco.

Howard travels to Abilene Monday to play a nine inning game vs. McMurry's JV before returning home Thursday and Friday to face Clarendon College in a pair of WJCAC double-headers, beginning at noon each day at Jack Barber Field. The Hawks climbed six spots to No. 16 in the latest Baseball America JUCO poll.

### 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 details.

# Steers third at West Texas Relays

## Herald Staff Report

ODESSA — As the only track team classified as 4A in a field littered with Class 5A schools, on paper the odds appeared stacked against the Big Spring Steers at the West Texas Relays in Odessa Friday and Saturday.

However, the Steers proved they belonged with the big boys, finishing a competitive third place as a team behind only Odessa Permian and Midland High. Big Spring totaled 104

points, just 21 behind Midland and 35 behind Permian.

The Steers picked up several gold-medal performances and stated they'd be in contention for the meet's title on the first day. After Friday, the Steers had 21 points, merely nine points behind opening-day leader Midland.

Big Spring's early success was powered by Jordan Valle, who blew away his competition to win the 3,200 meters, winning

the race by more than 20 seconds with a time of 10:10.2.

The blue-ribbon finishes continued to pile up for the Steers Saturday with LaRay Woodard and Zack Dawson leading the charge.

Woodard won both hurdles events, winning the 110 hurdles with a time of 14.93 and the 300 hurdles in 39.8. He won the 300 event by a mere 3-100ths of a second over Permian's Eugene Neboh.

Dawson competed in the 800 meters for the first time this season and proved to be the runner to beat, winning with a time of 1:56.6 — more than two seconds ahead of his closest competition. Daniel Segundo finished fifth in the event.

Dawson won the 1,600 meters for an encore, edging teammate Valle by three seconds. Valle's second-place time of 4:27.91 was

See **TRACK**, Page 8



HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull

Big Spring Steers starting pitcher Colby Landis winds up in the Steers' loss to the Canyon Eagles, 7-1, in the finals of the West Texas Classic at Citibank Ballpark in Midland Saturday.

## Canyon shuts down Steers, 7-1

### By JONATHAN HULL

Herald Sports Editor

MIDLAND — For most of the weekend the Big Spring Steers baseball team dominated its competition at the plate, scoring a total of 54 runs in four games on its way to the finals of the West Texas Classic in Midland.

However, after winning a tiebreaker — most runners to reach third base — over Pecos to break an 8-8 tie, the Steers ran into the Canyon Eagles, who proved to be the class of the tournament, shutting down Big Spring's potent bats and winning 7-1.

"We faced a good pitcher and a good defense," Steers Head Coach Burt Otto said. "Their third baseman turned a double play by himself and made a diving stop and throw to first on another play. Canyon is a team that plays select ball and has a lot of success in Class 3A. Hats off to them. They did what they had to win."

Overall, Otto couldn't have been happier with the results of the tournament for the Steers, who went 4-1 over two days of bracket play.

"This was a great experience," he said. "We beat a really good Greenwood team, then

took out Anthony and fought back from a big deficit against Caprock. Then, we got another win over Pecos and that was one we really wanted to get. We got the experience of being in a championship game against a high quality team and we competed with them."

Starting pitcher Colby Landis shut out Canyon for three innings and Nathan Doport knocked in Rance Terry in the bottom of the third, giving Big Spring an early 1-0 lead.

However, Canyon got a spark from clean-up hitter Nick

See **STEERS**, Page 8

## Lady Steers settle for seventh in San Marcos

### Herald Staff Report

SAN MARCOS — Having a record of 4-3 over a seven-game span might look just slightly above average on paper. However, when you face the quality of teams the Big Spring Lady Steers softball team did at a tournament in San Marcos over the weekend, 4-3 is considered a strong accomplishment.

Big Spring's pitching and defense kept the Lady Steers competitive throughout the tournament. Pitchers Kenzie Hunt, Desiree Yanez and Kelly Sage each pitched a shutout and didn't surrender any earned runs over three days as the Lady Steers finished seventh out of 28 teams.

The Lady Steers opened with a 1-0 loss to San Antonio Antonian, despite Hunt giving up just one hit on the mound. Antonian's only run was unearned, but Big Spring couldn't find consistency at the plate as Linzee Yarbar had both of the Lady Steers' hits.

Big Spring played to 0-0 ties in Games 2 and 3, but won both contests by advancing more runners to third base than its opponent. Kelly Sage had the shut out in Game 2 against San Antonio Poteet, striking out five batters in the process.

Hunt picked up a shut out in Game 3 against San Antonio Incarnate Word, notching four Ks.

The Lady Steers finally picked up a true win in Game 4, which served as a seeding game, against San Antonio Saint Agnes. Big Spring overcame a 1-0 first inning deficit to win 3-2. Sage picked up the win, striking out another five batters.

Jillian Valle had two RBIs, knocking in Hunt in the second inning with a single and scoring Ashliegh Ramirez in the fourth courtesy of a sacrifice fly. Ramirez had the Lady Steers' other RBI with a single that scored Sage in the fourth.

The Game 4 victory put Big Spring in the gold bracket of the tournament, which was the top bracket. The Lady Steers opened against two Class 5A schools from Corpus Christi and fell to both.

Corpus Christi Moody defeated Big Spring in Game 5, 2-0, despite the Lady Steers out-hitting Moody, 3-2. Unfortunately, the Lady Steers had two errors, allowing Moody to score both of its runs unearned. Hunt took the

See **LADY STEERS**, Page 8

## HC softball swept by OC women

### By ERIC RODEWALD

Special to the Herald

The Howard College softball team had a few bad innings that resulted in dropping a pair of Western Junior College Athletic Conference games to Odessa College Saturday at Foundation Field. Odessa was ranked No. 22 in the NJCAA Preseason Poll and showed why, winning 4-1 and 13-5.

Friday's games were postponed as many teams in the Permian Basin anticipated high winds. The double-header will be made up at 1 p.m. March 31 at Foundation Field.

