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VOLUME 104, NUMBER 43

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HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Big Spring Independent School District Superintendent trustee Phil Furqueron, right, applauds the board's decision to hire Steven Saldivar, left, as the district's new superintendent Tuesday evening. Saldivar has been BSISD's assistant superintendent for the past nine months.

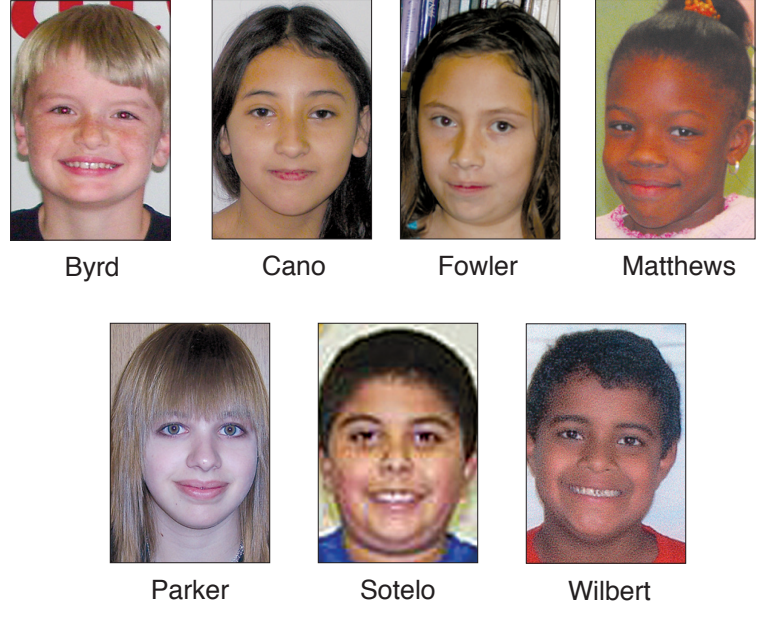
Saldivar BSISD's pick for superintendent post

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer

Big Spring school trustees didn't have to look far for their new superintendent. Trustees named Big Spring Independent School District Assistant Superintendent Steven Saldivar as the district's new superintendent-designate Tuesday evening. Saldivar, with 18 years experience in education, is scheduled to assume his new duties July 1. He succeeds Michael Downes,

who resigned last June after nearly six years as superintendent. He was selected over 33 other applicants for the position, school officials said. Because of state regulations, trustees must wait 21 days before making the hire official. "I'm looking forward to the challenges," Saldivar said. "My family and I are looking forward to a long tenure here."

See **BSISD**, Page 3A



Students strive to Bee the best

Spell-off set for 4:30 p.m. today

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer

Big Spring Independent School District's seven best spellers will vie for the city crown when they participate in the annual BSISD Spelling Bee today. The event will be held at 4:30 p.m. at the junior high cafeteria. Champion spellers from Moss, Kentwood, Marcy, Washington and Bauer elementaries, as well as Goliad Intermediate and Big Spring Junior High, were chosen in campus spelling bees the past several weeks. The bee finalists are:

- Jonathan Byrd, a fourth-grader at Kentwood Elemen-

tary.

- Julien Cano, a fourth-grader at Washington Elementary.
- Destinee Fowler, a fifth-grader at Goliad Intermediate.
- Kaitlyn Matthews, a fourth-grader at Moss Elementary.
- Chelsey Parker, an eighth-grader at Big Spring Junior High School.
- Alex Sotelo, a fourth-grader at Bauer Elementary.
- Adrian Wilbert, a fourth-grader at Marcy Elementary.

Calling the words at this year's bee will Elissa Medina-Bancroft, an English teacher at the high school. Judges

See **BEE**, Page 3A

Probation officer injured in escape attempt

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer

A juvenile probation officer was treated for injuries at Scenic Mountain Medical Center Tuesday afternoon following an attempted escape by a 16-year-old detainee. According to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the Big Spring Police Department, the incident occurred at approximately 2:38 p.m. near the Juvenile Probation

Office, located in the Howard County Courthouse Annex. "A 16-year-old was trying to escape when the juvenile probation officer attempted to detain him," said Everett. "The officer tried to stop the young man, but fell and sustained injuries in the process. The teen fled the scene and headed south of the annex." Everett said the juvenile's newfound freedom was short-lived, however. "He didn't get very far, just a few

blocks south of the Juvenile Probation Office," said Everett. "Officers caught him in a nearby pasture and took him into custody, where he remains." The probation officer injured in the struggle was taken to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center, according to Everett. "He was taken by private vehicle," said Everett. "It's unclear right now how serious the injuries may or may

not have been. The investigation is ongoing, however." Everett said the young man has been charged with escape causing bodily injury. "He's been charged, now it's up to the courts to decide how to handle this," said Everett.

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

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Bush welcomed home in Texas

By ANGELA K. BROWN
 Associated Press Writer
 WACO (AP) — After an enthusiastic welcome from thousands of cheering Texans in two cities, George W. Bush was spending his first night out of office at his Crawford ranch. Before flying in a helicopter to his 1,600-acre ranch, the

former president told about 3,000 well-wishers gathered at a Waco airfield Tuesday night that he was glad to be back in Texas. "It is a great day because we got to come home once and for all," Bush, with former first lady Laura Bush at

See **BUSH**, Page 3A

Davis legacy to be honored Thursday

The public is invited to join Howard College in a special tribute Thursday to Harold Davis, who passed away in 2008. Davis was an icon at Howard College, leaving his mark on many students, staff, faculty and administrators as a trustee and former coach. Howard College basketball teams will be playing South Plains College Thursday at Harold Davis Court in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. The women will begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by the men at 7:30 p.m. Between the games, at approximately 7 p.m., the college will host a special ceremony honoring Davis and his wife, Janell.

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Ranked Wall squads sweep Coahoma

By **BRANDON HALLFORD**

COAHOMA to the Herald

COAHOMA — The Wall Hawks and Coahoma Bulldogs hooked up for a 7-2A doubleheader and won the time it was all said and done the visiting Hawks flew away with a pair of convincing wins.

In the first game, it was the third-ranked Lady Hawks (24-2, 4-0) surging to a 21-4 lead after one quarter of play on their way to a 65-19 win over the Bulldogettes (8-12, 1-3).

“They are an extremely good team,”

said Head Coach Randall Petty after the game. “They made it hard on us to get into a rhythm from the beginning.”

The main reason for the disparity in scoring was the constant pressure on the defensive end of the court.

“It wasn’t just the full-court pressure that got us, but the half-court press as well,” Petty commented about the Wall defense.

As a result of the pressure, the Bulldogettes committed 38 turnovers compared to 16 for the Lady Hawks.

“They are probably the best team we have faced all year,” Petty said of the Lady Hawks, along with the Lady Indians of Jim Ned, are favorites to contend the district title. “It will be a battle every time those two play.”

Sally Higgins paced Wall, hitting the stat sheet for a game-high 14 points while Hillary Adam scored 13.

Kalea Neff led the Bulldogettes with 11.

See **COAHOMA**, Page 3B



Courtesy photo/Bob Fishback

Forsan's Amanda Longorio (54) goes up for two of her game-high 27 points in the Lady Buffs' 62-48 win over Iraan Tuesday in Forsan.

Forsan rolls over McCamey

Herald Staff Report

FORSAN — The District 7-A season opened exactly the way Forsan's girls and boys teams wanted it to as both squads got by Iraan Monday with double-digit victories.

There was something the two teams had in common with the victories as well — each received 27-point performances from their leading scorer.

For the Lady Buffs, it was Amanda Longorio, who displayed her typical dominance in the post.

Longorio and the Lady Buffs jumped out to a 19-7 advantage after the first period, but Iraan cut the deficit to single digits by the break, 29-21.

“Iraan had no quit in them,” said Lady Buffs Head Coach Robert Hillger, “and they closed the gap by halftime. We responded well in the third quarter and basically kept them at around a 12-point deficit the rest of the way. We played very hard and were focused from the tip.”

Shelby Jones complimented Longorio with nine points, while Shelby McDonald hit two threes as a part of an eight-point showing.

The Lady Buffs (18-6, 1-0) continue district play at 6:30 p.m. Friday, hosting McCamey, which is favored to win the district. McCamey defeated Forsan earlier this season in a tournament in

See **FORSAN**, Page 3B

Big Spring surges by Cooper

Steers rally in fourth for second 4-4A victory

By **JONATHAN HULL**

Sports Editor

Big Spring's Steers are at their best on the hardwood in the fourth period.

For a second consecutive District 4-4A game, the Big Spring Steers used a surge in the final stanza to come away with an important victory.

The Steers trailed 30-27 entering the fourth, but back-to-back threes by Darius McCalister and Tyrone Clemons sparked a 10-0 run, leading Big Spring to a 49-40 victory.

“We don't have any fear late in the game,” said Big Spring Head Coach Marcus Morris. “We're never afraid to shoot the ball. The fourth quarter is just another quarter to us.”

Cooper scored the first two points of the fourth period, taking a 32-27 advantage.

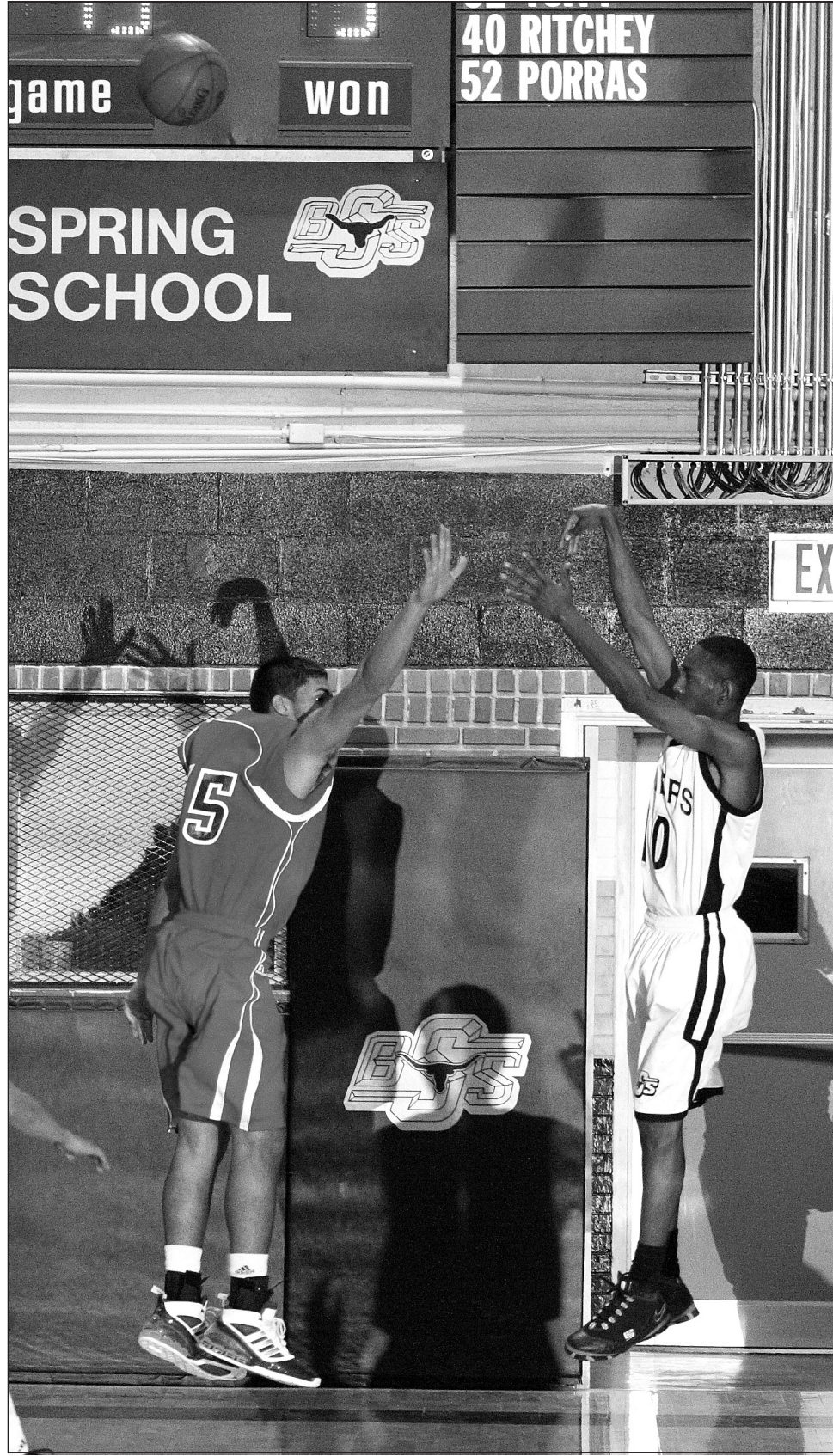
However, McCalister had a quick answer, hitting a three from the right corner. He then stole Cooper's inbounds pass, and gave the ball over to Clemons, who drained a three from the wing, putting Big Spring up 33-32.

