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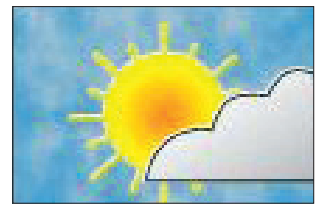
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THE BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY

JANUARY 20, 2009



VOLUME 104, NUMBER 42

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AP Photo/Jae C. Hong

Barack Obama, left, joined by his wife Michelle, takes the oath of office from Chief Justice John Roberts to become the 44th president of the United States at the U.S. Capitol in Washington Tuesday.

Obama takes office

'Hope over fear, unity of purpose over conflict and discord'

By TERENCE HUNT
Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON — Stepping into history, Barack Hussein Obama grasped the reins of power as America's first black president on Tuesday, saying the nation must choose "hope over fear, unity of purpose over conflict and discord" to overcome the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. In frigid temperatures, an exu-

**More coverage,
Pages 4-7A**

berant crowd of more than a million packed the National Mall and parade route to celebrate Obama's inauguration in a high-noon ceremony. They filled the National Mall, stretching from the inaugural platform at the U.S. Capitol to

the Lincoln Memorial in the distance. With 11 million Americans out of work and trillions of dollars lost in the stock market's tumble, Obama emphasized that his biggest challenge is to repair the tattered economy left behind by outgoing President George W. Bush. "Our time of standing pat, of

See **OBAMA**, Page 4A

'New hope'

Local residents optimistic about first black president

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

The local reaction to President Barack Obama's swearing in today was one of support and hope, as the first African American commander in chief prepares for his four-year tenure at the White House.

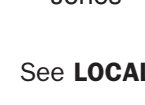
"It's something I honestly didn't think I would live to see," Cyn-eather Woodruff said firmly. "Earlier today I was singing 'We Shall Overcome,' and I thought to myself we need to change the words of the song to 'we have overcome.' It's a great thing and it couldn't have happened at a better time. I feel like it's something the Lord wants, and I think it's going to be for the better."



Woodruff

Local resident Hebrew Jones, who came to the Big Spring area more than 40 years ago after leaving the military, said the road ahead of Obama isn't an easy one.

"That means the world to me, to just see a black man become president," said Jones with an optimistic smile. "I've talked to my brother in



Jones

See **LOCAL**, Page 4A

Paying respects

Walk here honors legacy of Martin Luther King Jr.

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Just hours before the first African American president was sworn into office, Big Spring residents showed their respect for another great man, as the annual march in remembrance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was held locally.

Starting near the intersection of Gregg Street and Martin Luther King Blvd., moving down the street to FM 700, lo-

cal residents had many different reasons for attending, but one common theme seemed to prevail during the evening march: hope.

"This is just a token that we recognize that Dr. Martin Luther King was a great American," said local resident Charles Smallwood. "A man that was willing to sacrifice his life, put his life on the line and the life of his family,

See **MARCH**, Page 3A



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Local Deacon Johnny Arguello III and Municipal Judge Tim Green, left center, join other local residents for the annual march in memory of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. Monday night.

INDEX

Comics	7B
Classified	4-6B
Features	8A
Obituaries	2A
Obama	4-7A
Sports	1-3B

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AP photo/H. Rumph Jr.

Dallas Mavericks' Dirk Nowitzki celebrates after scoring the winning basket against the Philadelphia 76ers in the fourth period of an NBA game Monday in Philadelphia. Dallas won 95-93.

Dirk lifts Mavericks at buzzer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Dirk Nowitzki came through when it mattered.

Despite missing 13 of his first 14 shots and 16 of 23 overall, the seven-foot forward hit a turnaround 17-foot jumper over Reggie Evans at the buzzer to give the Dallas Mavericks a 95-93 victory against Philadelphia, snapping the 76ers' season-high seven-game winning streak.

"I'm a shooter," Nowitzki said. "I always think the next one is going in."

Nowitzki received the inbounds pass with 4.3 seconds left and spun around the 6-foot-8 Evans to deliver the game-winning shot.

"It's easy to get it to him because he's seven feet," Kidd said of Nowitzki. "He's done it all year. He's an All-Star and an MVP and he enjoys these moments."

Nowitzki finished with 24 points, Jason Kidd had 22 points and 12 rebounds and Jason Terry added 20 for the Mavericks (24-17).

Philadelphia coach Tony DiLeo didn't second-guess his decision to put the smaller Evans on Nowitzki.

"Reggie had a good feel for him because he was guarding him for the last five minutes as we were making our comeback," DiLeo said. "Reggie is a physical guy who did push him out and contested the shot."

Lou Williams scored 25 points, while Andre Iguodala had 18 points and 12 rebounds for the 76ers (20-21), who are trying to climb above .500 for the first time since Nov. 23 when they were 7-6.

Andre Miller added 12 points for Philadelphia, whose four-game home winning streak ended.

"I was proud of the way we came back," Iguodala said. "I think we need to continue to have that hunger."

The 76ers have reason to be optimistic with the expected return of forward Elton Brand, who worked out on the court before the game. DiLeo said Brand, who dislocated his right shoulder Dec. 17 and has missed 16 consecutive games, most likely will play Saturday against the New York Knicks.

Dallas overcame an early deficit and was sparked by Kidd and Nowitzki. Kidd tied his season-high with six 3-pointers, while Nowitzki shook off a poor shooting performance from the field (7-of-23) by hitting all 10 of his free throws. Nowitzki is 44-for-45 from the free throw line over the last six games.

Kidd was 6-of-8 from 3-point territory.

"They're going to give me 3-point shots," Kidd said. "I haven't been making many, but I've been staying with it."

Dallas trailed 55-47 with 8:58 remaining in the third quarter, then went on a 19-4 run over six minutes. Kidd scored 11 points, including three 3-pointers, and Nowitzki had eight during the scoring spurt to give the Mavericks a 66-59 advantage.

Cards, Steelers have opposite histories

By **DAVE GOLDBERG**

AP Football Writer

Arizona and Pittsburgh will play a historic Super Bowl in Tampa in two weeks: a team with a history as bad as any in the NFL against one that will try to win a record sixth title.

Pittsburgh opens as a 6½-point favorite.

That's fine with the Cardinals, who have been laughingstocks forever and won all three playoff games as underdogs, including Sunday's 32-25 thump-

ing of the Philadelphia Eagles for the NFC title.

Arizona hasn't won a title since the NFL championship in 1947 and has had only 10 postseason games since meandering from Chicago to St. Louis and finally to the desert 21 seasons ago.

Still, it is impossible to write them off, mainly because of their 37-year-old quarterback, Kurt Warner, who owns two MVP awards and was the Super Bowl MVP with the Rams in 2000.

"I want to say Arizona Cardinals and Super Bowl in the same sentence," a jubilant Warner said. "The Arizona Cardinals in the Super Bowl. How about it?"

Then there is Larry Fitzgerald, who used to practice in the same facility as the Steelers when he played at Pitt. In just three games, he has emerged as the best receiver ever in the post-season — with 419 yards, he broke the great Jerry Rice's record with the

See **SUPER BOWL**, Page 3B



HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull

Howard's Tamara Wallace passes to a teammate in action from earlier this season in Midland. The Hawk women struggled Monday night at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, falling to Clarendon College on a buzzer-beating shot, 46-45.

Hawks upset

HC women sunk, 46-45, by Clarendon buzzer beater

By **JONATHAN HULL**

Sports Editor

In a league as competitive as the women's basketball Western Junior College Athletic Conference, a team must defend its home court, particularly against teams it's supposed to defeat.

Howard College's Hawks failed to do that Monday.

The Hawk women dropped a heartbreaker to Clarendon as the Lady Bulldogs' Kenisha McDade sank a floater as time expired, giving Clarendon the 46-45 upset victory.

Howard had just taken the lead, 45-44, with 4.5 seconds left, courtesy of two Rachael Dryver free throws. McDade took the inbounds pass and dribbled the length of the court. She pulled up just inside the free throw line and floated a prayer.

It was answered.

"You would think that if you can hold a team to 46 points, then your offense can muster enough to get a win, especially at home," said Howard Head Coach Earl Diddle. "Our ability to put the ball in the basket just wasn't there. This game gets hard to play when you aren't scoring. We did some good things. We came back and took the lead. We just missed a double team at the end and their girl made the shot."

The win is Clarendon's first in WJAC play. Howard slips to 3-3 in the league and is

See **HC**, Page 2B

Howard pounds Clarendon, 77-39

By **JONATHAN HULL**

Sports Editor

Howard College's men's basketball team seems to be really rolling now.

The Hawks (14-5, 3-3) blasted Clarendon College Monday, 77-39, winning their second consecutive Western Junior College Athletic Conference game.

It was the most lopsided conference win for the Hawks this season.

See **HAWKS**, Page 2B

WJAC Men's Standings

Team	Conference	Overall
Midland College	7-0	20-1
Odessa College	4-3	18-3
Western Texas	4-2	14-5
South Plains	4-2	16-2
New Mexico JC	4-2	16-4
Howard College	3-3	14-5
NMMI	1-5	6-14
Frank Phillips	0-5	10-9
Clarendon College	0-5	8-10

Monday's results: Howard 77, Clarendon 39; Midland 75, NMMI 47; New Mexico JC 79, Odessa 61; South Plains 90, Frank Phillips 81; Western Texas was open.

Thursday's games: South Plains at Howard, NMMI at Frank Phillips; Western Texas at Odessa, New Mexico JC at Clarendon.



HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull

Howard College guard Devon Baker shoots a three in action from earlier this season at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Baker sank three treys in the Hawks' 77-39 victory over Clarendon College Monday. Howard improved to 3-3 in WJAC play.

Obituaries

Robert S. Galbraith Jr.,



Services for Robert S. Galbraith Jr., 81, of Hideaway were held Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2009, at Christ Episcopal Church in Tyler with the Rev. Ted Welty officiating. Burial was in the Memory Gardens of the Valley in Santa Teresa, N.M., under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home.

Mr. Galbraith passed away Jan. 10, 2009, in Tyler.

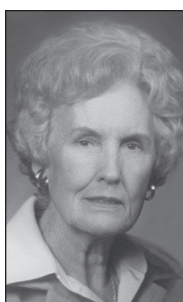
He was born Jan. 8, 1928, in Ballinger to Robert S. Galbraith Sr. and Claramaye Galbraith. He was a graduate of the University of Texas at El Paso where he was active in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. He was an active member of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity and was later honored as the Kappa Sigma Alumnae of the Year. Mr. Galbraith served his country in the United States Naval Reserves. He enjoyed a long career as manager of television stations in Big Spring, Monahans, Lubbock and El Paso. He was also a member of the Rotary Club and served on numerous charitable fundraisers over many years. Mr. Galbraith was a member of Christ Episcopal Church in Tyler.

In addition to his parents, Mr. Galbraith was preceded in death by his first wife, Carol Anne Galbraith. He is survived by a loving family, including his wife of nine years, Helen Galbraith; daughter, Gwendy Galbraith of Grapevine; son, Greg Galbraith of El Paso; step-daughter, Allison Taylor of Austin; step-son, Phillip Taylor of Ruston, La.; granddaughter, Kelsie Siporin of Grapevine; two step-grandsons, Gray Taylor and Ross Taylor of Ruston, La.; and sister, Mary Caroline Taitte of Romney, W. Va.

Memorials in honor of Robert S. Galbraith Jr. may be made to the Alzheimer's Alliance of Northeast Texas, 3613 S. Broadway, Tyler 75701.

Paid obituary

Madeline Atkins



Madeline Atkins, 99, of Big Spring, died Sunday, Jan. 18, 2009, in a local nursing home. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 23, 2009, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Ken McIntosh, pastor of first Christian Church, officiating.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

She was born Aug. 18, 1909, in Sherman and married Jasper W. Atkins April 15, 1930. He preceded her in death Nov. 1, 1998.

Madeline and her husband moved to Big Spring in 1949 and purchased Big Spring Hardware. They later established Big Spring Furniture. After her husband's death, she continued to run Big Spring Furniture as her art gallery and sold antiques and collectibles from that location until closing it when she was 93 years old.

She was a member of First Christian Church in Big Spring and taught Sunday school for a number of years.

She is survived by one son and daughter-in-law, Richard and Donna Atkins of Big Spring; one daughter and son-in-law, Joanne and Asa Jenkins of Anadarko, Okla.; seven grandchildren; two adopted grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by her parents and one grandson.

The family suggests memorials to First Christian Church, 911 Goliad, Big Spring 79720 or Home Hospice, 111 E. 7th, Suite A, Big Spring 79720.

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

Betty Jo Mims



Betty Jo Mims, 79, of Stanton, died Sunday, Jan. 18, 2009, at her residence. Funeral services will be held at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2009, at the Downtown Church of Christ in Stanton with Van Pendergrass officiating and grandson Jeff Wischkaemper assisting. Interment will follow at Evergreen

Stanton.

