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VOLUME 104, NUMBER 66

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TUESDAY

FEBRUARY 17, 2009



50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Run for the fallen

Event to honor local soldier, comrades killed during duty in Iraq

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The wife of a local soldier killed in Iraq is hoping to turn a time of remembrance into a annual event, as the Run for the Fallen looks to honor a trio of 101st Airborne Division men who lost their lives approximately a year ago.

Sgt. Conrad Alvarez, 22, the son of a Big Spring woman, and two other soldiers — Cpl. Albert Britton, Chicago, and Spec. Michael Matlock, Glen Burnie, Md. — were killed in Baghdad after their vehicle was hit by a bomb Feb. 19, 2008, according to reports from the Department of Defense.

The run — which is being organized by Alvarez's wife, Maria — will honor all three men, known as Strike Soldiers, when the run gets under way Saturday

"We'll all meet at the Old Settlers Pavilion in Comanche Trail Park," said even coordinator Christine Everett, a friend of the Alvarez family. "There's no charge or sign-up fee, so we're hoping

See RUN, page 3A



President Obama walks on the South Lawn of the White House in Washington as he returns from Chicago Monday.

All systems go for stimulus

President Obama set to sign package into law

By BEN FELLER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON President Barack Obama is ready to sign into law the most sweeping economic package in decades, a rescue plan meant to reinvigorate job creation, consumer spending and public optimism. Add the bill to an ever-growing deficit.

Capping the biggest victory of his month-old administration, Obama will sign the economic legislation Tuesday in Denver.

The setting, the Denver Museum of Nature & Science, is meant to

underscore the investments the new law will make in "green" energyrelated jobs. It also allows Obama to get away from Washington, where the bill's passage was a mostly partisan affair, and be among people who may benefit from the huge government intervention.

The flailing economy continues to dominate Obama's time.

Tuesday is also when General Motors Corp. and Chrysler LLC, which are living off a combined \$13.4 billion in federal bailout loans, are due to hand in plans to Obama's government about how they can

And on Wednesday in Arizona, Obama will unveil another part of his economic recovery effort — a plan to help millions of homeowners fend off foreclosure.

But first comes the \$787 billion economic stimulus bill, which tries to attack the nation's economic free

fall on multiple fronts. It pumps money into infrastructure projects, health care, renewable energy development and conservation, with twin goals of short-

See **STIMULUS**, page 3A

NDEX

Comics 3-5B Classified **Features 7A Obituaries 2A Opinion 4A Sports** 1-2B

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Authorities: Teen kept in Fla. bathroom, beaten

By CHRISTENE AMARIO

Associated Press

SPRING HILL, Fla. - For three years, neighbors in a quaint, middle-class community scarcely saw the lanky 16-year-old boy who lived with his adoptive mother and her boyfriend.

Now, they know why: According to authorities, the teen was brutally abused and held captive in his own home. Most recently, he'd been confined to a bathroom, locked from the outside and sealed with a piece of plywood over the window.

By the time he escaped last week, the Florida boy had a broken forearm and scars, scabs and oozing wounds that investigators say mark years of abuse. Hernando County Sheriff Richard

Nugent called it "barbaric." "This is almost like what John McCain

went through in Vietnam when he was a prisoner of war," Nugent said. Tai-Ling Gigliotti and her boyfriend, Anton Angelo, were arrested and

charged with aggravated child abuse

and false imprisonment last week.

"This is almost like what John McCain went through in Vietnam when he was a prisoner of war."

> Richard Nugent Hernando County (Fla.) Sheriff

Gigliotti, 50, was released on a \$15,000 bond. Her attorney did not reply to messages seeking comment, and no one answered when a reporter visited her home. Angelo, 45, was released on a \$50,000 bond. Available public records don't show if he has an attorney. He refused comment when approached by reporters after his arrest Thursday.

Authorities are still piecing together the boy's history, but they believe Gigliotti is the boy's aunt, and that she brought him from Taiwan to the United States when he was a young child.

The teen, whose name was not released

because he is an alleged victim of child abuse, told investigators his stepfather was Anthony Gigliotti, who was the Philadelphia Orchestra's principal clarinetist. The stepfather died at age 79 in 2001, before the abuse apparently

The teen appears to have lived a mostly normal life early on. Tai-Ling Gigliotti had met her late husband when she took clarinet lessons from him, said Charles Salinger, another former student who's now a clarinetist with the Pennsylvania

Ballet orchestra. The pair married about 1990, and Anthony Gigliotti treated the boy like his own son. The two would go fishing and crabbing together, and the stepfather taught the youngster about music, said Lynne Gigliotti, the man's daughter from a previous marriage.

"My father was crazy about him," Lynne Gigliotti said.

Anthony Gigliotti's family said Tai-Ling could be controlling and rude.

See **TEEN**, page 3A



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BIG HERALD

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Jonathan Hull at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

Page 1B Tuesday, February 17, 2009

Longhorns' slump continues, fall to A&M 81-66

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

 ${\tt COLLEGE\,STATION-Texas\,coach}$ Rick Barnes is convinced Texas A&M plays harder against his team than it does against anyone else.

"That's a fact and I've got tape to prove it," Barnes said.

A&M coach Mark Turgeon says his

team plays hard every game. But after an 81-66 win over the Longhorns on Monday night he did acknowledge things are a bit different against this rival.

"Our building is pretty inspired," Turgeon said. "(There's) something about Texas that gets us going. Now if we can just pretend we're playing Texas every night."

Chinemelu Elonu and Bryan Davis scored 15 points apiece to lead the Aggies to the win that broke a threegame losing streak.

"We had to have it," Turgeon said. "That's an understatement."

The Aggies (18-8, 4-7 Big 12) led by as many as 19 points in the second half before Texas went on a 16-1 run to get back in the game.

"I think at that point in the game we were doing the things we talked about to get the win," Longhorn A.J. Abrams said. "They just withstood the run we put on and put one on themselves."

Texas (17-8, 6-5) cut the deficit to 61-57 before the Aggies scored seven straight points to stretch their lead back to double-digits with about five minutes left.

Big 12 teams scrambling for victories

By JOHN MARSHALL

AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The Big 12 Conference had six teams get into the NCAA tournament a year ago, including eventual national champion Kansas and regional finalist Texas.

Matching that number this year could prove to be difficult.

With three weeks left until the Big 12 tournament in Oklahoma City, the conference has three teams well on their way to the NCAA tournament and three that have almost no shot, leaving a big group still with some work to do.

"Everybody's playing for high stakes right now," Texas assistant coach Russ Springman said Monday during the Big 12 coaches teleconference. "Some teams are fighting to get in, some teams are playing for the highest seed they can possibly get; everybody's playing for high stakes."

Oklahoma should have no problem getting in. The Sooners have national player of the year candidate Blake Griffin and have clearly been the best team in the conference, winning 13 straight games, including the first 11 in the Big 12. The only question left for the second-ranked Sooners is whether they can earn a No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament.

Kansas and Missouri also would seem to be locks. The Jayhawks reached the 20-win mark (20-5) for the 20th straight year and are still in the hunt for a fifth-straight Big 12 title at 9-1. The Tigers, who haven't been to the NCAA tournament since 2003, are 22-4 and had impressive wins over Texas and Kansas over the past two weeks.

At the bottom end, Iowa State, Texas Tech and Colorado have combined to win five conference games. Winning the Big 12 tournament is their only chance at this point.

As for the rest of the conference,

there's still some questions.

 Texas. The Longhorns are 17-8 and 6-5 in conference, which should put them in good position to make the tournament for the 11th straight year. But Texas also had a threegame losing streak, including two at home, to drop out of the polls



HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull

Howard College Hawks point guard takes care of the ball at the 2008 Region V Tournament in Belton. Barnes and the Hawks pulled out a last second victory over Odessa Monday, 40-39, at Dorothy **Garrett Coliseum.**

Howard overcomes OC, 40-39

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

Physical would be an understatement to describe the type of basketball played between Howard College's men's basketball team and Odessa College Monday night at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The Hawks were able to endure a pitiful shooting night, making just 30 percent of their shots, to pull out a 40-39 win courtesy of a Vladimir Gavranic offensive board and put back with five seconds left to play.

Down 39-38 with less than 30 seconds to play, Howard's Denzel Barnes attempted to drive the lane, but pulled up inside the 3-point line for a jumper. Barnes was off the target, but Markeys Deans was able to keep the ball alive by tipping it in the air.

Gavranic worked free on the left block, pulled down the board and went back up to bank in

See **HAWKS**, Page 2B

HC women thrwarted by Odessa in overtime

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

Desperation can be a dangerous motivating factor.

On the brink of not making the Region V Tournament, the Odessa College Lady Wranglers were able to pull out a much-needed victory over the Howard College Hawks Monday, winning in overtime, 69-59.

"You've got to give Odessa all the credit in the world," said Howard Head Coach Earl Diddle. "They were very aggressive. I though they had a great defensive scheme, guarding our shooters and switching up their defense a lot. We still had an 11-point lead in the second half and we didn't hit the shots when we needed them. We gave too many easy baskets. It was a great win for Odessa College. This one definitely hurt us."

See HC, Page 2B

WJCAC Women's **Basketball Standings**

Conf.	Overal
12-1	28-1
8-3	21-6
7-5	21-6
7-5	18-10
6-5	16-9
4-7	17-10
3-9	10-18
	12-1 8-3 7-5 7-5 6-5 4-7

Western Texas

Monday's results: Odessa 69, Howard 59 (OT); South Plains 55, Midland 52; Clarendon 70, Frank Phillips 51; New Mexico 67, Western Texas 52.