Big Spring's posts took over from there to cap the 10-0 run. Matt Ritchey worked himself free in the paint for an easy bucket and Sidney Parker drew a foul on Big Spring's next possession, then made both of his attempts at the line. The run gave the Steers a 37-32 lead with 5:35 to play.

Big Spring went on to outscore Cooper 22-10 in the fourth period.

Having Ritchey on the floor at a crucial moment in the game played a key role in Big Spring's win. The Steers had to win

See **STEERS**, Page 3B



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring's Jerrell Williams shoots a three over Abilene Cooper's Tommy Bowman in the Steers' 49-40 win over the Cougars Friday in Steer Gym. Big Spring improved to 2-0 in District 4-4A with the victory.

Cooper runs away from Lady Steers in second half

By **JONATHAN HULL**

Sports Editor

For one half, the Big Spring Lady Steers looked every bit the equal of the Abilene Cooper Lady Cougars on the hardwood Tuesday night in Steer Gym.

However, a letdown in the second half prevented the Lady Steers from keeping pace with Cooper as the Lady Cougars came away with a 57-40 victory in a District 4-4A game.

“We sure looked good in the first half,” said Big Spring Head Coach Mike Warren. “We just couldn't get any of our shots to fall in the second half.”

The loss puts Big Spring in an 0-4 hole in league play. Meanwhile, Cooper improves to 2-1 in district with wins over Lake View and Big Spring, which are both below them in the standings.

Neither squad could garner an advantage over the other in the first half as both executed in their offensive sets after breaking down a press. For the Lady Steers, it was probably the best they had played in their half court offense all season, according to Warren.

“This was the best we've performed in a set offense this season,” he said. “I'm very encouraged and I think the girls are, too. We did a good job get-



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring's LaShaunte Anderson (left) and Bridgette Tuitt (right) collapse on Abilene Cooper ball handler Jessica Renner as she brings the ball up the court Tuesday in Steer Gym. The Lady Steers lost 57-40.

ting offensive rebounds and putting the ball back in. That first half was the best we have played. We just have to carry it over for four quarters now.”

With the score tied at 27 at the break, Abilene Cooper opened the second half with a 9-0 run, tak-

ing a 36-27 lead with 4:30 minutes to play in the third period.

See **LADY STEERS**, Page 3B

Obituaries

Joe Montague Canon



Services for Joe Montague Canon, 79, of Gail will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday Jan. 21, 2009, at Branon Funeral Home Chapel with Keith Hackfield and Lee Iglesias officiating. Private graveside services will be held at Canon Ranch Cemetery under the direction of Branon Funeral Home.

Joe was a third generation rancher. He died Sunday Jan. 18, 2009, at the age of 79, in his home at his beloved ranch in Dawson — Borden County. Special thanks to Adelita Iglesias and Home Health of Lamesa for the support throughout the years. Compass Hospice of Big Spring helped Joe and his family pass this time with courage, dignity and peace.

Joe was born in San Angelo Sept. 3, 1929, to Charles C. and Louise R. Canon. Joe was raised on the Canon Ranch in Pecos County where he learned about sheep, goats and cattle from his father and the late Avery Mays.

In 1950, Joe married Dorothy Barfield from Rankin, and they moved to the ranch nestled under the Caprock between Dawson and Borden counties. Joe raised Romadale sheep, Spanish goats and cattle. In the late 1960s, because of predators, Joe went to straight cattle. He and his father had traveled to Kentucky in 1947 to purchase top-grade Angus bulls, which had raised the standard of the commercial herd. Joe's reputation for quality heifers usually topped the Producers Livestock Auction replacement sale of each fall.

Joe developed a fine registered herd, selling yearling and two-year-old bulls. Joe, along with Otis Deal, Don Shelby, Jack Turner and Mark McLaughlin, helped found the Late West Central Texas Angus Association, which helped bring quality Angus to West Texas.

Joe was known for his aggressive conservation practices, and received area conservation awards. He enjoyed roping, ranching and making things come together. He served as a director on the old Production Credit Board and the Lamesa Rodeo Association. While serving as a president of the Borden County Livestock Association, Joe put on the first 4-H Kid Rodeo in Gail to benefit the Borden County Livestock Association, which benefited the youth at the county livestock show.

Joe and Dorothy enjoyed their life in ranching until her death in 1988. He was blessed to enjoy a second marriage to Melba Rinehart who has been his wife and friend, standing firmly by his side.

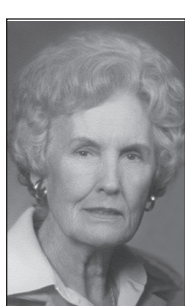
Joe is survived by Melba; his three children, Terry and husband Cress DeBusk of Snyder, Gigi Jones of Stephenville and Charles Canon of Dallas. Joe was blessed with his step-sons, Eurdist Rinehart and wife Brenda, Travis Rinehart, Jym Rinehart and wife Amy, all of Borden County.

Surviving grandchildren include Monte Cheatham, Will Cheatham, Leslie Jones, Amber Jones, Cassidy Rinehart, Symeron Rinehart, Shylo Rinehart and Tristyn Rinehart. Great-grandchildren are Brooklyn Cheatham, Lexi Cheatham, Mason Cheatham and Kingsley Taylor.

The family suggests memorials to the American Cancer Society, American Diabetes Association, and Compass Hospice of Big Spring, serving Lamesa and the surrounding area.

Paid obituary

Madeline Atkins



Madeline Atkins left this earth to be with her Lord and Savior Jan. 18, 2009, at the age of 99 years and 5 months. She was born Aug. 18, 1909, in Sherman to Homer and Mildred Kyle. At an early age she moved to Canyon and attended West Texas Teachers College.

While attending college she met and married Jasper W. Atkins April 5, 1930. He died in 1989, just months short of them being married

70 years. 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 was an avid golfer, fisherman and bridge player. She played golf and bridge into her late 80s and took her last fishing trip to the coast when she was 94.

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, Randy Jenkins and wife Pat of Chickasha, Okla., Larry Jenkins and wife Marilyn of Enid, Okla., Travis Jenkins of Oklahoma City, Okla., Carrie Currie and husband Henry of Austin, Hays Atkins and wife Jessica of Wimberley, Eric Atkins and wife Maday of Leander, and Tina Brunson of Leander; plus two adopted grandchildren, Bill Carey of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Kendra Willingham and husband Bob of Frisco; 15 great-grandchildren, and seven great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband and one grandson, Craig Atkins.

Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 23, 2009, at the Trinity Memorial Park Peace Chapel with the Rev. Ken McIntosh, pastor of First Christian Church, officiating.

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

The family would like to thank the staff at Parkview Nursing Home and Home Hospice for the loving care they gave mother. We would also like to thank Susan and Bob Lewis and Libby and Arnold Uribe for being there when we were gone.

The family suggests memorials to First Christian Church, 911 Goliad, Big Spring 79720; or Home Hospice, 111 E. Seventh St. 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.npwelch.com

Paid obituary

Vernon Lawrence 'Larry' Cuthbertson Jr.

Vernon Lawrence "Larry" Cuthbertson Jr., 63, of Amarillo, formerly of Big Spring, died Monday, Jan. 19, 2009, in an Amarillo hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22, 2009, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with Al Smith, minister of Northridge Church of Christ in Amarillo, officiating.

He was born Nov. 7, 1945, in Big Spring. Larry worked at the VA Medical Center in Big Spring for several years. He moved to Amarillo in 1992. He was a member of Northridge Church of Christ in Amarillo.

Survivors include his mother, Mary Cuthbertson of Houma, La.; one sister and brother-in-law, Glynna and Gary Witt of Houma, La.; one aunt, June Zant of Paris; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Vernon Cuthbertson; and one brother, Jerry Cuthbertson.

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

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.



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Lottery

The jackpot in the multistate Mega Millions lottery drawing grew to \$21 million for Friday night's drawing. None of the tickets sold for Tuesday's \$16 million drawing matched all five lotto numbers and the Mega Ball.

The winning numbers from Tuesday's drawing were: 1, 9, 10, 35, and 46. The Mega Ball number was 9.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 12 - 20 - 21 - 22 - 23.
Number matching five of five: 1. Prize: \$23,344.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 3 - 5 - 3 - 4. Sum It Up: 15.1

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 4-1-4. Sum It Up: 9.

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.

USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
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Area roundup: Lady 'Kats rolling



Courtesy photo/James Schwartz

Garden City's Paige Niehues (42) brings the ball up the court in action from earlier this season. Niehues scored 13 in No. 13 Garden City's 61-33 win over Sterling City Tuesday.

Herald staff reports

STERLING CITY — There's currently just one team in the Crossroads region ranked in either the girls or boys basketball state Top 20 polls and that's the Garden City Lady Barkats.

The Lady 'Kats continue to live up to their No. 13 ranking Tuesday, pounding Sterling City, 61-33. The win improves Garden City's District 10-IIA record to 4-0.

Morgan Schwartz led the way with a game-high 27 points and Paige Niehues added 13.

The Lady 'Kats led by 10 after the first period and extended that lead to 22, 33-11, by intermission.

Garden City hosts Water Valley at 6:30 p.m. Friday.

Garden City 17 16 15 13—61
Sterling City 7 4 14 8—33

Garden City (21-3, 4-0): Melissa Hirt 2, Vikki Garza 2, Macy Schwartz 8, Morgan Schwartz 27, Kat Halfmann 5, Brooke Halfmann 4, Paige Niehues 13.

