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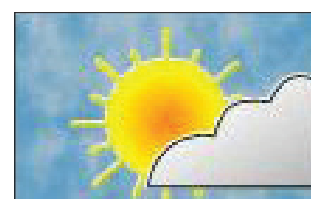
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HIGH BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY

JANUARY 13, 2009



VOLUME 104, NUMBER 36

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HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Howard County commissioners discuss funding a project that would hire a grant writer for several local entities, including the city of Big Spring, Howard College and the local school districts.

Entities to hire grant writer

Vocational training among targeted areas

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

In hopes of improving the educational opportunities for Howard County's youth, county commissioners agreed Monday morning to chip in \$20,000 toward hiring a grant writer who would be shared by several local agencies.

The matter, which was brought before the court by County Judge Mark Barr, is being considered by other entities, including Big Spring Independent School District, Coahoma Independent School District, Forsan Independent School District, the city of Big Spring, Howard College and the Big Spring Economic Development Board.

The idea to use a grant writer to actively seek and acquire grants to support, among other things, a vocational training system in Howard County, came during a meeting of local officials, according to Barr.

"I recently met with officials from several local government entities... We got to talking about the problems Big Spring and Howard County face, and the biggest problem we seem to have right now is with our young people," said Barr.

"I was surprised to find out that Big Spring alone has

County enacts burn ban

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners enacted a 90-day burn ban Monday in hopes of averting the type of disastrous wildfires that wracked the area this time last year.

Howard County Volunteer Fire Chief Tommy Sullivan requested the court approve the ban, a move he had considered prior to the Christmas holiday but decided against because of timing.

"We wanted to get some leeway into the new year," said Sullivan. "If we had enacted a burn ban before the holidays, it would have ran out right in the middle of our busiest time. However, by approving the ban today, it will carry us through until the

"I feel like it's time for a burn ban, not only as a matter of public safety, but to help control some of these (fires). Maybe this way, if they do light a fire, we have an avenue to fine them and recoup some of our costs."



Tommy Sullivan,
 Howard County volunteer fire chief

middle of April.

"Right now we're at the 400-500 range in the drought index. There

are seven levels of it and we're currently at No. 4. So we're not at the highest risk or the lowest risk, but pretty much in the middle. Midland is currently at the 500-600 range, and I expect we'll be in that same category later this month with the wind we're getting and no moisture. It's really going to start climbing."

Sullivan said the use of the ban is two-fold.

"I feel like it's time for a burn ban, not only as a matter of public safety, but to help control some of these (fires)," said Sullivan. "Maybe this way, if they do light a fire, we have an avenue to fine them and recoup some of our costs."

And while the ban could present a

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Livestock shows to baa-gin

Howard and Martin counties

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

Tomorrow's farmers and ranchers will put their best foot forward this week when the Howard County Junior Livestock Show begins.

The annual event, which showcases area 4-H youth and their animals, begins Wednesday and runs through Saturday at the County Fairbarns adjacent to the Rodeo Bowl.

More than 380 entries have been received for this year's show, easily eclipsing last year's mark of 326, officials said. 4-H and Future Farmers of America members from Big Spring, Coahoma, Forsan and Ackerly will show a

total of 386 animals in five categories — sheep, goats, rabbits, steers and swine.

Lambs and goats will be the first animals exhibited at the show. Lambs will take the stage at 3 p.m., Wednesday, followed by goats 30 minutes after the end of the lamb show.

The tiniest creatures in the livestock circuit take center stage Thursday, when the rabbit show is held at 6 p.m., while the show's largest animals — steers and barrows — will be judged Friday (steers at 9 a.m., barrows at 1 p.m.)

A barbecue lunch is scheduled

See **SHOWS**, Page 3



HERALD file photo

Brian Moore, a student at Sands High School, is pictured getting his barrow, Brumby, ready for competition in the 2008 Howard County Junior Livestock Show. This year's edition of the annual event begins Wednesday.

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Obituaries

W. Faye Adams



W. Faye Adams, 83, died in San Antonio on Saturday, Jan. 10, 2009. Graveside services will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 15, 2009, at Trinity Memorial Park.

She was born Faye Mitchell in Lamesa on March 10, 1925. She was the loving mother of three daughters, Harvelyn Christensen of St. George, Utah, Ginger Beckstead of San Antonio, and Jill Mayo of Willis. She had nine grandchildren and 33 great-grandchildren.

Faye grew up in Lamesa, married Harvey L. Adams and raised her family in Big Spring. Later in life, she lived for many years in Granbury and Olney before residing in San Antonio her last few years.

She was preceded in death by sisters, Elsie Middleton, Minnie Lieberman and Sybil Mitchell; brothers, George Mitchell and Fred (Mitch) Mitchell; one grandchild, Ronnie (Tex) Christensen; and one great-granddaughter, Cneydra Christensen. She will be sorely missed.

Arrangements by Porter Loring Mortuary North, 2102 N. Loop 1604 East, San Antonio 78732. Pay your respect online at www.porterloring.com

Paid obituary

Randel Williams



Randel Williams, 38, of Big Spring, formerly of Stanton, died Saturday, Jan. 10, 2009, at his residence. Private family services will be held at a later date.

He was born Oct. 13, 1970 in Stanton. He was an electrician and a member of Hosanna Christian Fellowship in Stanton. He was a lifetime resident of Stanton, only recently moving to Big Spring.

He is survived by three sons: Camryn Nalley Williams of Sand Springs, Elijah Williams of Alabama, and Nikki Williams of Greenwood; mother: Faye Williams of Stanton; father: James Williams, Sr. of Stanton; five brothers: Herbert Moore of Big Spring, Curtis Moore of Round Rock, James Williams of Midland, Darrel Williams of Brownfield, and Mark Williams of Henderson; two sisters: Carol Williams of Indiana, and Renee Clemmons of Killeen; and grandparents: Ceola and William Walker of El Paso.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents: Clarence Wells, Minnie Wells, R. B. Williams and Marcie Jenkins.

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

Leroy Nichols

Leroy Nichols, 89, of Big Spring died Monday, Jan. 12, 2009, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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.

Police blotter

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

- CATHERINE RENEE MAYBERRY, 38, of Robert Lee, was arrested Sunday on a charge of driving while intoxicated – open container.
- JOSEPH PARNELL, 50, of 3213 Fenn St., was arrested Monday on a charge of disorderly conduct – language.
- DEXTER DEON STRAUGHTER, 21, of 610 E. 14th St., was arrested Monday on charges of no seat belt by a person under the age of 18 years, no driver's license and failure to appear (two counts).
- LANCE WAYNE LAND, 19, of 908 W. Fourth St., was arrested Tuesday on charges of minor in consumption of an alcoholic beverage and failure to appear.
- THEFT was reported in the 1100 block of Lamesa.
- POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA – TWO OUNCES OR LESS was reported in the 600 block of Aylesford.
- POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA – TWO OUNCES OR LESS IN A DRUG FREE ZONE was reported in the 700 block of 11th Place.
- FORGERY was reported in the 400 block of Fourth Street.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported:
 - in the 1800 block of Main Street.
 - in the 3200 block of Drexel.
 - in the 500 block of 10th Street.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 3300 block of Cornell.
- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported:
 - in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87.
 - in the 900 block of Fourth Street.

Sheriff

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 61 inmates at the time of this report.
- SABRINA ANN WEBB, 30, was arrested Monday by DPS on a Taylor County warrant for theft by check.
 - CHRISTOPHER LIMON, 30, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated – second offense.
 - MARCOS GERONIMO DELAROSA, 20, was arrested Monday by DPS on a charge of driving while license invalid.
 - BRADY TIMMING, 22, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on motions to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated and possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.

Fire/EMS

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




- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 5600 block of the I-20 S. Service Road. Service refused.
- MEDICAL as reported in the 300 block of N.E. 10th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2600 block of Dow. Service refused.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1900 block of Martin Luther King Blvd. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2900 block of Cactus. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of E. 15th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3300 block of Auburn. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 900 block of Scurry. One person was transported to SMMC.

Support Groups

TUESDAY

- Grief share, sponsored by Home Hospice and the First Presbyterian Church, Seventh and Runnels (north end door), meets at 6 p.m..

Your Local Weather

Wed 1/14	Thu 1/15	Fri 1/16
 63/28	 50/28	 54/34
Sunny skies. High 63F. Winds SW at 5 to 10 mph.	Plenty of sun. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the upper 20s.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the mid 30s.

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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

- The Powwow Committee of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church annex, 809 Scurry, or the fellowship hall at 810 Scurry. Call Robert Downing at 263-3255 for information.

WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Free blood pressure screenings from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., provided by InHome Care.
- Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.
- Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.

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.
- Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association meets at 5:30 p.m. in the Big Spring City Council Chambers, 307 E. Fourth.
- 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 Post 506 meets at 6 p.m. Call 263-2084 for more information.
- Rackley-Swords 379, Vietnam Veterans of America meets at 7 p.m. in the Sparenburg Building, 309 S. Main St.
- Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

FRIDAY

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.
- 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.

MONDAY

- The Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teacher's Association meets in the Cactus Room at Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

Lottery

The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Monday by the Texas Lottery: 6 - 8 - 21 - 25 - 35.

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night: Winning numbers drawn: 4 - 13 - 17 - 19. Bonus Ball: 16.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 9 - 5 - 9 - 1. Sum It Up: 24.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 2 - 1 - 7. Sum It Up: 10.