0 - 12

5-23

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



HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull

Howard Miesha College's Blackshear brings the ball into the frontcourt in action from earlier this season at Dorothy Garrett Blackshear scored Coliseum. 22 points, had 11 rebounds and seven assists in the Hawks' 69-59 overtime loss to Odessa College

See BIG 12, Page 2B

Sports in brief

Steers raising funds with 50-inning game Saturday

The Big Spring Steers will play a 50-inning intrasquad baseball game at 9 a.m. Saturday at Steer Park in hopes of raising funds for the booster

Admission is \$1 and donations will also be accepted. The concession stand will be open with all profits going toward the booster club.

The Big Spring Baseball Boosters will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday at Steer Park to discuss the 50-inning game as well as other business regarding the upcoming season. All parents of Steers baseball players are encouraged to attend.

Anyone with questions can call Denise Carrillo

at 816-1685.

Meet the Lady Steers at Friday's softball game

An opportunity for the community to meet and greet the 2009 version of the Big Spring Lady Steers softball team will be given at the Lady Steers games vs. Midland Christian Friday.

The junior varsity takes the field at 4 p.m. with

the varsity playing at 5:30 p.m.

Afterwards, the varsit will take on the Big Spring High School faculty in a ragball game.

Meal deals will be served for \$5 apiece.

Big Spring & Coahoma Little League sign-ups continue

Big Spring and Coahoma Little League baseball organizations have merged this year and sign-ups for the community have begun at the old Athletic Supply Store in the Big Spring Mall.

Registration will last through Saturday. Available times for sign-ups are as follows:

Today through Friday: 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cost is \$60 with no raffle and parents should bring their child's birth certificate with them.

For more information, contact Robert Smith at 263-7331 or 263-3333.

Howard College hosting practice and girls basketball playoff games

Howard College is plays host to several different high school basketball playoff games every season and the 2009 version of the postseason is no differ-

Here's the schedule put in place so far: (All games listed are girls basketball).

Tuesday

Klondike vs. Water Valley, 6 p.m.

Friday (pending the outcome of Tuesday's games) Rankin vs. Petersburg or New Home, 6 p.m.

BSCGA holdings annual membership drive Sunday

Greenwood vs. Abilene Wylie, 8 p.m.

Monday.

The Big Spring Chicano Golf Association is holding its annual membership drive at 10 a.m. Sunday at the municipal golf course in Comanche Trail

Cost is \$15 to play plus a cart fee. All players must be registered by 9:30 a.m.

Teams will be randomly drawn for the 4-man scramble format.

BSCC hosting 4-person scramble this weekend

The Big Spring Country Club is hosting a 4-person scramble tournament Saturday and Sunday with a 1 p.m. shotgun start both days.

Entry fee is \$75 per player plus cart, although private carts are welcome. Entry includes barbecue on the course both days

and practice rounds on Friday. The field will be flighted by first-round score.

Call the Pro Shop at 267-5354 for information.

Obituaries

James Robert Teeler



James Robert Teeler, 54, of Big Spring passed away Thursday, Feb. 12, 2009, at Medical Center Hospital in Odessa. He was born Sept. 7, 1954, in Austin.

James was an engineering technician for the Federal Bureau of Pris-

A memorial service is scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, 2009, at Life Church in Big Spring.

Survivors include his wife, Rose Teeler of Big Spring; son, James Cody Teeler of Buda; daughter, Elisha Marie Teeler of Fort Worth; brother, Roy Levi Teeler of Odessa; his father, Marvin Patterson of Big Spring; and several aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

James Arnold 'Jim' Clary James Arnold "Jim" Clary, 78, of Stanton died Sat-

urday, Feb. 14, 2009, at his residence. Funeral services will be held at a later date.

He was born July 26, 1930, in Breckenridge.

He served his country in the United States Army during the Korean War. He came to Stanton in 1962 from Abilene and owned and operated Clary Tire Company for many years.

Survivors include three sons, Duane Clary of Carlsbad, N.M., Alan Clary of Rosenburg, Ore., and Michael Clary of Midland; one step-son, Clifton Price of Lenorah; one daughter, Carrie Lovett of Midland; one sister, Bernice Chandler of Odessa; one brother, Donald Clary of Odessa; nine grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, George R. Clary and Vergie Wells Clary; two sisters, Bertie Segler and Mildred Roberts; and two brothers, Johnny Clary and Jimmy Green.

The family suggests memorials be made to the American Heart Association, P.O. Box 15186, Austin 78761; or to the American Lung Association, 4141 Pinnacle, Suit 212, El Paso 79902.

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

Benita Marquez

Benita Marquez, 78, of Big Spring died Monday, Feb. 16, 2009. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Medical Services reported the following activity:

- 17th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of Di-
- · MEDICAL was reported in the 1100 block of
- Hamilton. One person was transported to SMMC.

- TRAUMA was reported in the 1900 block of
- N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- Gregg Street.
- nings. One person was transported to SMMC.
- Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.
- north of Big Spring on N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- Lake Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of Michaels. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1300 block of Park-
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1300 block of Park-
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Kio-
- block of Wood. Service refused.
- Seventh Street. Service refused.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 1800 block of Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

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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:

- ROBERT WHITE, 40, of 813 W. Eighth St., was arrested Tuesday on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and public intoxication.
- THEFT was reported in the 1800 block of Gregg
- POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA was reported in the 900 block of Goliad.
- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported in the 1900 block of Highway 87.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 51 inmates at the time of this report.

- FIDEL RAUL MENDOZA, 30, was arrested Friday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated - open container (second offense).
- JEFFREY GLENN MCDANIEL, 46, was arrested Friday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated – open container.
- DONNI KAY ROBERTSON, 24, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for theft.
- ERNEST GARCIA JR., 37, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of forgery of a governmental/national governmental instrument of money or security.
- HOMERO FRANCO MIRELES, 50, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a warrant for driving while intoxicated - third or more offense.
- DEVON ANTOINE CURRY, 19, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of no driver's license. • CINTHIA ANN YBARRA, 46, was transferred to
- the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of failure to identify – giving false information.
- CRUZ JESUS LUCERO, 18, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- SASHA BROWN, 21, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of no driver's license.
- SHANE FRANKLIN MCDONALD, 37, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on charges of public intoxication and aggravated assault with a deadly
- MICHAEL WAYNE DANIELS, 22, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated – open container.
- CLIFFORD VICTOR STANLEY, 28, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on an Oregon warrant for parole violation - sexual assault.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency

- TRAUMA was reported in the 500 block of W.
- xie. One person was transported to SMMC
- Stanford. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 4200 block of
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2500 block of Merrily. Service refused.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 200 block of W.
- Marcy. One person was transported to SMMC.
- GAS LEAK was reported in the 2600 block of
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Jen-
- TRAUMA was reported in the 700 block of W.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported 15 miles
- MEDICAL was reported in the 100 block of Can-
- yon. One person was transported to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 100 block of Moss
- way. One person was transported to SMMC.
- way. One person was transported to SMMC.
- na. Service refused. • TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 1300
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2900 block of W.

Howard County Feed & Supply

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 1200 block of Gregg Street. One person was transported
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Martin Luther King Blvd. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to
- MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of W. Sixth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the area of Outback Adventure Park. Service refused.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 400 block of E. Fourth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of E. 17th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- GRASS FIRE was reported in the 600 block of Baylor.

Take Note

- Rides of Hope is seeking volunteers to assist with driving patients to Allison Cancer Center for appointments. Our plans are for round trip milage reimbursement through RSVP. A meeting is planned to discuss this volunteer opportunity, Wednesday Feb. 18 at 10 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church, located at the corner of Fourth and Scurry. The meeting will be in the Youth Hall.
- Due to the recent migration of bats at the Sacred Heart Church building, mass is being moved to Immaculate Heart of Mary on Hearn Street until further notice. These include 3:30 p.m. confessions, the 5 p.m. mass and the 11:30 a.m. mass.

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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

to 25 mph.

• 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 LU-
- Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. The public is invited. • American Legion Post 506 meets at 6 p.m. Call

LAC Chapter 4791 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Big

- 263-2084 for more information. • Rackley-Swords 379, Vietnam Veterans of America meets at 7 p.m. in the Sparenburg Building, 309 S. Main St.
- Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

- Big Spring Shrine Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Goliad and First streets for a meal with a meeting to follow.
- Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.
- Big Spring Squares. Call 267-7043 or 263-6305 for more information.

MONDAY

- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30
- p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819. • The Concerned Citizens Council meets at 7 p.m. at the Howard County Library. For more in
- formation, call 264-6116. • Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Mon-

day night: Winning numbers drawn: 7 - 15 - 17 - 18. Bonus Ball: 12.

Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 2 - 8 - 13 - 19 - 28. Number matching five of five: 2 Prize: \$12,201.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 1-4-1-2. Sum It Up: 8.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 7 - 9 - 9. Sum It Up: 25.

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Spring, Texas. USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811 BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly

(includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties; \$13.25 elsewhere

Continued from Page 1B

after being as high as fifth. Another losing streak or an early-round slipup in the Big 12 tournament and the Longhorns could find themselves in the NIT — unlikely, but still within the realm of possibility, particularly after Monday's 81-66 loss at Texas A&M.

"Our focus won't change. We always talk to our players about playing one game at a time," Springman said. "We talk to our guys about getting better every day and focusing on the next opponent"

• Kansas State. Behind All-American Michael Beasley, the Wildcats reached the NCAA tournament last season for the first time in 12 years. With Beasley and Bill Walker gone to the NBA, Kansas State appeared to have no shot at a return trip after a weak non-

conference schedule and an 0-4 start to the Big 12. The Wildcats (17-8) rallied to win six straight and are 6-5 in conference after losing to rival Kansas on Saturday, meaning a strong finish to the regular season and a win or two in the Big 12 tournament might get them in.

• Nebraska. The scrappy Cornhuskers (15-8) created a buzz in football-crazed Lincoln by beating then-No. 16 Texas on Feb. 7, pushing their winning streak to three games after a 2-3 start to conference. A 23-point loss to Missouri over the weekend dropped Nebraska to 5-5, so the final six games will be crucial. With road games against Kansas, Kansas State and Baylor, it won't be easy.