Sterling City: Myrick 3, Havlak 4, McGwire 2, Hodges 7, Mussek 8, Hasty 7, Barber 2.

Free throws: GC 13-17, SC 9-17. 3-point goals: GC 4 (Ma. Schwartz 2, Niehues 2), SC 2 (Myrick, Hasty). Total fouls: GC 14, SC 15. Fouled out: None.

Dawson 52, Grady 50

WELCH — Grady's Lady Wildcats suffered their first loss of the District 9-IIA sea-

son Tuesday as Dawson hit the game winner with 10 seconds to play. The game also serves as Dawson's first district victory.

The Lady 'Cats got another stellar performance from Eva Dyck, who scored 21 points. Maegan Blocker added 12, while Lauren Robinson scored 11.

Grady hosts Loop at 6:30 p.m. Friday.

Grady 13 14 6 17—50
Dawson 10 9 18 16—52

Grady (15-8, 3-1): Eva Dyck 21, Maegan Blocker 12, Lauren Robinson 11, Julia Schuelke 3, Caitlyn Blocker 3.

Dawson: Key 25, Castillo 12, Napper 6, Kruz 5, Mahan 4.

Free throws: G 13-22, D 10-16. 3-point goals: G 5 (Dyck 2, Schuelke, C. Blocker, Robinson), D 3 (Key 2, Mahan). Total fouls: G 15, D 19. Fouled out: None.

McCamey 31, Stanton 21

STANTON — The Stanton Lady Buffs played feisty defense for three periods, but a strong start led McCamey to a 10-point victory, 31-21, Tuesday.

The Lady Badgers outscored Stanton 14-8 in the first period, then held the Lady Buffs to a mere six points in the second half.

Stanton was led by Rachel Fleckenstein, who scored 11 points.

The Lady Buffs pay a visit to Iraan at 6:30 p.m. Friday.

McCamey 14 5 6 6—31
Stanton 8 7 4 2—21

McCamey: Mesa 11, Bradford 9, Gonzalez 5, Wylie 4, Esparza 2.

Stanton (11-13, 0-1): Rachel Fleckenstein 11, Kessie Jones 4, Krista Sanchez 3, Adrian Carrasco 2.

Free throws: M 3-8, S 2-5. 3-point goals: S 1 (Sanchez). Total fouls: M 9, S 12. Fouled out: None.

Sands 52, Loop 43

LOOP — The Sands Lady Mustangs continue to get strong performances from Brittini Blagrave as they pulled away late for a 52-43 win over Loop.

Blagrave scored 28 points to lead all scorers. She scored a total of 63 points in two games last week.

Sands led by just 3 points heading into the finals stanza, but outscored the Lady Longhorns, 18-12, in the fourth to claim the victory.

Sands 19 6 9 18—52
Loop 19 2 10 12—43

Leading scorers: Sands (14-10, 3-1) — Brittini Blagrave 28, Yarbrough 10. Loop (11-10, 1-3) — D. Ramirez 13, Young 10.

Boys basketball Stanton 60, McCamey 41

STANTON — District 7-A tipped off with a bang for the Stanton Buffaloes as

See **AREA**, Page 3B

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Police

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

- ROBERT AIKENS, 45, of 1715 E. Highway 350, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of solicitation by a pedestrian.
- LARRY JAMES STERLING, 51, of 2911 W. Highway 80, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of failure to identify.
- DUSTY DAWN NALLEY, 30, of 4002 Connally, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of criminal trespass.
- SHELBY LYNN TISSUE, 25, of 104 Courtney place, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of marijuana – more than four ounces, less than five pounds.
- KANIEL MATTHEW MIRAMONTES, 23, of 1 Courtney Place, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of marijuana – more than four ounces, less than five pounds.
- RYAN MORGAN, 24, of 1800 11th place, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of evading arrest or detention.
- ESCAPE CAUSING BODILY INJURY was reported in the 300 block of Main Street.
- CRIMINAL TRESPASS was reported in the 1900 block of Winston.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported 1400 block of

Lexington.

• ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87.

Sheriff

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 53 inmates at the time of this report.
- WILLIAM JAY MCNEW, 50, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated – third or more offense.
 - MARY HELEN ESCOVEDO, 44, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of assault – family violence.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Austin. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 100 block of Terry Road. Service refused.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1300 block of E. Fourth Street. Service refused.

Local Weather

Thu 1/22	84/50	
Sunshine and clouds mixed. Very warm. High 84F. Winds SW at 15 to 25 mph.		
Fri 1/23	79/33	
Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the low 30s.		
Sat 1/24	63/37	
Abundant sunshine. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the upper 30s.		
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Bulletin Board

TODAY

• 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.
- Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association meets at 5:30 p.m. in the Big Spring City Council Chambers, 307 E. Fourth.
- League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC Chapter 4791 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. The public is invited.

Correction

In the Tuesday edition of the Big Spring Herald, the Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following transfer to the county jail:

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.

The charge was reported incorrectly by the arresting agency, the Big Spring Police Department, and should have read:

VANESSA HOLLIS, 35, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of driving while intoxicated – third or more offense and possession of a controlled substance.

Take Note

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

BSISD

Continued from Page 3A

The district's new superintendent-designate came to BSISD in May 2007 when he was named assistant superintendent. Prior to that, he served as assistant superintendent at Lamesa ISD for four years. In addition, he has served as a classroom teacher, coach and principal during his education career.

"The board felt we were going in the right direction with this decision," said Irene Galan, trustee president.

"We feel he's capable of doing a very good job for the Big Spring school district.

"We had a lot of good candidates for this position, but during the interview process, (Saldivar) discussed with us his goals and visions for the school district and those ideas were the same thing we wanted," she added.

Dr. Michael Stevens, who has served as interim superintendent since shortly after Downes' resignation, applauded the board's decision.

"I'm very pleased. Steven's a very dedicated and very good person," Stevens said. "I don't have any doubt he'll be a good superintendent. We

needed someone who's a good educator and he's that ... Like everyone else new to the job, he'll have a lot to learn, but he will."

Stevens, the former superintendent at Hereford ISD, will remain interim chief of BSISD until June 30, then will assume a part-time advisory role with the district until December.

Saldivar said his decision to apply for the position came over the course of several weeks.

"It was a process," he said. "I knew I wanted to be here and my family likes it here. It was just a process of evaluating and looking at the situation."

Now that the job is his, Saldivar

admits he has a steep learning curve ahead of him.

"I'll have some time to get adjusted to the new situation," he said. "But now that today is done, we can really hit the ground running."

Saldivar and his wife, Becky, have three children — Zach, a senior at Big Spring High School, Addy, a sixth-grader at Goliad Intermediate and Lexi, a kindergarten student at Marcy Elementary.

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

BEE

Continued from Page 1A

will be Peggy Skiles, high school librarian, Carol Boyd, high school English teacher and Penny Phillips, executive director of Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center.

The format for this year's bee will follow that of past events. The "sudden death" format calls for contestants to be eliminated once they misspell a word. Once the bee is down to its last two spellers, the eventual champion must correctly spell the word missed by the runner-up, then another word to win the crown.

The winner of the bee advances to the Midland regional bee, to be held Feb. 28 at the Allison Fine Arts Building on the Midland College campus. The winner there advances to the Scripps-Howard National Spelling Bee, sched-

uled for May 24 through May 29 in Washington D.C.

Robin Ritchey, local bee coordinator, said she has always been impressed by how cool and calm the contestants are when faced with the pressure of the event.

"It's amazing to me just how poised the

kids are," she said. "Of course, some of them get too nervous and miss a word ... but for the most part, it's amazing just how cool they are."

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

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Sue Kerr, 58, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

BUSH

Continued from Page 1A

his side, said as the crowd cheered.

The supporters, bundled up against 40-degree temperatures, had waited on the tarmac more than an hour. Many waved red, white and blue cardboard "W"s and small American flags. Dozens of children sat on their parents' shoulders to get a glimpse of Bush, who shook some hands and talked to some in the crowd after he spoke.

Bush said he was grateful for his friends in Texas and for the opportunity to serve as president the last eight years.

"I come home with my head held high," he said, adding that when he got to his Crawford ranch he would look in the mirror and "be proud of what I see."

After leaving Washington, D.C., earlier Tuesday, Bush arrived in Midland, where he grew up and where thousands held a send-off rally before his first inauguration.

In the hours leading up to his return Tuesday, excerpts of some of Bush's speeches played on a large TV screen, including remarks he

made to Congress shortly after the 2001 terrorist attacks.

One little boy waved a sign that read, "President Bush, thank you for keeping me safe" in multicolored lettering. Others read: "Be Bold, Be Bush" and "43 is back."

"The presidency was a joyous experience, but as great as it was, nothing compares with Texas at sunset," Bush told a crowd of about 25,000, many waving cardboard "W"s. "Tonight I have the privilege of saying six words that I have been waiting to say for a while: It is good to be home."

Dudley Winn, a cotton farmer on the South Plains of West Texas, drove two hours from Lubbock to greet Bush on his first stop after leaving office.

"It's a special day but it's a sad day," Winn said. "He's done eight years of a job well done. He held our country together with the values we respect. He did the job we asked him to do. He kept our values safe."

Bush spoke about the

challenges he had faced, saying that even during some of his most difficult days, he "was always optimistic about the future."

He lauded those who helped throughout his presidency and defended decisions he said some thought unwise.

"I never took an opinion poll to tell me what to think," Bush said.

As Bush flew into Midland he wanted to see the gathering from the air. The jet carrying the Bushes and others flew low over downtown so that they could see Centennial Plaza before they landed.

Bush said that while several former presidents told him they had felt bittersweet about leaving office, "For me, there's nothing to be

bitter about. Today is something sweet."

With Bush at the Midland rally were Karl Rove, former White House Chief of Staff Josh Bolton, Alberto Gonzales, the country's former attorney general and others from his administration.

Jan Rhodes, a school teacher in Midland, was on hand when Bush left Midland eight years ago for his inauguration and was back Tuesday.

"We watched for eight years and we're proud of how he served us and how he represented Midland," she said.

While Bush was born in New Haven, Conn., he spent his childhood in Midland. He returned there as an adult in the 1970s and met the future first lady, who grew up

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COAHOMA

Continued from Page 1B

Coahoma 4 5 4 6—19
Wall 21 15 14 15—65
Coahoma (8-12, 1-3) — Neff 11, Kylie Gee 5, Berkley Iden 2, Alex Moore 1.
Wall (24-2, 4-0) — Higgins 14, Adam 13, Karly Kellermeir 12

Wall 61, Bulldogs 47

The Wall Hawks used a 20-4 second-quarter run to break open a close contest and claim a 61-47 win.

The Bulldogs (18-6, 0-2) looked to have gotten on track early in the contest, holding the Hawks to just eight points in the opening quarter. Coahoma started just as cold, however, scoring just 12 points heading into the second stanza.

That was when the Hawks kicked it into overdrive as Justin Walling and Cameron Schooley hit back-to-back treys to claiming the lead at 14-12 less than a minute into the quarter — an advantage the Hawks never relinquished.

“We did it again,” said Head Coach Kim Nichols. “We had one bad quarter and it cost us again.”

Wall closed out the half with a 6-0

run to claim a 28-16 lead heading into the locker room.