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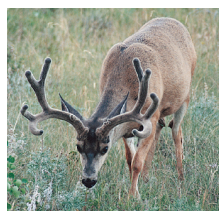
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News Briefs

Obama to begin making his case for \$350 billion in bailout funds

WASHINGTON (AP) — A week shy of taking office, President-elect Barack Obama already is putting his persuasion skills to a high-stakes test with Congress as he seeks access to the second half of the \$700 billion financial bailout fund.

Obama planned to be in the Capitol on Tuesday to meet with Senate Democrats. And his transition team prepared to dispatch top aides to meet with Senate Republicans this week in anticipation of a possible vote Thursday on whether to release the money from the embattled Troubled Asset Relief Program.

In the House, the Financial Services Committee scheduled a hearing on the program in advance of legislation offered by committee Chairman Barney Frank, D-Mass., that would place tough new restrictions on recipients of the money and require spending to reduce mortgage foreclosures.

The legislation is scheduled to reach the floor of the House on Wednesday, with a vote set for Thursday.

That flurry of activity comes in the wake of Presi-

dent George W. Bush's decision Monday to act on Obama's behalf and ask Congress for access to the remaining \$350 billion of the money Congress authorized to rescue the nation's financial sector. The request reached Congress as lawmakers and Obama also were assembling a spending and tax-cutting stimulus package of \$800 billion, or possibly more.

Clinton appears set for Senate OK as top diplomat

WASHINGTON (AP) — From the disappointment of a failed White House bid, Hillary Rodham Clinton is on the threshold of the world's stage as chief diplomat for the Democrat who defeated her.

Clinton appeared set to sail smoothly through a Senate confirmation hearing Tuesday, despite concerns among some lawmakers that the global fundraising of her husband, former President Bill Clinton, could pose ethical conflicts for her as President-elect Barack Obama's secretary of state.

"There's no stumbling block," Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said in an interview Monday. The

panel could vote on Clinton's nomination as early as Thursday. If she is approved, as expected, she could be confirmed by the full Senate as early as Inauguration Day.

In advance of the hearing, Hillary Clinton reached out to individual senators through telephone calls and face-to-face meetings, including an hourlong session with Sen. Richard Lugar of Indiana, the top Republican on the committee.

Obama faces handling diverse group of prisoners at Guantanamo

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — President-elect Barack Obama's planned review of Guantanamo Bay prisoners, a prelude to closing the detention center, must weigh the threats posed by an extraordinarily diverse group, from die-hard jihadists to innocent men swept up in war.

Two presidential transition team advisers said Monday that Obama is preparing to issue an executive order in his first day or week in office setting in motion the extensive survey needed to close the U.S. military prison in Cuba.

His team faces a daunting task.

WRITER

Continued from Page 1

a 30 percent drop out rate, which was a shock to me. And this leads to other problems. When I was a kid, if I wasn't busy then I was probably getting into things I wasn't supposed to be getting into, and I think that's what's happening here.

"You know all of the problems we're having with juveniles and the drive-by shootings in this community. I think it's time for us to step up and try to find a solution to these problems. There are no guarantees, but this money would allow us to hire a grant writer, and our main focus would be on finding a way to support these drop outs and families, and try to catch these kids before they get into these things."

Barr said the grant writer would work for the agencies through the Texas Workforce Network, but would be dedicated to the agencies that are funding the endeavor.

"There are a lot of grants for education," said Barr. "The education system in Texas is aimed at kids who are going to be going to college. As we all know, not everyone goes to college. There are things out there people who don't go to college can do very successfully. One of the things the grant writer would be looking at is developing a program for these drop outs to learn a trade, like electricity and welding, or plumbing. We would work in conjunction with Howard College on this."

"The grant writer would be working for the Workforce (Network). They would have their office here in Big Spring and would exclusively be working for Howard County entities. We (the entities) would pay for her salary and for the office. Also, she would be available to help with other matters, such as grants for the sheriff's office."

Barr said the idea, which has already gained acceptance from several local entities, will help turn around a dangerous trend in the Crossroads area.

"I think it's a step in the right direction," said Barr firmly. "I've talked to a lot of educators, and they are all behind the idea 100 percent. The total package would be \$120,000 a year, and that includes Big Spring ISD, Howard College, Howard County, the city of Big Spring and the Big Spring Economic Development Board donating \$20,000, and Coahoma ISD and Forsan ISD will donate \$10,000 each. The city has already approved it, and Howard College will be presenting it to their board during their next meeting. Big Spring ISD has already approved it, as well."

"The cities of Forsan and Coahoma will not be giving any money to this project because they just can't afford it. Their budgets are just too tight right now. That's where I feel like the county needs to step in and help those two smaller communities out."

Commissioner Jimmie Long, newly elected and attending his first commissioners meeting as the District 3 representative, said he understands the importance of a vocational training program.

"I understand the program very well because I'm a by-product of it," said Long. "I've visited with Rep. Joe Heflin and Sen. Kel Seliger about re-establishing funds for vocational programs, and it's something they are very aware of. The city of San Angelo struggles with having enough workforce as well. They are working during this legislative session to start re-implementing some funds for the schools, but that takes time. This is an opportunity as a community to do something on a local level. The grant money is available, we just have to request it. And it has to be written by someone who has knowledge of how to write these grants so they will accept them."

The court gave the go-ahead to fund the project to the tune of \$20,000, which will come out of the county's reserve contingency fund.

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

SHOWS

Continued from Page 1

for 11 a.m. Saturday and the show will conclude with the annual awards reception and buyers

sale at 1 p.m.

In Stanton, 4-H and FFA members will compete in the annual Martin County Junior Livestock Show, scheduled for Friday and Saturday at the community cen-

ter. Extension Agent Gary Earhart estimated 150 entries for this year's show, which kicks off with sheep judging at 2 p.m. Friday. Steer judging will follow immedi-

ately after.

Saturday, goats will be judged at 8 a.m., with swine following soon after.

The show concludes with the annual banquet, scheduled for 7

p.m. Saturday in the community center.

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

BAN

Continued from Page 1

major inconvenience for some county residents, Sullivan said not following the law could be rather costly.

"People are still allowed to burn in burn barrels. They have to be barrels with no holes in them and they have to have a tight screen on them," said Sullivan. "They are also required to have a fire extinguisher or water hose, and they have to stay with the fire from the time it's started until it's completely out. If someone calls in and sees someone is burning, and a deputy or fire department shows up and no one is out there watching it, that's a violation of the burn ban and they could be fined up to \$500."

"If the fire gets away from them and gets onto someone's personal property, then they will not only get a fine for failure to adhere to a burn ban, they will also be fined for reckless endangerment, which makes that fine \$1,000. Like I've said, \$5 to go to the landfill is a lot easier on the wallet than a \$1,000 fine, not to mention a lawsuit if the fire damages someone else's property."

Sullivan said the Howard County area is already off to a quick start.

"We've already responded to 13 fires since the beginning of the new year," said Sullivan.

County Judge Mark Barr said there are exceptions to the ban, but area residents considering burning anything outdoors should make sure they have a good reason for doing so.

"This burn ban does not prohibit outdoor burning activities related to public safety that are authorized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, firefighter training, public utility, gas lines and pipelines or the planting or harvesting of agricultural crops," said Barr. "Also, burns that are directed by prescribed burn managers are not prohibited by the burn ban. There are some exclusions from the ban."

However, if you're going to burn something, you better have a really good reason. And if anyone has any questions, they can call my office or call Tommy."

For more information on the burn ban, contact the county judge's office at 264-2202.

Also Monday, the court approved a number of change orders and gave permission to request bids for more FFE — furniture, fixtures and equipment — for the new county jail.

According to Justin Gilmore, an architect with Southwest Architects, the firm handling the project, the FFE budget, set at \$465,000 in May 2008, is slated

citydesk@bigspringherald.com

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 Randel Williams, 38, died Saturday. Private family services will be held at a later date.
 Leroy Nichols, 89, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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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

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OTHER VIEWS

New profiles in courage needed today

What would the late President John F. Kennedy make of it all? What would JFK have to say about the lines of advocates for special interests and pleaders for narrow causes queuing up for a piece of Washington's seemingly boundless largess?

Barack Obama's Inauguration Day will mark the 48th anniversary of the clear and frosty Washington afternoon when Kennedy's challenge to his nation echoed across the globe: "Ask not what your country can do for you ask what you can do for your country."

Indeed. A generation was energized into service by the young president's words. Do Kennedy's sentiments resonate in 2009, when the answers to most of the country's economic troubles seem to begin and end with more dollars from Washington?

They can and they must starting with the way the stimulus package is handled. There are literally mountains of federal cash here, seemingly for the taking, and the scene is starting to be described as a feeding frenzy. But wait, isn't there also an opportunity for one or several among those seeking federal treasure to honor Kennedy's memory and make a mark and a difference in a time of real crisis? Of course there is.

Wouldn't it be welcome if someone among the throngs of lobbyists in line at the federal pay window stepped out of the line and confessed that, on reflection, that eight-lane bridge to the Boss Hogg theme park in West Nowhere wasn't so necessary after all? That other projects more deserving should be given priority? That would be, well, a profile in courage.

Such courage should start with Texans. We urge Gov. Rick Perry and Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison to pull together to bring the state a maximum return from the stimulus. But that does not mean boondoggles. The nation's plight is too urgent to play pork as usual.

