

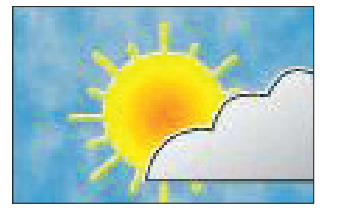
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H BIG SPRING HERALD

WEDNESDAY
 JANUARY 7, 2009



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Schools face tighter financial times

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer
 Unlike some other school districts in Texas, Big Spring, Coahoma and Forsan are not expecting tough financial times in the coming months. What happens past 2009, however, remains to be seen. School districts across the state will be closely watching as the Texas Legislature begins its biennial session Tuesday. In particular, educators will be looking to see


 what, if anything, representatives do to tweak the formula for providing financial aid to districts. A worsening economy, coupled with a de facto cap on state spending, has forced some school districts in the state to adopt emergency measures — including borrowing money or dipping into reserve funds in some cases — to help pay

the bills. That kind of situation does not yet exist in Howard County. “We’ll be able to do the things we need to do,” BSISD Chief Financial Officer Sandra Waggoner said. “We just won’t be able to do anything extra.” In the latest round of school financing reform, Texas education officials announced that state aid to schools would be capped at 2005-2006 school year levels. As an

additional kicker, if local revenues increase, state aid to the districts decrease, meaning local districts are locked into three-year-old financing formulas, regardless of how much revenue comes in. “We’re fine right now,” Forsan ISD Superintendent Randy Johnson said. “We’re not facing a crisis ... but if you look across the state, there

are several districts that are facing a real crisis.” Waggoner said increased operating costs have forced some Texas school districts to dip into reserve funds to pay salaries and other expenses while they wait for state aid to arrive. And while local educators hope the legislature will tweak its funding formula, no one is holding their breath, either. “I don’t see anything stirring.”
 See **SCHOOLS**, page 3A

Trustee search begins

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer
 For the second time in recent months, the Howard College Board of Trustees is looking to replace one of its long-time members. Don McKinney, a veteran of more than 30 years on the board, died Dec. 14 after a lengthy illness. McKinney was first appointed to the board in 1972 and served continuously as Precinct 4 trustee until the time of his death. His death comes on the



AP Photo/Gerald Herbert
President-elect Barack Obama speaks to reporters after a meeting with his top economic advisers at his transition office in Washington Tuesday. At left is Budget Director-designate Peter Orszag.

Obama balances stimulus, budget restraint

By JIM KUHNHENN
 Associated Press
 WASHINGTON — To a public wary of government spending, President-elect Barack Obama is offering a salve with his massive economic stimulus package: the promise of long-term fiscal discipline. Budget-conscious lawmakers are pressing Obama to embrace deficit-reduction goals even as he promotes a spending and tax-cutting plan — expected to cost about \$775 billion — to jolt the economy out of its downward spiral. “Part of the discussion that needs to happen right now is not what we do just right now, but what we look to in the future — about how we get back to a balanced budget and then start to deal with this horrible, horrible national debt that we have,” said Rep. Dennis Moore of Kansas, a member of the congressional Blue Dogs, a coalition of conservative and moderate Democrats. Two weeks away from assuming the presidency, Obama vowed Tuesday to “bring a long-overdue sense of responsibility and accountability to Washington” and called the need for budget reform “an absolute necessity.” On Wednesday, he was expected to announce Nancy Killefer as his chief performance officer, a White House official who will work with federal agencies to set performance standards and hold agency managers accountable for progress. Killefer is director of a management consulting firm and served as an assistant secretary of the Treasury under President Bill Clinton. “The fact that he is making these comments publicly about fiscal responsibility gives me encouragement that we will see something,” said Rep. Charlie Melancon of Louisiana, one of the leaders of the Blue Dog Coalition. With Democrats in control of both chambers in Congress, Obama’s reassurances to budget hawks from both parties already appear to be making a stimulus package more palatable. Obama said this week he would like Congress to complete action on an economic recovery plan by the end of the month or the first week of February. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., was expected to press fellow Democrats on Wednesday to pass the legislation by mid-February. She, too, has reassurances for cost-conscious lawmakers. “Many will focus on the upfront cost of this legislation,” she was to tell a House Democratic Policy and Steering Committee forum, according to an excerpt of her prepared remarks. “While we are not discussing small

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Forsan splits with Grady

Herald Staff Reports

LENORAH — Apparently all Grady's Wildcats needed to finally top the No. 19 Forsan Buffaloes was to play them on their home court.

The Wildcats and Buffs met for a third time this season with Grady coming out on top, 37-36, after having been beaten by Forsan in the two previous meetings, which took place in Forsan and on a neutral court in Garden City.

Shane Teague led the with 12 points. Evan Burton was Forsan's high man with 10.

Grady overcame a dismal second

period in while it scored a mere three points. Forsan entered the frame down by 6, but took a 18-16 advantage into the break.

Grady came up with the key shots down the stretch of the fourth to upset the Buffs. The Wildcats were keyed by eight 3-pointers with all 12 of Teague's points coming via four treys. Tyler Matthews hit two, while Dylan Cox and Jacob Rodriguez each had one.

Grady improves its record to 13-4, while Forsan (15-2) drops just its second game of the year.

Forsan hosts Midland Trinity (6-5) at 8 p.m. Friday. Grady travels to

Ackerly to take on rival Sands at 8 p.m. Friday.

Forsan 7 11 9 9—36

Grady 13 3 9 12—37

Forsan (15-2) — Jeremy Robbins 8, Tristian Clay 5, Evan Burton 10, Alex Huckabee 7, Nathan Atkerson 6.

Grady (13-4) — Shane Teague 12, Dylan Cox 8, Tyler Matthews 6, John Ramirez 4, Jacob Rodriguez 7.

Free throws — Forsan 3-6, Grady 5-8. 3-point goals — Forsan 3 (Robins 2, Huckabee 1), Grady 8 (Teague 4, Cox 1, Matthews 2, Rodriguez 1). Total fouls — Forsan 8, Grady 9. Fouled out — Grady 1 (Rodriguez).

See **FORSAN**, Page 7B

Coahoma crushes Hamlin

By BRANDON HALLFORD

Special to the Herald

COAHOMA — Coahoma's Bulldogs couldn't have asked for an easier night on the hardwood.

The Bulldogs fashioned a 23-13 lead after two quarters of play, cruising to a 61-38 victory over the Hamlin Pied Pipers.

Still, Bulldogs Head Coach Kim Nichols remains unsatisfied.

"I thought we played pretty good, but we still have yet to play a full game. We came out a bit flat to start off and we can't be doing that at this point," Nichols said. "We are going to have to win four quarters every game if we want to get out of our district."

Coahoma was able to open up the 10-point halftime advantage, thanks to a suffocating defense that forced 17 turnovers in the first two quarters.

However, the Bulldogs found themselves unable to take full advantage of Hamlin's generosity, turning the ball over 11 times themselves in the first half.

The Bulldogs found their stride after the break, scoring 19 in each of the last two periods to pull away from the Pipers. Braden Griffin led the charge out of the locker room, scoring the first seven points of the third before Dylan Euton put a temporary stop to the bleeding for Hamlin.

"I thought we came out with a bit more energy after the break. We have the ability to be a really good team," Nichols said. "The problem is that we don't always play up to our capabilities."

Cody Sheppard led the way, scoring a game high 15 for the Bulldogs, while Griffin and Isaac Garcia both hit double figures, scoring 11 and 10, respectively.

James Malone scored 13 for Hamlin in the loss.

Coahoma travels to take on Ira at 8 p.m. Friday. Ira (13-3) is ranked sixth in the Class A, Division II poll.

Coahoma 12 11 19 19—61

Hamlin 7 6 13 12—38

Coahoma — Cody Sheppard 15, Braden Griffin 11, Isaac Garcia 10, Josh Paniagua 9, Michael Mendoza 6, Lane Douglass 5, Carly Green 3, Hunter Williams 2.

Hamlin — Malone 13, Euton 8.

Matadors wear down Big Spring

Herald Staff Report

LUBBOCK — With the start of the District 4-4A season on the horizon, the Big Spring Steers have a contingent of three games against challenging opponents, which should prepare them for league play.

Preparations began in Lubbock Tuesday night as the Steers faced former district foe Lubbock Estacado and were soundly defeated by the state's fifth-ranked Class 3A squad, 71-56.

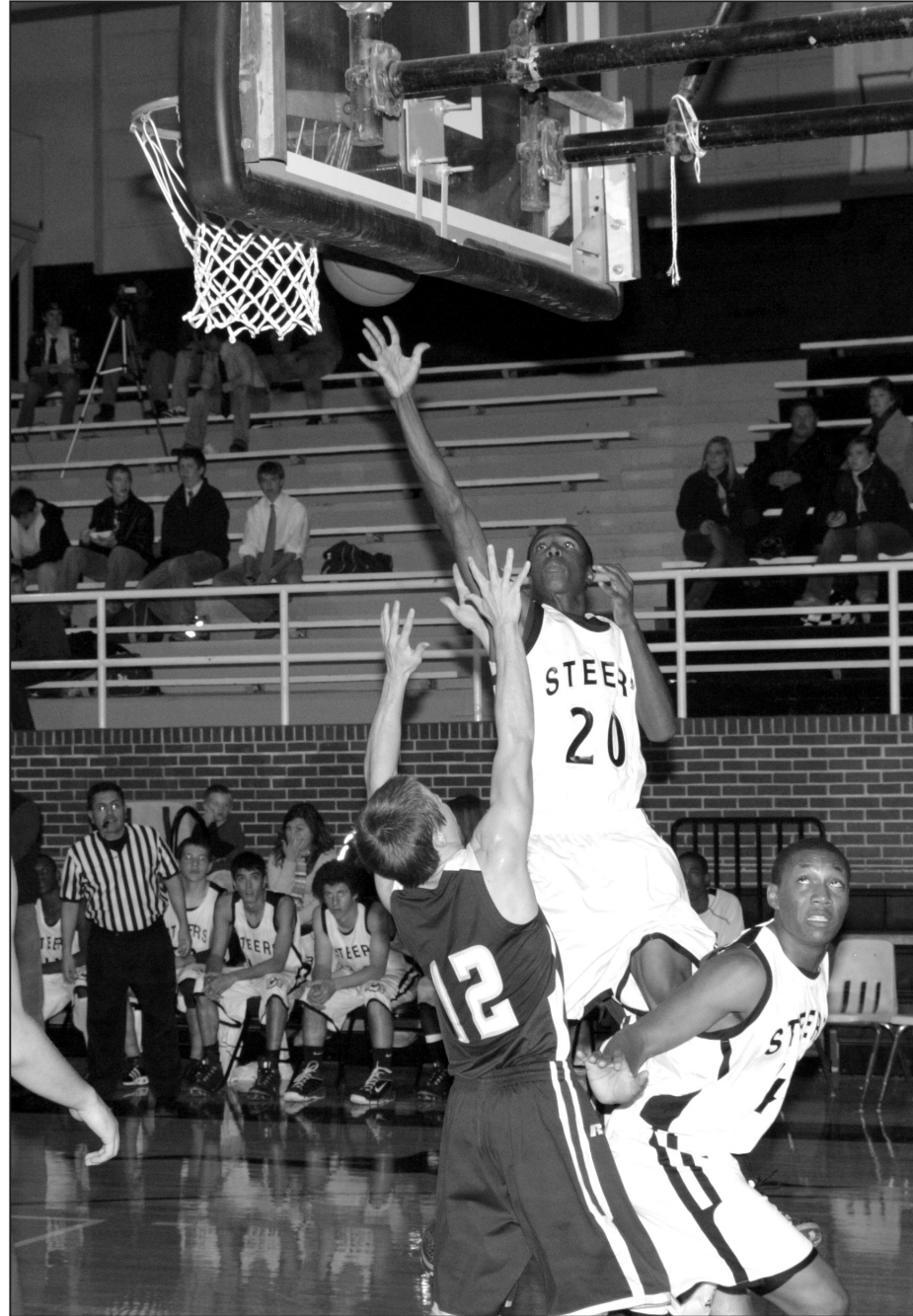
The Steers (6-12) allowed the game to get too far out of control early as Estacado (19-2) hit the scoreboard for 27 points in the first period, garnering a 27-14 advantage after the opening frame. The Matadors led by 16 at intermission.