Betty was born Oct. 1, 1929, in Salt Gap, Texas, to Herbert H. and Ruth Deck and grew up in Concho County. She moved to Martin County with her parents when she was a senior in high school and graduated from Courtney High School in 1946.

Betty married Billy Mims on Feb. 18, 1948, in Lubbock. He preceded her in death May 9, 1998. She and her husband farmed in Martin County for 50 years before they retired. She was a member of Downtown Church of Christ and a member of the Martin County Home Demonstration Club.

Survivors include three daughters and sons-in-law, Dianna and Jay Wischkaemper of Lubbock, Judy and Carl Dean of Stanton and Jo and Alan Douglas of Midland; two grandsons; two granddaughters and one great-granddaughter.

The family suggests memorials be made to Martin County Senior Citizens, P.O. Box 1233, Stanton 79782 or Evergreen Cemetery, P.O. Box 1087, Stanton 79782 or to Downtown Church of Christ, P.O. Box 1067, Stanton 79782.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwwelch.com

Sue Kerr

Sue Kerr, 58, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2009, at her residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1200 block of Johnson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 2300 block of Grace. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 700 block of E. 13th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 900 block of S. Nolan. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 900 block of 14th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2000 block of Alabama. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2300 block of Roberts. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 400 block of S. Second Street in Coahoma. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1300 block of Princeton. 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 1700 block of Purdue. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **STRUCTURE FIRE** was reported in the 1300 block of Madison.
- **TRASH FIRE** was reported in the 4100 block of E. FM 700.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of W. 17th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2300 block of Gatesville. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the area of Miller Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1200 block of Johnson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1500 block of Kiowa. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 500 block of W. 17th Street. Service refused.
- **TRAUMA** was reported near the 186 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20. Service refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

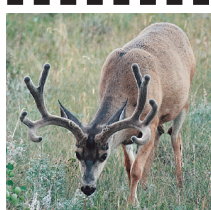
Support Groups

TUESDAY

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



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Your Local Weather

Wed 1/21	Thu 1/22	Fri 1/23
 80/40	 78/49	 76/33
A mainly sunny sky. Very warm. High near 80F. Winds WSW at 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the upper 40s.	Plenty of sun. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the low 30s.

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Police blotter

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

- **WILLIAM MCNEW**, 50, of 1615 Lark, was arrested Monday on a charge of driving while intoxicated – third or more offense.
- **ROBERT SANCHEZ**, 42, of 423 Westover Rd., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **VIOLATION OF A PROTECTIVE ORDER** was reported in the 1000 block of Bluebonnet.
- **THEFT** was reported:
 - in the 2600 block of Gregg Street.
 - in the 1200 block of 11th Place.
- **CRIMINAL TRESPASS OF A HABITATION/SHELTER CENTER** was reported in the 200 block of Circle.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 1300 block of Nolan.
- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 800 block of FM 700.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 56 inmates at the time of this report.

- **JOHN WILLIAM SALAZAR**, 33, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on charges of open container, failure to maintain financial responsibility, violation of a promise to appear and harassment.
- **ROBERT ALLEN WHITE**, 40, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid – enhanced.
- **ADALBERTO EDDIE DELEON**, 46, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of cocaine – probation violation.
- **ABEL LOZANO TORRES**, 20, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for consumption of alcohol by a minor.
- **EVAN JAMES BLAKELY**, 20, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- **KENNETH WAYNE BANKS**, 39, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on charges of bail jumping – failure to appear and a motion to revoke probation for possession of a controlled substance.
- **DANNY LYNN HUDSPETH**, 48, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **SARAH NICOLE DUNLAP**, 24, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **PRISCILLA LOPEZ**, 32, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid.
- **VICTOR TYRONE PRUITT**, 41, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of violation of a protective order.
- **VANESSA HOLLIS**, 35, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of driving while intoxicated with a previous intoxicated manslaughter conviction and possession of a controlled substance.
- **PABLO ALONZO DEHOYOS**, 26, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on charges of no driver's license and violation of a promise to appear.
- **HERRY EDWARD HAMLIN JR.**, 57, was arrested Monday by DPS on a charge of violation of parole.

Take Note

• The Big Spring Art Association will meet at 7 p.m. today in the basement of the Howard County Library. There will be a short business meeting of upcoming projects, followed by the monthly program.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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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

• Big Spring Band Boosters meets at 5:30 p.m. in the high school band hall. All band parents are invited to attend.

• Big Spring Art Association meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library. All working artists and those interested in art are invited to attend.

• Order of the Eastern Star No. 67 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

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, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.

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

THURSDAY

• Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.

Nadal, Serena in top form at Aussie Open

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Top-ranked Rafael Nadal put together a dominating performance Tuesday, routing Belgium's Christophe Rochus 6-0, 6-2, 6-2 in the first round at the Australian Open.

Showing no sign of the knee problems that sidelined him at the end of last year, Nadal lost only eight points in six games in the first set. When Rochus finally got on the board while already down a break in the second, the capacity crowd in Rod Laver Arena gave him a huge ovation.

Nadal said he just wanted to get off to a good start and wasn't trying to send a message.

"I played well, especially the serve and the forehand," Nadal said.

Nadal, who reached the semifinals last year and is seeking his sixth Grand Slam title, finished with 47 winners to seven for Rochus and also blasted 10 aces. The 75th-ranked Belgian, who fell to 13-31 in Grand Slam play, managed to laugh several times, realizing there was little he could do.

Nadal broke for the seventh time to pull ahead 5-2 in the final set, then held at love with four winners to finish off the victory in 77 minutes.

Rochus suggested that he might need to consider a change in professions. Nadal said it's too dangerous to show any mercy.

"Sport is like this," Nadal said. "If I had some mistakes ... anything can happen."

The cool conditions at night were a sharp contrast to the brutal sun and swirling winds that plagued players earlier in the day.

Serena Williams also had to deal with a slight head cold, but she had no problem in a 6-3, 6-2 victory over 123rd-ranked Yuan Meng of China to begin pursuit of her 10th Grand Slam. Yuan was all but ducking for cover from an onslaught of powerful serves, groundstrokes and volleys from the second-seeded American.

And get this: Williams wasn't even going all out.

"It was a little hot for me today," said Williams, aiming to keep intact her record of winning here in odd-numbered years since 2003. "But I was able to just take my time and play a lot slower, not giving 1,000 percent."

"I think it was pretty important for me not to ... go crazy out there, try and conserve some energy. Keep in mind, I am playing doubles here, as

well. I definitely want to do well in both events."

That would be doubles with sister Venus — the reigning Wimbledon champion — who overcame a lapse against hard-hitting Angelique Kerber of Germany to advance with a 6-3, 6-3 victory.

While the Williams sisters were happy to get through without drama, Britain's Andy Murray wished he had spent more time in the sun. The 21-year-old Scot got a mixed blessing when Andrei Pavel, who was hoping to make a farewell tour of the majors before retiring, had to quit after 45 minutes when his bad back acted up.

"I would have liked to have been on court a bit longer," said the fourth-seeded Murray, who won for the first time on center court here. "You don't want to win a match like that."

Most everybody else was eager to finish fast with the temperature topping 104 degrees in afternoon. Murray said he could feel his feet burning on long points. Photographers at courtside draped their heads, bodies and cameras in wet towels. Spectators fanned themselves with paper and official programs.

"It was definitely extreme condi-

tions," Serena Williams said.

A cool front came through and conditions were a pleasant 79 degrees by the time sixth-seeded Venus went on court. It turned into essentially a good hitting session for her.

"I was really happy to be able to be out there and hit a lot of balls and find a rhythm and advance," she said.

Olympic gold medalist Elena Dementieva beat Germany's Kristina Barrois to extend her winning streak to 11 matches. Also advancing were No. 13 Victoria Azarenka of Belarus, 2006 champion Amelie Mauresmo of France and No. 22 Zheng Jie of China.

No. 9 Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland became the highest seeded player to be ousted, falling to Ukraine's Kateryna Bondarenko.

On the men's side, No. 5 Jo-Wilfried Tsonga beat Argentina's Juan Monaco, No. 6 Gilles Simon downed Spain's Pablo Andujar and fellow Frenchman Richard Gasquet, seeded 24th, ousted Diego Junqueira.

Tsonga had upset wins over Murray in the first round and Nadal in the semifinals here last year before

See AUSSIE, Page 3B

HAWKS

Continued from Page 1B

Howard started the game slowly, struggling to find its rhythm offensively, but the Hawks' defense started producing scoring opportunities.

The Hawks went on a 9-0 run that ended with 10:39 to play in the first half, giving Howard a 19-9 advantage.

From that point, the Hawks embarked on a longer 22-5 run to finish the opening half as they took a 40-16 lead into the break.

Howard shot lights out in the first half, converting 50 percent of its field goals, including 7 of 11 from beyond

the arch. The Hawks forced 17 turnovers in the first half, while committing eight, scoring 22 points off of Clarendon's mishaps.

For the game, Howard ended up shooting 46.5 percent from the field and 39.3 percent from 3-point range.

Denzel Barnes scored a game-high 13 points and was complimented by fellow guards Devon Baker and Joshua Watkins, who posted 12 apiece.

Clarendon was led by Tyris Dowell's nine points as Howard prevented any Bulldog from reaching double digits.

The Bulldogs' longest run of the night came early in the second half. After Howard scored an initial bucket to go up by 26, Clarendon went on a 6-0 run to cut it to 20. That's the closest the Bulldogs would come to

Howard in the second half.

The Hawks remain sixth in the WJCAC standings, but are just a half game behind Odessa College, which they defeated Thursday, 50-45, and a full game back of New Mexico Junior College, Western Texas College and South Plains College.

South Plains (16-2, 4-2) visits the Hawks Thursday at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The Texans are currently ranked 13th nationally and defeated Frank Phillips Monday, 90-81.

A little revenge might be on the mind of the Howard sophomores. South Plains eliminated the Hawks from in the Region V tournament finals last season with an 80-72 win. The Texans went on to win the NJCAA National Championship.

Howard College 77,
Clarendon College 39

Clarendon (39)

Sam Jones 0-1 0-0 0, Mike Jones 0-4 0-0 0, Will Benson 3-5 0-0 8, Calvin Brown 3-6 0-0 6, Moses Adenpoju 0-1 0-2 0, Tyris Dowell 4-6 1-1 9, Nick Tunnel 2-8 0-0 5, Elhadji Ndiaye 1-6 2-2 5, Javon Cravin 1-3 0-0 3, Eric Taylor 1-6 0-0 3, Michael Knight 0-1 0-2 0, Edrice Coleman 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 15-48 3-7 39.

Howard (77)

Ricardo Zanini 0-4 2-5 2, Vladimir Gavranic 3-6 3-4 9, Melanio Ebenden 0-0 0-0 0, Joshua Watkins 5-8 2-5 12, LaTrail McCoy 3-5 0-0 8, Denzel Barnes 4-9 3-6 13, Devon Baker 3-9 3-4 12, Markeys Deans 4-8 0-0 9, Dante Menter 2-3 0-0 6, Shaad O'Garro 1-1 1-3 3, Nikola Mandic 1-3 0-0 3, Demetrius Beauford 0-0 0-0 0, Julien Bottin 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 26-56 14-27 77.

Halftime: HC 40, CC 16. 3-point goals: CC 6-26 (Benson 2-4), HC 11-28 (Baker 3-8, Barnes 2-4, Menter 2-3, Zaninin 0-4, Deans 1-2, Gavranic 0-1, Mandic 1-2, Watkins 0-1, McCoy 2-3). Rebounds: CC 31 (Benson 5), HC 43 (Gavranic 6). Assists: CC 4 (S. Jones 2), HC 14 (Mandic 3, Watkins 3). Total fouls: CC 23, HC 11. Fouled out: Adenpoju.

HC

Continued from Page 1B

tied for fourth with Odessa in the standings.

"Clarendon was 0-4 in the conference coming into the game, but I knew they had a pretty good team," said Diddle. "I told (Clarendon coach) Rusty (Kennedy) that I was really impressed with the way his team played. Basketball season is long and there are a lot of up and downs with it. It's important to keep a team hungry, but the players have to keep themselves hungry for wins. I'm just terribly disappointed in the way we shot the ball."

WJCAC Women's Standings

Team	Conference	Overall
Midland College	6-0	22-0
South Plains	4-1	17-4
New Mexico JC	3-2	12-6
Howard College	3-3	18-4
Odessa College	3-3	14-8
Frank Phillips	2-4	9-11
Clarendon College	1-4	12-7
Western Texas	0-5	5-16

Monday's results: Clarendon 46, Howard 45; Odessa 73, New Mexico 68; South Plains 64, Frank Phillips 45; Midland and Western Texas were open.

Thursday's games: South Plains at Howard, Western Texas at Odessa, New Mexico at Clarendon, Midland and Frank Phillips is open.