And what about the expected Obama tax cut? According to many economists, it seems as likely to crash and burn as did the Bush tax rebate of a few months ago. The amounts to taxpayers are anticipated to be slightly larger \$500 for qualifying individuals and \$1,000 for qualifying couples. The problem, already identified by many, is that those amounts are too little to be much help to those in real need, and almost meaningless to those relatively well-fixed.

Kennedy's clarion call could be used to stir a noble response from the latter group. One appealing notion: donating the rebate to a worthy local cause. In Houston, the United Way offers a host of choices tailored to a donor's wishes. Surely, there are other deserving possibilities. Let's hear more about those.

One of Barack Obama's Kennedyesque themes is his call for sacrifice to master our problems. A thoughtful response to his stimulus plan seems a good place to start.

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A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

We've got all the right moves, Lord, when we move in Your direction.

Amen

For the love of Israel

What a message! "Go back to the oven," the woman in her hijab in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., yelled to the Jewish Americans demonstrating their support for Israel. "You need a big oven, that's what you need."

This is why I love Israel and always have. It is because Israel will never surrender to their hatred.

Israel is tiny. If you live in Massachusetts, as I did when I traveled there two decades ago, imagine Rhode Island being in the hands of those who are committed to destruction, sending rockets over your common border. If you live in Los Angeles, as I do now, imagine San Diego being not only a different state, but a committed enemy whose official government has long been listed as a terrorist organization.

How do you live like that? How do you raise your children knowing that, when they graduate from high school, they will go to war against those who do not place the same value on

human life as you do, fighting people who send their children to be suicide bombers?

Amid the violence in Gaza, Israel stopped shooting for three hours yesterday to allow the people to get food and supplies, to allow trucks with medical supplies to deliver them in safety. Imagine Hamas doing the same thing to help Israeli civilians. I cannot. Not for a minute.

I do not always like everything Israel does. I do not always like everything my own country does. But I love Israel for the determination and courage of its people in standing up to the terrorists who would destroy it. And I detest those who traffic in anti-Semitism and then seek to excuse their hatred of me by saying no, it isn't Jews they hate.

Just Israel. Liars. The world is busy condemning Israel. The media are busy doubting its future. Time magazine goes on for pages about why Israel can't win. Maybe it can't, but it also can't lose.

Dick Morris says this is the doves' war, the last chance for the left-leaning government of Prime Minister Olmert and Defense Minister Barak to beat back the prospect of defeat by the more hard-line Binyamin Netanyahu. Politics is relative.

From what I know, there are no doves in Israel. How can you be a dove when the rockets are landing 17 miles outside of Tel Aviv? You can fight or you can fight more. If Hamas can get away with murder, why should Iran fear at all?

No one likes seeing civilians suffer and die. No one likes seeing hospitals overrun, supplies running out, doctors near exhaustion.

But terrorists who use schools and hospitals as launching pads for attacks should not complain when the bombs hit the targets they have created. No one likes to see children die, but so-called leaders who use their children as pawns and train them to kill should not expect sympathy when the lives they risk so carelessly are then lost.

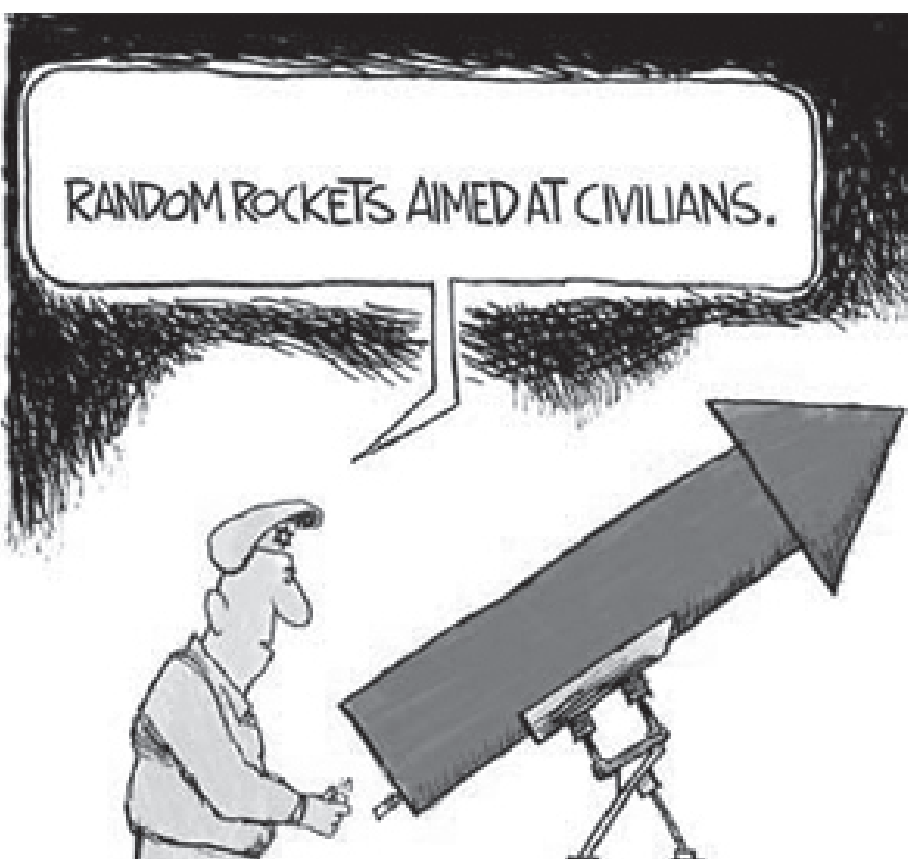
If I knew the answer, I would tell you. I don't. But I know what isn't the answer. It is not the answer to sit back and let the rockets rain down. It is not the answer to let terrorists attack you and not fight back.

We will not go back to the ovens. Israel was the answer to the ovens, and if Israel is your enemy, so am I.

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SUSAN
ESTRICH



To battle stations, conservatives

The best long-term solutions for our ailing economy are to restore market forces in every possible sector, reduce the crippling tax burden, and restore responsible fiscal practices to the federal government. Sadly, the incoming Obama administration plans on moving in the opposite direction in all these areas and believes it has a mandate to do so. Are conservatives asleep or just worn down?

Too many Americans have succumbed to the propaganda that the market is inherently evil and fraught with excesses fueled by "capitalistic greed" and that such systemic corruption has led to our economic woes. Only large-scale government intervention can rescue us from this pernicious system.

Under Democratic and Republican administrations alike, we have advanced ever more rapidly away from a free market environment and toward a command and control economy. Steadily we have accepted the notion that politicians should pick winners and losers based on their ideas of fairness rather than having market forces be the ultimate arbiter.

We have swallowed the fear-mongering admonitions of public officials who insist that even apart from the moral question of picking winners and losers, our government must bail out "essential" segments of the economy, such as the automobile industry, lest the entire economy be doomed for extinction. Indeed, this word "essential" has proved to be an essential tool for the left in these difficult times.

True conservatives out there — however many remain — must not forget the ominous

words of Obama's chief of staff, Rahm Emanuel, who said: "Rule one: Never allow a crisis to go to waste. They are opportunities to do big things."

Perhaps this statement was not as sexy for sound bite purposes as Obama's cavalier remark to Joe the Plumber that we need to spread the wealth around a little bit. But it is even more revealing.

Sure, much has been stated about Emanuel's comment, but not nearly enough. For in all the media-generated excitement over Obama's pecs and the faux conservative approval of Obama's "moderate" appointments, it appears we have failed to grasp the significance of this revelation.

If we'd take a breath and view this soberly, we'd see that Emanuel's remark is evidence that liberals are now coming out of the closet. They'll no doubt still eschew the liberal label, but they'll unapologetically embrace liberal policies in a way they wouldn't have before.

Emanuel — on Obama's behalf, by the way — might as well have stated: "We liberals are not the least bit concerned about the economy, not because it isn't every bit as bad as you've heard, but precisely because we believe it is."

You see, we finally have a chance to implement our ideas on a grand scale. We've helped brew the perfect storm by imposing policies that largely led to the mortgage meltdown and scapegoating corporations for them, thereby demonizing and discrediting the free market to the point that full-blown government solutions are now plausible rather than political suicide. We are not sorry for our current predicament, but elated about it. In our view, the ends always justify the means, so what's a little widespread economic hardship en route to our grand vision for an America where we are in power and we get to pick

winners and losers? And by the way, all that stuff we said about the growing deficits and national debt under Republican administrations was important, but not in the way you think. It was important for us to get elected, but now that we have been, we can be honest and tell you that a growing debt is just another necessary means to the end of expanding government power. We are giddy about the reported \$1 trillion deficit because it gives us a license for more of the same — and then some. Next stop, nationalized health care."

I respectfully suggest that those sanguine "conservatives" who believe Obama's "moderate" appointments are cause for comfort are fooling themselves. You'll see how relatively irrelevant some of these appointments are when Obama presses forward with his "stimulus package" (an enormous set of earmarks that are being sold under cover of eliminating earmarks), redistributes wealth under the guise of tax cuts, and signs America on to a sovereignty- and economy-destroying cap and trade program in homage to the global warming myth.

But as egregious as those policies are, they'll pale next to his push for socialized medicine, which, if realized, could irreversibly change the American economy, not to mention destroy the quality of health care.

Boy, is it ever time for the loyal opposition to rear its head. The way things are going, Obama's agenda will be nearing the end zone before the defense suits up for the game.