Big Spring's only rally came in the third period as the Steers defense clamped down on Estacado, holding the Matadors to nine points in the stanza. Big Spring scored 16 in the third, trimming Estacado's lead to 9, 51-42.

The state-ranked Matadors proved to be too much and retook a double-digit advantage in the final frame. Estacado had three players score in double figures with Barry Johnson leading the way with 16 points. Brothers Duran and Daniel Minjarez added 15 and 12 points, respectively.

Big Spring was led by Jerrell Williams and Tyrone Clemons, who scored 12 apiece, including two 3-pointers by both players.

See **STEERS**, Page 7B



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring's Tyrone Clemons (20) lays in two points as teammate Xavian Parnell (right) shields off a defender in action from earlier this season. Clemons scored 12 points in Big Spring's 71-56 loss to fifth-ranked Lubbock Estacado Friday.

Gridiron grandeur SEC makes its case for No. 1

By PAUL NEWBERRY

AP National Writer

Let the rest of the country brag about its ivy-covered traditions and its cultural superiority. Down in Dixie, it's all about trotting out the nation's top college football teams on any given Saturday.

We're talking Southeastern Conference, which long ago proclaimed itself the best in the land. End of discussion.

It's a glory road of the gridiron that starts in Florida, winds its way up through Georgia and Tennessee, then curves back into Alabama, and Mississippi and Louisiana, an unrivaled path of pigskin prestige.

Since the powers that run col-

lege football created the Bowl Championship Series a decade ago, SEC teams have won the national title four times. No other conference has won more than twice.

Florida could make it five national titles — and three in a row — when the Gators meet the Big 12's Oklahoma in the BCS championship game Thursday night.

Given its long-standing success, it's easy to see why the SEC has become the league everyone else loves to hate. These guys don't mind tooting their own horn, either, which only adds to the hard feelings emanating

See **SEC**, Page 2B



AP photo/J. Pat Carter

Florida Head Coach Urban Meyer, left, and Oklahoma Head Coach Bob Stoops shake hands in front of the BCS Championship trophy during a press conference in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., Wednesday. Oklahoma will play Florida for the NCAA BCS football championship at 7 p.m. Thursday.

Sports in brief

Big Spring basketball boosters meeting Monday

The Big Spring Steers Basketball Booster Club is meeting at 7 p.m. Monday in the Athletic Training Center.

All parents of Steers' basketball players from the junior high to the varsity level are encouraged to attend and discuss ways to support the Big Spring basketball teams.

For questions, call Sam Segundo at 268-3025.

Lady Steers Booster Club meeting Monday at ATC

The Big Spring Lady Steers Booster Club is holding a meeting at 5:30 p.m. Monday in the ATC.

All parents of Lady Steers' athletes ranging from junior high to high school are encouraged to attend.

YMCA basketballers being introduced at Hawks' halftime

All Big Spring YMCA Youth Basketball League

teams will be introduced at halftime of the Hawks' games Monday.

Girls and coed squads will take the court at the intermission for the women's game, which is scheduled for a 5:30 p.m. start, while boys teams will be introduced at halftime of the men's game, which starts at 7 p.m.

Howard will be hosting Western Junior College Athletic Conference foe Western Texas College that night.

All players, coaches and their families will be admitted free into the game.

Obituaries

Carolann Winbush

Carolann Winbush, 72, of Big Spring, died Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2009, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Funeral services will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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

Take Note

- The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglect children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. CASA currently has 10 active volunteers to serve the 55 plus children of Howard County in foster care. A class is forming in Howard County and 20 volunteers are needed. For more information on becoming a CASA volunteer, please contact Robyn LaForge at (432) 683-1114.

- West Texas Opportunities Inc., through a Job Access Reverse Commute project with the Texas Department of Transportation offers transportation to employment in Midland, on a limited schedule, Monday through Friday each week. This fixed route currently leaves Big Spring at 7 a.m. and makes a stop at the EZ Rider bus connection in downtown Midland. The route leaves Midland for the return to Big Spring at 4:15 p.m. As a promotional introduction, no fare is charged. Beginning April 1, the daily fare will be from \$3 to \$8, round-trip, depending on the number of passengers using the service. For more information, call Victor Enriquez, JARC coordinator, at West Texas Opportunities, (800) 245-9028.

- The Permian Basin Foundation has awarded West Texas Opportunities Inc. \$130,000 through the Texas Resources for Iraq Afghanistan Deployment fund. WTO will assist current and former military personnel serving in Iraq or Afghanistan and their families. Funding will serve Howard, Martin, Andrews, Borden, Dawson, Ector, Fisher, Gaines, Glasscock, Midland, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry and Upton counties. For more information, contact Diana Martinez or Debbie Wilson at 110 Johnson in Big Spring or call (432) 267-9536.

- Scenic Mountain Medical Center's Relay for Life team is selling cookbooks to raise funds for the American Cancer Society. The cookbooks can be purchased at the PBX operator's booth for \$10 apiece. For more information, contact Beverly Grant at 268-4952.

- HATS (Hope After The Sadness), an American Cancer Society Resource Room is available at First Methodist Church. This center provides information and valuable resources for those affected by cancer. This HATS ministry, established in memory of the late Rev. Dr. Shane Brue, maintains a room with free hats, wigs and head coverings available for check-out by those dealing with hair loss due to cancer treatment. Other services and resources are also available. Contact the "Hat Lady," Marci Lykken at 267-2915.

- Road to Recovery, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call (877) 277-1618, the High Plains American Cancer Group Report Center. Anyone wishing to volunteer to drive in this program should call Sherry Hodnett, president of the Big Spring ACS Board, at 264-7599 at her office at Home Hospice.

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

- All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue has an account set up with Big Spring Salvage at 3608 N. Hwy. 87 for all types of metals and aluminum cans. Please tell them that your donations are for All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is also still taking weight circles off of all Purina brand dog foods. Send your Purina Weight Circles, to A.C.S. & R. at P.O. 871, Coahoma 79511. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is still accepting old and used cell phones and ink jet cartridges, for drop off locations in Big Spring and Coahoma, Call Melanie at 267-7387.

- Christ Community Fellowship is collecting infant car seats and carriers. These are given to new mothers who cannot afford them. To donate your old or new car seats and carriers, call Karen Allen at 263-3517 or leave a message at Christ Community Fellowship, 263-love. All donations are appreciated.

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

- The Pet Patrol helps locate lost pets and owners of found pets. To volunteer or for more information, call Melanie Gambrell at 267-PETS (7387).

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Police

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

- EDRION PATRICK HOUSTON, 18, of 2911 W. Highway 80, was arrested Tuesday on charges of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and resisting arrest.
- MARCEL JORDAN, 25, address not provided, was arrested Tuesday on charges of expired or no inspection certificate, no driver's license and failure to appear.
- JOHNNY VILLA, 19, of 507 Benedict St., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- ALEXANDER BURCIAGA, 18, of 1309 S. Bell St., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of evading arrest/detention.
- OLIVIA TALIETHA BALLIN, 29, of 3006 Cherokee, was arrested Tuesday on a Howard County warrant and a charge of failure to identify – giving false information.
- JASON ORTEGA, 27, of 811 Johnson, was arrested Wednesday on charges of driving while intoxicated and assault causing bodily injury.
- UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE was reported in the 100 block of Runnels.
- POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA – TWO OUNCES OR LESS was reported in the 200 block of Gregg Street.
- EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION was reported in the 100 block of Runnels.
- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported: in the 600 block of Caylor. in the 200 block of Airbase Road.

Sheriff's report

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

- Reported having 61 inmates at the time of this report.
- ZACKERY DAVID GILLIAM, 17, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of harassment.
- SALVADOR GONZALEZ, 19, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on charges of no driver's license and violation of a promise to appear.
- WAYNE JACOBS, 51, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a Tom Green County warrant for driving while intoxicated – third or more offense.
- MARIO GONZALES JR., 20, was transferred to the County Jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana – more than four ounces less than five pounds.
- JAMES RANDLE GONZALEZ, 24, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of no liability insurance.
- JESSICA LYNNE PITTMAN, 27, was transferred to the County Jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- LETICIA KAY CANTU, 32, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of theft.
- ARTURO RAMIREZ NAVARRETE, 27, was transferred to the County Jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a New Mexico warrant.
- CYNTHIA MENDEZ, 38, was transferred to the County Jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of tampering with government records – insurance documents.
- CARMELO ROBERTO MERCADO JR., 33, was transferred to the County Jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of failure to identify – giving false information.
- MIGUEL ENRIQUE JUAREZ, 20, was transferred to the County Jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of bondsman off bond for failure to drive in a single lane, bondsman off bond for evading arrest and a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- CONSENCIO RAYMONE FORD, 24, was transferred to the County Jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of engaging in organized criminal activity.
- RUSSELL WAYNE CLAY, 47, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on charges of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension and driving while intoxicated – third or more offense.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 8200 block of the I-20 S. Service Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the area of Val Verde Drive. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2600 block of Chanute. One person was transported to SMMC.

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Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

- Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge at 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY

- Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.
- Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Friends of the Library meets at noon in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
- Big Spring Main Street meets at noon in the Railroad Museum located at Second and Main streets.
- League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC Chapter 4791 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. The public is invited.
- American Legion Auxiliary meets at 6 p.m. at 3203 W. Highway 80.
- The Prospector's Club meets at 7:30 p.m. at 606 E. Third St. The public is invited to these meetings. For more information contact Lola Lamb at 263-3340.
- Neighbors and Newcomers Club meets. New members are welcome. Call 263-2005 for more information.

FRIDAY

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281.
- AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
- Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Dance at the Senior Center, 1901 Simler, from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Lottery

The jackpot in the multistate Mega Millions lottery drawing grew to \$16 million for Friday's drawing.

None of the tickets sold for Tuesday's \$12 million drawing matched all five lotto numbers and the Mega Ball. The winning numbers from Tuesday's drawing were: 3, 11, 12, 19, and 33. The Mega Ball number was 30.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 33-37-15-32-34. Number matching five of five: 2. Prize: \$12,971. Winning tickets sold in: Round Rock, Houston.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 4-8-4-4. Sum It Up: 20.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 1-8-9. Sum It Up: 18.