Both contests Saturday were a lot closer than the score dictated, according to the Howard Head Coach Kelly Raines, as Odessa tacked on runs in the latter innings.

"Odessa never gave up and they got it going late and kept at us," Raines stated.

Another big factor in the game was the ability for the Wranglers to stave off any Howard rallies due to solid pitching. According to Raines, Odessa's starting pitcher might be the best sophomore hurler in the league.

"She is the best returning pitcher in the conference," Raines said. "We didn't capitalize on her mistakes and were swinging at bad pitches and never made an adjustment to her pitching."

### Game 1 Odessa College 4, Howard College 1

Sophomore pitcher Kendra Corbin suffered the Game 1 loss, surrendering four runs on nine hits while striking out six Wranglers.

See **HOWARD**, Page 8



HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull

Big Spring Lady Steers pitcher Kenzie Hunt winds up in action from earlier this season. The Lady Steers went 4-3 in the San Marcos Tournament over the weekend, placing seventh out of 28 teams.

## STEERS

Continued from Page 7

Hogue in the top of the fourth as he led off the inning with a solo home run to left center field. Landis walked the next batter on four pitches and then surrendered hits to three of the next four Eagles, allowing two more runs to score before he relaxed and retired two consecutive batters on pop ups.

Canyon scored two more runs

in the fifth and sixth innings. Hogue finished 2-for-3 with three RBIs.

Landis pitched six innings and allowed seven runs — five earned — on 12 hits and three walks.

He was relieved in the seventh by Lance Gross, who faced four batters, striking out one and allowing one hit.

Otto was very pleased with the way Landis fought on the mound.

"Canyon is a great hitting team and he kept the Eagles

scoreless throughout he first three innings and they had seven hits. He battled," raved Otto. "Our defense did a great job of bailing him out, too. At the end, we had to force some issues and made some errors."

Meanwhile, Big Spring mustered only five hits and only had more than one hit in an inning once. Colt Howley got the win for Canyon, pitching five innings and allowing only one unearned run on four hits and two walks while striking out five.

Big Spring finally comes home Tuesday after spending the first month of the season on the road without hosting a single game at its own ballpark. The Steers will host Fort Stockton, starting at noon.

Big Spring defeated Fort Stockton 9-4 last Tuesday, scoring five runs in an extra frame for the victory.

"We're looking forward to coming home," Otto said. "We get to play four of five in a row at home. We had a little bit of a set back today, but I think

we're peaking at the right time."

Canyon 000 322 0—7 13 1  
Big Spring 001 000 0—1 5 3

Colt Howley, Kendall Neill (6) and Chris Matthews. Coby Landis, Lance Gross (7) and Rance Terry. W - Howley. L - Landis (0-1). 2B - Canyon: Tyler Vogel, Landon Rikel. HR - Canyon: Nick Hogue. RBI: Canyon - Hogue 3, Neil, Ricket; BSHS - Doperto.

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

## HOWARD

Continued from Page 7

Odessa led 1-0 heading into the top of the sixth and scored a pair of runs on a bases loaded single with two outs, extending their lead to 3-0. The Wranglers tacked on one more run with two outs in the top of the seventh to arrive at the final margin, 4-0.

The Hawks collected four hits, all singles by Amanda Benavides, Misti Lindamood,

Kristy Leal and Jessica Moreno.

### Game 2 Odessa College 13, Howard College 5

In Game 2, the Hawks jumped out to a 3-1 lead in the bottom of the first inning, but a lineup miscue ended the inning with the bases loaded, costing the Hawks an opportunity to further the damage.

Howard extended the lead to 4-2 in the bottom of the second with Corbin ripping a triple and scoring on a RBI single by

Moreno.

Unfortunately for Howard, Odessa crushed a 2-run homer in the third and scored two more runs in the top of the fourth to take a 5-4 lead.

The Wranglers tacked on another run in the top of the fifth, while the Hawks pushed across another run in the bottom of the sixth to trail Odessa 6-5.

The Wranglers scored seven runs in the top of the seventh for the 13-5 final score.

Diana Espinal suffered the loss for the Hawks, but didn't

pitch badly, according to Raines.

"I thought our pitching was okay," Raines said. "Diana had some errors behind her that were big. We just couldn't stop the bleeding in the seventh inning and played bad defensively."

Corbin led the Hawks at the plate with a triple and a single. Both Lindawood and Ashley Calles had a pair of singles. Celia Padilla added a 2-RBI double while Moreno, Leal and Espinal each had a single.

Howard had their 12-game

win streak snapped and fall to 17-8 overall and 9-3 in the WJCAC.

The Hawks are now tied with Odessa for second in the WJCAC with Midland College leading the conference.

The Hawks travel to Borger Friday and Saturday for a pair of WJCAC doubleheaders beginning at 1 p.m. both days.

"We've been playing well and now need to put this behind us and hopefully move on," Raines said.

## TRACK

Continued from Page 7

nine seconds better than third-place Hugo Corral of Odessa High, showing that the Steers have two of the strongest distance runners in the region at any classification.

The 200 meters was also a productive race for the Steers with Zamir Linton placing third and Brandon Ontiveros coming in sixth. Big Spring also earned a bronze medal in the 800 relay.

### Friday-Saturday at Ratliff Stadium

Team totals: 1. Permian, 139; 2. Midland High, 125; 3. Big Spring, 104; 4. Midland Lee, 84; and Odessa High, 84; 6. El Paso

Montwood, 81.

**Discus:** 1. Steven Walls, Midland High, 141-02; 2. Kyle Logsdon, Midland Lee, 133-9; 3. Adedayo Balogun, Permian, 131-05; 4. Matt Holtzapfle, Midland High, 127-1; 5. Tyler McCann, Permian, 126-4; 6. Casey Forga, Midland Lee, 118-2.

**High jump:** 1. Chris Muncie, El Paso Montwood, 6-2; 2. Montrey Anders, Midland High, 6-2; 3. Tyrone Clemons, Big Spring, 6-2; 4. Adrian Escajeda, El Paso Montwood, 5-10; 5. Kendahl Johnson, Midland High, 5-10; 6. Johnny Rollie, Permian, 5-8.