The Bulldogs where finally able to get things going in the third as Cody Sheppard and Josh Paniagua combined to pull Coahoma within 7 at 28-21 just three minutes into the frame. However, the Hawks where able to quell the rally by outscoring Coahoma 18-6 and went into the fourth holding a 46-28 lead.

Coahoma tried to fight its way back into the contest. The Bulldogs exploded for more 19 points. It was too little, too late though, as the Hawks knocked down 15 themselves.

“I thought Cody played a great second half,” Nichols said. “We were

just in too big of a hole to climb out. I don’t know what it is. We always seem to play three good quarters every game, but we always have one quarter that we just don’t play very well.”

Sheppard scored a game-high 16 points in the loss while Walling paced the Hawks with 15.

Wall 8 20 18 15—61
Coahoma 12 4 12 19—47
Coahoma (18-6, 0-2) — Sheppard 16, Paniagua 10, Braden Griffin 6, Lane Douglas 5, Ray Guterrez 3, Hunter Williams 2, Isaac Garcia 2.
Wall — Walling 15, Schooley 13, Brandon Willman 8, Kyler Conaway 6, Logan Niehues 5, Jensen Nevins 5, Grant Wilde 4, Scott Speck 3, Dean Beard 2.

AREA

Continued from Page 2B

they routed McCamey, 60-41, Tuesday.

The Buffs were led by Tyler Fulton’s 25 points, while Trace Sidle added 20 and Jacob Cazares chipped in 10.

Stanton travels to Iraan for its second district game at 8 p.m. Friday. Iraan lost by 11 to Forsan Tuesday.

McCamey 9 4 7 21—41
Stanton 17 9 19 15—60
McCamey: Mesa 2, Acosta 14, Sanchez 2, Velez 2, Richardson 17, Walker 4.
Stanton (6-12, 1-0): Tyler Fulton 25, Trace Sidle 20, Jacob Cazares 10, Nate Koonce 5.
Free throws: M 4-6, S 14-21. 3-point

goals: M 3 (Acosta, Richardson 2, S 6 (Sidle 6). Total fouls: M 16, S 11. Fouled out: Stanton — S. Smith.

Garden City 39, Sterling City 30

STERLING CITY — Garden City’s Bearkats remained undefeated in District 10-IIA play Tuesday, winning a hard fought contest with Sterling City’s Eagles, 39-30.

Only three Bearkats scored, but it was enough to hold off the Eagles. Brett Chudej scored a game-high 21 points, while Hayden Halfmann added 16. The duo combined for all but two of the Bearkats’ points with Cole Schwartz picking up the other bucket.

The win gives the Bearkats sole possession of first place

in the district.

Garden City plays host to Water Valley at 8 p.m. Friday.

Garden City 12 10 5 12—39
Sterling City 4 13 4

Garden City (9-8, 3-0): Brett Chudej 21, Hayden Halfmann 16, Cole Schwartz 2.

Sterling City: Wright 14, Foster 5, Horwood 5, Galaviz 4, Long 2.

Free throws: GC 5-14, SC 1-6. 3-point goals: GC 0, SC 3 (Horwood, Wright, Foster). Total fouls: GC 10, SC 15. Fouled out: None.

Sands 65, Loop 35

LOOP — After holding an 11-point advantage at half-time, Sands didn’t take its foot off the pedal at all vs.

Loop. The Mustangs out-scored the Longhorns, 40-21, in the second half on their way to a 65-35 victory.

Sands was led by Landon Parker, who scored 15 points, while Michael Gomez added 14 and Seth Fry picked up 13.

The Mustangs improve to 3-1 in District 9-IIA play, just a game behind Borden County and tied with Grady.

Sands 14 11 20 20—65
Loop 9 5 10 11—35
Leading scorers: Sands — Landon Parker 15, Michael Gomez 14, Seth Fry 13.
Loop — Sellers 10.

Grady 48, Dawson 32

WELCH — Grady led by

just 1 at intermission, but outscored Dawson 26-11 in the second half for a 48-32 victory.

Dylan Cox scored 22 to lead all scorers, while Jacob Rodriguez added 10.

The Wildcats are tied with Sands for second in District 9-IIA and a game back of Borden County.

They host Loop at 8 p.m. Friday.

Grady 13 9 12 14—48
Dawson 11 10 6 5—32
Grady (16-5, 3-1): Dylan Cox 22, Tyler Matthews 9, Jeffrey Schuette 2, John Ramirez 2, Johan Wiebe 3, Jacob Rodriguez 10.
Dawson: Brown 4, Key 9, Middleton 4, Rhoads 5, Ramos 10.
Free throws: G 10-16, D 3-10. 3-point goals: G 4 (Cox 3, Matthews), D 1 (Key). Total fouls: G 10, D 15. Fouled out: Key.

STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

without him against Lake View Friday as the junior post sat on the bench with foul trouble for a majority of the second half.

“Matt’s a great rebounder,” said Morris. “Having him on the floor down the stretch of a game is important. He’s starting to play smarter basketball. He’s learning what passes to go after to try and steal. He’s not going to be on the court to just speculate. Besides being a great athlete, he makes a lot of plays. He’s fun to coach.”

Perhaps the biggest key to the Steers’ second straight conference win was their play defensively, particularly shutting down Abilene Cooper leading scorer Rashad Barnes.

In both of the Steers’ district victories, they have shut down their opponents’ leading scorers. They held Lake View’s Paul Mesta to 11 points in Friday’s win, and Tuesday, shut

down Barnes to a mere 10 points, which was good enough to lead Cooper in scoring.

Getting a lot of credit from Morris for the defensive play is McCalister, who has drawn the assignment of being the main defender on both players.

“Every team needs a shut down defender and Darius has been that for us the past two games,” said Morris. “There are a lot of good players in this district, but Barnes is one of the best. He missed some shots he had some looks at, but Darius did a great job of extending out and frustrating him. We’ve challenged Darius the last two games and he’s responded. He’s a great athlete. He’s all muscle and quick. He’s not the biggest guy on the floor, but he plays with a lot of heart. He’s really come a long way. I was proud of Darius tonight.”

Clemons led the Steers with 15 points, including three treys. Ritchey posted 12 from the paint.

The Steers are off Friday and return to district action Tuesday, hosting Plainview at 7:30 p.m. in Steer Gym. Maybe the most encouraging part of

the Steers’ win over Cooper is the fact the Cougars almost upset district favorite Frenship earlier in the week, losing by just 1 to the Tigers.

“We have played a tough schedule heading into district play,” said Morris. “We’ve prepared ourselves and we’re not going to be scared to play anybody. We’re not going to take anyone lightly, either. We will go into each game expecting to win. If we can’t come up with a victory, then we’ll get back in the gym the next day and practice hard. We’re 2-0 right now and we’re excited about that.”

Cooper 9 8 13 10—40

Big Spring 6 14 7 22—49
Abilene Cooper (13-12, 0-2): Martez Justin 1 3-4 6, Rodney Boswell 1 0-2 2, Tommy Bowman 4 0-2 8, Rashad Barnes 3 4-6 10, Reese Williams 1 3-4 5, Fred Spafford 3 3-4 9. Totals 13 13-22 40.

Big Spring (9-13, 2-0): Darius McCalister 1 2-2 5, Jerrell Williams 3 1-2 9, Tyrone Clemons 6 0-0 15, Josh Harris 1 2-2 4, Sydney Parker 1 2-2 4, Matt Ritchey 4 4-6 12. Totals 16 11-14 49.

3-point goals: AC 1 (Justice), BS 6 (Clemons 3, Williams 2, McCalister). Total fouls: AC 12, BS 18. Fouled out: None.

FORSAN

Continued from Page 1B

Garden City. The Lady Badgers are coming off of a 41-21 victory over Stanton Monday.

Iraan 7 14 10 17—48
Forsan 19 10 15 18—62
Iraan: Hernandez 20, Terry 12, Rivero 5, Galindo 4, Mason 4, Petralba 2, Conn 1.
Forsan (18-6, 1-0): Amanda Longorio 27, Shelby Jones 9, Shelby McDonald 8, Faith Belew 6, Miranda Park 4, Charlene Stanley 3, Kelsey Jones 3, Tori Gauer 2.
Free throws: I 3-22, F 4-15. 3-point goals : I 5 (Hernandez 3, Terry 2), F 4 (McDonald 2, K. Jones, Stanley). Totals fouls: I 14, F 19. Fouled out: Gauer.

Buffs 71, Iraan 60

Take away the second period, and Iraan might have slightly outplayed Forsan Monday. Fortunately for the Buffs, though, every frame counts.

Forsan used a 21-7 second period

advantage and a 27-point performance from Jeremy Robbins to defeat Iraan, 71-60, Monday.

Iraan outscored Forsan by a total of three points in the first, third and fourth periods combined.

Robbins was complimented by Alex Huckabee’s 17, while Evan Burton added 11. Nathan Atkerson had 11 rebounds and five blocked shots.

The Buffs also left a lot of points off the board, though, going just 8 for 27 from the free throw line.

Forsan (18-2, 1-0) plays host to McCamey at 8 p.m. Friday. The Badgers fell to Stanton Monday, 60-41.

Iraan 13 7 20 20—60
Forsan 12 21 19 18—71

Iraan: Green 13, Owen 8, Cade 13, Ledford 9, T. Galindo 3, Arnold 2, Fellows 3, E. Galindo 9.

Forsan (18-2, 1-0): Jeremy Freitag 2, Jeremy Robbins 27, Jace Sandridge 2, Tristian Clay 6, Evan Burton 11, Alex Huckabee 17, Nathan Atkerson 6.

Free throws: I 7-13, F 8-27. 3-point goals: I 9 (Ledford 3, Green 2, Owen 2, Cade, Fellows), F 4 (Robbins 2, Clay, Huckabee). Total fouls: I 20, F 12. Fouled out: None.

LADY STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

Big Spring never mustered a comeback, despite several good looks at the basket.

Courtney Cardona played a huge role for Cooper from the perimeter, sinking three treys and scoring a game-high 18 points. Lauren Hatridge added 12 points from the post.

Big Spring was led by Valerie Ross, who scored 14, while Bridgette Tuitt added 10.

Big Spring is off Friday and begins

the second half of District 4-4A play, playing host to Plainview at 6 p.m. Tuesday in Steer Gym. The Lady Bulldogs routed the Lady Steers in their first meeting, 72-26.

Abilene Cooper 57,
Big Spring 40
Cooper 13 14 17 13—57
Big Spring 13 14 8 5—40

Cooper (8-16, 2-1): Courtney Cardona 5 5-7 18, Jessica Renner 1 6-8 8, Andria Brown 1 2-5 4, Kassadi Davis 2 3-4 7, Lauren Hartridge 6 0-2 12, Deprise Cravin 4 0-1 8. Totals 19 16-27 57.

Big Spring (6-16, 0-4): Valerie Ross 5 2-2 14, Desiree Anderson 4 0-0 8, Stormi Smith 1 0-0 2, Bridgette Tuitt 4 2-4 10, Cerbi Ritchey 3 0-0 6. Totals 17 4-6 40.

3-point goals: AC 3 (Cardona 3), BS 2 (Ross 2). Total fouls: AC 11, BS 21. Fouled out: D. Anderson.