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

- RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

THURSDAY

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

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COLLEGE BOWL FORECAST

Games
through
Jan. 8



Jonathan Hull



Jeff Lane



Robert Smith



Troy Hyde



Brandon Hallford



Tim Larson



Tim Knox

Wake Forest vs. Navy
Colorado St. vs. Fresno St.
Memphis vs. South Florida
BYU vs. Arizona
Southern Miss vs. Troy
Boise State vs. TCU
Hawaii vs. Notre Dame
Fla. Atlantic vs. C. Michigan
West Va. vs. North Carolina
Wisconsin vs. Florida State
Miami, Fla. vs. Cal
Northern Illinois vs. La Tech
NC State vs. Rutgers
Missouri vs. Northwestern
Maryland vs. Nevada
Western Michigan vs. Rice
Oklahoma State vs. Oregon
Houston vs. Air Force
Oregon State vs. Pitt
Boston Coll. vs. Vanderbilt
Kansas vs. Minnesota
LSU vs. Georgia Tech
South Carolina vs. Iowa
Georgia vs. Michigan State
Nebraska vs. Clemson
Penn State vs. USC
Cincinnati vs. Virginia Tech
Ole Miss vs. Texas Tech
Kentucky vs. East Carolina
Utah vs. Alabama
Buffalo vs. Connecticut
Ohio State vs. Texas
Ball State vs. Tulsa
Florida vs. Oklahoma

To date

Wake
CSU
USF
Arizona
~~Troy~~
TCU
Notre Dame
~~GMU~~
WVU
Florida St.
Cal
~~NIU~~
Rutgers
Mizzou
Nevada
Rice
Oklahoma St.
Houston
Oregon St.
~~BC~~
Kansas
LSU
Iowa
Georgia
Clemson
USC
~~Cincy~~
Texas Tech
~~ECU~~
Alabama
~~Buffalo~~
Texas
Tulsa
Florida

21-12

Wake
Fresno St.
USF
Arizona
~~Troy~~
TCU
Hawaii
~~GMU~~
WVU
Florida St.
Cal
~~NIU~~
Rutgers
Mizzou
Nevada
Rice
Oklahoma St.
Houston
Oregon St.
~~BC~~
Kansas
Ga. Tech
Iowa
Georgia
Clemson
USC
~~Cincy~~
Texas Tech
~~ECU~~
Alabama
UConn
Texas
~~Ball St.~~
Oklahoma

18-15

~~Navy~~
Fresno St.
Memphis
~~BYU~~
~~Troy~~
Boise St.
Hawaii
~~GMU~~
~~UNC~~
Florida St.
Cal
La. Tech
Rutgers
Mizzou
Nevada
Rice
Oklahoma St.
Houston
~~Pitt~~
~~BC~~
Kansas
Ga. Tech
Iowa
Georgia
Clemson
USC
~~Cincy~~
Texas Tech
~~ECU~~
Utah
~~Buffalo~~
Texas
~~Ball St.~~
Oklahoma

13-20

Wake
Fresno St.
USF
~~BYU~~
~~Troy~~
Boise St.
Hawaii
~~GMU~~
WVU
Florida St.
~~Miami~~
La. Tech
NC State
Mizzou
Maryland
W. Michigan
Oregon
Air Force
~~Pitt~~
~~BC~~
Kansas
Ga. Tech
Iowa
Georgia
Nebraska
USC
Va. Tech
Texas Tech
~~ECU~~
Alabama
~~Buffalo~~
Texas
~~Ball St.~~
Florida

15-18

Wake
Fresno St.
Memphis
~~BYU~~
So. Miss
TCU
Notre Dame
~~GMU~~
WVU
Florida St.
Cal
~~NIU~~
NC State
Mizzou
Maryland
Rice
Oregon
Air Force
Oregon St.
~~BC~~
Kansas
LSU
S. Carolina
Georgia
Nebraska
Penn St.
Va. Tech
Texas Tech
~~ECU~~
Alabama
~~Buffalo~~
Texas
~~Ball St.~~
Oklahoma

18-15

Wake
Fresno St.
USF
~~BYU~~
~~Troy~~
TCU
Hawaii
~~GMU~~
WVU
Florida St.
Cal
~~NIU~~
Rutgers
Mizzou
Nevada
Rice
Oklahoma St.
Houston
~~Pitt~~
~~BC~~
Kansas
Ga. Tech
Iowa
Georgia
Clemson
USC
~~Cincy~~
Texas Tech
~~ECU~~
Alabama
UConn
Texas
~~Ball St.~~
Oklahoma

16-17

Wake
Fresno St.
USF
~~BYU~~
So. Miss
TCU
Notre Dame
~~GMU~~
WVU
Florida St.
~~Miami~~
~~NIU~~
Rutgers
Mizzou
Maryland
Rice
Oklahoma St.
Houston
~~Pitt~~
~~BC~~
Kansas
Ga. Tech
Iowa
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News in brief

Israel to pause Gaza offensive 3 hours for food aid as it weighs cease-fire plan

GAZA CITY, Gaza (AP) — Israel was set to pause its Gaza offensive for three hours Wednesday to allow food and fuel to reach besieged Palestinians, and the country's leaders debated whether to accept an international cease-fire plan or to expand the assault against Hamas.

With criticism rising of the operation's spiraling civilian death toll and Gazans increasingly suffering the effects of nonstop airstrikes and shelling, Israel's military said it would open "humanitarian corridors" to allow aid supplies to reach Palestinians.

Israeli military spokesman Peter Lerner said there would be a "recess in offensive operations" during the day to allow in supplies and fuel. Government officials said the lull would last from 1 to 4 p.m. local time. They spoke on condition of anonymity because the plan had not been officially announced.

As Israel's leadership met in the morning in Tel Aviv, sounds of heavy gunfire and thick plumes of smoke engulfed the Zeitoun neighborhood east of Gaza City. Israel said it struck 40 Hamas targets during the hours of darkness. Gaza health officials said new strikes Wednesday morning killed eight people.

Outrage over an Israeli strike Tuesday near a U.N. school that killed 39 people continued, with the U.N. agency responsible for the building demanding an "impartial investigation" into the attack.

Burriss fight for Obama's Senate seat drags on, but maybe not much longer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Democrats are looking for ways to defuse the standoff that has denied Roland Burriss the vacated Senate seat of President-elect Barack Obama of Illinois, but maybe not much longer.

While Burriss' paperwork was rejected at the opening of the 111th Congress, he was scheduled to meet Wednesday with the Senate's top two Democrats — Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada and assistant leader Dick Durbin of Illinois.

Knowledgeable Senate officials in both parties said the saga was widely expected to end with Burriss being seated. The officials spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not autho-

alized to speak publicly for Senate members.

The likelihood that Burriss, a Democrat, will eventually prevail increased Tuesday after a key chairwoman got behind the former Illinois attorney general, driving a crack in what had been a united front by Senate Democrats against any appointee chosen by embattled Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich.

Three weeks after Blagojevich was arrested on corruption charges in what federal prosecutors said was a scheme to sell or trade Obama's Senate seat to the highest bidder, the governor shocked Democratic leaders by appointing Burriss to finish the final two years of the president-elect's six-year term.

Ukraine says Russia stopped all natural gas deliveries to Europe in gas row

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Russia has shut off all its gas supplies to Europe through Ukraine — the latest move in a pricing dispute that has reduced or halted fuel deliveries to a dozen countries during a winter cold snap.

Russia's gas monopoly Gazprom, which had sharply limited supplies through Ukraine on Tuesday, has stopped all gas shipments through the country as of 7:44 a.m. (0544 GMT), said Valentyn Zemlyansky, spokesman for Ukraine's Naftogaz.

About 80 percent of Russian gas to Europe is shipped via Ukraine. Other smaller pipelines run through Belarus and Turkey.

"It was the Russian side's decision to stop all gas deliveries to Europe" through Ukraine, Naftogaz head Oleh Dubina told reporters. "I think it is inappropriate."

Russia confirmed the cutoff, but said it was Ukraine's fault because it had shut down the last pipeline carrying gas from Russia. Gazprom also says it is reducing to compensate for the gas it accuses Ukraine of diverting.

CNN says Obama has approached its medical correspondent to be surgeon general

WASHINGTON (AP) — President-elect Barack Obama's reported choice for surgeon general, CNN medical correspondent Sanjay Gupta, could bring a dose of star power to a job that hasn't had that much clout in decades.

Gupta doesn't just play a doctor on TV, he's a neurosurgeon who still scrubs in part-time in one

of the nation's toughest hospitals when he's not on CNN assignments that have taken him from Hurricane Katrina to Iraq. He also has co-hosted a health "network" that beams feel-good advice on TVs in clinic waiting rooms around the country — one that has drawn some criticism for drug-company promotion.

The surgeon general doesn't set health policy — but the office can be an effective bully pulpit, and a major report aimed at Congress just last month called for "a more prominent and powerful role for the surgeon general who ... should be a strong advocate for the American people."

Past surgeons general pushed the nation to fight tobacco and AIDS.

Having such a well-known TV personality could give the post a reach not seen since the renowned C. Everett Koop, who served under President Ronald Reagan and helped make AIDS a public health issue rather than a moral one — in an era before the 24/7 news cycle.

With the celebrity behind Gupta's medical credentials, "it's like a name-brand immediately," said Dr. Michael Johns, chancellor at Emory University in Atlanta, where Gupta, 39, is an assistant professor of neurosurgery.

Sick, disoriented brown pelicans showing up in record numbers, baffling researchers

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Wildlife experts are trying to figure out why sick, disoriented and bruised California brown pelicans are being found in record numbers along more than 1,000 miles of coastline.

The birds, some of them dead, have been spotted from San Francisco to Baja California, Mexico. Many have been found far from their homes on roads, fields and backyards.

The pelicans started appearing late last month north of San Pedro in Southern California, then began appearing farther north, said Jay Holcomb, executive director of the International Bird Rescue Research Center in Fairfield, in Northern California.

The center's San Pedro facility received more than 40 birds in the past seven to 10 days, while the Fairfield one has received about 25, Holcomb said Tuesday.

A man vacationing in Baja California alerted the center about a similar problem there this week after discovering sick pelicans on the beach south of San Felipe.

SEARCH

Continued from page 1A

heels of the passing of Precinct 3 trustee Harold Davis, who died in October.

"Howard College lost two of our pillars in 2008," HC President

Dr. Cheryl Sparks said. "Both gentlemen served with distinction and will be sorely missed. Their dedication to the students, county and college was inspiring. They were committed to the mission and vision of Howard College."

College trustees will meet Jan. 26 to map out a procedure for replac-

ing McKinney, whose term expires in 2012.

Trustees have two options for finding a replacement — either calling for a special election or simply appointing a new board member.

Sparks said no definite procedure has been settled on, but it is possible the board will take

the same steps for finding McKinney's replacement that were decided upon following Davis' death.

At that time, the board appointed a three-member committee, consisting of Sparks, Board President Dr. John Freeman and Trustee Murray Murphy, to find and interview potential

replacements. The previous search ended with the naming of Larry McLellan to serve until the next round of elections in 2010.