**Long jump:** 1. Robert Guyton, Midland Lee, 22-01.5; 2. David Comacho, Odessa High, 21-09.75; 3. Chris Muncie, El Paso Montwood, 21-7; 4. LaRay Woodard, Big Spring, 21-03.5; 5. Terrance Clemons, Big Spring, 20-11.5; 6. Darius Miller, Midland High, 20-04.5.

**Shot put:** 1. Roberto Montoya, Midland High, 46-02.5; 2. Jamison Berryhill, Permian, 44-10; 3. Cody Parker, Midland High, 44-05; 4. Ruben Talamants, Odessa High, 42-4; 5. Michael Garcia, Midland

High, 41-7; 6. Scott O'Neal, El Paso Montwood, 41-04.75.

**Triple jump:** 1. Robert Guyton, Midland Lee, 44-6; 2. Omar Barnes, Midland Lee, 42-10; 3. Caviona Ransom, Permian, 42-01.5; 4. Sidney Parker, Big Spring, 41-9; 5. Johnny Rollie, Permian, 41-06.75; 6. Tyrone Clemons, Big Spring, 41-03.5.

**Pole vault:** 1. Steven Farber, Permian, 13-6; 2. Lucas Lacy, Odessa High, 12-0; 3. Ryan McRight, Midland High, 11-6; 4. Caleb Gregory, Odessa High, 11-6.

Running Events

**3,200 meters:** 1. Jordan Valle, Big Spring, 10:10.2; 2. Hugo Corral, Odessa High, 10:30.75; 3. Jarred Murray, Permian, 10:44.66; 4. David Hernandez, Permian, 10:47.44; 5. Daimon Diemer, Midland High, 10:47.66; 6. Ryan Herrera, Odessa High, 10:48.53.

**400 relay:** 1. Midland High, 42.48; 2. Permian, 42.86; 3. Odessa High, 43.97; 4. Midland Lee, 43.98; 5. Big Spring, 44.1; 6. El Paso Montwood, 44.97.

**800:** 1. Zach Dawson, Big Spring, 1:56.6; 2. Jesse Martinez,

Permian, 1:58.8; 3. John Alcorn, El Paso Montwood, 2:02.17; 4. Ray Parcedes, Odessa High, 2:04.64; 5. Daniel Segundo, Big Spring, 2:05.13; 6. Cody Sayles, Permian, 2:05.57.

**110 hurdles:** 1. LaRay Woodard, Big Spring, 14.93; 2. Ryan McDowell, Permian, 15.08; 3. Laron Wright, Midland High, 15.31; 4. Jered Groner, Midland Lee, 15.4; 5. Kyle Logsdon, Midland Lee, 15.44; 6. Michael Wheelwright, El Paso Montwood, 15.95.

**100:** 1. Tyler Middleton, Midland High, 10.86; 2. Darius Miller, Midland High, 11.09; 3. Melvis Pride, Permian, 11.26; 4. Martin Chavez, Permian, 11.42; 5. Adrian Pertile, Midland Lee, 11.42; 6. Felix Neboh, Odessa High, 11.55.

**800 relay:** 1. Midland High, 1:29.02; 2. Midland Lee, 1:30.56; 3. Big Spring, 1:30.86; 4. Permian, 1:33.03; 5. Odessa High, 1:33.88; 6. El Paso Montwood, 1:34.17.

**400:** 1. Chris Muncie, El Paso Montwood, 47.35; 2. David Camacho, Odessa High, 50.76; 3. JP Johnson, Odessa High, 51.04; 4. Ben Coker, Permian, 51.13; 5. Joey

Mendez, Permian, 53.02; 6. Eric Arce, El Paso Montwood, 53.33.

**300 hurdles:** 1. LaRay Woodard, Big Spring, 39.8; 2. Eugene Neboh, Permian, 39.83; 3. Michael Wheelright, El Paso Montwood, 41.29; 4. Taylor Robinson, Permian, 41.51; 5. Roy Ramos, Odessa High, 41.99; 6. Jered Groner, Midland Lee, 42.42.

**200:** 1. Chris Muncie, El Paso Montwood, 21.48; 2. Nick Johnson, Midland High, 22.09; 3. Zamir Linton, Big Spring, 22.84; 4. Anthony McDowell, Permian, 23.03; 5. Casey Forga, Midland Lee, 23.2;

6. Brandon Oiveos, Big Spring, 23.68.

**1,600:** 1. Zach Dawson, Big Spring, 4:24.48; 2. Jordan Valle, Big Spring, 4:27.91; 3. Hugo Corral, Odessa High, 4:36.93; 4. Jesse Martinez, Permian, 4:46.55; 5. John Alarcon, El Paso Montwood, 4:48.76; 6. David Hernandez, Permian, 4:48.98.

**1,600 relay:** 1. El Paso Montwood, 3:21.67; 2. Permian, 3:23.19; 3. Midland Lee, 2:34.78; 4. Odessa High, 3:31.28; 5. Big Spring, 3:34.43; 6. Midland High, 3:35.08.

## LADY STEERS

Continued from Page 7

loss, striking out three batters.

Big Spring was shut out again by Corpus Christi Carroll in Game 6, 4-0. The Lady Steers were guilty of another four errors and all four of Carroll's runs were unearned. Sage received her first loss of the tournament, but struck out four batters.

In their final game of the tournament, the Lady Steers avenged a Game 1 loss

to Antonian and finally got on track at the plate, winning 6-0. Yanez pitched the shut out, striking out five batters, and also helped her own cause, hitting an in-the-park home run in the second inning that also scored Yarbar and Ramirez.

Yarbar and Yanez also scored in the first inning to give Big Spring a 2-0 lead, courtesy of a Sage single to center. Valle scored the Lady Steers' final run after Valerie Ross knocked an RBI single.

The Lady Steers travel to Hobbs, N.M. Thursday and then visit Brownwood Friday.