Now is the time for all good conservatives to quit trying to be loved by the liberal media and come to the aid of their country.

David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. To find out more about him, please visit his Web site at www.davidlimbaugh.com.

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Bird Poop: An unhappy Northern flicker

Having seen one just the day before, we were relieved that the bird had been taken inside and kept warm and quiet. Knowing that specie was often seen during the winter months, we had long admired its undulating flight and ravenous appetite.

By the time we reached the couple's home in Midland, the mother had come to realize her son was not at fault.



BEBE McCASLAND

From the time he had come running into the house, she had thought he might have disobeyed her warnings to stay out of the alley.

With a neighborhood teenage boy practicing his driving skills by zooming through easements, she was afraid the younger children were in danger from this unlicensed menace. Her directions had been specific. "You are not to go in that easement unless you're putting trash in the dumpster. You are to look both ways to make sure that kid isn't coming from either direction." Over and over she had warned the boy of what could happen.

When her son had bolted inside, screaming "Mom!", she had decided that wasn't the "Mom" that meant he had no clean socks. His yell was the "Mom" that announced a major problem.

"Come look at the bird," he said insistently. Puzzled, she followed him through the back gate.

Larger than a robin was a colorful bird lying in the dry grass. Eyes closed, it was still breathing. Its gray face was accented by a soft, brown crown. On each gray cheek was a prominent red marking that went from the back of its long bill downward under the eye. From above, its back and wings were a soft brown barred with black. Beside the bird lay the trash bag her son had forgotten.

Sliding her hand beneath the bird, the mother gently raised it and turned it slightly in her hand. She and her son were astounded by the numerous round, black spots decorating its light tan sides, lower breast, and belly. At the top of the breast was a large, black crescent.

After making sure the easement was clear, she asked her son to place the trash in the dumpster. Together, they walked back to the house with their new discovery.

Upon arriving at the family's home, we were glad to hear sounds coming from

a cardboard box. Carefully reaching inside, I could feel the bird scurrying away from my hand. After capturing it, I raised it from the enclosure. The Northern flicker was unhappy.

Struggling against my grasp, it resented my examining it for injuries. Once upside down with a towel over its head, it calmed enough for me to extend each wing. To the family's surprise, the underlining of the wings and tail were a salmon-red hue. They had rescued a red-shafted flicker.

With its wings still extended, we turned it enough for them to see the bird's white rump that is usually seen in flight. The upper surface of its tail was black. When the mother tried to describe the flicker by repeating, "It's....., It's.....," I could only finish her effort by saying, "Handsome."

Having migrated possibly from as far away as Canada or the northern states, this woodpecker may have been hunting for ants and small insects while in the alley. Known to feed on the ground, it would also scour mesquites and oaks in a quest for food. In addition, the fruit of hackberry trees and red cedar were acceptable. Our brief cold fronts, interspersed with warm weather, were conducive to numerous insects emerging to whet the bird's appetite.

Telling the mother we had seen a red-shafted flicker the previous morning, we described the bird's efforts in scratching away leaves in locating ant nests. With its long bill digging into the dirt, the flicker had explored several areas before hesitating with its beak in the ground. It was capable of using its long, sticky tongue to extract the young ants and eggs.

In spite of what had caused the flicker to be found, we felt a trip to the wildlife center in Lubbock a necessary caution. With no hairline fractures, the bird would be allowed to fly and interact in the aviary. As-

sured of its health and recovery, the volunteers could plan for its release in our area.

Once again, the woodpecker would be free to flick aside the debris left by summer foliage. The bird's characteristic hops, followed by running a few steps, then stopping, would indicate a newly found resource under a carpet of the crisp leaves and withered grasses of another season.

Bebe McCasland is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.

Courtesy photo

When gliding upward to land in a tree, the red-shafted flickers resemble other woodpeckers as their feet grip the trunk. With their tails used as a prop, they can search for hidden larvae under the bark.



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Chatter Box

"Somewhere out in this audience may even be someone who will one day follow in my footsteps, and preside over the White House as the president's spouse. I wish *him* well."
Barbara Bush, on thinkexist.com

KID NEWS

Wacky Facts

- ★ The first U.S. president to live in the White House was John Adams. It has been the home of every president except George Washington.
 - ★ Grover Cleveland is the only president to be married in the White House.
- World Almanac for Kids

A DRIVING FORCE

Chatting with GM's VP for design

By JAIR MASSIE
TimeForKids.com

Edward T. Welburn, the vice president of global design at General Motors, has spent 35 years creating cars. He says he has been "crazy about cars" since he was a kid. These days, he's charged up about electric cars.

"The Chevrolet Volt is the most significant car GM has done in the last 50 years," he says.

Time For Kids kid reporter Jair Massie talked to Welburn about his exciting career in the automobile industry.

TFK: When you were 11 years old, you wrote to GM asking what you needed to do in order to be successful in the automotive industry. What caused you to write that letter?

WELBURN: I've always been very interested in automobiles and automobile design. At that age, I was reading a lot of car magazines. I learned about General Motors' designs and decided that was the company I needed to contact for more information.

TFK: What or who was your driving force to work in the automotive profession?

WELBURN: My parents. My father owned a shop that repaired cars, so I was around automobiles a great deal. My father was also an inventor. I think that influenced me from a creative perspective. In addition, my mother's interest in education played a role. My parents have always been great supporters.

TFK: Describe your climb up the corporate ladder at GM.

WELBURN: It's been great fun but hard work as well. I received an internship at General Motors when I was still a student at Howard University. And my entire career has been in design and I've been involved in the development of designs for virtually all of our brands.

TFK: Did you face many obstacles as a man of color at GM?

WELBURN: I felt like I was very well accepted. I didn't realize at the time that I was the first African American to design cars for General Motors. It wasn't something that I focused on. I just focused on designing cars.

TFK: What did you enjoy doing as a kid? What are your hobbies now?

WELBURN: I enjoyed sports and art. I just loved art. I was drawing all the time. I used to build model cars. I had a huge collection of approximately 100 model cars. Currently, I like to paint large, abstract paintings. And I love music.

TFK: How will the Chevy Volt help the company's current financial crisis?

WELBURN: I believe the Chevrolet Volt is the most significant car General Motors has done in the last 50 years. It may be the most significant car the industry has created. It will be in production before the end of 2010. Once it is in production, it is our vision that there will be other vehicles that share that same technology.

TFK: Is it the responsibility of this generation's car companies to develop vehicles that are more fuel efficient and ecologically friendly?

WELBURN: It is extremely important. Just a few years ago, we began a real shift within this company towards the development of more fuel-efficient cars and crossover vehicles. The majority of the new cars that we've brought to market in the past couple of years have been fuel-efficient cars and crossovers. We will continue this trend. It is of the highest priority.

TFK: Is there anything else you would like to share with the Time For Kids readers?

WELBURN: No matter what your interest is, you should pursue it. You should spend time with people who are in that field, learn from those people, ask questions and contact them one way or another. For me, it was just a simple letter that I wrote to General Motors at the age of 11.