If the board appoints a replacement for McKinney, that person will serve until 2010, at which time an election will be held to fill the remaining two years

of his unexpired term, Sparks said.

No timetable has been set for naming a new trustee, Sparks added.

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

SCHOOLS

Continued from page 1A

ring in that area," Waggoner said. "I think

they'll probably hold off until another session."

"This is a nervous time for a lot of school districts," Johnson said. "We hope good things come out (of the legislature session), but we're

wary about other things coming out as well."

In the meantime, area districts will do their best to pay 2009 bills with 2006 dollars.

"What this will most impact ... is the special

projects we can do," Waggoner said. "We're just not going to have any extra money. And if we have some kind of unforeseen, major repair situation, it's possible that we'd have

to dip into our (reserve funds), and we haven't had to do that in a long time."

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 234.

OBAMA

Continued from page 1A

sums, focusing on the price tag alone ignores the cost of inaction and the real payoff in terms of job creation and increased revenues to our Treasury."

While promising to fight waste and to make tough budgetary decisions, however, Obama warned that the nation could face trillion-dollar deficits for years to come. Eight years ago, the federal budget ran a surplus; the deficit on Sept. 30 was about \$455 billion. That was before the government began spending nearly half of a \$700 billion bailout fund for the financial sector.

ObamasaidAmericans will accept his proposed stimulus plan only if they believe the money is being used wisely to boost the troubled economy and to make smart long-term investments in public projects.

Lawmakers and budget watchdog groups want Obama to promptly spell out a process for addressing long-term deficits.

"Short-term stimulus does need to be combined with long-term discipline," said Robert Bixby, the executive director of the Concord Coalition, a nonpartisan group that advocates fiscal restraint. "The deficit numbers are going to be astronomical for the next couple of years. People need to know that there is some end game to this."

Senate Budget Committee Chairman Kent Conrad, D-N.D., agreed that trillion-dollar deficits are likely for a few years and must be tolerated as the government pumps money into the badly weakened economy. But the nation must confront long-term

problems facing Social Security and Medicare, he said, which will be "very, very tough."

"It would send a very healthy message to the markets and the American people if President-elect Obama were to simultaneously announce an economic recovery package and the beginning of a bipartisan process to deal with our long-term imbalances," Conrad said.

Obama has not detailed solutions for vexing problems such

as growing demands on Social Security and Medicare. His prescriptions to make government accountable could easily run aground, much like those of predecessors who vowed to tackle government waste, fraud and abuse.

But lawmakers are not short on ideas. Conrad and the Budget Committee's top Republican, New Hampshire Sen. Judd Gregg, have proposed a bipartisan fiscal task force of lawmakers and administration officials

that would create a plan to reduce budget deficits and lower the national debt.

Blue Dog Democrats would like to see legislation that would force Congress to pay for spending proposals with equal spending cuts or with new revenue. House Democrats this week plan to consider legislation that would require all federal agencies to undergo new audits and would call for congressional hearings when agency inspectors general find evidence of waste or fraud.

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EDITORIAL

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-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 VIEW

There's still time for nominating top man, woman

There's little time left. That's right, you only have until Friday to make nominations for Man and Woman of the Year. So take a few minutes and think back on the past year and the things people here in Big Spring and Howard County have done.

There's no question there have been plenty of special projects, volunteer opportunities and times when we've seen others do things that make this a better world for others. Some of us even have first-hand experience along those lines.

Sometimes such work is done in ways a great many of us don't know. Other times, the work of others is visible for all the world to see.

Here's your chance to maybe say a thank you to people who may not get the recognition these people deserve.

There are, of course, a couple of stipulations: Only a chamber can nominate someone for the honors, and people who hold political office should not be nominated.

So if you have nominee in mind but aren't a chamber member, perhaps you should consider becoming one, or at least approach a chamber member and seek their endorsement of the person or persons you'd like to honor.

But you have to act fast. The chamber will only accept nominations until 5 p.m. Friday.

The two awards will be handed out at the chamber's annual banquet — set this year for Feb. 5 in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Nomination forms to fill out and the list of criteria are available at the chamber.

The chamber offices are located at 215 W. Third St. To request nomination forms, or for more information, call 263-7641.

Once the deadline is past, a group of past recipients will be asked to look over the list of nominees and choose a new Man and Woman of the Year.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

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

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- 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

When we are irritated by the least little annoyance, Lord, may we take a time out with You.

Amen

No piecemeal immigration reform

When anti-immigrant zealots were on a roll the past couple of years, introducing various "enforcement-only" measures to fix the nation's broken immigration system, they were wrong. The fix has to be comprehensive. And when they tried to promote Draconian state laws and local ordinances to crack down on illegal immigrants, they were wrong, too. States and municipalities should not be doing a job that belongs to the federal government.

But now that conservative zealots have suffered some political defeats; Democrats have a larger majority in Congress; and the White House soon will have a liberal president, who has vowed to fight for pro-immigrant reforms, immigrant advocates are talking about piecemeal changes in state and local laws.

Wrong again! Only a comprehensive package of federal government reforms — some harsh and some compassionate — can finally produce a system that works. But it has to be a game changer, an awesome cure-all. Band-Aids will not do it.

In fact, piecemeal reforms can be counterproductive. They would lead to many bitter and divisive fights over whether illegal immigrants should be given driver's licenses, access to higher education, and other such privileges.

Just as the conservatives

couldn't wait for Congress to act on immigration and tried to implement federal laws at the local level — cracking down on landlords and employers of illegal immigrants — the liberals are looking for local piecemeal measures that could have us all fighting over immigration for the next couple of years.

In New Jersey, for example, Gov. Jon Corzine, a Democrat, has a "Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel on Immigrant Policy," which is considering some pro-immigrant yet controversial measures, including creating a special "driver privilege card" for illegal immigrants and allowing undocumented students to attend state colleges at in-state tuition rates. In Texas, lawmakers on the other side of the political spectrum are trying to reverse a law that allows undocumented college students to pay in-state tuition.

They also have more than a dozen other Draconian bills — including some that are clearly unconstitutional — designed to challenge the citizenship of U.S.-born children of illegal immigrants, penalize employers who hire undocumented workers, require public schools to keep records of their students' immigration statuses, impose fees on money wired to Latin America, and make it a crime for illegal immigrants to enter the state.

Passing any of those measures through any state legislature would entail many heated, arm-waving debates, which can be prevented easily.

In fact, all these little wars across the country can be avoided if one big battle finally is won in Congress. Once our

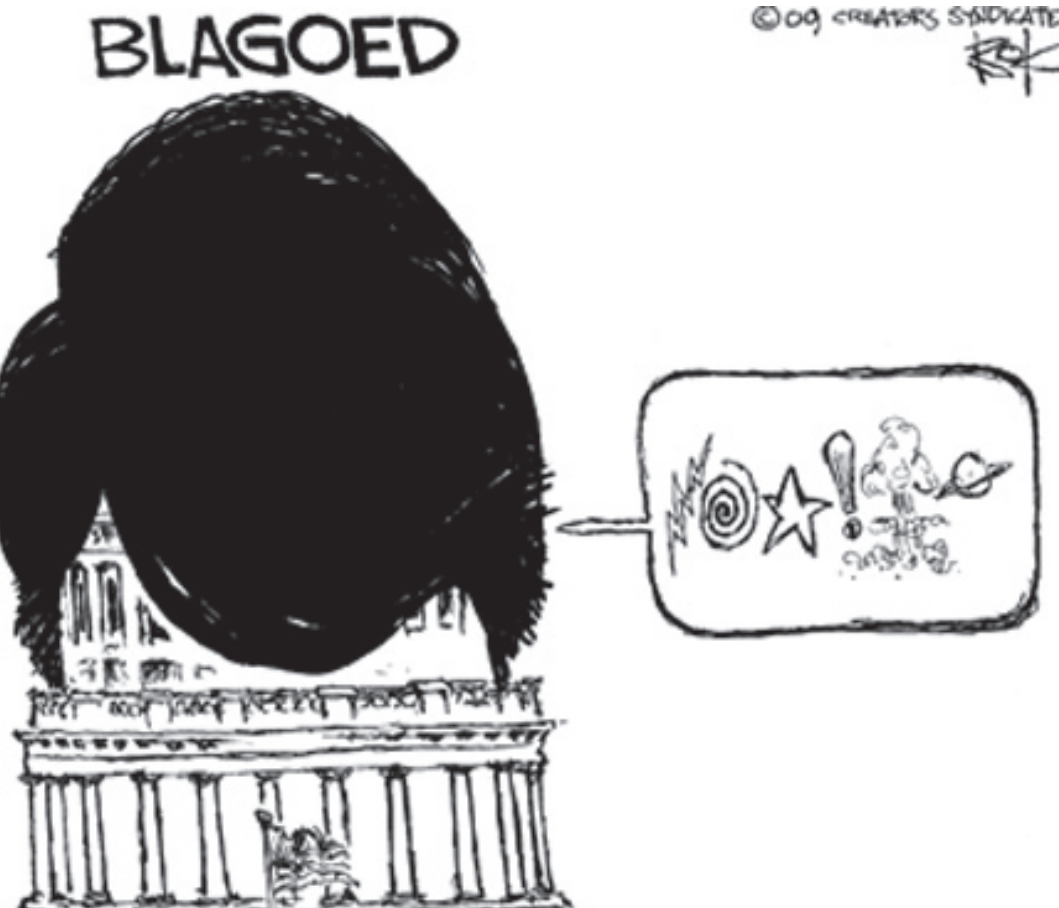
lawmakers agree on a plan to legalize most of the nation's undocumented immigrants — as part of a package that truly would secure our borders and crack down on visitors who overstay their visas — there will be no need for most of these local Band-Aid measures. Once we give our hardworking illegal immigrants the amnesty they deserve, their driver's licenses, college tuition, and right to housing and employment will no longer be issues for local governments to debate.

Once we have no illegal immigrants, we will have no illegal immigration problem! Starting with a clean slate and a new system that allows for additional legal immigration, our federal authorities would be able to concentrate on future illegal immigration by really securing our borders and creating a system for tracking down legal immigrants who stay here illegally once their visas expire.

Instead of wasting time and energy on changing city and state laws to alleviate only some of the hardships of the undocumented population, pro-immigrant advocates should be pressuring their federal representatives — from their local members of Congress to President-elect Barack Obama — to fulfill the immigration reform promises they have been making.

Immigrant rights advocates should be sending all their forces to Washington. That's where the big battle needs to be fought. And with an allegedly pro-immigrant president and Congress, this is the year to fight it.

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Holder and all political prisoners

Conventional wisdom last week decreed that President-elect Barack Obama had done such a fine job culling his Cabinet that only one pick — Attorney General nominee Eric Holder — would present a problem, but most likely, a surmountable hurdle. New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson — Obama's presumptive commerce secretary — stepped on that happy tale when he withdrew his name from consideration Sunday in the midst of a federal corruption probe.



DEBRA SAUNDERS

Back to Holder. Inside money would bet that Republicans will use Holder's Jan. 15 Senate confirmation hearing to grill him on his role in President Bill Clinton's notorious last-day-in-office pardon of fugitive gazillionaire Marc Rich. Rich, you may recall, had been hiding in Switzerland (while his wife had been donating generously to Clinton causes) as he evaded copious charges for fraud, evading more than \$48 million in taxes, racketeering and trading oil with Iran in violation of a U.S. embargo. It was then-Deputy Attorney General Holder who gave Clinton cover when he told Clinton that he was "neutral leaning positive" on the Rich request for a presidential pardon.