NOTICE OF AVAILABLE EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Those eligible to apply for a Sid Richardson Memorial Fund scholarship are direct descendants (children or grandchildren) of persons who qualified for Early Retirement, Normal Retirement, Disability Retirement, or Death Benefits from The Retirement Plan For Employees of Bass Enterprises Production Co.; or are direct descendants (children or grandchildren) of persons presently employed with a minimum of three years' full-time service with any of the following employers: Sid Richardson Carbon and Energy Co. (Sid Richardson Carbon and Gasoline Company or Sid Richardson Carbon Company) and SRCE, L.P., Bass Enterprises Production Co., BEPCO, L.P., Bass Brothers Enterprises, Inc., Richardson Oils, Inc., Perry R. Bass, Inc. (Sid W. Richardson, Inc.), Chisholm Trail Ventures, L.P., Sid W. Richardson Foundation, San Jose Cattle Company (Fairview Farms), City Center Development Co., Richardson Aviation, Sid Richardson Carbon, Ltd., SRGC Aviation, Inc., Leapartners, L.P., Barbnet Investments Co., City Club of Ft. Worth (City Center Development Co.), City Center Development Co., L.P. (DBA City Center Development Co. and City Center Executive Suite), Sundance Square, Sundance Square Partners, L.P. (DBA Sundance Square, the Cassidy, and Sundance Square Development), Sundance Square Management, L.P. (DBA Sundance Square Management Co. and Sundance Square Management), and BOPCO, L.P.

Further, those eligible to apply also shall consist of children and grandchildren of persons who retired from the following entities on or before 2/28/06: Sid Richardson Energy Services, Ltd. (Sid Richardson Energy Services Co., Sid Richardson Gasoline, Ltd., or Sid Richardson Gasoline Co.) and Richardson Energy Marketing, Ltd. (Richardson Products II, Ltd.).

Limited funds are available to assist in defraying the cost of college education or of vocational training. These scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis according to academic achievement and financial need. Eligible candidates for the 2009-2010 academic year must return completed applications postmarked no later than **March 31, 2009.**

Direct a written request for an application to Peggy Laskoski, Sid Richardson Memorial Fund, 309 Main Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102 or plaskoski@sidrichardson.org. The request may also be faxed to 817-332-2176. Include student's name, qualifying employee's name, Social Security number of employee, qualifying company name, and dates of employment.

The Hawks' largest lead of the game was 5 after they opened the second half with a 6-0 run, taking a 25-20 advantage with 17:24 to play. Howard trailed 20-19 at the break.

Clarendon answered with a 7-0 run and pushed ahead 27-25 with 14:39 to go. The two squads continued to exchange slim leads throughout the rest of the game.

Clarendon led 44-41 with 4:51 to play. Only two more field goals were scored after that point.

Clarendon's Asia Reid got the Hawks fits in the second half as she hit for a game-high 17 points. No Howard player scored in double digits with Miesha Blackshear, Patricia Malouff and DeAndra Thomas each scoring nine.

The Hawks, who own the nation's top scoring defense, forced 24 turnovers and held Clarendon to 27.6 percent shooting from the field. However, Howard was guilty of 17 mishaps with the ball and shot a mere 25 percent, including a dismal 13 percent from the 3-point line.

"I felt from the way this game played out in the first half that it was going to go down to the wire and it certainly did," noted Diddle. "We have to remember that everybody that comes in here is playing for a spot in the regional tournament. We have to execute every night. We did a lot of good things, but we allowed Clarendon to stay in the game with a lack of execution. The longer they kept up with us, the more confidence they got."

Howard hosts South Plains at 5:30 p.m. Thursday

at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. The No. 12 Lady Texans (17-4, 4-1) defeated Frank Phillips Monday, 64-45.

Last season, the Lady Texans defeated Howard three times, including a win in the semifinals of the Region V tournament in Temple that ended the Hawks' season.

Clarendon College 46,
Howard College 45

Clarendon (46)

Alex Ray 1-5 0-0 3, Quinae Thomas 1-2 0-0 3, Janee' Williams 3-9 1-1 8, Donisha Bronnon 0-0 1-2 1, Jamie Young 1-4 0-0 2, Asia Reid 6-12 4-7 17, Kenisha McDade 3-9 0-0 6, Ruth Stewart 2-5 0-0 4, Joy Usher 0-1 0-0, Tra Niqua Dishmon 0-1 0-0, Enid Sanchez 0-2 0-0 0, Shaniqua Roberts 0-3 0-0. Totals 17-53 6-10 46.

Howard (45)


Miesha Blackshear 4-17 1-2 9, Patricia Malouff 3-11 2-2 9, Rachael Dryver 2-6 3-5 7, Chassidy Cole 2-9 0-2 6, DeAndra Thomas 4-8 1-5 9, NaTalia Smith 1-2 1-1 3, Clarissa Krum 1-10 0-0 2, Danielle Cota 0-1 0-0 0, Tamara Wallace 0-4 0-0 0. Totals 17-68 8-17 45.

Halftime: CC 20, HC 19. 3-point goals: CC 4-14 (Ray 1-4, Thomas 1-2, Williams 1-1, Reid 1-3), HC 3-23 (Cole 2-8, Malouff 1-8, Wallace 0-2, Krum 0-5). Rebounds: CC 47 (McDade 8, Williams 8), HC 50 (Blackshear 13, Cole 9, Dryver 8). Assists: CC 4 (Williams 2), HC 8 (Blackshear 3). Total fouls: CC 15, HC 11. Fouled out: None.

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.

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



Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Eliminating All Doubts

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ 6
♥ K Q 10 3
♦ A K J 4
♣ K Q 9 4

WEST

♠ J 10 9 4 3
♥ 6
♦ Q 9 7
♣ A 8 6 3

SOUTH

♥ K Q 7
♦ J 9 8 4 2
♠ 5
♣ J 10 5 2

The bidding:
North East South West
1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass
4♥

Opening lead — jack of spades.

In most deals, defense is a partnership effort rather than an individual undertaking. Within this framework, it is the responsibility of each defender to prevent his partner from making the wrong play, if possible.

Consider this deal where West leads the jack of spades against four hearts. As soon as dummy appears, both defenders should focus their efforts on formulating a plan to take the four tricks needed to defeat the contract.

From East's viewpoint after winning the spade lead, the only hope is

that his partner has the ace of clubs. In that case, a club to West's ace and a club ruff are sure to achieve the desired goal.

It might therefore seem automatic for East to return the seven of clubs at trick two. West will win and give East a club ruff, and the ace of trumps will provide the setting trick. But it's not quite that simple.

If a club is returned at the second trick, West has no way of knowing whether East started with a singleton or doubleton club. West has already concluded that unless his partner has the ace of trumps, the contract cannot be defeated, but he cannot know for sure whether East has one or two clubs. If East started with a doubleton, West must duck the first club. Then, when East takes his presumed ace of hearts, he can return his second club to secure the ruff.

There is, however, a way for East to clarify the situation for his partner. To avoid any ambiguity as to the meaning of the club return, East should cash the ace of trumps first before leading the club. This gives West no choice but to take the first club and return a club, since if he ducked, declarer could win and draw the remaining trumps.

This thoughtful play by East relieves his partner of having to make a potentially fatal guess and leaves him no room to go wrong.

Tomorrow: Let's not be lackadaisical.

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World Briefs

Midland readies to welcome Bush back to Texas

MIDLAND (AP) — Some city streets have been closed since Friday and almost all of the 20,000 free tickets to Midland's welcome home celebration for President George W. Bush have been handed out.

Bush and his wife, Laura, will head to this West Texas city Tuesday afternoon after the inauguration of Barack Obama in Washington, D.C.

The welcome home event is set for Centennial Plaza, the town square. Eight years ago, in January 2001, Midland was the setting for the send-off event as then-President-elect Bush headed for the White House.

As of Monday afternoon, 1,500 free tickets remained for the event which will include entertainment by Larry Gatlin and the Gatlin Brothers, Rodney Atkins and Lee Greenwood.

Former President George H.W. Bush and former first lady Barbara Bush are expected to be traveling with George W. Bush, but Jean Becker, a spokesman for the elder Bush, said he didn't expect to participate in the rally.

"He feels they shouldn't," Becker said in Monday's online edition of the Odessa American. "He feels it's for the 43s and not for the 'old guy,' as he put it. ... He felt mom and dad should stay in the shadows."

Ike-affected A&M-Galveston classes resume Tuesday

GALVESTON (AP) — Classes resume Tuesday at Texas A&M-Galveston for the first regular semester since Hurricane Ike came ashore Sept. 13.

Students whose classes were disrupted by Ike were moved to the main Texas A&M campus in College Station.

The Galveston County Daily News reports students began returning Friday to residence halls for the spring 2009 semester, which is starting as previously scheduled.

A&M-Galveston spokeswoman Karen Bigley says about 91 percent of the students taking courses before Ike made landfall in September have remained enrolled.

A recent statement from the school described Galveston as being "in full recovery mode."

The school says extensive testing has been done to ensure that the campus is a safe and healthy environment for students. A&M-Galveston is also providing information on managing traumatic stress after hurricanes.

Sul Ross RB dies after being shot at night club, police arrest 3 and search for fourth suspect

MIDLAND (AP) — Police have arrested three people and are searching for a fourth in their investigation of the shooting death of a Sul Ross State running back who was killed at a night club early Sunday, authorities said.

Jermaine Swearington, 23, died at Midland Memorial Hospital after he was shot multiple times in the body and the legs just before 4 a.m. at the Pleasures Club, said Sgt. Lupe Bretado of the Midland Police Department.

James Braziel, 21, Jessie Johnson Jr., 18, and Melvin Lenard, 18, each were charged with one count of murder and were being held in the Midland County Jail Monday night on \$250,000 bond, said Cassandra Flores, a clerk at the jail. Braziel also has four counts of violating probation and faces an additional \$2,000 in bonds on two of them, while bond for the other two had not been set. Lenard also faces additional unrelated charges, Flores said.

"After the incident occurred, some of the detectives interviewed some witnesses. Those are some of the names the witnesses gave detectives. The detectives interviewed them and warrants were obtained," said Bretado.

A call by The Associated Press to an attorney for Lenard was not immediately returned Monday night. Flores

did not know whether the others had attorneys.

Swearington was a star running back at Permian High School before going to Sul Ross, the Odessa American reported Monday in its online edition.

He rushed for 909 yards on 152 carries and scored 10 touchdowns in his first season with the Lobos. He was named to the American Southwest All-Conference team.

Free cosmetics available at some Texas department stores as part of lawsuit settlement

HOUSTON (AP) — Free cosmetics are being given away at some department stores in Texas as part of a national class-action lawsuit settlement.

A 2003 California lawsuit filed against department stores and cosmetics manufacturers alleged the businesses conspired to keep prestige cosmetics prices high.

The case was settled with no wrong doing admitted. The result was a \$175 million giveaway in which each eligible consumer gets one free piece of make up or fragrance worth from \$18 to \$25 — on the honor system.

Ginger Reeder, a Dallas-based spokeswoman for Neiman Marcus, tells the Houston Chronicle that there will be one table, flanked by signs full of legalese, where the products will be available.

Anyone is eligible for one freebie from Chanel, Christian Dior, Lancome or others if they purchased department store cosmetics between May 1994 and July 2003.

The freebies will stop in seven days or when they are all gone, whichever comes first.

Israeli military says report of Gaza militant fire and truce violation incorrect

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli security forces have backtracked on a report

that Gaza militants fired on Israel in violation of a shaky truce.

Police had first reported Tuesday that at least one mortar fell. The military said later that a warning siren that went off was a false alarm.

Israel waged a devastating three-week war on Gaza until declaring a cease-fire that went into effect Sunday. Hamas declared its own cease-fire later that day.

NTSB says records show US Airways plane suffered compressor failure 2 days earlier

WASHINGTON (AP) — The US Airways jet that made a dramatic emergency landing on New York's Hudson River last week experienced an engine compressor failure two days earlier, according to the National Transportation Safety Board.

NTSB spokesman Peter Knudson said Monday that the board's examination of the Airbus 320's maintenance records show "there was an entry in the aircraft's maintenance log that indicates a compressor stall occurred on Jan. 13." The compressor, or fan, draws air into the engine.

He said the flight had a different pilot that day, and the board planned to interview that pilot to learn more about the incident.

NTSB investigators so far have not uncovered "any anomalies or malfunctions with Flight 1549 from the time it left the gate at LaGuardia Airport on Jan. 15 to the point the pilot reported a bird strike and loss of engine power," Knudson said. Pilot Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger was able to glide to plane to an emergency river landing and there were no fatalities.

CNN reported Monday that passengers on the Flight 1549 that left LaGuardia Airport on Jan. 13 reported hearing loud bangs followed by an announcement from the pilot that the aircraft was either returning to LaGuardia or going to try to land. There were differing accounts of the pilot's statements.