• Oklahoma State. The Cowboys (15-9) looked good early playing in first-year coach Travis Ford's uptempo style, opening 11-3 in nonconference, but they have been inconsistent in the Big 12, falling to 3-6 after a road

loss to Texas last Tuesday. A win over Iowa State on Saturday and an attitude adjustment should help, though it's still going to be an uphill climb with games against Texas, Kansas State and Oklahoma to close out the schedule.

• Baylor. The program's first trip to the NCAA tournament in 20 years lifted expectations for this season, and a 16-3 start had everyone eyeing a return trip. Then came a six-game losing streak. A physical win over Texas A&M on Saturday helps, but the Bears (16-9) have some ground to make up at 4-7: No Big 12 team has gone to the NCAA tournament with a losing conference record.

• Texas A&M. The Aggies made it to the second round of the NCAA tournament a year ago and were 14-1 headed into the Big 12 this year. But things haven't gone well so far in conference play. Texas A&M opened 1-4, then followed a two-game winning streak with three straight losses. The

Aggies (18-8) improved to 4-7 with the win over Texas, but one more loss is probably all they can afford to have any shot at an at-large bid.

With so many teams struggling to get into the tournament this year, does that mean it's a down year in the Big 12? Possibly.

The conference had a record 10 players selected in last year's NBA draft and had the No. 2 overall pick each of the past two years (Beasley last year, Texas' Kevin Durant the year before). Lose that much talent and chances are there's going to be a dropoff.

But there's also the parity factor. Oklahoma has been dominant, but the rest of the teams are evenly matched, able to knock each off on any given night.

"I don't think our league gets the respect that maybe it should," Oklahoma coach Jeff Capel said. "Is it down? From the past couple of years, maybe. But there are no easy games in our league."

HAWKS

Continued from Page 1B

the winning shot.

Odessa took a timeout with 3.4 seconds left to set a play, but never got a clean look at the bucket as the Hawks stole the victory, improving to 9-4 in Western Junior College Athletic Conference play and 20-6 overall. Howard has won eight of its last nine games, including six straight.

The Hawks trailed 20-14 at intermission as Odessa closed the first half with a 10-2 run.

Howard led twice in the second half before securing the win — once at 36-35 and then again at 38-37.

The Hawks were led by Denzel Barnes and Markeys Deans, who scored 10 each. All of Barnes points came in the second half. Howard shot nearly twice as many 3-pointers (30) as they did 2-point field goals (17).

Odessa got a game-high 17 points from Tommie Sykes, while Rashad Savage added 11. The Wranglers have now lost six of their last nine games.

Howard travels to take on Clarendon (8-19, 0-13) at 7:30 p.m. The Hawks sit alone in third place in the WJCAC standings— a half-game ahead of New Mexico Junior College (20-7, 8-5) and a full game up on Western Texas College (18-9, 8-6), meaning the Hawks still need to win two games to get into the Region V Tournament.

Howard College (20-6, 9-4) 40, Odessa College (19-8, 6-8) 39 OC (39)

Justin Najera 0-6 2-2 2, Desmond Woodberry 1-6 0-2 2, Tommie Sykes 6-12 4-4 17, Rashad Savage 4-6 3-4 11, D'Andre Williams 1-13 0-0 3, Marcus Wright 0-5 0-0 0, Josh Brown 2-4 0-0 4. Totals 14-51 9-12 30

HC (40)

Devon Baker 1-14 0-1 2, Denzel Barnes 4-11 0-0 10, Markeys Deans 3-3 2-2 10, Vladimir Gavranic 2-3 0-1 4, Joshua Watkins 1-4 1-2 3, LaTrail McCoy 2-7 0-0 6, Ricardo Zanini 0-2 2-2 2, Dante Menter 1-2 0-0 3, Demetrius Beauford 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 14-47 5-8 40.

Halftime: OC 20, HC 14. 3-point goals: OC 2-16 (Williams 1-4, Tommie Sykes 1-2, Najera 0-4, Woodberry 0-1, Wright 0-5), HC 7-30 (Deans 2-2, Barnes 2-8, McCoy 2-6, Menter 1-2, Baker 0-10, O'Garro 0-2). Rebounds: OC 45 (Najera 9), HC 29 (Baker 4, Watkins 4). Assists: OC 7 (Williams 3), HC 9 (Baker 3, Barnes 3). Turnovers: OC 15, HC 12. Totals fouls: OC 13, HC 15. Fouled out: None.

WJCAC Men's Standings

Team	Conference	Overal
Midland College	12-2	25-3
South Plains	10-3	22-3
Howard College	9-4	20-6
New Mexico JC	8-5	20-7
Western Texas	8-6	18-9
Odessa College	6-8	19-8
Frank Phillips	5-8	15-12
NMMI	2-11	8-19
Clarendon College	0-13	8-19

Monday's results: Howard 40, Odessa 39; Midland 75, South Plains 63; Frank Phillips 81, Clarendon 71; Western Texas 70, New Mexico JC 69, NMMI was open.

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

HC

Continued from Page 1B

Howard led 40-29 with less than 12 minutes to play, but saw Odessa's Diandra Marquez catch fire as she scored seven of the next nine points for the Wranglers to cut the Howard lead to 2, 40-38.

Howard answered with an 8-0 run to get the lead back up to 10, but a second 9-0 rally by Odessa pulled the Lady Wranglers back within 1, 48-47, with 4:20 to play.

The two squads traded the lead several times over the final four minutes of regulation, but Odessa held a 55-53 advantage with 25 seconds on the clock.

Miesha Blackshear, who led Howard with 22 points, 11 rebounds and seven assists, drove the lane and put up a contested shot that found its way to the bottom of the net with five seconds on the clock.

"Miesha was more aggressive offensively and did some nice things for us tonight," said Diddle. "She definitely played well enough for us to win. We just gave up too many easy baskets."

The overtime period was dominated by Odessa as the Lady Wranglers outscored Howard, 14-4, in the extra session. Odessa made just three field goals in the overtime, but went 9 for 11 at the free throw line to clinch the victory. The Lady Wranglers scored the

first eight points of the extra five-minute period.

Keisha Harris led Odessa with 15 points off the bench, while Diandra Marquez finished with 11 points. Brittney Pennell and Tamika Johnson had 10 points apiece.

DeAndra Thomas was the only Howard player other than Blackshear to score in double figures with 12 points.

The Hawks travel to

face Clarendon College (17-10, 4-7) at 5:30 p.m. Thursday. In their previous meeting, Clarendon defeated the Hawks by sinking a shot at the buzzer.

Currently, Odessa and Howard are tied for third in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference standings with 7-5 records. New Mexico Junior College (15-9, 6-5) sits a halfgame back in fifth, meaning the standings look as if it's going to come down to the final game of the season to decide who is going to qualify for the Region V

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Odessa College (18-10, 7-5) 69 Howard College (22-6, 7-5) 59

Tournament.

Priscilla Mbianja 2-3 5-6 9, Shon Redmond 1-5 4-7 6, Diandra Marquez 5-12 0-0 11, Emelda Chew 0-3 1-2 1, Tamika Johnson 5-12 0-0 10, Telisha Joe 1-2 0-0 2, Keisha Harris 7-11 0-0 15, Brittney Pennell 3-4 3-4 10, Tammie Thornton 2-5 1-2 5. Totals 26-57 14-21 69.

otais 26-5 **HC (59)**

Miesha Blackshear 6-15 8-11 22, Patricia Malouff 2-9 1-2 6, Rachael Dryver 2-6 0-1 4, Chassidy Cole 3-7 0-0 9, DeAndra Thomas 6-12 0-0 12, NaTalia Smith 2-4 0-0 4, Danielle Cota 0-2 0-0 0, Valerie Wood 0-1 0-0 0, Clarissa Krum 1-1 0-0 2.

Totals 22-57 9-14 59.

Halftime: HC 27, OC 22.
3-point goals: OC 3-12 (Marquez 1-5, Harris 1-4, Pennell 1-1, Mbianja 0-1, Joe 0-1), HC 6-14 (Cole 3-6, Blackshear 2-4, Malouff 1-3, Wood 0-1).

Rebounds: OC 39 (Mbianja 7), HC 35 (Blackshear 11). Assists: OC 11 (Redmond 5), HC 14 (Blackshear 7). Turnovers: OC 21, HC 22. Totals fouls: OC 14, HC 20. Fouled out: None.

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SPRING HERALD

News in brief

Newest U.S. troops in Afghanistan seeing combat in region south of Kabul

LOGAR PROVINCE, Afghanistan (AP) — Close to 3,000 American soldiers who recently arrived in Afghanistan to secure two violent provinces near Kabul have begun operations in the field and already are seeing combat, the unit's spokesman

The new troops are the first wave of an expected surge of reinforcements this year. The process began to take shape under President George Bush but has been given impetus by President Barack Obama's call for an increased focus on Afghanistan.

U.S. commanders have been contemplating sending up to 30,000 more soldiers to bolster the 33,000 already here, but the new administration is expected to initially approve only a portion of that amount. White House press secretary Robert Gibbs said Monday the president would decide soon.

The new unit — the 3rd Brigade Combat Team of the 10th Mountain Division — moved into Logar and Wardak provinces last month, and the soldiers from Fort Drum, N.Y., are now stationed in combat outposts throughout the provinces.

Militants have attacked several patrols with rifles and rocket-propelled grenades, including one ambush by 30 insurgents, Lt. Col. Steve Osterhozer, the brigade spokesman, said.

Cambodia trial for Khmer Rouge leader begins 3 decades after reign of terror

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) — A notorious torture center boss went before Cambodia's genocide tribunal Tuesday for its first trial over the deaths of an estimated 1.7 million people at the hands of the Khmer Rouge regime more than three decades ago.