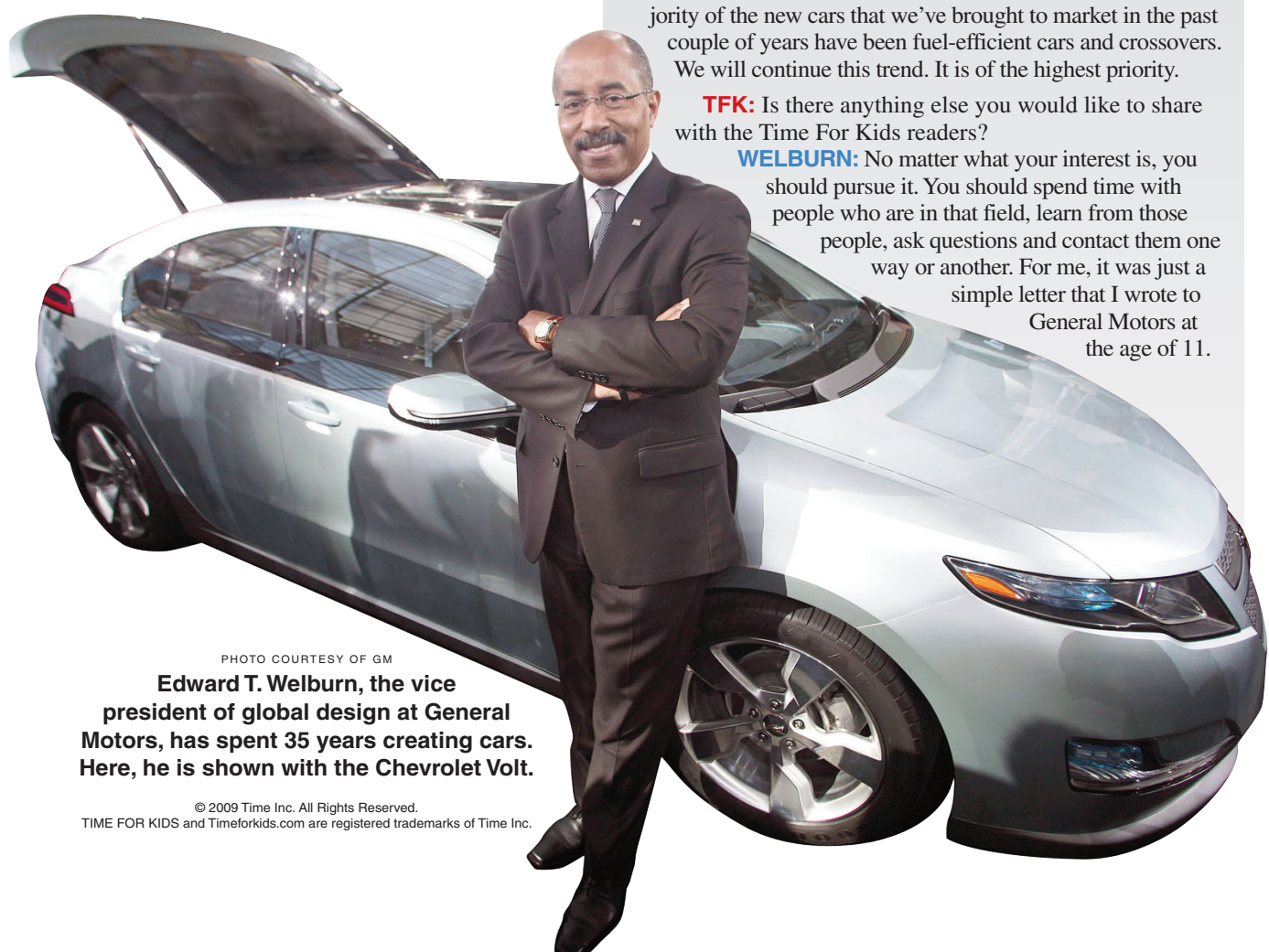


PHOTO COURTESY OF GM

Edward T. Welburn, the vice president of global design at General Motors, has spent 35 years creating cars. Here, he is shown with the Chevrolet Volt.

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INAUGURAL WORD SEARCH

See if you can find these words related to Inauguration Day.

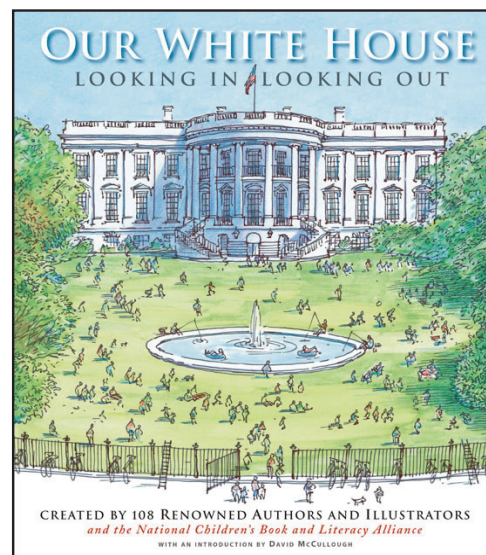
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MARTY WESTMAN/MCT

Reading Rack



A book with White House appeal

In preparation for Barack Obama's inauguration, "Our White House: Looking In, Looking Out" (\$30, Candlewick Press) earns our vote for best all-around family reading. More than 100 big-name authors and illustrators interpret life, often with a personal twist, inside 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. The alternately poignant, spooky, and comic entries, most a page or two long, are nicely bite-sized for bedtime reading. Among the standouts: Jane Yolen's imagined conversation, in tight verse, between John and Abigail Adams; Natalie Babbitt's wry musings on the seven presidents from Ohio; and Caldecott winner David Small's moody "Backstairs at the White House" sketch journal. Ages 8 and up.

— Alicia Potter, FamilyFun magazine

Help!

Feeling out of sorts about sports

DEAR AMERICAN GIRL: I love to play sports, but after each game, my mom tells me everything I did wrong. I've told her I don't like it, but it keeps happening. Can you help? — Sports Problems

DEAR AMERICAN GIRL: When I get home from school, I am all alone. My parents don't know, but I feel depressed. Should I tell my parents? — Depressed One

■ Right after a game, you're probably hot, tired and — if you lost — a little grumpy. It's not the best time for your mom to critique your game, because you won't be able to focus on what she's saying. Ask Mom to pick a better time to give her input, like at practice or after you've had a chance to cool down and think about your game yourself. No matter what, don't let it take away the fun you get from playing.

★ **American Girl™**

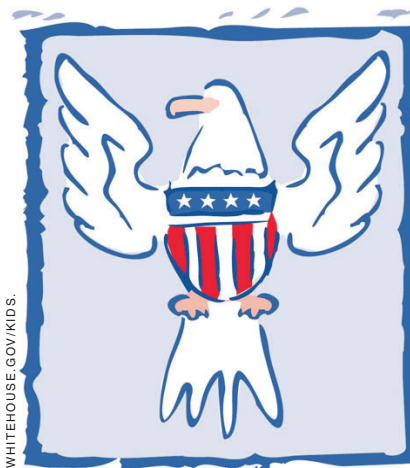


■ Definitely tell your parents how you feel. Talk with them about ways you could fix the problem. What about joining an after-school club, or getting involved in a sport? Is there a friend nearby who you could visit, or someone you can call when you feel lonely? Work with your parents to come up with a plan you all like. Whatever you do, don't keep your feelings to yourself.

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Surfin'

Learn about government



Want to know more about the inauguration and what the people in government do? Check out www.whitehouse.gov/kids. It has games, trivia and easy-to-use guides to help you understand how our government works and what the people in office do. You can look at photos of important events in the White House, discover fun things to attend or learn information on past presidents. You can even download My American Journal, a page where you can write about your interests, hobbies and hopes and dreams for the country.

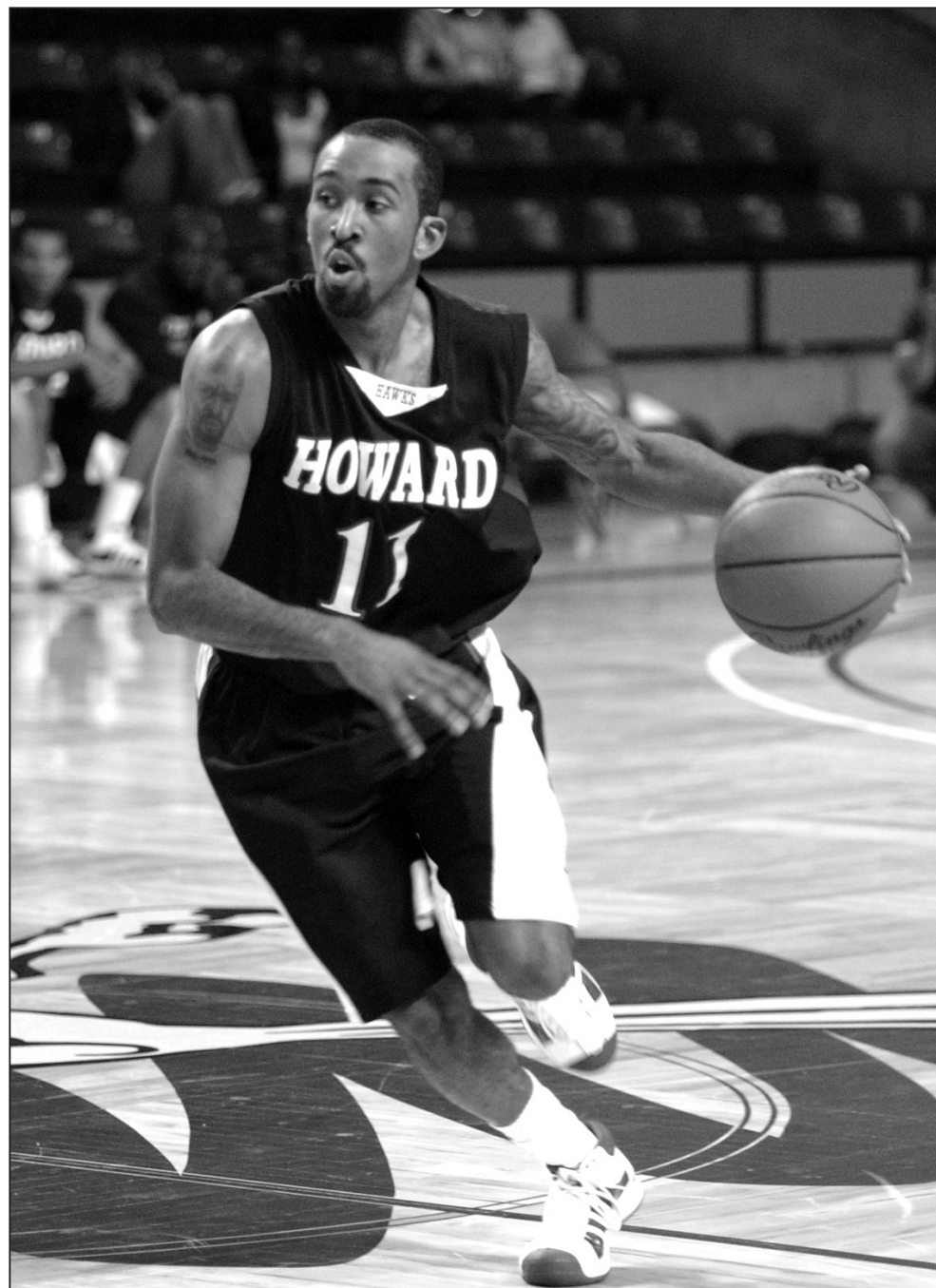
— Neall Raemonn Price, MCT

Hawk women rout WTC, men come up short



HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull

Howard College guard Chassidy Cole dribbles past a defender in action from earlier this season in Midland. Cole scored 13 points Monday night, helping lead the Hawk women past Western Texas College, 71-39.



HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull

Howard College guard Devon Baker takes the ball up the court in action from earlier this season in Midland. The Hawks dropped their second consecutive WJAC game Monday, losing to Western Texas, 53-49.

HC women too quick for WTC

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

Howard College's women's basketball team found scoring hard for the first four minutes of Monday's Western Junior College Athletic Conference game against visiting Western Texas College at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

However, for the final 36 minutes of the contest, scoring simply wasn't a problem as the Hawks routed the Lady Westerners, 71-39.

Howard found itself down 5-3 with 16 minutes to play, but embarked on a 16-0 run that ended at the 12:34 mark and placed the Hawks up 19-5. From there, everything simply snowballed on WTC.

"We got off to a slow start, but I thought we did a great job of calming down and coming up with some big steals on defense," said Howard Head Coach Earl Diddle. "Western has some great 3-point shooters and we really kept the ball out of their hands, not giving them many opportunities. I'm very satisfied with the effort from these girls tonight. They played a very good defensive game."

Howard was led by Patricia Malouff's 16 points, while Chassidy Cole and Miesha Blackshear each scored 13 apiece.

The Hawks' defensive pressure kept WTC at bay throughout the night. Howard forced the Lady Westerners into 26 turnovers, which turned into 26 points for the Hawks. Meanwhile, Howard had just 10 mishaps with the ball.

The win improves the Hawks' record to 17-3 overall and 2-2 in the

WJAC. It places Howard in a tie with Odessa College for fourth in the conference. That's a tie that will be broken Thursday.

Howard travels to face OC at 5:30 p.m. Thursday. Odessa is coming off a 97-59 victory over Frank Phillips Monday.

Howard dominated Odessa earlier this season in the WJAC Pre-Conference Tournament in Midland.

"That last game got pretty ugly with Odessa," noted Diddle. "We picked up a couple of technical fouls in it, but we beat them pretty handily. We can't go into Odessa Thursday expecting we can just do it all over again. They'll be tough."

WTC (39)

Randa Clabaugh 3-13 5-6 12, April Christie 1-5 0-0 3, Bailey Guthrie 1-6 0-0 2, Mahogany Terry 5-7 0-3 10, Katarina Powdrill 1-5 0-4 2, Katrice Price 0-5 1-3 1, Denetria Yazzie 1-5 0-0 3, Shirelle Givens 1-1 0-1 2, Alexis Rice 2-4 0-0 4. Totals 15-53 6-17 39.

HC (71)

Miesha Blackshear 4-10 5-74 13, Patricia Malouff 7-18 0-0 16, Chassidy Cole 4-7 3-6 13, Rachael Dryver 3-7 1-3 7, DeAndra Thomas 3-7 0-0 6, Tamara Wallace 3-9 0-0 8, NaTalia Smith 0-4 1-2 1, Danielle Cota 1-2 0-0 2, Valerie Wood 0-1 0-0 0, Clarissa Krum 2-8 0-0 5. Totals 27-73 10-18 71.

3-point goals: WTC 3-10 (Clabaugh 1-3, Yazzie 1-3, Christie 1-3), HC 7-23 (Wallace 2-5, Malouff 2-8, Cole 2-4). Rebounds: WTC 46 (Christie 8), HC 49 (Dryver 8). Assists: WTC 9 (Christie 4), HC 15 (Blackshear 3). Total fouls: WTC 17, HC 19. Fouled out: None.

Hawks in hole with close loss

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

It might be early in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference part of the schedule for Howard College's men's basketball team, but it already finds itself with a hole to dig out of.

The Hawks dropped to 1-3 in the conference after falling to Western Texas College, 53-49, Monday at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Howard led most of the game after opening with a 9-0 run, courtesy of three consecutive 3-point buckets by Markeys Deans, Denzel Barnes and Ricardo Zanini, placing the Hawks ahead 9-2 with 18 minutes to play in the first half.

The Hawks scrapped their way to a 26-21 lead and held onto a slim margin until the final minutes of the game.

In his first game as an opposing coach at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, Western Texas' head man Jason Sautter appeared to know what the Hawks were going to do offensively before they did it.

Howard made some critical turnovers down the stretch and the shots for the Westerners started to fall. WTC took the lead for good with 2:30 to play, courtesy of a 3-point shot by Trevor Charles.

The Westerners led by 3 with less than a minute to play, but Howard's Denzel Barnes was able to cut the deficit to 1 with two free throws after being fouled on his way to the hoop. Howard was force to foul WTC in return and Charles hit his two charity shots with 25 seconds left in regulation.

Barnes had a 3-point attempt, but couldn't connect and Markeys Deans puts back didn't fall through, giving Western the win.

Charles led Western Texas with 16 points, while Wayne Turner added nine and Charles' brother Trevor hit for eight.

Barnes led all scorers with 16, but struggled to consistently penetrate the lane due to solid defense by the Westerners.

Markeys Deans added 12 and had several key rebounds.

Deans' efforts on defense allowed Howard to hold off Western Texas as long as it did.

Howard won't have an easy time digging out of its hole at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, when the Hawks travel to face No. 10 Odessa College (15-1, 4-1). OC is coming off a 77-75 victory over Frank Phillips College Monday.

WTC (53)

Edis Dervisevic 2 0-3 4, Wayne Turner 4 1-2 9, Trevor Charles 2 4-7 8, Trevor Charles 5 3-4 15, Brandon Jones 0 1-2 1, Devon Curry 2 0-0 6, Will Marquis 1 0-0 2, Rony Tucker 2 0-0 4, Marquis Smith 1 2-2 4. Totals 19 11-20 53.

HC (49)

Devon Baker 3 0-1 7, Denzel Barnes 6 2-2 16, Ricardo Zanini 1 2-2 5, Markeys Deans 4 3-6 12, Vladimir Gavranic 1 1-3 3, Dante Menter 1 0-0 2, Shaad O'Garro 1 0-0 2, Joshua Watkins 0 2-4 2. Totals 17 10-18 49.

Halftime: HC 26, WTC 21. 3-point goals: WTC 4 (Tre. Charles 2, Curry 2), HC 5 (Barnes 2). Total fouls: WTC 21, HC 19. Fouled out: None.

Sports in brief

BSCGA and City of Big Spring hosting Kids Zone golf tourney

The Big Spring Chicano Golf Association and City of Big Spring are hosting a golf tournament in hopes of raising funds to rebuild Kids Zone.

The tourney is set for Saturday with an 11 a.m. shotgun start at the Comanche Trail Park golf course.

It is in a four-man scramble format and players can pick their own team.

The fee is \$100 per team not including a cart. Food will also be available to buy.

All money will go to a fund for helping rebuild Kids Zone, a portion of which was burned in December.

Plaques will be awarded to teams finishing first through fourth place.

Howard College women's basketball hosting Hawks Buddies

The final day of Hawks Buddies, a girls basketball program put on by the Howard College women's basketball team, is set to take place at 9 a.m. Saturday at Dorothy Garratee Coliseum with a pizza party to follow at 11 a.m.

New members are still welcome to sign up for Hawk Buddies and can do so for a late registration fee of \$15.

The program is for girls in kindergarten through eighth grade. Early registration takes place at 8:30 a.m.

For more information, call the Howard College athletic office at 264-5040 and ask for Jamie Fisher or Earl Diddle.

Lady Steers softball team raising funds at Pizza Inn

The Big Spring Lady Steers softball team will be having a fundraiser Thursday, Jan. 22, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Pizza Inn.

The Lady Steers will be helping with service and a portion of Pizza Inn's profits during that time will go to the team.

Coahoma softball alumni needed for annual game

The 7th Annual Coahoma Softball Alumni Game has been scheduled for 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14, and will be played at the Coahoma High School field. Any former player interested in participating should call Amy Dunn at 263-2228 or 394-4323.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The start may be a little rough with Mercury up to a few small tricks of the spilled coffee or traffic jam variety, and the void-of-course moon casting a general nonchalance over the morning. And though it takes longer than usual to throw off the mental fog, progress can and will happen as the Virgo Moon takes an industrious hand in the action.



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ARIES (March 21-April 19). Embrace the souls who support your individualism. They will help you reach for the stars. They might not understand the particular constellation you're going for, but they will root for you nonetheless.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). An experience, which is possibly paranormal, comes to you out of the clear blue. To learn its meaning, consult a maternal figure. There is nothing to fear. Soon the extraordinary will be very ordinary indeed to you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). With your culinary flair you can do much more than host fantastic parties. You bring together new flavors never before experienced. Consider starting a catering business, working as a chef or selling your products at retail level.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Explore all options before deciding to raise the white flag. Remind all parties involved that success will be universally beneficial when it is mutually assured. You give your all.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your peers have you pegged as sweet and kind — and perhaps even a bit of a pushover. Well, enough is enough. Hold nothing back when you throw your conviction fit. This kitty has claws!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You are set apart from the crowd today when animals and people are drawn especially to you, very deliberately. It may feel mystical. This is a sort of iwinki orchestrated by the divine. Wink back!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You must clear away a problem you had no hand in creating. Your boundless energy matches the chore. Spending it this way is not ideal, but look on the bright side — at least you are not responsible for creating the problem.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). This is going to be one of those days giggling pops up in seemingly inappropriate places. While this cutting up may seem out of line to those somber souls you encounter, you gain a story you will long enjoy sharing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Feel most assured that your past has indeed prepared you to meet the moment presented to you now. Step up to the plate. You are already a paladin. Let the rest of the world in on it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Do not seek a sense of validation for your trials. This acknowledgment, in someone else's mind, might correlate with guilt, something this person cannot claim. Positive, helpful reading will allow you to let this go.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're a people person, there's no doubt about it. Look closely at family and friends. Embrace those who support your plan for reaching your full potential. Prize their loyalty and help and return the same.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Stand up and be counted. You backbone is strong and your will significant. The obstacle you face is not insurmountable. Follow your forefathers' or foremothers' groundbreaking example. Be heard.