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Stalking is creepy but not dangerous.

Stalking is creepy *and* dangerous. Three out of four women who were murdered by an intimate partner had been previously stalked by the killer.

Stalking is annoying but not illegal.

Stalking is a crime under the laws of all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the federal government.

You can’t be stalked by someone you are still dating.

If your current girlfriend or boyfriend tracks your every move or follows you around in a way that causes you fear, that is stalking.

Modern surveillance technology is too expensive and confusing for most stalkers to use.

Stalkers can buy surveillance software and hardware for as little as \$30 and can easily track victims’ every move on a computer.

If you confront the stalker, he’ll go away.

Stalkers can be unreasonable and unpredictable. Confronting or trying to reason with a stalker can be dangerous.

16121



Victim Services of Big Spring
263-3312



EDITORIAL

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

-FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEW

Census offering temporary jobs for local workers

Need a job? How about a little extra cash? Well, if you said yes to either of those questions, the Workforce Solutions Office located at the Big Spring Post Office may have just the situation you're looking for.

Well, that's if \$12 to \$13 an hour and a temporary job sounds good.

But if that does sound like a good situation for you, go by the Workforce Solutions Office at 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 23, because that's where testing will be held for potential enumerators, crew chiefs and supervisors who will work on the 2010 Census.

The hours of the jobs are flexible — some employees will work during the day and others will work evenings and weekends.

Most positions do require a driver's license and use of a vehicle but census workers are reimbursed for authorized expenses such as mileage.

To qualify for one of the jobs, you must be at least 18 years old, a United States citizen and have a valid Social Security number. You'll also have to pass a background check and pass a written basic skills test.

Workers also commit to training, for which they will be paid.

"Many people can work right in their own neighborhood," explained John Steele, a recruiting assistant.

Again, the jobs are temporary. Workers will be needed for the spring of 2009 and early 2010. Census officials say assignments will last five to 10 weeks.

"The employment test is not difficult. It's 28 multiple-choice questions," said Steele. "You have 30 minutes to take it and you can take it more than once."

So, if at first you don't succeed, try again. After all, just how bad do you need a job or that extra cash? We thought so.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

- The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.
- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we take You along for our ride, Lord.
Amen

America's sixth child

On the day he died, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. called his mother to give her his next Sunday's sermon title: "Why America May Go to Hell." In his 1968 call for a Poor People's Campaign, he warned, "America is going to hell if we don't use her vast resources to end poverty and make it possible for all of God's children to have the basic necessities of life."

As Christians reflect on the birth of the most famous poor baby in history, imagine God seeing our very wealthy family blessed with six children. Five of them have enough to eat and comfortable warm bedrooms. One does not. She is often hungry and cold. On some nights, she has to sleep on the streets or in a shelter and even be taken away from her neglectful family and placed in foster care or a group home, with strangers.

Imagine this rich family giving five of its children nourishing meals three times a day, but sending the sixth child to school hungry, with only one or two meals.

Imagine this very wealthy family making sure five of its children get all of their shots, regular health checkups, and immediate access to health care when illness strikes, but ignoring the sixth child, who is plagued by chronic respiratory infections and painful toothaches, which sometimes abscess

and kill for lack of a physician.

Imagine this family sending five of their children to good preschools and making sure they have music and swimming lessons but sending the sixth child to unsafe daycare with untrained caregivers responsible for too many children or leaving her alone.

Imagine five of the children living with books in family that is able to read to most of its children every night, but leaving the other child unread to, un-talked and unsung to, unhugged, or propped before a television screen or video game that feeds him violence and sex and racially-and gender-charged messages, interrupted only by ceaseless ads for material things beyond the child's grasp.

Imagine this family sending most of their children to high-quality schools in safe neighborhoods with enough books and computers and labs and well-prepared teachers, but sending the sixth child to a crumbling school building with peeling ceilings and leaks and lead and asbestos and old, old books—and not enough of them—and undertrained teachers with low expectations.

Imagine most of the family's children being excited about learning, and looking forward to finishing high school, going to college, and getting a job, but the sixth child falling further and further behind grade level, not being able to read, wanting to drop out of school, and being suspended and expelled, because no one has taught him to read and compute. And no one has diagnosed his attention deficit disorder or treated his health

and mental health problems or helped him keep up.

Imagine five of the children engaged in sports and music and arts, in after-school activities and summer camps, but the sixth child hanging out with dubious peers or going home alone because Mom and Dad are working, in prison, or on drugs and alcohol, leaving him alone or on the streets during nonschool hours for weeks and months, at risk of being sucked into illegal activities and the prison pipeline or killed in our gun-saturated nation.

This is our American family today, where one in six, 13 million, of our children lives in poverty in the richest nation on earth, more than 40 percent in extreme poverty. This is not a stable, healthy, economically sensible, or just family. Our failure to invest in all our children before they get sick, or drop out of school, get pregnant, or get into trouble is costly. Every year that we let 13 million children live in poverty costs \$500 billion in lost productivity, crime, and health expenses.

As our political leaders ponder our nation's choices, let them remember the millions of children living in poverty and extreme poverty and without health coverage. Let's put their needs first and not last.

Our economic futures depend on it and so does our nation's soul.

Marian Wright Edelman, whose new book is "The Sea is So Wide And My Boat Is So Small: Charting a Course for the Next Generation," is president of the Children's Defense Fund.



MARIAN
WRIGHT
EDELMAN



When to think twice and not to

Thinking twice or even three times about a possible action or decision is often warranted wisdom. But are there times when over-thinking causes us to become stuck in rumination?

The time of year is upon us when many undergo their annual ritual of introspection. People ponder and consider how they can improve the way they live their lives.

Too much analysis, however, can be like kneading dough. And like dough, a problem can swell in size and seem larger than it really is. When this happens, a deluge of negative thoughts and emotions can overwhelm the over-thinker to the point of interfering with forward movement and progress.

The ruminator becomes so trapped in the past — focusing only on negative memories — that he also becomes pessimistic about the present and fatalistic about the future.

So perhaps over-thinking is not the best way to keep New Year's resolutions and reach goals.

Thinking too much can also result in indecisiveness. And indecision always leads to inaction.

I've often wondered if the disciples of Jesus thought twice when Jesus asked them to follow

him.

In the book of Matthew we read, "And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." And the Bible tells us, "And they straightway left their nets, and followed him." (Matthew 4:18-20)

And yet another time we read, "And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and he called them. And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him." (Matthew 4:21-22)

It sure doesn't sound like these disciples labored much over their decision to follow the Master.

Again, I'm not encouraging rash and hasty actions. Certainly the prudence of thinking twice is unquestionable in many instances. Naturally we want to make responsible decisions and wise moves. But there does seem to be some truth to the expression — "the paralysis of analysis."

If you are dissatisfied with your life, one of the best approaches could be to act more like the person you want to be rather than sitting around analyzing yourself. Aristotle put it this way: "We become just by the practice of just actions, self-controlled by exercising self-control,

and courageous by performing acts of courage."

Maybe instead of wondering whether or not you have time to talk a walk, you go take a walk. Or rather than questioning if you should go back to school, you register for a class.

Or in lieu of hesitating to put in for time off, you take that vacation you've not had in years.

And instead of complaining about the paint on your house, you go buy paint and change it.

And in place of dreaming about taking time for yourself, you make that appointment to get a pedicure or a massage.

Or even instead of belaboring over whether or not you should order dessert, you order and enjoy it, my friend!

Whether or not you think twice about something, the end result always needs to be some decision and action.

Don't get trapped by contemplating, deliberating, chewing on and mulling over to the point of doing nothing — unless doing nothing is your decision, of course.

It could be that sometimes, at least occasionally, our best self-instruction is: "Don't think — just do!"

Annette Bridges is a freelance writer who lives on a North Texas ranch with her husband, John. Her columns are published weekly on United Press International's ReligionAndSpirituality.com and numerous other websites and newspapers. E-mail her at annettebridges@gmail.com.



ANNETTE
BRIDGES

Duncan, Ginobili lead Spurs over Pacers

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Tim Duncan scored 27 points and Manu Ginobili had 26 before the San Antonio Spurs sat their stars early in a lopsided 99-81 win over Indiana on Tuesday night.

Tony Parker added 13 points for San Antonio, which ended the first half of the season in the familiar position of first in the Southwest Division. The Spurs have won three straight and eight of their last 10.

Danny Granger had 17 points for the Pacers, who shot 37 percent from the field and scored their second-fewest points in a game this season.

Indiana entered ranked third in the league in scoring.

Duncan had 10 rebounds for the Spurs and didn't play in the fourth quarter.

Mike Dunleavy added 15 points for the Pacers.

At the midway point of the season, the Spurs are 28-13 — same as a year ago. But this hasn't been business as usual in San Antonio.

The Spurs opened the season without Ginobili and lost Parker for 10 games with an injured ankle. The result was a

2-5 start and whispers of the end for an NBA dynasty grew louder.

The Spurs responded by getting back to their defense-first ideology, the backbone of their four titles since 1999. Ginobili then rejoined the lineup and Parker followed suit, and the Spurs are 22-8 since.

San Antonio certainly looked like its usual self Tuesday.

Indiana (15-27) lost a heartbreaker Monday to New Orleans when Chris Paul sank a 3-pointer as time expired. But the Pacers might have seen this lost coming by half-time.

Indiana did little to contain Duncan, who scored 16 of his points in the first half and finished 10 of 15 from the field.

Ginobili hit all four 3-pointers he fired up and was 8 of 10 from the floor.

The Spurs led 53-40 at halftime. The lead stretched to 24 in the third quarter and ballooned to as much as 29 by the fourth quarter, when both teams began emptying their benches early.

The Spurs play New Jersey at home Friday before starting their

toughest road swing so far.

It begins Sunday with a rematch at the Los Angeles Lakers — who the Spurs beat in a 112-111 thriller last week — before going to Utah and then Phoenix.

The Pacers have lost five of seven.

Notes: Spurs guard George Hill has made long strides since debuting as a poor-shooting rookie this summer after San Antonio drafted him No. 26 overall. Hill entered Tuesday's game averaging 7.5 points and about 18 minutes a game, and Spurs coach Gregg Popovich doesn't seem him hitting a first-year wall. "He probably isn't playing enough minutes to do that. I don't think that will happen with him." ...The Spurs are 6-0 when the second half of back-to-back games are at home.

Nuggets 118, Kings 99

At Denver, Linas Kleiza scored 27 points, Chauncey Billups had 22 and Denver used strong second and third quarters to beat Sacramento.

J.R. Smith scored 19 points and Nene had 13

points and 12 rebounds for Denver, which outscored the Kings 71-44 in the middle frames.

Kevin Martin led Sacramento with 25 points and rookie Jason Thompson had 18 points and 11 rebounds for the Kings, who fell behind by 30 in the fourth quarter.