Kaing Guek Eav — better known as Duch, who headed the S-21 prison in Phnom Penh — is charged with crimes against humanity, and is this first of five defendants scheduled for long-delayed trials

Ft.

Everett.

Spring."

with

garden.

getting

treated

respect."

affidavit,

children

Campbell,"

going here in

There will be one-

mile and two-mile runs

for those participating,

neighbors

Her nephew didn't

seem to be around as

much in recent years,

but, then again, he was

older.

stopped going to school

"Nice people," James

Johnson, 80, said. "As

far as I'm concerned,

According to an arrest

began at least three

years ago, when the boy

was forced to sleep in a

hallway as punishment.

Then in November 2007

daily confinement in a

Nugent said the boy

seemed to believe the

abuse was his fault for

minor problems like a

messy room. He was also

told he'd be deported

if he escaped, Nugent

Over the three years,

managed to leave the

teen sometimes

bathroom began.

me

about a year ago.

said

often worked on her

and

Other

he'd

with

the abuse

according to Everett.

"We

Continued from page 1A

the community will

come out and show their

support for what these

men did and the sacri-

idea for the run came

from Maria Alvarez's

Continued from page 1A

When Anthony Gigliotti

fell ill, she didn't let his

family speak with him

on the phone, and didn't

let them visit until he'd

taken a turn for the

worse. The musician

told his daughter he'd

stopped Tai-Ling from

smacking her son a few

"Heacted very reserved

when he was around

her," Lynne Gigliotti

said of the boy. "And

when you would get him

away from her, he acted

AboutthetimeAnthony

Gigliotti died, his wife

and Angelo began living

together. Neighbors said

the family moved into

their Spring Hill house,

about an hour north of

Tampa, approximately

From the outside, the

family seemed tranquil.

Gigliotti and Angelo separate

businesses. She chatted

music

like a little boy."

four years ago.

said

experiences

the

fice they made."

Everett

personal

TEEN

abroad.

times.

by the U.N.-assisted tribunal. The hearing Tuesday was for procedural matters, and testimony was expected to begin only in late March.

Duch was driven to the courtroom in a bulletproof car from a nearby detention center.

Duch, 66, is accused of committing or abetting a range of crimes including murder, torture and rape at S-21 prison — formerly a school — where up to 16,000 men, women and children were held and tortured, before being put to death.

He has made no formal confession. However, unlike the other four defendants, Duch "admitted or acknowledged" that many of the crimes occurred at his prison, according to the indictment from court judges.

Pakistan makes truce deal with militants, despite U.S. push for military action

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP) — Pakistan agreed to suspend military offensives and impose Islamic law in part of the restive northwest, making a gesture it hopes will help calm the Taliban insurgency while rejecting Washington's call for tougher measures against militants.

A U.S. defense official called the deal "a negative development," and some Pakistani experts expressed skepticism the truce would decrease violence. One human rights activist said the accord was "a great surrender" to militants.

Elsewhere in the northwest, missiles fired by a suspected U.S. spy plane killed 30 people in a house used by an extremist commander, witnesses said. It was the deadliest of almost three dozen apparent American attacks on al-Qaida and Taliban targets in the semiautonomous tribal lands close to the Afghan border since last year.

Monday's peace agreement applies to the Malakand region, which includes the former tourist destination of the Swat Valley, where extremists have gained sway by beheading people, burning girls schools and attacking security forces since a similar agreement broke down in August.

"They held similar Alvarez — a member runs for these men and of A Co., 1st Battalion, the men in their unit in 502nd Infantry Regiment other places, including was the second member of his family said felt to be killed in Iraq. His like this would be an brother-in-law, Army excellent opportunity to Pfc. Kristian Menchaca, get something similar was kidnapped and Big killed by extremists in

> According to sources close to the famil at the time of the his death, Alvarez was born

and raised in Roscoe, graduating from high school there — where he was active in sports but spent several years in Big Spring before enlisting in the Army in 2005.

For more information, contact Everett at (432) 517-0281.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232.

briefly house when the adults were away, Nugent said. He'd get food or listen to classical music in one of their cars.

Last week, the abuse reached a new height, police said. According to an arrest affidavit, Gigliotti and Angelo discovered the boy had found a way to pry open a barricaded window and free himself with a piece of his clarinet.

The teen was forced to strip, and Gigliotti beat him with a piece of wood about three feet long, police said.

authorities' The account continues as follows: When the teen couldn't stand the pain, he grabbed the wood and held it. Gigliotti beckoned her boyfriend, who came in and took the wood away. She then beat him with the metal and plastic ends of a water hose.

After that, his hands were bound with packing tape. He was left nude and with cuts all around his body. The bathroom's electricity was cut, leaving him in darkness.

"The pain had to be horrific," Nugent said. 'I think at that point he just became absolutely fearful for his life."

When the couple left the next day, the boy, who weighs 111 pounds, managed to break the door frame and pull the door open, Nugent said.

He put on some of Angelo's clothes and ran to a neighbor for help.

Authorities took him to a hospital, where the full extent of his injuries wereuncovered: Hisarm had been broken for at least three days and he had bumps, scratches, and oozing wounds. Repeated beatings had left scabs and scars.

The state has placed the boy with a foster family.

"This is just, for the length of time this kid went through this, is barbaric," Nugent said.

STIMULUS

Continued from page 1A

term job production and longer-term economic viability.

There's a \$400 tax break for most individual workers and \$800 for couples, including those who do not earn enough to pay income taxes. It dishes out tens of billions of dollars to states so they can head off deep cuts and layoffs. It provides financial incentives for people to start buying again.

And it provides help to poor people and laid-off workers, with increased unemployment efits and food stamps, and subsidies for health insurance.

What is not expected to do is change the nation's economic for-

North dealer.

The bidding:

North

tunes quickly. So part of the White House's goal has been managing expectations.

Presidential spokesman Robert Gibbs said over the long holiday weekend that "things have not yet bottomed out. They are probably going to get worse before they improve. But this is a big step forward toward making that improvement and putting people back to work."

The unemployment rate is now at 7.6 percent, the highest in more than 16 years. Analysts warn the economy will remain feeble through

Republican lawmakers, meanwhile, largely balked at the economic package. It drew no GOP votes in the House and only three in the Senate.



By Steve Becker

Famous Hand — 2

North-South vulnerable. championship — at stake. NORTH When the hand was first played, ♠ 10 9 7 6 4 Bob Hamman of the U.S. opened one ♥AK4 notrump with the North cards, and everyone passed. After an opening heart lead by East, Hamman had nine WEST **EAST** top tricks, using the ace of diamond **♥**863 ♦ K 8 6 5 **4**762 SOUTH **♠** Q ♥ J 10 5 ♣J 10 9 8 4

| **†** | **†** Pass 2 NT Pass Opening lead — five of diamonds. The semifinal match between Brazil and the United States at the 1985 Bermuda Bowl in Sao Paulo,

Brazil, could not have been any tighter. Incredibly, with just one deal of the 160-board confrontation remaining, the two teams found themselves in a dead tie. As reported yesterday, the deadlock was created when the Americans gained 6 IMPs on Board 159

after the Brazilians failed to cash in on opportunities for substantial gains

as an entry to cash dummy's clubs. When the deal arrived at the sec ond table, with a large partisan audi

in the final — and possibly the world

ence watching on Vu-Graph, the question was whether the Brazilians would bid the game the Americans had missed. Using a strong club sys tem, the Brazilians, to the accompa niment of wild cheers, proceeded to reach three notrump as shown. However, many of those watching

failed to realize that with South as declarer, a different opening lead would be made. And if that lead were a diamond, the ace of diamonds would be driven out before declarer could score his long clubs. Sure enough, the U.S. West, Lew

Stansby, led the five of diamonds and when the smoke cleared, the contract was down two, giving the Americans a gain of 9 IMPs on the deal and a place in the final.

Three days later, the U.S. team completed a relatively easy win over Austria to capture the world title, but those who were there will never forget the last two deals of the semi final match with Brazil, which pro at both tables. That set the stage for this dramatic last deal, with a place pionship round.

> Tomorrow: Actions speak louder than words ©2009 King Features Syndicate In-

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff

Publisher

John A. Moseley Managing Editor

Bill McClellan News Editor

Our View

Drive friendly, safe during Gregg project

ll right, we've all been warned. Big Spring's busiest street — Gregg Street is going to be difficult to negotiate for the next 10 months or so, as the city's major north-south traffic artery is going to be transformed into a work zone.

Following last week's meeting with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) officials and about 100 local businessmen and residents to discuss the upcoming resurfacing project, it became clear that most of us will find ourselves tested in one way or another during the \$5.8 million project.

While officials did not provide an exact date the project will begin, they made it clear the start will be soon.

Bids for the project, which will result in a complete resurfacing of Gregg from FM 700 north to Fourth Street will be awarded later this month and construction will begin shortly thereafter.

Price Construction of Big Spring, the apparent low bidder, is expected to do the work in sections — FM 700 to 15th Street; and 15th northward to Fourth.

While it is not clear yet which of the three sections will undergo work first, one thing is certain. The resurfacing project will make it difficult for motorists and businesses alike.

With three lanes being worked on simultaneously, leaving drivers with three narrow open lanes, it's going to be difficult to get into many businesses along Gregg Street at times. And it will probably be difficult to drive down the street most of the time.

So, once work begins, it's going to be important that motorists find an alternate route most of the time, if possible.

More importantly, it's imperative that we drive carefully and friendly during the project. Remember, Gregg Street is a U.S. Highway and we should do our best to allow highway traffic to use the street and still do our best to patronize the local businesses that need and deserve our patronage.