(AP Photo/AI Behrman)

Staff Sgt. Gabe Brown poses next to a mannequin that depicts him in the Battle of Takur Ghar in a display on the Iraq Afghanistan at the the U.S. Air Force Museum, Monday, Jan. 12, 2009, in Dayton, Ohio. The display opens to the public Tuesday.

US museums find depicting the current wars a challenge

By JAMES HANNAH
Associated Press Writer
DAYTON, Ohio (AP) —

When the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force began looking at ways to depict the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, big obstacles loomed.

Certain missions remain classified and some equipment — such as night-vision goggles — was unavailable for display, because it was still being used by troops or might be if they are redeployed.

"We don't want to take things away from the warfighter," said Jeff Duford, a museum historian. "It was pretty challenging."

The museum's struggle underscores the difficulty facing other institutions trying to depict the wars while the conflicts are still under way.

The Air Force museum decided to focus an exhibit opening Tuesday on the experiences of the wars' airmen. It features more than 400 artifacts, 18 fully equipped soldier mannequins, a robot demonstrating how it inspects roadside bombs and a Sikorsky special operations helicopter used to covertly enter enemy territory.

Since the history of the wars has yet to be fully written, the museum honed in on the individual Americans

fighting the wars, using artifacts to tell their stories, Duford said.

"The way that people act — the heroism and sacrifice that people have — that really transcends time," he said.

Other museums have faced similar constraints.

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum in Madison plans to open an exhibit this spring portraying the role of Wisconsin soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan. Museum officials interviewed soldiers and collected uniforms, helmets, boots and other items.

But Jeff Kollath, curator of programs and exhibitions, said the Pentagon has become more restrictive about what soldiers can bring home since the Vietnam War, making it more difficult to obtain artifacts that tell important individual stories.

Kollath also said many soldiers who served in Iraq and Afghanistan are in the National Guard and Reserve and return to their civilian lives after deployment, leaving many stories untold.

"They're not spending a lot of time thinking about their place in history," he said.

In 2006, the National Museum of the Marine

Corps in Triangle, Virginia, opened a temporary exhibit that included photographs and artifacts from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Spokeswoman Gwenn Adams said it took a little longer to catalog the artifacts and prepare them for display because of the ongoing nature of the wars.

"And keeping it current," she said. "The challenge is to keep those photographs updated."

Tim Clarke, spokesman for the National Museum of Health and Medicine in Washington, D.C., said the museum had to avoid interfering with military operations while collecting artifacts on military medical care in Iraq.

Last month, the museum opened an exhibit depicting a former Air Force tent hospital in Balad, Iraq. The museum stepped in after learning that the hospital's emergency room and trauma bay, where the most seriously wounded soldiers were taken, were to be demolished. Artifacts from the hospital were shipped to the museum in April.

Museum spokesman Tim Clarke said museum officials took the time to learn all they could about the wounded soldiers who

are depicted. Duford, of the Air Force museum, said his institution benefited from the generosity of the depicted airmen, who donated their artifacts to the museum unconditionally and permanently.

Among them is Ramon Colon-Lopez, who took part in search-and-rescue missions in Afghanistan and provided security to Afghan President Hamid Karzai.

Colon-Lopez, 37, donated a blanket he used to blend in with the Afghan population as well as a pink and purple stuffed Cheshire cat he took on his missions as a good-luck charm.

"I thought about it for awhile. But looking at preserving the history of what we've done, there couldn't be a better place," he said. "As far as the declassified aspect of things, I think it does a great job of depicting what we have done so far. We're not done."

On the Net:
National Museum of the U.S. Air Force:
<http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil>

National Museum of the Marine Corps:
<http://www.usmcmuseum.org>

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The Spider

During Mark Twain's days as a newspaperman, he was the editor of a small Missouri paper.

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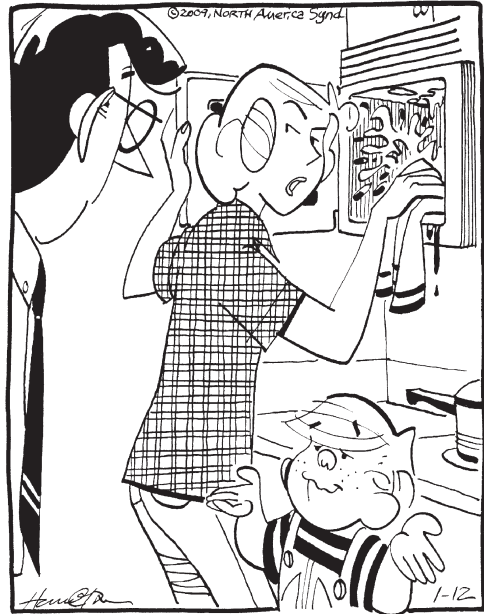
Twain replied, "Finding a spider in your paper is neither good nor bad luck. The spider was merely looking over our paper to see which merchant was not advertising so that he could go to that store, spin his web across the door and lead a life of undisturbed peace ever after."

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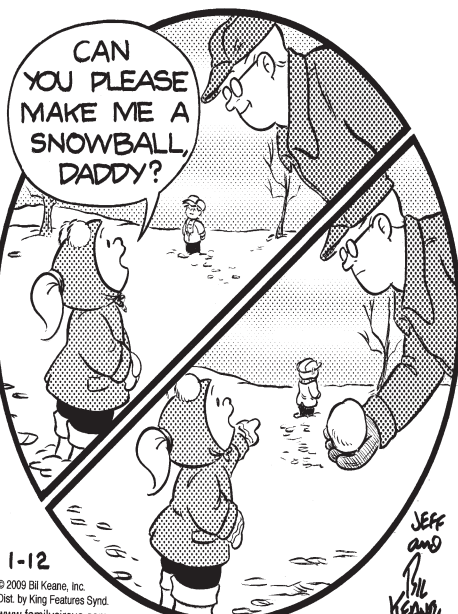
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5:PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Locura Noticiero	Lopez Lopez	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	Raymond Friends	CCM Granger	BBC Business	Cash Cab	Roberts	Movie: Star Wars VI: Return of the Jedi, Carrie Fisher	Bones Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Suite Life	Horn Interrupt	SportsCenter	
6:PM :30	News ABC	Jeopardy! Fortune	Tontas Cielo	Two Men Two Men	News CBS	12 Corazones	News NBC	Seinfeld Van Impe	Granger Hagee	News-Lehrer	Made		Movie: Resident Evil, Eric Mabius	Law & Order	Movie: Hair Show, Gina Torres	Montana Women's College Basketball	College Basketball		
7:PM :30	The Bachelor	The Bachelor	Cuidado-Angel	24	Big Bang How I Met	Doña Barbara Superstars of Dance	El Rostro de Analia	Fam. Guy	Israel Shohbat	Antiques Roadshow	Destroyed Destroyed	Movie: October Sky, Laura Dern	Law & Order	Law & Order	Top 25 Under 25	Wizards Life De	Super Bwl Super Bwl	College Basketball: Texas at Oklahoma.	
8:PM :30	Samantha True Beauty	Samantha True Beauty	Cristina	TMZ	CSI: Miami	Sin Senos El Cartel	Momma's Boys	Name	Israel Sala	Charlie Rose	Made	Movie: The Hi-Lo Country, Patricia Arquette	MAN	The Closer	Hatchett	Suite Life	Super Bwl	SportsCenter	
9:PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Impacto Noticiero	Raymond King-Hill	News CBS	Noticias	News NBC	Seinfeld Sex &	Israel Sala	Charlie Rose	Made	MAN	Without a Trace	Movie: Hair Show, Gina Torres	So Raven	NFL Films	NFL Live		
10:PM :30	Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live	Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live	La Hora de la Risa	Law Order: CI	Late Late Show	Decisiones de	Late Night	Movie: Shanghai Knights	Mark	Smiley Smiley (Off Air)	Man vs. Wild	Disorderly Con.	Without a Trace	Without a Trace	Replace Kim	NFL's Greatest Game	Fastbreak	SportsCenter	
11:PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Clasicos Humor	TMZ	Pelicula:			(45) Movie:											

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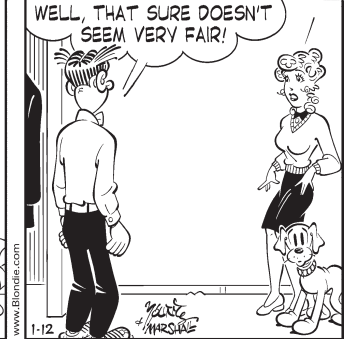
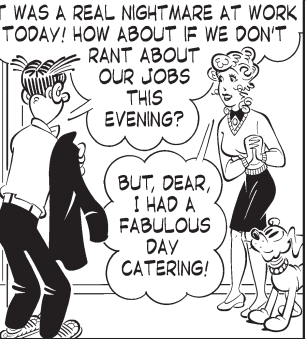


"Now hit Billy with it!"