Jazz 112, T-wolves 107

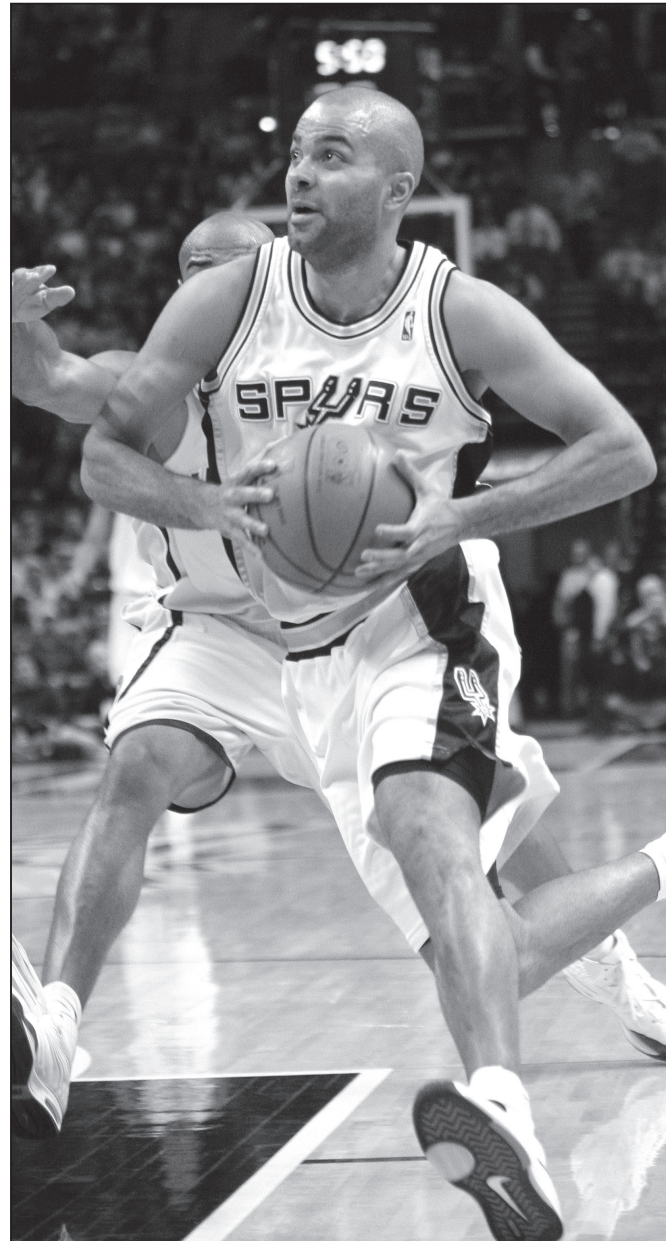
At Salt Lake City, Mehmet Okur scored 22 points and hit consecutive late 3-pointers to boost Utah to its seventh straight home win.

Paul Millsap led Utah with 28 points and 15 rebounds and his dunk gave the Jazz a 97-89 lead midway through the fourth quarter before the Wolves cut the lead to 97-96 on Randy Foye's 3-pointer.

Al Jefferson, who had 25 points and eight rebounds, missed a jump hook and Okur grabbed the rebound. He then made his consecutive 3s and added a free throw.

Deron Williams had 17 points and 11 assists for the Jazz.

Ryan Gomes and Foye each had 19 points for Minnesota.



AP photo
San Antonio Spurs point guard Tony Parker drives to the hoop in the Spurs' 99-81 win over Indiana Tuesday in San Antonio.

Federer, Safin to meet in Open's 3rd round

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Roger Federer and Marat Safin rolled to easy victories Wednesday against first-time opponents to reach the Australian Open's third round, where the familiarity factor will be much higher: They'll be playing each other.

"I'm happy to be playing Marat; we have fought some battles," Federer said after ousting error-prone Evgeny Korolev of Russia 6-2, 6-3, 6-1 in just 86 minutes. "We had the epic in 2005."

That was a semifinal thriller here that Safin won in a 9-7 fifth set en route to the championship. Federer, seeking to tie Pete Sampras' record of 14 Grand Slam titles, has won their last three meetings, including the last two at Wimbledon.

Although Federer's No. 2 ranking is 24 places higher, Safin's talent, unpredictability and famed volatility set the stage for an early marquee match-up.

Safin, a former world No. 1, beat Guillermo Garcia-Lopez of Spain 7-5, 6-2, 6-2. He will turn 29 next week and has said he is unlikely to play after this year, so he's trying to enjoy what could be his farewell tour.

"I have nothing to lose," Safin said. "I'm going to go for it. Whatever comes, comes. He knows how to play against me; I know how to play against him."

The winner would be on track for a possible semifinal meeting against defending champion Novak Djokovic, who traded shots with No. 68 Jeremy Chardy for nearly a set before the Frenchman faltered.

Third-ranked Djokovic cruised the rest of the way for a 7-5, 6-1, 6-3 win.

"I'm playing better and better which is very encouraging," Djokovic said. "I really stepped it up."

His fellow Serbs Jelena Jankovic and Ana Ivanovic advanced on the women's side, though they finished with different attitudes.

Ivanovic lost last year's final here to Maria Sharapova, who is out with a shoulder injury. She was happy she played better in her 6-3, 6-2 victory over Italy's Alberta Brianti than she did in the first round.

Top-ranked Jankovic, seeking her first Grand

Slam title and recovering from illness, felt she regressed while ousting Kirsten Flipkens of Belgium 6-4, 7-5.

"I wasn't really happy with my game, what I was doing on the court," said Jankovic, who needed treatment on her right foot in the first set. "I have to clean up my game a little bit and try to do the right things for my next match."

Seventh-seeded Andy Roddick had his hands full against Xavier Malisse of Belgium, a former top 20 player who had to go through qualifying because his ranking has fallen to No. 195 following a wrist injury.

Roddick, a semifinalist here three times and the 2003 U.S. Open champion, rallied for a hard-fought 4-6, 6-2, 7-6 (1), 6-2 victory.

Malisse seemed to lose steam after forcing the third-set tiebreaker, where he won a mere one point.

Roddick next faces 36-year-old Fabrice Santoro of France, who had an even tougher time, going five sets and more than four hours to beat Germany's Philip Kohlschreiber, the No. 32 seed.

Former Wimbledon runner-up David Nalbandian, who won in Sydney last week and was seeded 10th, was knocked out by unheralded Yen-hsun Lu of Taiwan 6-4, 5-7, 4-6, 6-4, 6-2 in just under four hours. The 25-year-old Lu had never advanced past the second round in 12 previous Slams.

sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Let's Not Be Lackadaisical

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ Q 9 8 7
♥ 6 2
♦ K 6
♣ A K 9 4 3

WEST
♠ 6 5 2
♥ 7
♦ Q 10 5
♣ Q J 10 8 7 2

EAST
♠ 3
♥ Q J 10 5 4
♦ J 8 7 4 3 2
♣ 5

SOUTH
♠ A K J 10 4
♥ A K 9 8 3
♦ A 9
♣ 6

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♣ Pass
3 ♥ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
4 NT Pass 5 ♦ Pass
5 NT Pass 6 ♥ Pass
7 ♠
Opening lead — queen of clubs.

There is an enormous difference between bidding and making seven spades vulnerable, and going down one at that contract — 2,510 points, to be exact. So, if you're in seven spades, as in the present case, it stands to reason that you should try very hard to find the best line of play. Let's first suppose you were lack-

adaisical about the matter. In that case, you'd win the club lead with the king and draw two rounds of trumps, hoping to find them divided 2-2, in which case it would be all over but the shouting.

When East showed out on the second round, you'd stop drawing trumps and play the A-K of hearts, planning to ruff one or two hearts in dummy and sew up the grand slam.

Unfortunately, if you played the hand this way, you'd quickly go down one when West ruffed the second heart. Bad luck, you could say, but let's take another look and see if you shouldn't do better.

The proper line of play makes the contract. It does not depend on finding the hearts divided 3-3 or 4-2.

Win the club lead with the king, ruff a club with the jack of spades, lead the four of spades to the seven, ruff a club with the king, lead the ten of spades to the queen and ruff the nine of clubs with your last trump, the ace.

Then lead a diamond to the king, draw West's last trump with dummy's nine, and your work is done. The 13 tricks you score consist of three club ruffs in your hand, dummy's four trump tricks and the A-K of hearts, A-K of diamonds and A-K of clubs.

Tomorrow: Cards always tell a story.
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In Sunday's Big Spring Herald

Frosty friends

As soon as the first snowflake hits the ground, visions of plump, white, front-yard visitors start to dot the snow-covered landscape. The snowman is one of our most enduring and endearing symbols of winter. Plus, reclaiming attic space and football party food.

American Profile

News in brief

Obama to begin task of governing nation

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama is turning from the star-studded, crowd-pleasing pomp of his inauguration to the workaday task of governing a hurting nation of 304 million and meeting the soaring expectations that he and others have put on his shoulders.

Twin crises of the economy and Iraq figured to take center stage Wednesday, Day One for the new administration.

"Tonight, we celebrate. Tomorrow, the work begins," Obama declared Tuesday night at the Commander in Chief Ball, one of 10 official black-tie celebrations that kept him up late into the night.

The first full day of the Obama presidency promised to be packed, at the White House and on Capitol Hill. It also promised to reveal much about how Obama intends to govern for the next four years, in style and substance.

Both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue now are controlled by Democrats, providing a chance for the Obama administration to succeed if he and fellow lawmakers of the same party can work in concert effectively and if divergent Democratic interest groups don't pull the new president in too many directions.

Obama to meet with national security team

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama will begin to put his imprint on the nation's war strategy in his first full day in office, gathering his top military and national security advisers at the White House for what is expected to be the start of the new commander in chief's shift in emphasis from Iraq to Afghanistan.

According to officials, Obama will conduct a videoteleconference late Wednesday afternoon with members of the National Security Council as well as the U.S. military commanders in the two war zones.

Obama has said he wants combat troops out of Iraq in 16 months and a greater effort made in Afghanistan. In his inauguration speech Tuesday he offered a glimpse of what was to

come. "We will begin to responsibly leave Iraq to its people and forge a hard-earned peace in Afghanistan," he said.

Obama administration files for suspension of war crimes trials during review

GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba (AP) — Military judges will consider Wednesday whether to halt the Guantanamo war crimes trials after President Barack Obama ordered prosecutors to request a 120-day suspension during a review of the system used to try suspected terrorists.

The motions, filed just hours after Obama's inauguration, will be heard in the cases of five men charged in the Sept. 11 attacks and of Canadian Omar Khadr, who is accused of killing an American soldier with a grenade in Afghanistan in 2002.

Obama has said he will close the military detention center in Cuba, where the U.S. holds about 245 men, and he had been expected to halt the widely criticized war-crimes trials created by former President George W. Bush and Congress in 2006.

The motions to suspend the trials came the day of Obama's inauguration. Before Obama was sworn in, a military judge adjourned the war crimes court until Wednesday, noting the future of the commissions was in doubt.

In the motion filed for the Sept. 11 case, U.S. military prosecutor Clay Trivett says a continuance is necessary in all pending cases because the review may result in significant changes to the system.

Palestinians hand President Obama his first international challenge

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israelis and Palestinians have already handed President Barack Obama his first international challenge.

In Gaza, the West Bank and Israel, people are waiting with cynicism, suspicion and hope to see how the new U.S. leader handles the issue.

Obama's inauguration became the

lead story in Israeli media, which had been dominated by coverage of the Gaza offensive that began with a massive air bombardment on Dec. 27.