How to contact us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opin-

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

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

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A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we rely on Your inspiration and ideas,

Ethics may be too much to ask

ive Barack Obama credit. Barely a month on the job and already he's increased tax revenues by hundreds of thousands of dollars. He nominated Timothy (Tiny Tim) Geithner

to be Secretary of the Treasury and Geithner immediately discovered he'd forgotten to pay \$48,000 in back taxes. So he paid them. Then he chose

Tom Daschle as his Secretary of Health and Human Services and Daschle quickly coughed up \$140 K

in back taxes. Too late. He had to withdraw his candidacy; just after the president's candidate for chief government performance officer withdrew hers because of tax problems. She paid up too. I have two words for the

Obama administration: H&R Block.

It's not been the happiest of times for ethics in public office, which is rapidly becoming an oxymoron. We have seen the governor of Illinois thrown from office by his legislature after it found him trying to sell the vacant Obama Senate seat on e-Bay. Then there is the revelation that Sen. Christopher Dodd, head of the Senate banking committee and outspoken opponent of tightening certain bank regulations was getting sweetheart loans from a bank that is also one of his biggest political contributors. What a coincidence.

All this, of course, happened

not long after Ted Stevens, the longest-serving Republican in the Senate, was diselected by voters after being found guilty of using his office as a home improvement enterprise. His home.

And who could forget Louisiana Rep. William "the Refrigerator" Jefferson, he of the \$90,000 in (very) cold cash? Did I mention Eliot Spitzer, the former governor of New York? I won't. Let lying dogs sleep, that's my

It almost makes you wish for the good old days when President Dwight Eisenhower had to fire Sherman Adams, his righthand man, for taking the gift of a vicuña coat from a grateful political patron. (Which inspired the apocryphal story that had Ike saying to Adams: "Vicuña? Vicuña waited until after the election?")

Today Adams wouldn't have to resign. He'd be laughed out of office for thinking small.

How does all of this square with President Obama's pledge to bring a new integrity into the political process? Technically, it doesn't. However, I would argue it's just a matter of commendable idealism clashing with the harsh realities of political life.

We work within a system of capitalism that celebrates greed as a virtue, after all. That being said, it's unfair to say that it's OK for everyone in the private sector to take every dime that isn't nailed down (think Wall Street bonuses) while people seeking government service are expected to have lived the lives of monks who have taken vows of poverty. You have to give people a little slack. If you're

taking bribes and putting the cash in your freezer...that's a definite no-no. If you just chisel a little on your income tax, well, maybe we can let you off with a warning. Or not.

It's a matter of degree. I've always thought that the proper rule of thumb in these matters is

Don't expect anyone to take less advantage of their situation than you would if you had their chances.

And here's another: Never trust a totally honest man. He has no sympathy for human fail-

I think we could eliminate half the hypocrisy in government by privatizing the U.S Senate. Instead of electing senators, as we do now, we could put Senate seats up for auction for corporations and special interests to bid on, with the money going into the Treasury.

What about the will of the people, you say? That's why we have the House of Representatives. A key point: No corporation or special interest could own shares in more than four senators (several fewer than they own now). The senators would be required to wear the corporate logos of their sponsors while on the floor of the Senate, sort of like NASCAR drivers.

The plan would slice through the hypocrisy and go a long way toward balancing the budget.

Don Kaul is a two-time Pulitzer Prize-losing Washington correspondent who, by his own account, is right more than he's wrong. E-mail him at dkaul2@ earthlink.net.



Confessions of an over-reactor

ctually, I prefer to think of myself as a recovering over-reactor. But I admit that I do fall off the wagon from time to time. What happened a couple of days ago was a case in point.

I woke up in a state of exasperation. My week had been a busy one, filled to the brim with appointments, meetings and unfinished tasks. Never mind that I created and even desired most of the activities on my agenda. I couldn't get past the irrational feelings of irritation



ANNETTE **B**RIDGES

and aggravation that I didn't have enough time to do all that I thought I had to do.

So the fact that I was running late to my hair appointment and leaving my dirty house and piled laundry behind was more than I could handle. The car in front of me which I was certain was going at least 20 miles below the speed limit didn't help matters

I ranted and raved most of the way to the beauty shop. Fortunately, I wasn't alone with my inconsequential and insignificant ranting. My daughter was with me and, thankfully, soon became my needed voice of reason.

She calmly pointed out that Amen

everything I was stressing over was easily fixable and could be corrected — maybe not all that very day, mind you, but all doable nonetheless.

She emphasized that my getting all worked up was blowing everything out of proportion and was not going to help me accomplish what I needed and wanted. She was right, of course. I knew this. But the "Drama Queen" in me needed to be reminded.

I learned long ago that making a mountain out of a molehill only resulted in one thing — a big deal being made out of a minor issue. And whenever I made "mountains," I made things more difficult than they had to

A couple of years ago, I recall a newspaper column titled, "Don't sweat the small stuff when so much else matters." It turns out that most of what makes me sweat is all very small when proper perspective takes over my sanity. Most days I ask myself — "Will

I remember a year from now what is driving me crazy today?"

Do you think I can tell you which days last year I was late for my hair appointment? Or which days my house was dirty or which days I got behind on my laundry? Of course I can't! And why can't I? Because these kinds of things are small stuff in comparison with the grander things that makes up my life and

my treasured memories. I do try very hard not to waste time and energy getting upset over things that weigh not one iota among the things that do matter most to me. And I can promise you that the only thing that over-reacting achieves is wasted time and needless mis-

ery. I find comfort in remembering the words of the Master, "Let not your heart be troubled" (John 14:27) and the Psalmist, "Fret not thyself." (Psalms 37:37) These words of wisdom usually help redirect my focus and bring calm to my irrational emotions.

I remember when Jesus calmed the storm at sea saying, "Peace, be still." (Mark 4:39) And his healing message also calms what seems like a storm brewing in my weary mind. I find my center again — no longer caught up in the minutiae of a frantic moment.

I hope my confession is helpful to you, my friends. Life can have enough drama in it at times without us adding more to it. Besides -- sweating too much over the small stuff will keep you from experiencing and enjoying what is really important to you. And if you're like me, you don't want that!

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

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DID YOU

■ Juliette "Daisy"

Gordon Low held

the first Girl Scout

meeting on March 12,

1912, in Savannah, Ga.,

girls hiking, camping, to

with 18 girls. She took the

play basketball and taught

them to tell time by the stars.

■ A few years later, the scouts

money. In 1922, a Girl Scout direc-

tor in Chicago created an official

door for about 30 cents a dozen.

200 million packages of Girl

Scout cookies each year.

it at the Girl Scout store.

■ All Girl Scout cook-

■ Girl Scout cookie

boxes are recyclable.

Bakers (one of two

by Girl Scouts) use:

of flour

cocoa

of shortening

■ During peak produc-

tion, the Little Brownie

baking companies used

• 1,050,000 pounds,

300,000 pounds,

• 50,000 pounds of

• 500,000 pounds

of chocolate coating

age elephant weighs

9,000 pounds.)

(Keep in mind the aver-

ies are kosher.

■ Today, Girl Scouts sell almost

■ Seventy percent of the proceeds

the girls. The girls use the money

to attend camps, or they can spend

■ The girls pictured on the boxes

are all registered Girl Scouts.

go back to the local councils - and

cookie recipe. The council's 2,000

scouts baked and sold them door to

began baking cookies to raise

KNOW?



Wacky Facts

On Dec. 21, 2006, Astronaut Robert Curbeam completed four space walks during the space shuttle Discovery mission, making him the first astronaut to complete four walks in one mission. – Chicago Tribune

COOKIE TIME! By Jeanne Huff / McClatchy Newspapers

Destiny. It's not only about what you were meant to do. Sometimes, you get the opportunity to do what you dreamed.

Since the very first time a Girl Scout rang the doorbell at Ciana Sparks' house, she

> tined for. The Girl Scouts would come up to our door to sell cookies. I always wanted to be one of

knew what she was des-

those people," Sparks, left, said. That was ten years ago. Since then, Girl

Scout Sparks, now 16, has been living her dream of selling cookies. She has sold a lot of them.

"I sold 1,209 boxes. The year before that, I sold 800 boxes," Sparks said. She was one of 23 girls in

the council who sold more than 1,000 boxes.

Her strategy to sell so many is simple.

"I usually start around my neighborhood. I call some of my relatives who live out of town. Then I go to my mom's work. Then I do the booth sales."

Sparks says a personal touch helps. She doesn't just send the order sheet to work with her mom to leave on a table. She goes there and does the selling in person. And she always wears her Girl Scout uniform, or a cookie costume.

"You have to remind people that you can only buy them once a year, and you want to buy as many as you can — or else you'll run out," Sparks said.

Find cookies being sold near you at www.girlscout cookies.org.

COOKIES AND DREAM RECIPES

Here are two chef-created recipes featuring Girl Scout cookies to try at home — if you have any cookies left over, that is.

SAMOA TIRAMISU

INGREDIENTS ■ 35 ounces mascarpone

- 6 tablespoons sugar
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 2 cups stiff whipped cream
- 2 boxes Samoa cookies
- 4 cups hot chocolate ■ 6 ounces chopped
- chocolate 3 tablespoons toasted
- coconut ■ 1 cup caramel sauce,

store bought is fine Whip the mascarpone,

sugar, vanilla together until light and fluffy. Then fold in the whipped cream. Remove the cookies from the box, and in a 12-by-9-

inch baking pan coat the bottom with wax paper. Then dip each cookie for around 30 seconds

Then create a single layer of them in the pan. Top with about 1/3 of the folded mascarpone

into the hot chocolate.

and cream mixture. Then drizzle caramel over the top of the layer. Use a toothpick to "swirl" the caramel into

the mascarpone mixture. Sprinkle with the chopped chocolate and repeat until you have either eaten all the cookies or you have made enough layers to satisfy yourself. Garnish the top with chopped chocolate and toasted

- Randy King

SOURCES: GIRLSCOUTS.ORG

coconut.