MARCH

Continued from Page 1A

in order to make things a little easier on black boys and girls, and to make things a little more homogeneous."

Smallwood said the march, which was held on the eve of President Barack Obama's inauguration, is the culmination of many years of work and struggle.

"Dr. King had a mission. And that mission was to unite black people in integration with the white people, and that mission is slowly being fulfilled," said Smallwood. "He wanted to bring America more in light with the harmony of God's word. Black people are proud (of what he has done). And the white population has given the colored man hope, also, in being able to nominate and elect this new president. Hopefully, he will be able to do a good job. He won't be able to satisfy all of the factions, but if he's able to go down in history as a man of his word, then America will be a better place."

Hebrew Jones, who has lived in Big Spring for more than 45 years, said he's seen the civil rights movement from many different angles.

"You take from when

I came to Big Spring and Dr. Martin Luther King made that speech, I was just 18 years of age," said Jones. "That really meant a lot to me, to hear that speech then in my life. And I've seen some of the things and come through some of the things that Dr. King came through.

"Looking at today, things have changed a lot. But there are still a lot of things to be done.

Living back in the era of the civil rights movement, I know what it's like to be discriminated against and shunned. And there are people today that still drink from that bitter cup of racism. So there are still changes to be made."

For City Councilman Manuel Ramirez Jr., the call to organize the annual march — which came from fellow council member and longtime Martin Luther King Jr. March coordinator Stephanie Horton — was both an honor and a surprise.

"It was a shock, and it was an honor," said Ramirez. "I hope to follow well in her footsteps. It hasn't been easy. I had a few ministers call at the last minute and tell me they couldn't



make it, and my singer couldn't make it. But other than that, it's been a wonderful experience.

"The march is a time for reflection in all of us, as to what Dr. King did for the country. He had a dream, and we all have a dream. He said he hoped to one day be seen as a man, and not a black man. I hope to one day be seen as a man, not a Hispanic man."

Cyneather Woodruff, a Big Spring resident since 1941, said she was happy to see people come together for such an important remembrance, but knows attendance of the march should have been much

better.

"They don't come together the way they should. There should be a lot more of us here," said Woodruff, motioning to the small crowd gathered in the parking lot. "I'd like to see everyone come out and take part in (the march). This is something we should be proud of.

"This is something someone lost their life for," she added. "We tend to take it lightly. I'd like to see each person come and take it as an individual thing. Whatever happened, they did it for me, and I'm thankful. That's why I'm marching."

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

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
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Maria Alicia "Alice" Salgado, 58, died Wednesday. Vigil Services will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Sue Kerr, 58, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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Jets get their man, hire Ryan as new coach

NEW YORK (AP) — Baltimore defensive coordinator Rex Ryan was hired as the coach of the New York Jets on Monday, a day after the Ravens lost in the AFC championship.

The 46-year-old Ryan replaces the fired Eric Mangini, taking over a team that started last season 8-3 but missed the playoffs with quarterback Brett Favre after losing four of its last five games.

The Jets announced the hiring, but released no other details. The contract is for four years, a person with knowledge of the deal told The Associated Press. The person spoke on condition of anonymity earlier Monday because the deal had not been announced.

Ryan, the son of former NFL coach Buddy Ryan, will be formally introduced at a news conference Wednesday at the Jets' facility in Florham Park, N.J.

"It's been a dream of mine to become a head coach in the NFL," Ryan said in a statement. "Coming here to the New York Jets, where my father once coached and was part of the Super Bowl III staff, is fantastic. I look around at the facilities and the people they have in place and see a first-

class organization. I'm just proud to be part of it."

The deal was finalized Monday afternoon after Jets owner Woody Johnson and general manager Mike Tannenbaum flew to Baltimore in the morning to iron out the details, team spokesman Bruce Speight said.

"We got the right man for the job," Johnson said in a statement.

The Ravens' defensive coordinator the last four seasons is the twin brother of Cleveland defensive coordinator Rob Ryan. His Baltimore defense helped the Ravens to the AFC championship game and has been ranked in the top six in total yardage allowed the last four seasons, including second overall this season while leading the NFL with 34 takeaways.

"I think it's a gain for them and a loss for us, but it's well-deserved," Ravens linebacker Bart Scott said. "It was a long time coming."

This will be the first head coaching job for Ryan, who is said to be well liked among his players because of his straightforward, no-nonsense style.

"I'm very much looking forward to meeting coach Ryan," wide receiver Chansi Stuckey told The Associated Press in an e-mail. "His reputation

precedes him by the success that Baltimore has had, and I'm very excited to get started."

It became apparent Ryan was at the top of the Jets' list of candidates when several other teams filled their coaching vacancies and New York's remained open. The Jets needed Baltimore's season to end — which happened Sunday with a 23-14 loss at Pittsburgh — before offering him the job.

"There is no doubt in my mind that Rex has the expertise and instincts to build on the foundation that we have in place and take this franchise to the ranks of the NFL's elite," Johnson said.

Ryan also interviewed for the St. Louis Rams job that went to Giants defensive coordinator Steve Spagnuolo.

The Jets interviewed at least five other candidates, including offensive coordinator Brian Schottenheimer, assistant head coach/offensive line coach Bill Callahan — who was fired from Nebraska after 2007's 5-7 season — Arizona assistant head coach/offensive line coach Russ Grimm, Indianapolis defensive coordinator Ron Meeks and fired Boston College coach Jeff Jagodzinski.

Whether Ryan will have Favre on his roster this season is unclear. The 39-year-old quarterback recently said he would take several weeks before deciding whether to return.

Nicknamed "The Mad Scientist" for his aggressive and unpredictable game plans, Ryan prefers to run a 3-4 defensive scheme, which the Jets already have in place. New York spent big money last offseason acquiring players that excel in the 3-4, including nose tackle Kris Jenkins and linebacker Calvin Pace.

Ryan inherits a defense that had an impressive start with 29 sacks in its first eight games but just 12 in the last half of the season.

The secondary also might need a makeover, ranking 29th overall against the pass despite Pro Bowl cornerback Darrelle Revis and playmaking safety Kerry Rhodes.

Ryan, who was with the Ravens for 10 seasons, was fired when the entire staff was let go after the 2007 season. Ryan interviewed for the job that went to John Harbaugh, who rehired Ryan.

AP Sports Writers Larry Lige in Detroit and David Ginsburg in Owings Mills, Md., contributed to this report.

Ravens' McGahee home, complete recovery expected

OWINGS MILLS, Md. (AP) — Willis McGahee joined his teammates Monday at Baltimore's training complex after doctors told him he would make a full recovery from a fierce helmet-to-helmet hit in the AFC championship game that had him carted off the field.

"I'm all right. Everything is OK," the running back told reporters as the Ravens cleared out their

lockers. "The MRI and the CAT scan checked out good. I was scared, but I didn't know how serious it was. It was pretty intense."

The play occurred in the fourth quarter of Pittsburgh's 23-14 victory. McGahee had just caught a pass and taken two steps before being met by safety Ryan Clark, who drove his helmet into McGahee's facemask. McGahee's head snapped

back, and he lost the ball as he dropped to the ground.

"I didn't even see him coming," McGahee said.

Clark also collapsed, though it was immediately apparent that his injury wasn't serious.

Players from both teams gathered around McGahee, who lay motionless before being taken away.

AUSSIE

Continued from Page 2B

losing the final to Novak Djokovic.

Ninth-seeded James Blake, who

reached the quarterfinals at Melbourne Park last year to match his best effort at a Grand Slam, had more than twice as many winners as unforced errors while beating Canada's Frank Dancevic.

No. 13 Fernando Gonzalez of

Chile, runner-up here to Federer in 2007, ended local hope Lleyton Hewitt's 13th Australian Open. Hewitt, a former U.S. Open and Wimbledon champion, lost the final at his home major in 2005 to Marat Safin.

MAVS

Continued from Page 1B

By the end of the third quarter, the Mavericks led 74-63, with Kidd and Nowitzki combining for 25 of their 32 points.

With 2:14 remaining, Terry hit a 3-pointer from the baseline to give Dallas a 93-81 lead. It wouldn't last as the 76ers scored 12 straight points, tying the game at 93 with 8.5 seconds left after a driving layup by Iguodala.

"We really came back there at the end," DiLeo said. "They never gave up. That's the essence of our team."

Notes: There were several tributes to Martin Luther King Jr. on the jumbotron throughout the game, and 76ers G Willie Green addressed the crowd before the game. Mavericks F Josh Howard, listed as doubtful with a sprained left wrist, played 34 minutes. Mavericks G Matt Carroll and C Ryan Hollins were active for the first time in a Dallas uniform. They were traded from Charlotte last Friday for C DeSagana Diop.

OPPOSITE

Continued from Page 1B

final game still to come.

"He's been here before," Fitzgerald said, referring to Warner. "He's been where we're all trying to go. He's held that trophy up and we've leaned on him this whole postseason."

Many of Pittsburgh's stars have been through this before, including Hines Ward, the MVP of the 2006 Super Bowl win over Seattle.

The Steelers' defense carried them past Baltimore 23-14 in the AFC title game. That's what it's been doing all season. The latest version of the storied Steel Curtain was the best statistically in the NFL and the most consistent.

Led by James Harrison, the defensive player of the year and another all-Pro, safety Troy Polamalu, it puts constant pressure on the quarterback. And that is where Warner is sometimes vulnerable. Injuries and turnovers cost him his job in St. Louis in 2002 and 2003 before he was shuffled off to the New York Giants and then to Arizona.

The Steelers have four

title victories in six years during the 1970s and their fifth three years ago. No team has ever won six.

In an odd little twist, Arizona coach Ken Whisenhunt has his roots with the Steelers, serving as offensive coordinator from 2004-2006, including the Super Bowl-winning team.

He was expected to get the Pittsburgh job when Bill Cowher stepped down two seasons ago. So was another Steelers coach, Russ Grimm, now Whisenhunt's

right-hand in Arizona.

Instead, the job went to Mike Tomlin, who returns to Tampa, the city where he began his coaching career.

One other bit of cross-pollination.

In 1944, the Steelers and Cardinals were the same team — Card-Pit, combined into one because of World War II, when there weren't enough able-bodied men to fill out both rosters.

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OBAMA

Continued from Page 1A

protecting narrow interests and putting off unpleasant decisions — that time has surely passed,” Obama said in an undisguised shot at Bush administration policies. “Starting today, we must pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off and begin the work of remaking America.”

The dawn of the new Democratic era — with Obama allies in charge of both houses of Congress — ends eight years of Republican control of the White House by Bush, who leaves Washington as one of the nation’s most unpopular and divisive presidents, the architect of two unfinished wars and the man in charge at a time of economic calamity that swept away many Americans’ jobs, savings and homes.

Obama’s election was cheered around the world as a sign that America will be more embracing, more open to change. “To the Muslim world,” Obama said, “we seek a new way forward, based on mutual interest and mutual respect.”

Still, he bluntly warned, “To those leaders around the globe who seek to sow conflict, or blame their society’s ills on the West — know that your people will judge you on what you can build, not what you destroy.”

“To those who cling to power through corruption and deceit and the silencing of dissent, know that you are on the wrong side of history, but that we will extend a hand if you are willing to unclench your fist.”

Two years after beginning his improbable quest as a little-known, first-term Illinois senator with a foreign-sounding name, Obama moved into the Oval Office as the nation’s fourth youngest president, at 47, and the first African-American, a barrier-breaking achievement believed impossible by generations of minorities.

He said it was a moment to recall “that all are equal, all are free and all deserve a chance to pursue their full measure of happiness.”

Obama called for a political truce in Washington to end “the petty grievances and false promises, the recriminations and worn-out dogmas, that for far too long have strangled our politics.”

He said that all Americans have roles



AP Photo/Jae C. Hong
Barack Obama, left, joined by his wife Michelle, takes the oath of office from Chief Justice John Roberts to become the 44th president of the United States at the U.S. Capitol in Washington Tuesday.

in rebuilding the nation by renewing the traditions of hard work, honesty and fair play, tolerance, loyalty and patriotism.

“What is required of us now is a new era of responsibility, a recognition, on the part of every American, that we have duties to ourselves, our nation and the world, duties that we do not grudgingly accept but rather seize gladly, firm in the knowledge that there is nothing so satisfying to the spirit, so defining of our character, than giving our all to a difficult task.”

With the economy in a long and deepening recession, Obama said it was time for swift and bold action to create new jobs and lay a foundation for growth. Congressional Democrats have readied an \$825 billion stimulus plan of tax cuts and spending for roads, bridges, schools, electric grids and other projects.

“The question we ask today is not whether our government is too big or too small, but whether it works,” the new president said.

A mighty chorus of cheers erupted as Obama stepped to the inaugural platform, a midday sun warming the crowd that had waited for hours in the cold. There were some boos when Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney came onto the platform.