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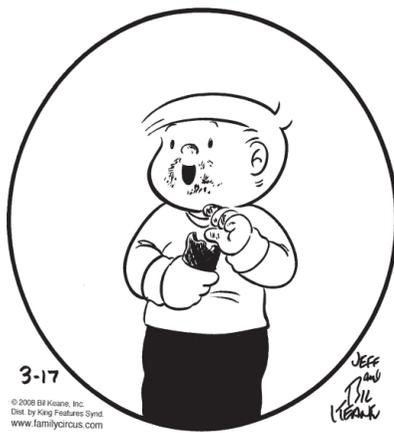
Table with 20 columns (WFAA, KMYD, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLN, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, SCIFI) and 7 rows (6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 12:30) listing TV programs and channels.

DENNIS THE MENACE



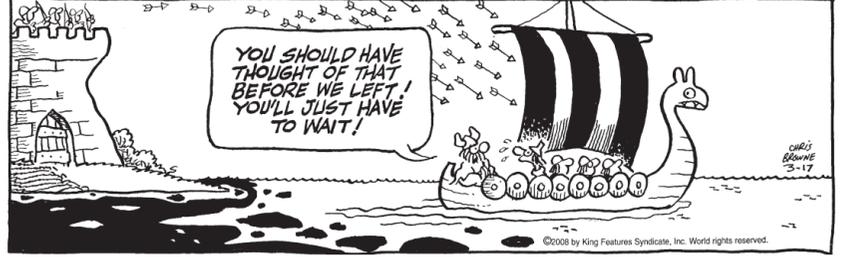
"Does alphabet soup come in large print for old guys like you?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Could we tell the Easter Bunny my favorite is chocolate-covered chocolate?"

HAGAR



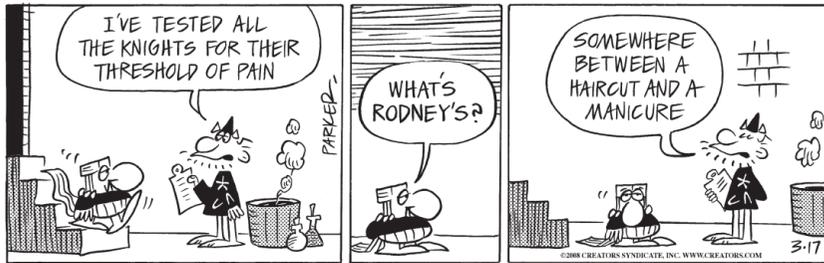
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WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Monday, March 17, the 77th day of 2008. There are 289 days left in the year. This is St. Patrick's Day. Today's Highlight in History: Fifty years ago, on March 17, 1958, the U.S. Navy launched the Vanguard 1 satellite. On this date: In A.D. 461 (or A.D. 493, according to other authorities), St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, died in Saul. In 1776, British forces evacuated Boston during the Revolutionary War. In 1906, President Theodore Roosevelt first likened crusading journalists to a man with "the muckraker in his hand" in a speech to the Gridiron Club in Washington. In 1910, the Camp Fire Girls organization was formed. (It was formally pre-

mented to the public on this date two years later.) In 1941, the National Gallery of Art opened in Washington. In 1950, scientists at the University of California at Berkeley announced they had created a new radioactive element, "californium." In 1966, a U.S. midget submarine located a missing hydrogen bomb which had fallen from an American bomber into the Mediterranean off Spain. In 1968, a peaceful anti-Vietnam War protest in London was followed by a riot outside the U.S. Embassy; more than 80 people were reported injured. In 1969, Golda Meir became prime minister of Israel. In 1992, 29 people were killed in the truck bombing of the Israeli embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Today's Birthdays: The former national chairwoman of the NAACP, Myrlie Evers-Williams, is 75. Rock musician Paul Kantner is 67. Singer-songwriter Jim Weatherly is 65. Singer-songwriter John Sebastian (The Lovin' Spoonful) is 64. Rock musician Harold Brown (War; Lowrider Band) is 62. Actor Patrick Duffy is 59. Actor Kurt Russell is 57. Country singer Susie Allison is 56. Actress Lesley-Anne Down is 54. Country singer Paul Overstreet is 53. Actor Gary Sinise is 53. Actress Vicki Lewis is 48. Actor Casey Siemaszko is 47. Writer-director Rob Sitch is 46. Actor Rob Lowe is 44. Rock singer Billy Corgan is 41. Rock musician Van Conner (Screaming Trees) is 41. Actor Mathew St. Patrick is 40. Actor Yanic Truesdale is 39. Rock musician Melissa Auf der Maur is 36.

Sebastian (The Lovin' Spoonful) is 64. Rock musician Harold Brown (War; Lowrider Band) is 62. Actor Patrick Duffy is 59. Actor Kurt Russell is 57. Country singer Susie Allison is 56. Actress Lesley-Anne Down is 54. Country singer Paul Overstreet is 53. Actor Gary Sinise is 53. Actress Vicki Lewis is 48. Actor Casey Siemaszko is 47. Writer-director Rob Sitch is 46. Actor Rob Lowe is 44. Rock singer Billy Corgan is 41. Rock musician Van Conner (Screaming Trees) is 41. Actor Mathew St. Patrick is 40. Actor Yanic Truesdale is 39. Rock musician Melissa Auf der Maur is 36.

Answer to previous puzzle crossword grid with words like SCHUSSING, IRONMINER, PREEN, etc.