With that big target on his chest, Holder is not the person you would expect Obama to pick to serve as America's top lawyer. But Obama said he chose Holder because he is "deeply familiar with the law enforcement challenges we face — from terrorism to counter-intelligence; from white-collar crime to public corruption." Too true.

A story in the Hartford Courant on Dec. 28, 2008, however, suggests that Holder has more than the Rich pardon to regret. Holder also will have to account for his role in the 1999 Clinton pardons of 16 Puerto Rico independence terrorists, most of them members of FALN, the Spanish acronym for Armed Forces of National Liberation, which staged some 130 bombings in the United States from 1974 to 1983.

Why did Clinton remit fines or commute the prison sentences of convicted terrorists? Cynics believe that Hillary Rodham Clinton's novice run to represent New York in the U.S. Senate was a motivator. Clintonia denies it, although Hillary Clinton did meet with advocates for these self-styled political prisoners.

The Courant story notes that four of the 16 pardonees were convicted for their role in a \$7.2 million robbery of a West Hartford bank in 1983. Yet: "None of the four was pressed by the Justice Department to provide information on the whereabouts of the never-recovered money or three participants in the robbery, including Hartford native

and inside man Victor M. Gerena. Such pressure is a common precondition for amnesty."

What's more, none of the 16 had applied for a pardon, because they refused to acknowledge U.S. authority.

Holder, who oversaw the Office of the Pardon Attorney, met with advocates for the prisoners at least nine times. The first Clinton pardon attorney recommended against a pardon. The second pardon attorney recommended neither for nor against clemency.

A month later, Clinton commuted their sentences as the prisoners re-leased a statement, suggested by Holder, that supported "a just and dignified solution to our colonial problem." It also noted that in liberation processes, there are "innocent victims" on all sides.

Rich and the Puerto Rican political prisoners have two things in common: They were clearly unrepentant; and they were so well connected politically that they got out of jail free anyway.

Former New York prosecutor James Comey wrote to the Senate Judiciary Committee that the outrageous Rich pardon "may actually make" Holder a better AG "because he has learned a hard lesson about protecting the integrity of that great institution from political fixers." Maybe. Or maybe Holder is the consummate political fixer.

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsanders@sfchronicle.com. COPYRIGHT 2009 CREATORS SYNDICATE INC.

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Parent's Corner: Individualistic and collective concepts

It's interesting to study cultures. I was recently reading about the cultural differences between individualism and collectivism. This is not to be confused with the types of government but a totally cultural difference. Our society is notorious about being individualistic, the "I can handle it by myself" syndrome. This is especially



DARRELL RYAN

true with the rugged pioneer image which most mainstream Americans possess, as portrayed in individual responsibility and achievement, self expression and self esteem. But there is the culture of collectivism which emphasizes interdependence of the family, responsibility of the group, group well being, group success, respect for elders and personal modesty. I realize that no culture demonstrates total individualism or collectivism but most cultures either lean to one or the other. The question is, can the two co-exist in harmony?

I believe it can if there is understanding between the two. Collaboration is one way of developing understanding. For instance, some children have learned that helping their parents and siblings is a priority; thus they readily collaborate to help one another learn, without regard for individual roles or achievement and without competition. In schools, we can tap into this by using group activities, such as group writing and group projects. Careful attention must be paid however to make sure that every member of the group has a definite responsibility which

will encourage individualism but shared in collectivism. One neat technique to encourage group success is the whisper method. When one student raises his hand to answer a question and those around him seem unaware of the answer, ask that particular student to whisper the answer to another and have the second student answer the question. The unaware student learns the answer and both students are successful. Some may think that this "sharing of information" leads to cheating so careful attention must be made for

students to fully understand the concept of cheating. The individualistic or collectivist concepts can at least be a starting point for understanding of cultural differences and a new framework for teaching and learning. Understanding people and their culture is very important. Thus comes to play the old Indian proverb: Be aware of the man who does not talk and the dog who does not bark!
Darrell Ryan is director of federal programs for the Big Spring Independent School District.

"Awww... You're the best!" my best friend smiled. I feigned a smile back as I collapsed into the driver's seat, praying to God we were done with the shopping. Granted, it's not everyday one shops for a wedding dress. Silly me. I thought offering to help was what a maid of honor should do. What I didn't know was what this entailed: mob fest at the bridal show, the



(Why We Say The Things We Say)

bridemaids feeding frenzy... the January specials for all those girls who got rocks for Christmas! Such was not our case. We'd been planning Virginia's wedding for months. But

now that we're down to the last four weeks, our nerves were getting frayed. Never one to complain, I was there to help, and by end of the day was even trying on dresses with her in effort to divide and conquer! But exhaustion or no, one thing I learned, when it comes to weddings and all things bridal, these women live to get "all gussied up!" "What is a gussie anyway?" Virginia asked. "Technically, it's gusset." I mumbled...pulling a taupe

bridemaids dress over my head. For the record, a gusset, is a triangular piece of material, added to a fabric to reinforce its figure and shape. (Such reinforcements became necessary when certain materials were prone to rip, thanks to those ungodly torture devices known as the corset...precursor to the modern day "Spanx!") Believe it or not, men wore gussets first, though NOT for style; but instead, for battle. Original gussets were made

of metal, designed to slip into a suit of armor to cover those joints between ribs and heart. Over time, the same was discovered to be useful for reinforcing women's garments as well. Appropriate if you ask me. Be it battle, beauty or weddings, being all gussied up meant you better go for reinforcements!
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Strike a yoga pose to strike down stress

By LESLIE GARCIA
The Dallas Morning News
DALLAS — When hyperventilating sometimes seems the only option to stress, Petri Brill has a healthier suggestion: yoga. "Yoga is not just a practice of poses, but of your breath work," says Brill, a Dallas certified yoga instructor. "The practice of slow, controlled, rhythmic breathing helps bring down blood pressure, rest the heart, clear the mind, energize the body and relax the muscles. Combine this with some relaxing yoga poses, and peace and serenity are just around the corner. We asked her for poses to help ease stress. Yes, poses even those of us with the flexibility of a pencil can do. Here are five: Do one or two or all five poses for a deep inhale and exhale of a minute or two. Or longer. Or, as she puts it, "You never want to stay and struggle in a pose. Feel the benefits; you don't want to feel like you're going to pass out or rip in half."



Courtney Perry/Dallas Morning News/MCT

Yoga instructor Petri Brill demonstrates the bridge pose at Tsada in the South Side on Lamar building in Dallas.

1) Bridge Pose. This is designed to calm the brain, rejuvenate tired legs and relieve spinal tension. To do it: Lie on your back with your feet hip-width and flat on the ground. Press down with your feet; lift your glutes, hips, pelvis and back off the ground. Keeping your arms flat, with your shoulders on the floor, lock your fingers under your glutes. Inhale and exhale.
2) Standing Forward Bend. This stretches tight hamstrings and relieves tension in the hips and lower back. To do it: Stand straight, feet hip-distance apart. Exhale and bend, bringing the crown of your head toward the ground. You're far enough when your hamstrings are stretched, but not tight. Put your right hand on your left elbow; release and switch.
3) Seated Spinal Twist. This helps aid digestion and opens up the spine to release tightness and tension. To do it: Sit comfortably cross-legged. Inhale, bringing arms overhead and pressing palms together. As you exhale, twist to your left. Reach your left hand behind your back to the ground. Put

your right hand on the outside of your left knee. Use it to leverage the twist to your left, taking your gaze over your left shoulder. Repeat on the right side.
4) Salutation seal. This helps reduce anxiety and stress, calms the brain and clears the mind. To do it: Sit cross-legged. Relax shoulders back and down. Draw chin slightly toward chest. Bring palms together. Take 10 deep, rhythmic inhales and exhales.
5) Seated forward bend. This brings energy to the body, improves digestion and helps insomnia. To do it: Sit on the floor, legs extended. As you inhale, bring your arms overhead. As you exhale, reach up and out, slowly folding over your legs. Hold the position, making sure your shoulders and neck are relaxed. Deeply inhale and exhale a few times. Inhale, slowly rising up to sitting position.

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Societies around the world choose different foods for breakfast, often a high-protein food and carbohydrates; some distinctive choices:

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- England**
 - Baked beans in tomato sauce
- Egypt**
 - Small fava beans
- Turkey**
 - Noodle and cheese pastry
 - Bulgur, yogurt and broth soup
- Japan**
 - Lettuce salad
 - Miso soup
 - Pickled plums
- Canada**
 - Peanut butter

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Source: The Basics of Japanese Food by Setsuko Yoshizuka, Cuisine Net Diner's Digest
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Petroglyph Monument home to 20,000-plus ancient rock carvings

By ED TIMMS

The Dallas Morning News

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Suburbia is on one side of the street, traces of an ancient people on the other.

But it's easy to forget the 21st century within Petroglyph National Monument, which is home to more than 20,000 images pecked into dark boulders by the ancient ancestors of today's American Indians, Spanish settlers and later visitors.

Trails wind through desert scrub and the remnants of massive lava flows. And seemingly every few feet, there are remarkable images and symbols chiseled into dark basalt boulders.

As the sun rises and sets, the boulders are cast in different hues, from chocolate brown to reddish orange. Light and shadow play tricks with the petroglyphs; walk along the same trail twice and you're likely to see images that you missed before.

Diane Souder, chief of interpretation and outreach at the monument, recalls telling one visitor about the more than 3,000 petroglyphs in its Rinconada Canyon section.

"He came back and said, 'I only saw 728,'" she recalls. "The reality is, the Pueblo people say the images choose when, and to whom, to reveal themselves. Sometimes you walk right by them ..."

Some of the images are easy to identify: handprints and footprints, birds, deer and snakes. Others appear to morph different animals together, or humans and animals.

There are images that appear to be masks or tribal clan symbols. And the meaning of some images is lost to time.

Although some of the petroglyphs may be much older, archaeologists believe that most were created

from the 1300s into the 1600s. The Rio Grande is not far away, and a prolonged drought may have encouraged migration into the region.

Spanish colonists later added their own symbols, including Christian crosses, livestock brands and images of sheep. With a little imagination, it's not hard to visualize a bored shepherd passing the time by leaving his mark on the rocks.

It took geology a long time to create a rock surface ideal for petroglyphs, beginning with a series of volcanic eruptions about 150,000 years ago.

Rangers at the monument explain that the lava flowed through old arroyos and around hills, and then hardened. Over time, the hills and walls of the arroyos eroded, and the old lava flows became the dominant topography. And as the soil under the lava flows eroded, large basalt boulders began to break away.

Exposure to the elements darkened the surface of the boulders. That created a blank canvas of sorts for an ancient people, who discovered that pecking it away with a rock revealed the lighter-colored surface underneath. With successive generations, the number and variety of petroglyphs grew into a remarkable outdoor gallery of images that reflected their spirituality and creativity.

Others have added less welcome marks. Some of the petroglyphs are pocked by gunfire. And "taggers" occasionally have spray-painted scrawls on some of the boulders, which at least can be removed.