INGREDIENTS ■ 1 pound sweet butter

■ 12 ounces bittersweet chocolate

DECADENT THIN MINT CAKES

- 1¹/₂ sleeves Thin Mint Girl **Scout Cookies**
- 12 eggs
- Pinch salt
- 1 pound granulated sugar ■ 6 ounces cocoa powder

Chocolate Glaze

- 1/2 pound bittersweet chocolate ■ 10 ounces sweet butter
- 3 tablespoons water ■ 2 tablespoons corn syrup
- Pre-heat oven to 310F. Pre-

pare silicone muffin pans by spraying them lightly with oil spray or ceramic ramekins with oil spray and flour. In a double boiler melt the

chocolate and butter. Grind Thin Mints in food processor until fine and add to butter/chocolate, stir until everything is melted, but not too hot.

Whip the eggs until fluffy. Sift together cocoa and sugar, then add to the eggs and continue whipping until really fluffy. Gently fold together the egg mix and melted chocolate mix.

Fill molds $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way to the top, place in a roasting pan and fill the roasting pan halfway with hot water. Bake until they slightly souffle and are spongy-firm.

For the chocolate glaze: Chop the chocolate, combine all ingredients over a double boiler and melt gently.

Place cooled cakes on wire rack with parchment paper below. Pour glaze over cakes and let cool.

— Andrea Maricich

In The News

Actress has 'heart'

In Cornelia Funke's best-selling fantasy book "Inkheart," 12-year-old Meggie Folchart and her father, Mo, share a special gift. They can make storybook characters come alive just by reading aloud. Now, Funke's book has sprung to life too — on the big screen!

"Nanny McPhee" star Eliza Hope Bennett, 16, plays the book-loving Meggie. Meggie and Mo's ability brings all kinds of classic book characters into the real world, including a teenager from "1,001 Arabian Nights" to Dorothy's loyal pup, Toto, from "The Wizard of Oz." But big trouble follows after

Time For Kids chatted with Bennett about Meggie's special talent.

Mo accidentally brings an evil book villain to life.



Eliza Hope Bennett stars as Meggie in "Inkheart," about a father and daughter who can make storybook characters come to life just by reading aloud.

TFK: What's your character, Meggie, like? **ELIZA:** Meggie is quite feisty and strong. Although she can be quite innocent, she also has an inner strength to her that shows throughout the film. And she has a big passion for books. I think I can relate to Meggie in that way because I really love reading as well. I think that I can be quite feisty as well, which is something else I might share with her. But Meggie gets put through a lot of things in the book that I never, ever in my wildest dreams will have to go through.

TFK: Who is your favorite "Inkheart" character? **ELIZA:** I'd go with Meggie, obviously. But when reading the books, I really, really liked Dustfinger (a fire juggler who gets pulled into the real world from the book, "Inkheart"). You never quite knew if he was good or bad. And you never were quite sure if he meant well or if he was selfish. He's really complicated.

TFK: How did you like working with Brendan Fraser, who plays Mo?

ELIZA: It was amazing. I was a little bit nervous to meet him after looking at the cast list. There were so many big names working on the film. But meeting Brendan, there was an instant warmth, and he's so funny. Having him play my dad was great. I felt so lucky to have worked with him.

TFK: If you could read characters out of storybooks, whom would you bring out?

ELIZA: Well, Meggie reads Toto out of "The Wizard of Oz." The dog that plays Toto was so cute. Most of his scenes were with me, and I really fell in love with him. So, I think I have to remain faithful and say that if I did have the power, I would pick up "The Wizard of Oz" and read Toto out.

TFK: And if you could hop into any book, which one would it be?

ELIZA: Books like the ones Jane Austen wrote and books from that period of time (late 1700s and 1800s). I would like to hop into "Pride and Prejudice" and go to one of those fancy balls. ... Though, I would always like a ticket back to my world. That's the good thing about filming — you get to jump into worlds like that and jump back out again. — Vickie An

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A book that pops

Space enthusiasts will be over the you-know-what for the handsome "Moon Landing: A Pop-Up Celebration of Apollo II," written by Richard Platt and engineered by David Hawcock (Candlewick Press, \$30). Fascinating from launch to landing, it makes brilliant use of the interactive format. Our favorites: a movable lift-the-flap space suit and a 3-D map of the lunar sites. Ages 8 and up.

— FamilyFun magazine





Mixer Box Kit (TEDCO Toys, \$7) lets kids combine science and art. They drop the primary color tablets (four of each color) into water, watch them dissolve, then use the eyedropper-like pipettes to mix the hues in the tray. It's simple color spectrum fun. Ages 8 and up. - Ruth Spiro, FamilyFun magazine



Bradley Dehart, left, gets a vile of Australian bees as USDA inspector John Inigues looks on in Atwater, Calif. Beekeepers who are battling a mysterious ailment that led to the disappearance of millions of honeybees now fear the sting of imported Australian bees that they worry could outcompete their hives and might carry a deadly parasite unseen in the United States.

Beekeepers fear sting of imported Australian hives

Bv GARANCE BURKE

Associated Press Writer ATWATER, (AP) — Beekeepers who are battling a mysterious ailment that led to the disappearance of millions of honeybees now fear the sting of imported Australian bees that they worry could outcompete their hives and might carry a deadly parasite unseen in the United States.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has allowed shipments of Australian bees to resume despite concerns by some of its own scientists.

Australia had been airfreighting the insects across the Pacific for four years to replace hives devastated by the perplexing colony collapse disorder.

But six weeks ago the Australian government abruptly stopped the shipments, saying it could no longer be certain the country was free of a smaller, aggressive bee that has infested areas near the Great Barrier Reef, U.S. officials said.

Early this month, the USDA decided to permit the bee shipments to resume with some precautions, and the first

planeloads arrived in Francisco San Monday.

Beekeeper Ken Haff of Mandan, N.D., says he fears the foreign hives could kill off his apiary.

"We've got enough problems with our own bee diseases that we don't know how to treat, and they open the border to a whole new species that could carry God knows what," said Haff, a vice president of the American Honey Producers Association. "That's a total slap in the face for us.'

Shad Sullivan, a bee wholesaler California's Central Valley, said that in the four years he has imported bees from Australia, he has found that the hearty imports outlive domestic bees that have been weakened by pesticides, pests and diseases.

"If the bees were truly carrying something that bad, I would have been the first to get it," Sullivan said as a thick cloud of the buzzing insects flew overhead. "I just haven't seen those kinds of devastation."

Domestic honeybees feed on most flowering plants, and are vital pollinators for many food

HOLIDAY

MATHIS

However, domestic bee stocks have been waning since 2004, when scientists first got reports of the puzzling illness that has claimed up to 90 percent of commercial hives and has been labeled colony collapse disorder.

That's also the year USDA allowed imports of Australian hives, and scientists have been investigating whether Australia was a source of a virus tied to the bee die-off.

Entomologists also fear that the aggressive in bee species found near Australia's Barrier Reef could carry a deadly mite, said Jeff Pettis, the USDA's top bee scientist.

"This could be a threat worldwide, because if those bees are moving around the chances are this mite would move with it," Pettis said. "We just don't need another species causing problems."

The Australian government has adopted emergency controls to quarantine and destroy the aggressive bees and has never detected that mite, according to mateprovided rials Chelsey Martin, counselor for public affairs

the Australian Embassy Washington.

U.S. agriculture officials say they also are taking precautions.

Agricultural officials started sampling Australian bees last week after they were had a job and I'm not released in the Central sure I can get another Valley.

"Bees from Australia make great sense," said Wayne Wehling, a senior entomologist in the USDA's permit unit. "But we certainly don't want to bring any economic impacts onto our honeybees that we don't already have or introduce any new pests or disease.

bees have been import- Domestic he has sold 110,000 hives since 2005.

On Wednesday, a USDA inspector in a protective suit collected samples of bees at Sullivan's operation.

"Hopefully this will ease the minds of people who have their own hives here," said inspector John Iniguez. "We're trusting Australia that that."

Dear Annie: I'm 20 years old. My boyfriend and I have a 6-month-old baby boy. I used to be very independent. When I met "Jake," he was 18, had never worked a day in his life and was a serious drug addict. I got him to stop doing drugs and he even got a job, although his hiring cost me my position.

We moved in together when I turned 18, and I discovered he's extremely controlling. I used to have a ton of friends.

and now I have none because Jake doesn't like them. I can't go out unless out goes with me. I can't talk to any guys because he'll think I'm cheating on him.

Jake doesn't want me to get a job, but he

won't buy things we need. I can't have money unless he gives it to me, and then he grills me about how I spend it. He also kicks and pushes me. When he goes to work, he takes my son's car seat so I can't leave. He calls 10 times a day to check on me. One night we got into a fight and I found a knife under the sofa cushion where he sits. I don't know if it was for me.

Jake makes me angry and depressed. I want to get out, but it's been three years since I've one. I have no money, my car is busted and now I have a baby to take care of. I love Jake, but I need to leave. How do I do it? — Lost and Helpless

Dear Lost: At your age, those three unemployed years won't hurt you when you look for a job. More importantly, you and your son are in a dangerously abusive Government officials relationship, and you said they do not know must get out immediatehow many Australian ly. Call the National Violence ed, but hive importer Hotline (ndvh.org) at Sullivan estimates that 1-800-799-SAFE (1-800-799-7233) and ask for help. Do it today.

Dear Annie: I had weight loss surgery two years ago. Needless to say, my looks changed dramatically and my health improved.

When friends compliment me, I truly appreciate it. I am happy to tell them I have lost 175 pounds.

However, there are they're clean. Now we some who insist I tell just want to confirm them what I weighed before. This is a sensi-

tive issue and I do not wish to divulge this information.

I've tried changing the subject, but these people won't give up. On those occasions when I have given in and told them, they reply, "Oh, my! You weighed that much?' Recently, a friend said, "Aren't you glad you don't look like a beached whale anymore?"