Newsday Crossword

PAT'S DAY by Sally R. Stein Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS: 1 Hot spring, 4 Exchange, 8 Scatter about, 13 Phone letters near 0, 14 Install asphalt, 15 Go away, 16 Short skirt, 17 Frankenstein's assistant, 18 Behaved, 19 Rural hotels, 20 PATernity-leave recipients, 22 Starts getting molars, 24 Female sheep, 25 Horse's meal morsel, 26 DVD player ancestor, 27 Ace, king, or jack, 31 Veranda, 34 Feel sorry for, 35 Margarine, 36 Carmen or Tosca, 37 Farm implement, 38 Amherst school, for short, 39 Baby's first word, maybe, 40 Make a pleat, 41 Malice, 42 Pigeonhole, 43 One time (singly), 44 Actor Gibson, 45 Life story, for short, 46 Most simple, 50 PATCHwork of stuff, 55 Office note, 56 Have a crush on, 57 Car, 58 Ireland nickname, 59 Apartment-for-rent sign, 60 "It's cold!", 61 River through Egypt, 62 Steps on the brake, 63 Utters, 64 Golf platform, 7 Got better and better at, 8 Candidate list, 9 Computer repairer, for short, 10 Evaluate, 11 At any time, 12 Ties the knot, 13 Leave out, 21 Out of whack, 23 Laugh sounds, 26 Stringed instrument, 27 PAT on the back, 28 Jai, 29 Take a break, 30 Medicine amount, 31 Pea holders, 32 Milky gem, 33 Make over, 34 Picture-developing places, 38 Takes advantage of, 40 Come up short, 44 City officials, 45 Red vegetables, 46 Contest submission, 47 Weird, 48 Express happiness, 49 Muscle quality, 50 Gym surfaces, 51 Admired one, 52 One-person performance, 53 Work group, 54 Radiant glow

12x12 crossword grid with numbers 1-64 indicating starting positions for clues.

**TEXAS NEWS BRIEFS**

**Astronauts flex arms of space station robot**

HOUSTON (AP) — Astronauts flexed the giant arms of the international space station's new robot for the first time, testing the brakes and maneuvering the appendages into position for a Monday night spacewalk.

All the brakes on the Canadian-built robot named Dextre passed the test but one in the wrist joint of its left arm. That brake slipped a tad more than engineers wanted, but officials weren't concerned.

"In the long term it's not going to affect the operation of Dextre in any significant way," said Pierre Jean, Canada's acting space station program manager.

Astronauts Richard Linnehan and Robert Behnken planned to spend Monday's spacewalk adding a tool holster and other accouterments for Dextre, which is designed to assist spacewalking astronauts maintain the station.

They were hoping for a less challenging outing than Linnehan and fellow spacewalker Michael Foreman endured over the weekend to install Dextre's 11-foot arms. The pair had to use a pry bar and brute force to free one of the arms from the transport bed where it was latched down for launch.

**AG's opinion on Bible course sought**

AUSTIN (AP) — A new law giving Texas high schools freedom to teach elective Bible courses has the state's top education official unclear about the obligations to offer such classes.

Texas Education Commissioner Robert Scott is asking Attorney General Greg Abbott for an opinion about whether public high schools must offer a Bible course if requested by at least 15 students, a threshold referenced in the bill that was passed last year.

Lawmakers adopted the measure with an assurance the class would only focus on the history and literature of the Bible, and not proselytize or disparage any faith. But the wording of the bill — which includes the phrase "may" offer in one section and "shall" in another — left conflicting interpretations. The bill is structured to take effect in the fall semester of 2009.

"We're waiting to see what the attorney general says — anxiously waiting," Scott said.

An opinion from Abbott's office could take six months.

**Police 'overwhelmed' after beach concert**

GALVESTON (AP) — An outdoor rap concert ended in multiple fights and unruly partying that police say "completely overwhelmed" officers who struggled to restore order and herd nearly 5,000 cars off the beach in this island city.

At least 12 people were arrested and one officer broke his finger Sunday trying to control the crowd, Galveston police Lt. Jorge Trevino said. Almost four hours passed before police cleared the streets.

Problems began when police tried arresting a group of men fighting. Other fights then broke out and left four officers patrolling the concert "completely overwhelmed," Trevino said.

All on-duty officers and some whose shifts had not begun were eventually called to the scene, Galveston police Sgt. Byron Franklin said. Authorities shut down four city streets while trying to get as many as 5,000 cars off East Beach, he said.

"It was an absolute fiasco," said Johnny Smecca, owner of Mario's Italian Restaurant.

Smecca said he saw people urinating in the alley behind his restaurant and dancing on top of cars.

The concert, called the "Spring Break Party Beach Bash," was hosted by Houston radio station Party 93.3. The event was to feature artists 2 Pistols, Colby O'Donnis, Lil Wil & Lil Keke, and Webbie, according to the station's Web site.

**Houston pilot honored in Australia**

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — A Continental Airlines pilot who earned an Australian bravery award Monday for his rescue efforts after a 2003 plane crash in Sydney said he expects to finally return to work this week.

John Ryan, 56, of Houston, received severe burns to his head, arms and head in the crash that killed a passenger who was evaluating Ryan for an Australian aviation license. Ryan tried saving the man, 67, but the badly burned flying examiner died at the scene.

Ryan said he felt "very honored" to receive the Bravery Medal, Australia's third highest civilian bravery award. He told The Associated Press he only

received medical clearance last week to return to work.

"I've had an awesome amount of surgery," Ryan said Friday, ahead of the award announcement. "For five years and one month, it's been a full-time job to recover from this."

The accident was blamed on the failure of one of the Beechcraft Duchess' twin engines during takeoff at Camden airport.

**Man found dead under wrecked car**

TEMPLE (AP) — Relatives who prepared a newspaper ad that read "Please come home" for a missing family member instead found the man dead under his wrecked car from an accident that appeared to happen more than a week earlier.

Erik Ray Aguilar, 22, was found by chance Saturday in a remote field by relatives who noticed his car while driving to church, police said. He was reported missing March 7.

Friends and family members had been searching for Aguilar since his disappearance, posting fliers across town and drafting a newspaper ad that was to read, "Please come home. Mom misses you and loves you! Please call!"

"I can't believe my brother is dead," said Ericka Aguilar, 19, the man's sister. "I knew there was something really wrong when he didn't contact me on my birthday."

Aguilar's car appeared to swipe a guardrail before crossing a Temple highway, going up an embankment and rolling at least once, Temple police Sgt. Allen Teston said. Authorities believe the accident occurred shortly after Aguilar was last seen March 5.