LOCAL

Continued from Page 1A

Fort Worth and he told me he didn’t think he’d ever, ever see a black president. I was optimistic, however. I always thought we would.

“He has a big job in front of him, and it’s going to take more than just him. It’s going to take the entire country to move and get the things we need implemented. One man can’t do it. When Barack Obama decided to run for president, he knew it would take a whole coalition of people. It wasn’t just the blacks or the whites, it was everyone. Chinese Americans. Hispanic. White. It took the entire United States to elect him. And for Barack Obama to be the first black president, I just can’t tell you how happy I am. I’m happy to see this day come.”

Johnny Arguello III, deacon of the Holy Trinity Parish, said Obama’s election is proof God has wonderful things in store for the world.

“What a blessing. To have the first African American sworn in as president, that’s awesome,” said Arguello. “If that’s not God at work, then what is? I believe the same spirit that was with Martin Luther King Jr. is the same spirit that’s with Barack Obama. And that same spirit is going to direct him, and I believe we will see great changes. I know he has some tough times coming up, but I truly believe we will see the Holy Spirit at work through Obama.”

City Councilman Manuel Ramirez Jr. said he hopes Obama’s election to the presidency will end years of silence among the American minorities.

“I’d give you a big high-five right now,” said Ramirez, beaming from ear to ear. “I’m all for it. Any and all minorities need to get involved. There are way too many of us to be silent. We’ve been silent too long, and it’s time for us to step up.”

John Medina, human resources director for the city of Big Spring, said he believes Obama will bring

new hope to a nation already struggling economically.

“It’s a historical event. It’s one of those things that will leave a lasting mark on a lot of people,” said Medina. “I feel like everyone is behind him. He’s our president and he’s going to make a difference. He certainly brings new hope.”

“He’s coming into office with a lot of pressure, just because he came in proposing change as a large part of his campaign. However, I think he has a lot of good people that are going to back him, and that’s good because he has a long road to hold. But I think things are going to be fine. Only time will tell.”

Steven Saldivar, assistant superintendent for Big Spring Independent School District, said today’s inauguration is a ‘milestone’ for America.

Saldivar “This is very important to lot of people.

It’s a milestone,” said Saldivar. “We’re seeing history in the making and that’s a good thing. It shows that in the United States, people can dream big dreams ... and that glass ceilings were meant to be broken.”

Dr. Cheryl Sparks, Howard College president, said all Americans need to pull together to help the new president help right a faltering economy.

“The college has been paying attention to what has been said about the role community colleges can play in workforce training and the movement of the economy in general,” Sparks said. “President Obama certainly has a vision for our country and is challenging us all to go with him as we begin to address the challenges that exist.”

Staff writer Steve Reagan contributed to this article.

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



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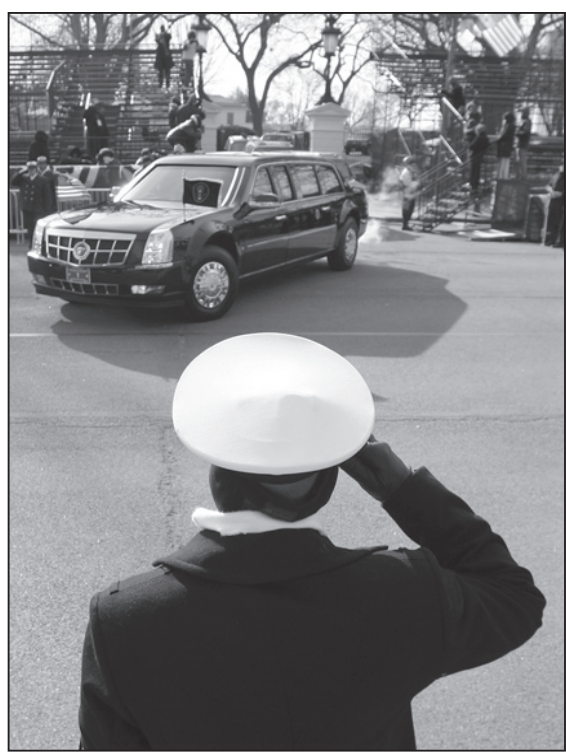
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Clockwise, from top left: Aretha Franklin performs at the swearing-in ceremony at the U.S. Capitol Tuesday; President-elect Barack Obama is greeted as he arrives for swearing-in ceremonies at the Capitol; A sailor salutes as the limousine carrying President George W. Bush and President-elect Barack Obama leaves the White House; President Bush, center right, and first lady Laura Bush, center left, welcome President-elect Barack Obama, far left, and his wife Michelle Obama, right, on the North Portico of the White House.



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Worldwide hopes soar for new president

By GREGORY KATZ

Associated Press

LONDON — A world made weary by war, recession, joblessness and fear shed its collective burden Tuesday to celebrate the arrival of a new American president. Bulls and goats were slaughtered for feasts in Kenya and caterers prepared for black-tie balls in the capitals of Europe.

From Kenya and Indonesia, where Barack Obama has family ties, to areas around the world, Obama represented a volcanic explosion of hope for better days ahead.

The ascendance of the first African-American to the presidency of the United States was heralded as marking a new era of tolerance and possibility.

It was a reflection of Obama's sprawling, complex family tree that villages in places as diverse as Ireland and Kenya held special parties to celebrate their link to the new president.

An Irish village called Moneygall covered itself in red, white and blue bunting Tuesday in honor of Obama's connections, via a great-great-grandfather named Fulmouth Kearney who emigrated to the United States in 1850. Road signs read "Moneygall welcomes our President, Barack Obama."

They also baked a special round fruitcake, locally called a "brack," to sell for the occasion — and put pictures of Obama on the wrapping.



"Obama Girls," a group of local residents from northern Japan's Obama city, perform Hawaiian hula dance to celebrate the inauguration of U.S. President-elect Barack Obama.

AP Photo/Katsumi Kasahara

In Kenya, feasts were being prepared, beer with Obama's name on it put out and movie screens erected so neighbors could join together for the moment, a year after their own elections were marred by ethnic violence.

"Our election in Kenya really had problems with ethnicity ... America has shown

that this doesn't have to be that big a problem," said Dr. Joseph Osoo, who runs a clinic in one of Kenya's biggest slums.

"Kenyan are very happy because their son is going to be the leader of America," he said.

Obama's themes were echoed throughout the world.

At the United Nations complex overlooking the Danube River in Vienna, Austria, someone wrote "YES, WE CAN!" in giant block letters in the snow.

U.N. workers peered down at the message from their office windows.

"It's a mystery who did it," said Melissa Fleming,

a spokeswoman for the International Atomic Energy Agency.

It was a day when America's rich musical heritage, often reflecting the freedom struggle of African-Americans, was embraced worldwide.

In Sweden, African-American singer Cyndee Peters was hosting a show named "A Gala for Obama," featuring dozens of Swedish soul, jazz, hip-hop, gospel, folk and blues artists.

"Obama fever is all over the whole world," said Peters, 62, who grew up in North Carolina and New York. "I was congratulated by I don't know how many Swedes after the election. I think what he stands for needs to be celebrated."

"No one is doing their favorite songs or greatest hits," Peters added. "We're doing songs about hope."

In the Indonesian capital of Jakarta, where Obama spent four years as a young boy, students from his former school swayed and spun in bright, traditional costumes representing Indonesia's ethnically diverse tropical islands.

Old classmates gathered to watch his speech at the Menteng 1 elementary school, where he is fondly remembered as a chubby kid called Barry.

"I'm proud that the next president is someone who I have shared time with," said Rully Dasaad, a fellow Boy Scout with Obama.

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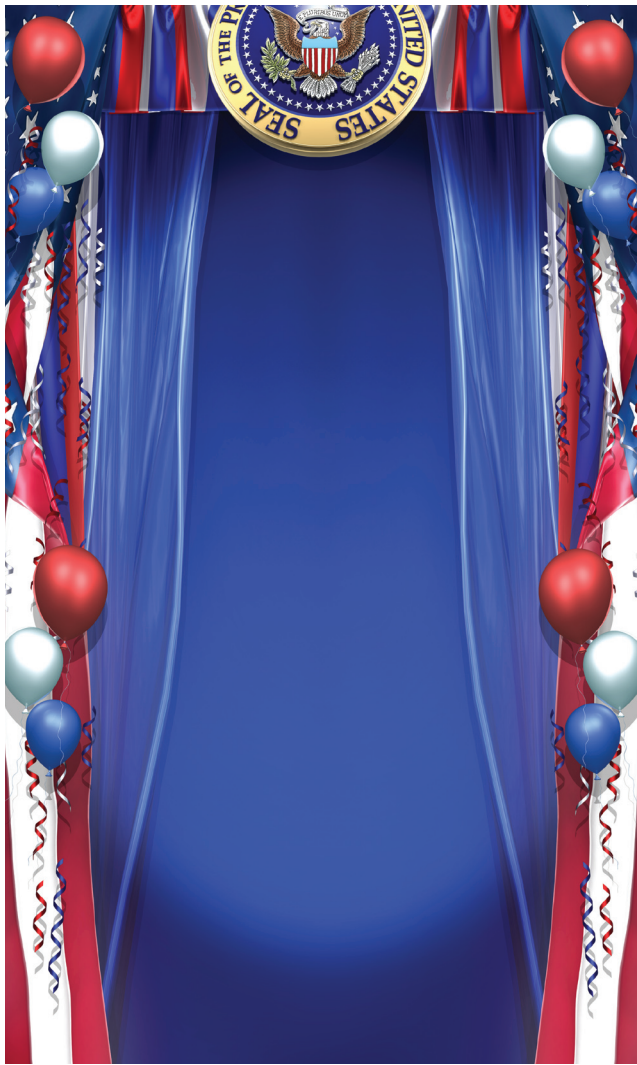
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Legals

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE/ BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Abilene Contract 0069-01-050 for PIAN, ACP, C&G, & SDWIKS in HOWARD County will be opened on February 10, 2009 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 28741

State Office

Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540
Dist/Div Office(s)

Abilene District
District Engineer
4250 N. Clack
Abilene, Texas 79604-0150
Phone 325-676-6800

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin. #6026 January 20 & 27, 2009

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Big Spring Police Department, 400 East 4th Street, Big Spring, Texas, will hold an auction on January 29th, 2009 at 9:00 A.M. to dispose of the following vehicles:

- 1990 Plymouth Van VIN 1P4FH44R1LX276827
 - 1996 Chevrolet Truck VIN 1GCEC14W7TZ189327
 - 1996 Saturn 4 Dr. VIN 1G8ZK5273TZ265899
 - 1992 Cadillac Eldorado VIN 1G6AL5789CE633840
 - 1995 Dodge Neon VIN 1B3ES27C5SD550691
 - 1993 GMC Truck VIN 1GKCS18W8P0513274
 - 1999 Chevrolet LS 4 Dr. VIN 2G1WL52M8X9265921
 - 1995 Plymouth Van VIN 2P4GH2534SR394824
 - 1994 Buick 4 Dr. VIN 1G4AG55M9R6437624
- Anyone interested in bidding on these vehicles must be present at the auction. For further information contact Lt. Drew Bavin at the Big Spring Police Department, (432)264-2562. #6028 January 20, 2009

CITY OF BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING TUESDAY,

FEBRUARY 10, 2009, 5:30 P.M. CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS 307 E. 4TH STREET BIG SPRING, TEXAS 79720

for PROPOSED AMENDED ZONING ORDINANCE

The City Council will hold a Public Hearing to consider the proposed Ordinance as an addition to Article 8 Supplemental Use Standard by adopting Section 8-7 to be described as "Freight and Portable Storage Containers" as to regulate the placement of freight and portable storage containers for the City of Big Spring, Howard County Texas; containing a cumulative clause; containing a savings and severability clause; providing for a maximum penalty or fine of five hundred dollars (\$500.00); and establishing an effective date of February 24, 2009. Citizens will have the opportunity to express any oral or written comments to Todd Darden, Assistant City Manager, City of Big Spring, 310 Nolan, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or call (432)264-2500. #6031 January 20 & 25, 2009

CITY OF BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING TUESDAY,

FEBRUARY 10, 2009, 5:30 P.M. CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS 307 E. 4TH STREET BIG SPRING, TEXAS 79720

for PROPOSED AMENDED ZONING ORDINANCE

The City Council will hold a Public Hearing to consider the proposed Ordinance to amend Article 9 Sign Regulations as to regulate the placement, maintenance, and standards of signage allowable for the City of Big Spring, Howard County Texas; containing a cumulative clause; containing a savings and severability clause; providing for a maximum penalty or fine of five hundred dollars (\$500.00); and establishing an effective date of February 24, 2009. Citizens will have the opportunity to express any oral or written comments to Todd Darden, Assistant City Manager, City of Big Spring, 310 Nolan, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or call (432)264-2500. #6032 January 20 & 25, 2009

You may find yourself in a profoundly curious mood, particularly on subjects of philosophy, society and the human condition, as the Aquarian sun puts his spotlight on the ever-evolving story of human kind.