The front page of Yediot Ahronot, Israel's biggest daily newspaper, featured the smiling Obama and his wife over an English headline: "Good luck."

Seemingly timing its withdrawal to Tuesday's inauguration, Israel had already pulled most of its troops out of the ravaged Gaza Strip after a deadly three-week offensive aimed at halting years of militant rocket fire. But the crisis is not over, with reports of shooting along the Israel-Gaza border.

Iraqi spokesman says his government willing to see U.S. leave before 2011

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq is willing to have the U.S. withdraw all its troops and assume security for the country before the end of 2011, the departure date agreed to by former President George W. Bush, the spokesman of the Iraqi prime minister said.

Spokesman Ali al-Dabbagh made the comment Tuesday, a day before new U.S. President Barack Obama and his senior military commanders were to meet in Washington to discuss options in the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The most significant astrological aspect to today is that there are no significant aspects. An image readily comes to mind of a contented couple sitting together and enjoying one another's company without saying a word. There's something simple and beautiful about the quiet. There is nothing to distract from the elegance of the moment.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your determination makes it possible for you to make amazing progress toward a goal. You see the

shortcuts and they are safe to take. You accomplish in less than a week what would take others months to accomplish.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your work and home persona are distinctly different. Someone gets to see you in both modes and this could be uncomfortable for you. Try not to be self-conscious. To some extent, everyone you know feels the same way.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're open to other people's opinions of you because they just might shed some light on a problem you've been having. By the same token it's important to realize that the only opinion on your personality that really matters is yours.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll be blessed in a surprising way, and you're not the only one. Take this as a sign. You're on a path that will benefit all involved and perhaps even the whole of humanity.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Everyone knows that you will be able to accomplish your aim. Everyone, that is, except you. It's a good time to start believing as your supporters do. You're more than capable and you will prevail.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The befuddling state of affairs in which you are currently entangled is of your own making. It's a beautiful realization because you also hold the freedom keys. Remember what you did to get here and then undo it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You have long forgotten the actual root of the anger you feel towards a male in your life. Make a new appraisal of a long fought battle. Recalculate. You embody a peaceful rationality and can finally move forward.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It's unwise to give your mind and heart equal status in your decision-making process. What does your mind really know, anyway? Facts, but the facts are limited. Your feelings, however, are infinite.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Nature calls you to build your nest. No worries — you are not about to become a rugged do-it-yourselfer. Nearly all required components are easy to come by. Just add love, and assemble.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Loved ones seem to have fluctuating behaviors. They are doing as they normally do, but you're so steadfast lately the rest of the world seems to jiggle. You're the rock that others can and will rely on.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). When you ask yourself, "Is it me, or?" — it's not you. Your observations are correct. You're not crazy. And however right your

opinion may be, it is still the minority for now. It might be easier for you to keep it on the down low.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Freeing oneself from convention is liberating, but it also opens a door to potential foolishness. You're not worried right now about how you will be perceived and that's beautiful.

COSMIC CAREER SPECIAL: SCORPIO AT WORK: When Scorpio gets down to business, regardless of what that business may be (and, truth be told, half the time Scorpio is not even exactly sure what all the effort is adding up to), a strange happening takes place. Scorpio unwittingly brings a force field around him or herself. It's like Scorpio's intense focus builds its own bubble of invincibility and within that place Scorpio can get inside the problems, unravel and solve them, and build new and wondrous creations in their place.

People may gather and wonder what Scorpio is doing, but they dare not interrupt the process. It could be dangerous, like waking up a sleepwalker. No one wants to invoke a Scorpio's wrath, or, worse, delay or prevent the phantasmagoria of financial wizardry, mysterious dealings and mad creation that is sure to be the product of Scorpio's work.

There usually is a point where Scorpio will let down their guard and invite others into the process. This is something to wait for, so as not to bring about a premature ending to Scorpio's solo work, which will surely yield impressive results. A well-timed collaboration with Scorpio will yield even better results and is worth the patience it takes to pursue.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Academy Award winner Geena Davis is an intellectual Aquarius. The air signs, Aquarius, Gemini and Libra, are known for quick wits and bright ideas. Ms. Davis lives up to the definition as a card carrying Mensa member with a reported IQ of 140. Though her natal Venus in Pisces foretells that she uses a great deal of intuition in life decisions and might actually avoid over-thinking things.

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AP Photo/Animal Planet

Trainer Victoria Stillwell, right, working on dog leash training with Debbie and Todd Rodgers and their dog Yaphit, a Weimaraner. A dog that pulls on a leash can spoil more than a nice walk.

How to stop a dog on a leash from lunging

By LINDA LOMBARDI

For The Associated Press
A dog that pulls on the leash can spoil more than a nice walk, and Emily Pelecanos of Silver Spring, Md., has the photos from her 50th birthday party to prove it.

Her husband had ordered a limo to take them downtown to a fancy restaurant — but of course, first the dogs needed to be walked. While she chatted with a neighbor, her dog, Buster, saw a dog that she didn't see coming — and he lunged for it.

"I hit the pavement with my hands and my face," she recalls.

Determined not to cancel the party, Pelecanos iced the emerging bruises. "Then I put makeup on and big sunglasses," she says, "but you should have seen everyone in the restaurant whispering."

Even if your pulling dog doesn't stop a party, the problem can be a vicious circle. A dog that's difficult to walk gets walked less, so he doesn't get enough exercise and socialization. Then he becomes more excitable and difficult on each walk.

There are a number of special harnesses and halters that are designed to solve the leash-pulling problem. (Don't confuse these with regular harnesses, which actually make pulling easier: There's a reason that dogs are attached to a sled with a harness instead of by their collars.)

But even if a no-pull harness helps, it's best not to rely on it as a permanent solution, if for no other reason than that it may not last. For Buster, a front-attaching-style harness worked, and more accustomed to it.

So trainers recommend that you view these products as a tool that allows you to give your dog enough exercise and exposure to new situations that he'll be able to concentrate on training.

To start training your dog not to pull, first, recognize that lunging in reaction to something exciting, like Buster did, and constantly walking at the end of a taut leash are different problems. Some dogs do both, and owners may describe both as "pulling."

For a dog that lunges, try what trainers call "training an incompatible behavior." The idea is simple: "Instead of

lunging at the bicyclist, you sit and get a treat," says trainer Victoria Stilwell of "It's Me or the Dog" on Animal Planet.

Make sure your dog can reliably sit for a treat at home. Then, start by having him sit for a treat on walks when nothing is happening to distract him.

Next, when you see an exciting dog or squirrel before he does, get him to sit and keep sitting as the distraction passes by. Most dogs catch onto this quickly, especially for a desirable treat.

If you don't react in time to get a sit before your dog lunges, it's best not to ask him to sit afterwards; it's easy to accidentally train the dog that lunging and then sitting is what gets him a reward. But do your best to prevent the lunge in the first place, because it's "self-reinforcing," that is, it's so rewarding to the dog that it easily becomes a habit.

If your problem is a dog that's always dragging you down the

street, try what behaviorist Emily Weiss calls the "red light" method: "When the dog hits the end of the leash, you stop. When the dog relaxes and there's slack in the leash, you start walking."

As Stilwell says, the basic idea is "teach the dog that it doesn't get to where it wants to go when pulling." And remember that you're not teaching him to heel at your side, which is different, and much harder. He can walk ahead of you, as long as the leash is loose.

Make sure to do this training when the dog is fairly well exercised, so he's worked off enough energy to concentrate. That's what your no-pull harness can help with.

With enough patience, your dog will catch on. "You're going to look silly when you're walking down the street, and it can take a while," says Weiss, "but your dog will eventually learn the connection."

How to pick a dog harness

By LINDA LOMBARDI

For The Associated Press
No-pull harnesses come in a variety of styles. You may need to try several to find one that works on your individual dog.

• Some harnesses, like the Easy Walk and the Softouch attach the leash to a point on the dog's chest rather than neck or back, which make it more difficult to pull while walking forward.

• Another approach, used by the Sporn Training Halter and Non-Pulling Mesh Harness involves straps that go under a dog's front legs and tighten when he pulls.

• The Weiss Walkie is the simplest design. Unlike others, it come in only one size that fits most dogs over 25 pounds. It's basically just one strap around the dog's chest that tightens when he pulls.

Designer Emily Weiss created it while working at an animal shelter so it would be easy for volunteers to use. She recommends that you not use these harnesses to give leash-jerk corrections

"It works best when we let the dog figure it out," she says. "If we apply a correction, it makes it harder for him to figure it out."

• There are several brands and styles of head halters available as well, including the Gentle

Leader, Halti and Snoot Loop. The difficulty with halters is getting the dog used to them, and at least one study suggests dogs dislike all brands equally.

Trainer Victoria Stilwell of "It's Me or the Dog" on Animal Planet says it's very important to desensitize the dog to the head halter gradually.

"Take a week before taking it out on a walk," she says. Associate

putting on the harness with an especially desirable treat, and also reward the dog for not pawing at it. If you have the patience, most dogs will get used to them, and they do stop pulling.

All of these products, trainers emphasize, should be seen as a way to get the situation under control so you have the opportunity to train your dog.

Equipment doesn't teach you to communicate with your dog the way training does, and communication gives you a big head start on solving other behavior problems when they arise.

When she gets called in by a client, Weiss says, she often thinks, "If your dog just knew that when you do X I do Y, we'd be 10 steps ahead in fixing this behavior problem."

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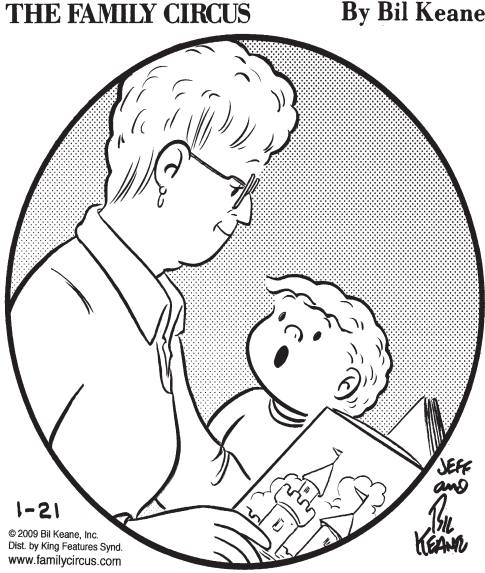
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5 :PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Locura Noticiero	Lopez Lopez	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	Raymond Friends	Cortes Israel	BBC Business	Cash Cab	Movie: The Skulls, Hill Harper	CSI: NY	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	So Raven So Raven		SportsCenter
6 :PM :30	News Dallas	Jeopardy! Fortune	Tontas Cielo	Two Men	News 12 Cora-zones	Entertain Millionaire	News Seinfeld	Mark Hagee	News-Lehrer	Made	Made	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order		Suite Life Montana	College Basketball	College Basketball	
7 :PM :30	Lost	Lost	Cuidado-Angel	American Idol	Christine Doña Barbara	Knight Rider	Payne	Israel Scott	To Be Announced	Time Wrp	Time Wrp	Movie: Constantine, Shia LaBeouf	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	Movie: The Color Purple, Margaret Avery	Movie: Air Bud, Wendy Makkena	College Basketball	College Basketball
8 :PM :30	Lost	Lost	Fuego en la Sangre	(:02) Lie to Me	Criminal Minds	El Rostro de Analia	Law & Order: SVU	Payne	Light of the Southwest	Payne	Payne	UFC Un-leashed	Law & Order					
9 :PM :30			Don Francisco	(:05) TMZ Raymond	CSI: NY	Sin Senos	Law & Order	Browns			Mining the Moon	Return to House	UFC Un-leashed	Cold Case		Wizards		
10 :PM :30	News Nightline	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	Raymond King-Hill	News Late Show	Noticiero Decisiones de	News Tonight Show	Payne	Israel Dr. Young	Charlie Rose	Made	Made	UFC Un-leashed	Cold Case	Movie: Lean on Me, Beverly Todd	Life De Montana	Tennis: Australian Open -- Early Round -- Day 4.	SportsCenter
11 :PM :30	Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live	Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live	La Hora de la Risa	Law Order: CI	Late Late Show	Decisiones de	Late Night	Sex & CCM	Smiley	Smiley	Time Wrp	(:15) Movie: Thunderheart, Sam Shepard	CSI: NY	Cold Case		Replace Kim	NFL Live Fastbreak	SportsCenter
12 :AM :30	News Extra	News Extra	Contra Viento	RENO 911	Insider RENO 911	Programa Pagado	News Poker After Dark	Movie: Jack, Jennifer Lopez	Sanchez		Mining the Moon	Amazing Video	Law & Order	The Deal	Emperor Dragon	Strongest	Strongest	SportsCenter

DENNIS THE MENACE



...AND WHO WAS GIVING WHOM A BATH? "

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Could you read that story again, Grandma? Only with a different ending?"