The car was about 100 yards off the roadway Saturday when family members, driving by the field, spotted Aguilar's car. Teston said Aguilar was thrown from the sedan before it came to rest on top of him.

**Texans' receiver Jones arrested on DWI**

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston Texans wide receiver Jacoby Jones was arrested early Sunday on suspicion of drunken driving, officials said.

**su | do | ku**

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box. Solution, tips and computer program at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

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

Jones, 23, was stopped by police about 3 a.m. near downtown.

A police spokesman did not know what caused officers to pull over Jones, who was chosen by the Texans in the third round of last year's draft.

"It was basically a DWI investigation," said police Sgt. John Chomiak. "There was no accident involved." Jones was taken into custody and charged with driving while intoxicated, his first offense. Bail of \$500 was paid later Sunday morning.

Jones played in 14 games last year, starting three, and had 15 catches for 149 yards. He also had 30 punt returns for 286 yards with a long of 74 yards.

A spokesman for the Texans did not immediately return a cell phone message Sunday night.

An attempt to reach Jones' agent by telephone was unsuccessful.

**Arrests made at cockfighting arena**

CORSICANA (AP) — Nearly 200 people were charged with gambling after officers raided a cockfighting operation Saturday that included bleachers for spectators and even a concession stand, authorities said.

Officers seized \$170,000 in cash, about 300 birds, several guns, drugs and enough alcohol to fill the back of a pickup, the Navarro County Sheriff's Department said Sunday.

The owner of the property was charged with felony cruelty to farm animals, according to the sheriff's department.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals said it was the largest seizure of birds it had ever been involved with in Texas.

In a separate incident in Houston, 41 malnourished pit bulls were seized from a breeding operation. An animal-protection official said some had scars indicating that they had been used for fighting.

**Contract Bridge**

By Steve Becker

**Famous Hand**

South dealer. North-South vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ A J 6 3  
♥ A 9 3  
♦ A 9 4  
♣ 4 3 2

**WEST**  
♠ 2  
♥ 4  
♦ Q 10 8 6 3  
♣ J 9 8 6 5

**EAST**  
♠ 9 7 5 4  
♥ K Q 8 7 6 5  
♦ J  
♣ 10 7

**SOUTH**  
♠ K Q 10 8  
♥ J 10 2  
♦ K 7 5 2  
♣ A K

The bidding:  
South 1 NT Pass 2♣ 2♥  
West Pass 2♣ 5♣  
North Pass 5♣  
East 2♥

Opening lead — four of hearts.

Here is a remarkable hand played in a rubber-bridge tournament by the late French expert Pierre Albarran.

North's two-club bid asked South if he had a four-card major suit, and Albarran obliged with two spades.

For reasons unknown, North then leaped to five spades. This could hardly be the right bid, since a slam was very unlikely opposite a 16- to 18-point notrump. Albarran, with no values in excess of those previously expressed, had the good sense to pass.

West led a heart, and East won with the queen, South falsecarding with the ten. East was afraid to return a heart because declarer might have had J-10 alone, so he shifted to a club.

Albarran took the ace and drew all the trumps, learning in the process that East had started with four spades as well as six hearts. When declarer then cashed the king of clubs and everybody followed suit, 12 of East's cards were fully accounted for, and it became likely that East had started with precisely one diamond.

Accordingly, Albarran led a low diamond toward dummy and, when West followed low, played the nine. East was forced to take the jack and return a heart.

Thus, Albarran, who had started with only nine sure tricks, now had a 10th trick because of the forced heart return. The 11th trick followed very shortly, as this was the position with four tricks remaining:

**North**  
♥ A  
♦ A 4  
♣ 4

**West**  
♦ Q 10 8  
♣ Q

**East**  
Immaterial

**South**  
♥ J  
♦ K 7 5

Albarran cashed the ace of hearts, and there was nothing West could discard that would prevent South from taking the rest of the tricks.

Tomorrow: Never relax.  
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# Credit crisis leads Fed to make rare weekend move

By JEANNINE AVERSA

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — Urgently moving to contain a deepening credit crisis, the Federal Reserve is trying to restore confidence in panicked financial markets by becoming a lender of last resort for Wall Street investment houses that on Monday can begin securing short-term emergency loans.

However, on Wall Street skittish investors drove stocks down by more than 180 points in the first few minutes of trading. Trading on world markets also was down sharply.

The central bank, in an extraordinarily rare weekend move, took the bold action Sunday in an attempt to calm the markets. It also approved a cut in its emergency lending rate to financial institutions to 3.25 percent from 3.50 percent, effective immediately.

"These steps will provide financial institutions with greater assurance of access to funds," Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke told reporters in a brief conference call Sunday evening.

The Fed acted just after JPMorgan Chase & Co. agreed to buy rival Bear Stearns Cos. for \$236.2 million in a deal that represents a stunning collapse for one of the world's largest and most venerable investment houses. Just on Friday the Fed had raced to provide emergency financing to cash-strapped Bear Stearns through JPMorgan. Days earlier the Fed announced a set of other unconventional steps to thaw out a credit market in danger of freezing shut.

The Fed's actions come as fears have spread that other financial houses could also be on shaky ground.

"It seems as if Bernanke & Co. are pulling out all the stops to avoid a serious financial market meltdown," Richard Yamarone, an economist at Argus Research, said Sunday evening.

Yet anxiety persisted. On world financial markets, Asian stocks plunged Monday after the JPMorgan and Fed announcements. Markets in Australia and New Zealand were also off and European stocks fell in early trading.

Oil prices hit a record in Asian trading as the value of the dollar continued its free fall and U.S. stock index futures were down sharply, suggesting Wall Street would open lower after sinking Friday.

"There is persistent credit uncertainty. Market players have been repeatedly let down which shows the subprime mortgage problems are so deep-rooted," said Atsushi Ohara, global strategist of Shinko Securities in Tokyo.

President Bush has scheduled a White House meeting Monday afternoon with his Working Group on Financial Markets, which includes Bernanke, Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson and Securities and Exchange Commission Chairman Christopher Cox.