Despite the proximity to suburbia, Petroglyph National Monument remains a desert environment.

The trail in Rinconada Canyon, for example, passes through classic desert scrub: sage, saltbush, cacti and snakeweed, and a variety of other desert plants.

A roadrunner or jackrabbit may dart from the brush. A hint of movement behind distant sagebrush may be a furtive coyote. Hawks and vultures ride the air currents overhead. And in warmer, wetter months, millipedes are a common sight.

Rattlesnakes may rarely be seen, but they're at home amid the boulders - another good reason to honor the park rangers' admonition to stay on the trails.

IF YOU GO:

WHAT YOU SEE: Petroglyph National Monument features more than 20,000 images and symbols pecked into the basalt boulders of ancient lava flows. Most were created 400 to 700 years ago by "Ancestral Puebloans," ancestors of modern Pueblo Indians and other American Indians, but some of the images may be 2,000 to 3,000 years old. The monument is jointly operated by the National Park Service and the city of Albuquerque.

GETTING THERE: Petroglyph National Monument is on the west side of Albuquerque. From Interstate 40, take the Unser Boulevard exit (154) and drive north three miles to Western Trail. Turn west onto Western Trail and follow the road to the visitor center. From I-25, take the Paseo del Norte exit (232) and go west to Coors Road; exit south. Go south on Coors Road to Western Trail. Turn west onto Western Trail and follow the road to the visitor center, where maps to different areas of the monument are available.

AREAS TO VISIT:

Rinconada Canyon: More than 3,000 petroglyphs have been pecked into basalt boulders in the canyon. Visitors can view the petroglyphs from a dirt trail that goes to the head of the canyon and back.



Ed Timms/Dallas Morning News/MCT

A large rock face may feature a panel of petroglyphs, like this one in Rinconada Canyon at Petroglyph National Monument, in Albuquerque, N.M. The images were formed by pecking away the desert varnish coating large basalt boulders, revealing the lighter-colored rock underneath.

Southwest of the visitor center.

Boca Negra Canyon: The most frequently visited portion of the monument, Boca Negra features a variety of petroglyphs along three relatively short trails. Boca Negra overlooks a residential neighborhood. Northeast of the visitor center.

Piedras Marcadas Canyon: An undeveloped trail takes visitors along the base of a basalt escarpment and many petroglyphs. Development has almost surrounded this section of the monument, but it still has the feel of a remote desert. At the northern end of the monument.

Volcanoes Day Use Area: Hikers can see extinct volcanoes close up and get great views of the Rio Grande Valley, Albuquerque and the Sandia Mountains. On the monument's western edge.

ADMISSION FEES: The fee for parking at Boca Negra Canyon, charged by the city of Albuquerque, is \$1 on weekdays and \$2 on weekends. National Park Service passes are honored.

HOURS: Hours are not restricted on most of the trails within the monument, although gates to the parking areas may be closed. The visitor center and Boca Negra Canyon are open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed on New Year's Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. The visitor center typically closes at 2 p.m. the day before Thanksgiving and on Christmas Eve.

RESOURCES: Park information: 505-899-0205, ext. 331; On the Web: www.nps.gov/petr.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

- Petroglyphs are images or designs that are pecked, chiseled or carved into rock surfaces.
- Pictographs are images or designs that are painted onto rock surfaces.

MORE ROCK-WRITING SITES TO VISIT

Petroglyph National Monument is one of several sites in the Southwest that feature large concentrations of rock art. Here are others:

- **Big Bend Ranch State Park:** A variety of pictographs have been discovered in the park southeast of Presidio. Included are figures of humans and animals and abstract shapes. Contact: 432-358-4444, ext. 226; www.tpwd.state.tx.us/park/bigbend.
- **Hueco Tanks State Historic Site:** Located 32 miles northeast of El Paso, Hueco Tanks' pictographs and petroglyphs include human and animal figures and more than 200 face designs or masks. Visitation is limited, and reservations are required. Call about one week in advance to take a tour of the pictographs and petroglyphs. Contact: 915-857-1135 or 1-800-792-1112, option 3; www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spd-est/findadest/parks/hueco_tanks.
- **Three Rivers Petroglyph Site:** More than 21,000 petroglyphs are carved into rocks across 50 acres in southern New Mexico. A small Pueblo ruin is nearby. Located about 120 miles north of El Paso near Tularosa, N.M. Contact: Bureau of Land Management's Las Cruces, N.M., office, 575-525-4300; www.blm.gov/nm/st/en/prog/recreation/las_cruces/three_rivers.html.

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Sylvia Throws a Curve

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A J 10 7 5
♥ J 9 7 3 2
♦ J 4
♣ K

WEST
♠ Q
♥ A K Q 5
♦ A 10 8 3
♣ Q 9 8 4

EAST
♠ 9 6
♥ 10 8 6 4
♦ 5 2
♣ 10 7 6 5 2

SOUTH
♠ K 8 4 3 2
♥ —
♦ K Q 9 7 6
♣ A J 3

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Dble Pass Pass
2 ♦ Pass Pass (!) Pass
Opening lead — king of hearts.

Not many members realized at first how little Sylvia knew when she started to play with the experts at the club. But it didn't take the cognoscenti long to discover the vast areas of ignorance in Sylvia's game, nor did it take them very long to try to take advantage of her shortcomings.

While it may be that all's fair in love and war, I always had reservations about the propriety of some players at the club who bid psychics against Sylvia. She had such an extraordinary talent for doing the

wrong thing that it seemed to me they should have let well enough alone instead of trying to make things more complicated for her.

But there were times when such tactics boomeranged against the perpetrators. One of her first great triumphs occurred on this deal when Sylvia (East) was playing against two of the more larcenous members of the club.

South bid a spade, and West doubled. North, who could smell a psychic a mile away, assumed his partner was throwing a curve, and he passed. Sylvia, who couldn't tell the difference between a takeout double and a Wiener schmitzel, thought her hand was too weak to bid, so she also passed.

South assumed the spades were all banked against him and so ran to two diamonds. West passed, and North, having first congratulated himself on diagnosing the spade bid as a psychic — apparently confirmed by his partner's runout to two diamonds — also passed. Sylvia then closed the auction with a pass.

You never did hear such a ruckus as took place after South saw dummy and realized he was playing two diamonds when six spades was practically laydown.

Sylvia never quite understood why he squawked so much, since South wound up making the contract with two overtricks.

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In Sunday's Big Spring Herald

Wheel of Fortune's Vanna White keeps her home life real

TV's Favorite Girl Next Door

INSIDE: • Howling cheer: congratulations for Vanna • Rules for healthy living • 'Mistake' explained

What if you could... Lose Weight Safely? • How to stay motivated • How to stay motivated

Spinning reality

She is television's most famous and most glamorous game show hostess. Yet, *Wheel of Fortune's* Vanna White leaves all the bright lights and spins of the wheel behind when it comes to her home life. Plus, rules for healthy living and "midday" spaghetti.

American Profile

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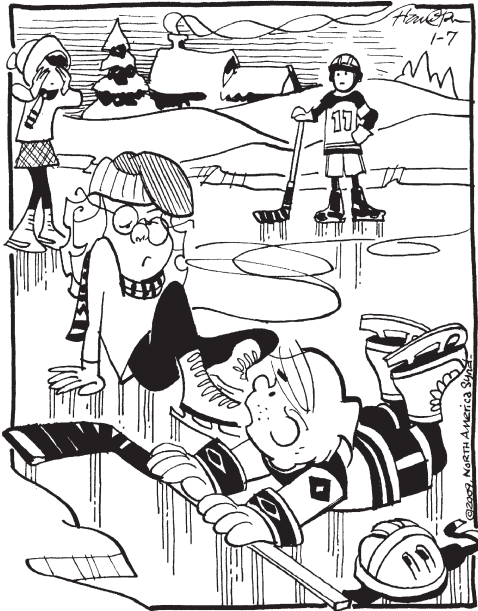
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M-F 8:45-5:45 Sat. 9-1

25382

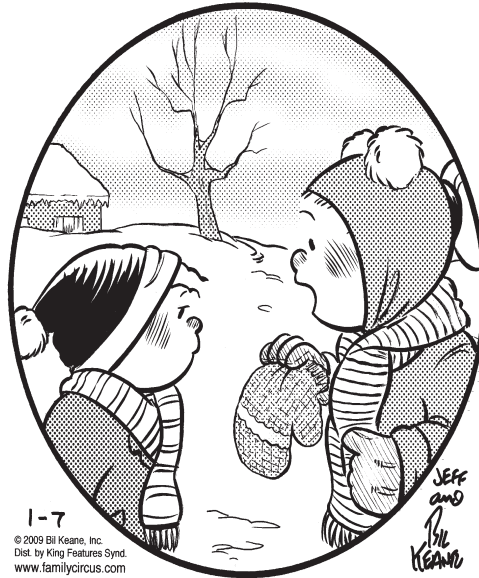
	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPiKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5 :PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Locura Noticiero	Lopez Lopez	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	Raymond Friends	Cortes Israel	BBC Business	Cash Cab	Movie: Stargate	CSI: NY	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Wizards of Waverly Hills	Horn Interrupt	SportsCenter
6 :PM :30	News ABC	Jeopardy!	Tontas Cielo	Two Men	News CBS	12 Corazones	News NBC	Seinfeld	Mark Hagee	News-Lehrer	Cash Cab	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order		Suite Life Montana	College Basketball	College Basketball: Davidson at Duke.	
7 :PM :30	Scrubz	Scrubz	Cuidado-Angel	Bones	Christine	Doña Barbara	Knigh Rider	Payne	Israel Scott	To Be Announced	Time Wrp	Movie: Com-mando, Dan Hedaya	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	Movie: House Party 2, Iman	Movie: Beethoven's 4th	College Basketball	NBA Basketball: Miami Heat at Denver Nuggets.
8 :PM :30	20/20	20/20	Fuego en la Sangre	Bones	The 35th Annual People's Choice Awards	El Rostro de Analia	Law & Order: SVU	Payne	Light of the Southwest		MythBusters	UFC's Ultimate Fight Night	Movie: A Walk to Remember		Comic Phineas	Wizards of Waverly Hills		
9 :PM :30	Walters	Walters	Don Francisco	TMZ	Raymond	Noticiero	News	Payne	Israel	Charlie Rose	Made	UFC Un-leashed	Movie: A Walk to Remember	Hatchett	Comic Life De	SportsCtr.		
10 :PM :30	News Nightline	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	King-Hill	News	Noticiero	News	Payne	Dr. Young	Made	Made	CSI: NY	Movie: House Party 2, Iman	Hatchett	Comic So Raven	BCS Champ.		
11 :PM :30	Insider Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Insider Jimmy Kim-mel Live	La Hora de la Risa	Law Order: CI	Late Late Show	Decisiones de	Late Night	Sex & CCM	Scott	Smiley	Time Wrp	Movie: The Usual Sus-pects, Chazz Palminteri	Unsolved Mysteries	Without a Trace	Replace Kim	X Games	NFL Live	
12 :AM :30	News	Extra	Amarte-Pecado	RENO 911	Insider	Programa Pagado	News	Movie: The Perfect Score	Israel Sanchez	MythBusters	MythBusters	Unsolved Mysteries	Without a Trace	The Deal	Emperor Dragon	Series of		
1 :AM :30	Paid	Light	Clasicos	Friends	Paid	Pelicula:	Poker After Dark		Light of the Southwest									

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I GUESS ICE HOCKEY AN' FIGURE SKATING DON'T MIX TOO WELL."