Poetic notions may form in your psyche as you try to figure out how to contribute the best way you can to this story's progression.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Those who are sensitive to your needs are not just being polite. They are showing you a quiet, noble version of love. Close your eyes and quiet your heart and you will be able to feel the psychic hug someone is giving you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Whatever was off limits to you last year is now worth giving another shot. Maybe it's a job at work that someone else always gets to do. Or maybe it's a love interest who was off the market. Well, things have changed. Go for it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're probably trying to influence a loved one, or get a customer to buy. Your pitch is important. Review a million times until it's totally memorized. Then forget everything and talk conversationally. You'll make your sale.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your super talent is magnifying small events. Be judicious in the application of this power. By focusing in small you could learn the secrets of the universe, or you could make yourself nuts by reading too much into things.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're in danger of taking someone for granted. Measure the many pros and cons of staying in a relationship. The exercise makes you better appreciate the bond you share with your loved one.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You don't exactly know what you're doing. This is an overwhelmingly positive dynamic. It means you're taking risks, stretching yourself and living to your potential. Lead with confidence and the rest falls into place.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You have a good sense of when to be gentle, and when to behave like a drill sergeant. You'll spend some time at both ends of the spectrum now, and others respect you for your ability to command the right kind of attention.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The technology that's supposed to enhance your life could instead make things complicated and confused. Don't put your tenderhearted words into a text message. Go old school and speak face to face.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Though loved ones may respond to your strong energy today in a hotheaded manner, relationship drama is easy enough to avoid. Simply agree, and do so

Tomorrow's Horoscope

often. There's not much worth fighting over.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Being a well-rounded person, you're willing to stretch. Accept the task you're not so good at. Take a bite of the food you don't like. Read on a subject that bores you. By the end of the day you've grown.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Conversations will be enlightening. You'll ask the questions that get others talking and much will be revealed. The more thorough your understanding of a loved one, the better you'll get along.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're attracted to the mad, uninhibited people who you just know will influence you in some way. The part of you deep inside that has been waiting for permission to dance will finally be drawn out.

COSMIC CAREER SPECIAL: LIBRA AT WORK: You don't have to drum up any enthusiasm for your colleagues because for you, excitement and support of others on the job is inherent. You marvel at what can be accomplished when a team pulls together, communicates and behaves fairly.

The problem is that everyone's idea of what's fair is different. And some people's ideas are just plain wrong. So you must be mindful not to give where the effort will go unappreciated or you wind up a doormat for less hard-working people.

Let your colleagues know that though you are dedicated to the team

agenda, you are also a policy maker in your own right. When you give your all to the causes and people who can truly recognize and utilize your talents in the right ways, there is no greater feeling for you.

Your superpower is in saving the day. In every Libra's career there comes a time when the fate of an entire project rests on your shoulders. This is stressful, especially when things don't go the way you think they will, but you're a master improviser and can make miracles happen when you put your mind to it.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Rainn Wilson plays Dwight Schrute on the hit television series "The Office." Though he, in reality, has little in common with the beet-farming, egomaniacal character he plays, he can tap into the powerful natal alignment of his sun, moon and Mercury in Capricorn for inspiration.

Capricorn energy is ambitious, organized and structured, and can be applied to achieve mastery in any area of life. If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Annie's Mailbox®: Dumped and dumfounded

Dear Annie: My husband, "Joe," and I have been having minor problems recently, and I finally got him to open up about what is bothering him. Big mistake! He told me he wants a divorce.

I was completely blindsided. I asked him why he would want to leave me and the only thing he could say was that we have nothing in common except our daughter.

Annie, is that a real reason to want a divorce? Joe said he doesn't like the person I am. I told him that was HIS problem, to which he agreed. He then added that he has stuck around this long only because he couldn't afford to move out.

I know I haven't been the greatest wife. I'm not a very good cook, I hate to clean and I'd prefer to spend Saturday in my jammies reading a good book. Apparently all of this makes Joe unhappy. But I love this man, and I tell him often.

I have accepted him for who he is, even when he irritates me, so shouldn't he learn to accept me the way I am? How am I going to survive this? — *Dumped and Dumfounded*

Dear Dumped: Most men don't leave their wives because of the cooking and housekeeping. Do you communicate? How is your sex life? A good marriage takes effort and requires that each

partner wishes to make the other happy. It sounds as if you two are living parallel lives with little interaction and no interest in creating a supportive relationship. Ask Joe to go with you for counseling so both of you can learn how to make your marriage better before you give up. Do it for your daughter.

Dear Annie: Is there a rule about how much to give a couple as a monetary gift at their wedding? I'm getting married soon and I understand attendees shouldn't be expected to give more than they can afford. But as couples are getting married later in life, they are also cleaning out their own savings in order to have a nice celebration.

Times are tough for us, too. Parents don't always foot the bill, and even with the best budgeting bride a nice reception easily runs at \$50 per plate.

I was recently at a wedding where two guests gave the couple \$25 each. This seems like an insult rather than a gift. The couple must have spent a lot more than that per plate.

Why would you advise "Charlotte" to conduct inappropriate conversations in front of the child to teach her mother a lesson? She and her friends

need to get some backbone and take Nancy aside and discuss this issue with her (which was your other suggestion). If they can't bring themselves to do that, they should not attend.

If they are concerned about hurting Nancy's feelings, it would seem that not showing up would be much more insulting. — *Honesty Is Best*

Dear Honesty: We weren't recommending some kind of vulgar conversation, only normal adult talk that would bore Nancy's child and still allow the others to have a good time.

But you are right that they should find the courage to discuss it with Nancy, which is what we recommended in the first place.

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

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AP Photo/Ron Edmonds

Crowds gather on the National Mall in Washington for the swearing-in ceremony of President-elect Barack Obama this morning.

Obama's day starts with church, coffee with Bush

By LIZ SIDOTI

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — As massive crowds swarmed the National Mall on Tuesday to witness Barack Obama's inauguration as president, the man at the center of the maelstrom began the day quietly and reverently, at a church service across the street from the White House.

Obama and his family attended a private service at St. John's Episcopal Church, a tradition for those about to become president.

The family of Vice President-elect Joe Biden also attended.

Barack and Michelle Obama waved to bystanders, then entered the church to applause from about 200 people.

The choir and congregation

began singing the hymn, "O God Our Help in Ages Past."

The Rev. Luis Leon welcomed the Obamas and said every president since James Madison has worshipped at the church at least once, "some of them kicking and screaming."

Bishop Charles E. Blake Sr., of Los Angeles, drew murmurs and chuckles when he blessed the Obamas and asked that "they may finish these two terms in office" stronger than they are now. Obama, of course, would have to win re-election in 2012 to serve a second term.

Another clergyman, Joel Hunter, offered a blessing to "Barack Hussein Obama."

The Obamas and Joe and Jill Biden were scheduled to have coffee at the White House with President George W. Bush, Vice President

Richard Cheney and their wives.

Then they would travel the short distance to the Capitol for Obama's history-making moment.

Just beyond the White House fence, huge crowds braved freezing temperatures and jostled for positions to see — with the naked eye or on Jumbotron screens — Obama take the oath of office as the 44th president and the first black to hold the title.

On Monday, a relaxed and upbeat Obama prepared for his big day by invoking the spirit of Martin Luther King Jr. and lavishing praise on two prominent Republicans in calling for a new spirit of bipartisanship.

After visiting wounded veterans and helping volunteers paint a dorm for homeless teens in Washington, Obama

dashed to three black-tie dinners Monday night. One honored Sen. John McCain, the Republican he defeated in November, and another honored Colin Powell, who was secretary of state under Bush.

The third dinner was for Biden, the former Delaware senator who twice sought the presidency himself.

Obama called McCain and Powell American heroes who set standards of patriotism and bipartisanship for all to follow.

He hugged McCain onstage and called for Americans' help "in making this bipartisan dinner not just an inaugural tradition, but a new way of doing the people's business in this city."

Throughout the day, Obama showed no hints of nervousness about becoming presi-

dent within hours.

"I don't sweat," he told volunteers at Sasha Bruce House, a shelter for homeless teens in one of Washington's poorer neighborhoods. "You ever see me sweat?"

All day, he switched easily from self-deprecation to faux cockiness to calls for action.

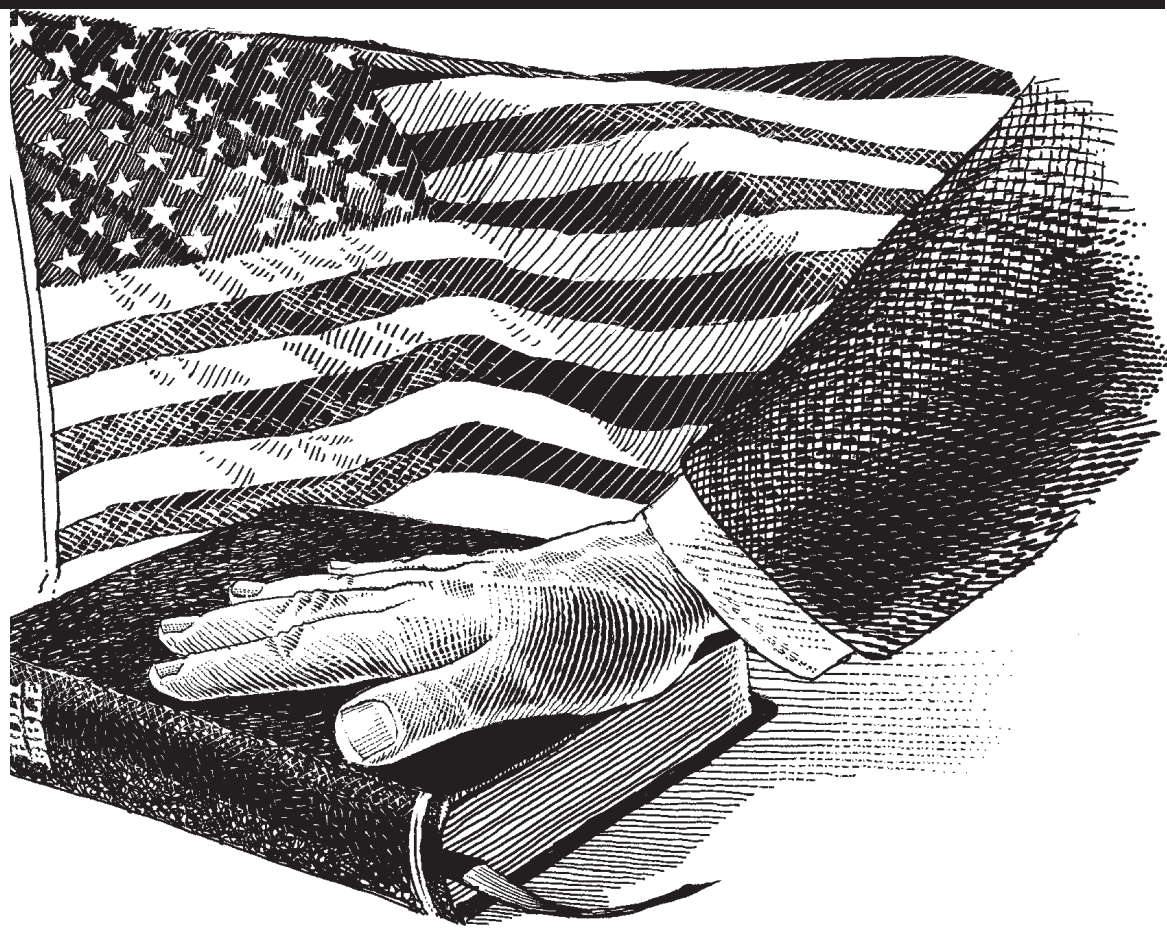
"Make sure I do something simple," he told Sasha Bruce organizers. "Don't give me plumbing or electrical work."

As he painted a wall with a roller brush, he quoted King as saying, "Everybody can be great because everybody can serve."

"Right?" he asked the late civil rights leader's eldest son, Martin Luther King III, who was almost overlooked while painting nearby.

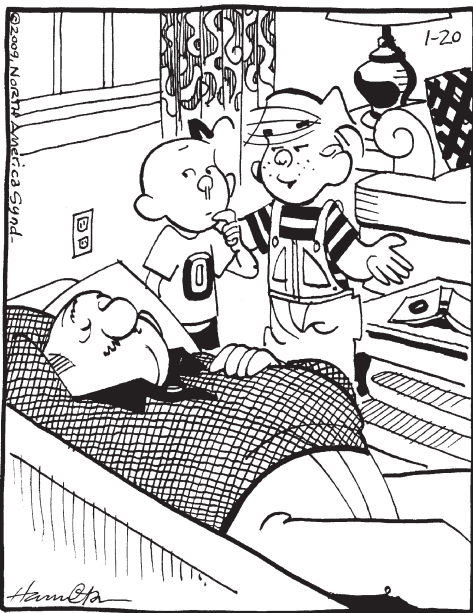
"Right," King assured the president-elect.