Paulson said Sunday, "I appreciate the additional actions taken this evening by the Federal Reserve to enhance the

stability, liquidity and orderliness of our markets."

The new lending facility — described as a cousin to the Fed's emergency lending "discount window" for banks — is geared to give major investment houses a source of short-term cash on a regular basis — if they need it.

That's important because those big investment houses have key roles in the financial system and if one fails or is having difficulty it could put the whole financial system in jeopardy, said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Economy.com. These big investment houses have complex relationships with many players in the

system, including hedge funds, commercial banks and others.

The lending facility will be in place for at least six months and "may be extended as conditions warrant," the Fed said. The interest rate will be 3.25 percent and a range of collateral — including investment-grade mortgage backed securities — will be accepted to back the overnight loans.

The "discount" rate cut announced Sunday applies only to the short-term loans that financial institutions get directly from the Federal Reserve. It doesn't apply to individual borrowers.

The Fed's actions are the latest in a recent string of innovative steps to deal with a worsening

credit crisis that has unhinged Wall Street.

The action comes just two days before the central bank's scheduled meeting on Tuesday, where another big cut to a key interest rate that affects millions of people and businesses is expected to be ordered. That key rate is now at 3 percent and is expected to be cut by at least three-quarters of a percentage point on Tuesday.

The Fed said in a statement that the steps are "designed to bolster market liquidity and promote orderly market functioning ... essential for the promotion of economic growth."

Even with the Fed's aggressive moves, economic and financial con-

ditions keep deteriorating. An increasing number of economists believe the country already has slipped into its first recession since 2001. Many economists think that the economy is shrinking now in the January-to-March quarter. The first government figures on first-quarter economic activity will be released in late April.

The Fed on Sunday also approved the financing arrangement through which JPMorgan will acquire Bear Stearns. JPMorgan said the Fed will provide special financing for the deal. The central bank has agreed to fund up to \$30 billion of Bear Stearns' less liquid assets, according to JPMorgan.



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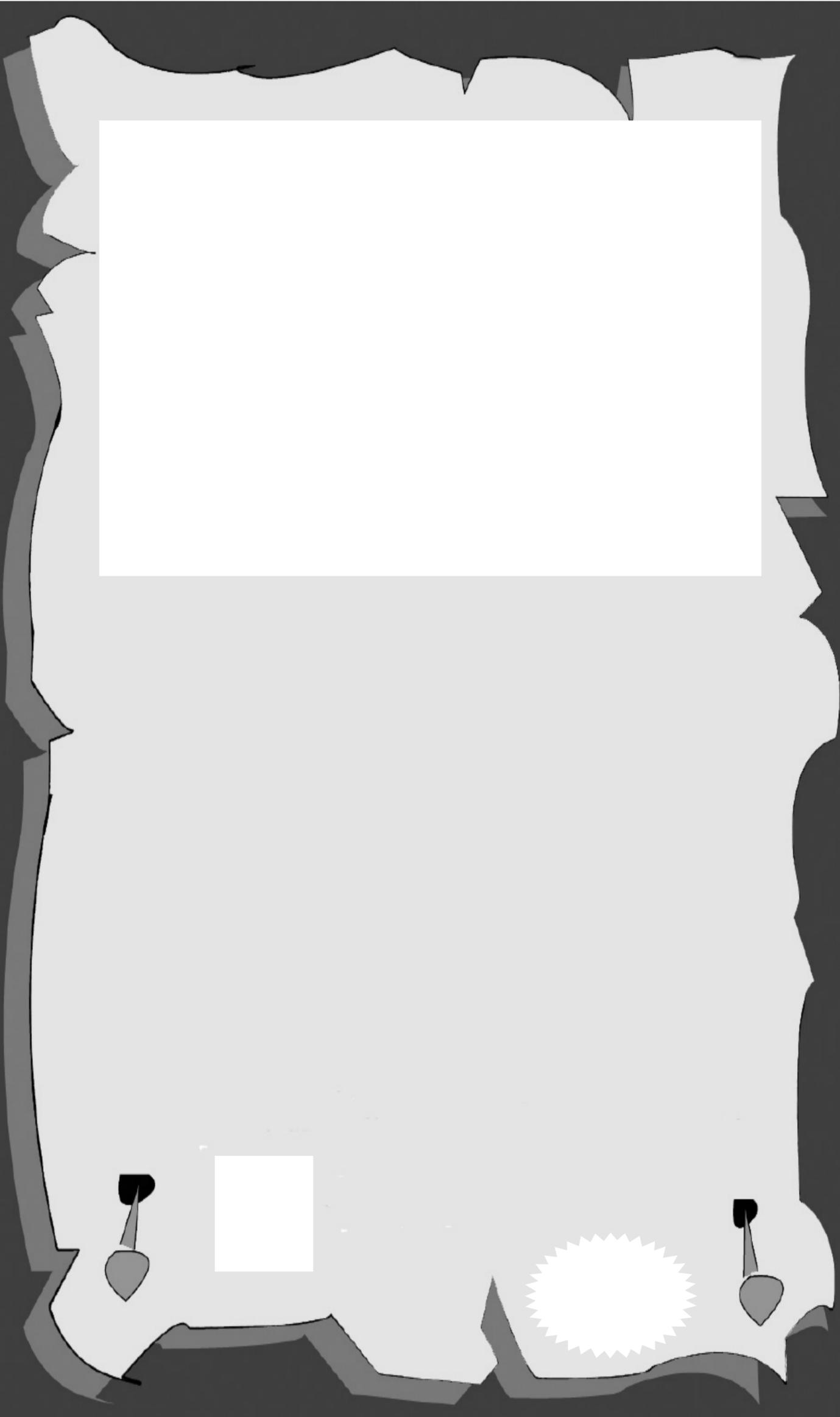
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It's St. Patrick's Day! Irish people celebrate their heritage today; others declare themselves temporarily Irish and partake in all things glorious and green. Revel in your luck, but also be mindful of efficiency and procedure as Saturn in Virgo checks Mercury — our critical-thinking processes. And if we're overly serious, we snap out of it in a pinch.