Although I am now at my goal weight, I still have the same insecurities as when I was mor-



KATHY MITCHELL Marcy Sugar

— Thinner in Kansas Dear Kansas: Because theythink they are entitled to every piece of information about

everybody. The best response is to ask, "Why do you need to know?" Repeat as often as need-**Dear Annie:** You were off the mark with "Broke, Broken and

Distrusting," whose husband has been using his parents' credit card and refuses to tell her why. You said he should be sharing the information with her, but since his parents are footing the bill, to leave it alone.

Annie, his parents could be helping him hide a gambling or drug problem or an affair. "Broke" has every right to know what her husband is spending money on no matter who is paying for it. — *No Secrets*

Dear No Secrets: You are right. Several readers mentioned the possibility that the in-laws are helping their son hide something detrimental to the marriage. We hope "Broke" can get to the bottom of it.

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

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Tomorrow's Horoscope the one in control now.

It's the last full day of the Aquarius sun in 2009 and a fantastic time to take inventory — not of your possessions or position in life, but of your dreams. The solar transit through Aquarius has likely inspired you to push against the usual perceptions and come up with a broader

range of possibility. Carry this expansive feeling into next month.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Which would be better: spending the afternoon with the one who knows you so well or getting to know a new and fascinating person? Both of these wonderful options will be made available to TAURUS (April 20-May

20). You have more financial options than you realize. A tip from a fellow savvy money-

maker should be considered. Also, you have special luck for making personal calls to potential customers and clients. GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It's chal-

lenging to stay calm, especially around people you want to impress. Talk yourself down before you meet with the ones who make your heart race. Get centered

and you'll hit exactly the right tone. CANCER (June 22-July 22). New information nullifies the old plan and it's

back to the drawing board. Only this time, said "board" comes alive with vivid pictures of a future you are excited to participate in. Progress exhilarates you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll soon be a part of that exclusive group you've long wondered about. Maybe this is a professional organization or a grouping of people who have certain credits to their name. You are on your way.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're in an arrangement that's not helping you much. But before you try and negotiate a better position, give some thought to what the other person is getting out of the deal. There's a way to sweeten both sides at once. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You don't

have to show up to everything with your best face on. You're allowed to sit out a few rounds to catch your breath. And don't worry; no one will be mad because you temporarily withdraw your partici-SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You could

use help in smoothing the edginess away. Communing with a Cancer could do the trick. If you can arrange to get more mentally and physically.

sleep tonight, do it. You'll be healthier **SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). A formerly maddening situation loses its power over you. In fact, you almost can't

help but laugh at your former self and

how frustrated you used to get. You're

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Someone is copying you again. It feels like the fourth-grade spelling test all over again. This time, however, you're mature enough to see the compliment here. You're doing something so right, you make it look irresistible.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Nothing works on its own. You have to make it work by nudging it, winding it up or throwing your full weight behind it. Your action starts the whole engine going and a project will take off.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Someone is trying so hard to bring you into a drama. You know you'll feel lighter if you stay out. And you can break free

without feeling the least bit guilty. With detachment comes wisdom. **ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm** a Scorpio and he's an Aquarius. I felt he was the man of my dreams within minutes of meeting him. We ran into each other because he was working in the same building as I, for a different company. We would flirt every day. Then his office was relocated. I didn't see him for six months, but I never forgot our connection. One day he showed up again

and we exchanged numbers and dated

for three months. Now it seems like he's

not interested. What do I do? I'm not will-

ing to let this one go so easily. This kind

of connection is hard to find.'

Any two signs can make a go of things with great success. It is helpful to recognize how you might relate differently, though. You're an intensely passionate Scorpio and he's a friendly, flirty Aquarius. His sign doesn't usually like to get into anything heavy until he is absolutely sure, not only about you but about his place in life and the timing of everything, etc. You can't force him to feel any differently. Your best bet is to get involved in the activities and people that make you feel the most vital and attractive. Let him catch up when he's ready.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: The original celebutante, Paris Hilton, may be most famous for being famous, but she's proven to have an aptitude for entertaining, too. Whether she's acting, singing or engaging in scandalous behavior, she has no problem getting an audience. She can blame that on her moon in Leo, the sign of the spotlight. In time, Mercury and Venus in Aquarius will nudge Hilton toward acts of philanthropy.

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.

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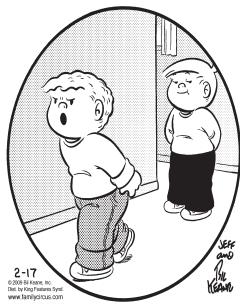
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	:PM	News	News	Locura	Lopez	News	Noticias	News	Raymond	Scrivner	BBC	Cash Cab	urday Night Fever, Barry	CSI: NY	Bones	106 & Park:	Phineas	Horn	SportsCenter
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O	:30	Scrubs	Scrubs	Sangre		ist	Analia		Fam. Guy	Southwest	(DVS)		Gere	outs			Phineas	NBA Coast-	Basketball
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40	:PM	News	News	Impacto	Raymond	News	Noticias	News	10 Items	Israel	1	Made	Mystic River,	Real Vice	Bones	Hatchett	Suite Life		SportsCenter
10	:30	Nightline	Nightline	Noticiero	King-Hill	Late Show	Decisiones	Tonight Show	Sex &	Cortes	PBS	Made	Kevin Bacon	Real Vice		Hatchett	Montana	Таре	1
44	:PM	Insider	Jimmy Kim-	La Hora de	Law Order:		de		Sex &	Ministerio-	Smiley	Dirty Jobs]	CSI: NY	Leverage	Movie: ATL,	So Raven	NASCAR	NFL Live
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DENNIS THE MENACE



LOOKS LIKE THE KIDS ARE READY FOR WINTER TO END."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Mommy! We're playin' hide-and-seek and Billy keeps forgettin' to seek me!"

HAGAR



BLONDIE



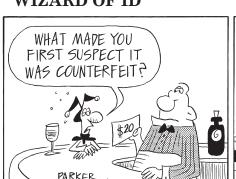
OK... SO WE'VE GOT @x%\$!# ONE CRUDE.



BC



WIZARD OF ID





AGNES



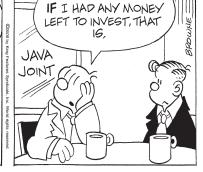




HI AND LOIS







THE OTHER COAST



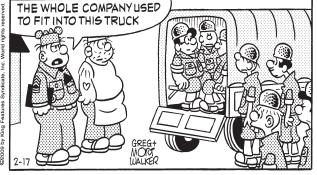
SNUFFY SMITH





BEETLE BAILEY





This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Feb. 17, the 48th day of 2009. There are 317 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

One hundred years ago, on Feb. 17, 1909, Chiricahua Apache leader Geronimo (also known as Goyathlay, "One Who Yawns") died at Fort Sill, Okla., at age 79.

On this date:

In 1801, the U.S. House of Representatives broke an electoral tie between Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr, electing Jefferson president; Burr became vice president.

In 1809, the Ohio legislature voted to establish Miami University in present-day Oxford. (The school opened in

In 1864, during the Civil War, the Union ship USS Housatonic was rammed and sunk in Charleston Harbor, S.C., by the Confederate hand-cranked submarine HL Hunley, which also sank.

In 1865, Columbia, S.C., burned as the Confederates evacuated and Union forces moved in. (It's not clear which side set the blaze.)

In 1897, the forerunner of the National PTA, the National Congress of Mothers, convened its first meeting, Washington. In 1904, the original two-act

version of Giacomo Puccini's opera "Madama Butterfly" was poorly received at its premiere at La Scala in Milan, Italy.

In 1947, the Voice of America began broadcasting to the Soviet Union. In 1959, the United States

launched Vanguard 2, a satellite which carried meteorological equipment. In 1964, the Supreme Court, in Wesberry v. Sanders, ruled

that congressional districts within each state had to be roughly equal in population. In 1972, President Richard M.

Nixon departed on his historic trip to China. Today's Birthdays: Bandleader Orrin Tucker is 98.

Actor Hal Holbrook is 84. Mystery writer Ruth Rendell is 79. Singer Bobby Lewis is 76. Comedian Dame Edna (AKA Barry Humphries) is 75.

Country singer-songwriter Johnny Bush is 74. Football Hall-of-Famer Jim Brown is 73. Actress Mary Ann Mobley is 70. Actress Brenda Fricker is 64. Actress Rene Russo is 55. Actor Richard Karn is 53. Actor Lou Diamond Phillips is 47. Basketball player Michael Jordan is 46. Actor-comedian Larry the Cable Guy is 46. TV personality Rene Syler is 46. Movie director Michael Bay is 44. Singer Chante Moore is 42. Rock musician Timothy J. Mahoney (311) is 39. Actor Dominic Purcell is 39. Actress Denise Richards is 38. Rock singer-musician Billie Joe Armstrong (Green Day) is 37. Actor Jerry O'Connell is 35.