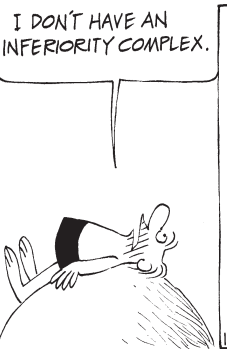
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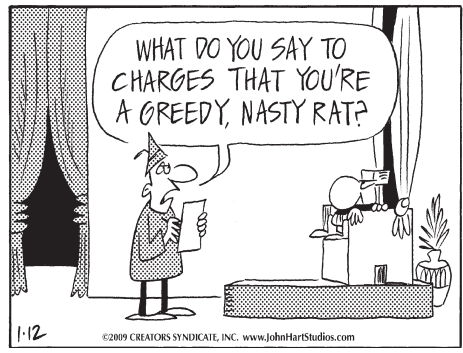
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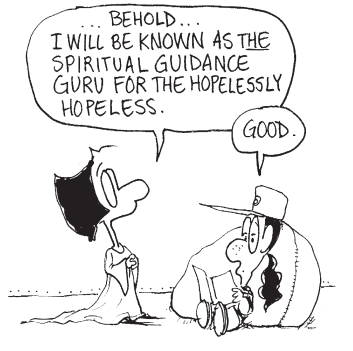
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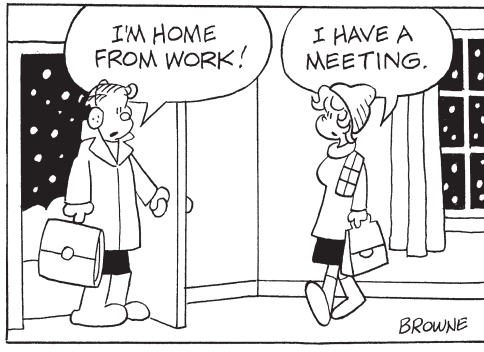
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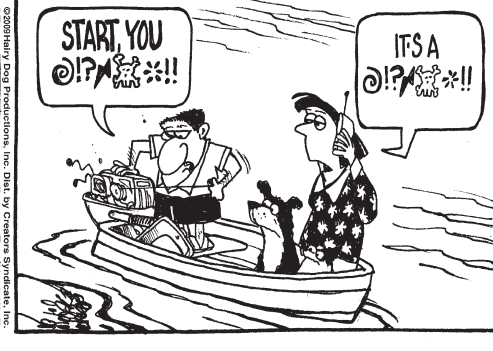
AGNES



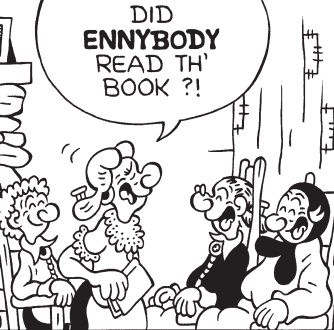
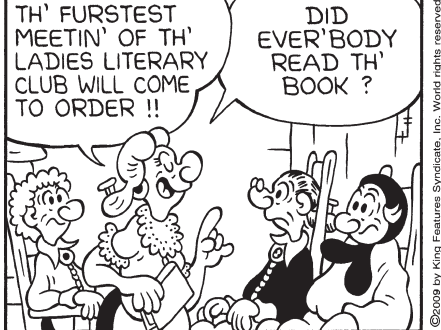
HI AND LOIS



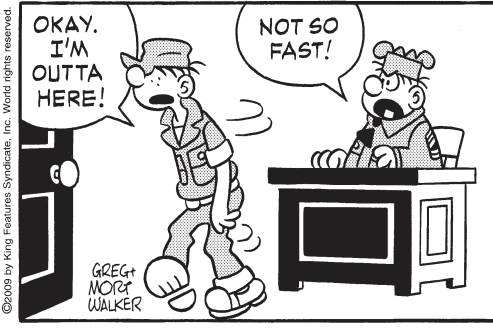
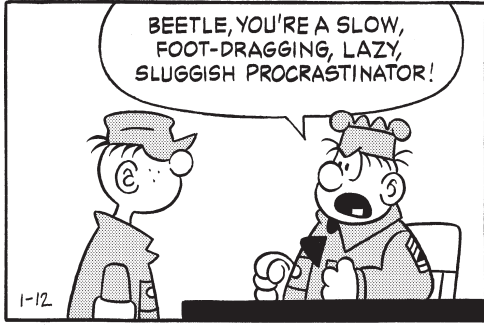
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Monday, Jan. 12, the 12th day of 2009. There are 353 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
Fifty years ago, on Jan. 12, 1959, Berry Gordy Jr. founded Motown Records (originally called Tamla Records) in Detroit.

On this date:
In 1519, Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian I died.
In 1773, the first public museum in America was organized, in Charleston, S.C.
In 1915, the U.S. House of Representatives rejected a proposal to give women the right to vote.
In 1932, Hattie W. Caraway became the first woman elected to the U.S. Senate, after serving out the remainder of the term of her late husband, Thaddeus.
In 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt re-established the National War Labor Board.
In 1948, the Supreme Court ruled that state law schools

could not discriminate against applicants on the basis of race.
In 1966, President Lyndon B. Johnson said in his State of the Union address that the U.S. should stay in South Vietnam until communist aggression there was ended.
In 1969, the New York Jets of the American Football League upset the Baltimore Colts of the National Football League 16-7 in Super Bowl III, played at the Orange Bowl in Miami.
In 1976, mystery writer Dame Agatha Christie died in Wallingford, England, at age 85.
In 1986, the shuttle Columbia blasted off with a crew that included the first Hispanic-American in space, Franklin R. Chang-Diaz.
Today's Birthdays: Actress Luise Rainer is 99. Country singer Ray Price is 83. Singer Glenn Yarborough is 79. The Amazing Kreskin is 74. Country singer William Lee Golden (The Oak Ridge Boys) is 70. Former heavyweight boxing champion Joe Frazier is 65. Rock musician Cynthia Robinson (Sly and the Family Stone) is 65. Singer-musician George Duke is 63. Actor Anthony Andrews is 61. Movie

director Wayne Wang is 60. Radio commentator Rush Limbaugh is 58. Actress Kirstie Alley is 58. Writer Walter Mosley is 57. Country singer Ricky Van Shelton is 57. Radio personality Howard Stern is 55. Rock musician Tom Ardolino (NRBQ) is 52. Writer-producer-director John Lasseter is 52. Broadcast journalist Christiane Amanpour is 51. Rock musician Charlie Gillingham (Counting Crows) is 49. Actor Oliver Platt is 49. Actor Olivier Martinez is 43. Rock singer Rob Zombie is 43. Rapper TBird (B-Rock and the Bizz) is 42. Model Vendela is 42. Actress Farrah Foke is 41. Actress Rachael Harris is 41.

Answer to previous puzzle

B	A	L	L	A	S	T	P	R	A	N	C	E	R							
E	L	E	A	N	O	R	R	E	M	O	R	S	E							
N	I	A	G	A	R	A														
H	A	N	S																	
U	S	E	S																	
R	E	S	E	T																
S	T	A	I	D																
S	T	E	P																	
D	I	R	E	C	T															
A	T	E																		
P	E	T	S																	
P	R	I	M	O																
L	A	R	A	M	I															
E	T	E	R	N	A	L														
D	E	S	T	I	N	E														

Newsday Crossword

ENVELOPE, PLEASE by Gail Grabowski
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 Sail supports
- 6 IRS-form experts
- 10 Flower part
- 14 Be ready for
- 15 Org. for those 50+
- 16 Bicycle wheel
- 17 State how much you'll pay
- 19 Harness strap
- 20 Potato bud
- 21 Genuine
- 22 Looked impolitely
- 24 Venetian-blind part
- 25 Plumlike fruit
- 26 Backwoodsy
- 29 Having an aroma
- 32 Ritzy residence
- 33 Little bit
- 34 High-five sound
- 36 Bird-feeder food
- 37 Midmorning time
- 38 ___ or less (approximately)
- 39 Family-history diagram
- 40 Potpie veggie
- 41 Deals well with change
- 43 Television production
- 45 Most urgent
- 46 Opponents
- 47 Be durable
- 48 Punctual
- 51 Wide belt
- 52 Bonnet or beret
- 55 BMW alternative
- 56 Complete

DOWN

- 1 Horse's hair
- 2 Out of the office
- 3 Identical
- 4 Suit accessory
- 5 Like a bright evening sky
- 6 Jeweler's weight
- 7 Bucket
- 8 Rainbow shape
- 9 Took part in a school bee
- 10 Wise to urban ways
- 11 Wedding-cake layer
- 12 One of the Great Lakes
- 13 Repair, as a tear
- 18 Treaty topic
- 23 Very long time
- 24 Temporary mood
- 25 Read over quickly
- 26 Take a breather
- 27 Take by force
- 28 Do the driving
- 29 Water vapor
- 30 Marry
- 31 secretly
- 35 Annoying one
- 37 Herbal brews
- 40 Salty snack
- 41 "Add ___ of salt"
- 42 Kitchen-sink cloth
- 44 Republicans, for short
- 47 Coffee order
- 48 Aspirin target
- 49 Sneaky scheme
- 50 Aroma
- 51 Revolve
- 52 Very big
- 53 Allows to ripen, as cheese
- 54 You, Biblically
- 57 Wedding words
- 58 Be in debt

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