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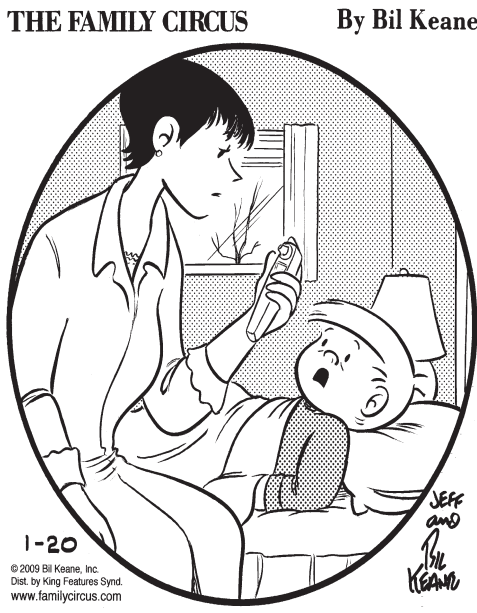
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DENNIS THE MENACE



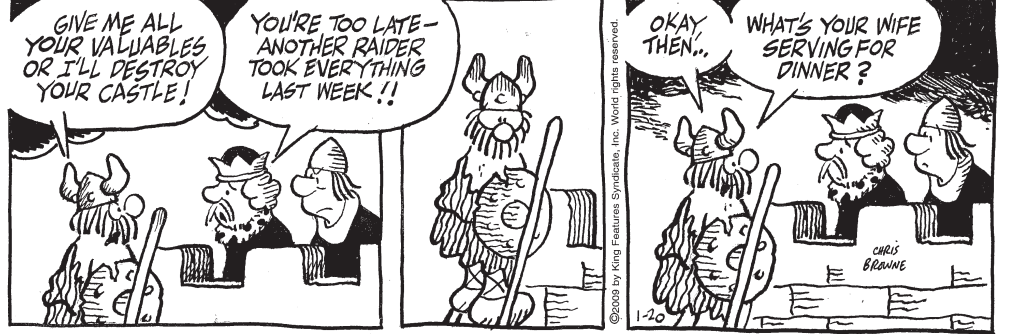
"HE SAYS HE'S A LIGHT SLEEPER. I GUESS THAT MEANS HE SLEEPS WHEN IT'S LIGHT, TOO."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"But I can't be sick! It's pizza day at school."

HAGAR



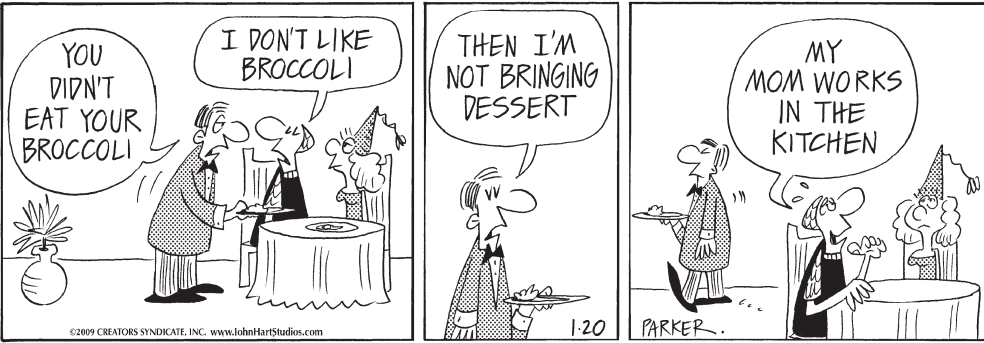
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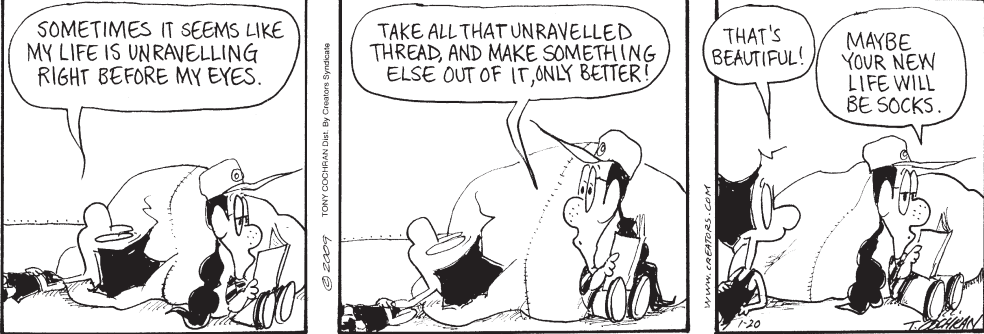
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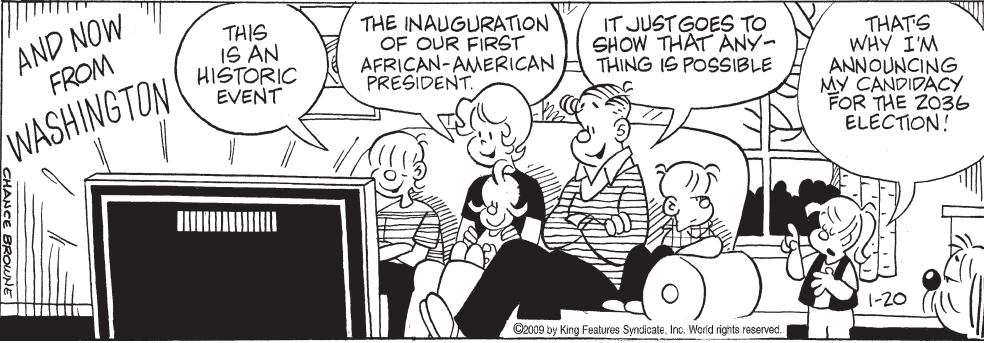
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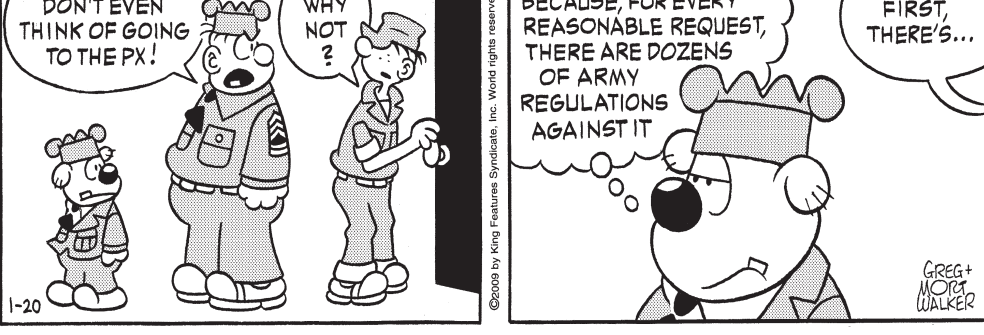
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 20, the 20th day of 2009. There are 345 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On Jan. 20, 1981, Iran released 52 Americans it had held hostage for 444 days, minutes after the presidency passed from Jimmy Carter to Ronald Reagan.

On this date:
In 1801, Secretary of State John Marshall was nominated by President John Adams to be chief justice of the United States. (He was sworn in on Feb. 4, 1801.)

In 1841, the island of Hong Kong was ceded by China to Great Britain. (It returned to Chinese control in July 1997.)

In 1887, the U.S. Senate approved an agreement to lease Pearl Harbor in Hawaii as a naval base.

In 1936, Britain's King George V died (his demise having been hastened by his physician); he was succeeded by Edward VIII.

In 1937, President Franklin D. Roosevelt became the first chief executive to be inaugurated on Jan. 20 instead of March 4.

In 1942, Nazi officials held the notorious Wannsee conference, during which they arrived at their "final solution" that called for exterminating Jews.

In 1945, President Franklin D. Roosevelt was sworn into office for an unprecedented fourth term.

In 1949, President Harry S. Truman was sworn in for a second term of office. In his inaugural address, Truman branded communism a "false philosophy" as he outlined his program for U.S. world leadership.

In 1969, Richard M. Nixon was sworn in as the 37th president of the United States; Spiro Agnew took the oath of vice president.

In 1989, George H.W. Bush was sworn in as the 41st president of the United States; Dan Quayle took the oath of vice president.

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Slim Whitman is 85. Actress Patricia Neal is 83. Comedian Arte Johnson is 80.

Former astronaut Buzz Aldrin is 79. Actress Dorothy Provine is 72. Singer Eric Stewart is 64. Movie director David Lynch is 63. Actor Daniel Benzali is 59. Rock musician Paul Stanley (KISS) is 57. Rock musician Ian Hill (Judas Priest) is 57. Comedian Bill Maher is 53. Actor Lorenzo Lamas is 51. Actor James Denton ("Desperate Housewives") is 46. Rock musician Greg K. (The Offspring) is 44. Country singer John Michael Montgomery is 44. Actor Rainn Wilson ("The Office") is 43. Actress Stacey Dash is 42. TV personality Melissa Rivers is 41. Singer Xavier is 41. Singer Edwin McCain is 39. Actor Skeet Ulrich is 39.

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Answer to previous puzzle

AHOY	CABLE	GLEN
SAVE	ABLER	REDO
ORAL	ROUGE	EDGE
FELL	ADES	REGAL
OATER MINERS		
PRAWNS	IMAGE	
LOBBY	ABET	GRAD
OVER	TUBAS	GATE
DELI	IRON	ASIAN
CSPAN STANDS		
SPOKES	PECAN	
COURT	SALE	DROP
ALTO	RANON	HOP
NADA	INEPT	ALAS
TROD	OGLES	MELT

Newsday Crossword

ON THE ROOF by Gail Grabowski
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Lasting mark
 - 5 Dwelling
 - 10 Lifesaving technique: Abbr.
 - 13 Ye ___ Shoppe
 - 14 JC Penney competitor
 - 15 Butter look-alike
 - 16 Piece of lettuce
 - 17 Occupy, as a table
 - 18 Fling a fishing line
 - 19 Overhead car fixture
 - 21 Auto store's stock
 - 22 Gets out of bed
 - 23 Have a conversation
 - 24 Conquer, as an enemy
 - 27 Oversees
 - 30 More unusual
 - 31 Butcher-shop device
 - 33 Shirt-sleeve filler
 - 34 "Where did ___ wrong?"
 - 35 Antlered animal
 - 36 Bikini top
 - 37 Shade provider
 - 38 Supermarket vehicles
 - 39 Bravery in battle
 - 41 Fixed charge
 - 43 Sahara, for one
 - 44 Long-eared hopper
 - 45 Warn
 - 47 Really annoy
 - 49 Very short of funds
 - 53 Dull pain
- DOWN**
- 1 Real-estate sign
 - 2 Nile queen, for short
 - 3 Eden guy
 - 4 Basketball official
 - 5 Help out
 - 6 Light brown
 - 7 Solemn pledges
 - 8 "Doggone it!"
 - 9 Ohio clock setting: Abbr.
 - 10 Gone With the Wind star
 - 11 Annoying one
 - 12 Goes bad, as fruit
 - 15 Central Florida city
 - 20 Dishonest one
 - 21 Window section
 - 23 Folk story
 - 24 Helps with the dishes
 - 25 National bird
 - 26 Truthfully
 - 27 Church service
 - 28 Proofreader's find
 - 29 Intelligent
 - 31 Feeling angry
 - 32 Portable bed
 - 35 Spouse
 - 38 Show concern
 - 39 "Be" or "bring"
 - 40 Sitting upon
 - 42 Black bird
 - 43 Really dislike
 - 45 Suspect's excuse
 - 46 Highway divisions
 - 47 Treaty
 - 48 Sound in a cave
 - 49 Move smoothly
 - 50 Rocks that are mined
 - 51 Don't throw away
 - 52 Whirling current
 - 54 Painting or sculpture

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Bird Poop: Determined to avoid capture

"I can't find it," stressed the woman who had called earlier. Telling her I was coming, I grabbed the pole net, a carrier, and hurried to the car. A week before I had seen what I supposed was the same specie of bird, and was acquainted with its split personality. Seemingly oblivious to its surroundings, ours had rummaged through the leaves left in drifts by winter's wind. Kicking debris with a backward stroke of its feet, it hurried past the leaves it had cast aside while searching for seeds and insects. As it bustled about, it would stop to listen. Satisfied that