Answer to previous puzzle

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ALA BATHE CABS MITTGOOSEWILL

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Snooty ones 6 Rolling stone's
- 14 Where Seoul is 67

- areetina
- 17 Boot-shaped
- **19** Complain
- **22** Division word
- 23 Corn unit
- 24 Peril
- repeatedly
- 33 " my case" 34
- 37 Well past
- **41** Obtain
- 42 Group of eight
- game played
- with a baby
- 45 Shoulder
- 47 Candy and the
- 50 Mediterranean,
- **51** Have a
- conversation
- **52** Get down to
- **59** Fury
- instrument
- **62** Pub orders

В	Α	S	Ε	R	U	N	N	Ε	R		Α	S	Т	0
			R	Α	N	G	Ε			Р	R	Ε	S	S
R	Ε	С	Α	Р				S	Α	Τ	D			
T	T	Α	L		Α	S	S	Ε	R	Т		С	Р	R
С	Α	L	L	0	N	T	Н	Ε	С	Α	R	Р	Ε	T
E	L	F		S	Т	E	Ε	D	S		E	Α	S	E
			F	L	E	W				В	Ε	S	Т	S
P	Α	Т	Τ	0			S	Н	0	Α	L			
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E	R	Α	S		Α	Р	Α	R	T		D	Ī	С	E
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D	Α	Т	Α		Ε	N	T	Е	R		N	Ε	S	T

64 Comic

65 Impudent

66 The lion's

share

Coloring

experts

2 Phrase of

4 End-of-class

5 Give one's

consent

7 Cleveland's

paniment

10 Casino activity

6 Engine

state

14

17

20

32

65

8 Females

denial

signal

3 Vocal

1 Hits the slopes

DOWN

DeGeneres

- lack
- **10** Deep cut
- 15 Casual
- **16** Choir voice
- country
- **18** Fit to be ___
- (angry)
- **20** Foolish person

- 26 Bother
- **30** Putting to work 32 Grad
 - Lanka
- adolescence
- **43** With 53 Down,
- 44 Sword fights
- wraps
- like
- for one
- business
- 60 Woodwind
- **61** Depart
- **63** Valentine flower

11 Together (with) **38** Lopsided **12** Alabama or

- Alaska 13 Pay tribute to
- 21 Hydrogen or helium 25 Prefix meaning
- "opposed" 26 Install
- wallpaper, say **27** Lotion
- ingredient **28** Corrosion 29 Piece of sound
- equipment **30** Eggs on
- **31** Religious offshoot **33** Worldwide:
- Abbr. **34** Depict unfairly
- **35** Walk unsteadily **9** Entrée accom-36 Signs, as a

contract

15

Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com victory

FOWL MOOD by Billie Truitt

- **39** Freezing-rain event 40 Tax expert:
- Abbr. 44 Can't stand
- 45 Ready to go **46** Transported
- by truck **47** Fragment 48 Giant sea
- mammal 49 Raring to go **50** Clay-pigeon sport
- **53** See 43 Across
- 54 Profit's opposite
- 55 Depend (on) 56 Curly cabbage
- **57** At any time **58** Longings 10 |11 |12 |13

16

22 21 23 24 | 25 30 |31 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 34 | 35 | 36 39 38 42 43 44 45 | 46

37 41 47 48 49 55 | 56 | 57 | 58 52 53 54 51 59 60 62 63 64

66

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Bird Poop: An encounter with wigeons

∎he voice was famil-'iar. "How soon can you be here?" asked the game warden. Telling him I was on my way, I loaded several carriers just in case. During the

drive to the residence, I recalled other trips to this hilly location.

To pick up an injured hawk was my first encounter. Another had occurred on a windy night. Having seen

McCasland a young great

BEBE

horned owl, the property owner had been concerned about its long stay on the ground. When we arrived, Art and I could hardly open the Jeep's doors because of the buffeting updrafts at the top of the escarpment. Although we searched the edges of the bluffs, we never found the youngster. If the owl had extended its wings, the wind would have carried it further back in the

Once again, I was driving down the long drive to the house. Parking behind the warden's truck and other vehicles, I walked toward a large pen. Inside were numerous ducks enjoying a man-made pond.

"Yours are over here," yelled the officer as he left the group of men. After seeing my puzzled expression, the game warden led me to a large box. Inside were two ducks, one of which was barely breathing. The other lay on its side.

When I glanced back at the remaining ducks, I was told

they would be going to the Abilene Zoo. With a "Talk to you later," I was left to care for the injured beings.

Having learned over the years that the only way you receive information is to wait quietly until you may be included, I headed home. Sometimes I was never privy to the outcome regarding wildlife. My focus at the moment was for my feathered passengers.

While I was unloading the birds, Art came home from work. "What happened? What do you have?" were greeted by my saying I didn't know any more about the ducks when I came home than when I set out to get

As we opened the box the drake had managed to stand near the lifeless hen. While she was drab in comparison, he was colorful in his breeding plumage. Most noticeable was his creamy white forehead and crown accented by metallic green stripes on each side of his gray head. His short, blue-gray bill was tipped with black. Even his legs and feet were a blue-gray. The feathers on his back, sides and chest were a blend from brown to a reddish-rose. In flight, the drake's white belly and wing patches would be pronounced. His long, pointed tail was black.

With grayish head and neck, faded ruddy-brown breast, and brownish sides, the hen resembled other medium-sized ducks. In flight, her white wing markings would have been less remarkable. Although she had a similar bluish bill, her coloration was not to attract attention, but to remain hid-



The American wigeon (pronounced WIDGE-un) is a dabbling duck that probes the muddy sediment in shallow waters for food. When alarmed, the bird rises straight up out of the water and escapes with a strong, swift flight.

den on her nest built on the ground. Her camouflage was necessary for what nature had intended.

The American wigeons' injuries were similar. They had been sprayed with pellets that we easily felt in and under the skin. The drake was more fortunate than the hen. Although his wing had been broken and the bone calcified, he was able to hold it equally with his other one. With good circulation, his deformed leg was used to push himself erect and for balance. Contacting the Midland sanctuary, we learned the duck would be placed on a conservation lake.

The call from the game warden was long in coming.

From a tip, he had learned about the ducks being kept at that location. They had been retrieved by the resident's dogs. When hunting, the man had been unable to bring himself to kill what he thought might recover, so he brought some of the water birds home to mend in the pond he had created. Since the birds would never fly again, he could enjoy their presence.

Although attempting to duplicate the shallow bodies of water from which wigeons feed, the resident had failed to supply enough aquatic plants for their diet. Only fresh water lakes and ponds could offer the weeds, roots, algae, sedges, and underwater growth these birds would eat. Entertained by their heads disappearing in the water while tails tipped upward during a search for food, he mostly maintained the birds with scattered grains.

Never were we to know the extent of federal and state violations and fines. Recognizing contradictions in the man's personality as seen by the results of his hunting and efforts to compensate for the ducks' injuries, we knew how paradoxical were his ancient ritual and sympathy.

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

Parent's Corner: Things they used to say

happened upon an old episode of Leave it to Beaver the other night and heard Mom say, "Take that empty bottle

to the store with you so you won't have to pay a deposit on another one." I hadn't heard that comment in a long time.

It got me to thinking about comments that used to be so typical but are hardly heard anymore. I decided to see if I could find some of these old sayings and this is what I came up with. See if you remember any of these:

DARRELL

Ryan

Be sure to pull the windows down when you leave, it looks like a shower is coming.

Don't forget to wind the clock before you go to bed.

Wash your feet before you go to bed, they are nasty from playing outside all day barefoot.

Remember to roll up your pants legs; getting them caught in the bicycle chain so many times is tearing them up.

You have worn the knees out of that pair of pants so many times there is nothing left to put a patch on.

Go comb your hair; it looks like the rats have nested in there all night.

Put the empty milk bottle on the porch; the milkman will be here in the morning.

Be sure and pour the cream off the top of the milk when you open the new bottle.

Put a dish towel over the cake so the flies won't get on it.

Quit jumping on the floor; I have a cake in the oven and you are going to make it fall if you don't quit.

Let me know when the Fuller Brush man comes by; I need to get a few things from him.

You boys stay close by, the car may not start and I will need you to

help push it off. Here's a dollar, get 4 gallons of gas when you go to town.

Open the back door and see if we can get a breeze through here; it is getting hot.

You can walk to the store; it won't hurt you to get some exercise. Don't sit too close to

the TV; it is hard on your eyes.

If you pull that stunt again, I am going to wear you out.

Don't lose that button; I'll sew it back on after awhile.

Get out from under the sewing machine; pumping the foot control

messes up the thread. Here, take this old magazine to the toilet with you when you go, we are almost out of paper out there.

No, I don't have nine cents for you to go to the movie; do you think money grows on trees?

That dog is not coming in this house! I don't care how cold it is out there, dogs just don't belong in the house.

Sit still. I'm trying to get your hair cut straight and you keep moving and it is all botched up.

I'll wash your mouth out with soap if you say that again.

I am going to give you a dose of castor oil to- And as the old farmer night to clean out your system.

If you get a spanking in school and I find out about it, you'll get another one when you get

home. Quit crossing your eyes; they will get stuck

that way. Soak your foot in this pan of coal oil so that bad cut won't get infected.

When you take your driving test, don't forget your arm signal when you turn. Left arm straight out the window for a left turn; left arm bent up at the elbow for a right turn; and straight down to the side of the door when you are going to stop.

It is 'Yes Ma'am' and 'No Ma'am' to me, young man, and don't you forget it.

used to say, "If this doesn't light your fire, you're wood's wet."

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



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We are seeking teams (of 4 people any age) ready to take part in this fitness/lifestyle change, and compete for a Grand Prize Package! Team fee: \$40 (Only \$10 per person any age). Individuals or corporate sponsor

- Three official weigh-ins with the professional at YMCA where your progress will be monitored and recorded. Weight-In Dates: First March 9-13, Second, April 6-10 Third, May 11-15
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- We will only provide your team's total percentage of weight loss not individuals.
- At the end of the 3-month program, the winning team will be determined by the highest percentage of weight lost, and receive the "Grand Prize."
- Contest prizes determined on number of teams.
- To join the Best Loser Spring Challenge, fill out the form below and return to us with a check or money order for \$40 no later than March 6, 2009.

Questions? Call 432-263-7331. Ask for Rick.

Team Photos must be taken at The Big Spring Herald **Prior to March 9th** FINAL PHOTO MUST BE TAKEN BY MAY 15TH

(TEAM PHOTOS MUST BE TAKEN TO QUALIFY FOR PRIZES)

Mail form or drop off along with \$40 team fee to:

The Best Loser C/0 Big Spring Herald P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721



Sign us up for the Best Loser Challenge! Team Name (Be Creative) Team Captain 1:_____phone:_____ Team Member 2:_____phone:____ Team Member 3:_____phone:____ Team Member 4:_____phone:_____ **Corporate Challenge Business Name:**

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