**HOLIDAY MATHIS**

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). Not every life change has to happen because of a deep and meaningful experience. Most change comes from shallow and mundane actions, like hopping onto the treadmill.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You get the assistance you ask for. In the process, you may decide that you would prefer a different kind of help. Even so, you are one step closer to getting what you need and want.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Protect love with ferocity. Let nothing stand between you and your love. There's no barrier to love you can't bring down with the power of your will and your beautiful, human need to love and be loved.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Don't be dazzled by someone's good intentions, especially not your own. Intensions are

important, and good ones are better than ill will. But in the end, all that matters is what actually happens or what doesn't.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). Dare to postulate. That means assuming that your projected reality is true and exists already. This is one step beyond wishing, and your wishes are certainly worthy of the effort.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're one of the great communicators now. You communicate with such specificity and sensitivity that you hardly have to raise your voice to get your point across. Libra is listening exceptionally well.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll encounter other people's pride, often overblown and easily hurt. So be gentle. Pride is all some people have, and the world can be very adept at chipping away at that. You can be a safe haven for picked-on souls.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Again, issues of comparison and self-acceptance arise, and you have a new way of dealing. Whatever your method, the result you aim for is to feel complete, just as you are. The feeling will not elude you.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Maybe you don't feel as driven as your usual self, and that's OK. You don't always have to be the driver. Being willing to go along for the ride will often get you to the same destination.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). If you have deep inside you a fantasy to be the invincible, all-powerful, benevolent warrior (and who doesn't?), then today you'll likely cast off your mild-mannered persona and embrace your inner superhero.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Sometimes a person's troubles will make him or her seem, at the moment, more interesting to you. It's an extremely short moment, though. So be careful not to get so caught up in it that you offer things you'll soon regret.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). If there's a way of getting it done, you'll find it. You'll also find the alternate way and the shortcut. You're the perfect addition to a project. The team you work with will be glad to have you.

**ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS:** "I'm an impatient Aries with no domestic inklings. I'd rather be doing anything than keeping house. I know that astrology can advise on many things, but can get me to decorate my walls or take out the trash?"

I hear you! And join you! Domestic perfection has never been something I felt driven to strive for — I don't have the stars, nor the desire, for it. What I do have, however, is the astrological edge. And that's all you need to make a less than perfect domestic scene not only work but be something we can ultimately be

proud of. For you, Aries, your home is your crash pad. In fact, it may take you until your 30s or 40s to finally decide to go all out and personalize your decor. You especially resonate with bright colors and busy, vibrant patterns. Consider pulling heavily on the energies of Cancer and Libra to create balance in your abode. Read my book "Rock Your Stars: Your Astrological Guide to Getting it All" to find out how to astrally feng-shui your way into the ideal pad.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** Vanessa Williams spoke from experience when she said "the best revenge is success." With three luminaries in Pisces, she epitomizes grace under pressure. You can surely chalk that success up to her native sign's ability to replace lost limb (or crown) by growing another. Nothing's lost that can't be replaced. It's a sort of fishy natural selection, and Pisces magical legacy — turning fish into starfish.

*If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.*

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**Annie's Mailbox®: Advice for those in need**

Dear Annie: I need your advice. Last year, I asked my son-in-law to help with some work on my house and yard. One day, I came home from the office, kicked off my heels and lay down on the couch. My son-in-law came in from working outside to get a drink and we struck up a conversation. He made a few remarks about how tired I looked — and offered to give me a foot massage. I took him up on it.

Annie, I have been taking him up on it ever since. Any time he comes over after I get home from work, he asks and I accept. A colleague made me aware of foot fetishes and suggested my son-in-law could be getting sexual gratification from doing this. Is that possible? Should I stop accepting? Did I start something inappropriate by saying yes the first time? — Embarrassed M-I-L

Dear Embarrassed: Let's not jump to conclusions. Yes, he could be enjoying the foot rubs more than you are. But it's also possible he is a loving son-in-law and knows a foot massage makes you feel better after a long day. Here's how you find out: Ask him to give you a foot rub when your daughter is in the room. If he has a foot fetish, she

would know. And if he's reluctant to rub your feet when other family members are present, it may be because he considers it an intimacy — in which case, it's time to stop. We're certain you can find a way to do it diplomatically.

Dear Annie: I am an attractive young woman with a history of anorexia. Thanks to loving friends, family and a wonderful boyfriend, I was able to recover and now enjoy eating healthful, well-balanced meals.

Here's the problem. I hold a very good job at a grocery store. On occasion, I will splurge and buy some snack I am craving, but I absolutely dread going through the check stand. My co-workers always feel it is necessary to comment on the food I buy, and it is inevitable that when I buy junk food, I will get a teasing remark. I know these comments are intended to be harmless, but it always fills me with heavy guilt about what I'm eating, as well

as feelings of being fat or needing to lose weight.

None of my co-workers knows about my past struggles and I really don't want to explain. It's gotten to the point where I have stopped buying snacks at my store. Annie,

I don't comment on my co-workers' purchases. Why do they need to do it to me? — Not Anorexic but Still Recovering in California

Dear California: They are trying to be friendly and don't realize what a sensitive issue this is for you. Since you don't want to share the information about your anorexia (nor should you feel obligated to do so), it's best if you can avoid reacting to the food comments. In time, the remarks will seem neither original nor amusing, and your co-workers will stop.

Dear Annie: I felt compelled to write after reading the letter from "Hurting in Montreal," the 16-year-old girl who is experiencing visual and auditory hallucinations.

My son started having

these symptoms when he was 8 years old and they turned out to be related to a form of epilepsy. The good news is that he "outgrew" this condition after some years on medication and has been seizure free for many years. I hope this helps. — Barbara

Dear Barbara: You weren't the only reader who suggested "Hurting" may have a form of epilepsy. We hope she will discuss it with her parents and get whatever medical help she needs.

Annie's Snippet for St. Patrick's Day: May the luck of the Irish possess you. May the devil fly off with your worries. May God bless you forever and ever.

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

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

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