BEBE McCASLAND

no danger was eminent, it continued to hunt in our backyard. Suddenly, racket on the other side of my fence caused the bird to disappear under a dense shrub. Its ability to become as inconspicuous as possible was its greatest protection. Convinced that danger had passed, the bird emerged to hunt, kick and peck again as it fed from the ground's bounty. Taking me through her house to the backyard, the woman felt it was the best way to sneak up on the bird. Her side gate was hard to open; the bottom would scrape on concrete. Quietly, she opened the door to her patio. Since she knew that I was going to wait on the bird to make an appearance, she decided to stay inside. Ten minutes passed. Nothing. Another fifteen minutes, and I began to wonder if my strategy would work. Hoping

I would hear the bird before seeing it, I continued to wait. Fortunately, the late January weather was cooperating. No harsh gusts to drown the sound of a bird scattering leaves as it tried to expose its next bite. Other birds flew in to the birdbath and left. Not sure of how much longer I could sit still, I was relieved, when in the silence of a winter morning, the scratching of brittle leaves caught my attention. Slowly glancing to my right, I saw the winter visitor. In the midst of a black head, its red eyes were noticeable. Its throat and breast were also black. In contrast, its rusty flanks and white belly often caused its misidentification as a robin. Enhancing its allure were the white spots and



Courtesy photo

A ground feeding bird, the spotted towhee also nests on the ground. Secreted under a bush or hidden in dense weeds, the nestlings' home is made of leaves, stems, and strips of tree bark.

wing bars on its black upper parts. During its kicks, pauses and pecking, the spotted towhee flared its black tail to expose the white corners seen in flight. Since the woman had told me the bird could not fly out of her yard, I felt with time I could get a net over it. Energetic, in spite of its injury, the towhee ran, hopped and even attempted to elevate with its short wings. Even though it could not rise but a foot or so above the ground, it was determined to avoid capture. The chase was chaotic as the bird tried to maneuver through shrubs, dried flowers, and what seemed like endless beds of vinca. Fortunately it did not try to sneak beneath the ground cover, although I would not have been surprised if it did. When it finally started to show signs of fatigue, I managed to get my net over the bird. After carefully freeing it from the mesh, I placed it in my carrier and covered it for the

trip home. "Sprish.....pppssst," heralded the sprinkler system as I ran to the patio. Grateful that I had caught the bird and avoided the water, the woman was eager to learn about this colorful migrant. In addition to seeds, the towhee sought beetles, moths, caterpillars, ants, sowbugs, cutworms, wood borers and even boll weevils. On its way south, it had probably availed itself of wild fruits. Early spring would offer it the tender buds of awakening trees and fresh mulberries.

Perhaps the bird had been attracted to the woman's yard by her generous feeders and birdbath. Towhees were known to enjoy water and were often seen bathing in the moisture left on grass by a morning's dew.

After taking the bird to the wildlife center, I shared with the woman the good news that it would fly again. Apparently, a bruised wing had caused its temporary stop-over. Able to migrate, the spotted towhee would once again lend its voice to an ancient spring ritual.

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

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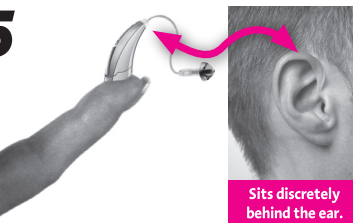
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Parent's Corner: The importance of friends

As I was ruminating through my brain the other day with my mind focused on the importance of friends. Friends are extremely important, but very interesting.

A friend is a person with whom you can do anything or nothing and have a great time. A friend is someone who will be there for you when you need them, even though you may be miles apart or it's been a long time since you've been together.

And when you are talking to a friend that you haven't seen for a long time, your conversation will seem to immediately pick up right where it left off when you last saw them. A friend will never die but will live in the hearts of those they leave behind, for with some people you spend time, with others you invest it.

A friend will not just be with you when you cry but will also cry with you. A friend will never leave you behind if that's what the crowd is doing, but will face the crowd on your behalf. Friends are so essential to our life, but if we choose our friends unwisely they can pull us down and deflate our dreams.

Our friends have the potential to stretch our vision or choke our dreams, and those that don't increase us will eventually decrease us.

It has been said that it is better to be alone than in the wrong company, for the less we associate with negative thinking and negative acting people, the more our life will improve. And if we tolerate mediocrity in others, it increases our mediocrity.

A wise man once said, "Tell me who your best friends are and I will tell you who you are."

The simple but true fact of life is that we become like those with whom we closely associate for the good and the bad, so wise is the person who fortifies his life with the right friendships. Choosing friends is a privilege and one of the most wonderful gifts we have been given.

This is something we need to teach to our children, along with the concept of the old saying "birds of a feather flock together."

There is another saying, a mirror reflects a man's face, but what he is really like is shown by the kind of friends he chooses.

As we choose our friends, may we consider many of the slogans we have heard through the years: Don't follow anyone who is not going anywhere and carefully weigh the advice given by unproductive people. Choose to rise above the turmoil and don't settle for anything short of your dreams. And consider, if we run with wolves, we will learn how to howl, but, if we fly with eagles, we will learn how to soar to great heights.

Darrell Ryan is director of federal programs for the Big Spring Independent School District.



DARRELL RYAN

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Wacky Facts

- In 1962, "Spacewar," played on an early computer, became the first fully interactive video game.
 - The suits on playing cards were originally swords, batons, coins and cups.
- World Almanac for Kids

KID NEWS

Chatter Box

"Video games are bad for you? That's what they said about rock and roll."
— Shigeru Miyamoto, General Manager for Nintendo and co-creator of "Mario," "Donkey Kong" and "The Legend of Zelda," on notable-quotes.com.



Try This

Are you game for family game night?

Game-making giant Hasbro is celebrating 10 years of its Family Game Night initiative. What's that? The company encourages families to set aside one night a week to play games together. Use the new year to start a game night tradition at your house. You can play simple cards games or pull out a game you already have.

If you need suggestions, we enlisted the help of a first-grade class at Keith Elementary School in West Bloomfield, Mich., to help us try out some new games.



CRANIUM HULLA-BALOO (\$24.95 from Hasbro): First of all, doesn't the name just sound fun? The game was so exciting, the first-graders had to give it a double A-plus. The class describes it like this: It's an exercise game that's really, really fun. Grade: A-plus, A-plus!

SORRY! SLIDERS (\$19.99 from Hasbro): This game offers a new twist on Sorry! The students agree that once you learn to play, it's an exciting game, especially playing "danger dot." Grade: B.

ELECTRONIC PICTONARY MAN GAME (\$34.99 from Mattel): The class liked the game because it was different (you draw on a little man to give clues), but recommend it for older kids and said parents will love it, too. Grade: B

GUESS WHAT I AM! (\$15.99 from Techno Source): The students were crazy about this creative new guessing game. You put your face through a card with a character on it and ask yes or no questions to figure out who you are. Makaela said, "I love it. I want to play again and again!" Grade: A-plus, A-plus!



A fun option for family game night is "Guess What I Am?" which has players place their face through a card and ask questions to help other players figure out what they "are."

Here are a few more new this year:

● **Yahtzee: Free For All** (\$16.99 from Hasbro): takes the popular dice game to a full new level of play.

● **UNO Flash Game** (\$29.99 from Mattel): We love the classic card game but UNO Flash adds a fun and speedy element to the game with an electronic board that randomly changes turns in a flash.

● **Monopoly Here & Now: The World Edition** (\$34.99 from Hasbro): is a totally modern Monopoly with cash cards and electronic banking instead of piles of paper money. Plus, fans of the game voted on cities to be included on the new international playing board.

— Janis Campbell, Detroit Free Press

King of Cards
California teen takes Pokémon crown

By Jackie Burrell
Contra Costa Times

It's not every college applicant who can add Pikachu to his list of references. Then again, most high school seniors aren't nationally ranked Pokémon players.

Long before Pikachu and the gang hit the video game circuit, Michael Silva (above) was swapping Charmander cards on the playground at recess, along with every other youngster.

"As far as I know," the Oakley, Calif., teen says, "all kids played Pokémon as kids."

But it's one thing to fly off the monkey bars hollering, "Pikachu!" and quite another to play the highly competitive card game version at city, state and world tournaments.

Set aside the goofy creatures, cutesy lingo — "Piplup attack Chatot with Water Splash!" — and animated legacy, and Pokémon is a complex game of strategy. Using a well-shuffled, seven-card hand, players volley attacks to exploit their opponents' weaknesses, pulling Pokémon — a diminutive of "pocket monsters" — on and off the board, depending on the susceptibilities of their enemies.

It's "an intellectual sport," one that tests skills, strategy and creativity, says a spokeswoman for tournament organizer Pokémon TGC.

The card game always made for some playground excitement, but increasingly, it's popping up in high school cafeterias and college dorms, too. These days Facebook, the social networking site, fairly brims with Pokémon groups.

Some poke affectionate fun — there's one group devoted to Pokémon inspired pick-up lines. Others discuss the relative merits of Pikachu, Charmander and their hundreds of colleagues. One group, dubbed "When I was your age, there were only 150 Pokémon," has 24,498 members alone.

"We've met so many friends through (the game)," Michael says. "It's a great hobby. I play games every day with my brothers, try to meet up with friends from Sacramento to play every week or two."

That fun is paying off for the high school senior, who rediscovered the card game with his younger brothers a few years ago. Michael just won the masters division of the Carmichael, Calif., city championships, where players were divided by age group — 10-and-under, young teens and "masters," who are 15 and up.

Michael took first place against 66 other masters division players, then drove down to Santa Clara, Calif.'s city tournament where he came in third, his Pokémon felled only by last year's state champion.

It's all about standings, he says. The numbers are tallied online, with the rankings changing every few days.

Recently, Michael was ranked first in California and 10th internationally. Those numbers may change over the coming weeks as rankings ebb and flow. But all three Silva boys have their eyes on the national championships in St. Louis, and the international tournament planned for San Diego this August.

"The best part about (the game)," Michael says, "is it's really easy to get into. You can make it as simple as you want or as deep as you want. It appeals to everybody."

DAN ROSEN-
STRAUCH/CONTRA
COSTA TIMES/MCT

POKÉMON 101

THE DECK: Each player has a deck of 60 Pokémon cards, which contains a mix of characters, energy cards to fuel attacks and defense efforts, and miscellaneous cards to repair damage, or confuse, paralyze or otherwise mess with opponents. You'll also need an assortment of damage markers, and coins for flipping.

TO START: Each player shuffles his deck and draws seven cards, one of which must be a Pokémon. These "pocket monsters"

have their own strengths, weaknesses and arsenal of weapons such as fury swipes or water splashes. Each player chooses a Pokémon and places him in the middle of the table, ready for play. Another six cards are placed into a "prize pile."

EACH TURN: A player can give his active Pokémon additional energy by sliding one energy card underneath. He can rotate another Pokémon into the playing field and retire the current, wounded or weaker one to an on-deck position, or use a "trainer" card to repair damage. Or, if he has another card

with a next stage version of his Pokémon, he can "evolve" it into a more powerful character. Each turn ends with the Pokémon attacking his opponent — which is where you hear such distinctive lines as "Chatot attack Piplup with Tone Deaf!" A Pokémon is knocked out when the attacks sap all his strength. The victor then draws a card from the "prize stack."

WINNING: Knock out all your opponent's available Pokémon, force him to run out of cards, or collect all six of your prize cards to win the game.

Pikachu, a Pokémon

This plump, moody fellow is the most admired Pokémon

DID YOU KNOW?

- **Pokémon name:** A contraction of the original Japanese brand "Poketto Monsut?" (Pocket Monsters).
- **Any others?** There are approximately 500 species of Pokémon.
- **Featured in:** 12 Pokémon movies, two TV specials, video games, cards, cartoons, books, lunch boxes, T-shirts, toys.
- **Pop culture:** There have been two different Pikachu balloons in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, a Pokémon-styled Boeing 747-400 and a traveling theme park.
- **The money:** Pokémon generates more than \$30 billion each year.

PERSONAL DATA

- **Born:** 1995 in Japan, as a Nintendo Game Boy electronic game.
- **Creator:** Satoshi Tajiri, a Japanese video game designer.
- **Reborn in U.S.:** 1998 Game Boy.
- **Size:** 20 inches tall, 13 pounds.
- **Special power:** Can create a powerful electric zap from his tail.
- **His trainer:** Ash Ketchum, a child character in the cartoon series.
- **Will evolve into:** Raichu, a larger creature packing a 10,000-volt charge.



SOURCES: USA TODAY, NINTENDO, ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL, WIKIPEDIA.ORG, "THE OFFICIAL POKÉMON HANDBOOK"

MCT

SNOW SCRAMBLER

Can you unscramble these wintry words?

A M S W O N N

S O N W O L W P

S O D A R O N B W

S S W S N H O O E

R I S N O W F T D

ANSWERS: SNOWMAN, SNOWFLAKE, SNOWBOARD, SNOWSHOES, SNOWDRIFT

MARTY WESTMAN/MCT