THE FELICIA CIRCUS



"Mittens are just gloves where they forgot to cut the fingers out."

HAGAR

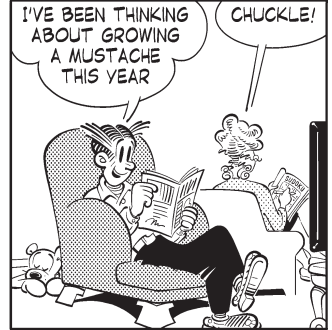


AS YOUR DOCTOR, I'M SURPRISED THAT A MAN OF YOUR BATTLE EXPERIENCE WOULD ENTER A DANGEROUS PLACE LIKE THAT!



HOW DID I KNOW THEY WERE HAVING A 75% OFF SALE AT THE DRESS SHOP?

BLONDIE



I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT GROWING A MUSTACHE THIS YEAR



TEE! HEE! HEE! HEE!



WHAT'S SO FUNNY? OH NOTHING...

BC



I JUST DON'T GET IT... WHY WOULD 2 GROWN MEN FIGHT OVER A STUPID BALL?



IMAGINE THE BALL IS ON SALE. SEXIST OR NOT, THE KID SURE CAN MAKE A POINT.

WIZARD OF ID



YOU FORGOT TO LEAVE A TIP



IT'S UNDER THE COFFEE CUP



THERE ISN'T ANY COFFEE CUP

AGNES



WE HAVE TO RESCUE LESTER! HE'S OUT THERE... COLD, LOST AND ALONE!

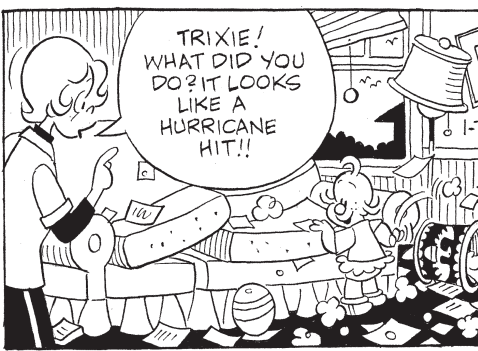


I CAN'T BELIEVE YOUR ATTITUDE! WHAT DO YOU THINK HE WOULD DO IF I TOLD HIM YOU WERE LOST IN THE SNOW?!

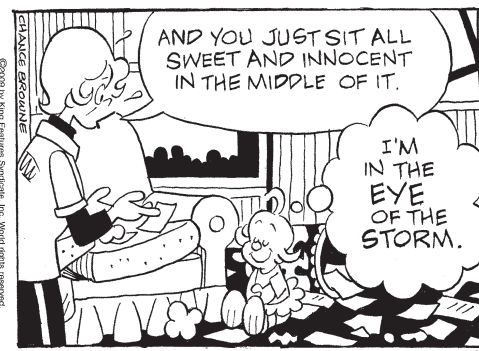


HE WOULD YAWN, EAT A COOKIE, TAKE A NAP.

HI AND LOIS

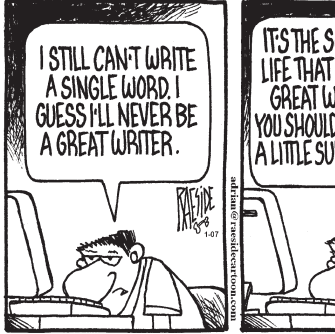


TRIXIE! WHAT DID YOU DO? IT LOOKS LIKE A HURRICANE HIT!!



AND YOU JUST SIT ALL SWEET AND INNOCENT IN THE MIDDLE OF IT.

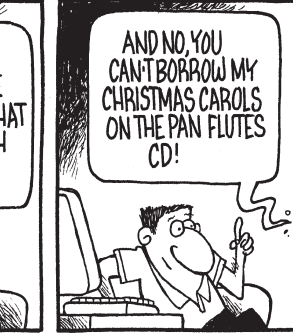
THE OTHER COAST



I STILL CAN'T WRITE A SINGLE WORD. I GUESS I'LL NEVER BE A GREAT WRITER.



IT'S THE SCARS OF LIFE THAT MAKE A GREAT WRITER. YOU SHOULD EMBRACE A LITTLE SUFFERING.

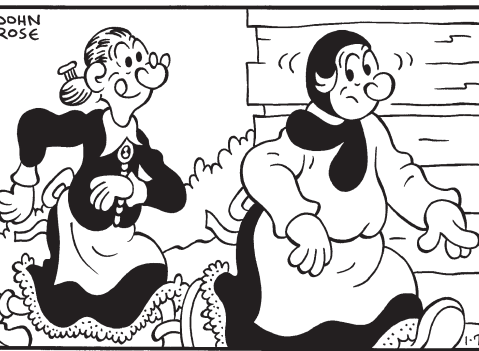


WHAT COULD POSSIBLY BE MORE HORRIBLE THAN WHAT I'M GOING THROUGH RIGHT NOW?

SNUFFY SMITH

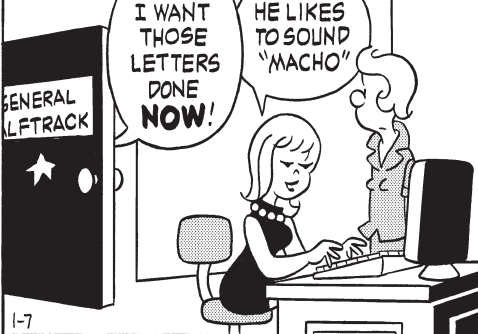


WELP, I BETTER GIT GOIN', EL-- I GOT A PAN OF BROWNIES 'BOUT READY TO COME OUTTA TH' OVEN !!



AND NO, YOU CAN'T BORROW MY CHRISTMAS CAROLS ON THE PAN FLUTES CD!

BETLE BAILEY



I WANT THOSE LETTERS DONE NOW!



PLEASE?! BUT HE QUICKLY RESORTS TO "WIMPY"

This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 7, the seventh day of 2009. There are 358 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 7, 1789, the first U.S. presidential election was held. Americans voted for electors who, a month later, chose George Washington to be the nation's first president.

On this date:

In 1608, an accidental fire devastated the Jamestown settlement in the Virginia colony.

In 1610, astronomer Galileo Galilei began observing three of Jupiter's moons.

In 1800, the 13th president of the United States, Millard Fillmore, was born in Summerhill, N.Y.

In 1927, commercial transatlantic telephone service was inaugurated between New York and London.

In 1942, the Japanese siege of Bataan began during World War II.

In 1949, George C. Marshall resigned as U.S. Secretary of

State, effective Jan. 20. President Harry S. Truman chose Dean Acheson to succeed him.

In 1959, the United States recognized the new government of Cuba, six days after Fidel Castro led the overthrow of Fulgencio Batista.

In 1972, Lewis F. Powell Jr. and William H. Rehnquist were sworn in as the 99th and 100th members of the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1979, Vietnamese forces captured the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh, overthrowing the Khmer Rouge government.

In 1989, Emperor Hirohito of Japan died in Tokyo at age 87; he was succeeded by his son, Crown Prince Akihito.

Today's Birthdays: Author William Peter Blatty is 81. Country singer Jack Greene is 79. Pop musician Paul Revere is 71. Magazine publisher Jann Wenner is 63. Singer-songwriter Marshall Chapman is 60. Latin pop singer Juan Gabriel is 59. Actor David Caruso is 53. "CBS Evening News" anchor Katie Couric is 52. Country singer David Lee Murphy is 50. Rock musician Kathy Valentine (The Go-Go's)

is 50. Actress Hallie Todd is 47. Actor Nicolas Cage is 45. Singer-songwriter John Ondrasik (Five for Fighting) is 44. Country singer-musician John Rich is 35. Actor Dustin Diamond is 32. Actor Robert Richard is 26. Actor Liam Aiken is 19. Actress Camryn Grimes is 19. Actor Max Morrow is 18.

Thought for Today: "I do not believe that sheer suffering teaches. If suffering alone taught, all the world would be wise. To suffering must be added mourning, understanding, patience, love, openness and the willingness to remain vulnerable." — Anne Morrow Lindbergh, American author (1906-2001).

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Answer to previous puzzle

SPAS	SASH	STRAP
EAST	TILE	PRICE
ARIA	AREA	RENEW
LEARN	NEWTHINGS	
ODD	END	
ADLIBS	SALT	CAB
CRAVE	HULL	HOBO
TAKET	IMOTORELAX	
OWES	ODO	ERASE
RNS	ELSE	FUSSES
ALE	YES	
LOSES	OMEWEIGHT	
HIGHC	PALE	OREO
INLET	AMPS	WOES
TEENS	LAST	AWLS

Newsday Crossword

SAVING TIME by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Had on
 - 5 Misfortunes
 - 9 Desert dearth
 - 14 Flier to Israel
 - 15 Chimney dirt
 - 16 Fight site
 - 17 Nobelist Wiesel
 - 18 Dagwood's napping place
 - 19 1927 headliner's nickname
 - 20 What the Fed charges banks
 - 23 Get boiling mad
 - 24 Slap the cuffs on
 - 28 Slot-machine part
 - 30 Pewter, in part
 - 31 Post-OR area
 - 32 Color of honey
 - 36 In the thick of
 - 38 Hertz alternative
 - 39 Frugal shopper's spot
 - 42 Bug-eyed
 - 43 Within earshot
 - 44 Sharp-tasting
 - 45 -cone
 - 46 Inc., abroad
 - 47 Shade of blond
 - 49 Track-and-field missile
 - 51 Men's fashion accessory
 - 56 One way to fly
 - 60 In pieces
 - 63 Genesis son
 - 64 Cognac bottle initials
 - 65 Spree
 - 66 Andean land
 - 67 Active European volcano
 - 68 Passover
- DOWN**
- 1 Abandoned-lot growth
 - 2 Stan's buddy
 - 3 Jack up
 - 4 Send to the Hill
 - 5 Magazine publisher, e.g.
 - 6 Bird on Canadian dollars
 - 7 Artist's digs, maybe
 - 8 Walk of Fame implant
 - 9 Retail mogul Sam
 - 10 Disney mermaid
 - 11 Perfect score,
 - dinner
 - sometimes
 - 40 Emcee's line
 - 41 Value system
 - 46 Hopkins Oscar role
 - 48 Etching tool
 - 50 Join forces
 - 52 North Pole crew
 - 53 Take a sip of
 - 54 In sync
 - 55 Congressional channel
 - 57 Back of the neck
 - 58 Follow instructions
 - 59 "A ____ formality!"
 - 60 "Six-pack" muscles
 - 61 Mud concoction
 - 62 "Go on. . ."

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16		
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68							69				70	

News in brief

3 suspects questioned in Dallas officer's death

DALLAS (AP) — Three unidentified suspects were being questioned after a veteran police officer was shot and killed when he and other gang-unit officers attempted to serve a felony warrant for aggravated assault at an apartment complex in southeast Dallas.