HAGAR



BC



WIZARD OF ID



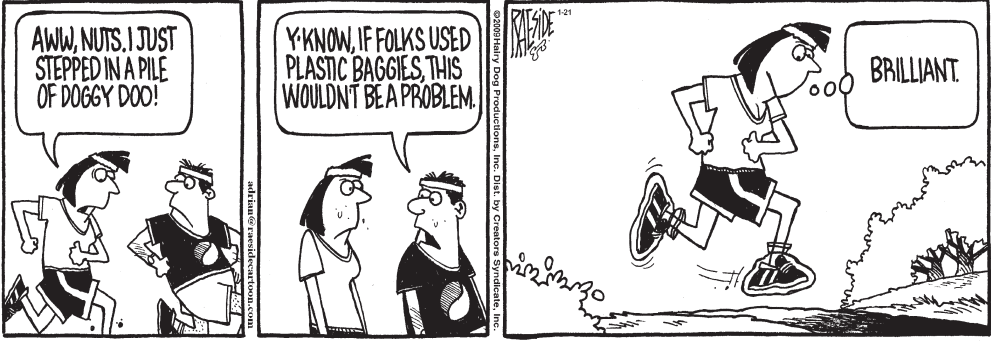
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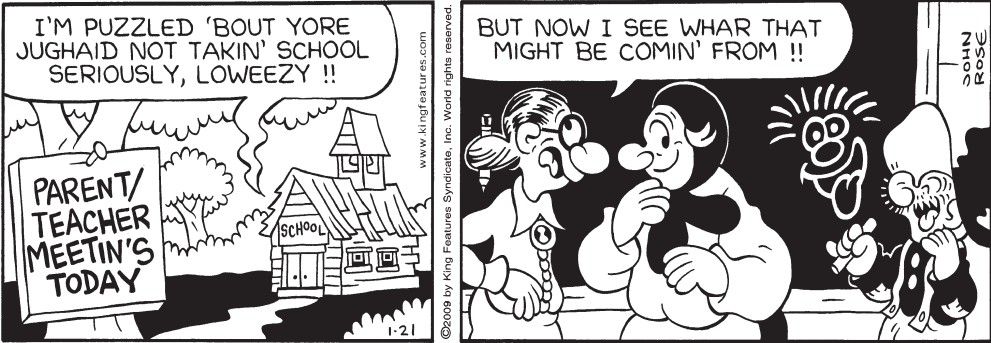
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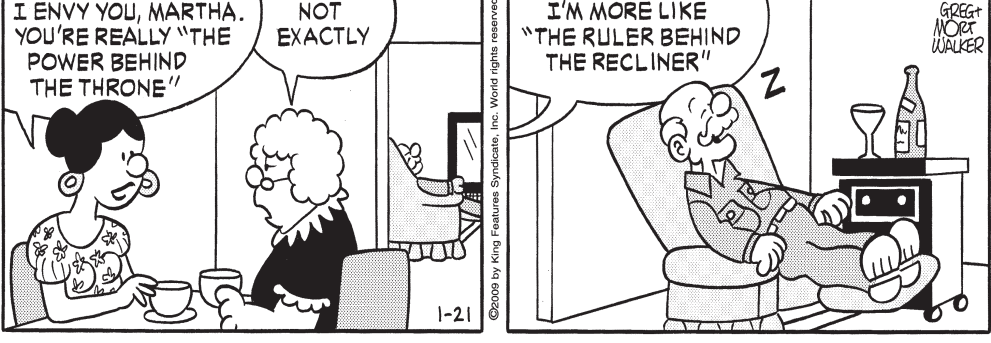
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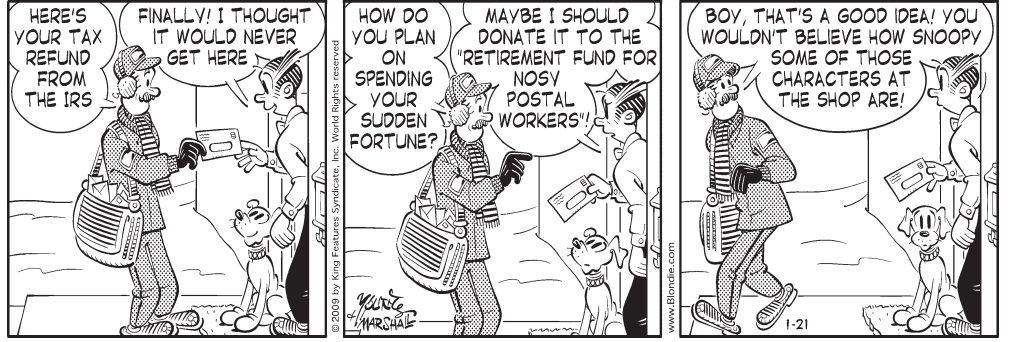
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BETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 21, the 21st day of 2009. There are 344 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 21, 1793, during the French Revolution, King Louis XVI, condemned for treason, was executed on the guillotine.

On this date: In 1858, Felix Marma Zuloaga became president of Mexico upon the ouster of Ignacio Comonfort.

In 1861, Jefferson Davis of Mississippi and four other Southerners resigned from the U.S. Senate.

In 1915, the first Kiwanis Club was founded, in Detroit.

In 1924, Russian revolutionary Vladimir Lenin died at age 53.

In 1950, former State Department official Alger Hiss, accused of being part of a Communist spy ring, was found guilty in New York of lying to a grand jury. (Hiss, who always proclaimed his innocence,

served less than four years in prison.)

In 1954, the first atomic submarine, the USS Nautilus, was launched at Groton, Conn. (However, the Nautilus did not make its first nuclear-powered run until nearly a year later.)

In 1958, Charles Starkweather, 19, killed three relatives of his 14-year-old girlfriend, Caril Ann Fugate, at her family's home in Lincoln, Neb. (Starkweather and Fugate went on a road trip which resulted in seven more slayings.)

In 1959, Ohio saw widespread flooding caused by heavy rain and melted snow. Movie producer-director Cecil B. DeMille died in Hollywood at age 77. Former child actor Carl "Alfalfa" Switzer was shot and killed during an argument in Mission Hills, Calif.; he was 31.

In 1968, the Battle of Khe Sanh began during the Vietnam War as North Vietnamese forces attacked a U.S. Marine base; the Americans were able to hold their position until the siege was lifted 2-3 months later. In Greenland, an American B-52 bomber carrying four hydrogen bombs crashed, killing one crew mem-

ber and scattering radioactive material.

In 1976, the supersonic Concorde jet was put into service by Britain and France.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Ann Wedgeworth is 75. Blues singer-musician Snooks Eaglin is 73. Golfer Jack Nicklaus is 69. Opera singer Placido Domingo is 68. Singer Richie Havens is 68. Singer Mac Davis is 67. Actress Jill Eikenberry is 62. Country musician Jim Ibbotson (The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band) is 62. Singer-songwriter Billy Ocean is 59. Actor-director Robby Benson is 53. Actress Geena Davis is 53. Basketball player Hakeem Olajuwon is 46. Actress Charlotte Ross is 41. Actor John Ducey is 40.

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Answer to previous puzzle

SCAR	ABODE	CPR
OLDE	SEARS	OLEO
LEAF	SITAT	CAST
DOMELIGHT	PARTS	
RISES	TALK	
DEFEAT	MANAGES	
RARER	SCALE	ARM
IGO	MOOSE	BRA
ELM	CARTS	VALOR
SETRATRE	DESERT	
HARE	ALERT	
PEEVE	FLATBROKE	
ACHE	ALINE	IRED
CHIN	ROBES	DEED
TOP	TWIST	ESPY

1/21/09

Newsday Crossword

ON THE ROOF by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Slick-talking | 1 Persona non | 61 Up to the task | 9 Crude shelter |
| 5 Checked item | 2 Slots fruit | 62 Author Wiesel | 10 "Golden" tune |
| 9 Fictional salesman Willy | 3 All thumbs | 63 Champagne grape | 11 Backwoods beverage |
| 14 City near Lake Tahoe | 4 Good, in old Rome | 64 Southern pronoun | 12 Computer program, briefly |
| 15 Stiff and sore | 5 Mixed-nuts ingredient | 65 Chess player's "I win" | 13 Surfing site |
| 16 Wed like Romeo and Juliet | 6 Largish combo | | 21 Pipsqueak |
| 17 Cry from the pews | 7 Throat-clearer's word | | 22 Stubble remover |
| 18 "___ lively!" | 8 Spell-checker's find | | 26 Puccini opera |
| 19 Put into effect | | | 27 Girder material |
| 20 Irish greeting | | | 28 Drink made from rice |
| 23 Tiny colonist | | | 29 Super, in showbiz |
| 24 Drenched | | | 30 Siouan tribe |
| 25 Nuclear trials | | | 32 Pickle piece |
| 28 Do some darning | | | 33 Name-tag word |
| 29 Incompetent one | | | 34 Japanese or Korean |
| 31 Right off the stove | | | 35 Sly look |
| 32 Use clippers on | | | |
| 35 Head for | | | |
| 36 Strong-jawed device | | | |
| 37 Athlete's goal | | | |
| 40 Choice word | | | |
| 41 Tootling instrument | | | |
| 42 Hoopster Shaq | | | |
| 43 Space-bar neighbor | | | |
| 44 River of Florence | | | |
| 45 Expected in | | | |
| 46 Amp toter | | | |
| 48 Word before "boom" | | | |
| 49 Itinerary word | | | |
| 52 Heads-of-state conference | | | |
| 56 Acquisitions | | | |
| 58 Drags to court | | | |
| 59 Billing unit | | | |
| 60 GE competitor | | | |

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