Police Chief David Kunkle identified the officer as Sr. Cpl. Norman Smith, 43, who he described as a great street officer with the "heart of a warrior."

Kunkle said about five to six officers attempted to serve a warrant on an aggravated robbery suspect.

"This was a high-risk situation. As soon as they made contact, there was gunfire. The officers were tactically well-positioned, but they were immediately met with gunfire," Kunkle said.

Police did not announce who they were before they attempted to serve the warrant, Kunkle said. It was a method "to get suspects to come to the door without announcing they were police officers," he said.

Former McCamey school teacher faces charges of an improper relationship with a student

McCAMEY (AP) — Upton County Sheriff's officials said a former McCamey school teacher is in jail, charged with having an improper relationship between an educator and a student.

Deputy Sheriff Todd Helms said Vanessa Zuniga, 34, is being held at the Upton County Jail on the second-degree felony charge. If convicted, she could face a two to 20 year prison sentence and up

to a \$10,000 fine. No bond has been set.

Zuniga surrendered Monday to the Upton County Sheriff's Office after being notified by authorities they had obtained a warrant for her arrest, Helms said.

Jail officials would not comment to The Associated Press early Wednesday on whether she had an attorney.

Prior to Zuniga turning herself in, school district Superintendent Donny Wiley said she had resigned.

"The McCamey Independent School District takes any allegation of inappropriate conduct with a child extremely seriously," said Wiley in an online story Tuesday for the Odessa American.

Red Cross needs shelter for fire victims

PARIS, Texas (AP) — Red Cross officials said they must immediately secure housing for the survivors of a fire that killed five homeless shelter residents.

"The shelter we have established at the First United Methodist Church is not permanent. We have it only for three days, and we will have to find other quarters for them," Red Cross Executive Director Brad Scott said in an online story Tuesday for The Paris News.

The fire happened early Monday at a shelter run by the nonprofit Seed Sowers Christians in Action. The shelter is in a converted bakery in this small Northeast Texas town. The fire started just before 3 a.m. and sent the residents inside scrambling outside into frigid, rainy conditions.

Some escaped barefoot and others left shivering without having time to grab clothes or coats.

A fire marshal has said it could take weeks to determine what caused the fire. The names of the five victims, some of them left almost unidentifiable to investigators, were not immediately released.

Judge indicted on additional sex charges

HOUSTON (AP) — U.S. District Judge Samuel Kent, the first federal jurist indicted on sex crimes, is now facing more of the same charges.

Kent was set to be arraigned on Wednesday, a day after a federal grand jury in Houston added three new charges to the indictment it issued in August that accuses him of making unwanted sexual advances toward his former court case manager.

The new charges — aggravated sexual abuse, abusive sexual contact and obstruction of justice — allege Kent engaged in unwanted sexual contact with a second former court employee and later lied about it to investigators.

"There is a gag order in the case which prohibits the parties from making any sort of comment with the exception of stating without elaboration what the defense is to these new charges," said Dick DeGuerin, Kent's attorney.

"They are untrue and we believe the product of intense pressure and threats brought against the complainant."

In a press release, the Justice Department only gave a brief description of the additional charges against Kent.

Kent, who was released on his own recognizance after last year's indictment, is still on the bench.

Jury selection in Kent's trial on the initial charges against him was set to begin Jan. 26.



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SEC

Continued from Page 1B

from the rest of the country.

"They have a golden spoon in their mouth," said Glenn Rhea, a 33-year-old fan and graduate of Big 12 school Texas Tech. "They always think they're better than everybody else."

And why not?

The last conference to take three straight Associated Press titles? That would be the SEC, which did it some three decades ago with Alabama (1978-79) and Georgia (1980).

In this updated version of the Civil War, the Big 12 is just an annoyance (granted, they did have four pretty good teams this year), the Big Ten is a bunch of slow-footed, three-yards-and-a-cloud-of-dusters, the Pac-10 is nothing more than USC and the Nine Dwarfs. What about the Atlantic Coast Conference? C'mon, that's a basketball league. The Big East? Puh-lease.

"When you do it three years in a row," said Florida tight end Tate Casey, "some people are going to start resenting you. I think that's what

we're seeing."

But this dynamic runs a bit deeper. College football is the undisputed king of Southern sports, unencumbered by the loyalties reserved for pro teams (latecomers to the region) and a source of pride to those who still remember the struggles of integration and the civil rights movement.

The first major league franchise to settle in the Deep South was baseball's Atlanta Braves, which arrived from Milwaukee in 1966. The New York Yankees already had won 20 World Series titles before the South got a crack at it first.

While plenty of pro teams have arrived on the scene since the Braves, they've mainly concentrated in Atlanta and around fast-growing Florida. Five of the nine states represented in the SEC — Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi and South Carolina — have no major professional teams to divert attention from the two main seasons in this neck of the woods, football and spring football practice.

In another interesting twist, black athletes once barred from the SEC by Jim Crow have become a dominant force on the football field, providing a

rich source of homegrown talent and an enticing way out for those growing up on poverty-plagued backroads.

It's been said that Bear Bryant, the legendary Alabama coach, did more to integrate the South than any troops or judges or protesters when he scheduled a game against Southern Cal in 1970. The Trojans' star running back, Sam Cunningham, was black. After he ran all over the Crimson Tide in a 42-21 victory, the recalcitrant segregationists in the Heart of Dixie decided it might be a good idea to have some African-Americans on their team.

Now, it's impossible to envision Southern football without stars such as Percy Harvin or Knowshon Moreno. Heck, they're leading the cheers for schools that once shunned them.

Michael Oher, an African-American lineman at Mississippi, played the Cotton Bowl with "SEC" written in the blackened shade under his eyes. The Rebels backed up his bravado with a resounding 47-34 victory over Texas Tech.

"We had to represent," Oher explained afterward. "There was a lot of talk of the Big 12 being better. It's not true. We had to show 'em."

Even those natives who don't consider themselves SEC fans have to give the conference its due. Just listen to David Franklin, a civil engineering student at Georgia Tech (an ACC member) who's got family ties to the Big 12.

"Depth-wise, the SEC is the best football conference in the country — and my brother plays for the University of Oklahoma," the 20-year-old junior said. "Even though the Big 12 is strong this year, I still think you have to go with the SEC top to bottom."

And Franklin spoke before his school was wiped out 38-3 in the Chick-fil-A Bowl by LSU, an SEC powerhouse that won the national championship a year ago but was a bit down this season.

The truth be told, there's probably not that much difference between the SEC and the other top conferences, national titles notwithstanding.

During the regular season, SEC teams went 37-11 in non-conference games, but only 6-9 in games against opponents from other BCS conferences. The Big 12, by comparison, went 8-8 against other elite-level leagues and 38-10 overall outside the conference.

STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

The Steers schedule doesn't get any easier this week.

Big Spring hosts Class 3A's fourth-ranked squad, the Brownfield Cubs (14-6), at 7:30 p.m. Friday in Steer Gym. Brownfield defeated Big Spring's 4-4A rival Abilene Cooper, 59-45, Tuesday, providing the Steers

with a gauge of how well they might match up with a district opponent when they play Brownfield.

The game will follow the Lady Steers' district opener against Abilene Cooper with tip time scheduled for 6 p.m.

The Steers have just two games remaining before beginning league play Jan. 16.

They'll travel to Andrews Tuesday for their final non-district contest of the season.

Big Spring 14 12 16 12-54
Estacado 27 15 9 20-71

Big Spring (6-12) — Darius McAllister 2 1-1 5, Jerrell Williams 5 0-0 12, Tyrone Clemons 5 0-0 12, Xavian Parnell 3 0-0 6, Matt Ritchey 4 3-3 11, Sidney Parker 3 2-2 8. Totals: 22 6-6 54.

Estacado (19-2) — Du. Minjarez 6 0-0 15, Da. Minjarez 5 1-1 12, Davis 0 1-2 1, Ba. Johnson 6 2-2 16, Stewart 2 2-2 6, J. Johnson 2 1-2 5, Willard 4 0-0 10, Roseman 2 2-3 6. Totals: 27 9-14 71.

3-point field goals: Big Spring 4 (Williams 2, Clemons 2); Estacado 8 (Du. Minjarez 3, Da. Minjarez, B. Johnson 2, Willard 2). Total fouls: Big Spring 15, Estacado 7. Fouled out: None. Technical fouls: None. JV score: Estacado 55, Big Spring 46.

FORSAN

Continued from Page 1B

Lady Buffs 44,
Lady Wildcats 32

Forsan's Lady Buffaloes used a 16-6 advantage in the third period to coast to a 44-32 victory over the Grady Lady Wildcats Tuesday.

Amanda Longorio played with her typical dominance in the

post, scoring a game-high 17 points. Lauren Robinson led Grady with 11.

Forsan held a narrow 2-point lead at intermission, but came out of the locker room on fire, increasing Grady's deficit to 12.

Shelby McDonald sank three 3-pointers for nine points to compliment Longorio's play inside.

Forsan improves its record to 18-3, while Grady falls to 12-7.

The Lady Buffs host Midland Trinity at 6:30 p.m. Friday in Buffalo Gym. Grady faces rival

Sands at 6:30 p.m. Friday in Ackerly.

Forsan 10 12 16 6-44
Grady 9 11 6 6-32

Forsan (18-3) — Amanda Longorio 17, Shelby McDonald 9, Tori Gauer 8, Miranda Park 4, Charlene Stanley 3, Sandi Golleher 2, Shelby Jones 1.

Grady (12-7) — Lauren Robinson 11, Eva Dyck 9, Maegan Blocker 4, Kaitlyn Blocker 4, Julia Schuelke 2, Kelly Cook 2.

Free throws — Forsan 8-14, Grady 2-5. 3-point goals — Forsan 4 (McDonald 3, Saver 1), Grady 2 (Dyck 1, Robinson 1). Total fouls — Forsan 8, Grady 12. Fouled out — Grady 1 (K. Blocker).

sudoku

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.

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

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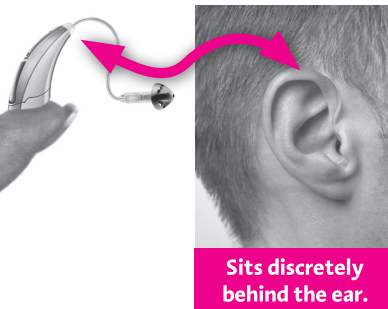
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Meet Scenic Mountain Medical Center's Healthy Woman Advisory Council. With the leadership and guidance of this amazing group, we introduce a new, free resource designed to empower women with information to maintain a healthy body, mind and spirit for themselves and their loved ones. Join our kickoff event and be part of the fun from the start.

Thursday, January 22

Old Hardware Store • Downtown Big Spring

4:30 p.m. FREE Women's Expo & Health Fair
Health screenings, partner exhibits, giveaways

6 p.m. Main Event/Dinner – \$20/person
Dinner, motivational speaker, giveaways, door prizes

Laugh and learn with Suzanne Metzger, PhD, as she treats us to a thought-provoking talk on the value of a positive attitude on everyday life. Dinner seating is limited, so reserve your space early. **Call 268-4842 or visit www.smmccares.com.** FREE monthly Healthy Woman events will be educational, fun and support a woman's unique role as the family healthcare manager.

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